

# Graph Neural Networks

## Introduction

Iulia Duta

Andrei Nicolicioiu



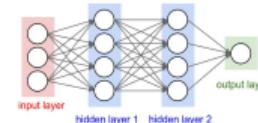
July 2021  
*Strasbourg & Timisoara Deep Learning Meetup*

# Choose your model

UNSTRUCTURED



Sepal length	Sepal width	Petal length	Petal width	Species
5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	Iris setosa
4.9	3.0	1.4	0.2	Iris setosa
7.0	3.2	4.7	1.4	Iris versicolor
6.4	3.2	4.5	1.5	Iris versicolor
6.5	3.3	4.9	2.5	Iris virginica
5.8	3.3	4.0	2.5	Iris virginica



MLP

SEQUENTIAL

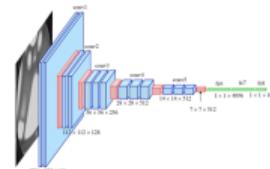
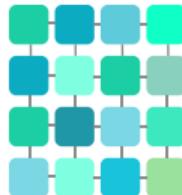


Have a nice day! :)



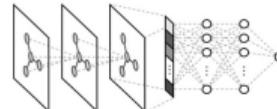
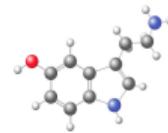
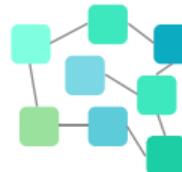
RNN

GRID



CNN

RELATIONAL STRUCTURE



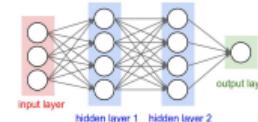
GNN

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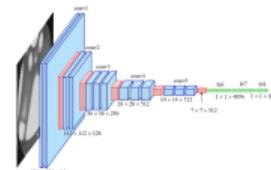
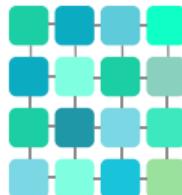


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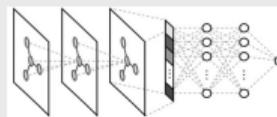
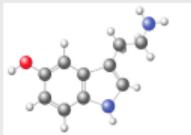
RNN

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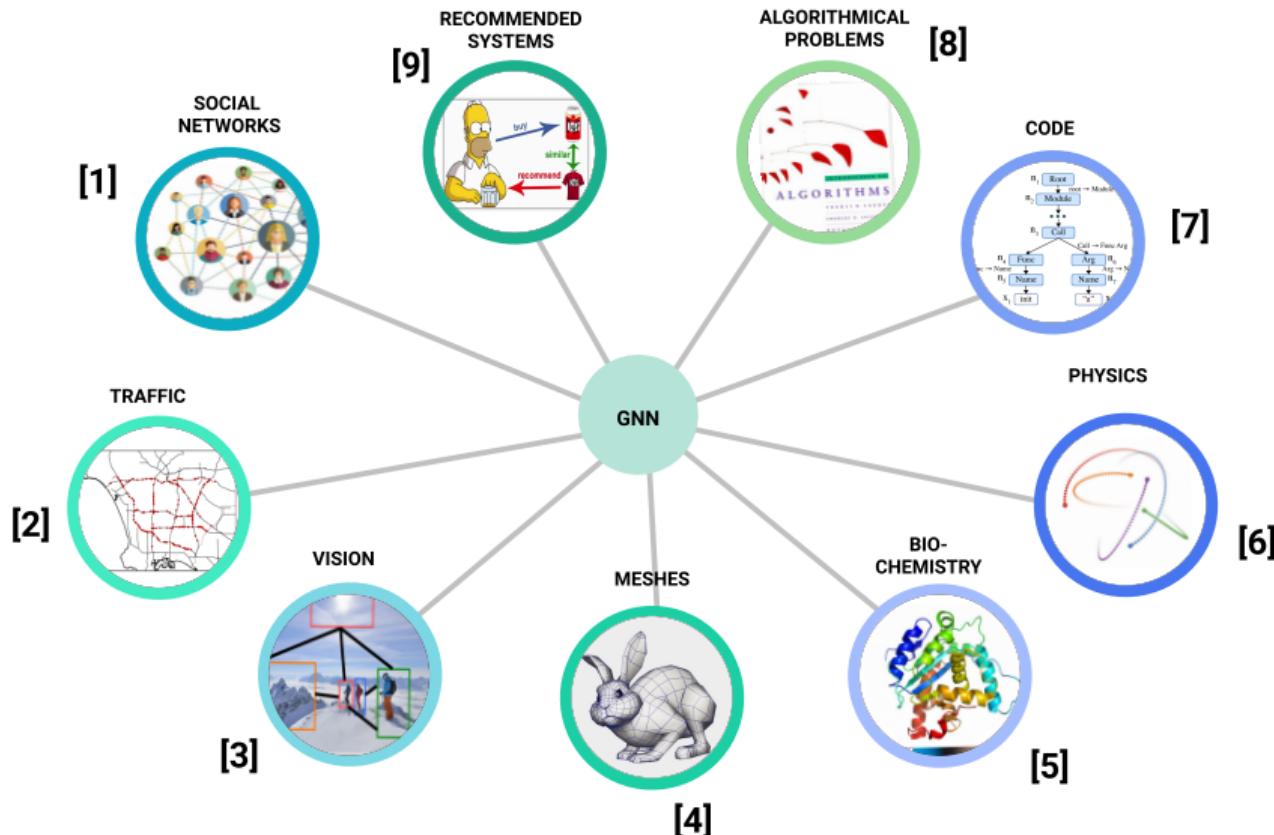
CNN

RELATIONAL STRUCTURE

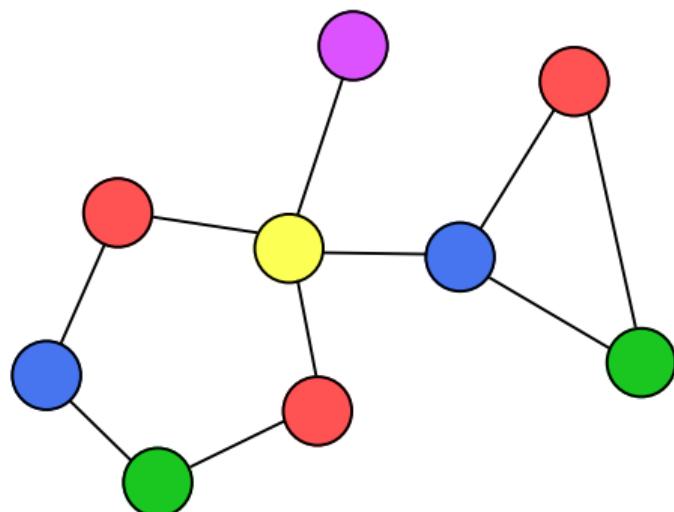


GNN

# Tasks



# Data: Graph Structure

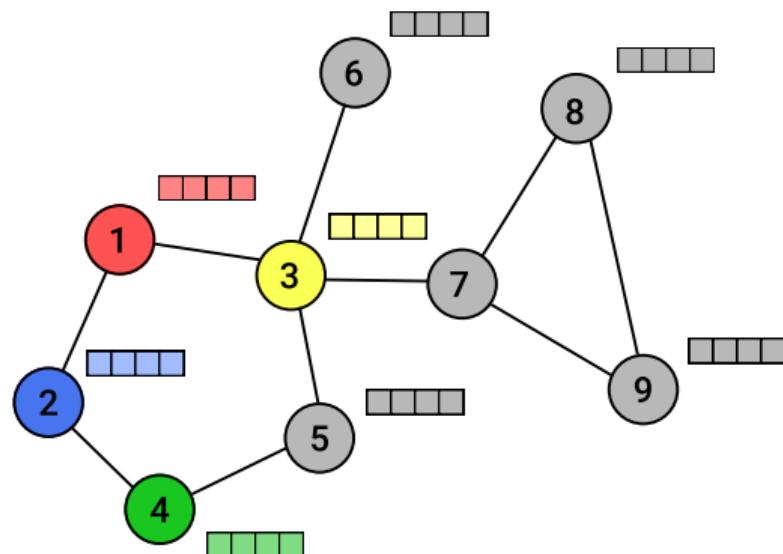


Tasks where we have access or we can create a graph structure.

