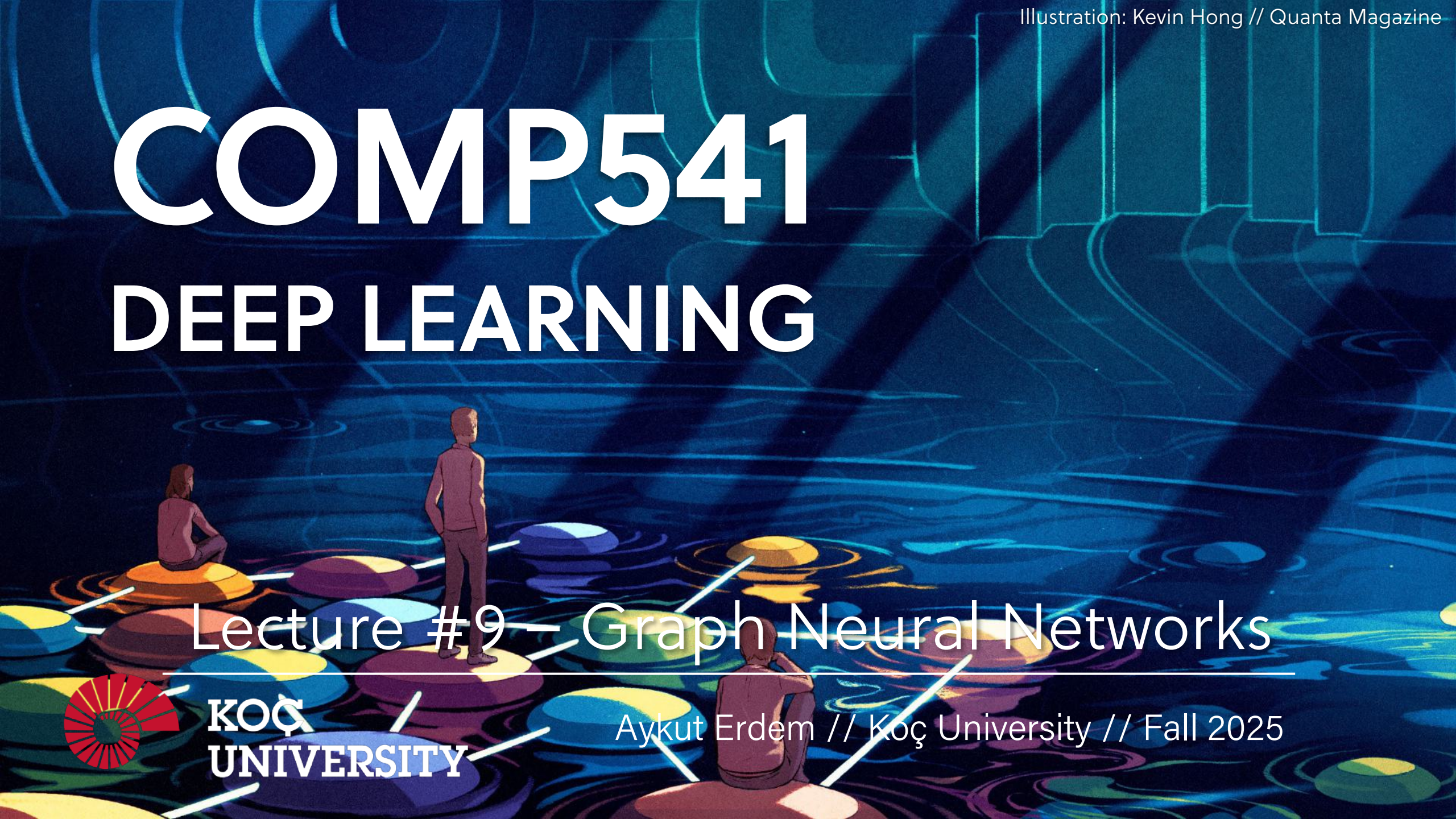


COMP541

DEEP LEARNING

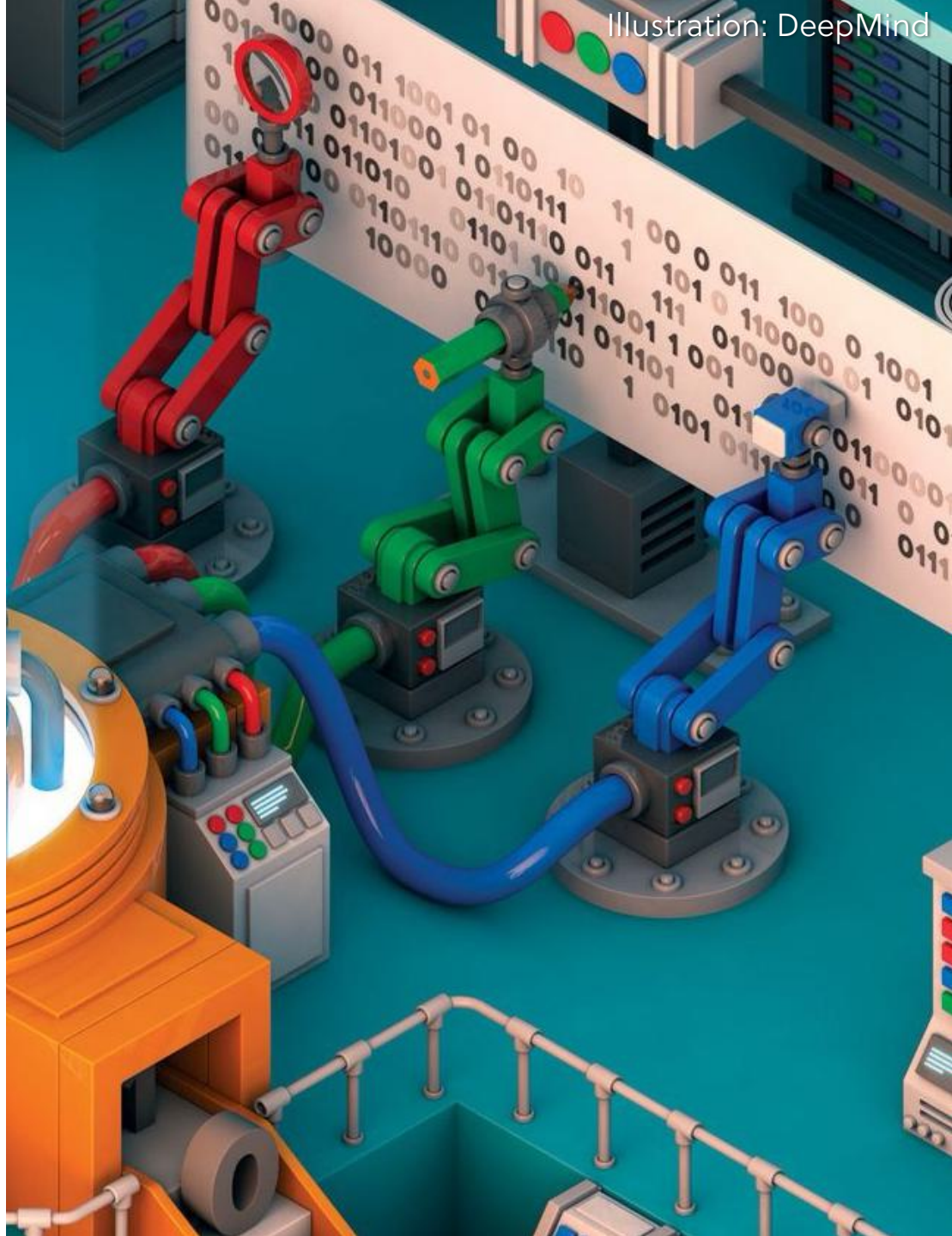
Lecture #9 – Graph Neural Networks

KOÇ UNIVERSITY

Aykut Erdem // Koç University // Fall 2025

Previously on COMP541

- content-based attention
- location-based attention
- soft vs. hard attention
- case study: Show, Attend and Tell
- self-attention
- case study: Transformer networks



Lecture overview

- graph structured data
- graph neural nets (GNNs)
- GNNs for ”classical” network problems

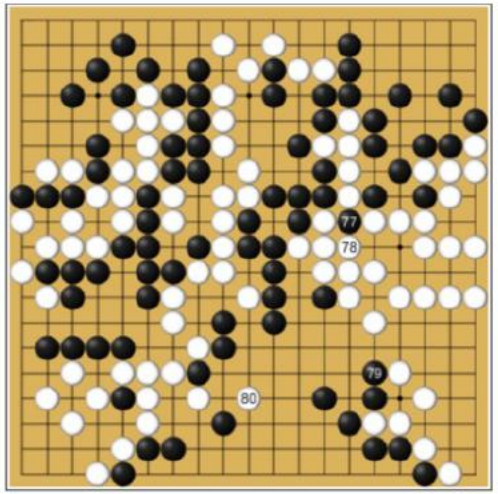
- **Disclaimer:** Much of the material and slides for this lecture were borrowed from
  —Yujia Li and Oriol Vinyals' tutorial on Graph Nets
  —Thomas Kipf’s talk on structured deep models: deep Learning on graphs and beyond
  —Minji Yoon’s CMU 10707 slides

Deep Learning

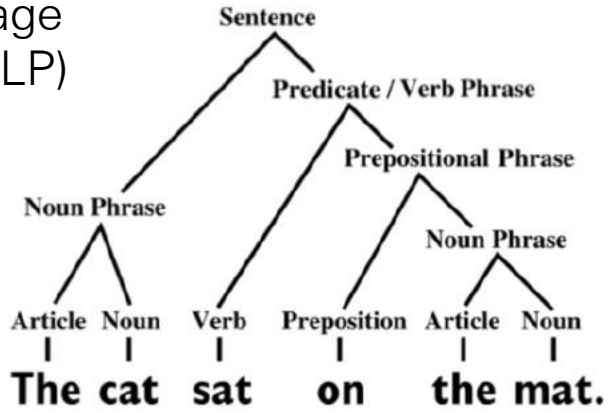
IMAGENET

Speech data

Grid games



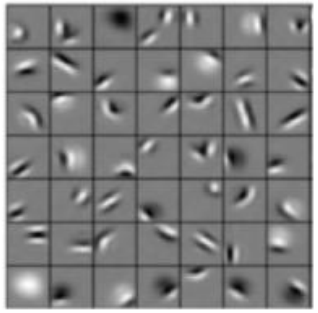
Natural language processing (NLP)

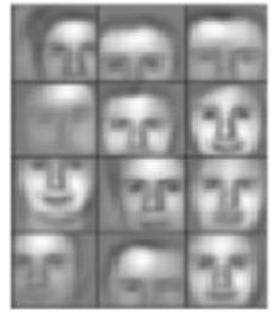


...

Deep neural nets that exploit:

- translation equivariance (weight sharing)
- hierarchical compositionality

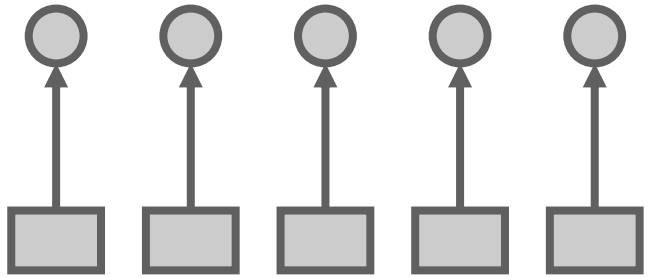




Modeling Structured Data

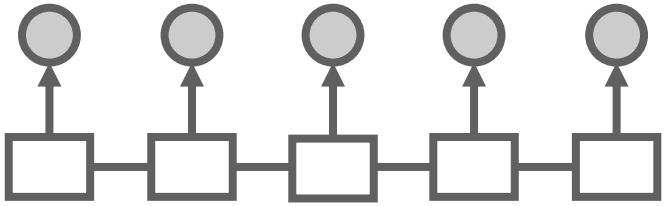
Unstructured Data

output

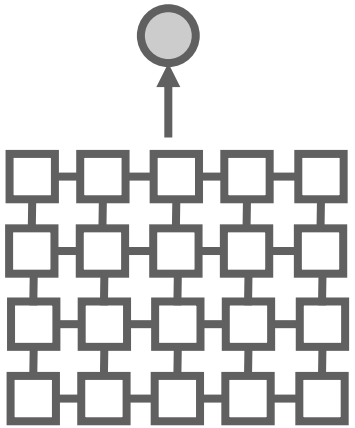


Data with Rigid Structure

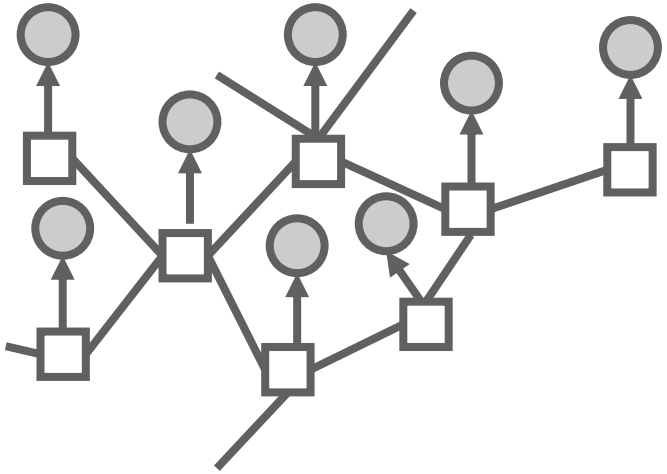
sequences



visual data



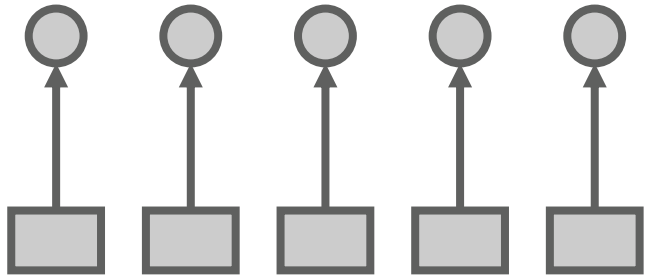
Graph Structured Data



Modeling Structured Data

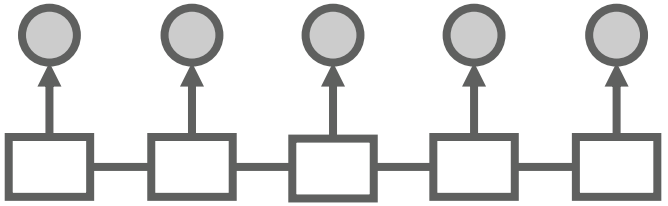
Unstructured Data

output

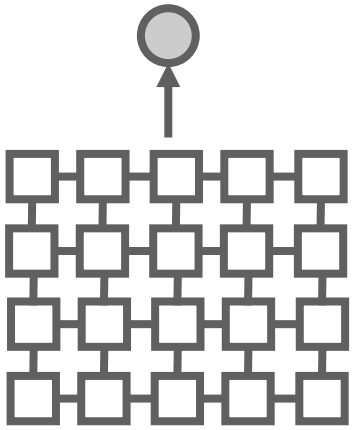


Data with Rigid Structure

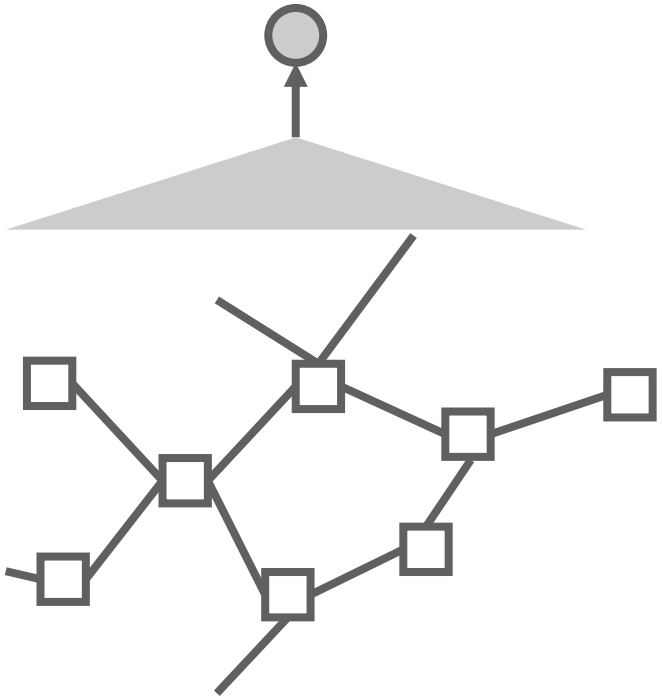
sequences



visual data



Graph Structured Data

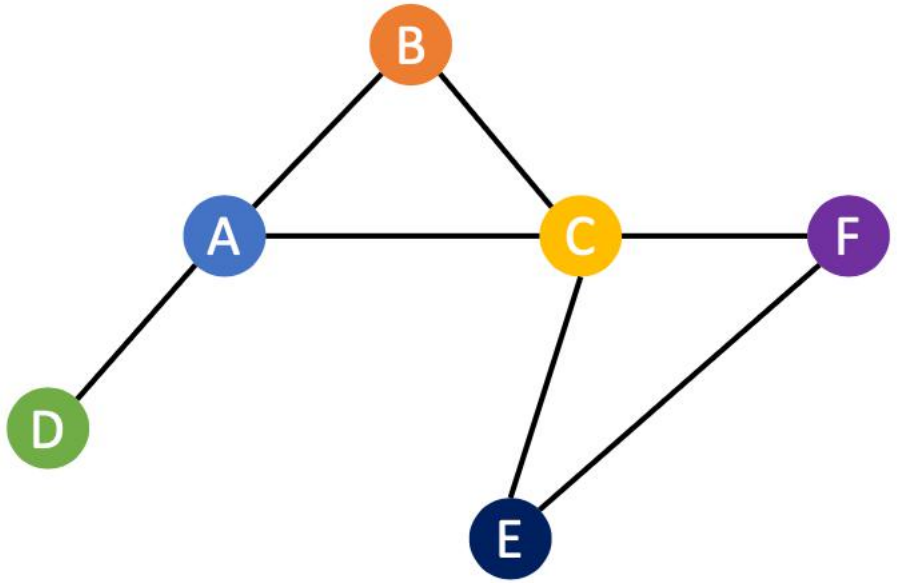


What is a graph

- A graph is composed of
  - **Nodes** (also called vertices)
  - **Edges** connecting a pair of nodes

  presented in an **adjacency matrix**

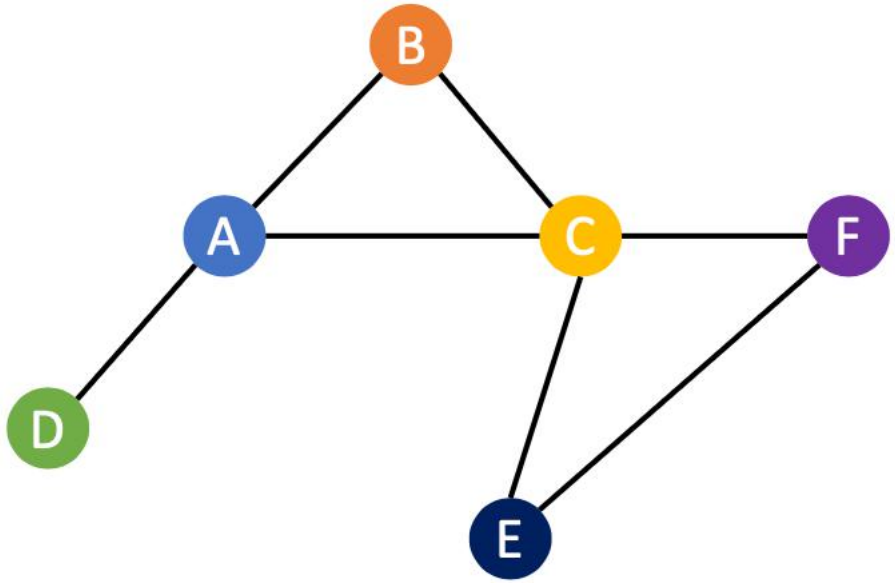
	A	B	C	D	E	F
A		1	1	1		
B	1		1			
C	1	1			1	1
D	1					
E			1			1
F			1		1	



