

**The
Alan Turing
Institute**

Fairness on Graph

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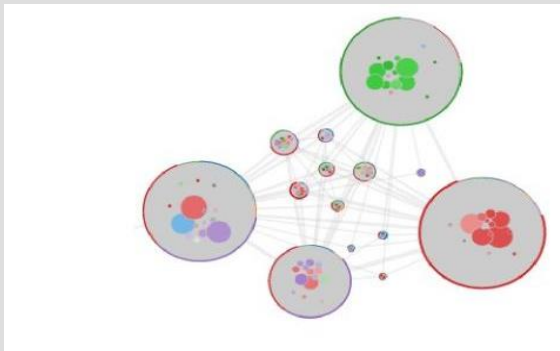
Courtesy

- J Kang and H Tong, Fair Graph Mining, CIKM Tutorial, Nov. 2021.
- I Spinelli, et al., Biased Edge Dropout for Enhancing Fairness in Graph Representation, Sapienza Universita di Roma, 2021.
- R Ladysz, Graph Mining: A general overview of some mining techniques, George Mason University.

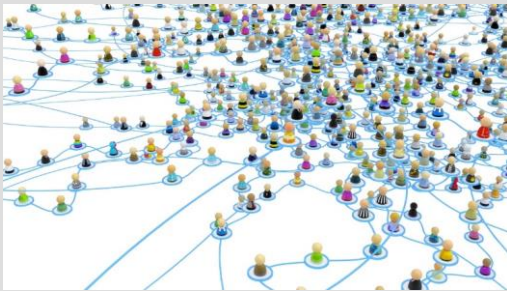
Outline

- Overview
- Graph Preliminaries
- Fairness on Graph Ranking
- Fairness on Graph Embedding
- Remarks and Summary

Prevalence of Graphs / Networks



Collaboration Networks



Social Networks

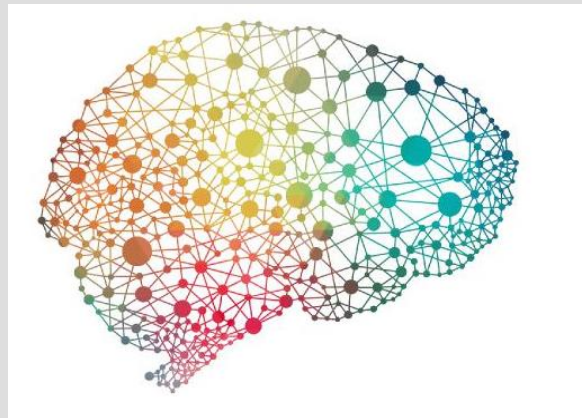


Biological Networks

Mining from Graph



Social Influence / Policy Treatment



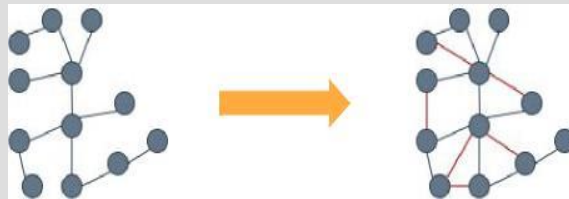
Biology, e.g., Brain Network

[1] Borgatti, S. P., Mehra, A., Brass, D. J., & Labianca, G.. Network Analysis in the Social Sciences. Science 2009.

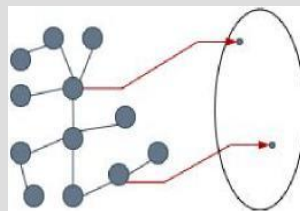
[2] Wang, S., He, L., Cao, B., Lu, C. T., Yu, P. S., & Ragin, A. B.. Structural Deep Brain Network Mining. KDD 2017.