A graph  $G$  is characterized by:

- a set of **nodes**  
 $X = \{x_i | i \in 1..N\}$
- connected by **edges**  
 $\mathcal{E} = \{e_{ij} | i, j \in 1..N\}$

# Data: Graph Structure



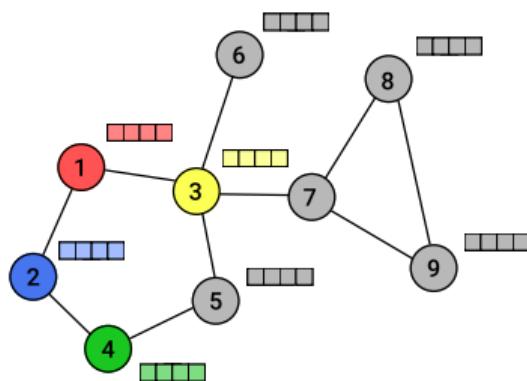
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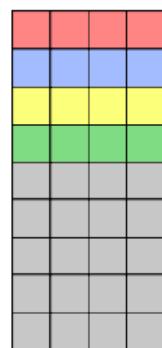
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Each node  $i$  is characterized by a set of features  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$

# Data: Graph Structure - Nodes

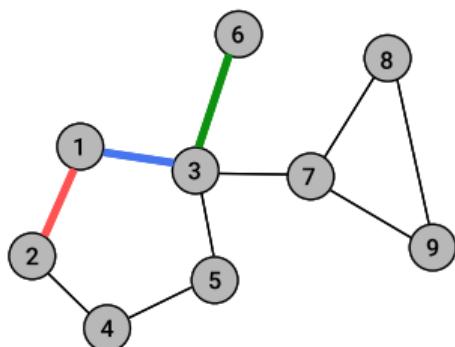


$$X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$$



- all the nodes  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$  are stacked into a matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$
- each row corresponds to a node  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$

# Data: Graph Structure - Edges

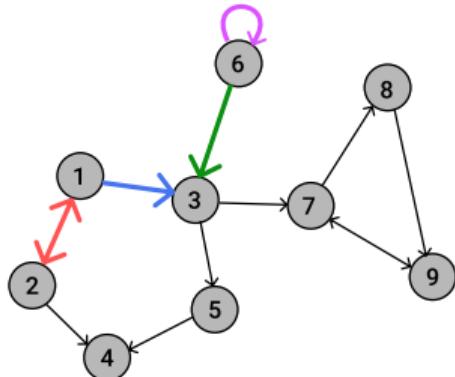


$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0

- the edges  $\mathcal{E}$  could be represented by an adjacency matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$
- $a_{ij} \neq 0$  if there is an edge between node  $i$  and node  $j$

# Data: Graph Structure - Edges



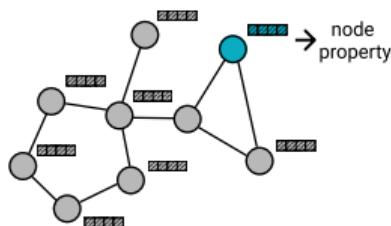
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1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0

- un-directed graph: adjacency matrix is symmetric
- directed graph: adjacency matrix is **not** symmetric
- $a_{ij} \neq 0$  if there is an edge **from j to i**
- a graph could contain *self-loops*

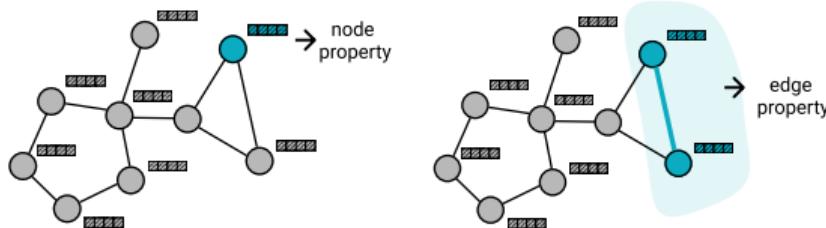
# GNNs Goal

- Based on the node features ( $X$ ) and the graph structure ( $A$ ), we want to learn a representation of the graph.
- Depending on the task, the representation could be:
  1. node level:  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}$



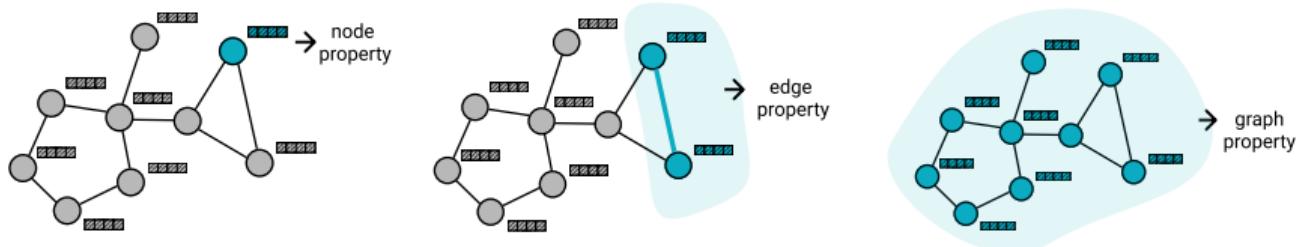
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  1. node level:  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}$
  2. edge level:  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}$
  3. graph level:  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^K$



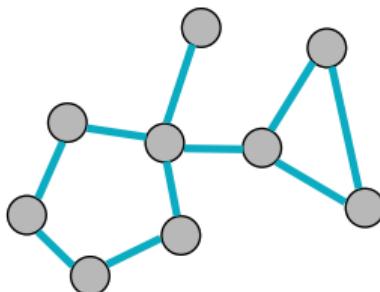
# Properties: structure

## Structure - dependent

the processing should take into account the structure of the graphs

1. the processing should take into account how nodes are connected

### CONNECTIVITY



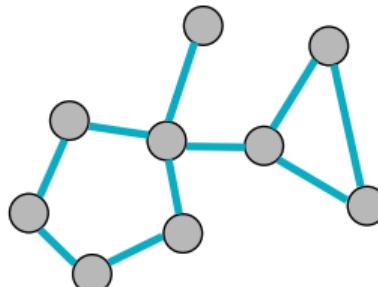
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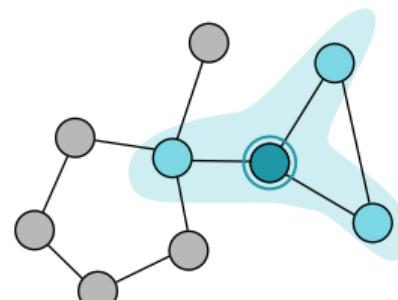
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1. the processing should take into account how nodes are connected
2. a node should be influenced more by its neighbours

CONNECTIVITY



NEIGHBOURHOOD



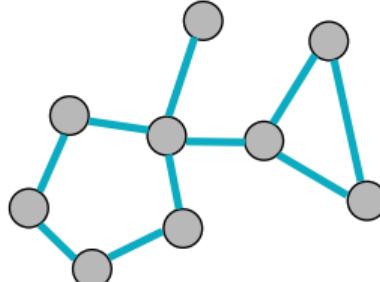
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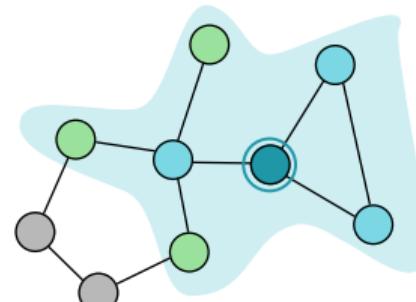
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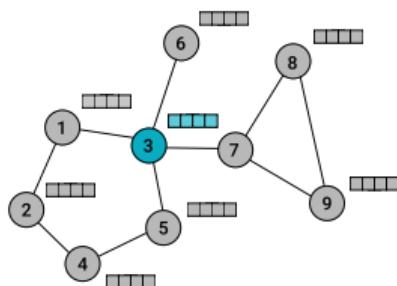
# Properties: permutation invariance and equivariance

There is no canonical order for the nodes of the graph.

## Permutation invariance

The global output of the graph processing should be invariant to the order of the nodes.

$$f(PX, PAP') = f(X, A)$$



	X								
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									

	A								
1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0

Y
0.5 0.3 0.2

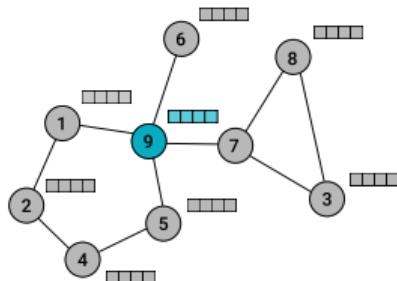
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*X*

1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								

*A*

1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	
8	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0

*Y*

0.5	0.3	0.2
-----	-----	-----

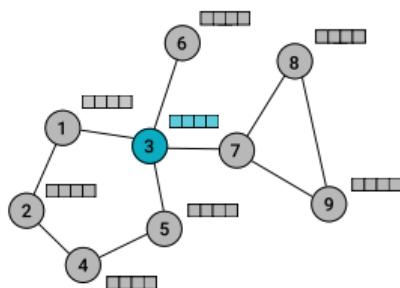
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## Permutation equivariance

If we permute the input nodes of the graph, the nodes' output should be permuted in the same way.

