

# GraphRNN: Generating Realistic Graphs with Deep Auto-regressive Models

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<https://qdata.github.io/deep2Read>

# Motivation

- Most previous generative models use a priori structural assumptions: degree distribution, community structure, etc.
- But we want to learn directly from observed set of graphs.
- Deep generative models that learn from data: VAE, GAN, etc.

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- **Complex Dependencies:** edges not independent

# GraphRNN: Method Overview

- **Task:** learn  $p_{model}(G)$  based on observed training set of graphs  $\{G_1, \dots, G_s\}$  from true  $p(G)$
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- **Method:** Autoregressive generation – a sequence of additions of new nodes and edges
- trained using stochastic gradient descent with a maximum likelihood loss



# Step 1: Model Graphs as Sequences

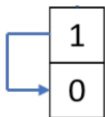
- define a mapping  $f_S$  from graphs to sequences
- for a graph  $G \sim p(G)$  with  $n$  nodes under node ordering  $\pi$

$$S^\pi = f_S(G, \pi) = (S_1^\pi, \dots, S_n^\pi), \quad (1)$$

$$S_i^\pi = (A_{1,i}^\pi, \dots, A_{i-1,i}^\pi)^T, \forall i \in \{2, \dots, n\}. \quad (2)$$



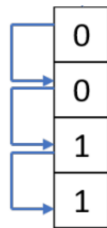
$S_2^\pi$



$S_3^\pi$



$S_4^\pi$



$S_5^\pi$

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- sequential nature of  $S^\pi$ : Sample from  $p(S^\pi)$ , can be modeled autoregressively

$$p(S^\pi) = \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} p(S_i^\pi | S_1^\pi, \dots, S_{i-1}^\pi) \quad (5)$$

## Step 2: Generation Framework (Graph Level RNN)

- $p(S_i^\pi | S_{<i}^\pi)$ : capture how current node connected to previous nodes based on how the previous nodes are connected to each other
- $p(S_i^\pi | S_{<i}^\pi)$ : using NNs to paramterize

$$h_i = f_{\text{trans}}(h_{i-1}, S_{i-1}^\pi), \quad (6)$$

$$\theta_i = f_{\text{out}}(h_i), \quad (7)$$

- $\theta_i$  specifies the distribution of next node's adjacency vector ( $S_i^\pi \sim \mathcal{P}_{\theta_i}$ ).
- $\mathcal{P}_{\theta_i}$  can be an arbitrary distribution over binary vectors.

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## Algorithm 1 GraphRNN inference algorithm

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**Input:** RNN-based transition module  $f_{trans}$ , output module  $f_{out}$ , probability distribution  $\mathcal{P}_{\theta_i}$  parameterized by  $\theta_i$ , start token SOS, end token EOS, empty graph state  $h'$

**Output:** Graph sequence  $S^\pi$

$S_1^\pi = \text{SOS}, h_1 = h', i = 1$

**repeat**

$i = i + 1$

$h_i = f_{trans}(h_{i-1}, S_{i-1}^\pi)$  {update graph state}

$\theta_i = f_{out}(h_i)$

$S_i^\pi \sim \mathcal{P}_{\theta_i}$  {sample node  $i$ 's edge connections}

**until**  $S_i^\pi$  is EOS

**Return**  $S^\pi = (S_1^\pi, \dots, S_i^\pi)$

## Step 3: Edge Level RNN

- To fully capture complex edge dependencies, decompose  $p(S_i^\pi | S_{<i}^\pi)$ :

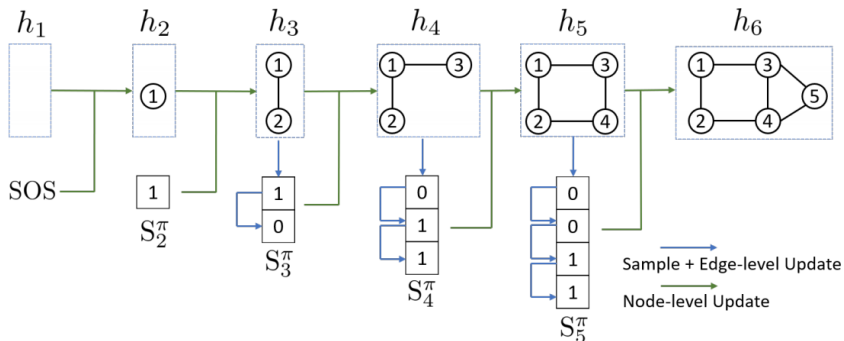
$$p(S_i^\pi | S_{<i}^\pi) = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} p(S_{i,j}^\pi | S_{i,<j}^\pi, S_{<i}^\pi), \quad (8)$$

