

Beyond Low-Pass Filters: Adaptive Feature Propagation on Graphs

Shouheng Li¹, Dongwoo Kim², Qing Wang¹

¹School of Computing, Australian National University

²Graduate School of Artificial Intelligence, Postech



Australian
National
University

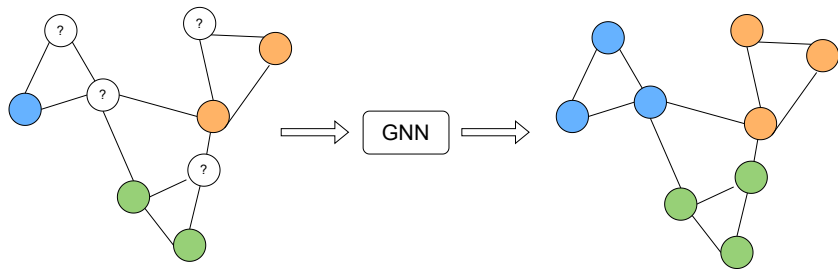


{shouheng.li; qing.wang}@anu.edu.au; dongwookim@postech.ac.kr

Agenda

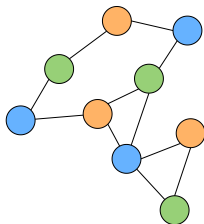
- Problem Setting
- Contribution
- Background
- Proposed Method
- Empirical Results

Problem Setting: Node Classification

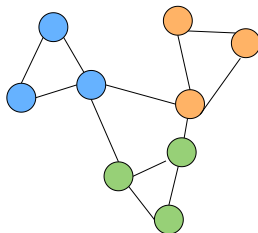


Problem Setting: Homophilic vs. Heterophilic Graphs

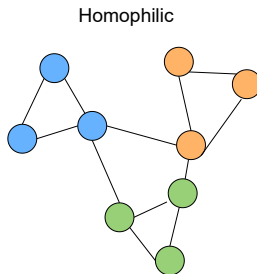
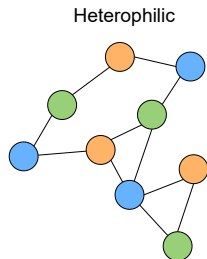
Heterophilic



Homophilic



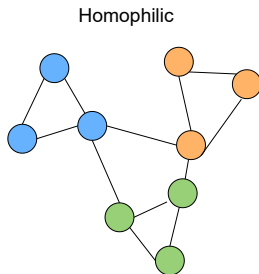
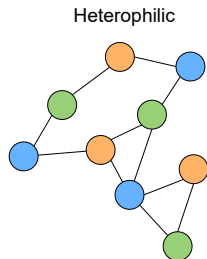
Problem Setting: Homophilic vs. Heterophilic Graphs



$$\beta = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{v \in V} \beta_v$$
$$\beta_v = \frac{|\{u \in \mathcal{N}_v | \ell(u) = \ell(v)\}|}{|\mathcal{N}_v|}$$

$\ell(v)$: label of node v .

Problem Setting: Homophilic vs. Heterophilic Graphs



- Existing GNNs work well on homophilic but not heterophilic graphs
- Outperformed by MLP using node features only

Proposed Method: Contributions

- A generalized GNN adapts well on graphs of different homophily levels
- A node attention mechanism using spectral filters learned from data
- Empirical analysis on importance of frequency components on homophilic and heterophilic graphs

Graph Neural Network (GNN)

GNN learns the embedding of node v by:

- **AGGREGATE** features from its neighbor nodes $u \in N_v$.

$$\mathbf{m}_v = \text{aggregate}(\{\mathbf{h}_u^{(l-1)} | u \in \mathcal{N}_v\})$$

$\mathbf{h}_u^{(l-1)}$ is the embedding of node u at the $(l - 1)$ th layer.

\mathbf{m}_v is the aggregated feature from the neighbors.

Graph Neural Network (GNN)

GNN learns the embedding of node v in two steps:

- **AGGREGATE** features from its neighbor nodes $u \in N_v$.

$$\mathbf{m}_v = \text{aggregate}(\{\mathbf{h}_u^{(l-1)} | u \in \mathcal{N}_v\})$$

$\mathbf{h}_u^{(l-1)}$ is the embedding of node u at the $(l-1)$ th layer.

