

# Using Python for Hypergraph Learning

Focus on the CHESHIRE Algorithm

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# Outline

- 1 From Social Networks to Hypergraphs
- 2 Understanding Hypergraphs
- 3 Understanding Tensors in PyTorch
- 4 Hypergraph Neural Networks
- 5 The CHESHIRE Algorithm
- 6 Real-World Applications
- 7 Conclusion

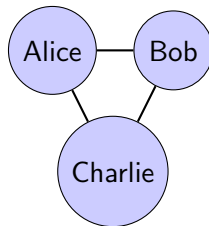
# The Social Networks You Know

## Simple Graphs:

- Nodes = People
- Edges = Friendships
- Perfect for **pairwise** relationships

## Examples:

- Facebook friendships
- Twitter followers
- Email exchanges



*Simple graph: pairwise connections*

# The Problem: Group Interactions

## What about...

- A group chat with 5 friends?
- A research team working on a project?
- Students enrolled in the same course?
- A family gathering?

## Challenge

These are **group interactions** involving more than two people at once.  
Simple graphs cannot naturally represent these relationships!

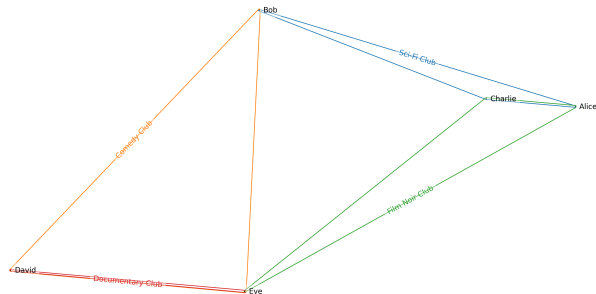
# Enter Hypergraphs!

## Hypergraph:

- **Nodes** = Entities
- **Hyperedges** = Groups
- Can connect **any number** of nodes

Feature	Graph	Hypergraph
Basic Unit	Edge	Hyperedge
Connections	2 nodes	2+ nodes
Example	Friendship	Group chat

University Clubs Hypergraph (Custom Colors)



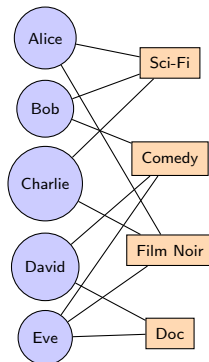
# Example: University Clubs

## Python Representation:

```
university_hypergraph = {  
    'Sci-Fi Club':  
        {'Alice', 'Bob', 'Charlie'},  
    'Comedy Club':  
        {'Bob', 'David', 'Eve'},  
    'Film Noir Club':  
        {'Alice', 'Charlie', 'Eve'},  
    'Documentary Club':  
        {'David', 'Eve'}  
}
```

**Key:** Dictionary with hyperedges as keys, sets of nodes as values

## Bipartite Visualization:



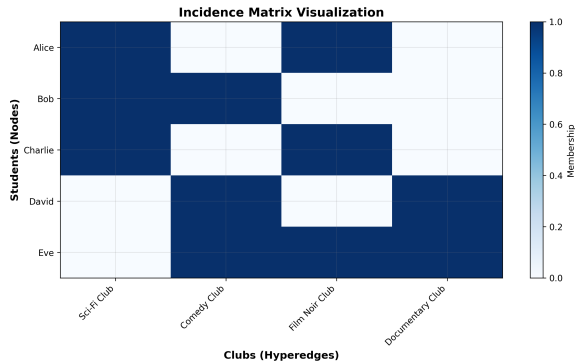
# The Incidence Matrix

## Mathematical Representation:

Incidence matrix  $H$ :

- **Rows** = Nodes (students)
- **Columns** = Hyperedges (clubs)
- $H[i, j] = 1$  if node  $i$  belongs to hyperedge  $j$
- $H[i, j] = 0$  otherwise

This matrix is the foundation for machine learning on hypergraphs!



# What is a Tensor?

**Tensors are generalizations of familiar objects:**

Dimension	Name	Example	Shape
0D	Scalar	5	()
1D	Vector	[1, 2, 3]	(3,)
2D	Matrix	Incidence matrix	(5, 4)
3D+	Tensor	Video ( $W \times H \times T$ )	(W, H, T)

## Why Tensors Matter

- **Data** is represented as tensors
- **Neural networks** operate on tensors
- **GPUs** are optimized for tensor operations



# Tensor Operations for Hypergraphs

## Key Operations:

### ① Matrix Multiplication (Message Passing):

```
# Node features to hyperedges
hyperedge_features = torch.matmul(H.T, X)

# Hyperedges back to nodes
X_updated = torch.matmul(H, hyperedge_features)
```

### ② Aggregation (Computing degrees):

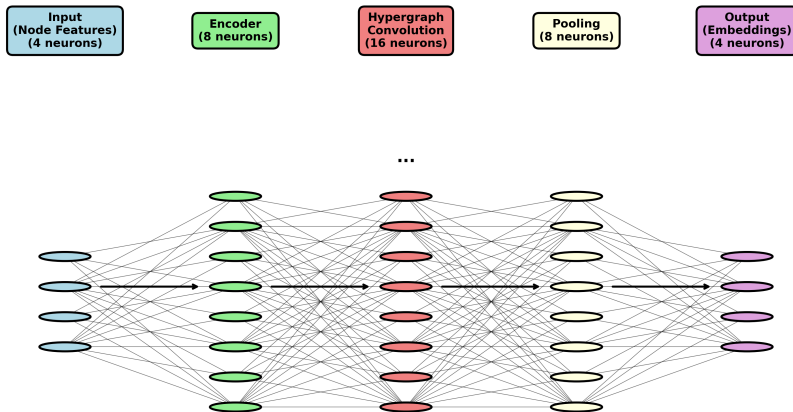
```
node_degrees = H.sum(dim=1) # Sum across columns
hyperedge_sizes = H.sum(dim=0) # Sum across rows
```