- each distribution in the product is approximated by an RNN

# Step 3: Edge Level RNN

A Hierarchical RNN:

- Graph Level RNN: where the first RNN maintains the state of the graph
- Edge Level RNN: second RNN generates the edges of a given node.





# Tractability: Breadth First Search

- any possible node permutation  $\rightarrow$  generate graphs using breadth-first-search (BFS) node orderings

Change

$$S^\pi = f_S(G, \pi) = (S_1^\pi, \dots, S_n^\pi), \quad (9)$$

To

$$S^\pi = f_S(G, \text{BFS}(G, \pi)), \quad (10)$$

# Tractability: Breadth First Search

## Advantages:

- only need to train on all possible BFS orderings
- makes learning easier by reducing the number of edge predictions we need to make in the edgelevel RNN

# Evaluation of Generated Graphs

- requires a comparison between two sets of graphs
- based on MMD score

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MMD}^2(p||q) &= \mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim p}[k(x,y)] + \mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim q}[k(x,y)] \\ &\quad - 2\mathbb{E}_{x \sim p, y \sim q}[k(x,y)]. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

- graph distance hard to calculate: use graph statistics for distance measuring
- Use Wasserstein distance as distance metric calculator:

$$W(p, q) = \inf_{\gamma \in \Pi(p, q)} \mathbb{E}_{(x, y) \sim \gamma} [\|x - y\|], \quad (12)$$

- Proposition: The kernel function defined by  $k_W(p, q) = \exp \frac{W(p, q)}{2\sigma^2}$  induces a unique RKHS.

- **Community** 500 two-community graphs with  $60 \leq |V| \leq 160$ . Each community is generated by the (E-R) Model with  $n = |V|/2$  nodes and  $p = 0.3$ . We then add  $0.05|V|$  inter-community edges with uniform probability.
- **Grid** 100 standard 2D grid graphs with  $100 \leq |V| \leq 400$ .
- **B-A** 500 graphs with  $100 \leq |V| \leq 200$  that are generated using the BA model.
- **Protein** 918 protein graphs with  $100 \leq |V| \leq 500$ . Each protein is represented by a graph, where nodes are amino acids and two nodes are connected if they are less than 6 Angstroms apart.
- **Ego** 757 3-hop ego networks extracted from the Citeseer network with  $50 \leq |V| \leq 399$

# Quantitative Results: Evaluation with graph statistics

Table 1. Comparison of GraphRNN to traditional graph generative models using MMD. ( $\max(|V|)$ ,  $\max(|E|)$ ) of each dataset is shown.

	Community (160,1945)			Ego (399,1071)			Grid (361,684)			Protein (500,1575)		
	Deg.	Clus.	Orbit	Deg.	Clus.	Orbit	Deg.	Clus.	Orbit	Deg.	Clus.	Orbit
E-R	0.021	1.243	0.049	0.508	1.288	0.232	1.011	0.018	0.900	0.145	1.779	1.135
B-A	0.268	0.322	0.047	0.275	0.973	0.095	1.860	0	0.720	1.401	1.706	0.920
Kronecker	0.259	1.685	0.069	0.108	0.975	0.052	1.074	0.008	0.080	0.084	0.441	0.288
MMSB	0.166	1.59	0.054	0.304	0.245	0.048	1.881	0.131	1.239	0.236	0.495	0.775
GraphRNN-S	0.055	0.016	0.041	0.090	<b>0.006</b>	0.043	0.029	$10^{-5}$	0.011	0.057	<b>0.102</b>	<b>0.037</b>
GraphRNN	<b>0.014</b>	<b>0.002</b>	<b>0.039</b>	<b>0.077</b>	0.316	<b>0.030</b>	$10^{-5}$	<b>0</b>	$10^{-4}$	<b>0.034</b>	0.935	0.217

