

# Message Passing In Graph Neural Networks

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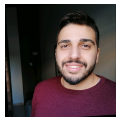
# Today I present work that was done in collaboration with



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# Graph Neural Networks

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs) are neural networks that take graph-structured data as input.

In this talk we will only see a specific type of GNN, the Message Passing Neural Networks.

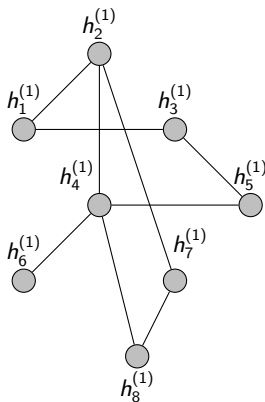
$$m_v^{(k)} = M^{(k)} \left( \left\{ h_w^{(k-1)} : w \in \mathcal{N}(v) \right\} \right),$$
$$h_v^{(k)} = U^{(k)} \left( h_v^{(k-1)}, m_v^{(k)} \right).$$

E.g., the Graph Convolutional Network (GCN, Kipf and Welling, 2017)

$$H^{(1)} = \text{ReLU} \left( D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} X W^{(1)} \right).$$

Iteratively performing the message-passing and update computations allows us to build 'deep' learning models, e.g., a 3-layer GCN

$$\hat{y} = \sigma \left( D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \text{ReLU} \left( D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \text{ReLU} \left( D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} X W^{(1)} \right) W^{(2)} \right) W^{(3)} \right).$$



# Motivation & Outline

The message passing step is a defining component of GNNs.

*“any function of interest we want to compute over graphs can, in all likelihood, be expressed using pairwise message passing – just over a potentially modified graph [...]”*

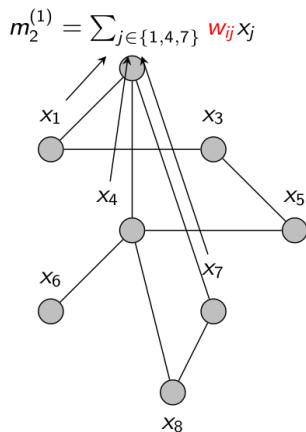
Petar Veličković (2022)

## Topic of Today's Talk

Categorise several existing GNNs by their message passing step and place our recent work into that context.

# Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph



# Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph

- GCN (Kipf and Welling, 2017)

Message-Passing Operation:  $D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} X$ .

- GIN (Xu et al., 2019)

Message-Passing Operation:  $(A + \epsilon I) X$ .

- PGSO-GNN (Dasoulas et al., 2021, ICLR)

Message-Passing Operation:  $(m_1 D_a^{e_1} + m_2 D_a^{e_2} A_a D_a^{e_3} + m_3 I_n) X$ ,

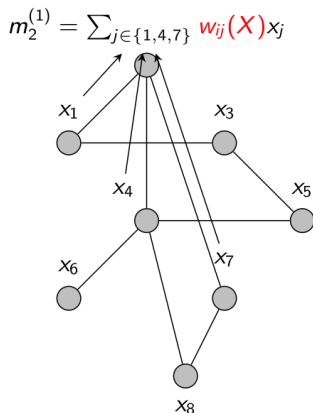
where  $A_a = A + a I_n$ ,  $D_a = \text{Diag}(A_a \mathbf{1}_n)$  and

$(m_1, m_2, m_3, e_1, e_2, e_3, a)$  are scalar, *trainable* parameters.

$S = (m_1, m_2, m_3, e_1, e_2, e_3, a)$	Operator	Description
$(0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0)$	$A$	Adjacency matrix and Summation Aggregation Operator of GNNs
$(1, -1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0)$	$D - A$	Unnormalised Laplacian matrix $L$
$(1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0)$	$D + A$	Signless Laplacian matrix $Q$ (Cvetkovic et al., 1997)
$(0, -1, 1, 0, -1, 0, 0)$	$I_n - D^{-1} A$	Random-walk Normalised Laplacian $L_{rw}$
$(0, -1, 1, 0, -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 0)$	$I_n - D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}}$	Symmetric Normalised Laplacian $L_{sym}$
$(0, 1, 0, 0, -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 1)$	$D_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} A_1 D_1^{-\frac{1}{2}}$	Normalised Adjacency matrix of GCNs (Kipf and Welling, 2017)
$(0, 1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0)$	$D^{-1} A$	Mean Aggregation Operator of GNNs (Xu et al., 2019)

## Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph
- Feature-Dependent Reweighting of Edges



# Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph
- Feature-Dependent Reweighting of Edges

- GAT (Veličković et al., 2018)