\mathbf{m}_v is the aggregated feature from the neighbors

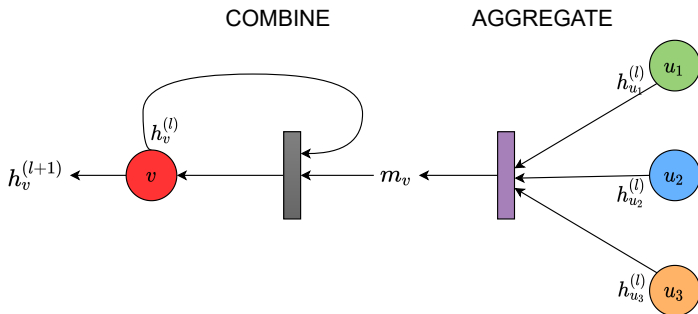
- **COMBINE** the aggregated features with its own.

$$\mathbf{h}_v^{(l)} = \text{combine}(\mathbf{h}_v^{(l-1)}, \mathbf{m}_v)$$

$\mathbf{h}_v^{(l)}$ is the embedding of node v at the l th layer.

Graph Neural Network (GNN)

GNN learns the embedding of node v by **AGGREGATE** and **COMBINE**:



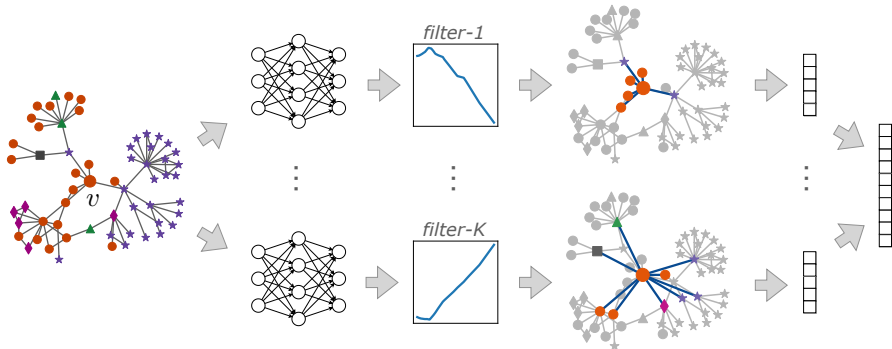
Proposed Method: ASGAT

Original input graph

Adaptive spectral filters
via MLPs

Aggregation via
adaptive attention

Multi-head
concatenation



Proposed Method: Preliminary

- Let $\mathcal{G} = (V, E, A, x)$ be an undirected graph with N nodes
- V , E , and A are the node set, edge set, and adjacency matrix of \mathcal{G}
- x is the node feature matrix.

Proposed Method: Preliminary

- Let $\mathcal{G} = (V, E, A, x)$ be an undirected graph with N nodes
- V , E , and A are the node set, edge set, and adjacency matrix of \mathcal{G}
- x is the node feature matrix.
- $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$ is a diagonal matrix of eigenvalues, g is the spectral filter.

$$\text{Graph Laplacian: } L = I - D^{-1/2} A D^{-1/2} = U \Lambda U^H$$

$$\text{Spectral Convolution: } g(L)\vec{x} = U g(\Lambda) \hat{\vec{x}}.$$

Proposed Method: ASGAT

Compute spectral filtering response ψ_v

$$\psi_v = U \text{diag}(\text{MLP}(\Lambda)) U^H \delta_v \quad (1)$$

Perform sparsification

$$\bar{\psi}_{vu} = \begin{cases} \psi_{vu} & \text{if } \psi_{vu} \in \text{topK}(\{\psi_{v0}, \dots, \psi_{vN}\}, k) \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Obtain attention weight a_v

$$a_v = \text{softmax}(\bar{\psi}_v)$$

Equation 1 can be approximated using polynomial or rational functions without eigen-decomposition of L

Proposed Method: ASGAT

Compute node embedding: AGGREGATE and COMBINE

$$\mathbf{h}_v^{(l)} = \sigma \left(\sum_{u=1}^N a_{vu} \mathbf{h}_u^{(l-1)} \mathbf{W}^{(l)} \right),$$

where $\mathbf{W}^{(l)}$ is a weight matrix shared across all nodes at the l th layer and σ is ELU nonlinear activation.