What is a graph

- A graph is composed of
  - **Nodes** (also called vertices)
  - **Edges** connecting a pair of nodes

  presented in an **adjacency matrix**
- Nodes can have **feature vectors**

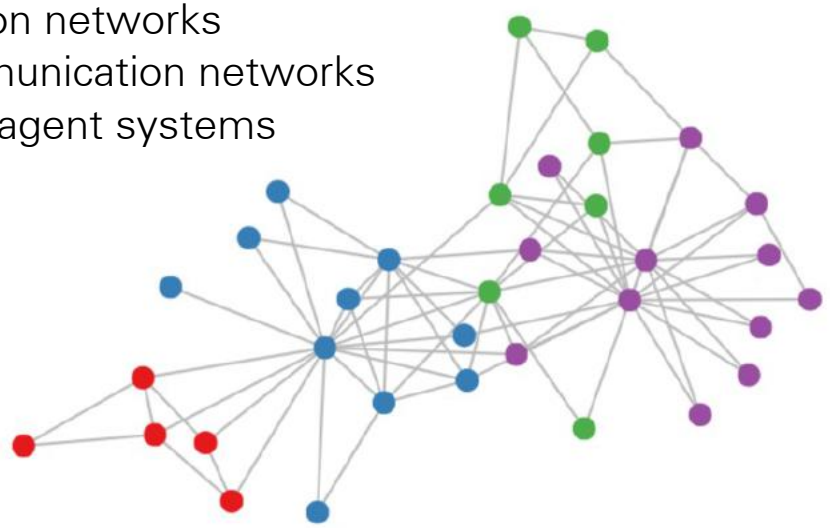


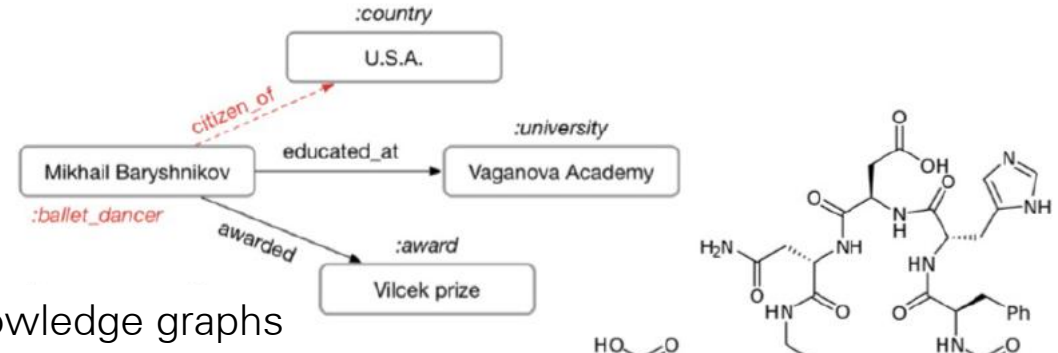
A	X_A
B	X_B
C	X_C
D	X_D
E	X_E
F	X_F

Graph structured data

- A lot of real-world data does not "live" on grids

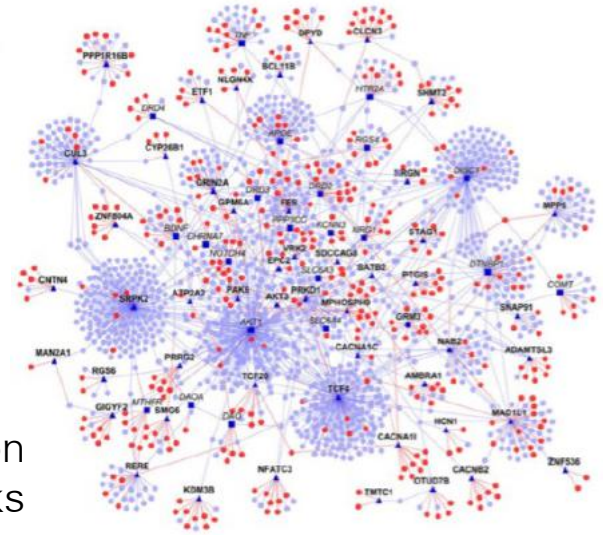
Social networks
Citation networks
Communication networks
Multi-agent systems



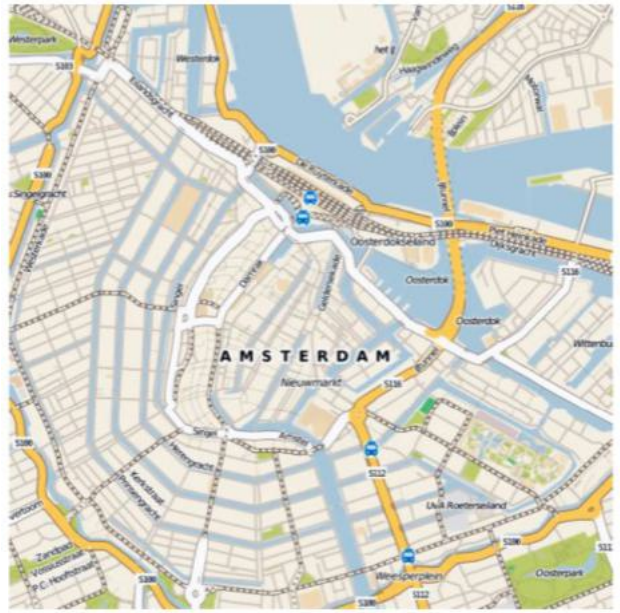


Knowledge graphs

Molecules



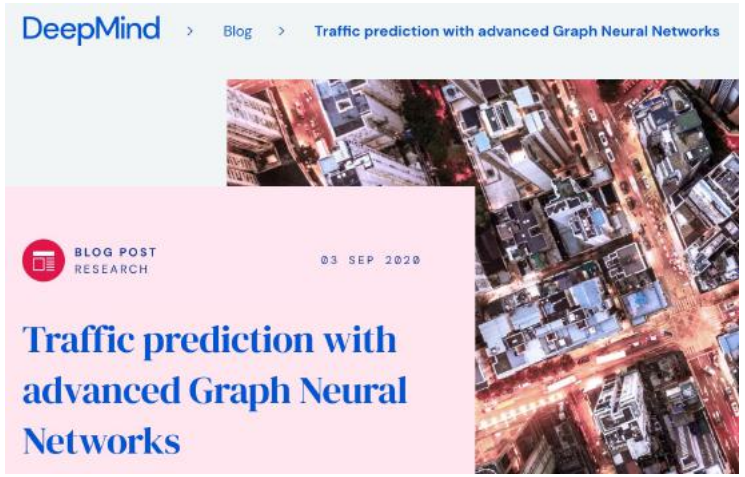
Protein interaction networks

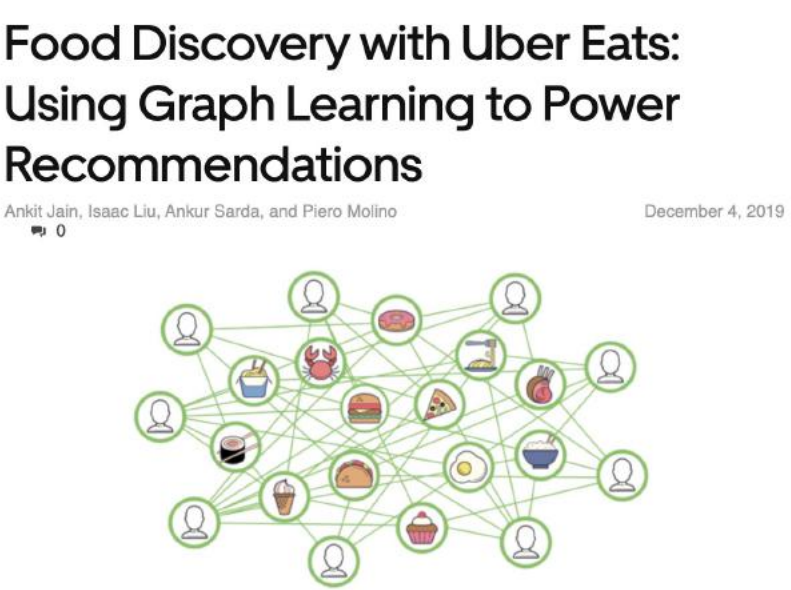


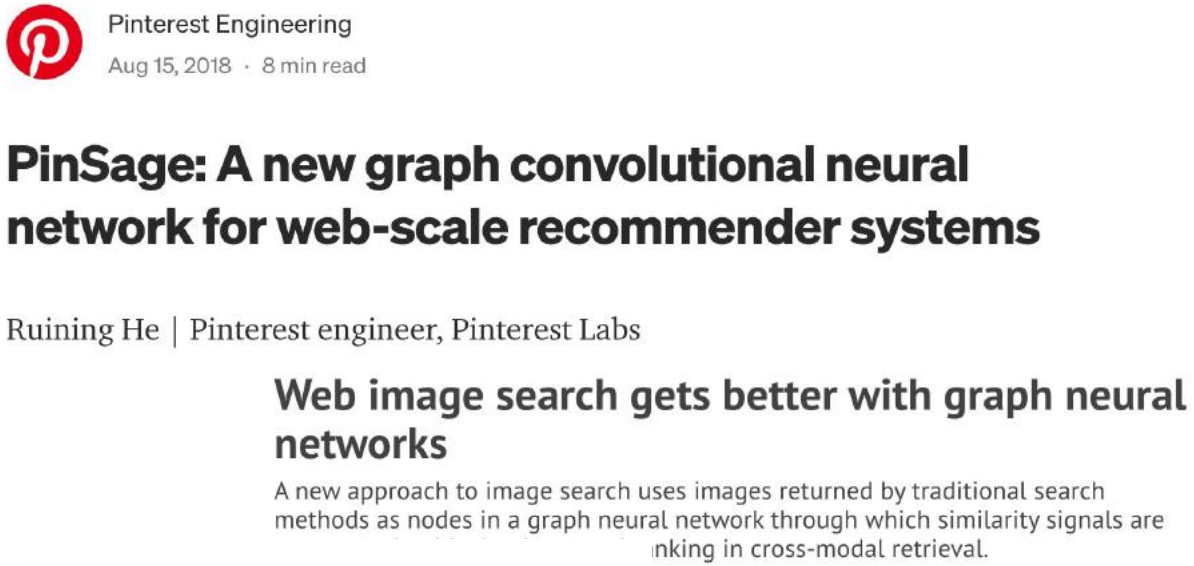
Road maps

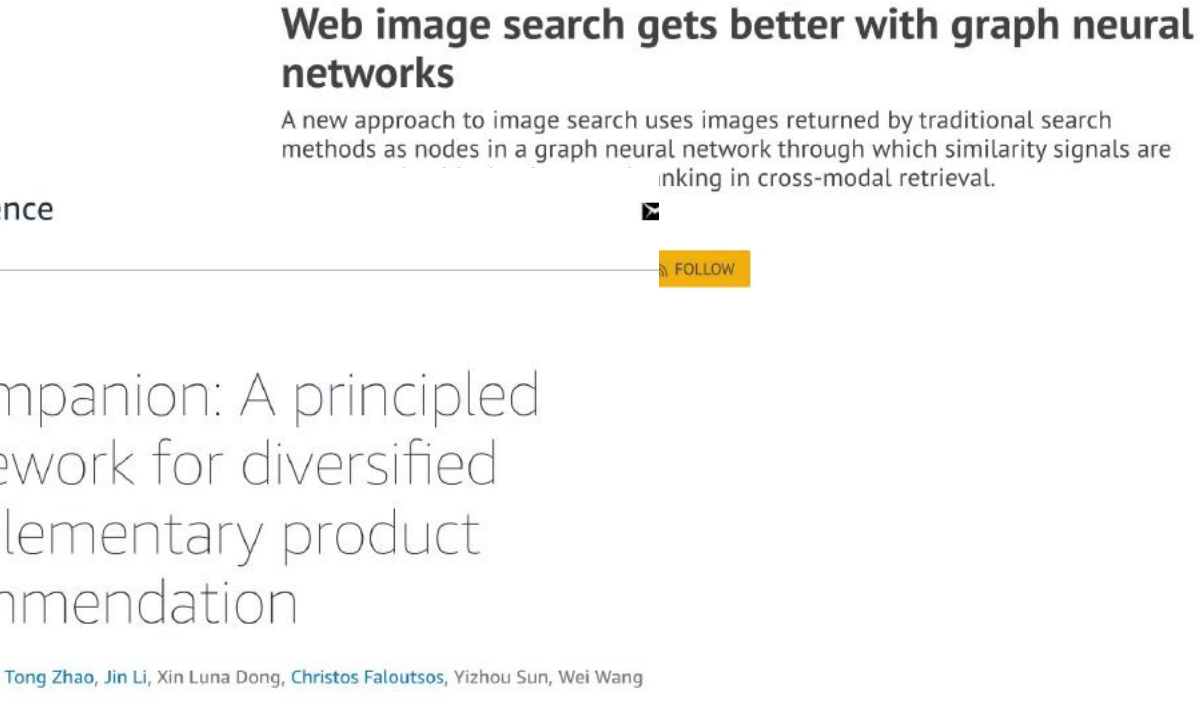
Standard deep learning architectures like CNNs and RNNs don't work here!

Graph Neural Networks have a large impact on…

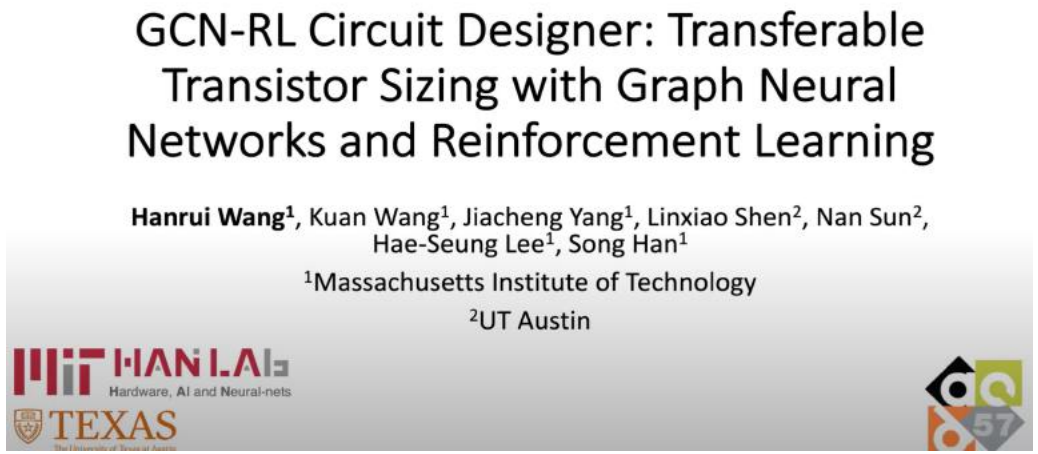


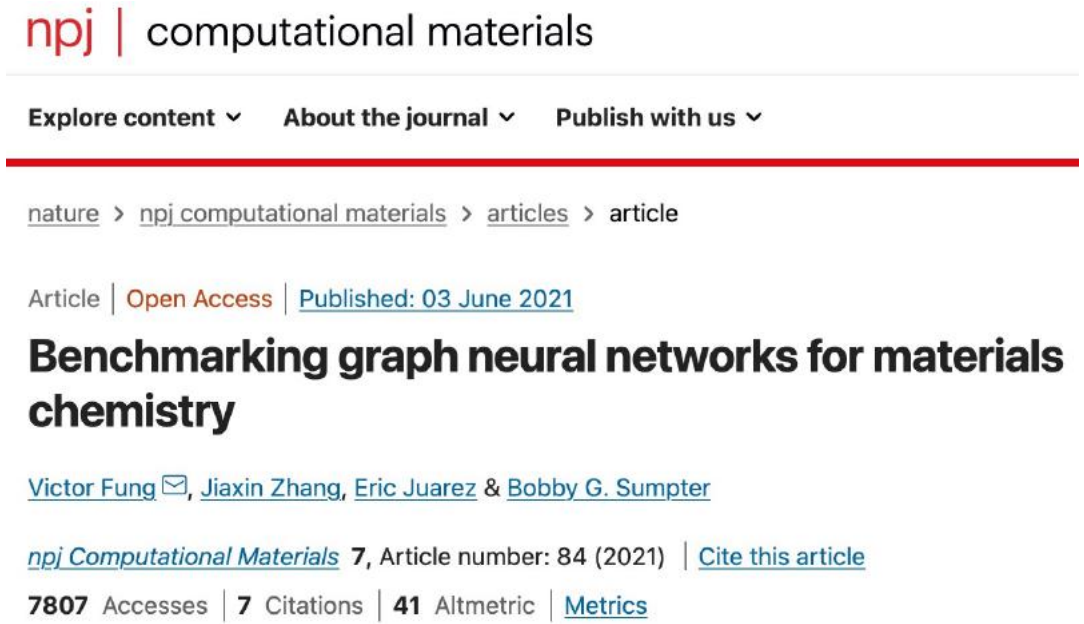






Graph Neural Networks have a large impact on…





Graph Neural Networks have a large impact on...

nature

Explore content ▾ About the journal ▾ Publish with us ▾ Subscribe

nature › news › article

NEWS | 01 December 2021

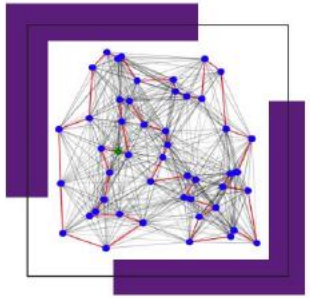
DeepMind's AI helps untangle the mathematics of knots

The machine-learning techniques could benefit other areas of maths that involve large data sets.

ipam institute for pure & applied mathematics

Deep Learning and Combinatorial Optimization

February 22 - 25, 2021



Patterns

CellPress
OPEN ACCESS

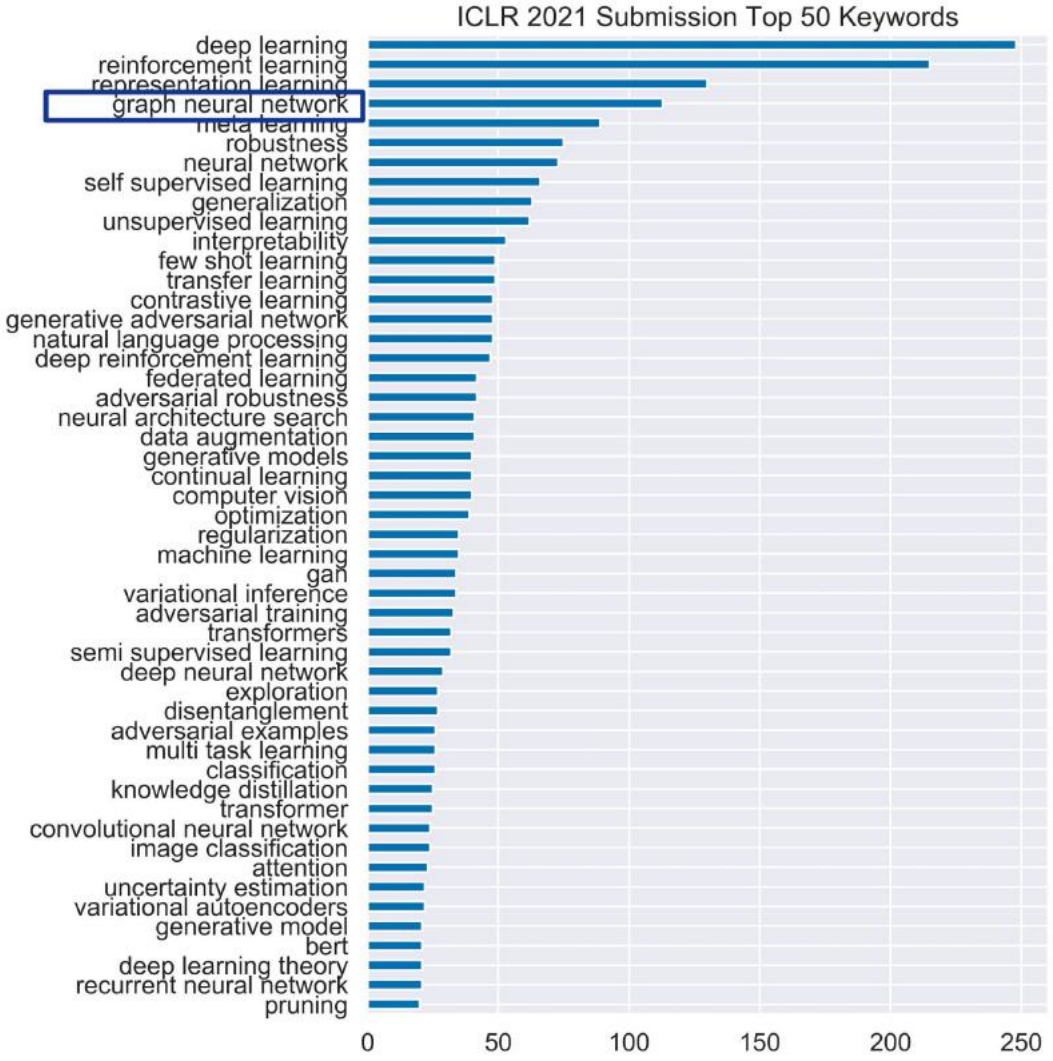
Opinion

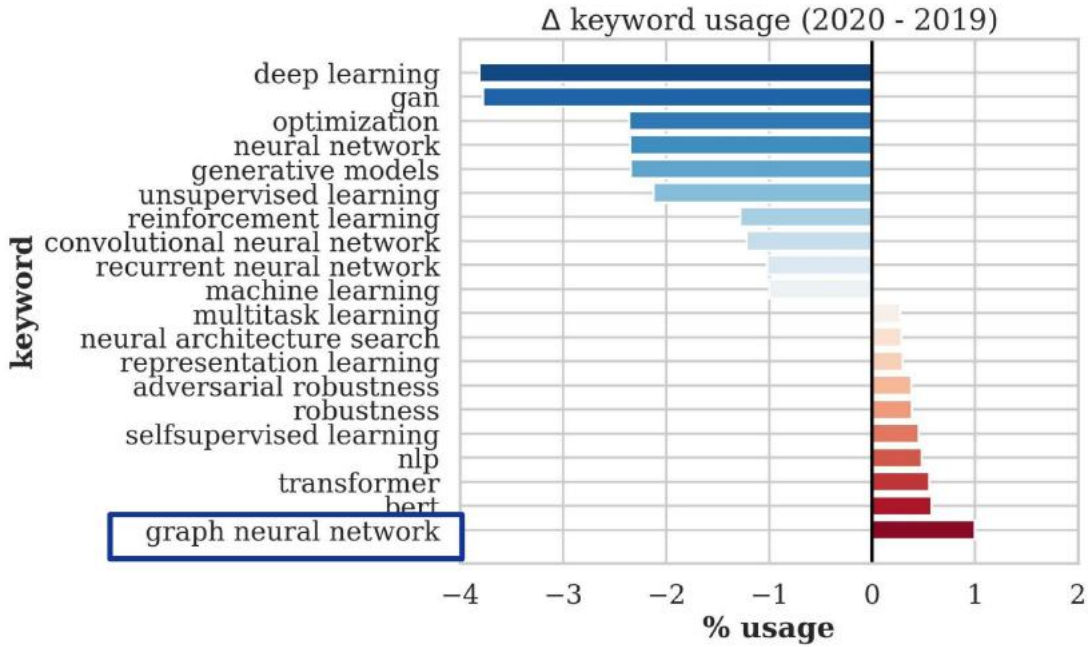
Neural algorithmic reasoning

Petar Veličković[1,*] and Charles Blundell[1]
[1]DeepMind, London, Greater London, UK
*Correspondence: petarv@google.com
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.patter.2021.100273

We present neural algorithmic reasoning—the art of building neural networks that are able to execute algorithmic computation—and provide our opinion on its transformative potential for running classical algorithms on inputs previously considered inaccessible to them.