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	X								
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									

	A								
1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
9	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

	Y								
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
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9									

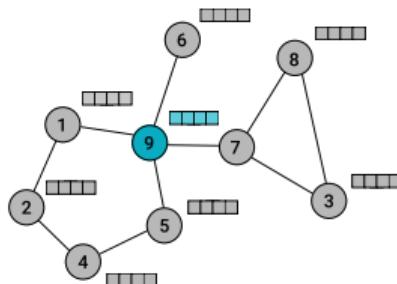
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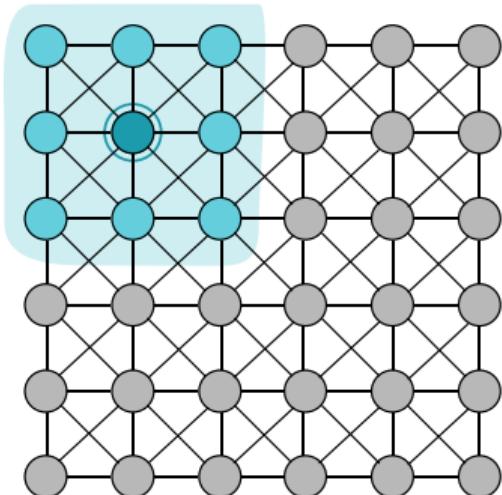


X	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1									1
2								0	0
3							1	1	0
4						0	1	0	0
5					0	0	0	1	0
6					0	0	0	0	0
7					0	0	1	0	1
8					0	0	1	0	0
9	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0

A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
8	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0

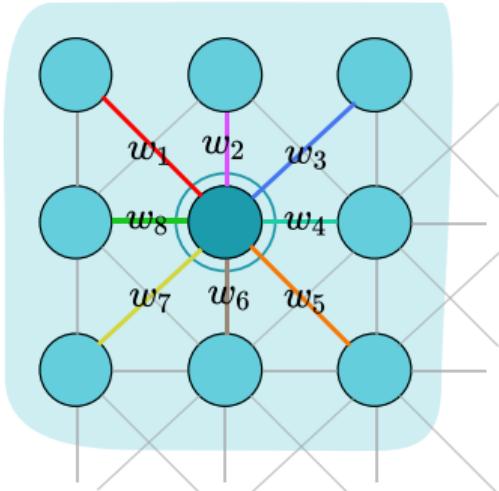
Y	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									

# Convolutional Network



- takes into account a **neighbourhood**
- the **structure is fixed**: a grid for 2D Conv or a sequence for 1D Conv
- the model is invariant to translations

# Convolutional Network



$$y_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} w_j x_j$$

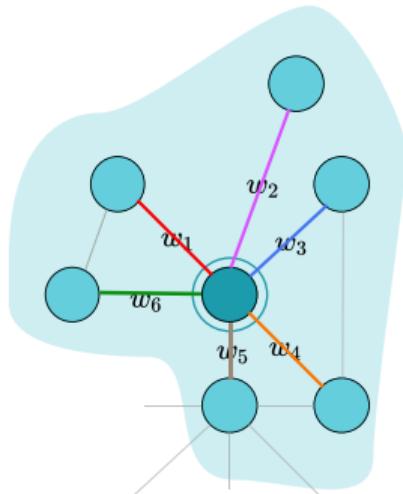
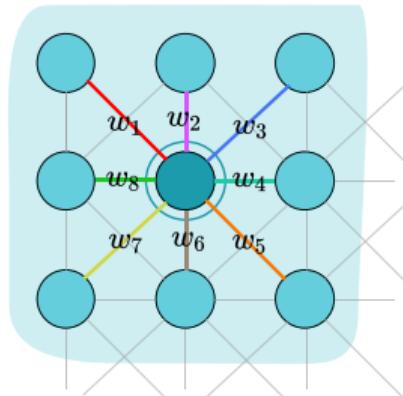
For a convolutional network the neighbourhood is

- **fixed:** for a  $K \times K$  convolutional filter we combine exactly  $K^2$  neighbours
- **ordered:** we can impose a canonical order among neighbours (left, right, up, down)

# Convolutional Network

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Can we do the same for graphs?

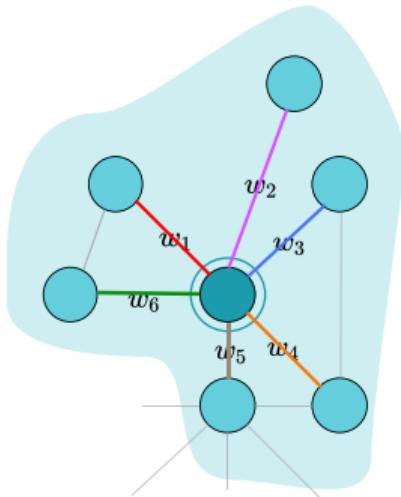
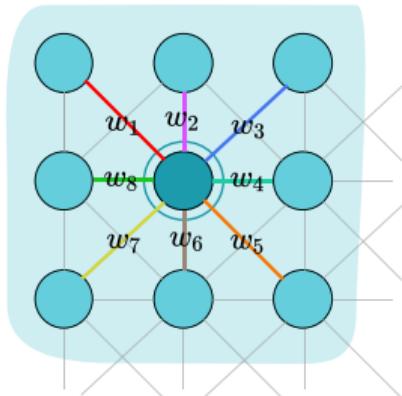


# Convolutional Network

$$y_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} w_j x_j$$

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- can't have variable number of weights
- have to establish an order

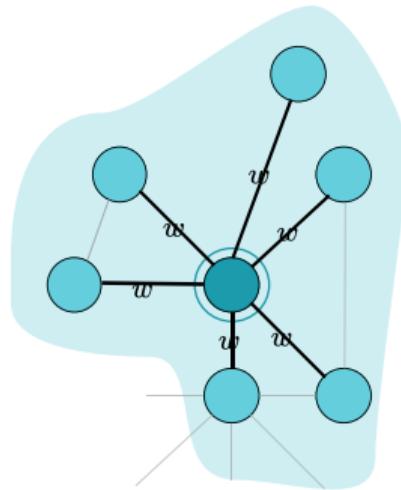
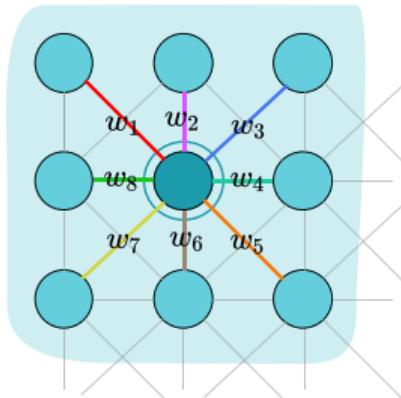


# Convolutional Network

$$y_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} w_j x_j$$

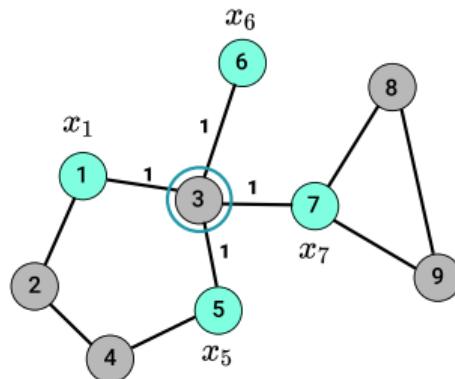
$$y_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} w x_j$$

- Solution: same  $w$  for all nodes



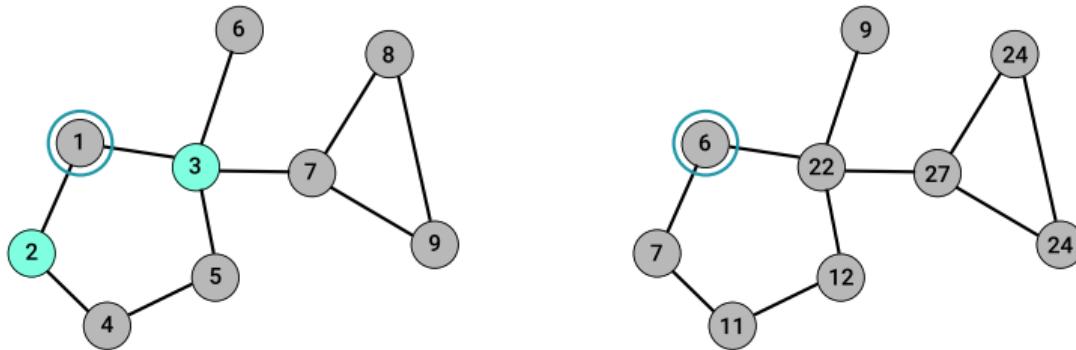
# Graph Propagation

Simple graph representation (set  $w = 1$ ):  $y_i = x_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j$



