

# GraphGAN: Graph Representation Learning with Generative Adversarial Nets

*Most existing methods of graph representation learning can be classified into two categories:*

- **Generative**
- Generative graph representation learning models assume that, for each vertex  $v_c$ , there exists an underlying true connectivity distribution  $p_{ture}(v|v_c)$ , which implies  $v_c$ 's connectivity preference (or relevance distribution) over all other vertices in the graph. The edges in the graph can thus be viewed as observed samples generated by these conditional distributions, and these generative models learn vertex embeddings by maximizing the likelihood of edges in the graph.

- Discriminative
- Aim to learn a classifier for predicting the existence of edges directly. Discriminative models consider two vertices  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ , jointly as features, and predict the probability of an edge existing between the two vertices,  $p(edge|(v_i, v_j))$
- Motivation
- Unifies generative and discriminative thinking for graph representation learning.

# Framework

- $\mathcal{N}(v_c)$  denotes the set of vertices directly connected to  $v_c$ .
- Conditional probability  $p_{ture}(v|v_c)$  reflects  $v_c$ 's connectivity preference distribution over all other vertices. Thus,  $\mathcal{N}(v_c)$  can be seen as a set of observed samples drawn from  $p_{ture}(v|v_c)$ .
- **Generator**  
 $G(v|v_c; \theta_G)$  tries to approximate the underlying true connectivity distribution and generates (or selects, if more precise) the most likely vertices to be connected with  $v_c$  from vertex set.

- **Discriminator**

- $D(v, v_c; \theta_D)$  aims to discriminate the connectivity for the vertex pair  $(v, v_c)$  and output a single scalar representing the probability of an edge existing between  $v$  and  $v_c$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\theta_G} \max_{\theta_D} V(G, D) = & \sum_{c=1}^V \left( \mathbb{E}_{v \sim p_{\text{true}}(\cdot | v_c)} [\log D(v, v_c; \theta_D)] \right. \\ & \left. + \mathbb{E}_{v \sim G(\cdot | v_c; \theta_G)} [\log (1 - D(v, v_c; \theta_D))] \right). \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