### ③ Normalization:

```
X_normalized = X / (node_degrees.unsqueeze(1) + 1e-8)
```

# Neural Network Layers

## Hypergraph Neural Network Architecture



# Message Passing in Hypergraph Neural Networks

## The Big Idea:

Nodes and hyperedges "talk" to each other:

① **Nodes**  $\rightarrow$  **Hyperedges**

Each hyperedge aggregates information from its member nodes

② **Hyperedges**  $\rightarrow$  **Nodes**

Each node receives information from all hyperedges it belongs to

③ **Learn**

Through iteration, nodes learn meaningful representations

# Introducing CHESHIRE

## Chebyshev Spectral Hyperlink pREdictor

A state-of-the-art deep learning method for hyperlink prediction

### The Problem:

- Metabolic networks have missing reactions
- Experimental data is expensive
- Need computational predictions

### CHESHIRE's Solution:

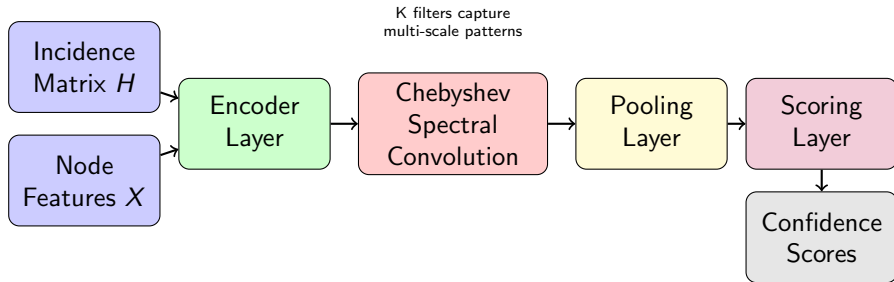
- Uses only network topology
- No experimental data needed
- Outputs confidence scores

### Key Features:

- **Chebyshev spectral filters** for efficient message passing
- Captures **multi-hop** relationships
- **Scalable** to large networks

### Applications

- Metabolic network gap-filling
- Drug discovery
- Systems biology



**Message passing through hypergraph structure →**

# Why Chebyshev Spectral Convolution?

## Traditional Convolutions:

- Work on grids (images)
- Fixed neighborhood structure
- Not suitable for graphs

## Spectral Convolutions:

- Work on irregular structures
- Capture graph topology
- Mathematically principled

## Chebyshev Polynomials:

- Make computation **efficient**
- Capture **multi-hop** relationships
- Avoid expensive eigendecomposition

### Key Insight

Instead of just looking at immediate neighbors, Chebyshev filters consider neighbors of neighbors efficiently!

**Multiple filters (K channels)** capture different types of relationships

## Validation:

- Tested on 926 genome-scale metabolic models
- Outperforms other topology-based methods
- Improves phenotypic predictions

## Impact:

- Accelerates metabolic model curation
- Reduces experimental costs
- Enables predictions for uncultivable organisms

## Key Results:

- **High accuracy** in predicting missing reactions
- **Scalable** to large networks (1000s of nodes)
- **Interpretable** confidence scores
- **No experimental data** required

## Publication

Chen et al. (2023). *Nature Communications*, 14(1), 2375.

## Social Sciences:

- Group dynamics analysis
- Community formation
- Collaboration prediction
- Social movement modeling

## Computer Science:

- Recommendation systems
- Computer vision
- Natural language processing

## Other Domains:

- Political science (coalitions)
- Economics (multi-party transactions)
- Chemistry (reaction networks)
- Neuroscience (brain connectivity)

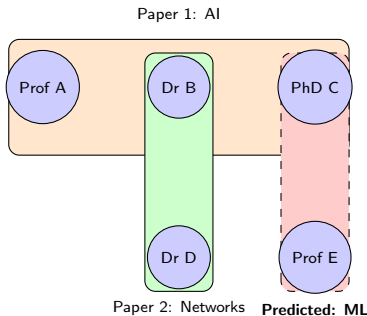
### Key Insight

Any system with **group interactions** can benefit from hypergraph learning!



# Example: Research Collaboration Networks

## Predicting Future Collaborations



Hypergraph learning can predict which researchers are likely to collaborate next!

# Key Takeaways

- 1 **Hypergraphs** naturally represent group interactions
- 2 **Tensors** are the data structures for machine learning
- 3 **Hypergraph Neural Networks** use message passing to learn from structure
- 4 **PyTorch** and PyTorch Geometric provide tools for implementation
- 5 **CHESHIRE** is a state-of-the-art algorithm for hyperlink prediction
- 6 These techniques apply to **many disciplines**, not just computer science

**The key: Recognize when your data involves group interactions!**

## Papers:

- Chen et al. (2023). Teasing out missing reactions in genome-scale metabolic networks through hypergraph learning. *Nature Communications*, 14(1), 2375.
- Chen et al. (2024). A Survey on Hyperlink Prediction. *IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems*, Volume: 35, Issue: 11, Page(s): 15034 - 15050.

## Code & Libraries:

- CHESHIRE: <https://github.com/canc1993/cheshire-gapfilling>
- PyTorch Geometric: <https://pytorch-geometric.readthedocs.io/>
- HyperNetX: <https://github.com/pnnl/HyperNetX>

## Tutorials:

- Hypergraph Neural Networks: <https://sites.google.com/view/hnn-tutorial>
- PyTorch: <https://pytorch.org/tutorials/>

# Thank You!

## Questions?

Contact: [your.email@units.it](mailto:your.email@units.it)