A very hot research topic





Slide credit: P. Veličković

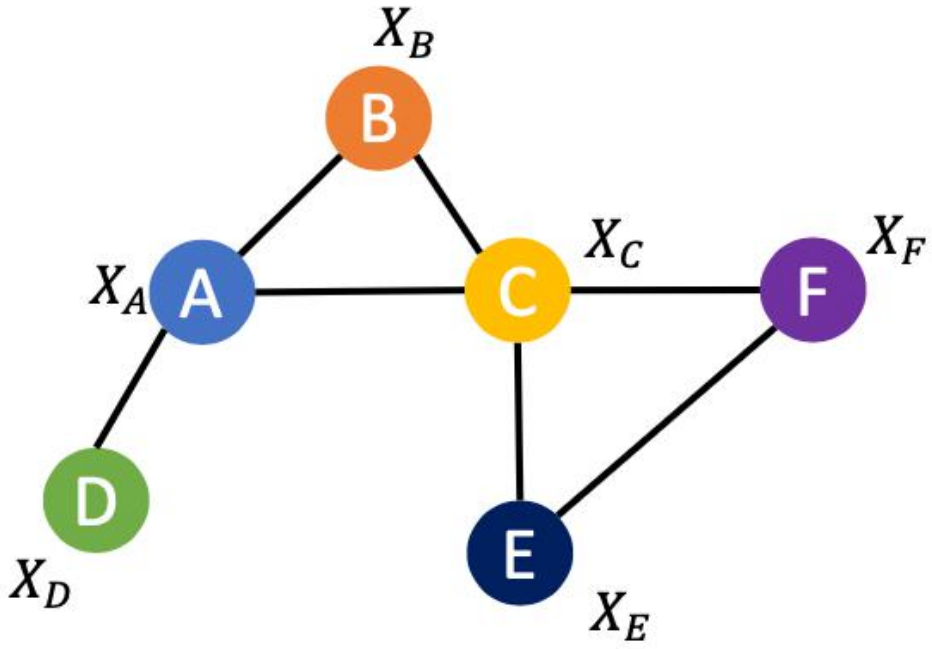
Recipe for a good model for graphs

- Handle different types of graph prediction problems
  Requires: **Representations for graphs, nodes and edges**
- Handle graphs of varying sizes and structure
  Requires: **A parametrization independent of graph size and structure**
- Handle arbitrary node ordering
  Requires: **A model invariant to node permutations**
- Utilize graph structure
  Requires: **A mechanism to communicate information on graphs**

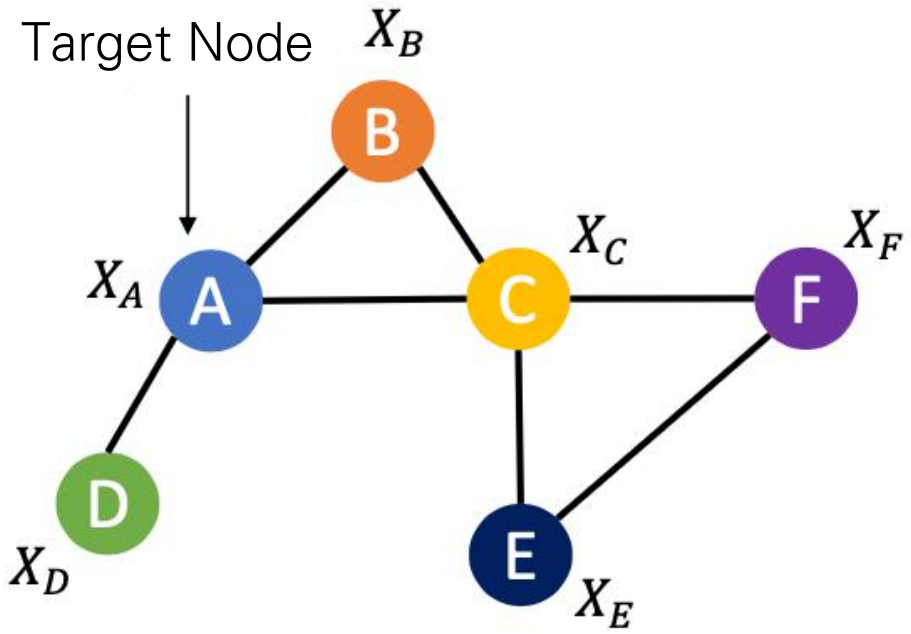
What is Graph Neural Network?

Problem definition

- Given
  - A graph
  - Node attributes
  - (part of nodes are labeled)
- Find
  - Node embeddings
- Predict
  - Labels for the remaining nodes

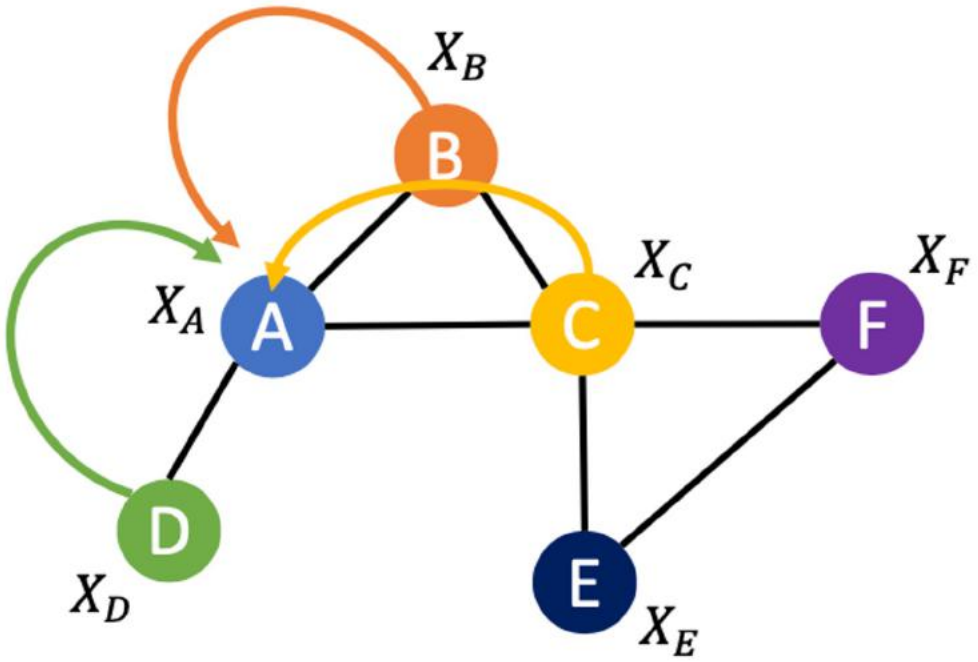


Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



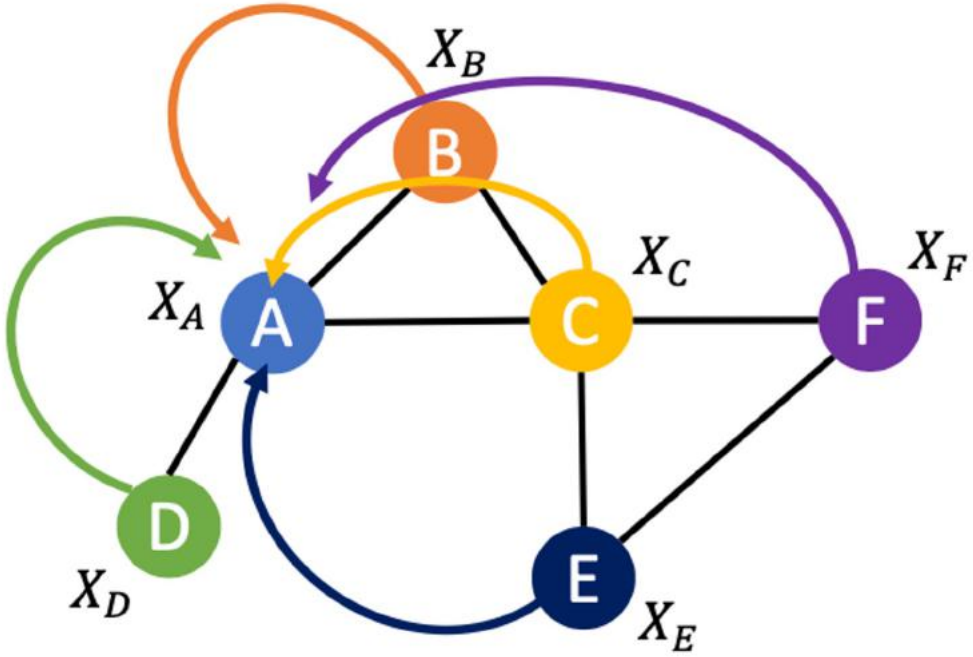
"Homophily: connected nodes are related/informative/similar"

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



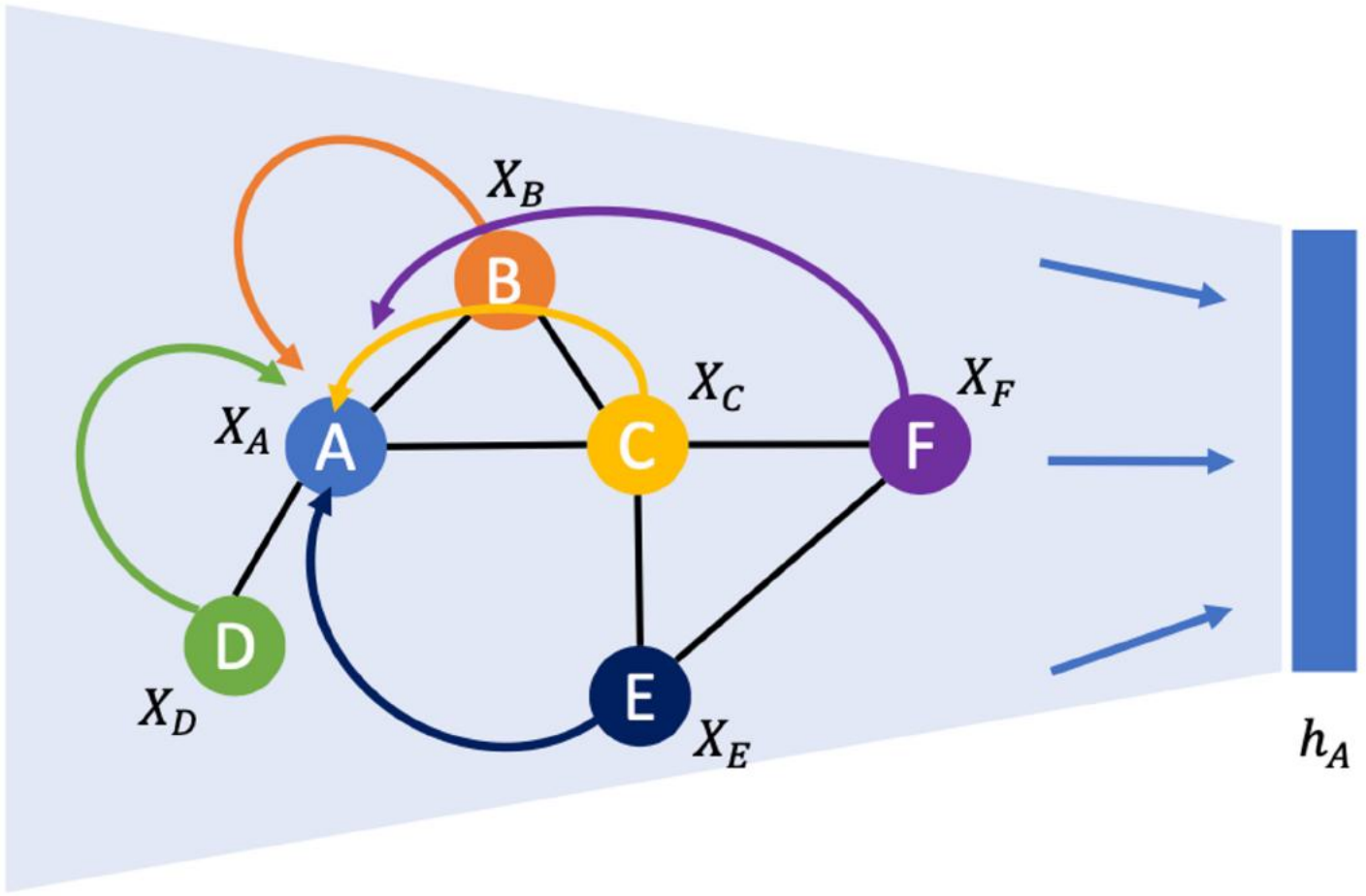
"Homophily: connected nodes are related/informative/similar"

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

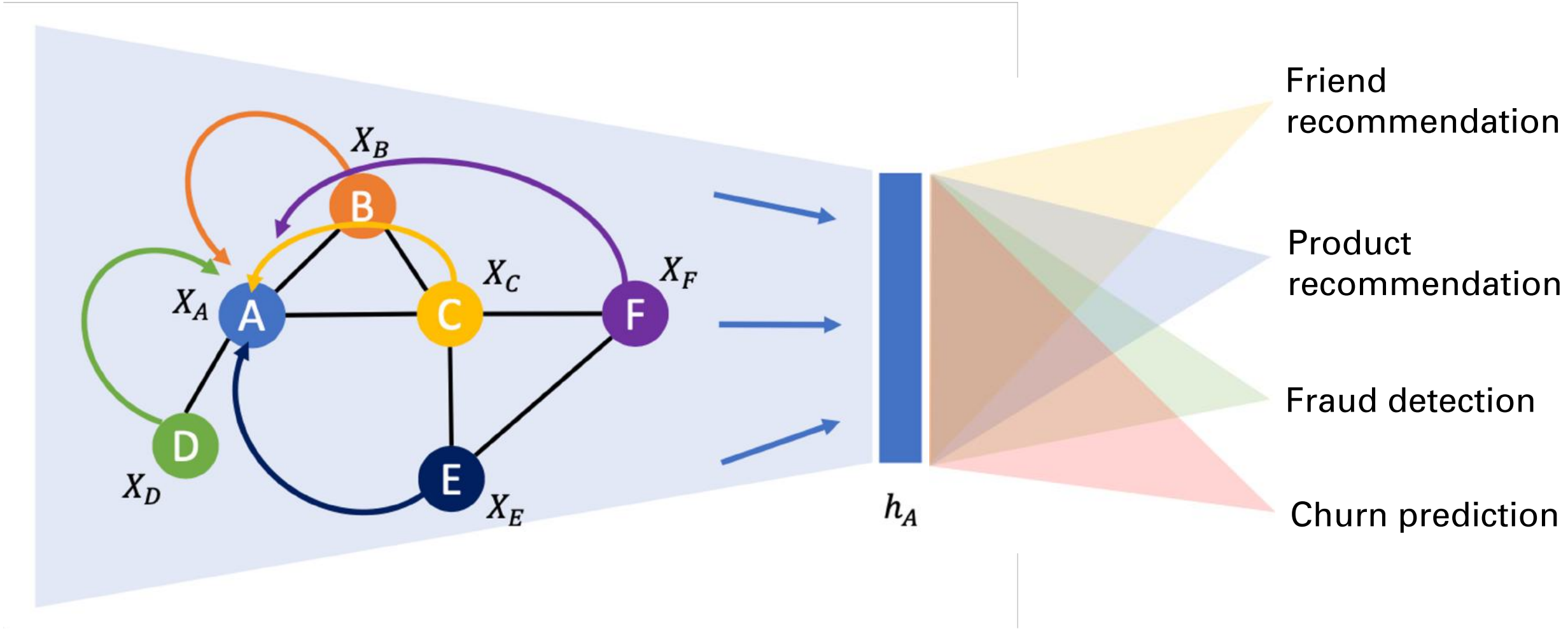


"Homophily: connected nodes are related/informative/similar"

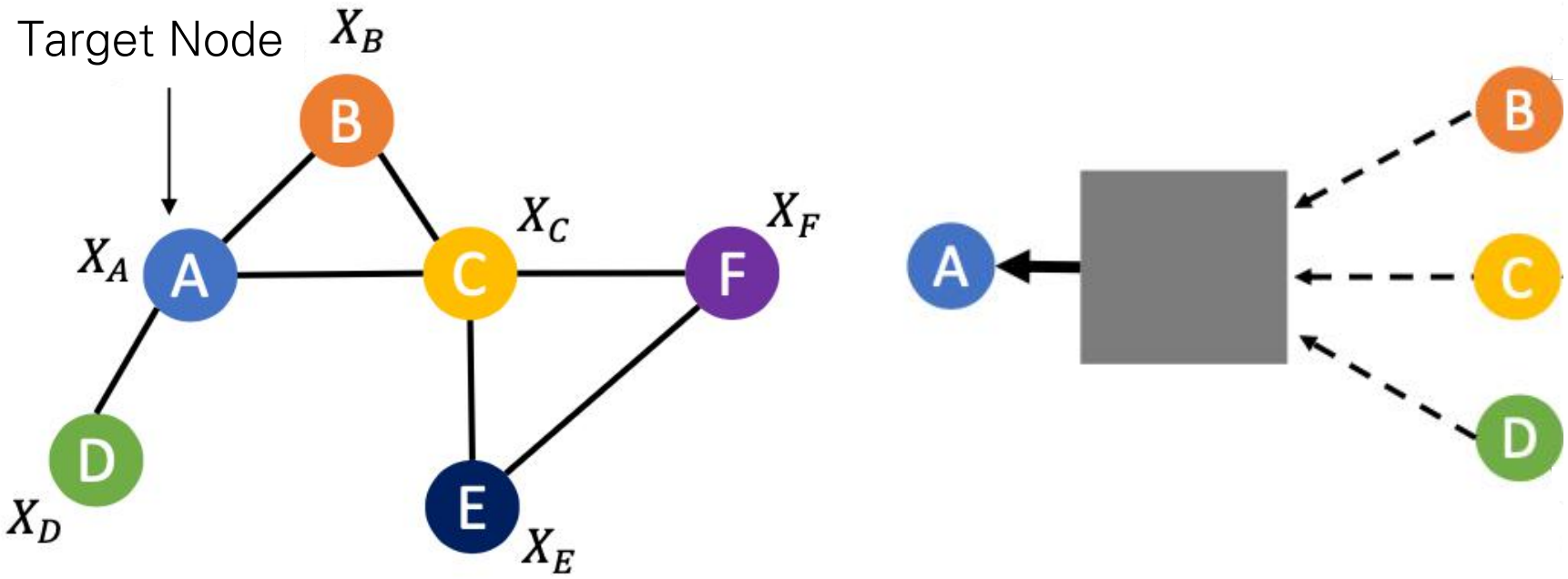
Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