Empirical Results: Accuracy

	Homophily \longleftrightarrow Heterophily							
	CORA	PUBMED	CITESEER	CHAMELEON	SQUIRREL	WISCONSIN	CORNELL	TEXAS
β	0.83	0.79	0.71	0.25	0.22	0.16	0.11	0.06
#Nodes	2,708	19,717	3,327	2,277	5,201	251	183	183
#Edges	5,429	44,338	4,732	36,101	217,073	515	298	325
#Features	1,433	500	3,703	2,325	2,089	1,703	1,703	1,703
#Classes	7	3	6	5	5	5	5	5
GCN	87.4 \pm 0.2	87.8 \pm 0.2	78.5 \pm 0.5	59.8 \pm 2.6 [‡]	36.9 \pm 1.3 [‡]	64.1 \pm 6.3	59.2 \pm 3.2	64.1 \pm 4.9
ChevNet	88.2 \pm 0.2	89.3 \pm 0.3	79.4 \pm 0.4	66.0 \pm 2.3	39.6 \pm 3.0	82.5 \pm 2.8	76.5 \pm 9.4	79.7 \pm 5.0
ARMANet	85.2 \pm 2.5	86.3 \pm 5.7	76.7 \pm 0.5	62.1 \pm 3.6	47.8 \pm 3.5	78.4 \pm 4.6	74.9 \pm 2.9	82.2 \pm 5.1
GAT	87.6 \pm 0.3	83.0 \pm 0.1	77.7 \pm 0.3	54.7 \pm 2.0 [‡]	30.6 \pm 2.1 [‡]	62.0 \pm 5.2	58.9 \pm 3.3	60.0 \pm 5.7
SGC	87.2 \pm 0.3	81.1 \pm 0.3	78.8 \pm 0.4	33.7 \pm 3.5	46.9 \pm 1.7	51.8 \pm 5.9	58.1 \pm 4.6	58.9 \pm 6.1
GraphSAGE	86.3 \pm 0.6	89.2 \pm 0.5	77.4 \pm 0.5	51.1 \pm 0.5	41.6 \pm 0.7 [‡]	77.6 \pm 4.6	67.3 \pm 6.9	82.7 \pm 4.8
APPNP	88.4 \pm 0.3	86.0 \pm 0.3	77.6 \pm 0.6	45.3 \pm 1.6	31.0 \pm 1.6	81.2 \pm 2.5	70.3 \pm 9.3	79.5 \pm 4.6
Geom-GCN	86.3 \pm 0.3	89.1 \pm 0.1	81.4 \pm 0.3	60.9 [†]	38.1 [†]	64.1 [†]	60.8 [†]	67.6 [†]
H ₂ GCN	88.3 \pm 0.3	89.1 \pm 0.4	78.4 \pm 0.5	59.4 \pm 2.0	37.9 \pm 2.0	86.5 \pm 4.4	82.2 \pm 6.0	82.7 \pm 5.7
MLP	72.1 \pm 1.3	88.6 \pm 0.2	74.9 \pm 1.8	45.7 \pm 2.7	28.1 \pm 2.0	82.7 \pm 4.5	81.4 \pm 6.3	79.2 \pm 6.1
Vanilla ASGAT	—	—	—	—	—	86.9 \pm 4.2	84.6 \pm 5.8	82.2 \pm 3.2
ASGAT-Cheb	87.5 \pm 0.5	89.9 \pm 0.9	79.3 \pm 0.6	66.5 \pm 2.8	55.8 \pm 3.2	86.3 \pm 3.7	82.7 \pm 8.3	85.1 \pm 5.7
ASGAT-ARMA	87.4 \pm 1.1	88.3 \pm 1.0	79.2 \pm 1.4	65.8 \pm 2.2	51.4 \pm 3.2	84.7 \pm 4.4	83.2 \pm 5.5	79.5 \pm 7.7

Empirical Results: Accuracy (Short)

