

## # GCN

## # SEMI-SUPERVISED CLASSIFICATION WITH GRAPH CONVOLUTIONAL NETWORKS (ICLR2017)

paper: [<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1609.02907.pdf>]

code: [<https://github.com/tkipf/gcn>]

### ## Important Concepts:

#### 1. spectral graph convolutions:

$$g_\theta \star x = U g_\theta U^\top x$$

where:

- $U$ : the matrix of eigenvectors of the normalized graph Laplacian  $L = I_N - D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} = U \Lambda U^\top$
- $\Lambda$ : diagonal matrix of its eigenvalues
- $g_\theta = \text{diag}(\theta) = g_\theta(\Lambda)$ : parameterized by  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^N$  in the Fourier domain

### ## Key Idea:

1. graph edges need not necessarily encode node similarity, but could contain additional information
2.  $g_\theta(\Lambda)$  can be well-approximated by a truncated expansion in terms of Chebyshev polynomials  $T_k(x)$  up to  $K^{th}$  order:

$$g_{\theta'}(\Lambda) \approx \sum_{k=0}^K \theta'_k T_k(\tilde{\Lambda})$$

1.  $\tilde{\Lambda} = \frac{2}{\lambda_{max}} \Lambda - I_N$ ,  $\lambda_{max}$  denotes the largest eigenvalue of  $L$

2.  $\theta' \in \mathbb{R}^K$ : vector of Chebyshev coefficients

3. Chebyshev polynomial:  $T_0(x) = 1$ ,  $T_1(x) = x$ ,  $T_k(x) = 2xT_{k-1}(x) - T_{k-2}(x)$

4. SO:  $g_{\theta'} \star x \approx U \sum_{k=0}^K \theta'_k T_k(\tilde{\Lambda}) U^\top x = \sum_{k=0}^K \theta'_k T_k(\tilde{L}) x$

1.  $\tilde{L} = \frac{2}{\lambda_{max}} L - I_N$

2.  $K^{th}$  - order polynomial in the Laplacian: it depends only on nodes that are at maximum  $K$  steps away from the central node

3. with  $K = 1$  and  $\lambda_{max} \approx 2$ :

$$g_{\theta'} \star x \approx \theta'_0 x + \theta'_1 (L - I_N) x = \theta'_0 x - \theta'_1 D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} x$$

with  $\theta = \theta'_0 = -\theta'_1$  and renormalization trick  $I_N + D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \rightarrow \tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{A} \tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

from  $C$  input channels and  $F$  filters:

$$Z = \widetilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \widetilde{A} \widetilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} X \Theta: \text{complexity: } \mathcal{O}(|\varepsilon|FC)$$

1.  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times F}$ : matrix of filter parameters
2.  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times F}$ : convolved signal matrix

### 3. layer-wise propagation rule:

$$H^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\widetilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \widetilde{A} \widetilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} H^{(l)} W^{(l)})$$

$\widetilde{A} = A + I_N$ : adjacency matrix with added self connection

$$\widetilde{D}_{ii} = \sum_j \widetilde{A}_{ij};$$

$W^{(l)}$ : layer-specific trainable weight matrix

$\sigma(\cdot)$ : activation function

$H^{(l)} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}$ : the matrix of activations in the  $l^{th}$  layer,  $H^{(0)} = X$

### 4. semi-supervised node classification

$$\hat{A} = \widetilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \widetilde{A} \widetilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$Z = f(X, A) = \text{softmax}(\hat{A} \cdot \text{ReLU}(\hat{A} X W^{(0)}) \cdot W^{(1)})$$

## ## Problem definition:

1. Graph-based semi-supervised learning: classifying nodes in a graph, where labels are only available for a small subset of nodes
2. definition of a node ordering in preprocessing step

## ## Preprocessed Work:

1. explicit graph-based regularization
2. graph-Laplacian regularization: assume edges encode similarity of nodes
3. skip-gram: difficult to optimize

## ## Matrix gain:

1. first-order approximation of spectral graph convolutions --> fast approximate convolutions
2. datasets: Citeseer, Cora, Pubmed, NELL
3. faster and higher accuracy

## ## Challenge:

1. mini-batch stochastic gradient extension
2. not naturally support edge feature and directed graph (but possible to handle)
3. definition of locality and equal importance of self-connections and edges to neighboring nodes