Graph Neural Networks: A Review of Methods and Applications Jie Zhou^{*}, Ganqu Cui^{*}, Zhengyan Zhang^{*}, Cheng Yang, Zhiyuan Liu, Maosong Sun Tsinghua University arxiv 2019

https://qdata.github.io/deep2Read

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Graph Neural Networks

3 Graph Variants

4 Objective Variants

- Convolution
 - Spectral
 - Spatial
- Gating
- Attention
- Skip Connections
- 6 Training Variants
- 7 Applications and Datasets

Graphs

Type of data structure which models a set of objects (vertices) and their relationships (edges).

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- Graph $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$
- Vertices $\mathcal{V} = \{1, \ldots, n\}$
- Edges $\mathcal{E} \subseteq \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}$
- Vertex weights $b_i > 0$ for $i \in \mathcal{V}$
- Edge weights $a_{ij} \ge 0$ for $(i, j) \in \mathcal{E}$



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Euclidean Data: RNNs/CNNs

• Image, volume, video: 2D, 3D, 2D+1 Euclidean domains





2D grids

• Sentence, word, sound: 1D Euclidean domain



• These domains have nice regular spatial structures.

 \Rightarrow All ConvNet operations are math well defined and fast (convolution, pooling).

Non-Euclidean Data



• Also chemistry, NLP, physics, social science, communication networks, etc.

- Assumption: Non-Euclidean data are locally stationary and manifest hierarchical structures.
- But, how to define compositionality on graphs? (convolution and pooling on graphs)

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Learning on Graphs

Naive approach: a per-node classifier

- Represent each node v as vector $\mathbf{h}_v \in \mathbb{R}^s$
- Completely drop the graph structure, and classify each node individually, with a shared deep neural network classifier:

$$\mathbf{o}_{\mathbf{v}} = f(\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{v}}; \mathbf{W}) \tag{1}$$

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 Methods like DeepWalk also classify each node independently, but inject graph structure indirectly using learned embeddings • Most deep learning is done this way, even if there are relationships between training examples



- Originally introduced by Scarselli et. al. (2009)
- The goal of GNNs is to learn a state embedding $\mathbf{h}_{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{s}$ which contains information of the neighborhood for each node
- \mathbf{h}_{v} can be used to produce an output \mathbf{o}_{v} such as the node label



- Local transition function f: updates each node state according to its neighborhood (shared among all nodes)
- Output function g: describes how the output is produced

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- Then, \mathbf{h}_{v} and \mathbf{o}_{v} are defined as follows:

$$\mathbf{h}_{v} = f(\mathbf{x}_{v}, \mathbf{x}_{e(v)}, \mathbf{h}_{n(v)}, \mathbf{x}_{n(v)})$$
(2)

$$\mathbf{o}_{\nu} = g(\mathbf{h}_{\nu}, \mathbf{x}_{\nu}) \tag{3}$$

where \mathbf{x}_{v} are the features of v, $\mathbf{x}_{e(v)}$ the features of its edges, $\mathbf{h}_{n(v)}$ the states of the nodes in the neighborhood of v, and $\mathbf{x}_{n(v)}$ the features of the nodes in the neighborhood of v

GNNs use the following iterative update to compute the state:

$$\mathbf{H}^{t+1} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{H}^t, \mathbf{X}) \tag{4}$$

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where \mathbf{H}^t denotes the *t*-th iteration of \mathbf{H} .

Graph Neural Networks



- Given a GNN framework, learn the parameters of f and g
- With the target information (t_v for a specific node) for the supervision, the loss can be written as:

$$loss = \sum_{i=1}^{p} (\mathbf{t}_i - \mathbf{o}_i)$$
(5)

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where p is the number of supervised nodes.

• Weights **W** of *f* and *g* are updated via gradient descent

• Original GNN constrains f to be a contractive map

 Contractive map, on a metric space (M, d) is a function f from M to itself, with the property that there is some real number 0 ≤ k < 1 such that for all x and y in M, d(f(x), f(y)) ≤ k d(x, y)

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- This implies that the h_v vectors will always converge to a unique fixed point (very restrictive)
- Impossible to inject problem-specific information into h_v^0 (will always converge to same value regardless of initialization)

Let **H**, **O**, **X**, and **X**_N be the vectors constructed by stacking all the states, all the outputs, all the features, and all the node features, respectively. Then we have a compact form as:

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{X}) \tag{6}$$

$$\mathbf{O} = g(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{X}_N) \tag{7}$$

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- e.g. Knowledge graphs where there is a parent and child.
- Can use different weights for each edge type



- e.g. Multi-model biological network data
- Can group neighbors based on types or distance



