

# LECTURE 13: GRAPH REPRESENTATION LEARNING

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CSIT 6000K: Social Networks and Social Computing: A Data Science Perspective

Thursdays 07:30 PM - 10:20 PM

# Machine Learning with Networks

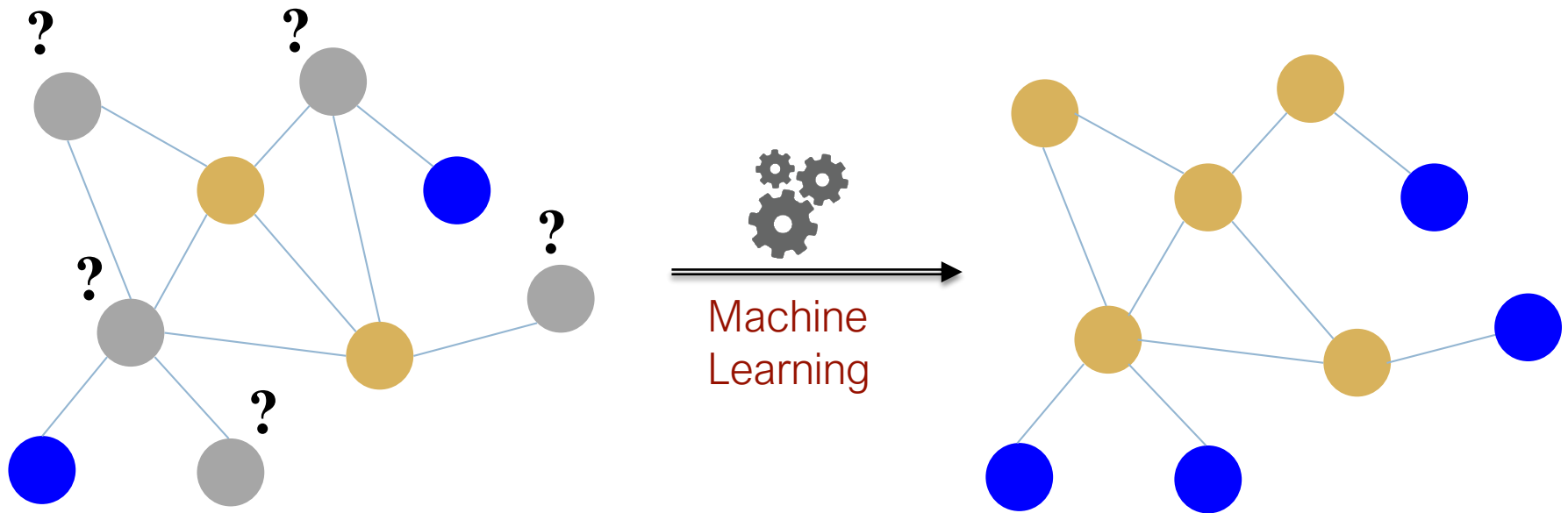
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## **Classical ML tasks in networks:**

- Node classification
  - ▣ Predict a type of a given node
- Link prediction
  - ▣ Predict whether two nodes are linked
- Community detection
  - ▣ Identify densely linked clusters of nodes
- Network similarity
  - ▣ How similar are two (sub)networks

# Example: Node Classification

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# Example: Node Classification

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Classifying the  
function of proteins  
in the interactome!

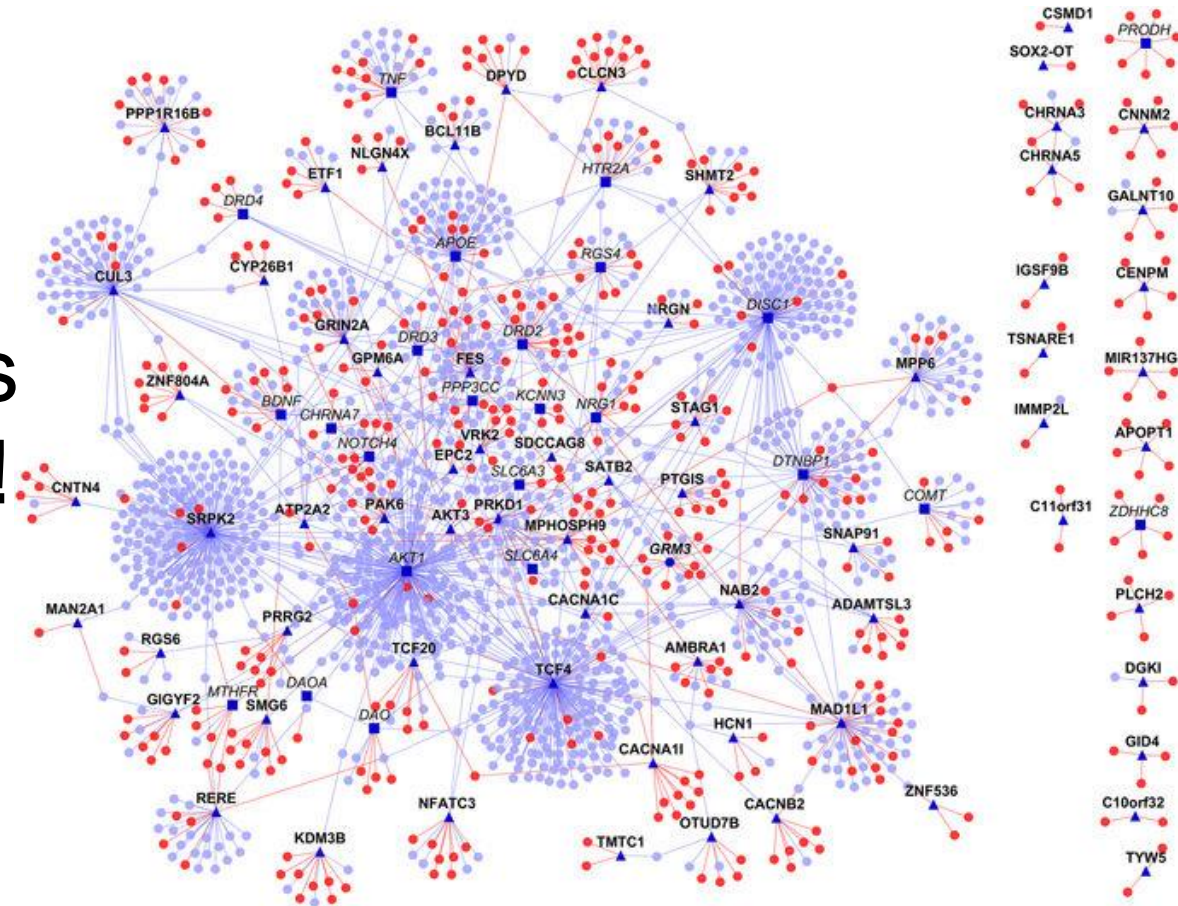
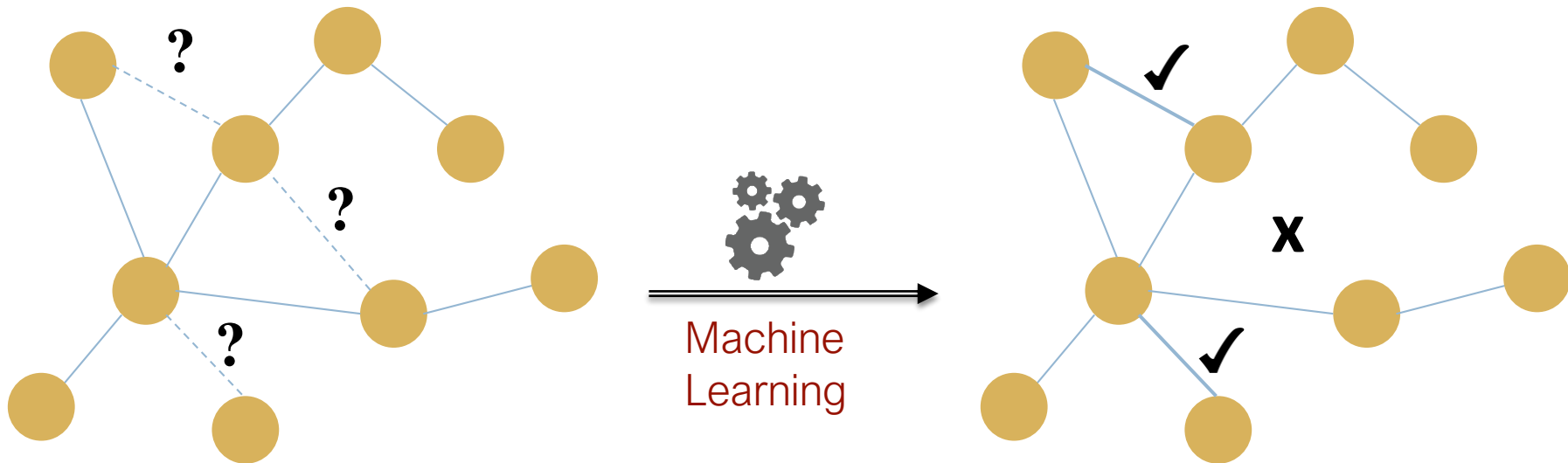