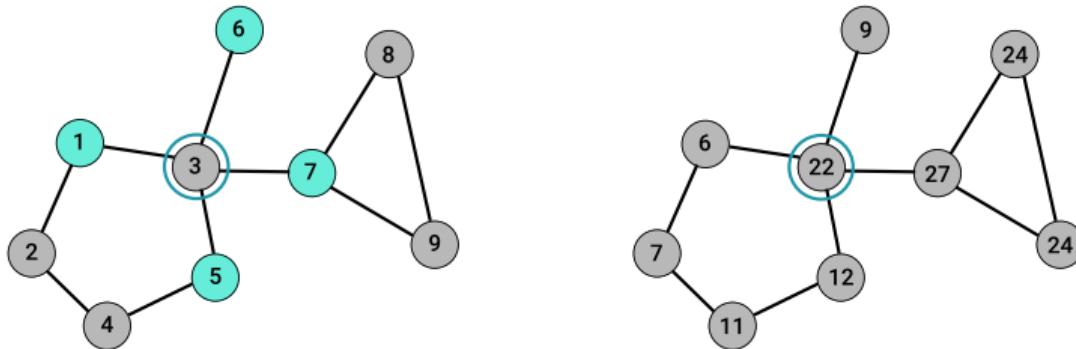
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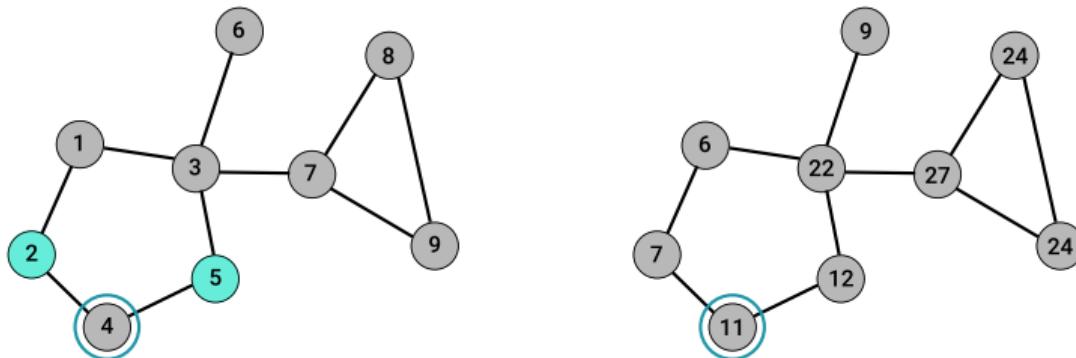
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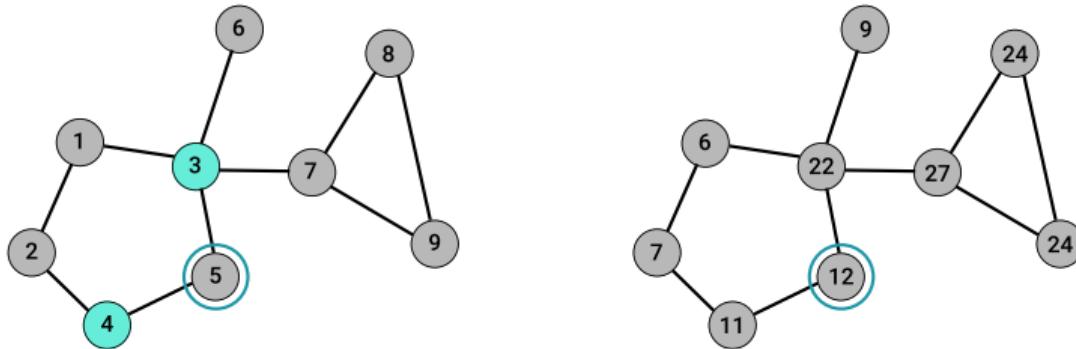
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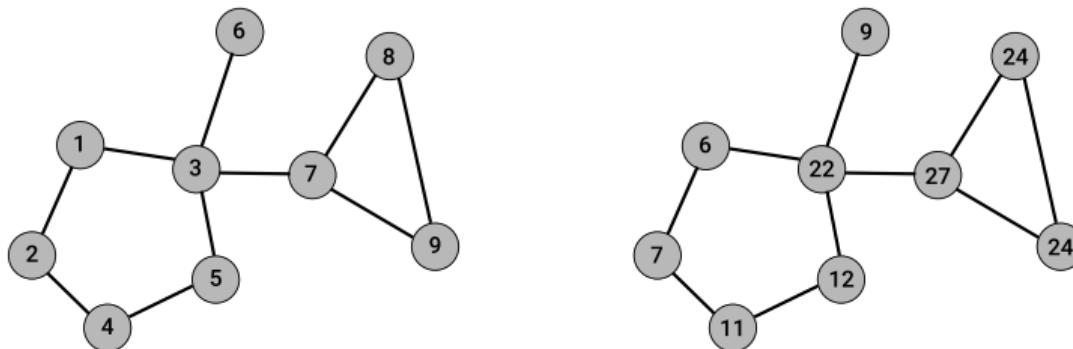
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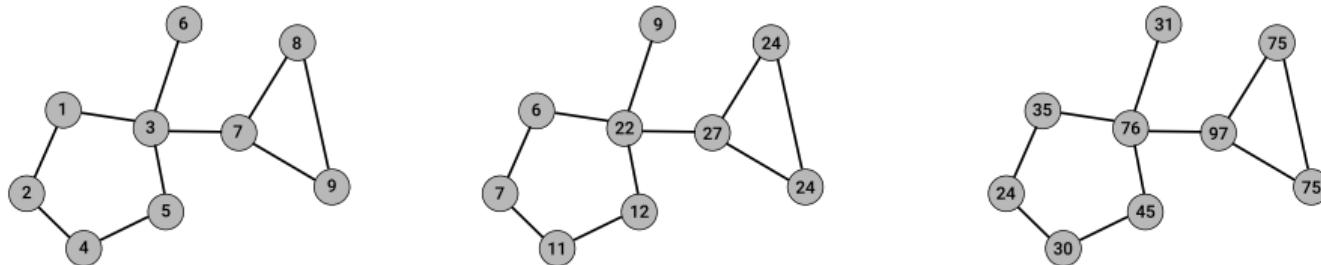
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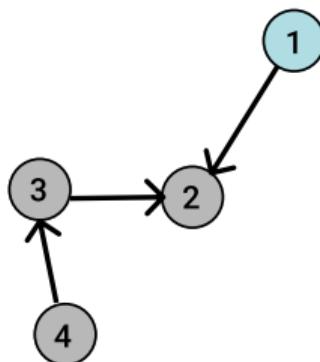
Simple graph propagation (set  $w = 1$ ):  $y_i = x_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j$



- if applied iteratively, it takes into account the structure

# Simplest Graph Propagation

$y_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j$  can be rewritten in a compact, matrix form as  $Y = AX$



$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N} \quad X \in \mathbb{R}^N \quad Y \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0

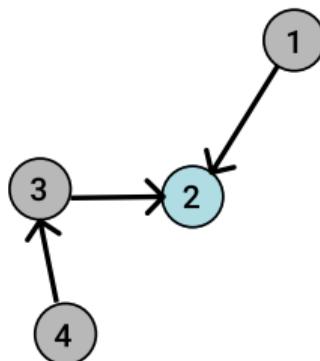
1
2
3
4

=

0

# Simplest Graph Propagation

$y_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j$  can be rewritten in a compact, matrix form as  $Y = AX$



$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N} \quad X \in \mathbb{R}^N \quad Y \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0

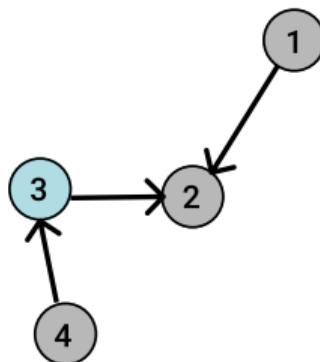
1
2
3
4

 $=$ 

0
1+3

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0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0

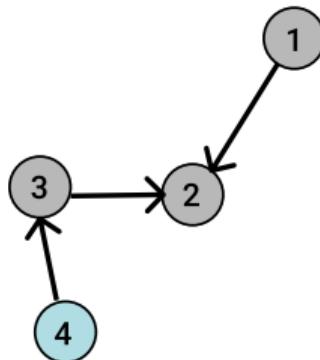
1
2
3
4

 $=$ 

0
1+3
4

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0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0

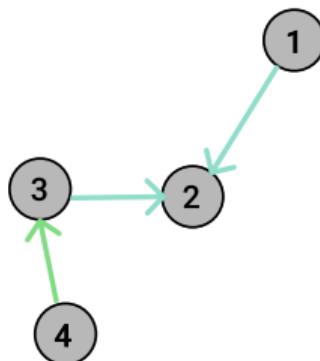
1
2
3
4
4

 $=$ 

0
1+3
4
0

# Simplest Graph Propagation

$y_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j$  Nodes could have high-dimensional representation  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$



$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0

$$X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$$

$x_1$
$x_2$
$x_3$
$x_4$

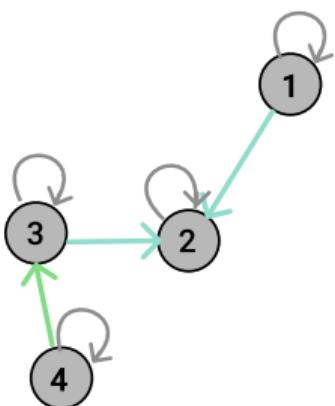
$$Y \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$$

0
$x_1 + x_3$
$x_4$
0

 $=$

# Simplest Graph Propagation

$y_i = \boxed{x_i} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j$  We should take into account also the current node - self-loops.



$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

1	0	0	0
1	1	1	0
0	0	1	1
0	0	0	1

$$X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$$

$x_1$
$x_2$
$x_3$
$x_4$

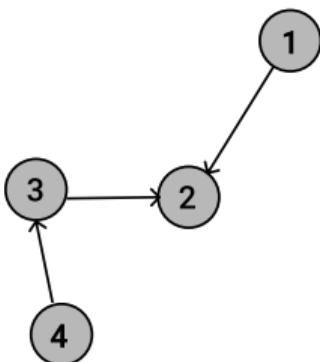
$$Y \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$$

$x_1$
$x_1 + x_2 + x_3$
$x_3 + x_4$
$x_4$

# Simplest Graph Propagation

To combine more complex representations:

$$y_i = x_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j \quad \rightarrow \quad y_i = x_i W + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j W$$



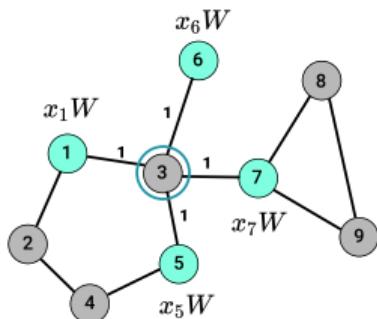
$$X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D} \quad W \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times C} \quad Y \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times C}$$
$$\begin{matrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{[Large gray rectangle]} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} x_1 W \\ x_2 W \\ x_3 W \\ x_4 W \end{matrix}$$