- e.g. Drug interaction data with different types of interactions (edges).
 Each edge also has its information like the weight or the type of the edge.
- Can use different types of weight matrices





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- Node-level outputs: prediction for each node in the graph (e.g. classify each person in a social network)
- Edge-level outputs: prediction for each edge in the graph (e.g. classify each friendship in a social network)
- **Graph-level outputs**; prediction on the graph as a whole (e.g. classify an entire group in a social network)

- Supervised learning for node, edge, or graph level classification: Given full labeled networks, predict target objective
- Semi-supervised learning for node or edge level classification: Given a single network with partial nodes being labeled and others remaining unlabeled
- Unsupervised learning for graph embedding: When no class labels are available in graphs, we can learn the graph embedding in a purely unsupervised way

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• The propagation (update) step and output step are the crucial components to obtain the hidden states of nodes (or edges).

 $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{X})$

• Variants utilize different aggregators to gather information from each node's neighbors and updaters to update nodes' hidden states

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Advances in this direction are often categorized into either spectral or spatial approaches

Spectral Convolution Methods

- Define a convolutional operation by operating on the graph in the spectral domain, leveraging the convolution theorem
- These approaches utilise the graph Laplacian matrix, L, defined as L
 D A, where D is the degree matrix (diagonal matrix with D_{ii} = deg(i)) and A is the adjacency matrix.

Labeled graph	Degree matrix						Adjacency matrix						Laplacian matrix							
\sim	(2	0	0	0	0	0)		(0	1	0	0	1	0)	1	2	$^{-1}$	0	0	$^{-1}$	0)
6	0	3	0	0	0	0		1	0	1	0	1	0		$^{-1}$	3	$^{-1}$	0	$^{-1}$	0
(4)-02-0	0	0	2	0	0	0		0	1	0	1	0	0		0	$^{-1}$	2	$^{-1}$	0	0
I LO	0	0	0	3	0	0		0	0	1	0	1	1		0	0	$^{-1}$	3	$^{-1}$	-1
3-2	0	0	0	0	3	0		1	1	0	1	0	0		$^{-1}$	-1	0	$^{-1}$	3	0
\bigcirc	0/	0	0	0	0	1/	'	0/	0	0	1	0	0/	$ \langle$	0	0	0	$^{-1}$	0	1/

- Poor generalization to new/different graphs
- Graphs with variable size: spectral techniques work with fixed size graphs.
- Directed graphs: definition of directed graph Laplacian is unclear.

Transductive Learning

(from Petar Velickovic)



Training algorithm sees all features (including test nodes)

- Algorithm does not have access to all nodes upfront. Two variations:
 - Test nodes are (incrementally) inserted into training graphs
 - Itest graphs are disjoint and completely unseen
- Requires generalizing across arbitrary graph structures, thus many transductive methods are useless

Spectral vs Spatial



Euclidean space/grid

Standard ConvNets



Non-Euclidean space/graph

Fixed domain

Spectral graph ConvNets

Spectral NNs offer rich families of spectral filters



Change one single edge

Variable domain

Can we still use spectral graph ConvNets?

Are spectral filters transferable?

- Spatial approaches define convolutions directly on the graph, operating on spatially close neighbors
- Major challenge: defining convolution with different sized neighborhoods and maintaining the local invariance of CNNs

Different weight matrices are used for nodes with different degrees,

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{h}_{\nu} + \sum_{i=1}^{\mathcal{N}_{\nu}} \mathbf{h}_{i}$$

$$\mathbf{h}_{\nu}' = \sigma \left(\mathbf{x} \mathbf{W}_{L}^{\mathcal{N}_{\nu}} \right)$$
(8)

where $\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{L}}^{\mathcal{N}_{\mathbf{v}}}$ is the weight matrix for nodes with degree $\mathcal{N}_{\mathbf{v}}$ at layer L• **Problem**: doesn't scale to graphs with very wide degree distributions • Transition matrices are used to define the neighborhood for nodes in DCNN. For node classification, it has

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{f} \left(\mathbf{W}^{c} \odot \mathbf{P}^{*} \mathbf{X} \right) \tag{9}$$

- **X** is an *N* × *F* matrix of input features (*N* is the number of nodes and *F* is the number of features)
- P* is an N×K×N tensor which contains the power series {P, P², ..., P^K} of matrix P (where P is the degree- normalized transition matrix from the adjacency matrix A)
 - \mathbf{P}^* transforms each node into a $K \times F$ diffusion convolutional representation

- General inductive framework
- Restricts every degree to be the same (by sampling a fixed-size set a node's local neighborhood, during both training and inference)