Common Tasks

Link Prediction



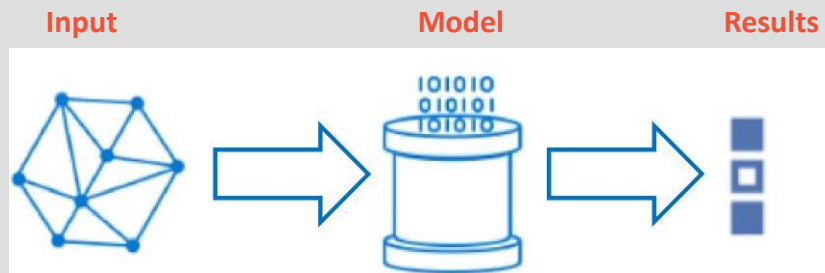
Node Representation Learning



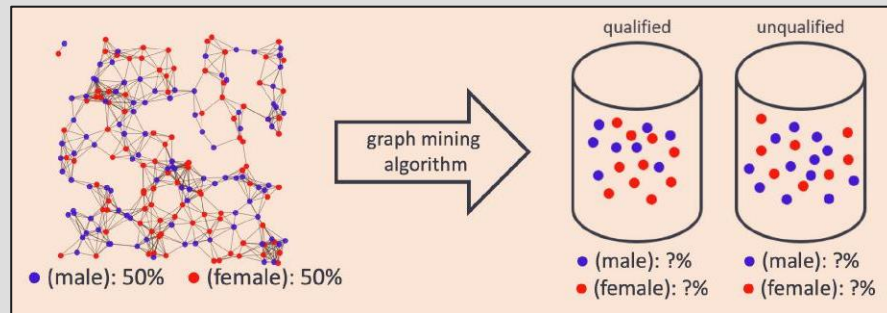
Graph spaceEmbedding

Pipeline of Graph Mining

□ Pipeline



□ Example:



Fairness in Graph Mining

- How to ensure the mining process is fair?
 - Why are two seemingly similar applicants belong to different admission groups?
 - Why does the algorithm ‘decide’ a certain individual likely receive benefits?
 - Why is a particular content more likely to go viral than the others?
 - How does the prior connectivity affect the algorithm results?
 - How do bot inputs change trending topics?

Algorithmic Fairness

- **Motivation:** Mitigate unintentional bias caused by machine learning (ML) algorithms



“Doctor”



“Female doctor”

REPORT TECH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

What a machine learning tool that turns Obama white can (and can't) tell us about AI bias

A striking image that only hints at a much bigger problem

By James Vincent | Jun 23, 2020, 3:45pm EDT

Original

Result



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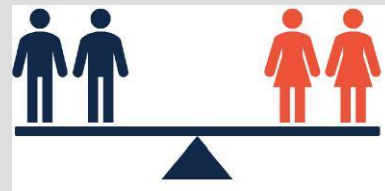
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Algorithmic Fairness

- Definition: Lack of favoritism from one side or another

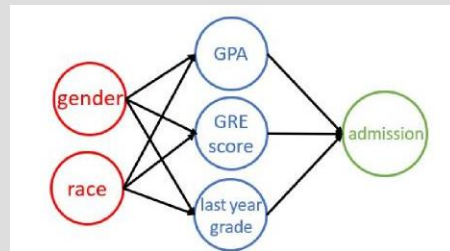


- Group fairness

- Statistical parity
- Equal opportunity

- Individual fairness

- More tailored than group fairness

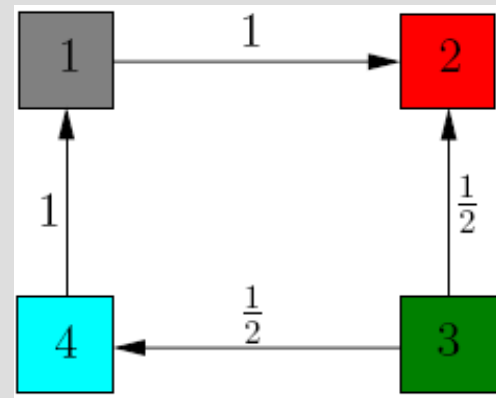
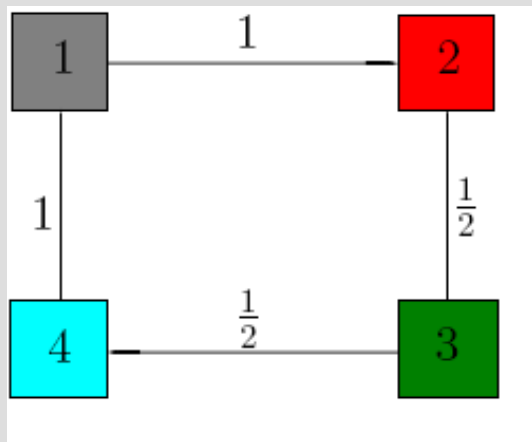