Image from: Ganapathiraju et al. 2016. [Schizophrenia interactome with 504 novel protein-protein interactions](#). *Nature*.

# Example: Link Prediction

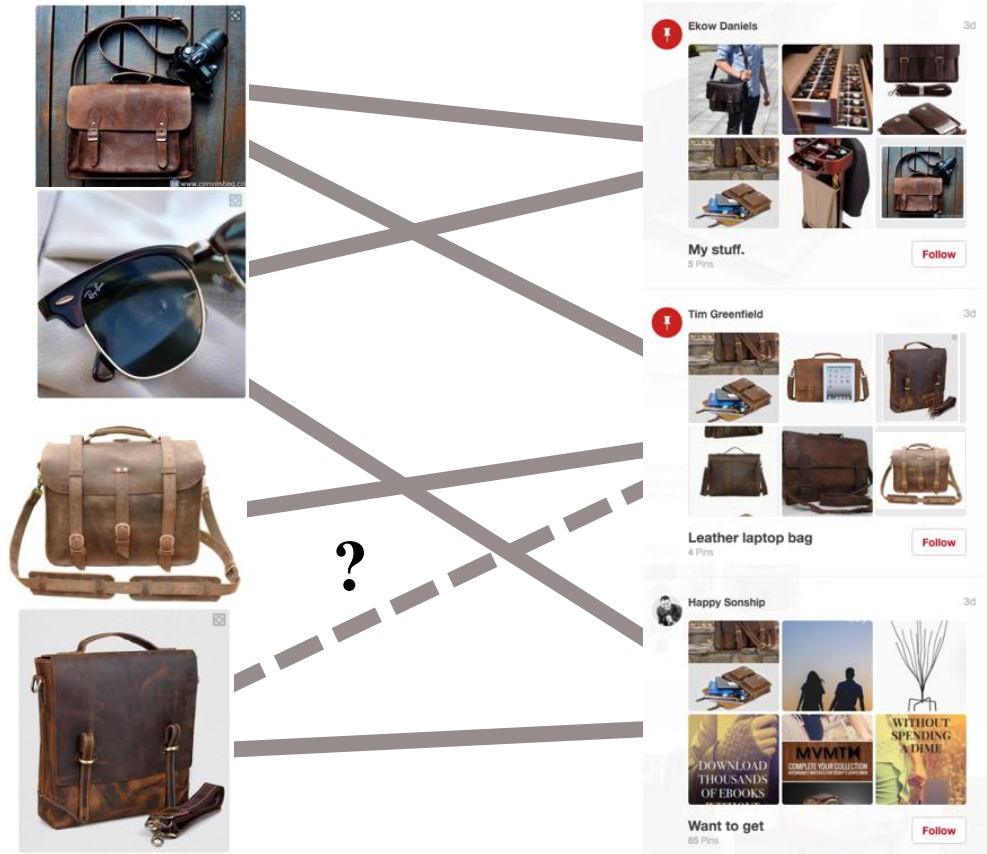
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# Example: Link Prediction