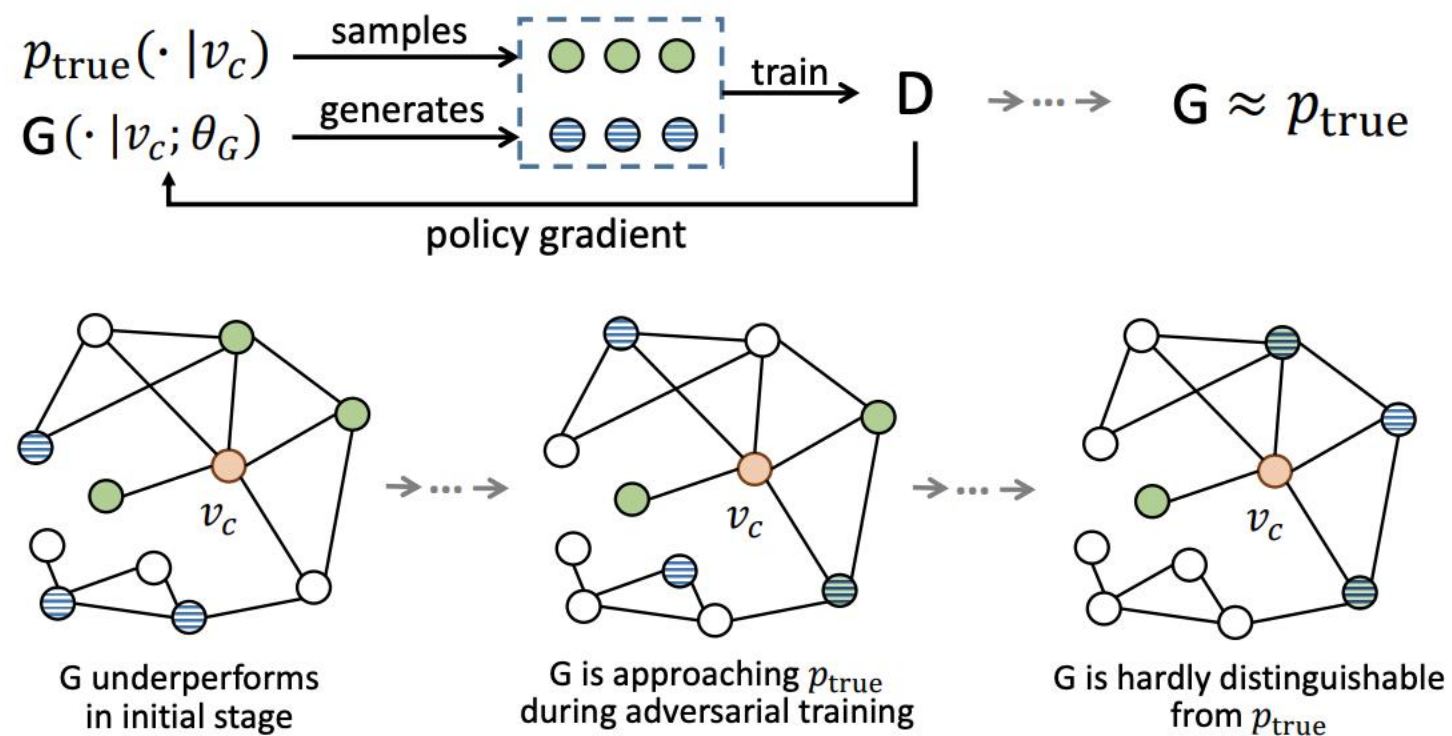


Figure 1: Illustration of GraphGAN framework.

# Discriminator Optimization

- $D(v, v_c) = \sigma(d_v^T, d_{v_c}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(d_v^T d_{v_c}))}$  (maximize)

$$\nabla_{\theta_D} V(G, D) = \begin{cases} \nabla_{\theta_D} \log D(v, v_c), & \text{if } v \sim p_{\text{true}}; \\ \nabla_{\theta_D} (1 - \log D(v, v_c)), & \text{if } v \sim G. \end{cases}$$

- Where  $d_v, d_{v_c} \in R^k$ , are the k-dimensional representation vectors of vertices  $v$  and  $v_c$  respectively for discriminator  $D$ , both of them can be update.

# Generator Optimization

- The generator aims to minimize the log-probability that the discriminator correctly assigns negative labels to the samples generated by  $G$ . In other words, the generator shifts its approximated connectivity distribution (through its parameter  $\theta_G$ ) to increase the scores of its generated sample.
- Gradient  $\nabla_{\theta_G} V(G, D)$  indicates that vertices with a higher probability of being negative samples will “tug”  $G$  stronger away from themselves.

$$\begin{aligned} & \nabla_{\theta_G} V(G, D) \\ &= \nabla_{\theta_G} \sum_{c=1}^V \mathbb{E}_{v \sim G(\cdot | v_c)} [\log (1 - D(v, v_c))] \\ &= \sum_{c=1}^V \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_{\theta_G} G(v_i | v_c) \log (1 - D(v_i, v_c)) \\ &= \sum_{c=1}^V \sum_{i=1}^N G(v_i | v_c) \nabla_{\theta_G} \log G(v_i | v_c) \log (1 - D(v_i, v_c)) \\ &= \sum_{c=1}^V \mathbb{E}_{v \sim G(\cdot | v_c)} [\nabla_{\theta_G} \log G(v | v_c) \log (1 - D(v, v_c))]. \end{aligned}$$



## *Limitation of Softmax in GE*

- The calculation of softmax involves all vertices in the graph, which implies that for each generated sample  $v$ , we need to calculate gradients and update.
- The graph structure encodes rich information of proximity among vertices, but softmax completely ignores the utilization of structural information from graphs as it treats vertices without any discrimination

# Graph Softmax for Generator

- The key idea of graph softmax is to define a new method of computing connectivity distribution in generator  $G(.|v_c, \theta_G)$  that satisfies the following three desirable properties:
- *Normalized.* The generator should produce a valid probability distribution, i.e.,  $\sum_{v \neq v_c} G(v|v_c; \theta_G) = 1$
- *Graph-structure-aware.* The generator should take advantage of the structural information of a graph to approximate the true connectivity distribution. Intuitively, for two vertices in a graph, their connectivity probability should decline with the increase of their shortest distance.
- *Computationally efficient.* Distinguishable from full softmax, the computation of  $G(v|v_c; \theta_G)$  should only involve a small number of vertices in the graph.