# Simplest Graph Propagation

To combine more complex representations:

$$y_i = x_i + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j \quad \rightarrow \quad y_i = x_i W + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} x_j W$$

The operations performed in the graph could be rewritten as:



$$Y = AXW$$

Iteratively, for more layers:

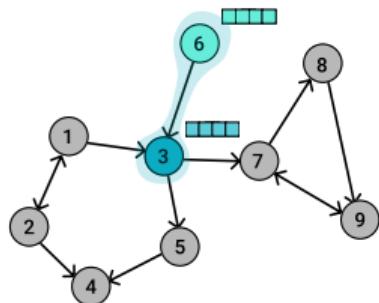
$$Y = A\sigma(AXW_1)W_2$$

$$Y = A\sigma \dots A\sigma(AXW_1)W_2 \dots W_n$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Send

## Send Function

- for each pair of 2 connected nodes, create a **message**



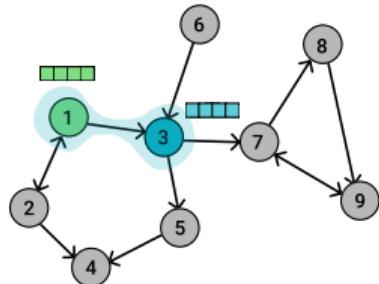
$$m_{ij} = f_{msg}(x_i, x_j) \in \mathbb{R}^C \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$$

$$m_{3,6} = f_{msg}(\text{[redacted]}, \text{[blue]})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Send

## Send Function

- for each pair of 2 connected nodes, create a **message**



$$m_{ij} = f_{msg}(x_i, x_j) \in \mathbb{R}^C \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$$

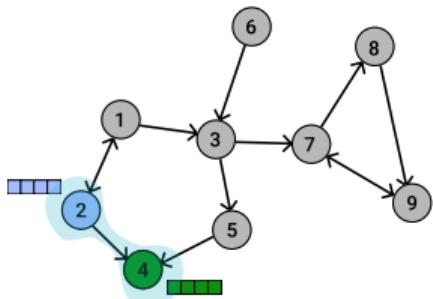
$$m_{3,6} = f_{msg}(\text{cyan}, \text{light blue})$$

$$m_{3,1} = f_{msg}(\text{cyan}, \text{green})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Send

## Send Function

- for each pair of 2 connected nodes, create a **message**



$$m_{ij} = f_{msg}(x_i, x_j) \in \mathbb{R}^C \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$$

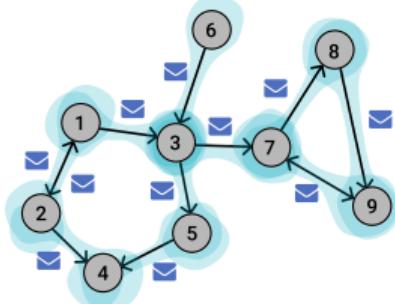
$$m_{3,6} = f_{msg}(\text{blue squares}, \text{light blue})$$

$$m_{3,1} = f_{msg}(\text{blue squares}, \text{light green})$$

$$m_{4,2} = f_{msg}(\text{green}, \text{blue squares})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Send

- $f_{msg}$  is a learnable function (e.g. an MLP)
- its parameters are shared between each pair of nodes



Learnable function

$$m_{ij} = \overbrace{f_{msg}(x_i, x_j)}^{\text{Learnable function}} \in \mathbb{R}^C \quad \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$$

$$\begin{aligned} m_{3,6} &= f_{msg}(\text{--- , ---}) \\ m_{3,1} &= f_{msg}(\text{--- , ---}) \\ &\dots \\ m_{4,2} &= f_{msg}(\text{--- , ---}) \end{aligned}$$

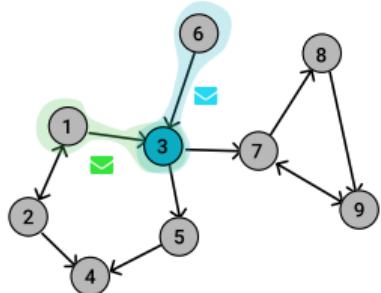
Same parameters

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Aggregation

Bitdefender

## Aggregation Function

For each node  $i$ , **aggregate** the incoming messages from all its neighbours.



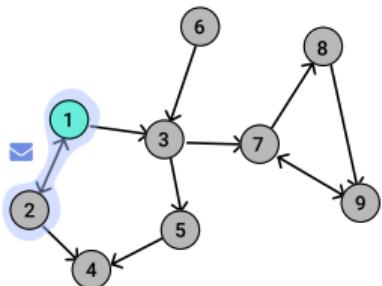
$$h_i = f_{agg}(\{m_{ij} \mid \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i\})$$

$$h_3 = f_{agg}(\{\text{green}, \text{blue}\})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Aggregation

## Aggregation Function

For each node  $i$ , **aggregate** the incoming messages from all its neighbours.



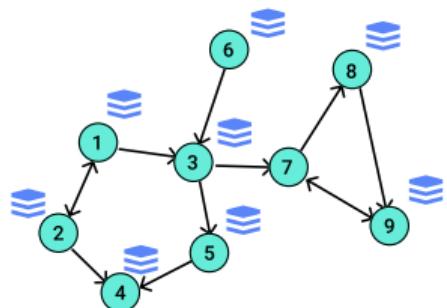
$$h_i = f_{agg}(\{m_{ij} \mid \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i\})$$

$$h_3 = f_{agg}(\{\text{red}, \text{blue}\})$$

$$h_1 = f_{agg}(\{\text{blue}\})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Aggregation

- aggregate incoming messages with the function  $f_{agg}$ :  
eg. sum, mean, max, min
- it should be **invariant to the order** of the nodes and  
should **allow a variable number** of messages



**operator**  
$$h_i = \overbrace{f_{agg}}^{\text{operator}} (\{m_{ij} | \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i\}) \in \mathbb{R}^C$$

$$h_3 = f_{agg}(\{\textcolor{red}{\blacksquare}, \textcolor{blue}{\blacksquare}\})$$

...

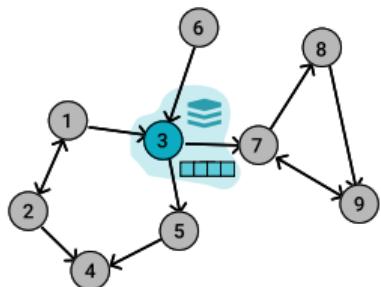
$$h_1 = f_{agg}(\{\textcolor{blue}{\blacksquare}\})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Update

Bitdefender

## Update Function

For each node  $i$ , **update** its representation using the aggregated message.



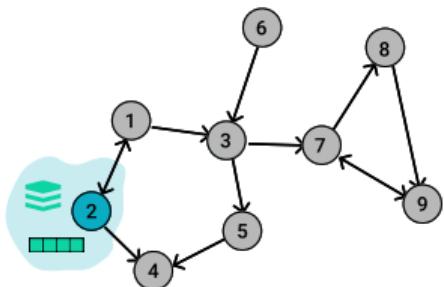
$$\tilde{x}_i = f_{upd}(x_i, h_i)$$

$$\tilde{x}_3 = f_{upd}(\text{[blue bars]}, \text{[stack of bars]})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Update

## Update Function

For each node  $i$ , **update** its representation using the aggregated message.



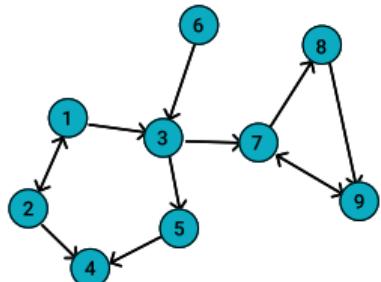
$$\tilde{x}_i = f_{upd}(x_i, h_i)$$

$$\tilde{x}_3 = f_{upd}(\text{[red squares]}, \text{[green wavy lines]})$$

$$\tilde{x}_2 = f_{upd}(\text{[red squares]}, \text{[green wavy lines]})$$

# GNNs: Message Passing Framework - Update

- $f_{upd}$  is a learnable function (e.g. an MLP)
- its parameters are shared between all the nodes



Learnable function

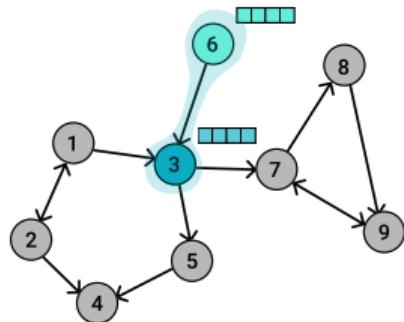
$$\tilde{x}_i = \overbrace{f_{upd}(x_i, h_i)}^{\text{Learnable function}} \in \mathbb{R}^C$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{x}_3 &= f_{upd}(\text{---}, \text{---}) \\ &\dots \\ \tilde{x}_2 &= f_{upd}(\text{---}, \text{---})\end{aligned}$$

Same parameters

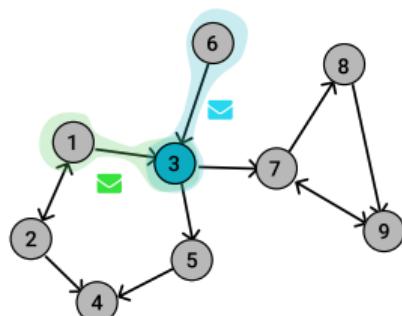
## 1. Send

$$m_{ij} = f_{msg}(x_i, x_j)$$



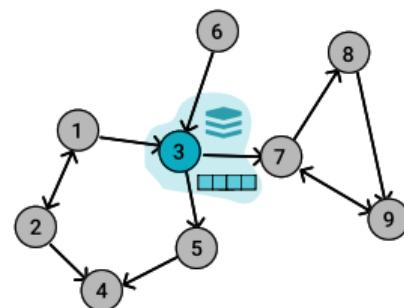
## 2. Aggregate

$$H_i = f_{agg}(\{m_{ij} | \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i\})$$