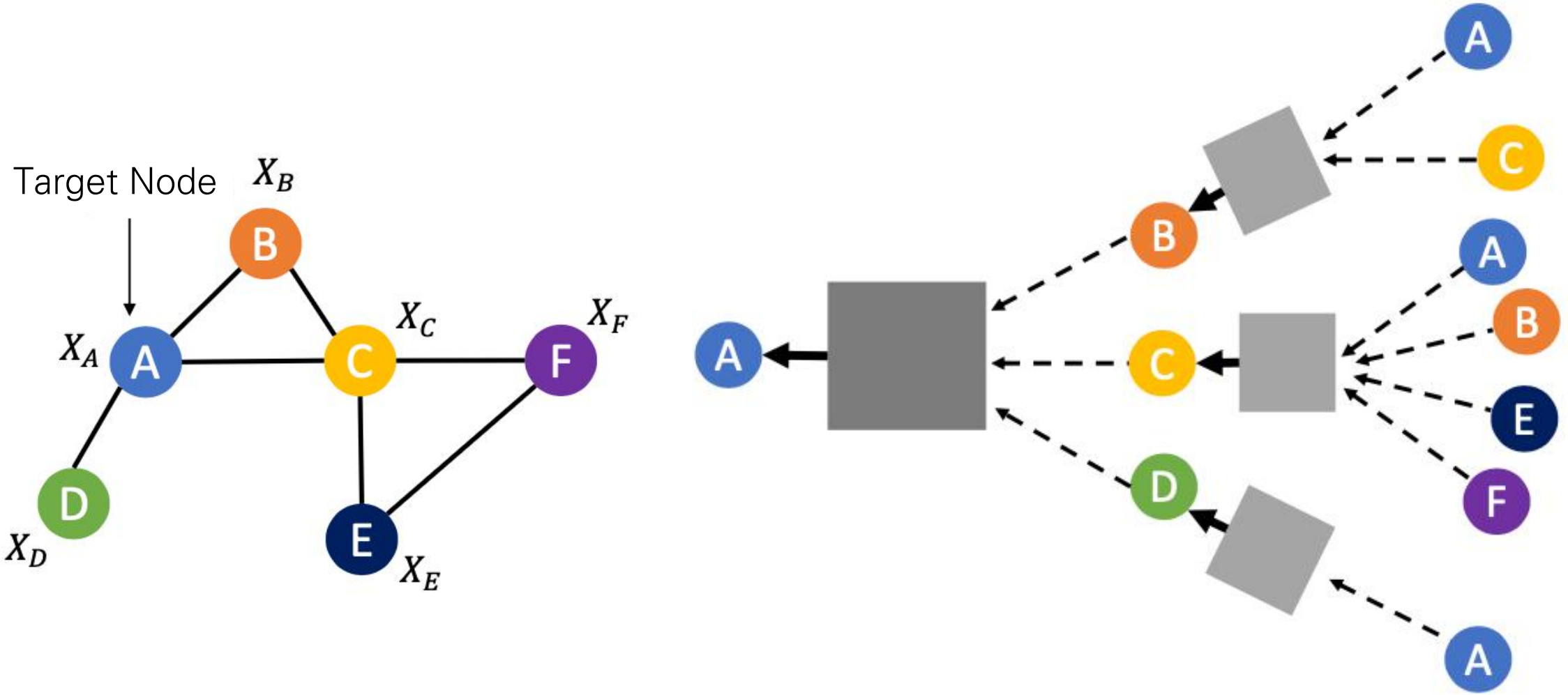
Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



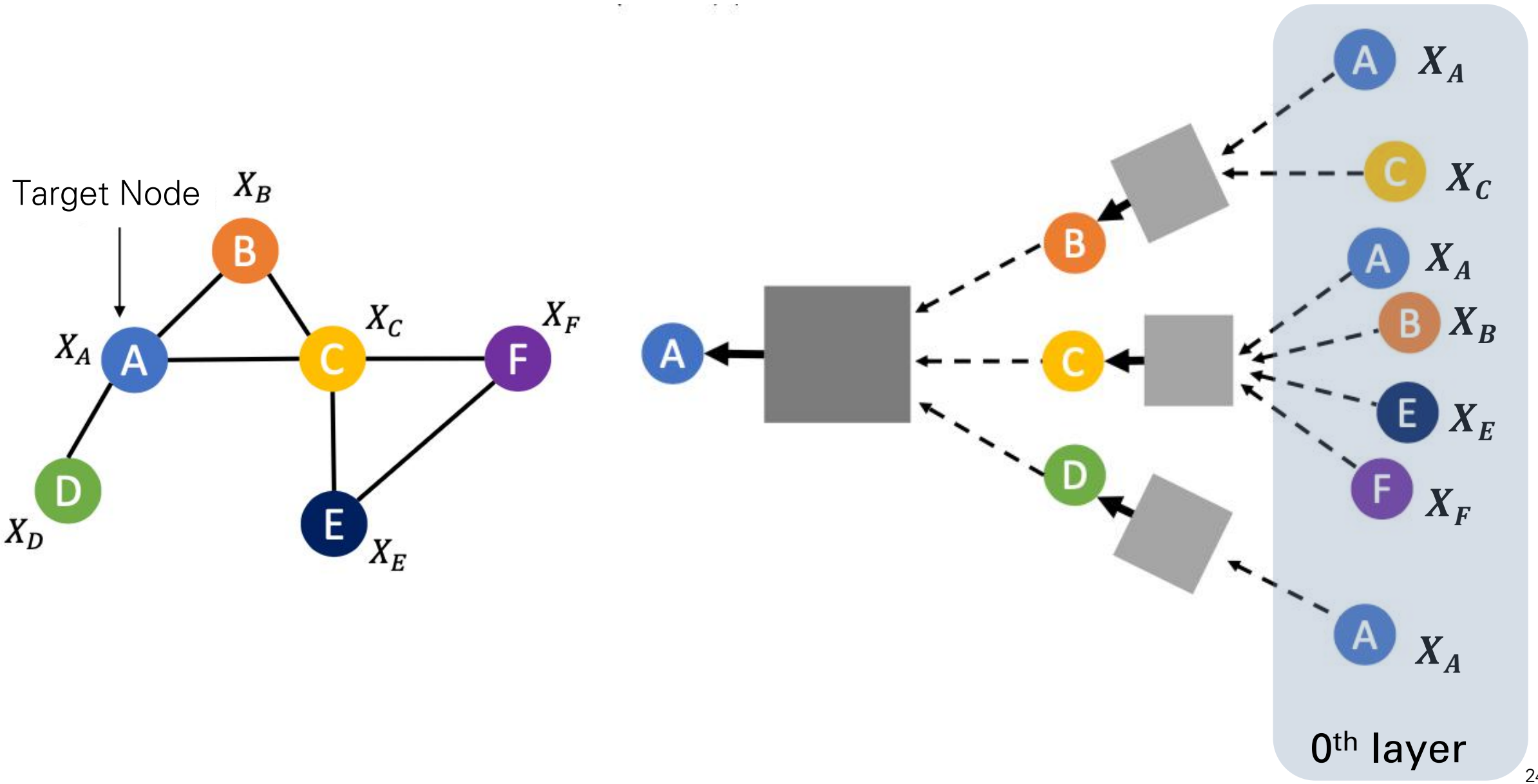
Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



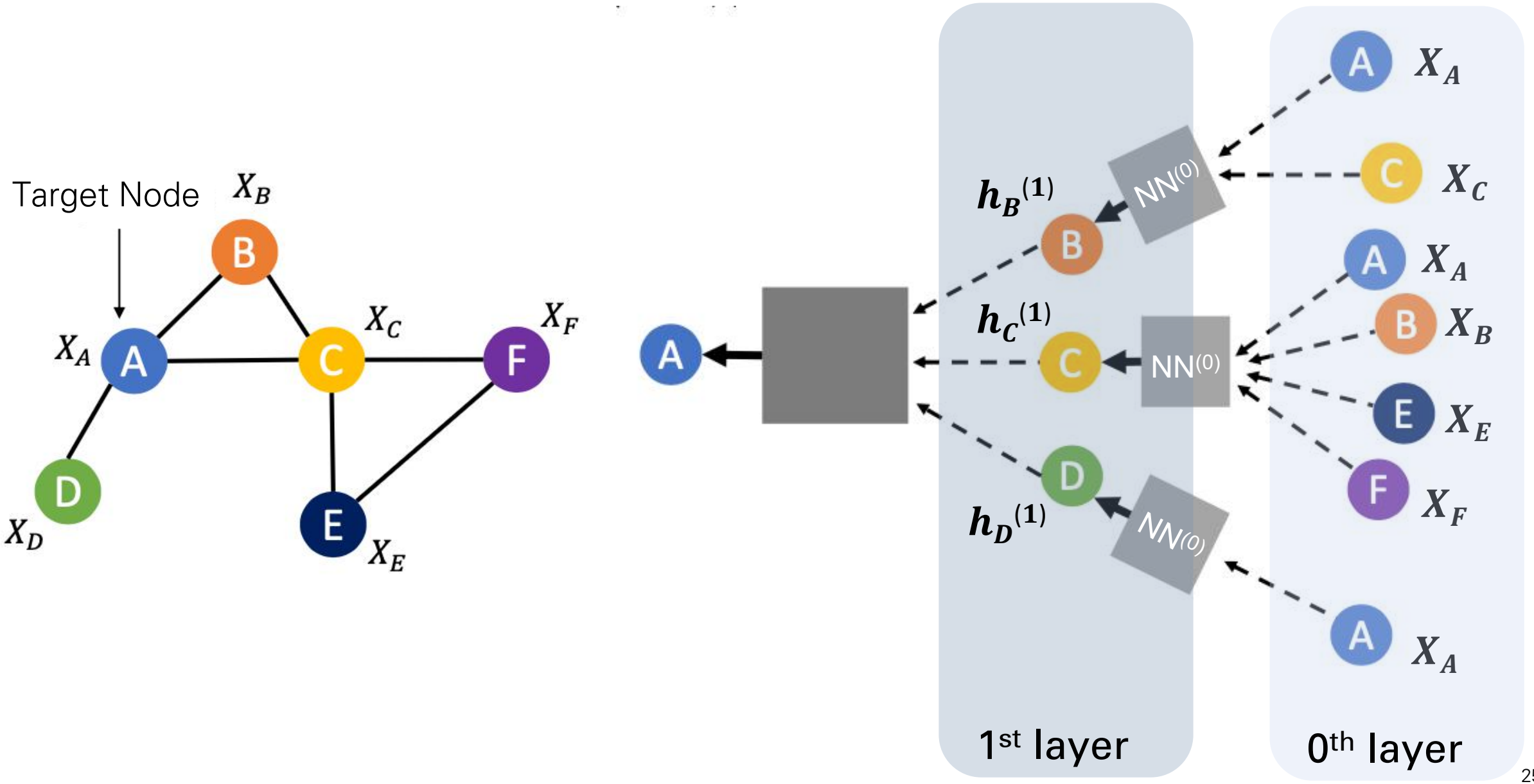
Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



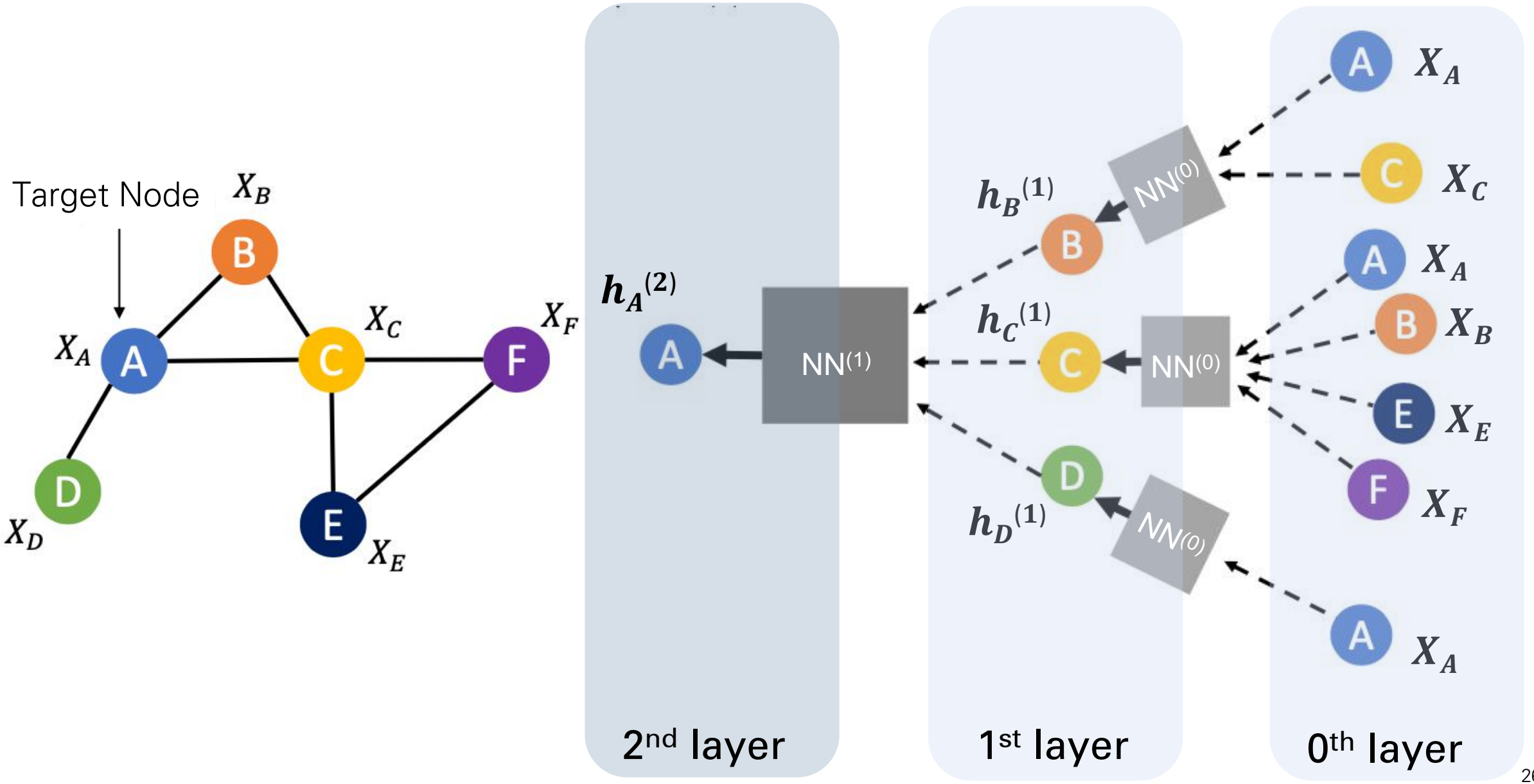
Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

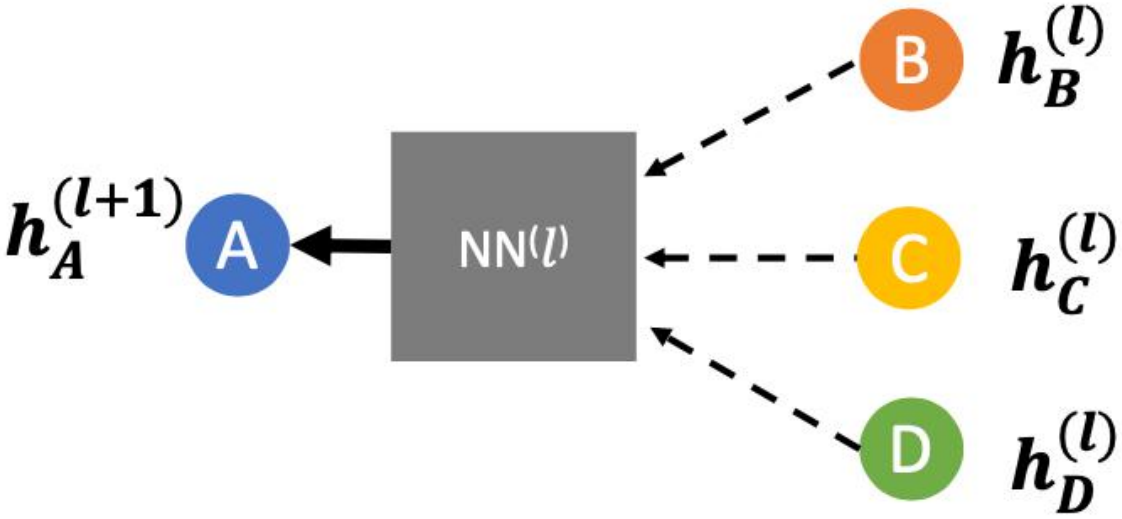


Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

1. Aggregate messages from neighbors

$h_v^{(l)}$: node embedding of v at l-th layer
$\mathcal{N}(v)$: neighboring nodes of v
$f^{(l)}$: aggregation function at l-th layer
$m_v^{(l)}$: message vector of v at l-th layer

$$m_A^{(l)} = f^{(l)}\left(h_A^{(l)}, \left\{h_u^{(l)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(A)\right\}\right)$$
$$= f^{(l)}\left(h_A^{(l)}, h_B^{(l)} h_C^{(l)} h_D^{(l)}\right)$$



Neighbors of node A

$$\mathcal{N}(A) = \{B, C, D\}$$

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

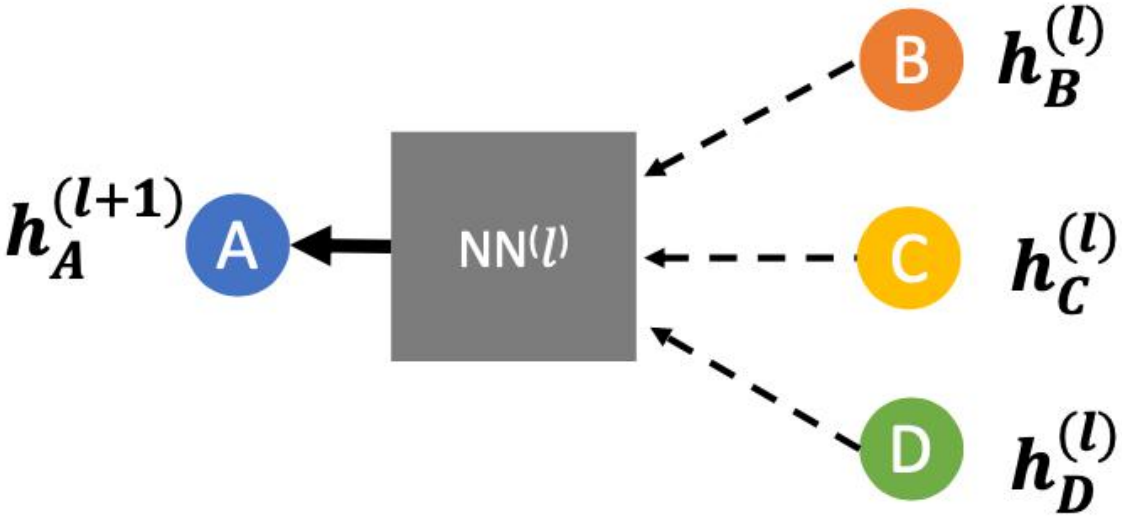
1. Aggregate messages from neighbors

$$m_A^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_A^{(l)}, \left\{h_u^{(l)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(A)\right\}\right)$$
$$= \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_A^{(l)}, h_B^{(l)} h_C^{(l)} h_D^{(l)}\right)$$

2. Transform messages

$\boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}$: transformation function at l-th layer

