# **Graph Neural Netowrks**

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Assigned reading: Chapter 13

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### OUTLINE

- graph-structured data and graphs
- ▶ adjacency matrix and the permutation symmetry
- ► Graph Neural Networks (GNN)
- expressive power of GNNs and the Weisfeiler-Lehman test







Boris Weisfeiler

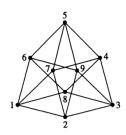
#### GRAPH-STRUCTURED DATA



- Graphs are mathematical abstractions that can describe complex systems of interactions.
- Examples include molecular graphs, social networks, and recommender systems.
- Every machine learning problem we have considered so far in the course e.g., regression, classification, and generative modeling – can be posed for graph-structured data.

#### VERTICES & EDGES

- A graph G an ordered pair of disjoint sets (V, E) such that E is a subset of the set  $V^{(2)}$  of unordered pairs of V.
- ▶ The set V is the set of *vertices* and E is the set of *edges*. An edge  $\{u, v\}$  is said to join the vertices u and v and is denoted by uv (or vu).
- ▶ If  $uv \in E(G)$ , then u and v are adjacent, or neighbouring, vertices of G. The set of all *neighbours* of node v is denoted by  $\Gamma(v)$ .
- We usually think of a graph as a collection of vertices some of which are joined by edges.
- ▶ We like to draw small graphs! Given vertices  $V = \{1, 2, ..., 9\}$  and edges  $E = \{12, 23, 34, 45, 56, 61, 17, 72, 29, 95, 57, 74, 48, 83, 39, 96, 68, 81\}$ , the graph G = (V, E) is immediately comprehended by looking at



#### ADJACENCY MATRIX

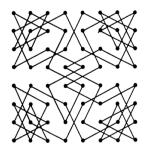
- ▶ A natural way to represent a graph is by using the *adjacency matrix*.
- ▶ The adjacency matrix  $A = A(G) = (a_{uv})$  of a graph G is the  $n \times n$  matrix:

$$a_{uv} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } uv \in E(G), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

▶ An example for a 5 node graph:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## CAMONICAL//DEVERIMG



#### PERMUTATION MATRIX

- ▶ The adjacency matrix defines the structure of a graph. Naively, we can flatten it and use an MLP to solve our machine learning tasks. The problem is that labeling of nodes is arbitrary and changes the matrix.
- ▶ This is formalized by the permutation  $\pi$  which is a bijection from [n] to [n]:

$$\pi: [n] \rightarrow [n],$$

which we can represent with the two-line notation, e.g.,

• We can represent the permutation  $\pi$  with a matrix  $P(\pi) = (p_{uv})$ :

$$p_{uv} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \pi(u) = v, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

▶ For the example above:

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

#### PERMUTATION EFFECTS

▶ Let's assume we have feature vectors  $x_v \in \mathbb{R}^d$  for all vertices in the graph, which we can represent compactly with the matrix X in  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ :

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^\top \\ \vdots \\ x_n^\top \end{pmatrix}$$

Now, the relabeling of the graph with the permutation  $\pi$  has the following effect on X:

$$\tilde{X} = PX$$

(The proof is simple, as P permutes the rows.)

▶ For the adjacency matrix, both the rows and columns become permuated, therefore the new (post permutation) adjacency matrix is given by:

$$\tilde{A} = PAP^{\top}$$

### PERMUTATION INVARIANCE & EQUIVARIANCE

▶ We may want to make node-specific predictions *g*, e.g., *node classification*. Since specific node ordering is arbitrary, under permutations of the node labels our predictions should permute the same way. Therefore, node predictions should be equivariant with respect to node reordering:

$$g(PX, PAP^{\top}) = Pg(X, A)$$

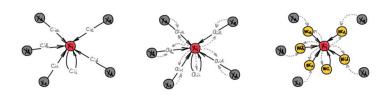
▶ In graph classification we make a graph-wide prediction f given the dataset  $\{(G_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^m$ . Since the specific ordering we choose for the graph is arbitrary, our prediction must be invariant to node label reordering:

$$f(PX, PAP^{\top}) = f(X, A).$$

Data augmentation is not an an option since the number of allowed permutations is exponentially large:

$$n! \approx (n/e)^n$$

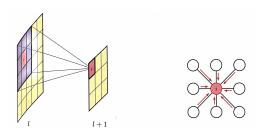
## NEURAL MESSAGE PASSING



- Inspired by multilayer perceptrons, we define graph neural networks (GNN) by constructing a computational notion of *layer* for graph-structured data that can be applied repeatedly.
- The construction of layer should respect invariance (or equivariance) under permutation. In addition, graphs come in various sizes which our GNN should be able to handle.
- ▶ A general framework to construct GNNs goes around *message passing*. ¹