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• Key is that **W**^t is not shared across time steps T

Variant	Aggregator	Updater
Convolutional networks in [33]	$\mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_v}^t = \mathbf{h}_v^{t-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{N}_v} \mathbf{h}_k^{t-1}$	$\mathbf{h}_v^t = \sigma(\mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_v}^t \mathbf{W}_L^{\mathcal{N}_v})$
DCNN	Node classification: $\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{P}^* \mathbf{X}$ Graph classification: $\mathbf{N} = 1_N^T \mathbf{P}^* \mathbf{X} / N$	$\mathbf{H} = f\left(\mathbf{W}^c \odot \mathbf{N}\right)$
GraphSAGE	$\mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_{v}}^{t} = \operatorname{AGGREGATE}_{t} \left(\{ \mathbf{h}_{u}^{t-1}, \forall u \in \mathcal{N}_{v} \} \right)$	$\mathbf{h}_{v}^{t} = \sigma \left(\mathbf{W}^{t} \cdot [\mathbf{h}_{v}^{t-1} \ \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_{v}}^{t}] \right)$

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- Extension of original GNN (Scarselli et. al. 2009)
- Propagate for T steps, but do not restrict the propagation model to be contractive
 - Use gating in the propagation step to alleviate gradient issues

Initial idea: update \mathbf{h}_{v}^{t} using neighborhood summation and tanh

$$\mathbf{a}_{v}^{t} = \mathbf{b} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{v}} \mathbf{h}_{j}^{t-1}$$
(11)
$$\mathbf{h}_{v}^{t} = \tanh(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{a}_{v}^{t})$$
(12)

Now, extend this to incorporate gating mechanisms, to prevent full overwrite of \mathbf{h}_v^{t-1} by \mathbf{h}_v^t

Gating mechanism defined similar to LSTM:

$$\mathbf{a}_{\nu}^{t} = \mathbf{b} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}} \mathbf{h}_{j}^{t-1}$$
(13)

$$\mathbf{z}_{v}^{t} = \sigma \left(\mathbf{W}^{z} \mathbf{a}_{v}^{t} + \mathbf{U}^{z} \mathbf{h}_{v}^{t-1} \right)$$
(14)

$$\mathbf{r}_{v}^{t} = \sigma \left(\mathbf{W}^{r} \mathbf{a}_{v}^{t} + \mathbf{U}^{r} \mathbf{h}_{v}^{t-1} \right)$$
(15)

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{h}_{\nu}^{t}} = \tanh\left(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{a}_{\nu}^{t} + \mathbf{U}\left(\mathbf{r}_{\nu}^{t}\odot\mathbf{h}_{\nu}^{t-1}\right)\right)$$
(16)

$$\mathbf{h}_{\nu}^{t} = \left(1 - \mathbf{z}_{\nu}^{t}\right) \odot \mathbf{h}_{\nu}^{t-1} + \mathbf{z}_{\nu}^{t} \odot \widetilde{\mathbf{h}_{\nu}^{t}}$$
(17)

Where \odot is element-wise multiplication, and \bm{z}_{ν} and \bm{r}_{ν} are the update and reset vectors, respectively

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- Gating mechanisms are designed for data that changes sequentially; however, our graphs have static features
- GAT incorporates attention mechanisms into the propagation step





GAT uses a *self-attention* mechanism to compute the hidden states of each node by attending over itself and its neighbors

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Attention

Graph attention network (GAT) - Velickovic et. al., 2017

$$e_{vj} = a(\mathbf{W}^{a}\mathbf{h}_{v}, \mathbf{W}^{b}\mathbf{h}_{j})$$
(18)

$$\alpha_{vj} = \frac{\exp(e_{vj})}{\sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_v} \exp(e_{ik})}$$
(19)
$$\mathbf{h}_v = \sigma \left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_v} \alpha_{vj} \mathbf{W}^z \mathbf{h}_j\right)$$
(20)



Attention



(a) Graph Convolution Networks [14] explicitly assign a non-parametric weight $a_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{deg(v_i)deg(v_j)}}$ to the neighbor v_j of v_i during the aggregation process.



(b) Graph Attention Networks [15] implicitly capture the weight a_{ij} via an end to end neural network architecture, so that more important nodes receive larger weights.