$h_A^{(l+1)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}(m_A^{(l)})$



Neighbors of node A

$\mathcal{N}(A) = \{B, C, D\}$

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

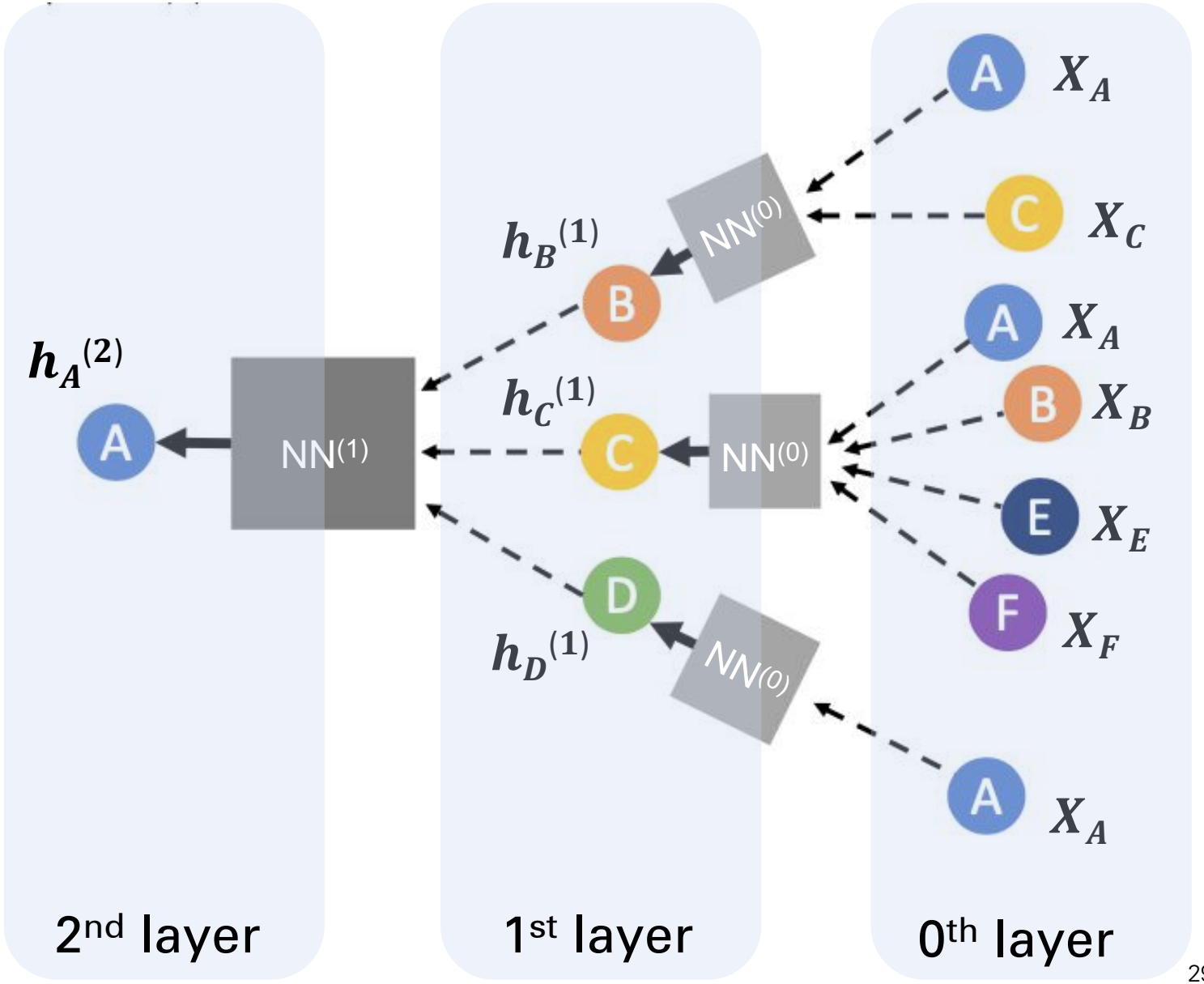
In each layer l ,
for each target node v:

1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_v^{(l)}, \left\{h_u^{(l)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\right\}\right)$$

2. Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}(m_v^{(l)})$$



Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

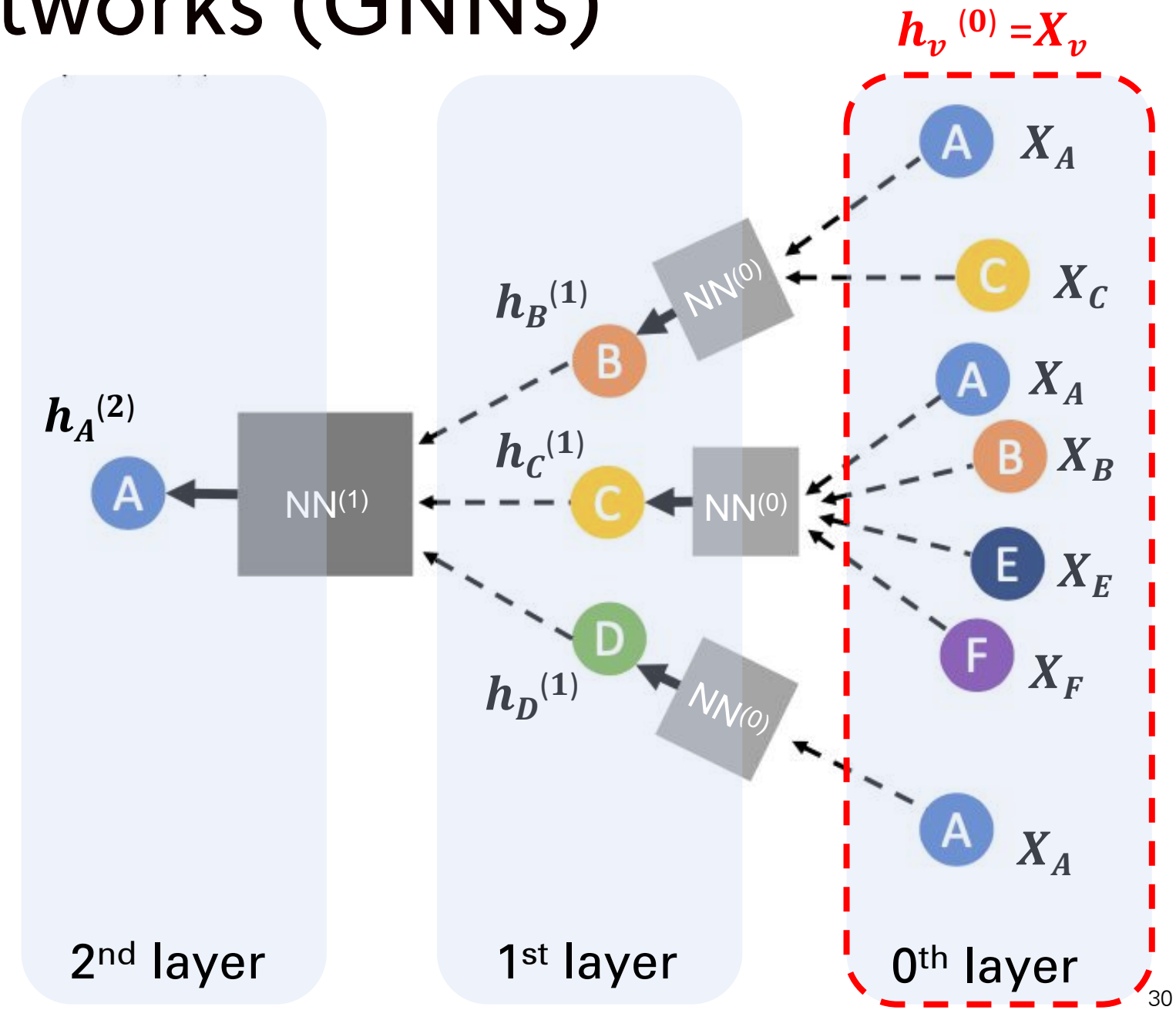
In each layer l ,
for each target node v:

1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_v^{(l)}, \left\{h_u^{(l)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\right\}\right)$$

2. Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}(m_v^{(l)})$$



Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

In each layer l ,
for each target node v:

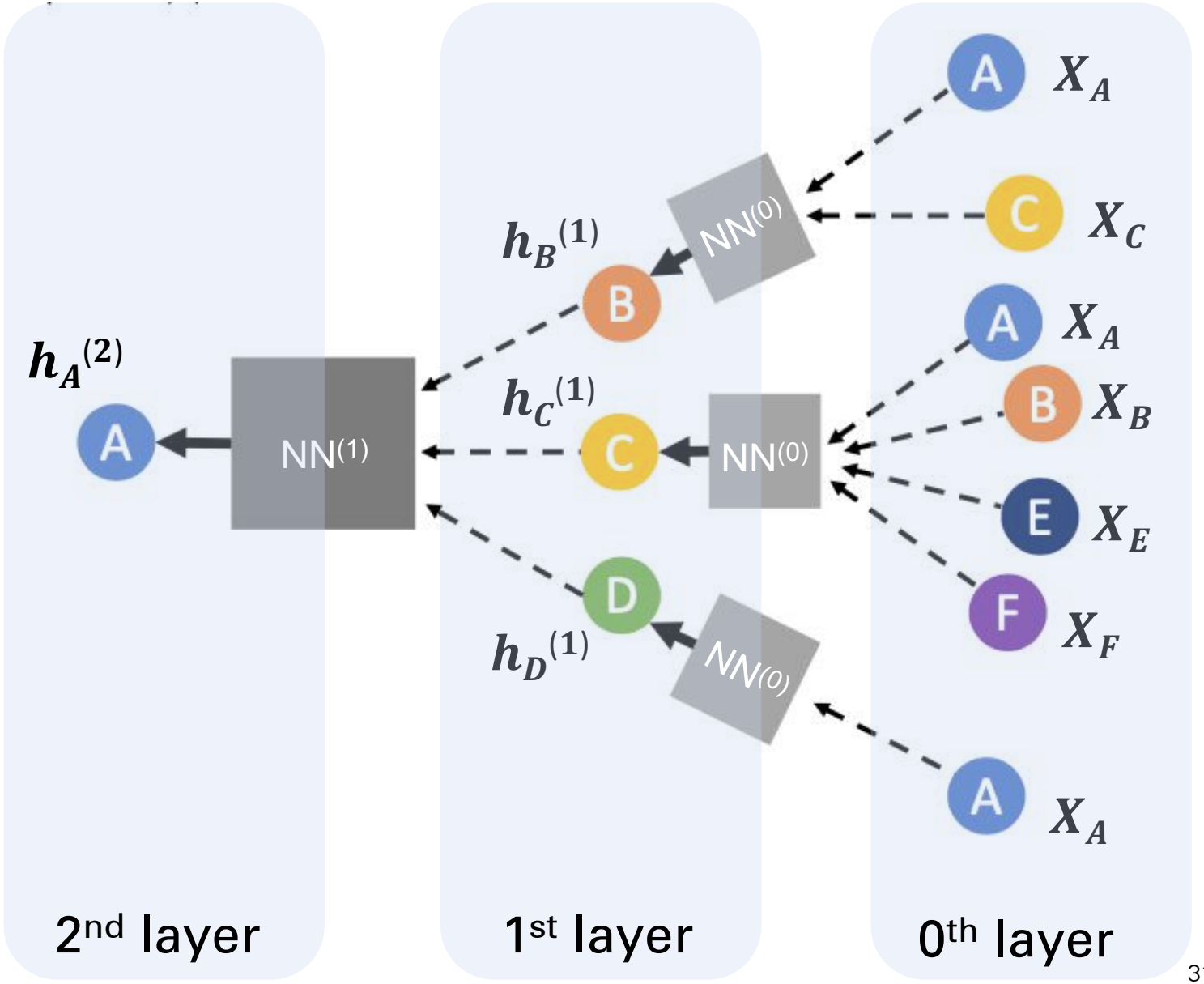
1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_v^{(l)}, \left\{h_u^{(l)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\right\}\right)$$

2. Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}(m_v^{(l)})$$

GNN models mostly differ in how these functions are defined..



Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

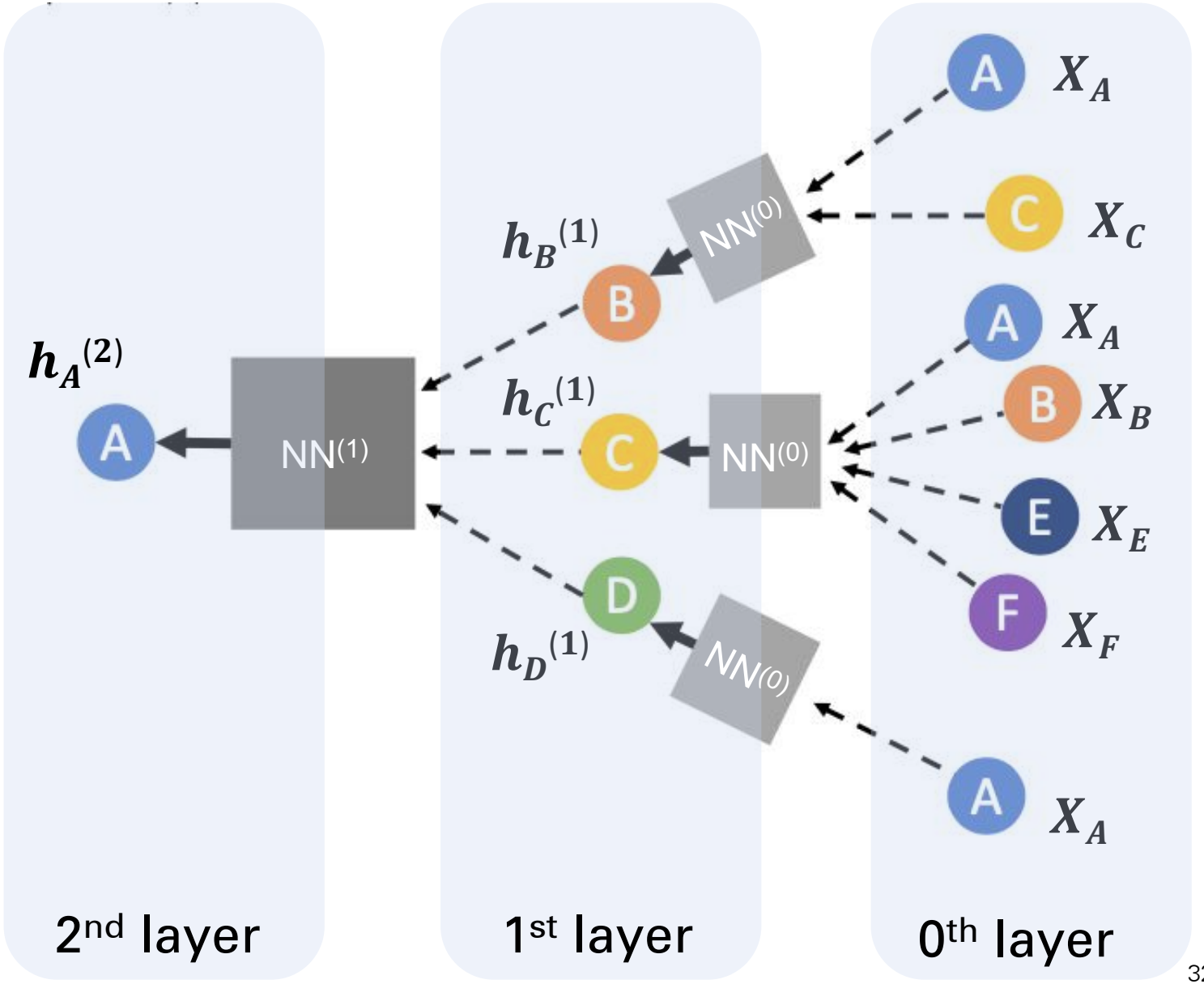
In each layer l ,
for each target node v:

1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_v^{(l)}, \left\{h_u^{(l)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\right\}\right)$$

2. Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}(m_v^{(l)})$$



Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

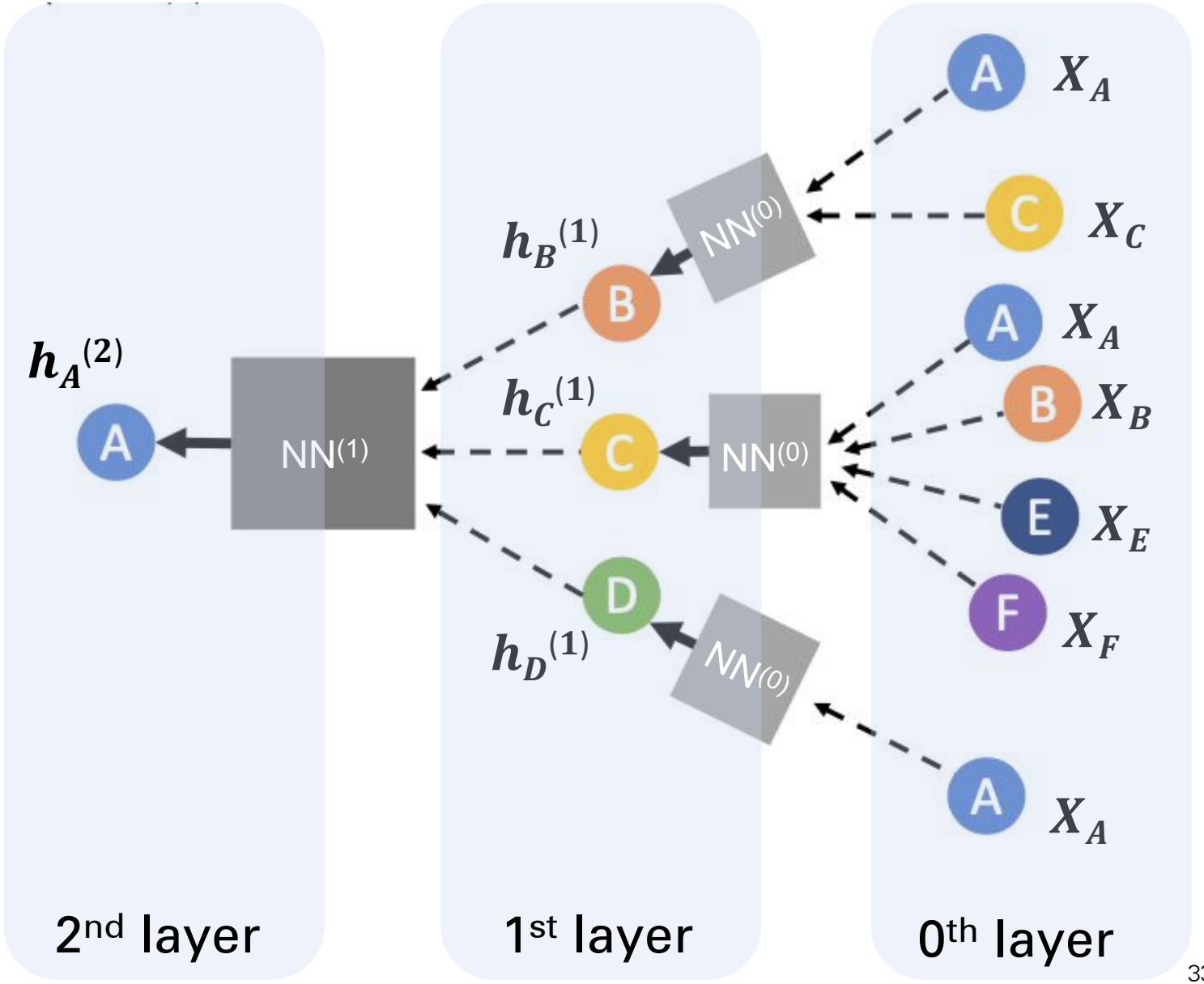
Graph Convolutional Networks[1]

1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(v)+1|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} h_u^{(l)}$$

2. Transform messages

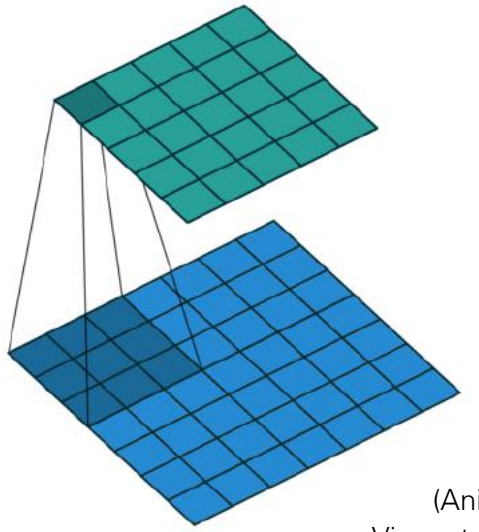
$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\boldsymbol{W}^{(l)} \circ m_v^{(l)})$$



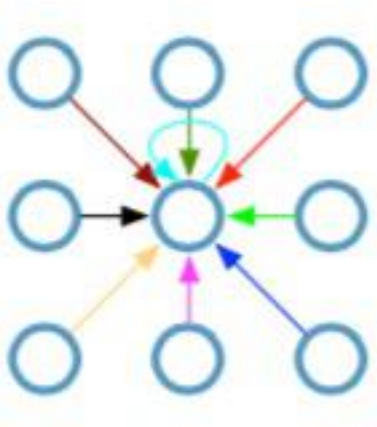
[1] Kipf, Thomas N., et al. "Semi-supervised classification with graph convolutional networks."