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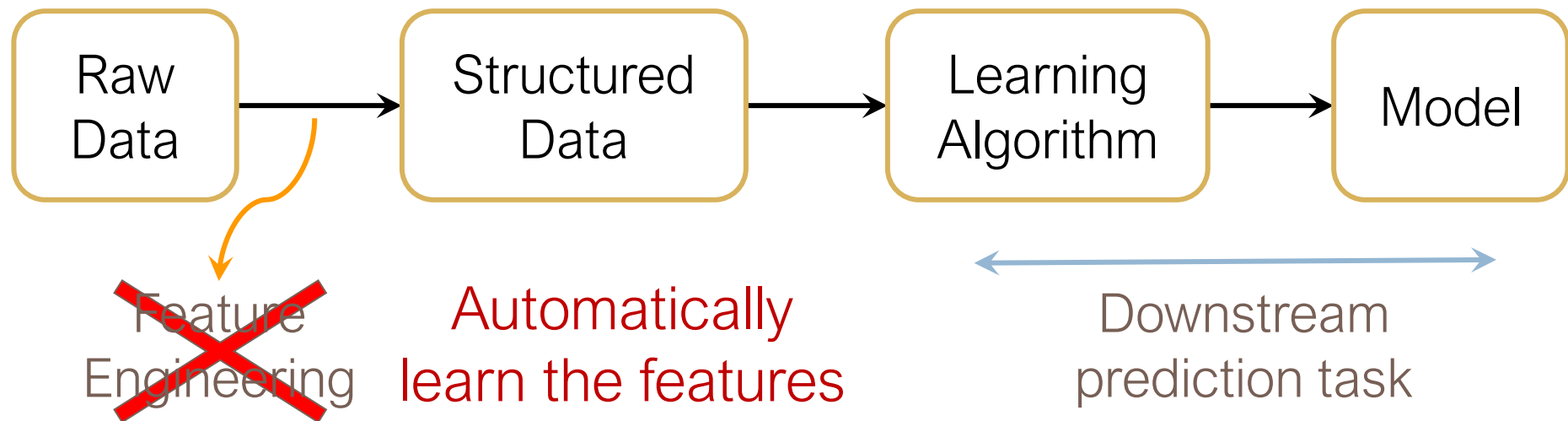
Content  
recommendation is  
link prediction!



# Machine Learning Lifecycle

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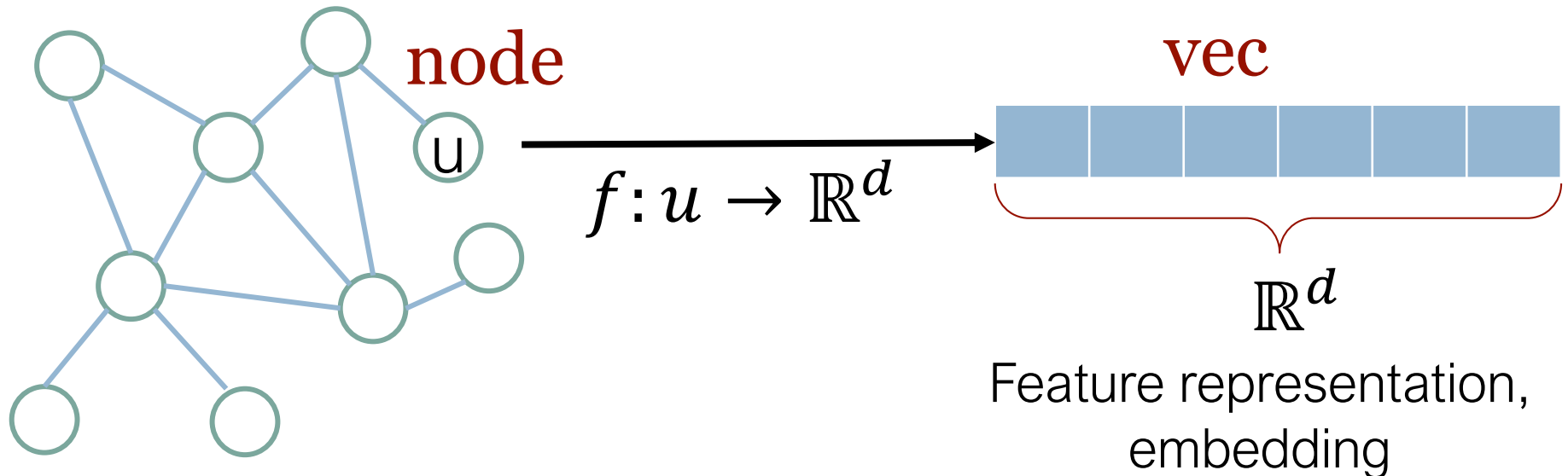
- (Supervised) Machine Learning Lifecycle: This feature, that feature. **Every single time!**



# Feature Learning in Graphs

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**Goal:** Efficient task-independent feature learning for machine learning in networks!

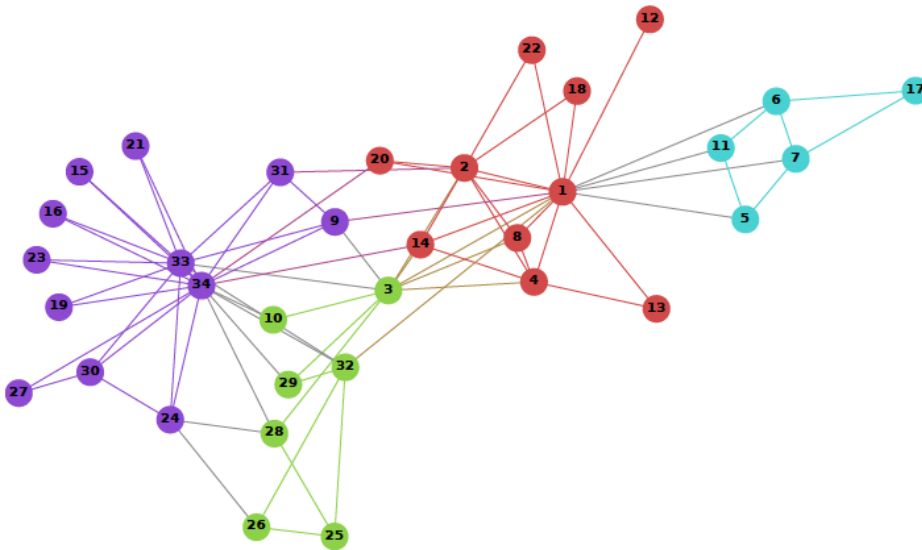




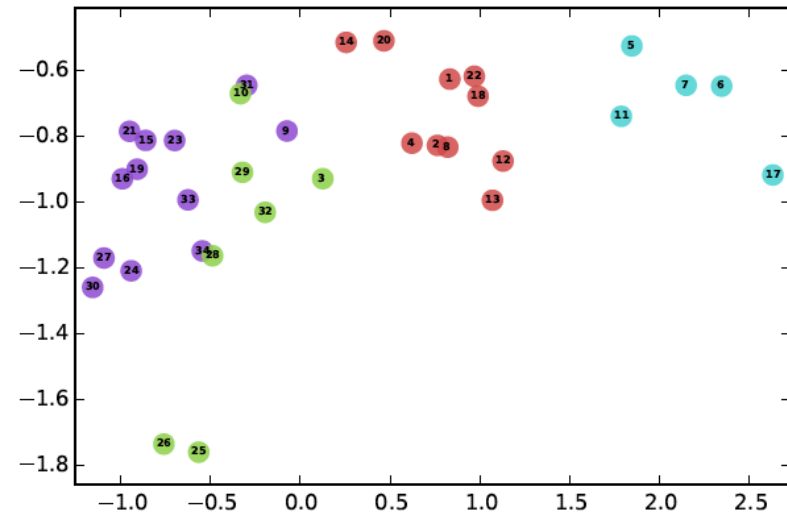
# Example

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## □ Zachary's Karate Club Network:



Input



Output

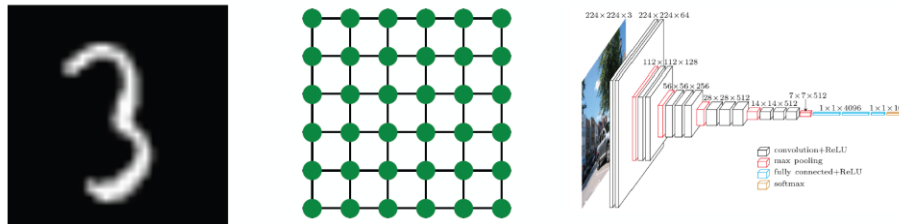
Image from: [Perozzi et al. 2014](#). DeepWalk: Online Learning of Social Representations. *KDD*.

# Why Is It Hard?

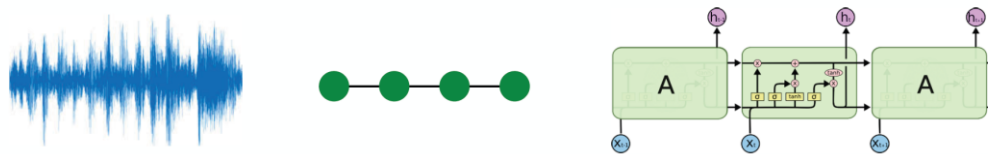
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□ Modern deep learning toolbox is designed for simple sequences or grids.

□ CNNs for fixed-size images/grids....



□ RNNs or word2vec for text/sequences...

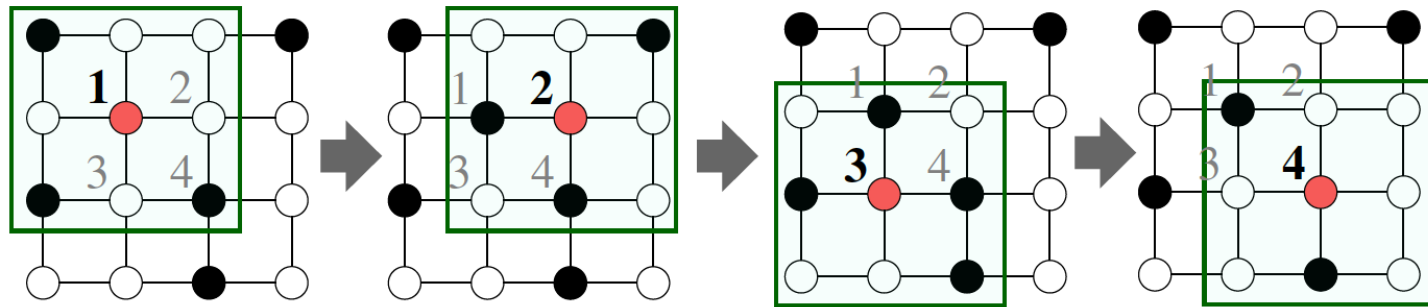


# Why Is It Hard?

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□ But networks are far more complex!

- Complex topographical structure (i.e., no spatial locality like grids)



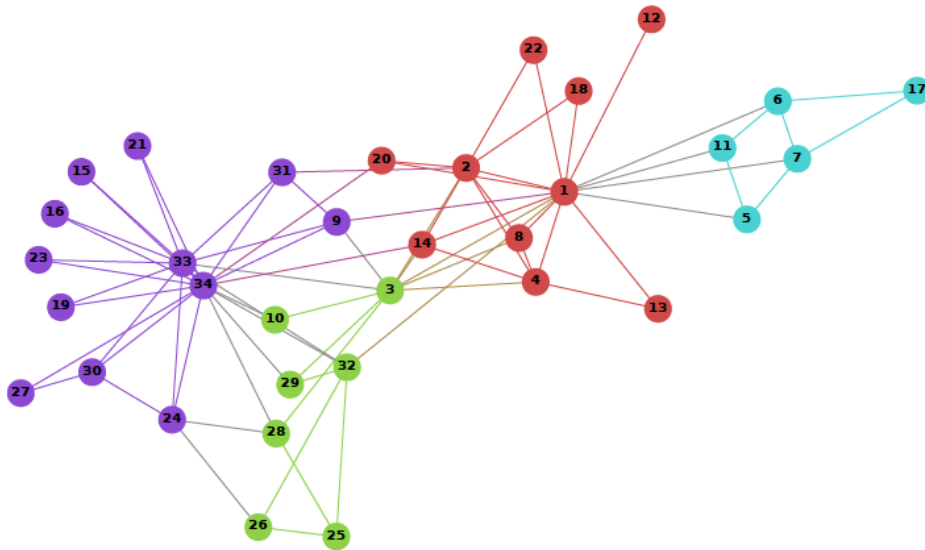
- No fixed node ordering or reference point (i.e., the isomorphism problem)
- Often dynamic and have multimodal features.

# NODE EMBEDDINGS

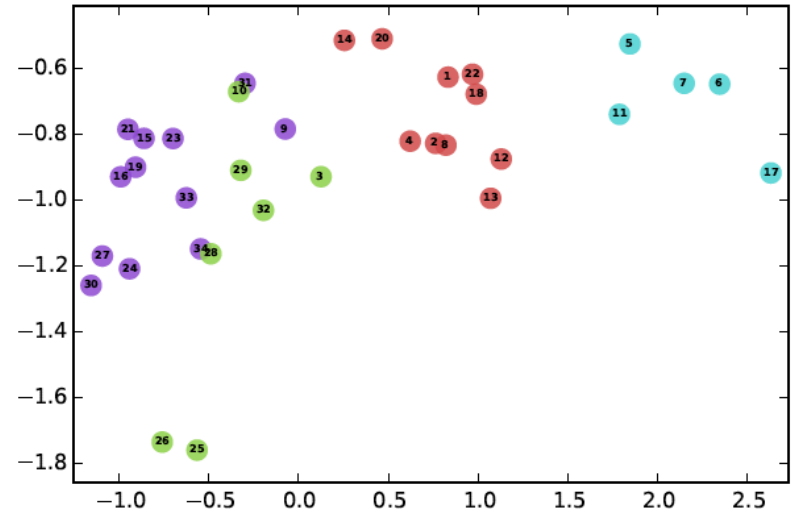
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# Embedding Nodes

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Input



Output

**Intuition:** Find embedding of nodes to  $d$ -dimensions so that “similar” nodes in the graph have embeddings that are close together.

