

Certifiable Robustness in Graph Classification via Community-Aware Randomized Smoothing

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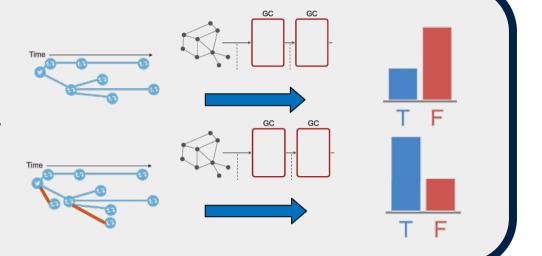
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Motivation

Research Council

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs) are effective in many graph-related tasks, but are **vulnerable to targeted adversarial attacks**. Under adversarial attack, the victimized samples are perturbed in such a way that they are not easily noticeable, but they lead to **wrong predictions**. This limitation of GNNs has arisen concerns on adopting them in **safety-critical applications**. Our main objective is to **introduce robustness certificates** in our graph classification model.



Framework

• Let $f: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$ be a trained classifier, we define a **certified radius** R as:

$$f(x) = c \text{ for } c \in \mathcal{Y} \Longrightarrow$$

 $\forall \tilde{x} \in \mathcal{B}_{||.||_0}(x, R), f(\tilde{x}) = c$

• We transform our classifier f into a **smoothed** classifier g defined as:

$$g(x) = \arg\max_{c \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbb{P}_{X \sim \phi(x)}(f(X) = c)$$

 \bullet The current classical perturbation $\phi(x)$ for graph is a **Bernoulli noise** over the edges

$$\phi(x) = x \oplus \epsilon \text{ with } \forall i \in [N], \epsilon_i \sim Bern(p)$$

• Given a perturbation $\phi(x)$ a certified radius R can be computed for every graph for the smoothed model g(x)

Bernoulli Perturbation Community Perturbation

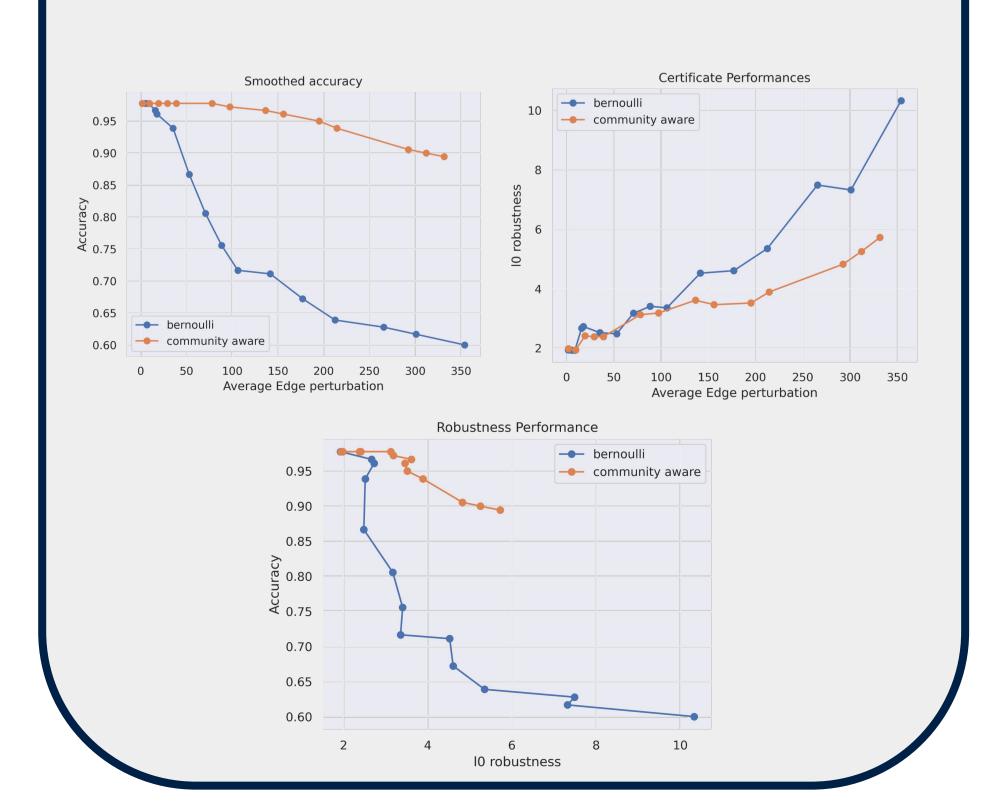
Method

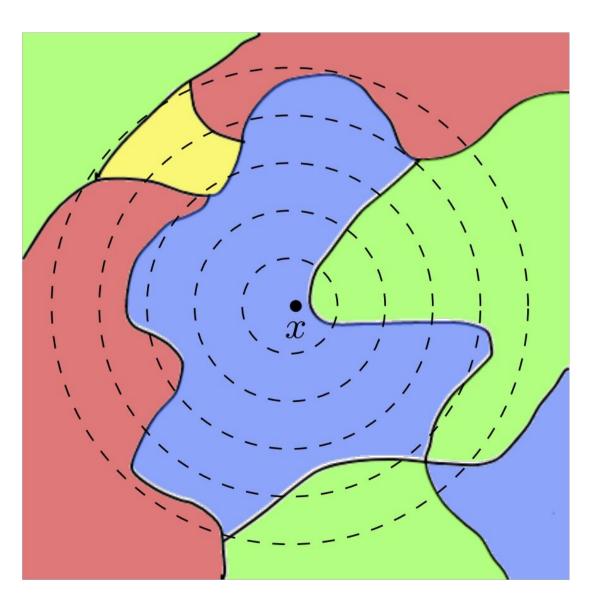
 We introduce a new perturbation method with edge dependency relying on the community structure of the graph:

$$\forall e \in C_{i,j}, P(\phi(x)_e \neq x_e) = p_{i,j}$$

Result

- We test our new method on a synthetic dataset:
 Our dataset consists of graphs generated by a
 Stochastic Block Model (SBM) and Erdős–Rényi
 model (ER). A GNN is trained on a task
 consisting in distinguishing the type of graphs.
- We achieve a higher average ℓ_0 robust radius for a fixed model accuracy.





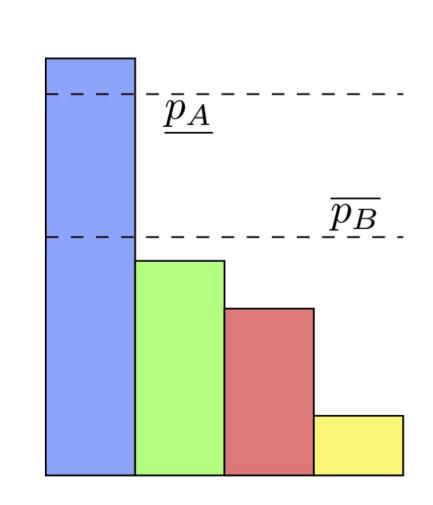


Illustration of a smoothed classifier: at every point x a neighborhood vote is performed according to a distribution $\phi(x)$ centered on x.

References

- [1] Gao et al, "Certified Robustness of Graph Classification against Topology Attack with Randomized Smoothing." *GLOBECOM 2020-2020 IEEE Global Communications Conference*. IEEE, 2020.
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- [3] Bojchevski et al, "Efficient robustness certificates for discrete data: Sparsity-aware randomized smoothing for graphs, images and more." *International Conference on Machine Learning*. PMLR, 2020.