Fairness in Graph Mining

- Graph is a way to represent data or information using a collection of points, called "nodes," and lines connecting them, called "edges."
- Nodes can represent anything, such as people in a social network or cities in a transportation system.
 - Vertex is a labeled node in graph.
- Edges can represent relationships or connections between them, such as friendship or a road.
 - Edges are identified by the pair of vertices that they connect

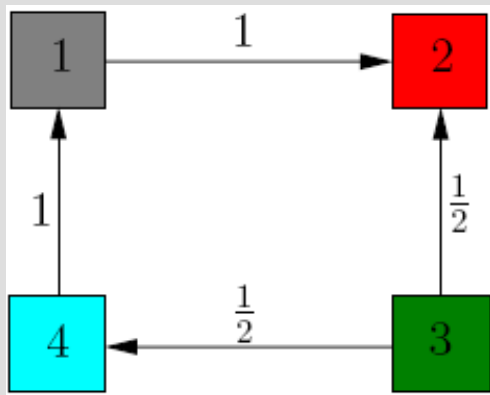
Graph Preliminaries

- Undirected versus Directed Graphs (Modified from [1])



Graph Preliminaries

- Transition Matrix A (Modified from [1])



From Node

	1	2	3	4
1	0	0	0	1
2	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
3	0	0	0	1
4	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0

To Node

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Fairness on Graph Ranking: PageRank

- Motivation
 - Finding the most important or influential nodes in graph
 - Used in Google search engine
 - Example: Important webpage -> linked by many others
- PageRank algorithm:
 - Iteratively solve the following equation:

$$\mathbf{r} = c\mathbf{A}\mathbf{r} + (1 - c)\mathbf{e}$$

\mathbf{r} : PageRank vector

\mathbf{A} : transition matrix

c : damping factor

\mathbf{e} : teleportation vector

PageRank solution:

$$\mathbf{r}^* = (1 - c)(\mathbf{I} - c\mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{e}$$

[1] Page, L., Brin, S., Motwani, R., & Winograd, T.. The PageRank Citation Ranking: Bringing Order to the Web. Stanford InfoLab 1999.

[2] Haveliwala, T. H.. Topic-sensitive PageRank: A Context-Sensitive Ranking Algorithm for Web Search. TKDE 2003.

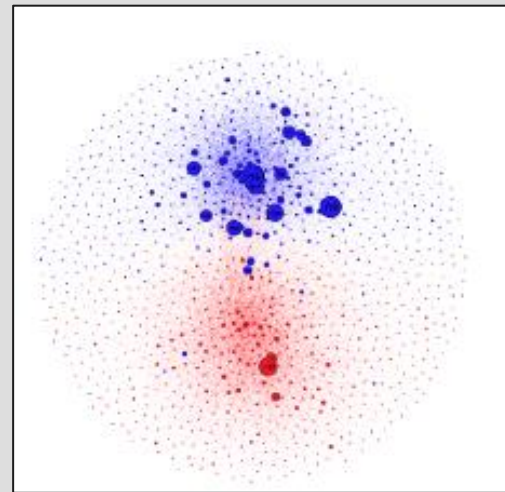
[3] Tong, H., Faloutsos, C., & Pan, J. Y.. Fast Random Walk with Restart and Its Applications. ICDM 2006