# Setup

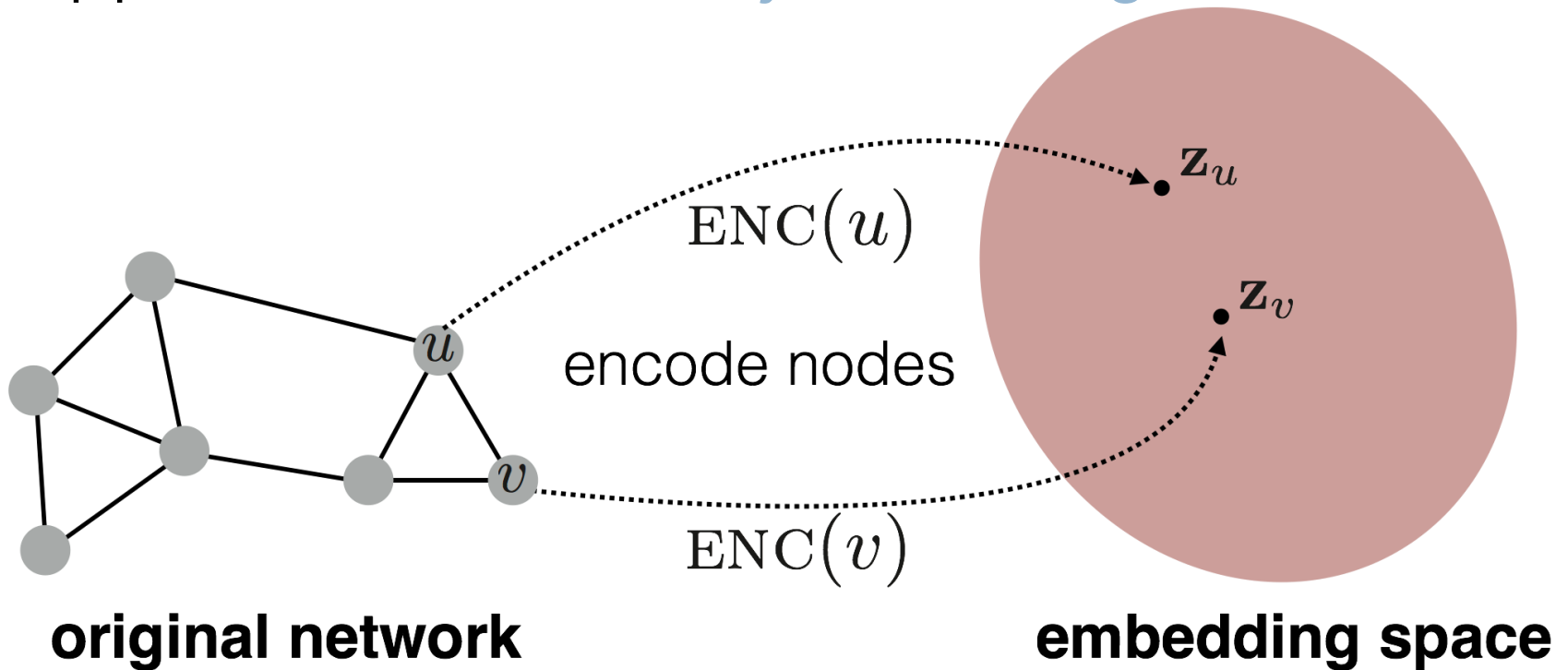
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- Assume we have a graph  $G$ :
  - $V$  is the vertex set.
  - $A$  is the adjacency matrix (assume binary).
  - **No node features or extra information is used!**

# Embedding Nodes

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- Goal is to encode nodes so that **similarity in the embedding space** (e.g., dot product) approximates **similarity in the original network**.

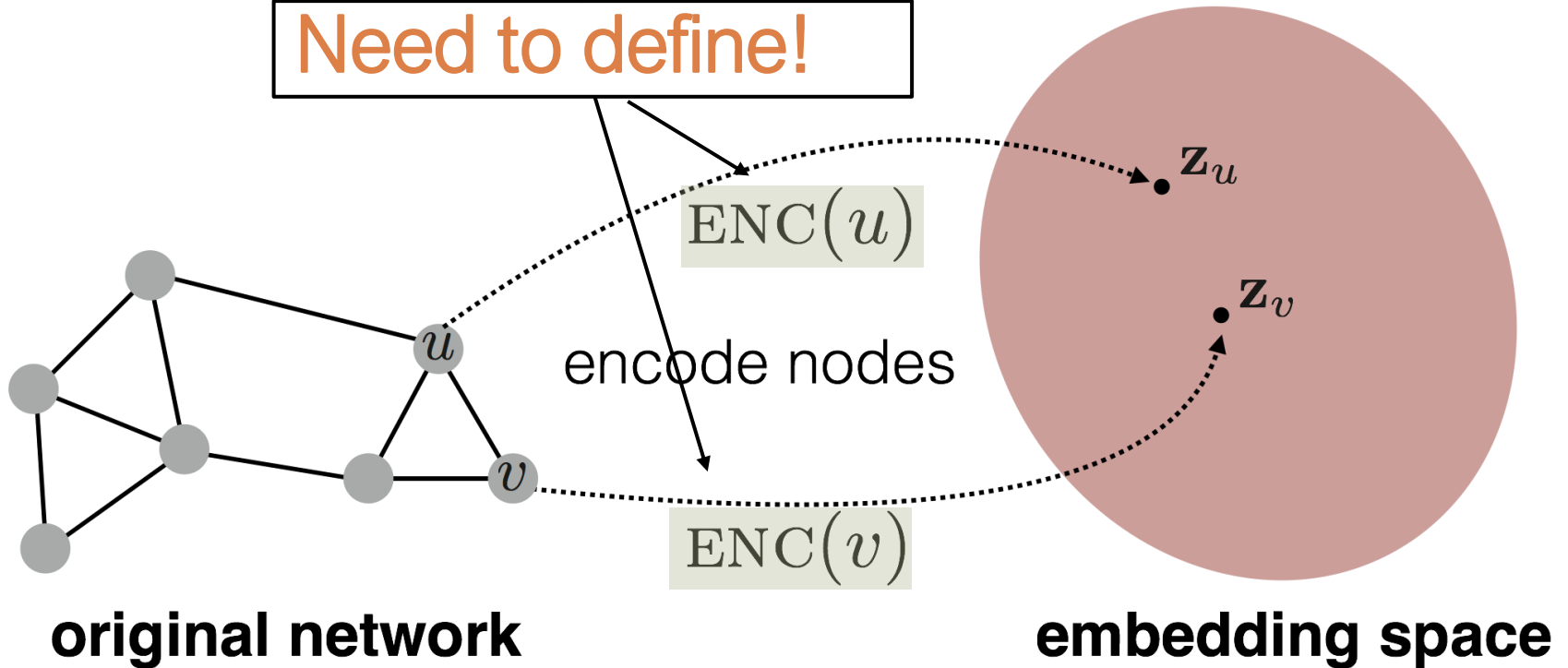


# Embedding Nodes

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Goal:  $\text{similarity}(u, v) \approx \mathbf{z}_v^\top \mathbf{z}_u$

Need to define!