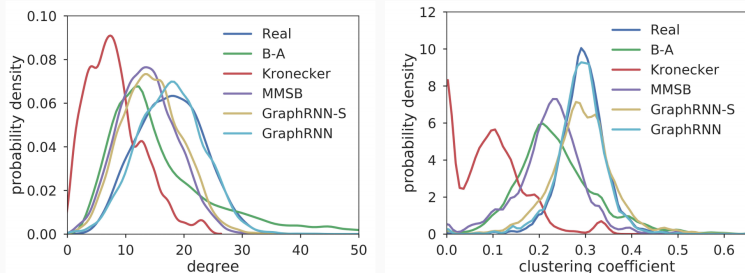
Figure: . Comparison of GraphRNN to traditional graph generative models using MMD.

# Quantitative Results: Evaluation with graph statistics

	Community-small (20,83)					Ego-small (18,69)				
	Degree	Clustering	Orbit	Train NLL	Test NLL	Degree	Clustering	Orbit	Train NLL	Test NLL
GraphVAE	0.35	0.98	0.54	13.55	25.48	0.13	0.17	0.05	12.45	14.28
DeepGMG	0.22	0.95	0.40	106.09	112.19	0.04	0.10	0.02	21.17	22.40
GraphRNN-S	<b>0.02</b>	0.15	<b>0.01</b>	31.24	35.94	0.002	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.0009</b>	8.51	9.88
GraphRNN	0.03	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.01</b>	28.95	35.10	<b>0.0003</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.0009</b>	9.05	10.61

Figure: . Comparison of GraphRNN to traditional graph generative models using MMD.

# Quantitative Results: Graph Statistics



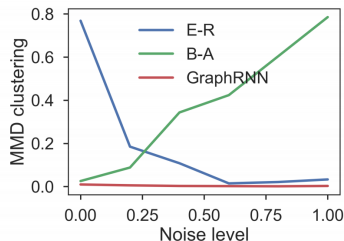
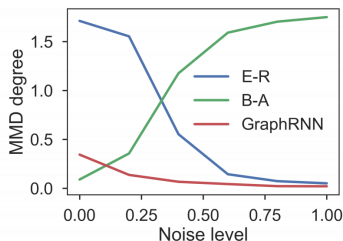
**Figure 3:** Average degree (Left) and clustering coefficient (Right) distributions of graphs from test set and graphs generated by GraphRNN and baseline models.

# Quantitative Results: Robustness

Interpolate between (B-A) and (E-R) graphs

Randomly perturb [0%, 20%, ..., 100%] edges of B-A graphs

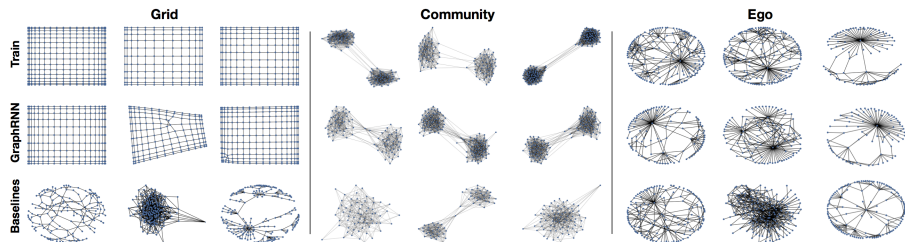
0% (B-A)  $\longleftrightarrow$  100% (E-R)



**Figure 4:** MMD performance of different approaches on degree (Left) and clustering coefficient (Right) under different noise level.



# Graph Visualization



**Figure:** Visualization of graphs from grid dataset (Left group), community dataset (Middle group) and Ego dataset (Right group).

# Conclusion

- Autoregressive way to generate graph sequences
- can generate variable sized graphs
- generates the adjacency matrix of a graph by generating the adjacency vector of each node step by step