Name	Variant	Aggregator	Updater
Graph Attention Networks	GAT	$\begin{split} \alpha_{vk} &= \frac{\exp\left(\text{LakyReLU}\left(a^{T}[\mathbf{W}\mathbf{h}_{v}\ \mathbf{W}\mathbf{h}_{k}]\right)\right)}{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{v}} \exp\left(\text{LakyReLU}\left(a^{T}[\mathbf{W}\mathbf{h}_{v}\ \mathbf{W}\mathbf{h}_{k}]\right)\right)} \\ \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_{v}}^{t} &= \sigma\left(\sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_{v}} \alpha_{vk} \mathbf{W}\mathbf{h}_{k}\right) \\ \text{Multi-head concatenation:} \\ \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_{v}}^{t} &= \left\ _{m=1}^{M} \sigma\left(\sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_{v}} \alpha_{vk}^{m} \mathbf{W}^{m}\mathbf{h}_{k}\right) \\ \text{Multi-head average:} \\ \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_{v}}^{t} &= \sigma\left(\frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_{v}} \alpha_{vk}^{m} \mathbf{W}^{m}\mathbf{h}_{k}\right) \end{split}$	$\mathbf{h}_v^t = \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_v}^t$
Gated Graph Neural Net- works	GGNN	$\mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_v}^t = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_v} \mathbf{h}_k^{t-1} + \mathbf{b}$	$ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{z}_v^t = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^z \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_v}^t + \mathbf{U}^z \mathbf{h}_v^{t-1}) \\ \mathbf{r}_v^t = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^r \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_v}^t + \mathbf{U}^r \mathbf{h}_v^{t-1}) \\ \mathbf{h}_v^t = \tanh(\mathbf{W} \mathbf{h}_{\mathcal{N}_v}^t + \mathbf{U}(\mathbf{r}_v^t \odot \mathbf{h}_v^{t-1})) \\ \mathbf{h}_v^t = (1 - \mathbf{z}_v^t) \odot \mathbf{h}_v^{t-1} + \mathbf{z}_v^t \odot \mathbf{\tilde{h}}_v^t \end{array} $

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Uses uses layer-wise gates. The output of a layer is summed with its input with gating weights (inspired by Highway nets)

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{h}^{t}) = \sigma \left(\mathbf{W}^{t} \mathbf{h}^{t} + \mathbf{b}^{t} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{h}^{t+1} = \mathbf{h}^{t+1} \odot \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{h}^{t}) + \mathbf{h}^{t} \odot (1 - \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{h}^{t}))$$
(21)



Skip Connections Jump Knowledge Network (JKN) - Xu et. al., 2018

- With neighborhood aggregation, the receptive field of each node grows exponentially w.r.t. the number of layers (steps) *T*
- The Jump Knowledge Network selects from all of the intermediate representations for each node at the last layer
 - Allows the model adapt the effective neighborhood size for each node as needed

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Propagation Methods: Summary



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Applications and Datasets

- GraphSAGE solved the problems of the original GCN by replacing full graph Laplacian with learnable aggregation functions, which are key to generalize to unseen nodes.
- In addition, GraphSAGE uses neighbor sampling to alleviate receptive field expansion

- Chen et. al (2018) proposed a control-variate based stochastic approximation algorithms by utilizing the historical activations of nodes as a control variate.
- This limits the receptive field in the 1-hop neighborhood, but is efficient

- Li et. al. (2018) note that GNNs requires many additional labeled data for validation and also suffers from the localized nature of the convolutional filter
- To solve the limitations, the authors propose a method to find the nearest neighbors of training data and a boosting-like method



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Application Areas





(d) text





Commonly Used Datasets

Category	Dataset	Source	# Graphs	# Nodes	# Edges	#Features	# Labels
Citation Networks	Cora	[103]	1	2708	5429	1433	7
	Citeseer	[103]	1	3327	4732	3703	6
	Pubmed	[103]	1	19717	44338	500	3
	DBLP	dblp.uni-trier.de [105](aminer.org /citation)	1	-	-	-	-
Social Networks	BlogCatalog	[107]	1	10312	333983	-	39
	Reddit	[24]	1	232965	11606919	602	41
	Epinions	www.epinions.com	1	-	-	-	-
Chemical/ Biological Graphs	PPI	[109]	24	56944	818716	50	121
	NCI-1	[110]	4100	-	-	37	2
	NCI-109	[110]	4127	-	-	38	2
	MUTAG	[111]	188	-	-	7	2
	D&D	[112]	1178	-	-	-	2
	QM9	[113]	133885	-	-	-	13
	tox21	tripod.nih.gov/ tox21/challenge/	12707	-	-	-	12
Unstruct- ured Graphs	MNIST	yann.lecun.com /exdb/mnist/	70000	-	-	-	10
	Wikipedia	www.mattmahoney .net/dc/textdata	1	4777	184812	-	40
	20NEWS	[114]	1	18846	-	-	20