Fairness Measure for PageRank

- ϕ -fair PageRank:
 - Given: Graph G
 - Definition:
 - PageRank vector is ϕ -fair if ϕ fraction of total PageRank mass is allocated to the protected group
- Variants:
 - Statistical Parity: ϕ = fraction of protected group
 - Affirmative Action: ϕ = a desired ratio

Fairness Measure for PageRank

- Given:
 - A graph with transition matrix A
 - Partitions of nodes
 - Red nodes (R): protected group
 - Blue nodes (B): unprotected group
- Find: A fair PageRank vector \tilde{r} that is
 - ϕ -fair
 - Close to the original PageRank vector r^*



Fairness-aware PageRank: Mechanics

- From PageRank Solution:

$$\mathbf{r}^* = (1 - c)(I - c\mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{e}$$

- Teleportation vector \mathbf{e} : Control the starting node where a random walker restarts the work over the graph
 - Can we let the walker restart at a protected node or its neighborhood?
- Transition matrix \mathbf{A} : Control the next step where the walker goes to
 - Can we let the walker go to the protected nodes more frequently?
- Dumping factor c : Avoid sinks in the random walk (i.e., nodes without outgoing links)

Fairness-sensitive PageRank: Teleportation Vector Based

- Intuition
 - Find a teleportation vector \mathbf{e} to enable ϕ -fair PageRank vector
 - Keep transition matrix \mathbf{A}
 - Define: $\mathbf{Q} = (1 - c)(\mathbf{I} - c\mathbf{A})^{-1}$
 - \mathbf{e} is found such that the distance between $\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{e}$ and \mathbf{r}^* is minimized whilst meeting ϕ -fair requirement
 - This can be done through convex optimization solvers

Example of Teleportation Vector Based

- Define $\phi = 1/3$ and the protected node is the **red node**

- Original PageRank**

rows w.r.t. blue nodes {

row w.r.t. red nodes →

	Q
●	0.8
●	0.7
●	0.3

e

1/3
1/3
1/3

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{e} =$$

0.6
0.7
0.5

Not ϕ -fair!

$$\frac{0.5}{0.6 + 0.7 + 0.5} < \frac{1}{3}$$

- Fairness-sensitive PageRank**

rows w.r.t. blue nodes {

row w.r.t. red nodes →

	Q
●	0.8
●	0.7
●	0.3

$\tilde{\mathbf{e}}$

1/6
1/6
2/3

$$\tilde{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{Q} \tilde{\mathbf{e}} =$$

0.45
0.6
0.6

ϕ -fair

$$\frac{0.6}{0.45 + 0.6 + 0.6} > \frac{1}{3}$$

Fairness-aware PageRank: Transition Matrix Based

- From PageRank Solution:

$$\mathbf{r}^* = (1 - c)(\mathbf{I} - c\mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{e}$$

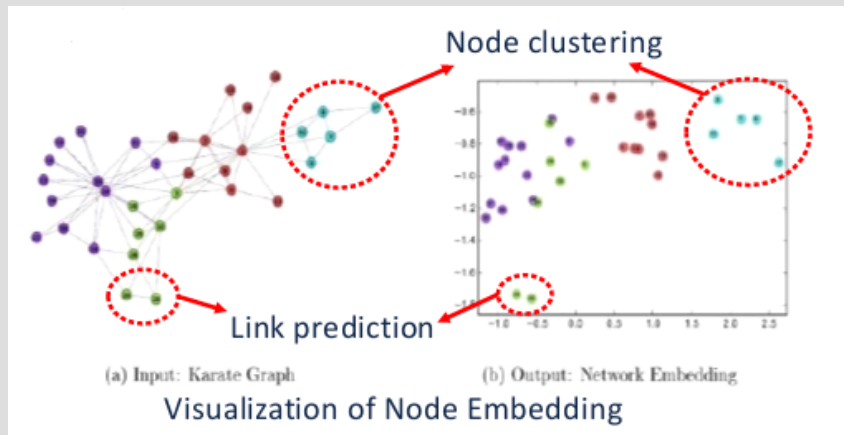
- Teleportation vector \mathbf{e} : Control the starting node where a random walker restarts the walk over the graph

Can we let the walker restart at a protected node or its neighborhood?