# Learning Node Embeddings

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1. **Define an encoder** (i.e., a mapping from nodes to embeddings)
2. **Define a node similarity function** (i.e., a measure of similarity in the original network).
3. **Optimize the parameters of the encoder so that:**

$$\text{similarity}(u, v) \approx \mathbf{z}_v^\top \mathbf{z}_u$$

# Two Key Components

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- **Encoder** maps each node to a low-dimensional vector.

$$\text{ENC}(v) = \mathbf{z}_v$$

node in the input graph

d-dimensional embedding

- **Similarity function** specifies how relationships in vector space map to relationships in the original network.

$$\text{similarity}(u, v) \approx \mathbf{z}_v^\top \mathbf{z}_u$$

Similarity of  $u$  and  $v$  in the original network

dot product between node embeddings

# “Shallow” Encoding

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- Simplest encoding approach: **encoder is just an embedding-lookup**

$$\text{ENC}(v) = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{v}$$

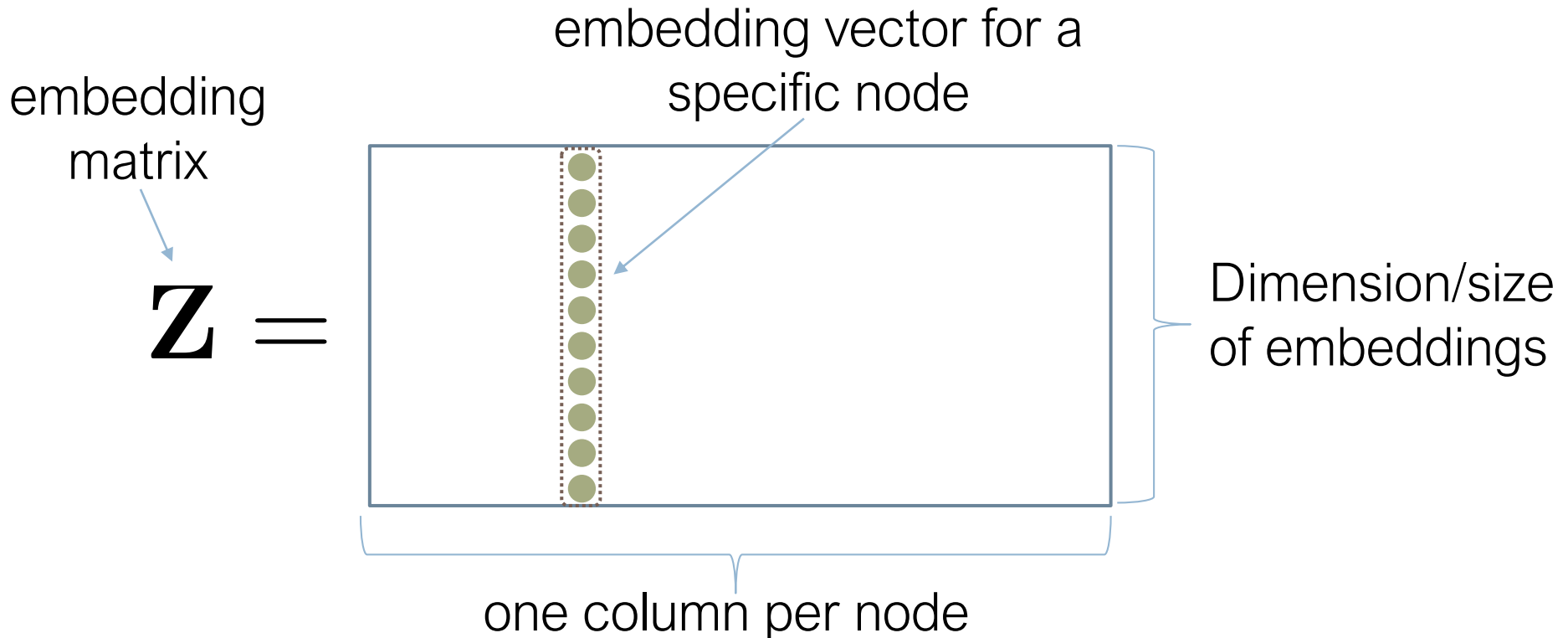
$\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times |\mathcal{V}|}$  matrix, each column is node embedding [what we learn!]

$\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{I}^{|\mathcal{V}|}$  indicator vector, all zeroes except a one in column indicating node  $v$

# “Shallow” Encoding

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- Simplest encoding approach: **encoder is just an embedding-lookup**



# “Shallow” Encoding

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- Simplest encoding approach: **encoder is just an embedding-lookup.**

**i.e., each node is assigned a unique embedding vector.**

- E.g., node2vec, DeepWalk, LINE

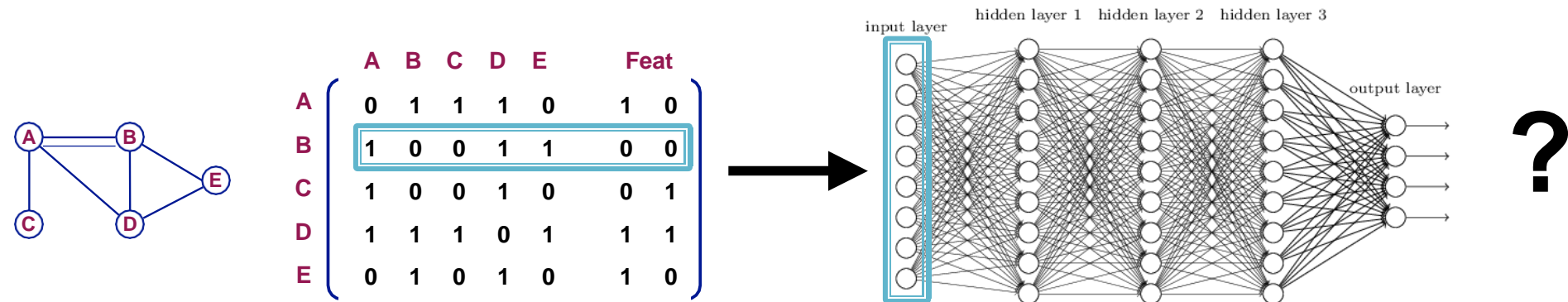
# How to Define Node Similarity?

