

# Graph Convolutional Networks for recommender systems



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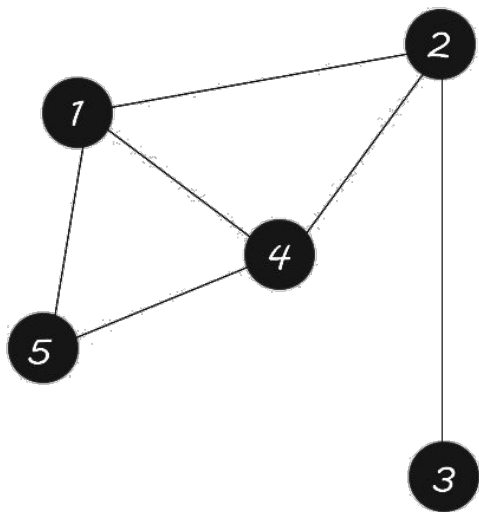
# What is a GRAPH?

A Graph is anything with nodes connected by edges.



We focus on **Graph Convolutional Networks (GCN)**.

# Graph Convolutional Network



$$A = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$\mathbf{X}$  = *input features*

# GCN equation

Defined in: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1609.02907.pdf>

$D$  = degree matrix  
 $A$  = adjacency mx  
or  
rating mx ( $R$ )

*Symmetric normalization*

*New layer  $\rightarrow H(1)$*



*Previous layer  $\rightarrow H(0) = X$*

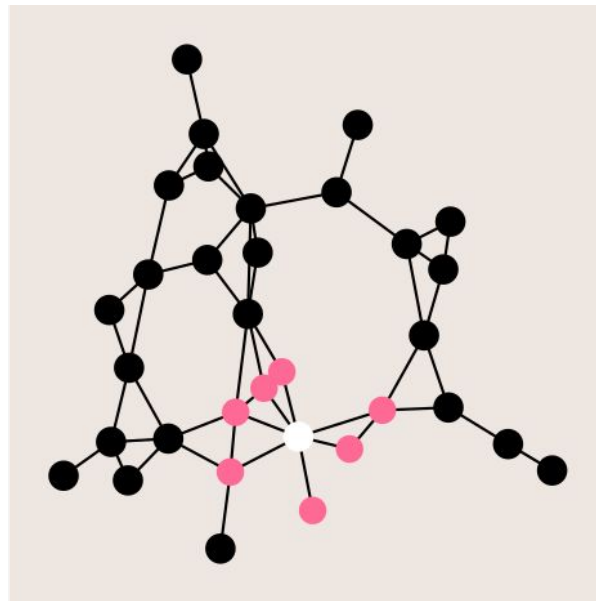
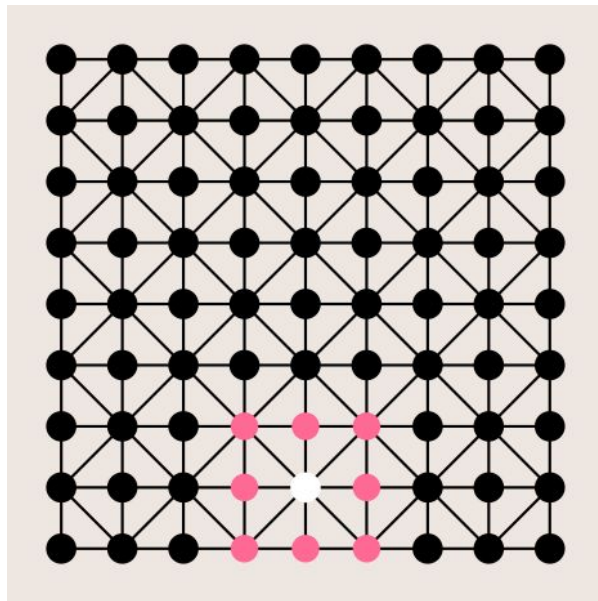
$$\boxed{H^{(l+1)}} = \sigma(\boxed{\hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{A} \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \boxed{H^{(l)}} \boxed{W^{(l)}}})$$

*Weights we train*

**GOAL:** Have, in each node, information not just about the node itself but also about correlated nodes.

# GCN layer equation

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



# GCN equation

$$\text{EMBEDDINGS} = \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{A} \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} X W(l)$$

$g(x) = H(1)$

*We will use just one GCN layer to extract embeddings*

*because*

*more than one GCN layer is prone to overfit!*

# How can GCN improve embeddings?

GCN equation:

$$H^{(l+1)} = \underbrace{\hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{A} \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}}_{\approx \mathbf{A}} \mathbf{I} W^{(l)}$$