- **Transition matrix \mathbf{A} : Control the next step where the walker goes to**
 - Can we let the walker go to the protected nodes more frequently?
 - Locally fair PageRank
- Dumping factor c : Avoid sinks in the random walk (i.e., nodes without outgoing links)

Fairness on Graph Embedding

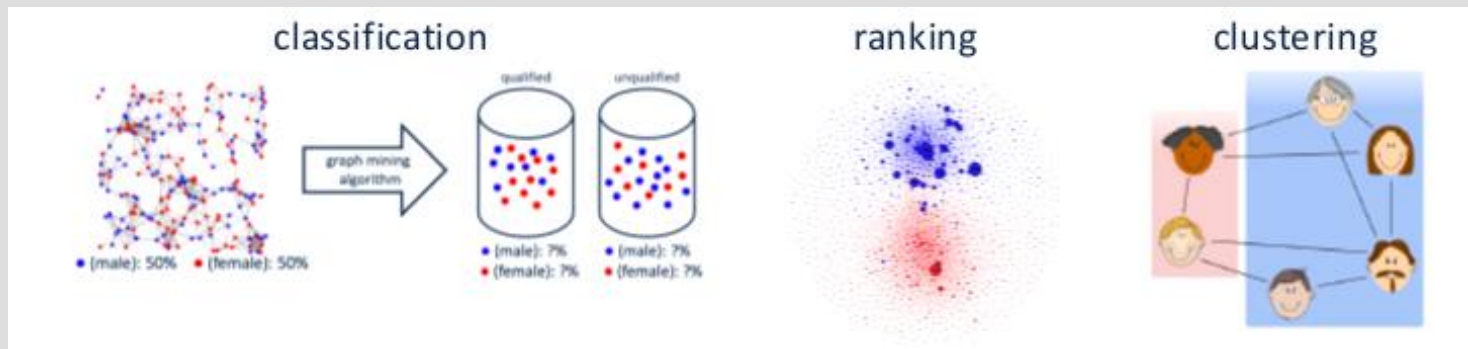
- Motivation: Learn low-dimensional node representations that preserve structural/attributive information
- Common tasks:
 - Node classification
 - Link prediction
 - Node visualization



- [1] Perozzi, B., Al-Rfou, R., & Skiena, S.. DeepWalk: Online Learning of Social Representations. KDD 2014.
- [2] Tang, J., Qu, M., Wang, M., Zhang, M., Yan, J., & Mei, Q.. LINE: Large-scale Information Network Embedding. WWW 2015.
- [3] Tang, J., Liu, J., Zhang, M., & Mei, Q.. Visualizing Large-scale and High-dimensional Data. WWW 2016.

Fairness on Graph Embedding

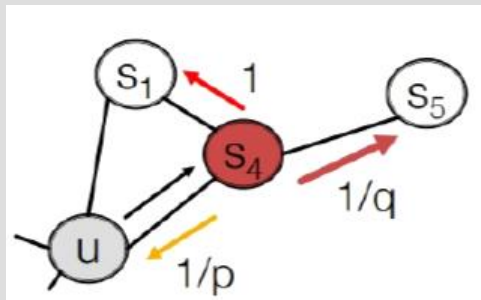
- Why fairness for embedding?
- Allow multiple tasks that consider fairness (e.g., classification, ranking, clustering)



Fairness on Graph Embedding:

Random Walk-based method – node2vec

- Goal: Learn node embeddings that are predictive of nodes in its neighborhood
- Key idea: Skip-gram model with biased random walk
- Example:
 - Return parameter p : How fast the walk explores the neighborhood of the starting node
 - In-out parameter q : How fast the walk leaves the neighborhood of the starting node