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- Key distinction between “shallow” methods is **how they define node similarity**.
- E.g., should two nodes have similar embeddings if they...
  - are connected?
  - share neighbors?
  - have similar “structural roles”?
  - ...?

# A Naïve Approach

- Join adjacency matrix and features
- Feed them into a deep neural net:



- Issues with this idea:
  - $O(N)$  parameters
  - Not applicable to graphs of different sizes
  - Not invariant to node ordering

# Three Approaches

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1. Adjacency-based similarity
2. Multi-hop similarity
3. Random walk approaches

High-level structure and material from:

- [Hamilton et al. 2017](#). Representation Learning on Graphs: Methods and Applications. *IEEE Data Engineering Bulletin on Graph Systems*.



# Adjacency-based Similarity

Material based on:

- Ahmed et al. 2013. [Distributed Natural Large Scale Graph Factorization](#). WWW.

# Adjacency-based Similarity

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- **Similarity function** is just the edge weight between  $u$  and  $v$  in the original network.
- **Intuition:** Dot products between node embeddings approximate edge existence.

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(u,v) \in V \times V} \| \mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v - \mathbf{A}_{u,v} \|^2$$

loss (what we want to minimize)

sum over all node pairs

embedding similarity

(weighted) adjacency matrix for the graph

# Adjacency-based Similarity

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$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(u,v) \in V \times V} \|\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v - \mathbf{A}_{u,v}\|^2$$

- Find embedding matrix  $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times |V|}$  that minimizes the loss  $\mathcal{L}$ 
  - E.g., Use stochastic gradient descent (SGD) as a general optimization method.
    - Highly scalable, general approach

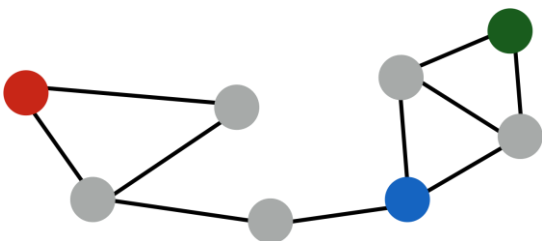
# Adjacency-based Similarity

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$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(u,v) \in V \times V} \|\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v - \mathbf{A}_{u,v}\|^2$$

## □ Drawbacks:

- $O(|V|^2)$  runtime. (Must consider all node pairs.)
  - Can make  $O(|E|)$  by only summing over non-zero edges and using regularization (e.g., [Ahmed et al., 2013](#))
- $O(|V|)$  parameters! (One learned vector per node).
- Only considers direct, local connections.



e.g., the blue node is obviously more similar to green compared to red node, despite none having direct connections.

# Multi-hop Similarity

Material based on:

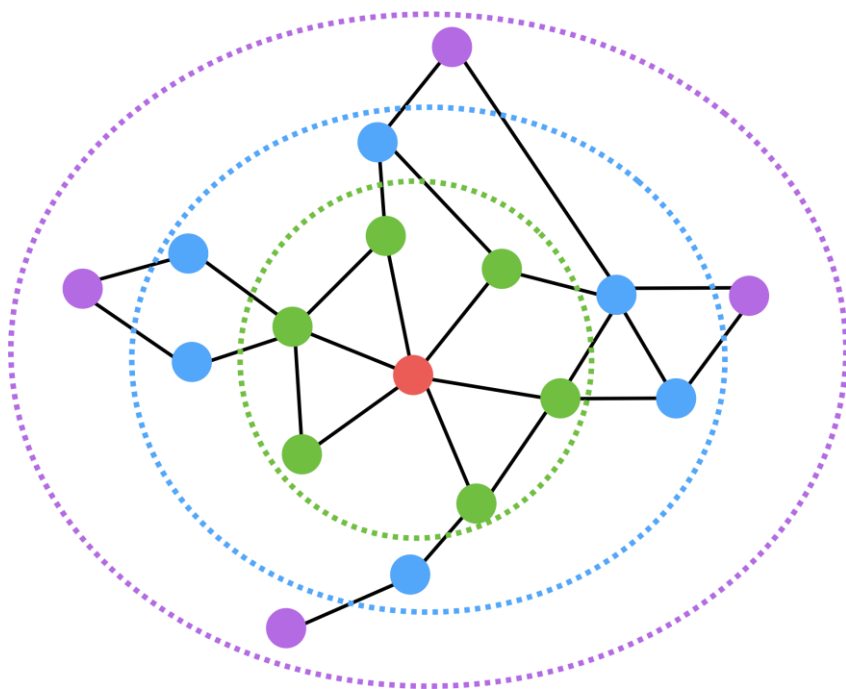
- Cao et al. 2015. [GraRep: Learning Graph Representations with Global Structural Information](#). *CIKM*.
- Ou et al. 2016. [Asymmetric Transitivity Preserving Graph Embedding](#). *KDD*.

# Multi-hop Similarity

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□ **Idea:** Consider k-hop node neighbors.

▣ E.g., two or three-hop neighbors.



- **Red:** Target node
- **Green:** 1-hop neighbors
  - $\mathbf{A}$  (i.e., adjacency matrix)
- **Blue:** 2-hop neighbors
  - $\mathbf{A}^2$
- **Purple:** 3-hop neighbors
  - $\mathbf{A}^3$

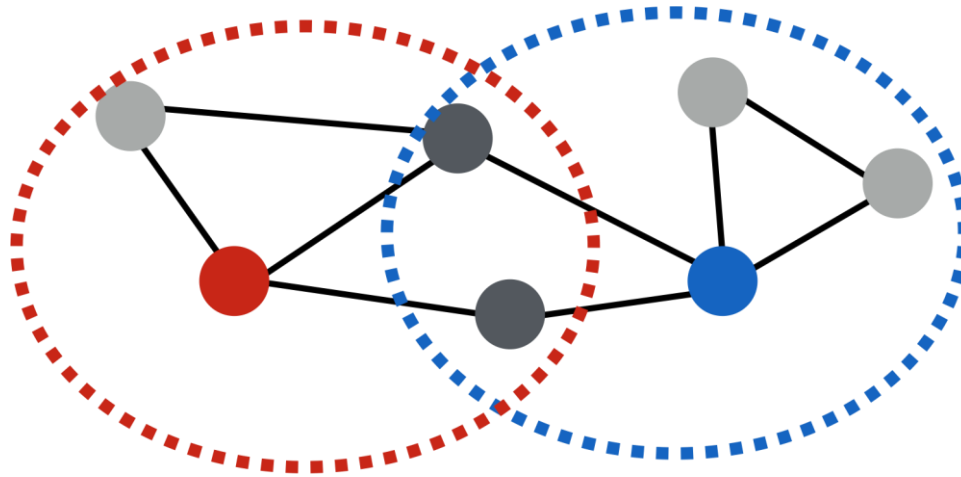
# Multi-hop Similarity

- **Basic idea:** 
$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(u,v) \in V \times V} \|\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v - \mathbf{A}_{u,v}^k\|^2$$
- Train embeddings to predict k-hop neighbors.