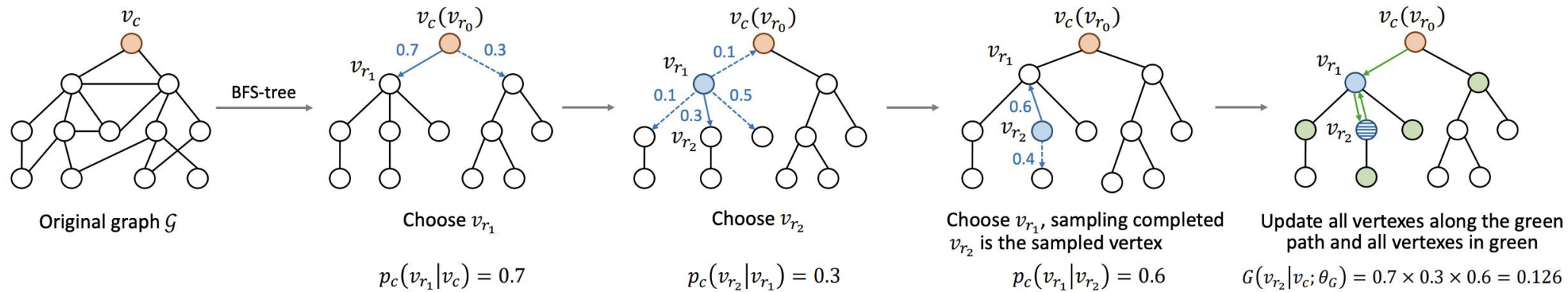
- 1. Performing Breadth First Search (BFS) on the original graph  $G$  starting from vertex  $v_c$ , which provides us with a BFS-tree  $T_c$  rooted at  $v_c$ .  $\mathcal{N}_c(v)$  as the set of neighbors of  $v$ .
- 2. For a given vertex  $v$  and one of its neighbors  $v_i \in \mathcal{N}_c(v)$ . Define the relevance probability of  $v_i$  given  $v$  as:

$$p_c(v_i|v) = \frac{\exp(g_{v_i}^T g_v)}{\sum_{v_j \in \mathcal{N}_c(v)} \exp(g_{v_j}^T g_v)}$$

Each vertex  $v$  can be reached by a unique path from the root  $v_c$  in  $T_c$ . Denote the path as  $P_{v_c \rightarrow v} = (v_{r_0}, v_{r_1}, \dots, v_{r_m})$ . Thus:

$$G(v|v_c) \triangleq \left( \prod_{j=1}^m p_c(v_{r_j} | v_{r_{j-1}}) \right) \cdot p_c(v_{r_m-1} | v_{r_m}),$$

$p_c(\cdot | \cdot)$  is the relevance probability.



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**Algorithm 1** Online generating strategy for the generator

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**Require:** BFS-tree  $T_c$ , representation vectors  $\{\mathbf{g}_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{V}}$

**Ensure:** generated sample  $v_{gen}$

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1:  $v_{pre} \leftarrow v_c, v_{cur} \leftarrow v_c$ ;  
2: while true do  
3:   Randomly select  $v_i$  proportionally to  $p_c(v_i|v_{cur})$  in Eq. (6);  
4:   if  $v_i = v_{pre}$  then  
5:      $v_{gen} \leftarrow v_{cur}$ ;  
6:     return  $v_{gen}$   
7:   else  
8:      $v_{pre} \leftarrow v_{cur}, v_{cur} \leftarrow v_i$ ;  
9:   end if  
10: end while
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**Algorithm 2** GraphGAN framework

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**Require:** dimension of embedding  $k$ , size of generating samples  $s$ , size of discriminating samples  $t$

**Ensure:** generator  $G(v|v_c; \theta_G)$ , discriminator  $D(v, v_c; \theta_D)$

- 1: Initialize and pre-train  $G(v|v_c; \theta_G)$  and  $D(v, v_c; \theta_D)$ ;
  - 2: Construct BFS-tree  $T_c$  for all  $v_c \in \mathcal{V}$ ;
  - 3: **while** GraphGAN not converge **do**
  - 4:     **for** G-steps **do**
  - 5:          $G(v|v_c; \theta_G)$  generates  $s$  vertices for each vertex  $v_c$  according to Algorithm 1;
  - 6:         Update  $\theta_G$  according to Eq. (4), (6) and (7);
  - 7:     **end for**
  - 8:     **for** D-steps **do**
  - 9:         Sample  $t$  positive vertices from ground truth and  $t$  negative vertices from  $G(v|v_c; \theta_G)$  for each vertex  $v_c$ ;
  - 10:         Update  $\theta_D$  according to Eq. (2) and (3);
  - 11:     **end for**
  - 12: **end while**
  - 13: **return**  $G(v|v_c; \theta_G)$  and  $D(v, v_c; \theta_D)$
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