## 3. Update

$$\tilde{x}_i = f_{upd}(x_i, H_i)$$



# General GNN framework

$$f_{upd}\{x_i, \ f_{agg}\{ f_{msg}(x_i, x_j) \mid \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i \} \}$$

Depending on how the 3 functions are instantiated, different architectures could be obtained:

## Convolutional GNNs

$$f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\phi(x_j)\})$$

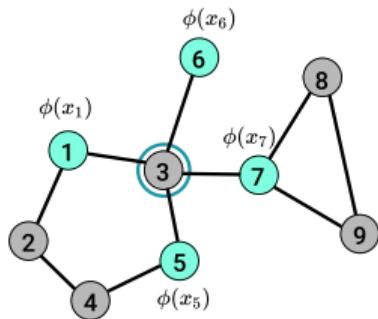
## Attention GNNs

$$f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\alpha(x_i, x_j)\phi(x_j)\})$$

## Message Passing

$$f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\phi(x_i, x_j)\})$$

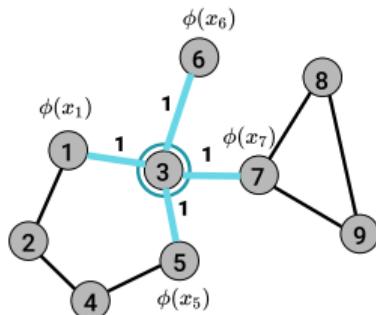
# Graph Convolutional Network



$$y_i = f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\phi(x_j)\})$$

- messages depend only on the source nodes

# Graph Convolutional Network



$$y_i = f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\phi(x_j)\})$$

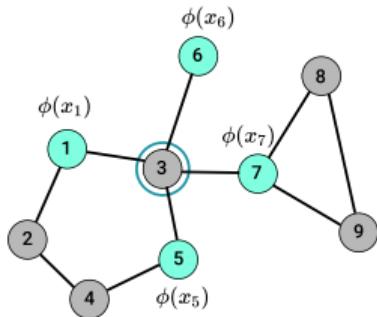
- messages depend only on the source nodes
- aggregation function is implemented as a sum/mean operation
- aggregation could be normalized according to the nodes' degree:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{deg(i)deg(j)}}$

Matrix form:  $Y = \sigma(\tilde{A}XW)$

# Graph Attention Network

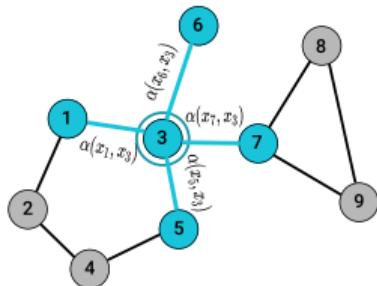
$$y_i = f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\alpha(x_i, x_j) \{ \phi(x_j) \} \})$$

- messages depend only on the source nodes



- 
- [11] Vaswani et. al. Attention is all you need. NeurIPS 2017  
[12] Veličković et. al Graph attention networks. ICLR 2018

# Graph Attention Network



$$y_i = f_{upd}(x_i, \{ \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\alpha(x_i, x_j) \phi(x_j)\})$$

- messages depend only on the source nodes
- aggregation function is based on attention mechanism

GAT:  $\alpha(x_i, x_j) \propto \text{ReLU}(a[x_i W_1, x_j W_2]^T) \in \mathbb{R}$

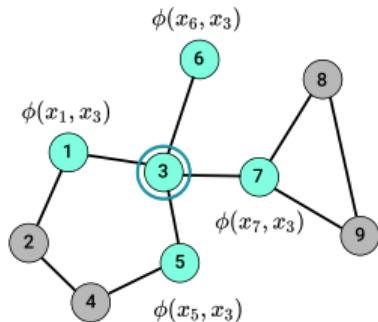
Self-Attention:  $\alpha(x_i, x_j) \propto x_i W_1 (x_j W_2)^T \in \mathbb{R}$

- the model is able to learn the desired structure

[11] Vaswani et. al. Attention is all you need. NeurIPS 2017

[12] Veličković et. al Graph attention networks. ICLR 2018

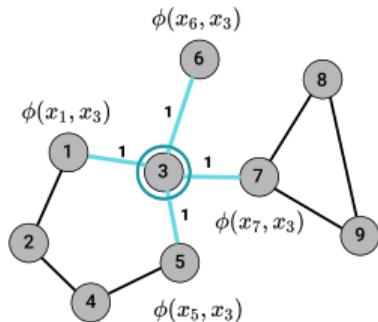
# Message Passing Neural Network



$$y_i = f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{ \phi(x_i, x_j) \})$$

- messages depend on both source and destination
- if edge features are available, the message could also take them into account

# Message Passing Neural Network

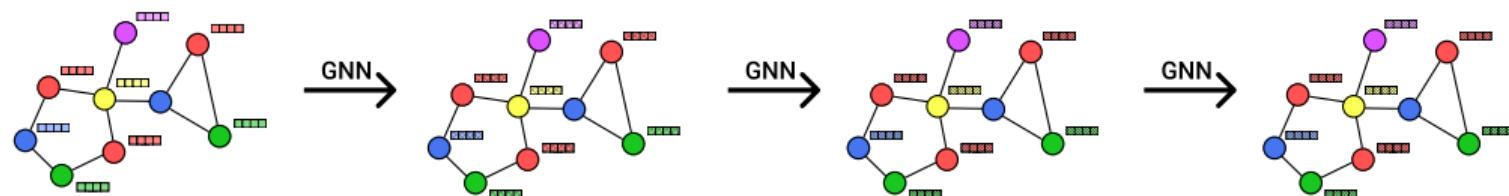


$$y_i = f_{upd}(x_i, \bigoplus_{\forall j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \{\phi(x_i, x_j)\})$$

- messages depend on both source and destination
- if edge features are available, the message could also take them into account
- aggregation function is implemented as a sum/mean operation

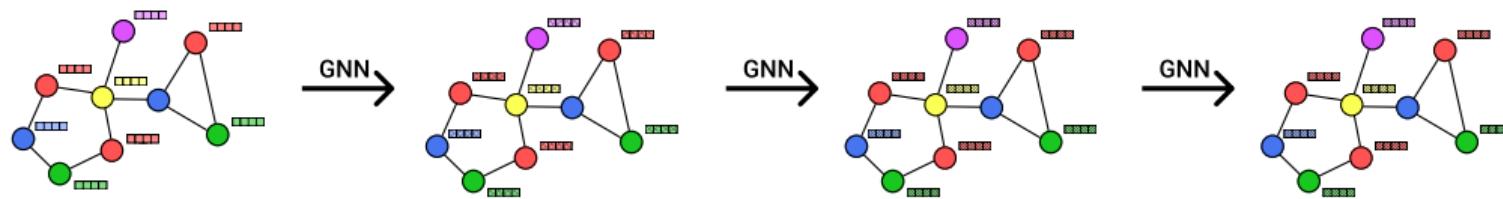
# Multiple Layers

- for a more powerful representation, we can stack multiple layers



# Multiple Layers

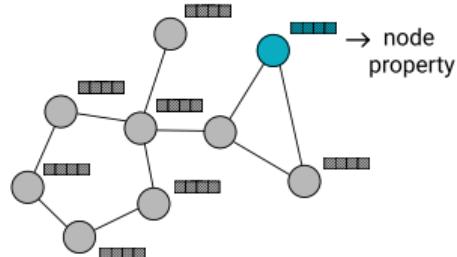
- for a more powerful representation, we can stack multiple layers
- each layer increases the receptive field of each node



RECEPTIVE FIELD:



# Graph Output - Node Level



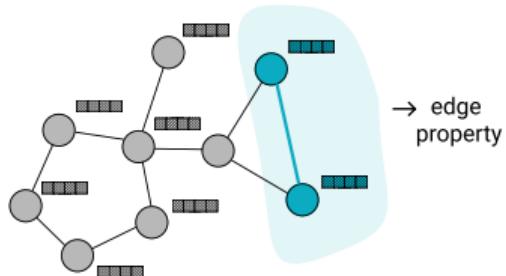
- predict an output  $y_i$  from each node

$$y_i = f_{output}(\tilde{x}_i) \in \mathbb{R}^K$$

- the loss function is applied for each node in the graph

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \mathcal{L}_i(y_i, l_i)$$

# Graph Output - Edge Level



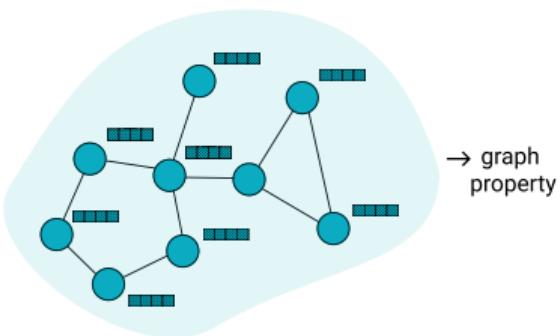
- predict an output  $y_{ij}$  from each pair of nodes

$$y_{ij} = f_{output}(\tilde{x}_i, \tilde{x}_j) \in \mathbb{R}^K$$

- the loss function is applied for each edge in the graph

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{L}_i(y_{ij}, l_{ij})$$

# Graph Output - Graph Level



- predict a single output  $y$  for the whole graph

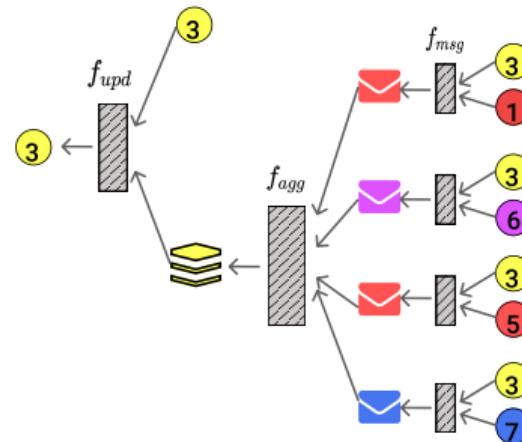
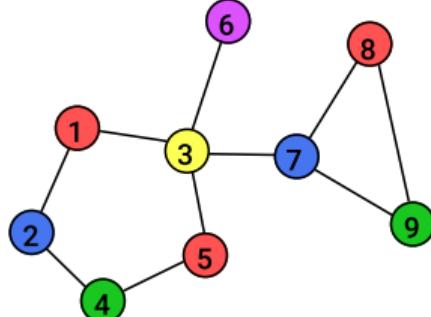
$$y = f_{readout}(\{\tilde{x}_i | \forall i \in \mathcal{V}\}) \quad \in \mathbb{R}^K$$

- $f_{readout}$  could be a simple order-invariant aggregator (e.g. sum, mean), or more complex graph pooling mechanisms
- the loss function is applied for each graph in the dataset

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_i(y, l)$$

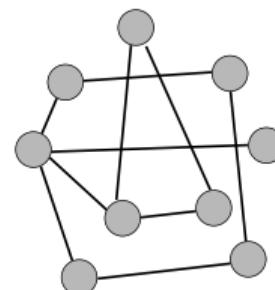
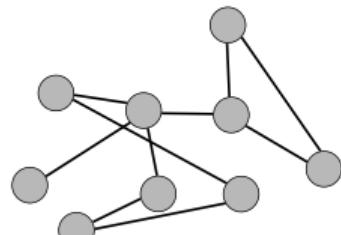
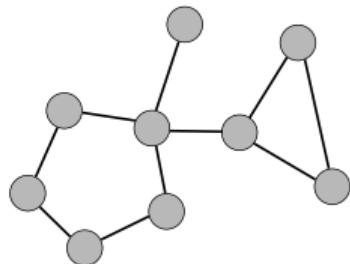
# Learning

- the output of a GNN for a node  $i$  is obtained by applying a **sequence of operations** on the initial nodes
- all the operations along the sequence should be **differentiable**



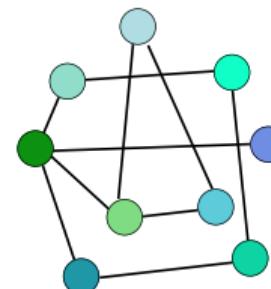
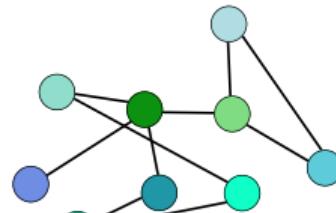
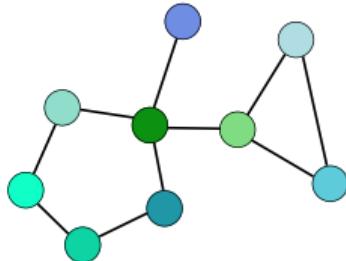
# Expressive Power of GNNs

How many different graphs are in this image?



# Expressive Power of GNNs

How many different graphs are in this image?



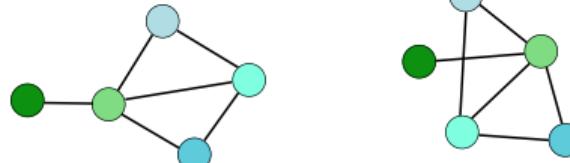
Are Graph Neural Networks able to identify this?

# Isomorphism test

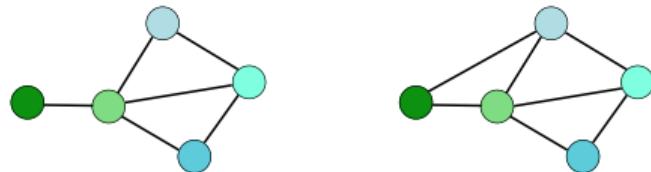
## Graph isomorphism

Two graphs are **isomorphic** if and only if there exist a *mapping* from all nodes and all edges of a graph to the other or, more formally, if and only if there exists a permutation matrix  $P$  such that  $PA_1P' = A_2$  and  $PX_1 = X_2$ .

ISOMORPH



NON - ISOMORPH



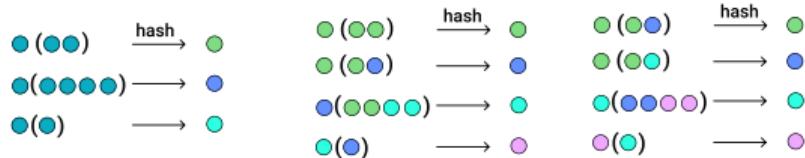
# Isomorphism test

## Graph isomorphism

Two graphs are **isomorphic** if and only if there exist a *mapping* from all nodes and all edges of a graph to the other or, more formally, if and only if there exists a permutation matrix  $P$  such that  $PA_1P' = A_2$  and  $PX_1 = X_2$ .

- no polynomial time algorithm is known to determine if two graphs are isomorphic
- **Weisfeiler-Lehman Algorithm** (WL) is a powerful algorithm for isomorphism testing, but it still has cases when it goes wrong

# Weisfeiler-Lehman Algorithm



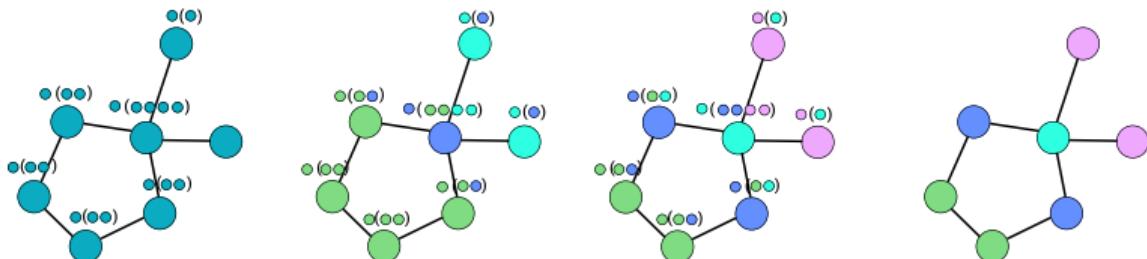
---

**Input:** initial labels  $l_0^0, l_1^0 \dots l_N^0$   
**Output:** final labels  $l_0^T, l_1^T \dots l_N^T$

---

```
while not reach a stable state do
    for each node i do
        |    $l_i^t \leftarrow \text{hash}(l_i^{(t-1)}, \{l_j^{(t-1)} \text{ for } j \in \mathcal{N}_i\})$ ;
    end
    t  $\leftarrow t + 1$ ;
end
```

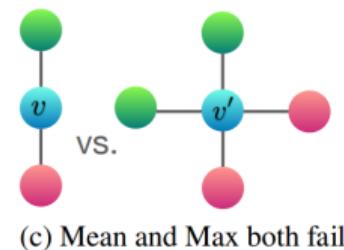
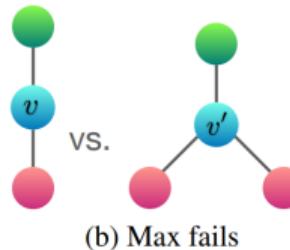
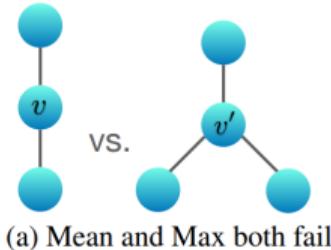
---



# Expressive Power of GNNs

## Graphs expressive power \*

A sufficient number of GNN layers with input features from a countable universe are as powerful as the 1-WL test if  $f_{upd}$ ,  $f_{agg}$  and  $f_{readout}$  are injective.



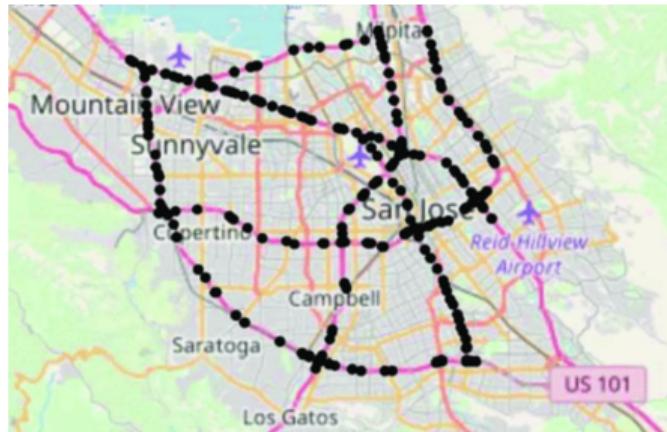
# Expressive Power of GNNs

- Usually there is a trade-off between expressivity and generalization.
- We might want to sacrifice the isomorphism properties to be better aligned to the desired task (e.g. use min / max in some tasks) or to be able to learn more easily (e.g use attention).