Message-Passing Operation:  $A_{att}X$ ,

$$\text{where } (A_{att})_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } A_{ij} = 0; \\ \frac{\exp\left(\text{LeakyReLU}\left(w_2^T \begin{bmatrix} W_1 h_i \\ W_1 h_j \end{bmatrix}\right)\right)}{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(v_i)} \exp\left(\text{LeakyReLU}\left(w_2^T \begin{bmatrix} W_1 h_i \\ W_1 h_j \end{bmatrix}\right)\right)}, & \text{for } A_{ij} \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

- GATv2 (Brody et al., 2022)

Message-Passing Operation:  $A_{attv2}X$ ,

$$\text{where } (A_{attv2})_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } A_{ij} = 0; \\ \frac{\exp\left(w_2^T \text{LeakyReLU}\left(W_1 \begin{bmatrix} h_i \\ h_j \end{bmatrix}\right)\right)}{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(v_i)} \exp\left(w_2^T \text{LeakyReLU}\left(W_1 \begin{bmatrix} h_i \\ h_j \end{bmatrix}\right)\right)}, & \text{for } A_{ij} \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

- GCN-k (Seddik et al., 2022, AISTATS)

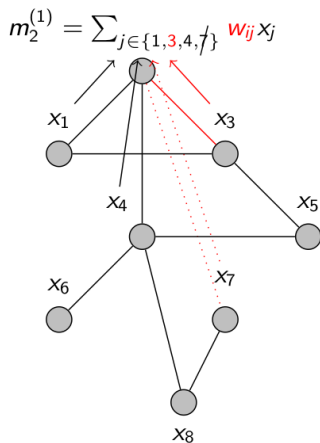
Message-Passing Operation:  $\left(\epsilon D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} + (1 - \epsilon) D_K^{-\frac{1}{2}} K D_K^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right) X$ ,

$$\text{where } (K)_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } A_{ij} = 0; \\ x_i^T x_j, & \text{for } A_{ij} \neq 0. \end{cases}$$



# Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph
- Feature-Dependent Reweighting of Edges
- Adding and or Removing Edges

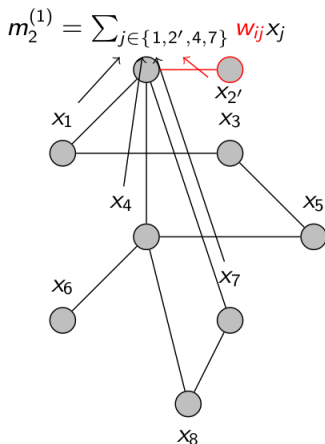


# Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph
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- Adding and or Removing Edges
  - SDRF (Topping, Di Giovanni et al., 2022)  
Rewiring according to curvature metrics on graphs
  - PPRGo (Bojchevski et al., 2020)  
Rewiring according to thresholded Personalised PageRank Scores
  - CorePPR Ramos Vela et al. (2022, NeurIPS Workshop)  
Rewiring according to thresholded Personalised PageRank and CoreRank Scores
  - Modularity-Aware (V)GAE (Salha-Galvan et al., 2022, Neural Networks)  
Add edges based on Louvain Clustering

## Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph
- Feature-Dependent Reweighting of Edges
- Adding and or Removing Edges
- Explicitly Representing Substructures of Graphs



# Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph
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- Explicitly Representing Substructures of Graphs
  - Subgraph GNNs (Frasca et al., 2022)
  - PathNNs (Michel et al., 2023, ICML)
    - 1) At layer  $k$ , a PathNN uses an LSTM to learn path representations of all paths emanating from a node of length  $k$ .
    - 2) Path Representations are subsequently aggregated.

## Different Approaches to Message Passing

- Fixed Graph
- Feature-Dependent Reweighting of Edges
- Adding and or Removing Edges
- Explicitly Representing Substructures of Graphs
- Some GNNs are difficult to categorise
  - GOAT (Chatzianastasis et al., 2023, AAAI)
    - 1) A self-attention mechanism is used to obtain a ranking of nodes in neighbourhoods.
    - 2) An LSTM processes the ordered neighbourhoods to produce updated node representation.


# Conclusions

- If the original graph is sufficient for the performed learning task, then we should simply aggregate over the fixed graph.
- If the node features contain complementary information to the graph on the relevance of neighbours to a given node, then we should use a feature-dependent reweighting scheme on the edges.
- If the graph structure is insufficient for the learning task, e.g., necessary information presents itself as a long-range effect on the original graph, then we should pick a criterion to limit the search space of  $n^2$  node pairs and rewire accordingly.
- If we are aware of certain substructures of particular relevance to our learning task or require a highly expressive model, then we should explicitly represent these substructures in the message passing scheme.

**We are currently looking for Postdocs & Research Engineers!**

More detailed job postings are on Twitter and our group's website.

# Thank you for your attention!

 @JLutzeyer

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