Recap: Convolutional neural networks (on grids)

Single CNN layer
with 3x3 filter:

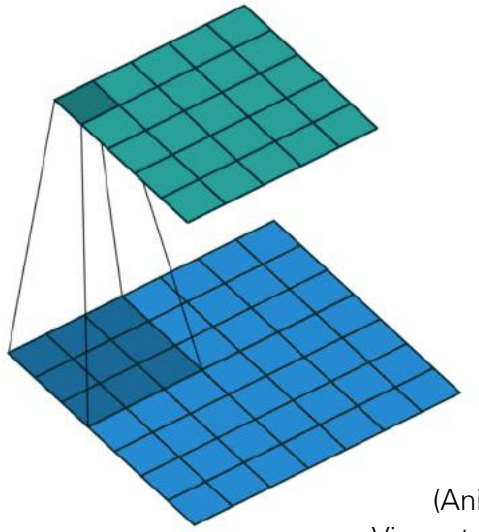


(Animation by
Vincent Dumoulin)

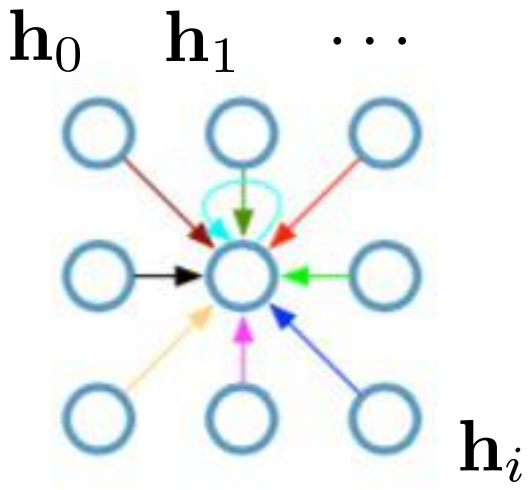


Recap: Convolutional neural networks (on grids)

Single CNN layer
with 3x3 filter:

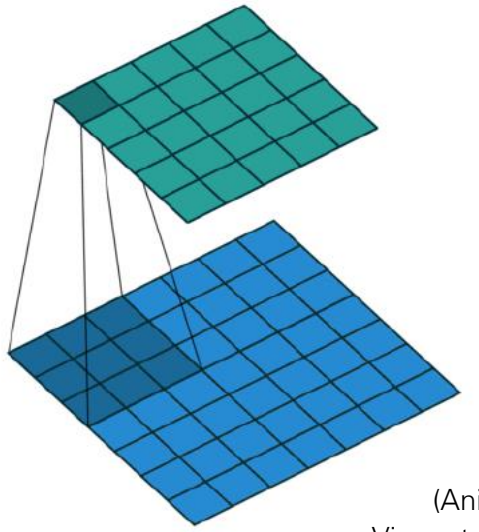


(Animation by
Vincent Dumoulin)

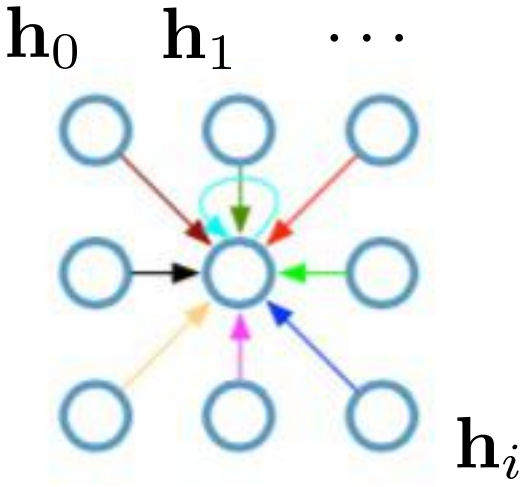


Recap: Convolutional neural networks (on grids)

Single CNN layer
with 3x3 filter:



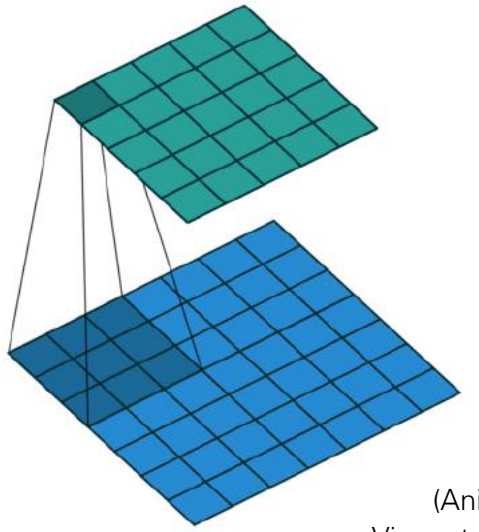
(Animation by
Vincent Dumoulin)



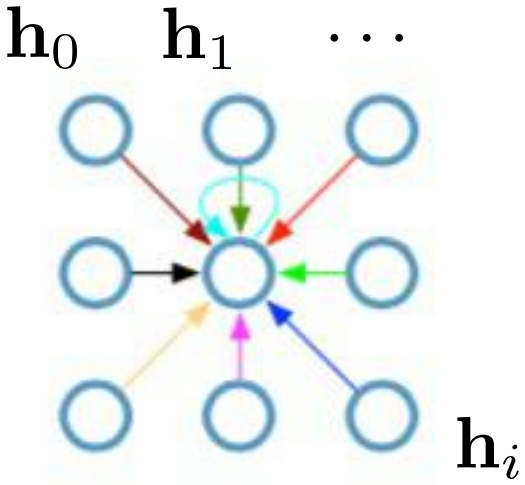
$\mathbf{h}_i \in \mathbb{R}^F$ are (hidden layer) activations of a pixel/node

Recap: Convolutional neural networks (on grids)

Single CNN layer
with 3x3 filter:



(Animation by
Vincent Dumoulin)



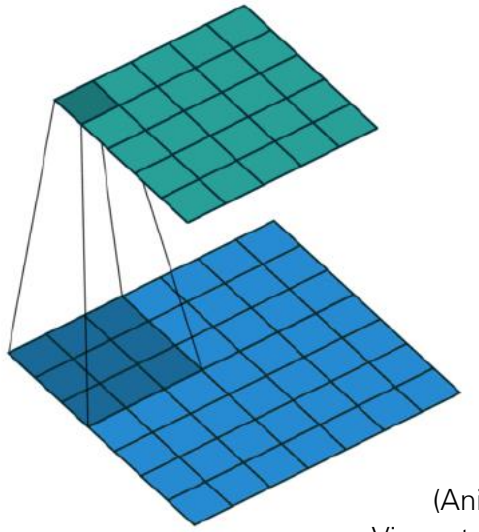
Update for a single pixel:

- Transform messages individually $\mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{h}_i$
- Add everything up $\sum_i \mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{h}_i$

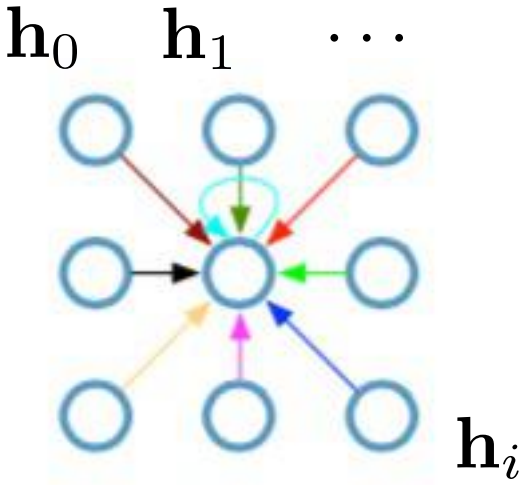
$\mathbf{h}_i \in \mathbb{R}^F$ are (hidden layer) activations of a pixel/node

Recap: Convolutional neural networks (on grids)

Single CNN layer
with 3x3 filter:



(Animation by
Vincent Dumoulin)



Update for a single pixel:

- Transform messages individually $\mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{h}_i$
- Add everything up $\sum_i \mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{h}_i$

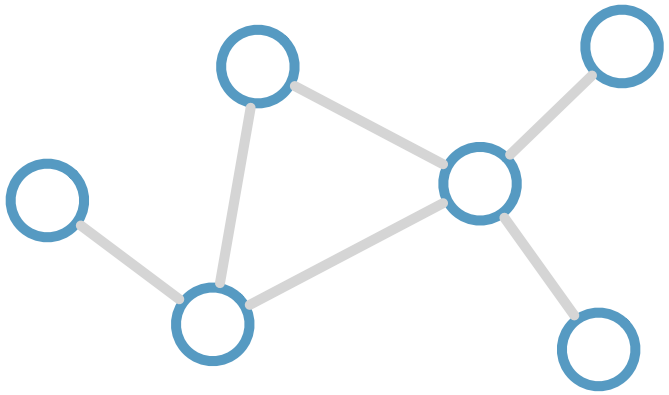
$\mathbf{h}_i \in \mathbb{R}^F$ are (hidden layer) activations of a pixel/node

Full update:

$$\mathbf{h}_4^{(l+1)} = \sigma\left(\mathbf{W}_0^{(l)}\mathbf{h}_0^{(l)} + \mathbf{W}_1^{(l)}\mathbf{h}_1^{(l)} + \cdots + \mathbf{W}_8^{(l)}\mathbf{h}_8^{(l)}\right)$$

Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs)

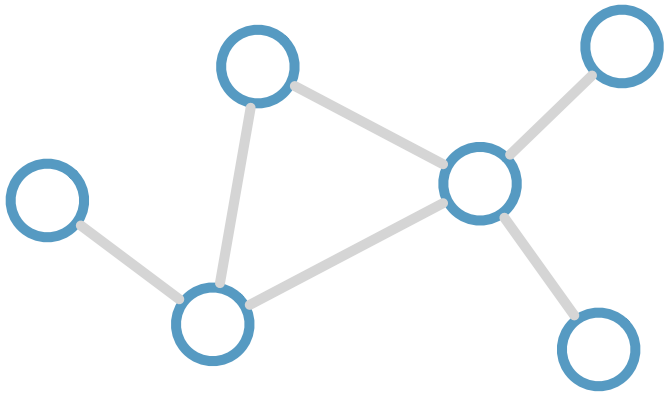
Consider this
undirected graph:



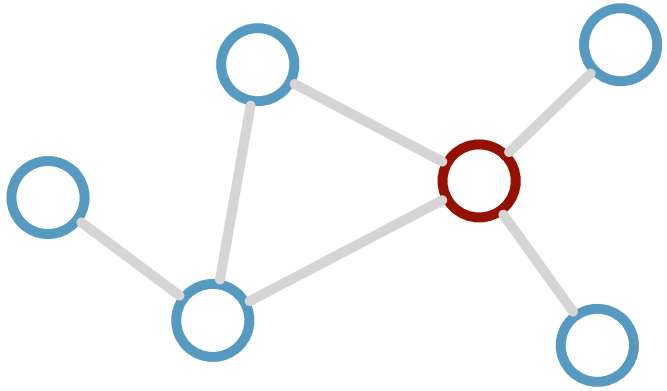
Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017), related previous works by Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015) and Li et al. (ICLR 2016)

Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs)

Consider this undirected graph:



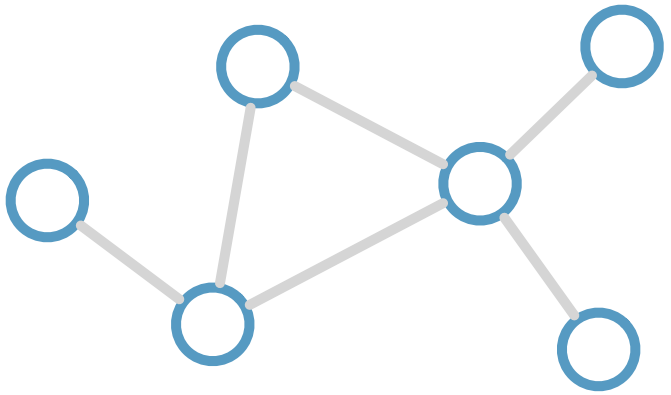
Consider update for node in red:



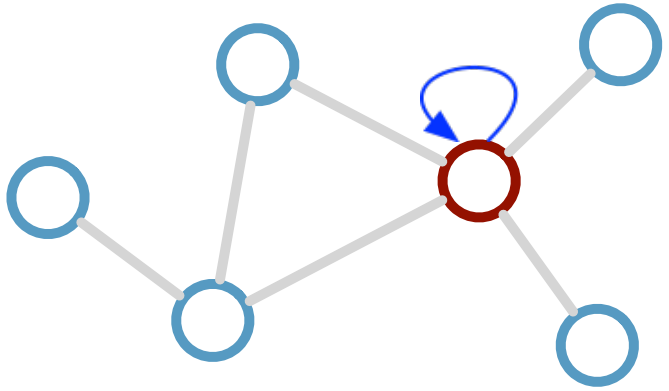
Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017), related previous works by Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015) and Li et al. (ICLR 2016)

Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs)

Consider this undirected graph:



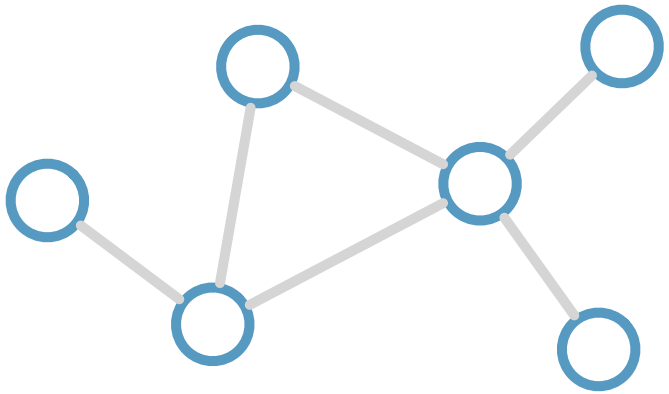
Consider update for node in red:



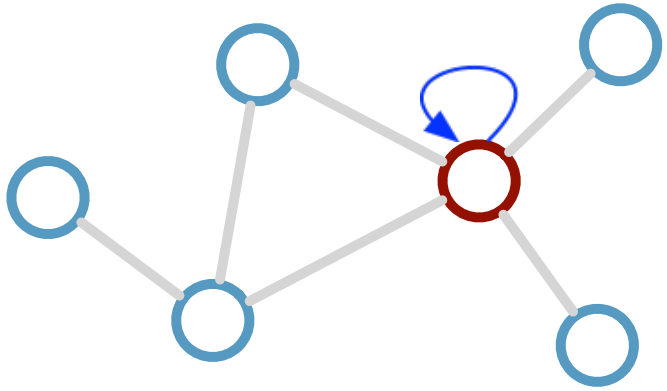
Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017), related previous works by Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015) and Li et al. (ICLR 2016)

Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs)

Consider this undirected graph:



Consider update for node in red:



Update rule:

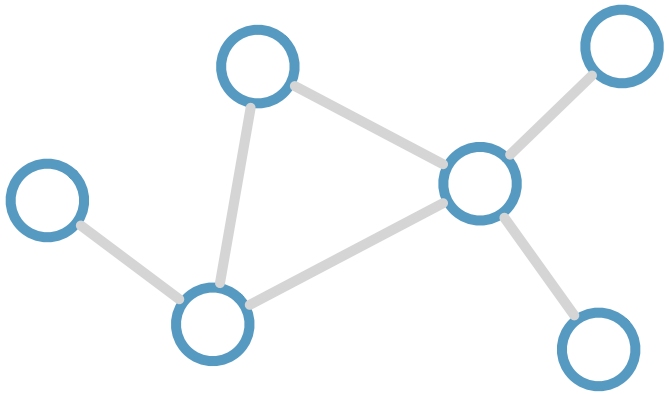
$$\mathbf{h}_i^{(l+1)} = \sigma\left(\mathbf{h}_i^{(l)}\mathbf{W}_0^{(l)} + \sum_{j\in\mathcal{N}_i}\frac{1}{c_{ij}}\mathbf{h}_j^{(l)}\mathbf{W}_1^{(l)}\right)$$

$\mathcal{N}_i$: neighbor indices $\quad c_{ij}$: norm. constant (fixed/trainable)

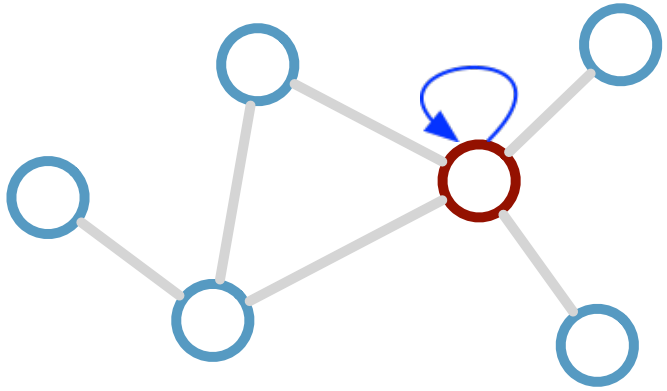
Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017), related previous works by Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015) and Li et al. (ICLR 2016)

Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs)

Consider this undirected graph:



Consider update for node in red:



Desirable properties:

- Weight sharing over all locations
- Invariance to permutations
- Linear complexity O(E)
- Applicable both in transductive and inductive settings

Update rule:

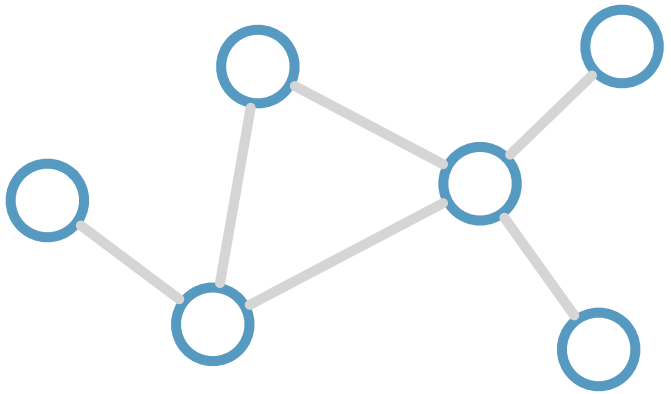
$$\mathbf{h}_i^{(l+1)} = \sigma\left(\mathbf{h}_i^{(l)}\mathbf{W}_0^{(l)} + \sum_{j\in\mathcal{N}_i}\frac{1}{c_{ij}}\mathbf{h}_j^{(l)}\mathbf{W}_1^{(l)}\right)$$

$\mathcal{N}_i$: neighbor indices $\quad c_{ij}$: norm. constant (fixed/trainable)

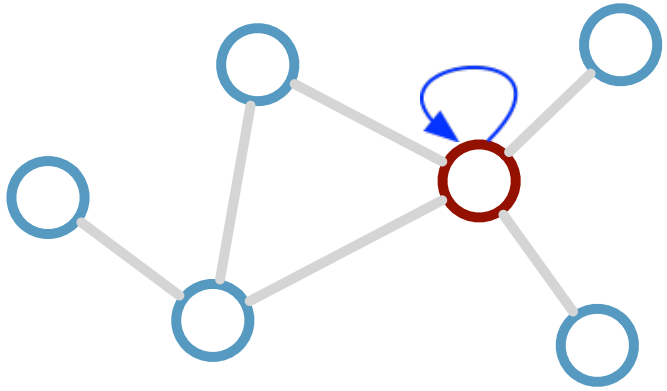
Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017), related previous works by Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015) and Li et al. (ICLR 2016)

Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs)

Consider this undirected graph:



Consider update for node in red:



Update rule:

$$\mathbf{h}_i^{(l+1)} = \sigma\left(\mathbf{h}_i^{(l)}\mathbf{W}_0^{(l)} + \sum_{j\in\mathcal{N}_i}\frac{1}{c_{ij}}\mathbf{h}_j^{(l)}\mathbf{W}_1^{(l)}\right)$$

$\mathcal{N}_i$: neighbor indices $\quad c_{ij}$: norm. constant (fixed/trainable)

Desirable properties:

- Weight sharing over all locations
- Invariance to permutations
- Linear complexity O(E)
- Applicable both in transductive and inductive settings

Limitations:

- Requires gating mechanism / residual connections for depth
- Only indirect support for edge features

Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017), related previous works by Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015) and Li et al. (ICLR 2016)

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

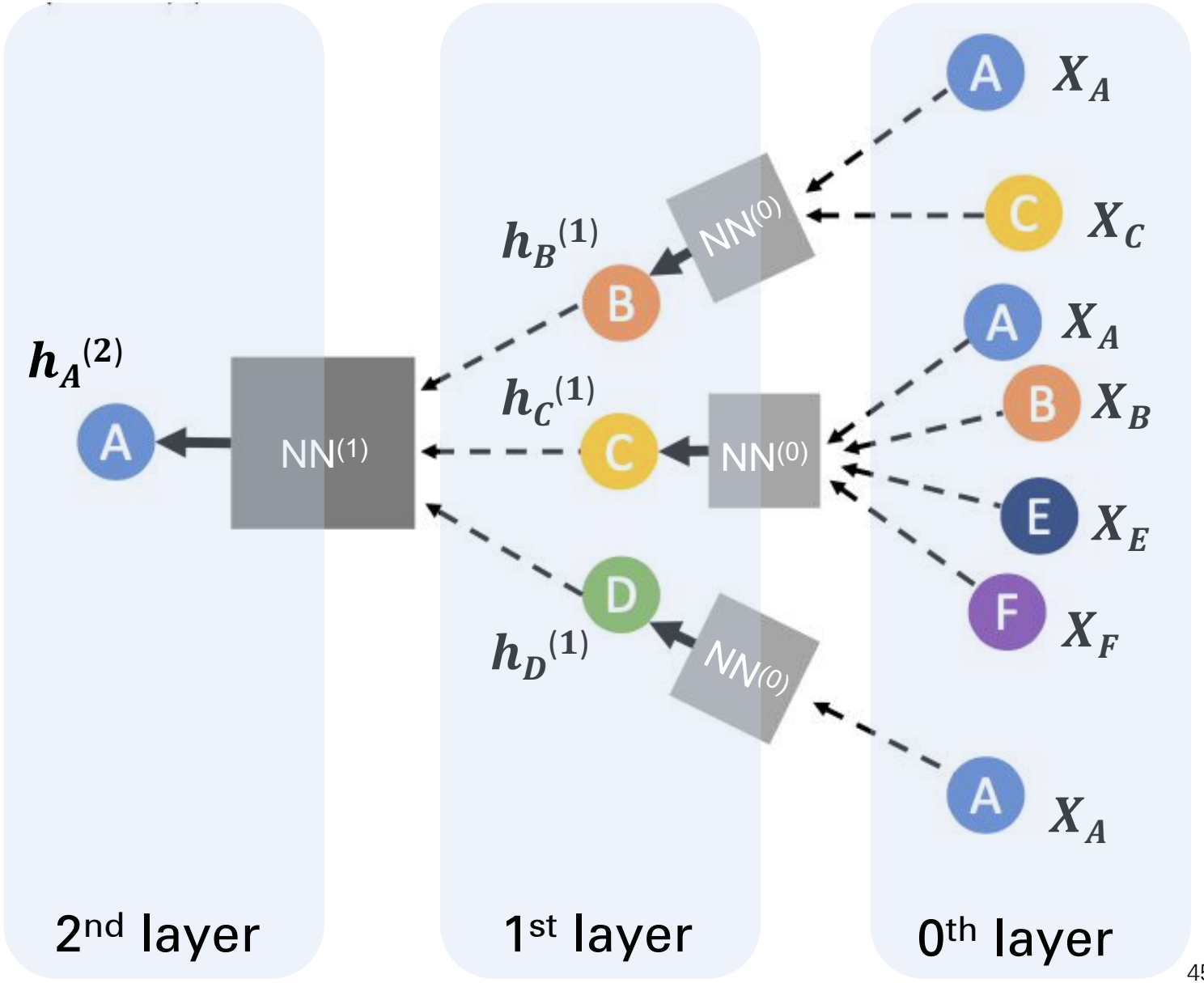
Graph Convolutional Networks[1]

1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(v)+1|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} h_u^{(l)}$$

2. Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\boldsymbol{W}^{(l)} \circ m_v^{(l)})$$



[1] Kipf, Thomas N., et al. "Semi-supervised classification with graph convolutional networks."

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

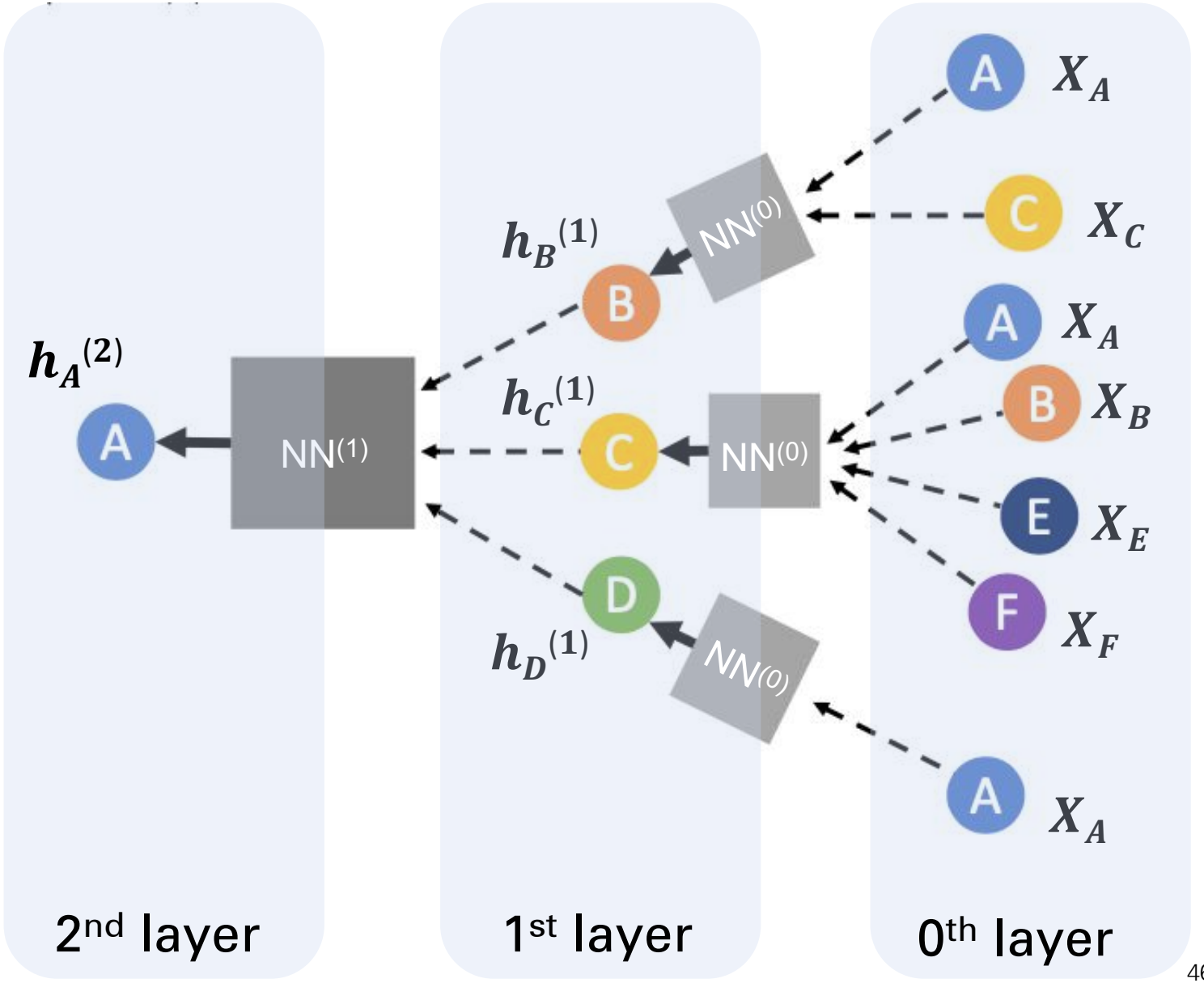
Graph Isomorphism Networks[2]

1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} h_u^{(l)}$$

2. Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\boldsymbol{W}^{(l)} \circ m_v^{(l)})$$



[2] Xu, Keyulu, et al. "How powerful are graph neural networks?."

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

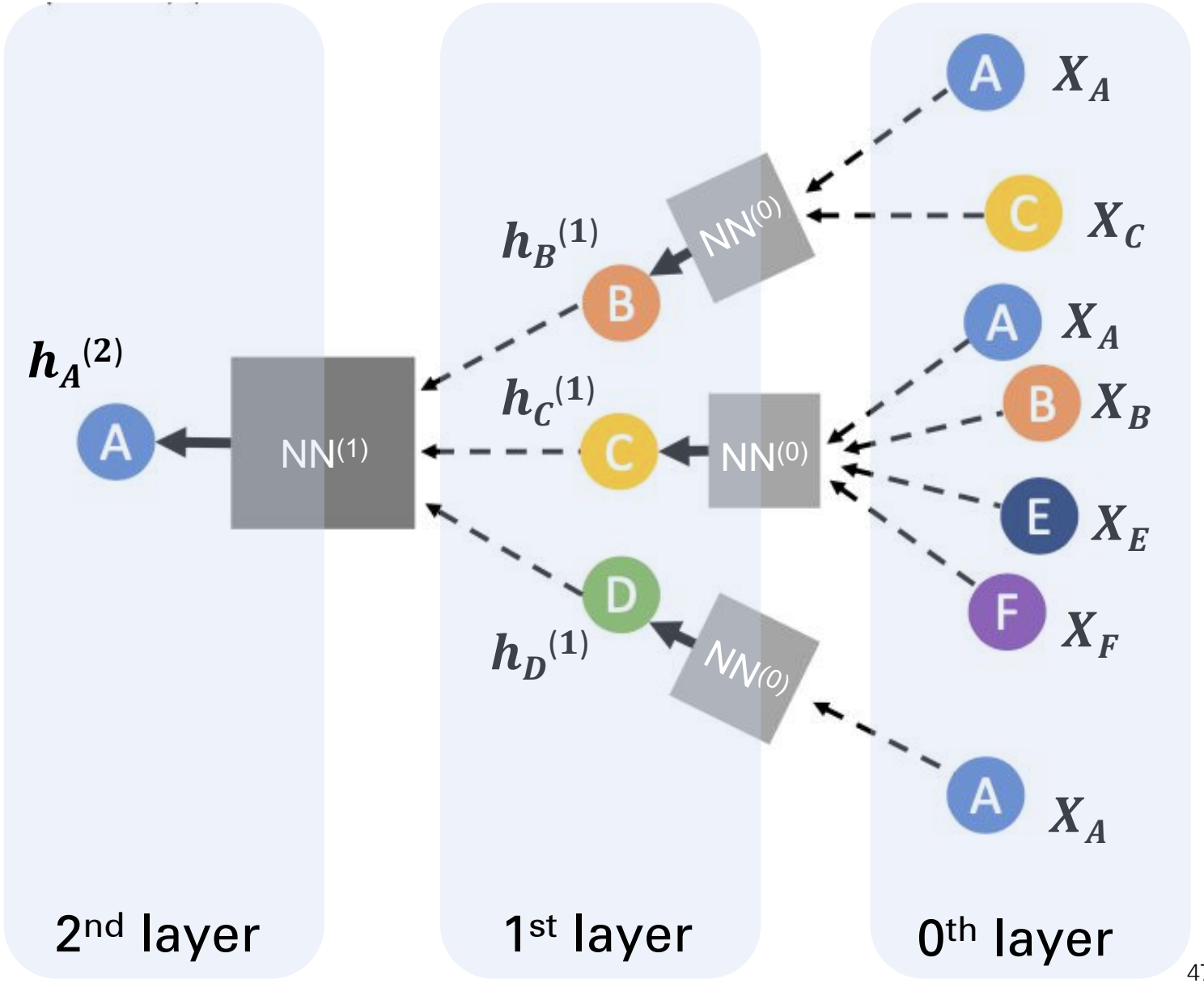
Simplified Graph Convolutional Networks[2]

1. Aggregate messages

$$m_v^{(l)} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(v)+1|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} h_u^{(l)}$$

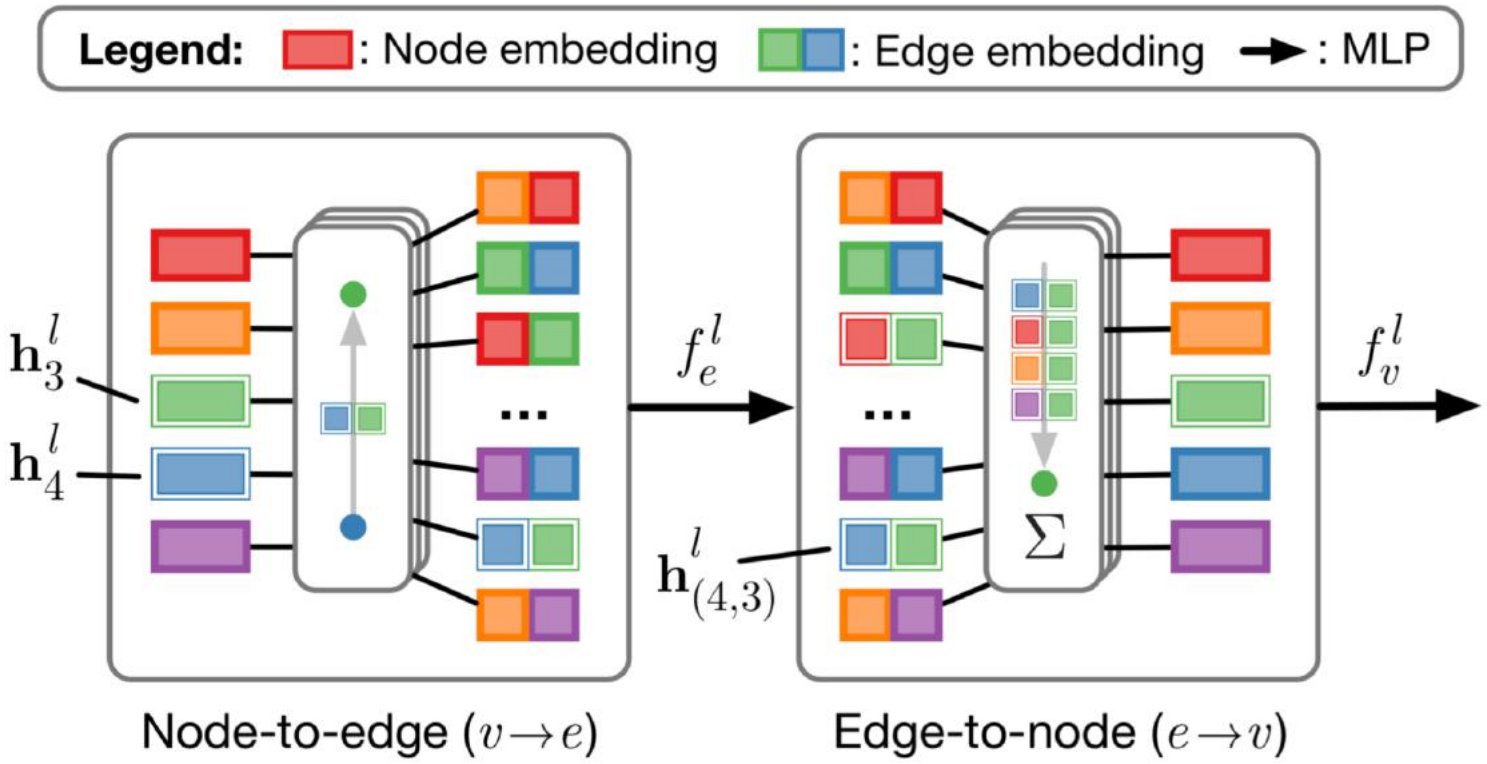
2. Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l+1)} = \boldsymbol{W}^{(l)} \circ m_v^{(l)}$$



[3] Wu, Felix, et al. "Simplifying graph convolutional networks."

GCNs with edge embeddings

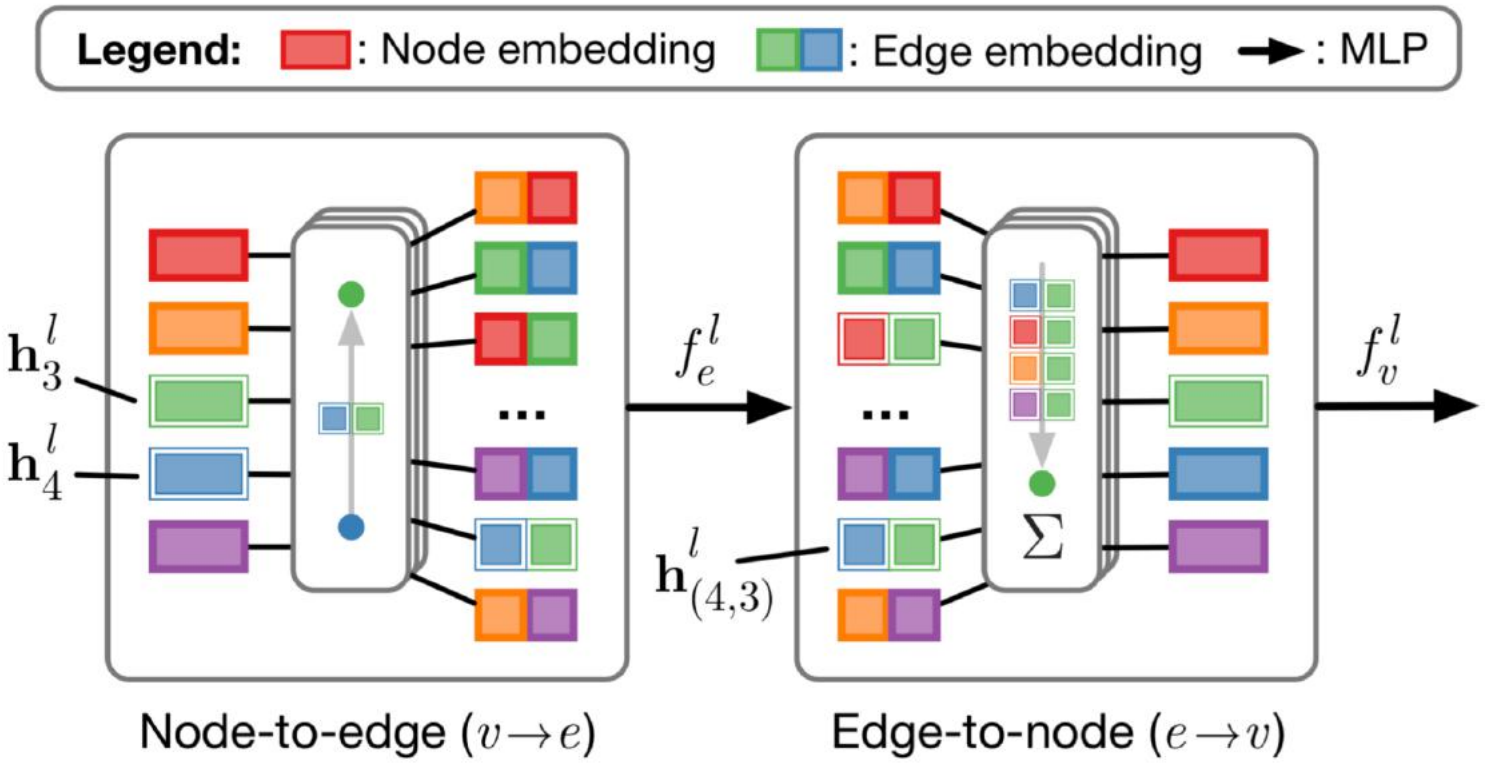


Formally: $v \to e : \mathbf{h}_{(i,j)}^l = f_e^l\left(\left[\mathbf{h}_i^l, \mathbf{h}_j^l, \mathbf{x}_{(i,j)}\right]\right)$

$$e \to v : \mathbf{h}_j^{l+1} = f_v^l\left(\left[\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}_j} \mathbf{h}_{(i,j)}^l, \mathbf{x}_j\right]\right)$$

Battaglia et al. (NIPS 2016), Gilmer et al. (ICML 2017), Kipf et al. (ICML 2018)

GCNs with edge embeddings



Pros:

- Supports edge features
- More expressive than GCN
- As general as it gets (?)
- Supports sparse matrix ops