	Homophily \longleftrightarrow Heterophily							
	CORA	PUBMED	CITESEER	CHAMELEON	SQUIRREL	WISCONSIN	CORNELL	TEXAS
GCN	87.4 \pm 0.2	87.8 \pm 0.2	78.5 \pm 0.5	59.8 \pm 2.6 [‡]	36.9 \pm 1.3 [‡]	64.1 \pm 6.3	59.2 \pm 3.2	64.1 \pm 4.9
ChevNet	88.2 \pm 0.2	89.3 \pm 0.3	79.4 \pm 0.4	66.0 \pm 2.3	39.6 \pm 3.0	82.5 \pm 2.8	76.5 \pm 9.4	79.7 \pm 5.0
ARMANet	85.2 \pm 2.5	86.3 \pm 5.7	76.7 \pm 0.5	62.1 \pm 3.6	47.8 \pm 3.5	78.4 \pm 4.6	74.9 \pm 2.9	82.2 \pm 5.1
GAT	87.6 \pm 0.3	83.0 \pm 0.1	77.7 \pm 0.3	54.7 \pm 2.0 [‡]	30.6 \pm 2.1 [‡]	62.0 \pm 5.2	58.9 \pm 3.3	60.0 \pm 5.7
SGC	87.2 \pm 0.3	81.1 \pm 0.3	78.8 \pm 0.4	33.7 \pm 3.5	46.9 \pm 1.7	51.8 \pm 5.9	58.1 \pm 4.6	58.9 \pm 6.1
GraphSAGE	86.3 \pm 0.6	89.2 \pm 0.5	77.4 \pm 0.5	51.1 \pm 0.5	41.6 \pm 0.7 [‡]	77.6 \pm 4.6	67.3 \pm 6.9	82.7 \pm 4.8
APPNP	88.4 \pm 0.3	86.0 \pm 0.3	77.6 \pm 0.6	45.3 \pm 1.6	31.0 \pm 1.6	81.2 \pm 2.5	70.3 \pm 9.3	79.5 \pm 4.6
Geom-GCN	86.3 \pm 0.3	89.1 \pm 0.1	81.4 \pm 0.3	60.9 [†]	38.1 [†]	64.1 [†]	60.8 [†]	67.6 [†]
H ₂ GCN	88.3 \pm 0.3	89.1 \pm 0.4	78.4 \pm 0.5	59.4 \pm 2.0	37.9 \pm 2.0	86.5 \pm 4.4	82.2 \pm 6.0	82.7 \pm 5.7
MLP	72.1 \pm 1.3	88.6 \pm 0.2	74.9 \pm 1.8	45.7 \pm 2.7	28.1 \pm 2.0	82.7 \pm 4.5	81.4 \pm 6.3	79.2 \pm 6.1
Vanilla ASGAT	—	—	—	—	—	86.9 \pm 4.2	84.6 \pm 5.8	82.2 \pm 3.2
ASGAT-Cheb	87.5 \pm 0.5	89.9 \pm 0.9	79.3 \pm 0.6	66.5 \pm 2.8	55.8 \pm 3.2	86.3 \pm 3.7	82.7 \pm 8.3	85.1 \pm 5.7
ASGAT-ARMA	87.4 \pm 1.1	88.3 \pm 1.0	79.2 \pm 1.4	65.8 \pm 2.2	51.4 \pm 3.2	84.7 \pm 4.4	83.2 \pm 5.5	79.5 \pm 7.7

Empirical Results: Heterophily

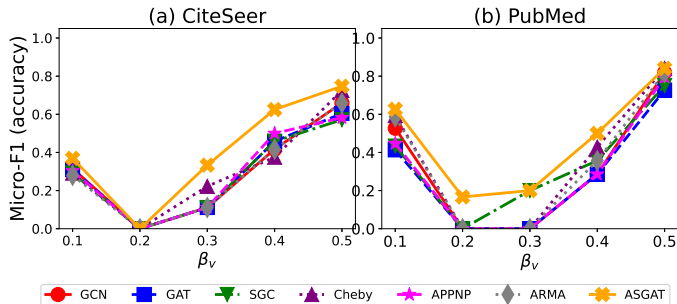


Figure: Classification accuracy on heterophilic nodes ($\beta_v \leq 0.5$)

Summary

- Existing GNNs perform sub-optimally in node classification on heterophilic graphs
- The proposed ASGAT uses attentions derived from learnable spectral filters to achieve adaptive feature aggregation on graphs of different homophily levels
- ASGAT outperforms benchmarks on heterophilic graphs while performs comparably on homophilic ones, demonstrated adaptiveness