# Multi-hop Similarity

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- **Another option:** Measure overlap between node neighborhoods.



- Example overlap functions:
  - ▣ Jaccard similarity



# Multi-hop Similarity

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$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(u,v) \in V \times V} \left\| \boxed{\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v} - \boxed{\mathbf{S}_{u,v}} \right\|^2$$

embedding similarity

multi-hop network similarity  
(i.e., any neighborhood overlap measure)

- $\mathbf{S}_{u,v}$  is the neighborhood overlap between  $u$  and  $v$  (e.g., Jaccard overlap).

# Summary so far

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## □ Basic idea so far:

- ▣ 1) Define pairwise node similarities.
- ▣ 2) Optimize low-dimensional embeddings to approximate these pairwise similarities.

## □ Issues:

- ▣ **Expensive:** Generally  $O(|V|^2)$ , since we need to iterate over all pairs of nodes.
- ▣ **Brittle:** Must hand-design deterministic node similarity measures.
- ▣ **Massive parameter space:**  $O(|V|)$  parameters

# Random Walk Approaches

Material based on:

- Perozzi et al. 2014. [DeepWalk: Online Learning of Social Representations.](#) *KDD*.
- Grover et al. 2016. [node2vec: Scalable Feature Learning for Networks.](#) *KDD*.

# Random-walk Embeddings

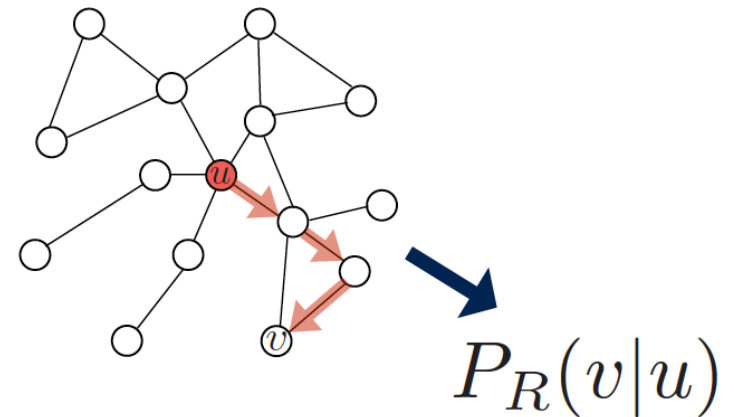
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$$\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v \approx \text{probability that } u \text{ and } v \text{ co-occur on a random walk over the network}$$

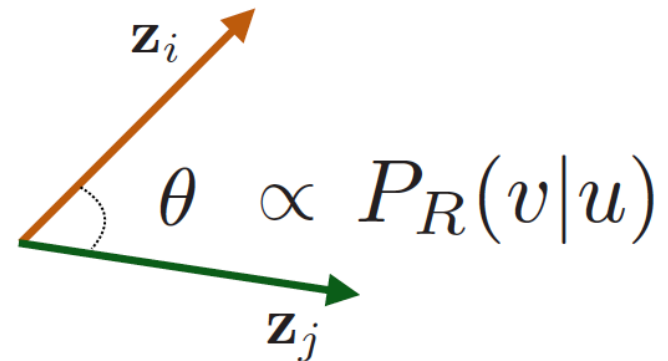
# Random-walk Embeddings

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1. Estimate probability of visiting node  $v$  on a random walk starting from node  $u$  using some random walk strategy  $R$ .



2. Optimize embeddings to encode these random walk statistics.



# Why Random Walks?

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1. **Expressivity:** Flexible stochastic definition of node similarity that incorporates both local and higher-order neighborhood information.
2. **Efficiency:** Do not need to consider all node pairs when training; only need to consider pairs that co-occur on random walks.

# Random Walk Optimization

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1. Run short random walks starting from each node on the graph using some strategy  $R$ .
2. For each node  $u$  collect  $N_R(u)$ , the multiset<sup>\*</sup> of nodes visited on random walks starting from  $u$ .
3. Optimize embeddings to according to:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log(P(v|\mathbf{z}_u))$$

<sup>\*</sup>  $N_R(u)$  can have repeat elements since nodes can be visited multiple times on random walks.

# Random Walk Optimization

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$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log(P(v|\mathbf{z}_u))$$

- **Intuition:** Optimize embeddings to maximize likelihood of random walk co-occurrences.
- **Parameterize**  $P(v|\mathbf{z}_u)$  **using softmax:**

$$P(v|\mathbf{z}_u) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_n)}$$



# Random Walk Optimization

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Putting things together:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} - \log \left( \frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^\top \mathbf{z}_n)} \right)$$

sum over all nodes  $u$

sum over nodes  $v$  seen on random walks starting from  $u$

predicted probability of  $u$  and  $v$  co-occurring on random walk

Optimizing random walk embeddings =

Finding embeddings  $\mathbf{z}_u$  that minimize  $\mathcal{L}$

# Random Walks: Summary

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1. Run short random walks starting from each node on the graph using some strategy  $R$ .
2. For each node  $u$  collect  $N_R(u)$ , the multiset of nodes visited on random walks starting from  $u$ .
3. Optimize embeddings to according to:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log(P(v|\mathbf{z}_u))$$

# Summary so far

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- **Basic idea:** Embed nodes so that distances in embedding space reflect node similarities in the original network.
- Different notions of node similarity:
  - Adjacency-based (i.e., similar if connected)
  - Multi-hop similarity definitions.
  - Random walk approaches.

# Summary so far

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- ❑ **So what method should I use..?**
- ❑ No one method wins in all cases.... ([Goyal and Ferrara, 2017 survey](#)).
- ❑ Random walk approaches are generally more efficient (i.e.,  $O(|E|)$  vs.  $O(|V|^2)$ )
- ❑ **In general:** Must choose def'n of node similarity that matches application!