Fairness Measures – node2vec

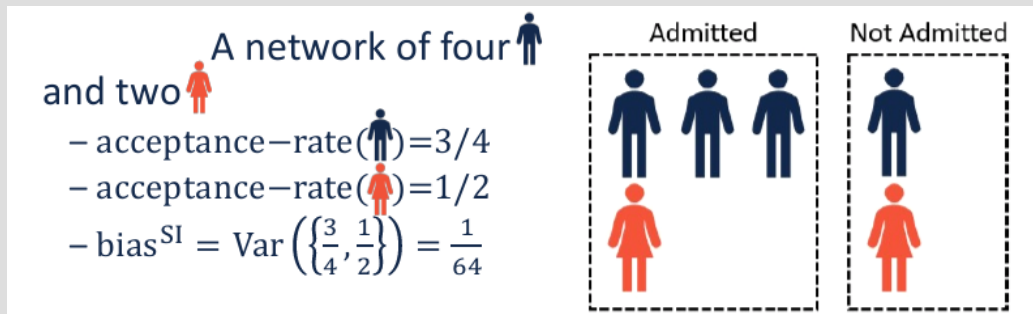
- Statistical parity

- Given: (1) Sensitive attribute \mathfrak{S} ; (2) multiple demographics group $\mathcal{G}^{\mathfrak{S}}$ partitioned by \mathfrak{S}

□ Case of college admission – Bias is defined by variance among the acceptance rates of each group in $\mathcal{G}^{\mathfrak{S}}$

$$\text{bias}^{SI}(\mathcal{G}^{\mathfrak{S}}) = \text{Var}(\{\text{acceptance rate}(G^S) | G^S \in \mathcal{G}^{\mathfrak{S}}\})$$

- Example:



Fairness Measures – node2vec

- Equality of representation – User level
- Z-share: Among recommendations $\rho(u)$ given to a specific user u , measure the fraction of users having sensitive value z




$$z\text{-share}(u) = \frac{|\rho_z(u)|}{|\rho(u)|}$$

- Intuition: Measure the bias as the difference between a fair fraction and the average z-share over all users U

$$\text{bias}^{ER_{user}}(z) = \frac{1}{|Z^S|} - \frac{\sum_{u \in U} z\text{-share}(u)}{|U|}$$

Fairness Measures – node2vec

- Equality of representation – User level

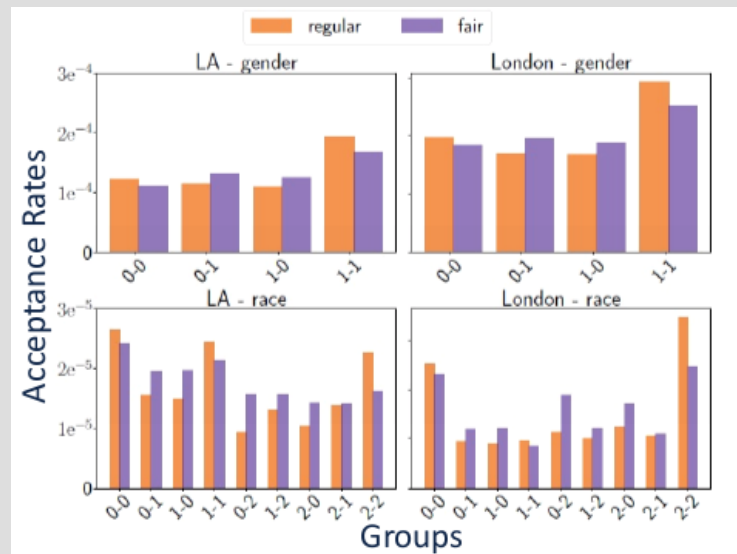
- **Example:** For *any* user u in the social network of ten  and ten 
 - $|\mathcal{Z}^S| = |\{\text{blue male}, \text{red female}\}| = 2$ and fair fraction $\frac{1}{|\mathcal{Z}^S|} = \frac{1}{2}$
 - The recommendations w.r.t. any user u are constant: 
 - Let $z = \text{red female}$, we know $\rho_z(u) = 1$ and $\rho(u) = 3$
 - $z\text{-share}(u) = \frac{|\rho_z(u)|}{|\rho(u)|} = \frac{1}{3}$
 - $\text{bias}^{\text{ER}_{\text{user}}}(\text{red female}) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sum_u 1/3}{20} = \frac{1}{6}$