# GNN Application - Node Level

## Traffic forecasting \*

For several road segments, predict the most likely traffic speed in the next H minutes.



### Graph structure:

For each time step:

- *nodes*: traffic stations with traffic speed as features
- *edges*: depend on the location of the stations (e.g distance or topology of the streets)

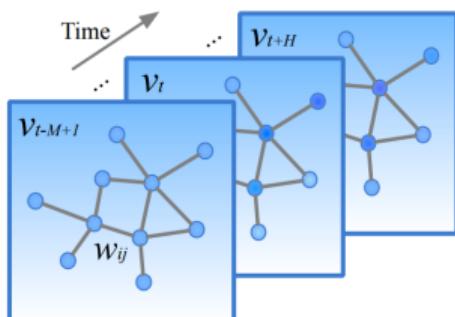
For a time window we will have a series of graphs, one for each time step.

\*[2]: Yu et. al. Spatio-temporal graph convolutional networks: A deep learning framework for traffic forecasting. IJCAI 2018

# GNN Application - Node Level

## Traffic forecasting

For several road segments, predict the most likely traffic speed in the next H minutes.



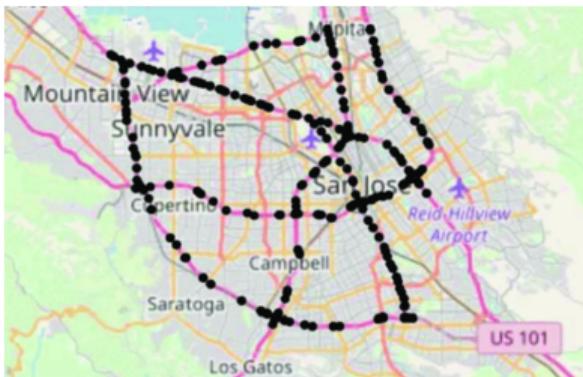
### Graph model:

- spatial processing: for each time step, use a simple GCN ( $AXW$ ) to process the nodes
- temporal processing: aggregate temporal information by using 1D Conv, independently for each node.

Combine: temporal-spatial-temporal + a Conv layer to reduce the temporal dimension.  
From each node predict the speed for the corresponding station.

## Traffic forecasting

For several road segments, predict the most likely traffic speed in the next H minutes.

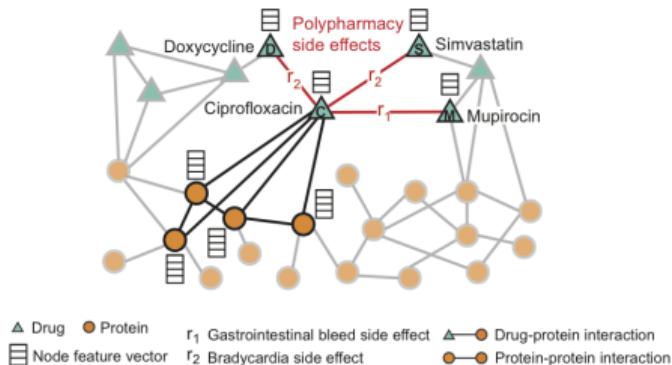


## Why Graph Processing?

- The speed in one place is highly influenced by the traffic condition of near by roads segments.
- The model could better predict the traffic conditions if we take into account the whole roads network.

## Drug-Drug Interactions \*

Predict if there are interactions between two drugs when administered simultaneously:  
can a change occur in the effects of one drug by the presence of another drug?



### Graph structure:

For each time step:

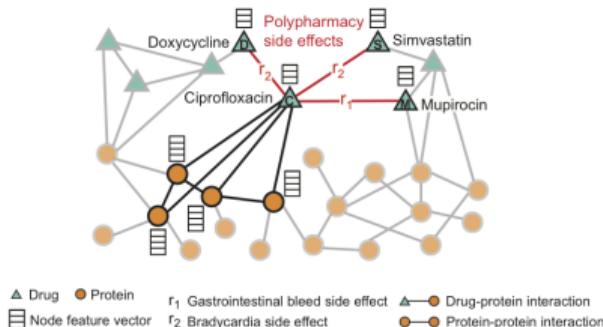
- nodes: the drugs (no features)
- edges: are drawn between two drugs if we have information that those two drugs interact with each other

\*[5]: Huang et. al. Skipgnn: predicting molecular interactions with skip-graph networks. Sci Rep 10, 21092 (2020)

# GNN Application - Edge Level

## Drug-Drug Interactions

Predict if there are interactions between two drugs when administered simultaneously:  
can a change occur in the effects of one drug by the presence of another drug?



## Graph model:

- GCNs ( $AXW$ ) are applied to capture the relations between connected drugs.
- For two target nodes we concatenate their representation and predict the binary classification.

# GNN Application - Edge Level

## Drug-Drug Interactions

Predict if there are interactions between two drugs when administered simultaneously:  
can a change occur in the effects of one drug by the presence of another drug?

## Why Graph Processing?

- Motivated by a medical observation: two drugs could be similar (as side effects) if they behave in the same way when administered simultaneously with another drug.
- The GNN is able to encode the already discovered interactions between drugs and also the behavioral similarity between different drugs.
- The predicted interactions was supported by the medical literature.

## Action recognition \*

Classify the action in the video. In general, the actions highly depend on the interactions happening in the scene.



Picking up a shoe



Folding a paper

### Graph structure:

The graph structure is not explicitly provided in this case. One way to build it:

- nodes: objects / entities in the video.
- edges: represent similarity or interactions between objects.

# GNN Application - Graph Level

## Action recognition

Classify the action in the video. In general, the actions highly depend on the interactions happening in the scene.

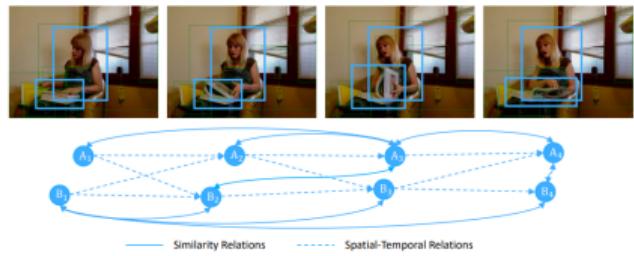
### Graph structure:

- nodes are extracted using a pre-trained object detector
- two types of graphs could be built:
  1. *similarity graph*: edges between all the nodes, regardless of the time step
  2. *spatial graph*: for two time steps  $(t, t + 1)$  draw an edge if  $IoU > \text{threshold}$ . Similar for  $(t, t - 1)$  pairs.



## Action recognition

Classify the action in the video.



### Graph model:

- a GCN ( $AXW$ ) is applied for each type of graph structure and the results are fused.
- to obtain a representation at the graph level (for the whole video) we aggregate all the nodes in the graph.

## Action recognition

Classify the action in the video.



Picking up a shoe



Folding a paper

## Why Graph Processing?

- the GCNs is able to capture the correlation between objects understanding how they interact with each other and to “track” the objects across the temporal dimension

# GNN Application - Vision Approaches

## Other Approaches

- the nodes shouldn't necessarily be associated with objects. There are approaches that use pixels or patches as nodes and propagate information between them.  
RSTG [16], ViT [17]
- we can dynamically predict the salient regions, for cases when we do not have access to an object detector or we do not know what type of information to store in each node of the graph. [18]

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[16] Nicolicioiu, Duta, Leordeanu. Recurrent space-time graph neural networks NeurIPS 2019

[17] Dosovitskiy et. al. An Image is Worth 16x16 Words: Transformers for Image Recognition ICLR 2021

[18] Duta, Nicolicioiu, and Leordeanu. Dynamic regions graph neural networks for spatio-temporal reasoning. NeurIPS - ORLR Workshop 2020

# Graph Neural Networks - Resources

This lecture was influenced by several great resources about Graph Neural Networks. For a more in depth understanding of Graph Neural Networks and other related areas, please take a look:

- Michael Bronstein, *Geometric deep learning, from Euclid to drug design* [▶ Link](#)
- Petar Veličković, *Theoretical Foundations of Graph Neural Networks* [▶ Link](#)
- Jure Leskovec, *CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs* [▶ Link](#)
- William L. Hamilton, *Graph Representation Learning Book* [▶ Link](#)
- Razvan Pascanu, *GraphNets - Lecture at TMLSS (Transylvanian Machine Learning Summer School)*
- Xavier Bresson, *Convolutional Neural Networks on Graphs* [▶ Link](#)
- Michael Bronstein, *Graph Deep Learning Blog* [▶ Link](#)

# Thank You!

Iulia Duta



[iduta@bitdefender.com](mailto:iduta@bitdefender.com)



[@Dutalulia](https://twitter.com/Dutalulia)

Andrei Nicolicioiu



[anicolicioiu@bitdefender.com](mailto:anicolicioiu@bitdefender.com)



[@anNicolicioiu](https://twitter.com/anNicolicioiu)

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July 2021

*Strasbourg & Timisoara Deep Learning Meetup*

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