*No side information  $\rightarrow X=I$*

Usual embedding =  $W$



**RANDOM**

GCN embedding =  $\hat{A} * W$



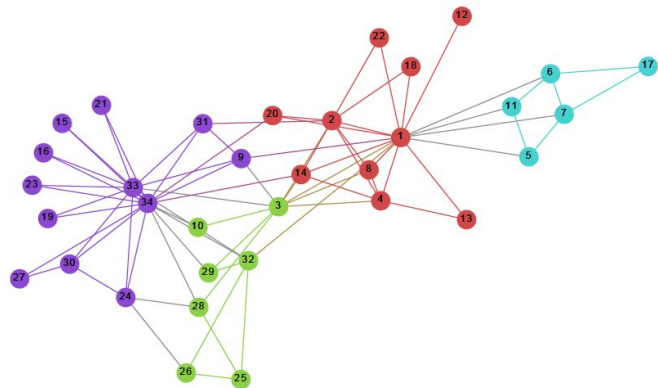
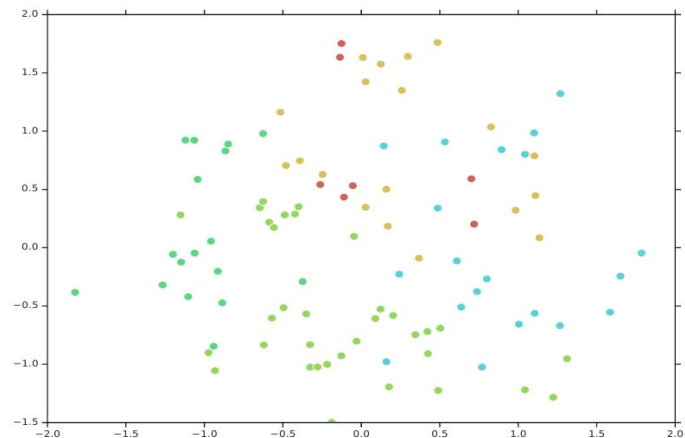
**TOPOLOGY \* RANDOM**

**GCN embeddings lead to best performance even without training (1st epoch) !**

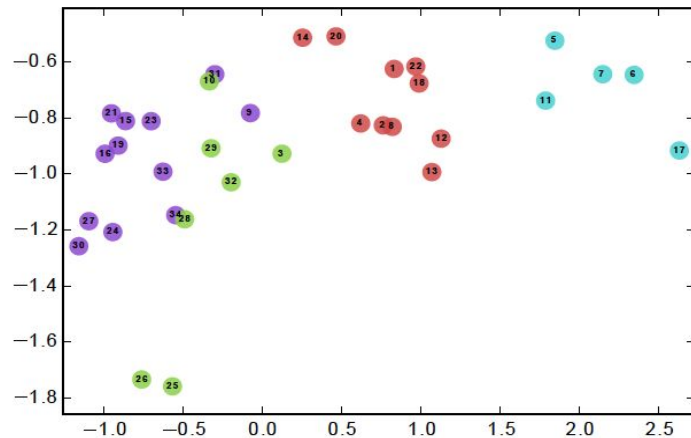
# 1st epoch (no training yet):

	o_ENE	o_ESE	o_East	o_NE	o_NNE	o_NNW	o_NW	o_SW	o_South	o_Variable	o_WSW
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RANDOM

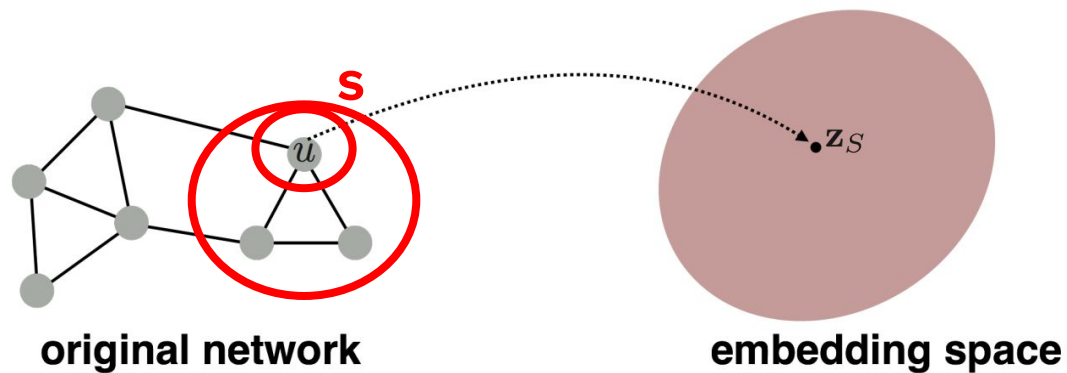


LEVERAGE  
STRUCTURE





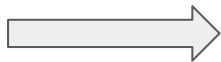
# USUAL EMBEDDING vs GCN EMBEDDING:



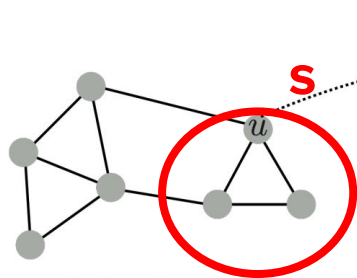
# GCN vs Graph Attention Network (GAT)

Paper [here](#)

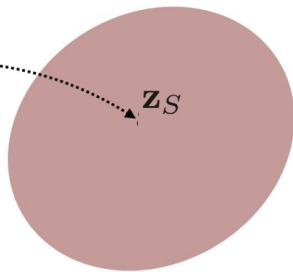
$$h_i^{(l+1)} = \sigma \left( \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} \frac{1}{c_{ij}} W^{(l)} h_j^{(l)} \right)$$



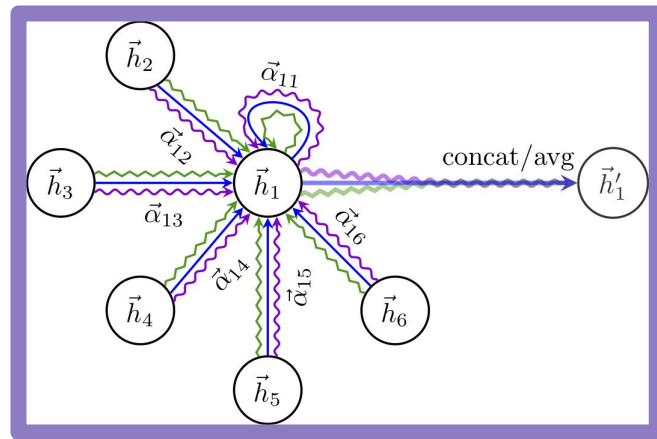
$$h_i^{(l+1)} = \sigma \left( \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} \alpha_{ij}^{(l)} W^{(l)} h_j^{(l)} \right)$$



original network



embedding space





# FM PROBLEM!

NF

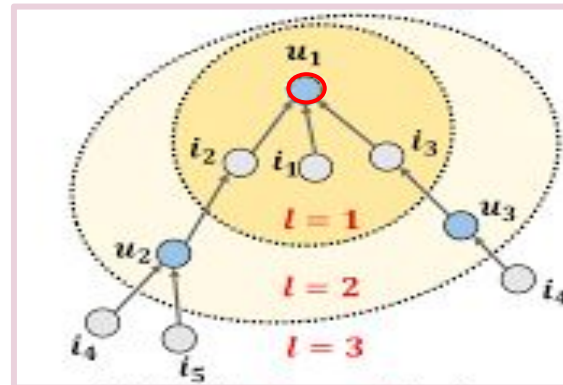
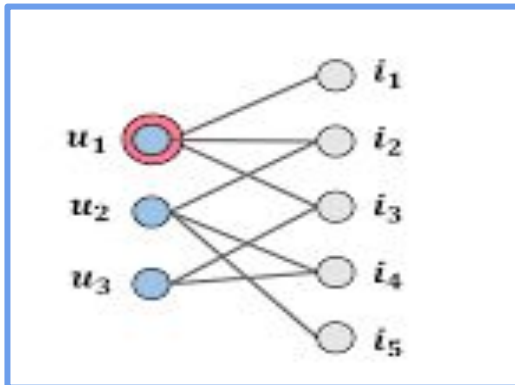
## SOLUTION WITH FM:

GCN for capturing embeddings!

/D

FM captures interactions of only second order! ( $\ell = 1$ )