Fairwalk: Solution

- Key idea: Modify the random walk procedure in node2vec
- Steps of Fairwalk
 - Partition neighbors into demographic groups
 - Assign equal probability to each demographic group
 - Select a demographic group to walk to
 - Randomly select a node within the chosen demographic group

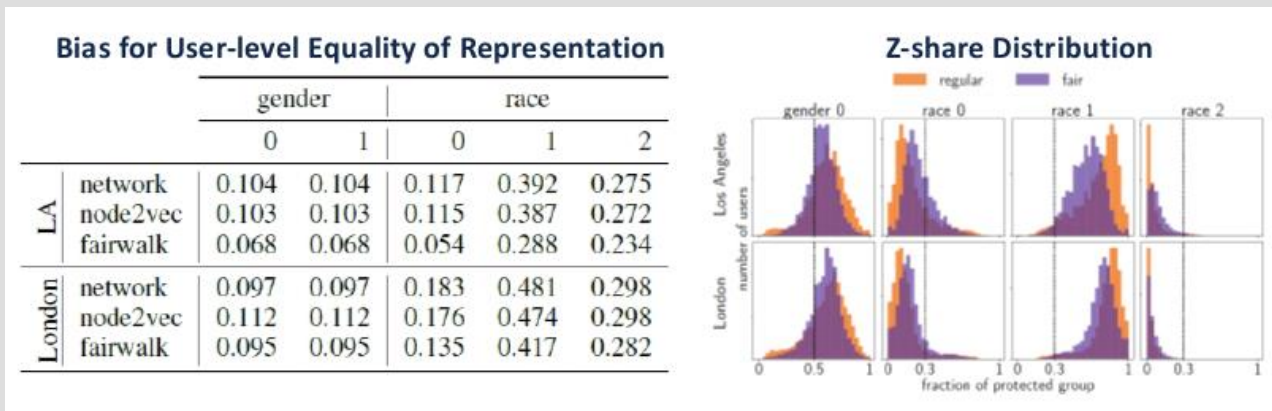
Fairwalk: Statistical Parity

- Fairwalk achieves a more balanced acceptance rates among groups



Fairwalk: User-level Equality of Representation

- Fairwalk decreases the user-level bias
- Z-share distribution of Fairwalk leans towards the fair fraction



Remarks and Summary

- Fairness-Aware PageRank vs Fairwalk
 - Fairness-aware PageRank: The minority group should have a certain proportion of PageRank probability mass
 - Fairwalk: All demographic group have the same random walk transition probability mass
- Node2vec vs Fairwalk
 - Node2vec: skip-gram model + walk sequences by original random walk
 - Fairwalk: skip-gram model + walk sequences by fair random walk

Further Topics of Fairness on Graph

- Individual fairness [1]
- Counterfactual fairness [2]
- Degree-related fairness [3]
- Rawlsian fairness [4]

[1] Kang, J., He, J., Maciejewski, R., & Tong, H.. InFoRM: Individual Fairness on Graph Mining. KDD 2020.

[2] Agarwal, C., Lakkaraju, H., & Zitnik, M.. Towards a Unified Framework for Fair and Stable Graph Representation Learning. UAI 2021.

[3] Tang, X., Yao, H., Sun, Y., Wang, Y., Tang, J., Aggarwal, C., ... & Wang, S.. Investigating and Mitigating Degree-Related Biases in Graph Convolutional Networks. CIKM 2020.

[4] Rahmattalabi, A., Vayanos, P., Fulginiti, A., Rice, E., Wilder, B., Yadav, A., & Tambe, M.. Exploring Algorithmic Fairness in Robust Graph Covering Problems. NeurIPS 2019.