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Gilmer, J., Schoenholz, S. S., Riley, P. F., Vinyals, O., & Dahl, G. E. (2017). "Neural message passing for quantum chemistry," In *International Conference on Machine Learning*.

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#### GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

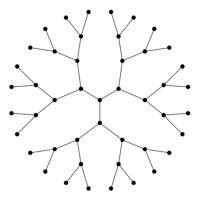
- GNNs use the graph structure and node features x<sub>v</sub> to learn a representation vector of a node, h<sub>v</sub>, or the entire graph, h<sub>G</sub>.
- Inspired by ConvNets (or by WL graph isomorphism test), GNNs follow a neighborhood aggregation strategy, where we iteratively update the representation of a node by aggregating representations of its neighbors.
- ▶ After *k* iterations of aggregation, a node's representation captures the structural information within its *k*-hop network neighborhood.
- ▶ Formally, the k-th layer of a GNN is:<sup>2</sup>

$$\begin{split} & a_{v}^{(k)} = \text{AGGREGATE}^{(k)} \left( \left\{ h_{u}^{(k-1)} : u \in \Gamma(v) \right\} \right), \\ & h_{v}^{(k)} = \text{COMBINE}^{(k)} \left( h_{v}^{(k-1)}, a_{v}^{(k)} \right), \end{split}$$

where  $h_{\nu}^{(k)}$  is the feature vector of node  $\nu$  at the k-th layer;  $h_{\nu}^{(0)} = x_{\nu}$ .

 $<sup>^2</sup>$ Xu, K., Hu, W., Leskovec, J., & Jegelka, S. (2018). How powerful are graph neural networks?

Illustrate the k-hop network neighborhood (the "receptive field").



#### GNN ARCHITECTURES

The functions  $AGGREGATE^{(k)}$  and  $COMBINE^{(k)}$  determine the GNN.

▶ Graph convolutional networks:

$$h_v^{(k)} = \operatorname{ReLU}\left(W \cdot \operatorname{MEAN}\left(\left\{h_u^{(k-1)} : u \in \Gamma(v) \cup \left\{v\right\}\right\}\right)\right),$$

where W is a learnable matrix.

- ▶ For *node classification*, the node representation  $h_v^{(K)}$  of the final iteration is used for prediction.
- ▶ For graph classification, the READOUT function aggregates node features from the final iteration to obtain the entire graph's representation h<sub>G</sub>:

$$h_{G} = \text{READOUT}\left(\left\{h_{v}^{(K)} : v \in G\right\}\right),$$

where  $\operatorname{READOUT}$  is a permutation invariant function such as summation.

Let's come up with graph attention networks! Hint: incorporate self-attention into the AGGREGATE function.

#### WEISFEILER-LEHMAN TEST & GNNs

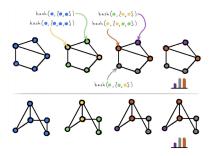


Figure: The WL test iteratively (1) aggregates the labels of nodes and their neighborhoods, and (2) hashes the aggregated labels into *unique* new labels.

- ▶ The graph isomorphism problem asks whether two graphs are topologically identical. No polynomial-time algorithm is known for it yet.
- ▶ In the WL test for graph isomorphism, the two graphs are non-isomorphic if at some iteration the labels of the nodes between the two graphs differ.
- WL could fail for simple non-isomorphic graphs.
  - ▶ It turns out GNNs can be at most as powerful as WL test!
- ▶ This gives rise to higher-order GNNs which mimic 2-WL, 3-WL, ...