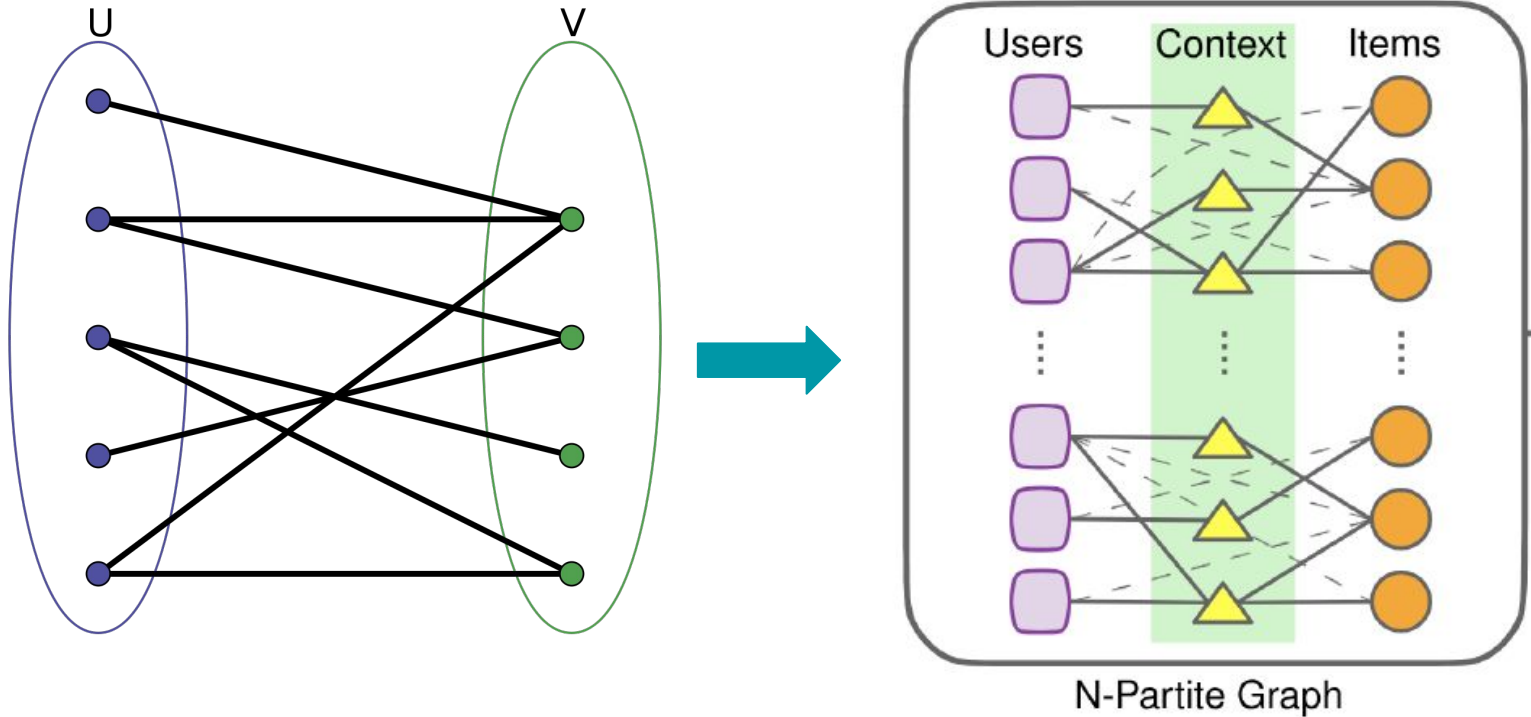
We might want to capture high order interactions ....



SO ....

**HOW CAN WE USE GCN IN  
RECOMMENDATION?**

# To incorporate GCN we should extend GCN



# Extended message passing

$$\mu_{j \rightarrow i} = \frac{1}{s_{ji}} W_u h_j$$

$$\mu_{j,e,\dots,o \rightarrow i} = \frac{1}{s_{ji}} W_u h_j + \frac{1}{s_{ei}} W_{c_1} h_e + \dots + \frac{1}{s_{oi}} W_{c_{N-2}} h_o$$

- $s_{ij} \rightarrow$  symmetric normalization / left normalization
- $W_u \rightarrow$  trainable weight matrix for the users factors;  $W_{c_1}$  for the first context factor, etc...
- $h_j \rightarrow$  input embedding for node  $j \rightarrow$  **first layer  $h_j == X_j$  (feature vector)**

# Extended message passing

	User_0    ....    User_N <sub>u</sub>	Item_0    ...    Item_N <sub>i</sub>	Context_0    ...    Context_N <sub>c</sub>
User_0 ... User_N <sub>u</sub>	0	Interactions user-item	Interactions user-context
Item_0 ... Item_N <sub>i</sub>	Interactions user-item	0	Interactions item-context
Context_0 ... Context_N <sub>c</sub>	Interactions user-context	Interactions item-context	0

# How to use GCN for embedding generation:

$$g(x) = \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{A} \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} X W(l)$$

$$\hat{y}(\mathbf{x}) := w_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=i+1}^n \langle g(x_i), g(x_j) \rangle x_i x_j$$



# RECAP:

$$\text{FM} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{f=1}^k \left( \left( \sum_{i=1}^n v_{i,f} x_i \right)^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n v_{i,f}^2 x_i^2 \right)$$