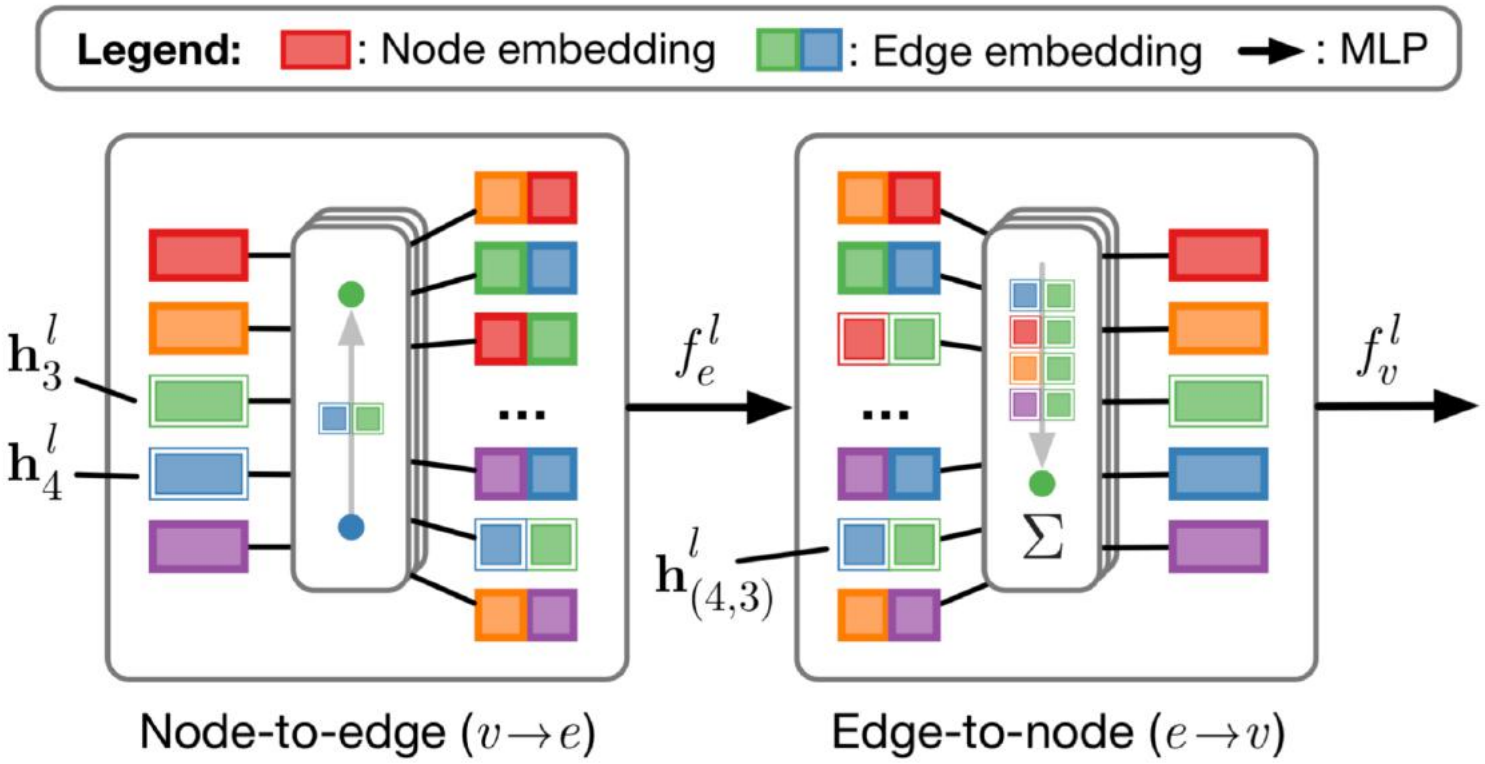
Formally:

$$v \to e : \mathbf{h}_{(i,j)}^l = f_e^l\left(\left[\mathbf{h}_i^l, \mathbf{h}_j^l, \mathbf{x}_{(i,j)}\right]\right)$$

$$e \to v : \mathbf{h}_j^{l+1} = f_v^l\left(\left[\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}_j} \mathbf{h}_{(i,j)}^l, \mathbf{x}_j\right]\right)$$

Battaglia et al. (NIPS 2016), Gilmer et al. (ICML 2017), Kipf et al. (ICML 2018)

GCNs with edge embeddings



Formally:

$$v \to e : \mathbf{h}_{(i,j)}^l = f_e^l\left(\left[\mathbf{h}_i^l, \mathbf{h}_j^l, \mathbf{x}_{(i,j)}\right]\right)$$

$$e \to v : \mathbf{h}_j^{l+1} = f_v^l\left(\left[\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}_j} \mathbf{h}_{(i,j)}^l, \mathbf{x}_j\right]\right)$$

Battaglia et al. (NIPS 2016), Gilmer et al. (ICML 2017), Kipf et al. (ICML 2018)

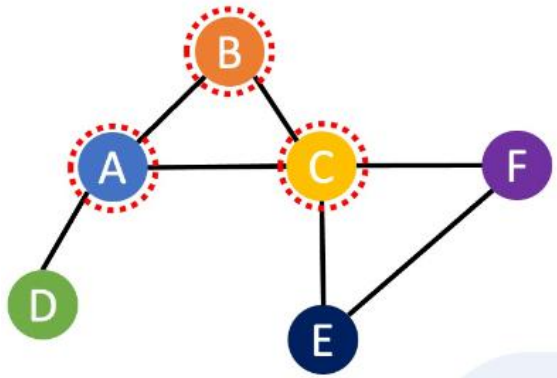
Pros:

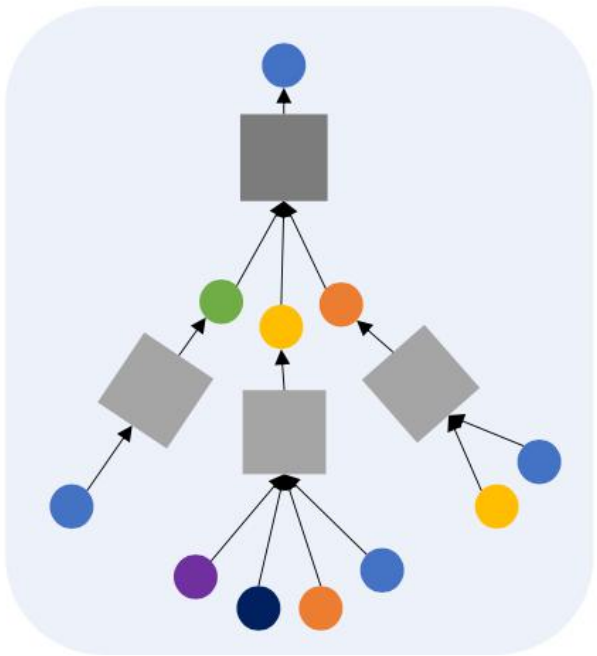
- Supports edge features
- More expressive than GCN
- As general as it gets (?)
- Supports sparse matrix ops

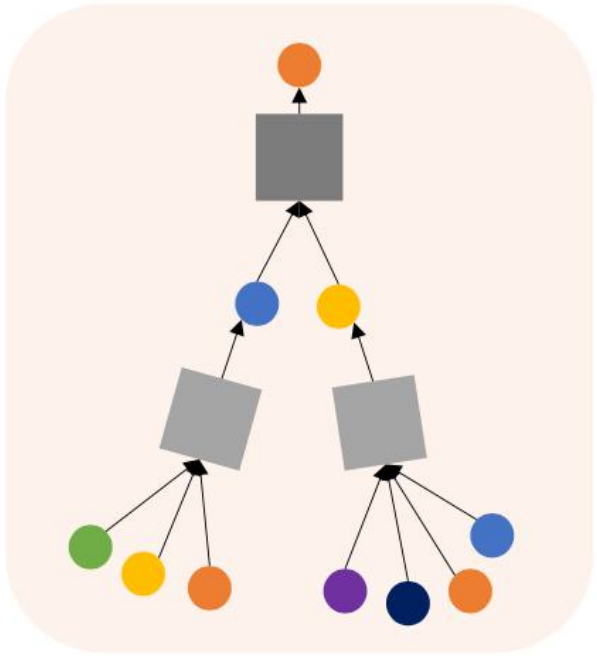
Cons:

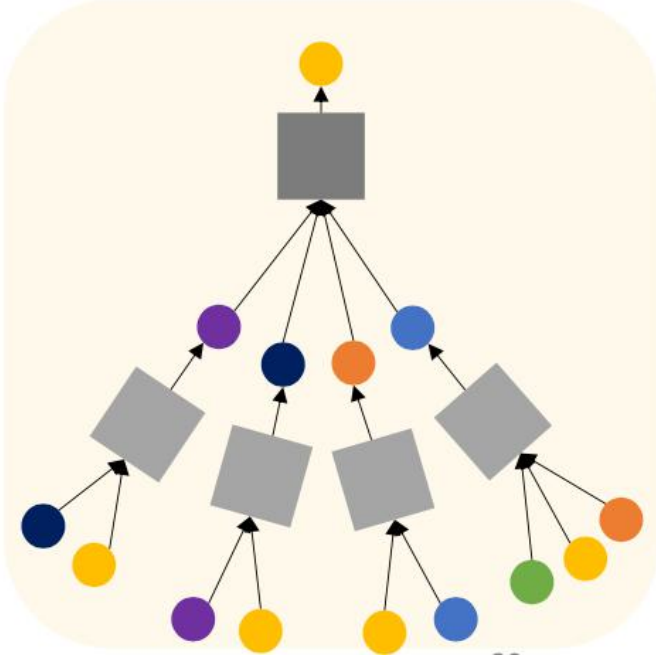
- Need to store intermediate edge-based activations
- Difficult to implement with subsampling
- In practice limited to small graphs

Computation graphs

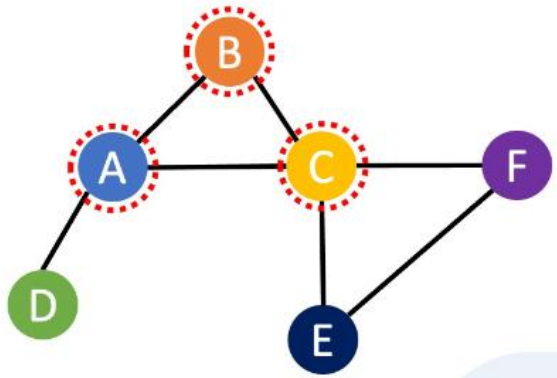


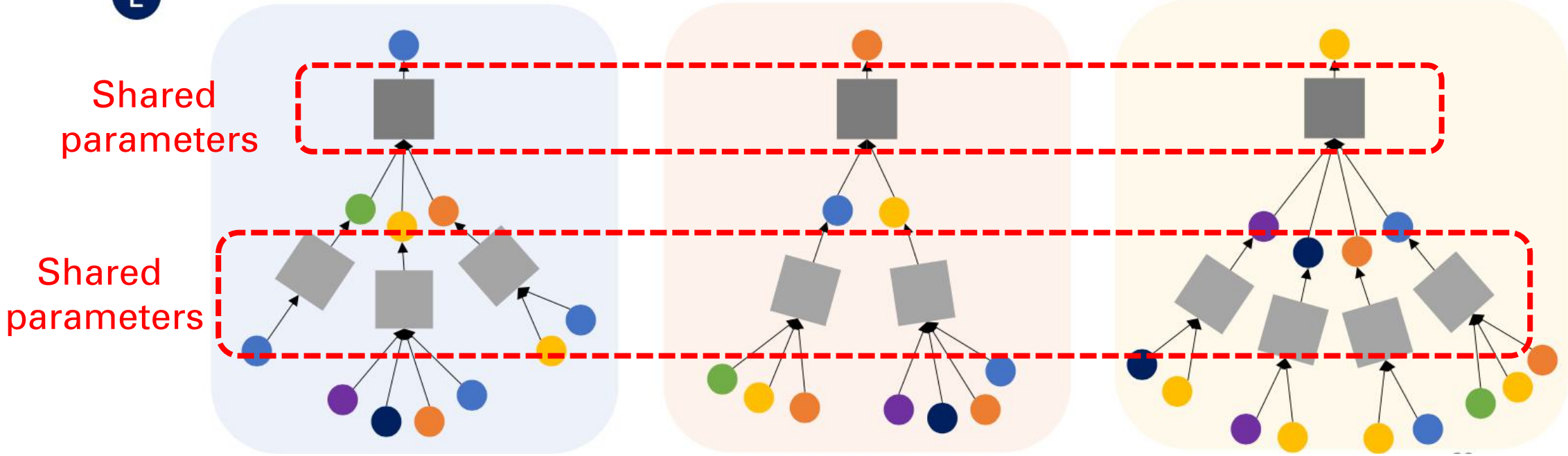






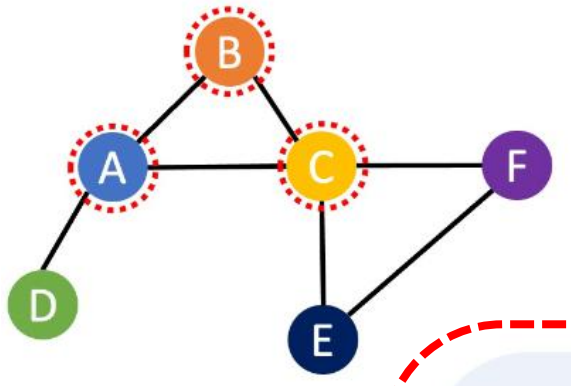
Computation graphs



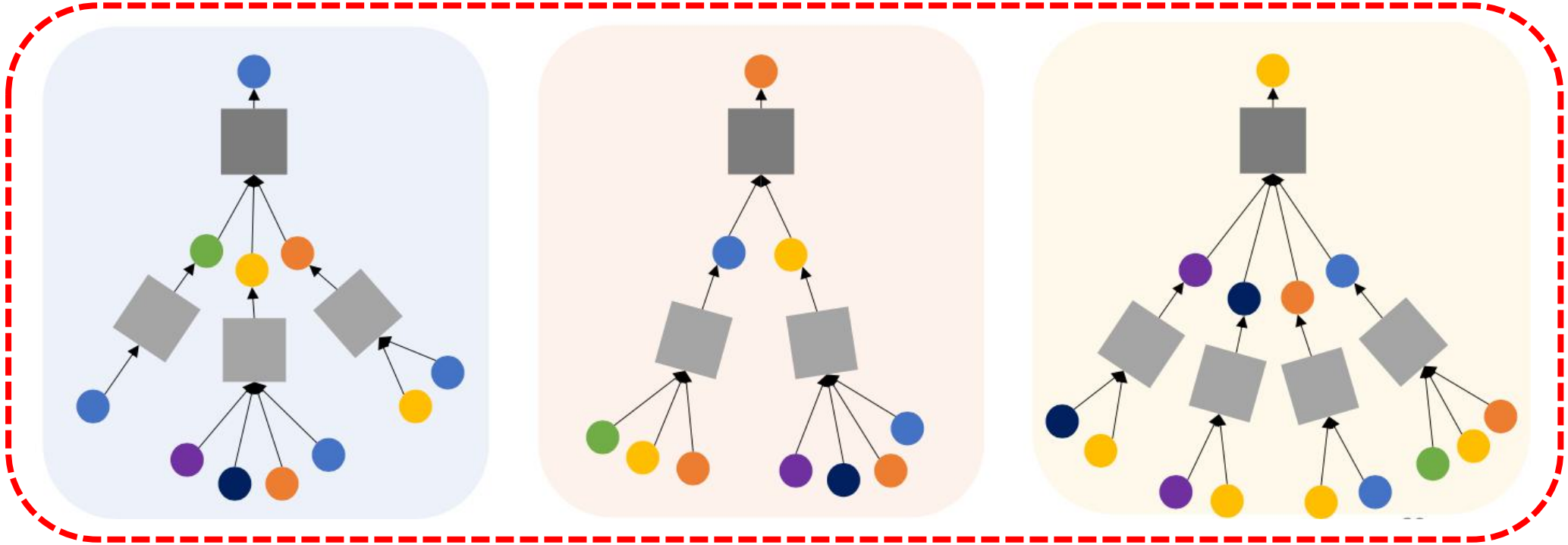


Batch execution

$$h_v^{(l)} = \sigma(W^{(l)} \circ (\frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(v)+1|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} h_u^{(l-1)}))$$



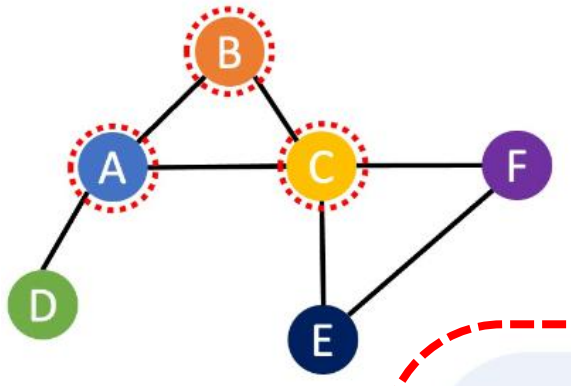
Batch size = 3



Batch execution

$$h_v^{(l)} = \sigma(W^{(l)} \circ (\frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(v)+1|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} h_u^{(l-1)}))$$

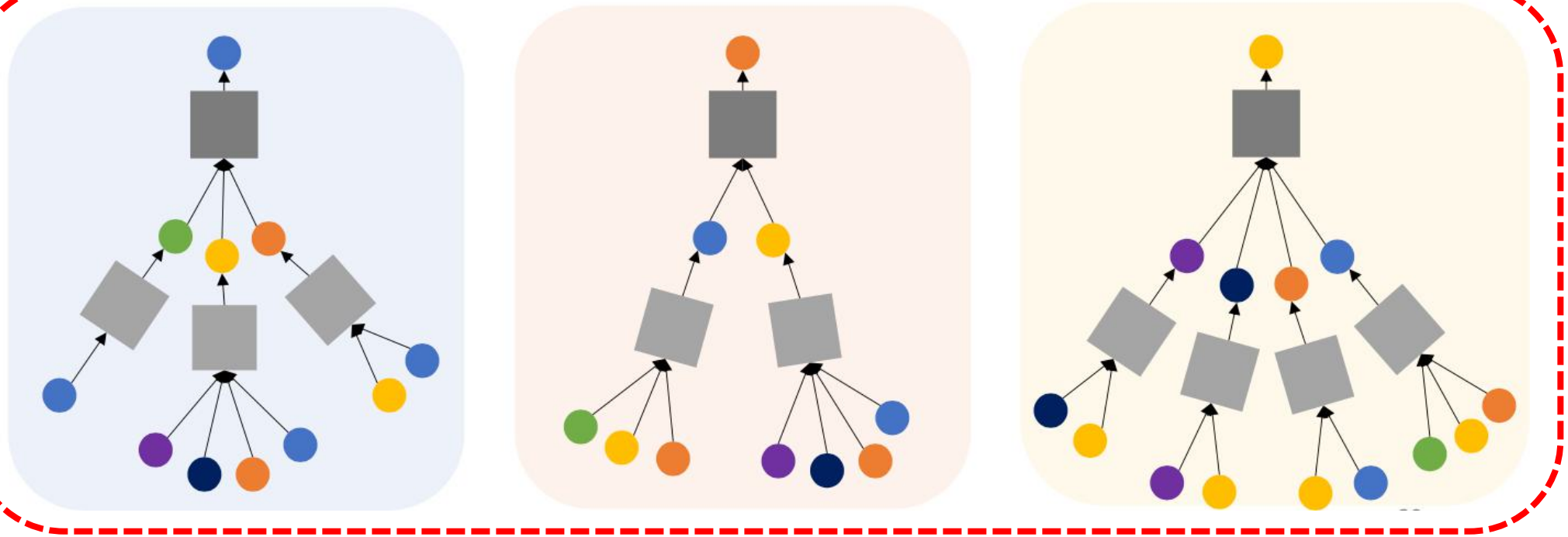
$$H^{(l)} = \sigma(\widetilde{(A+I)} H^{(l-1)} W^{(l)})$$



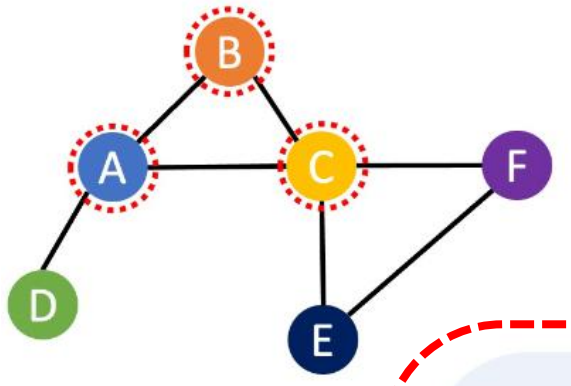
Node embedding matrix

(row-normalized) Adjacency matrix

Batch size = 3



Batch execution

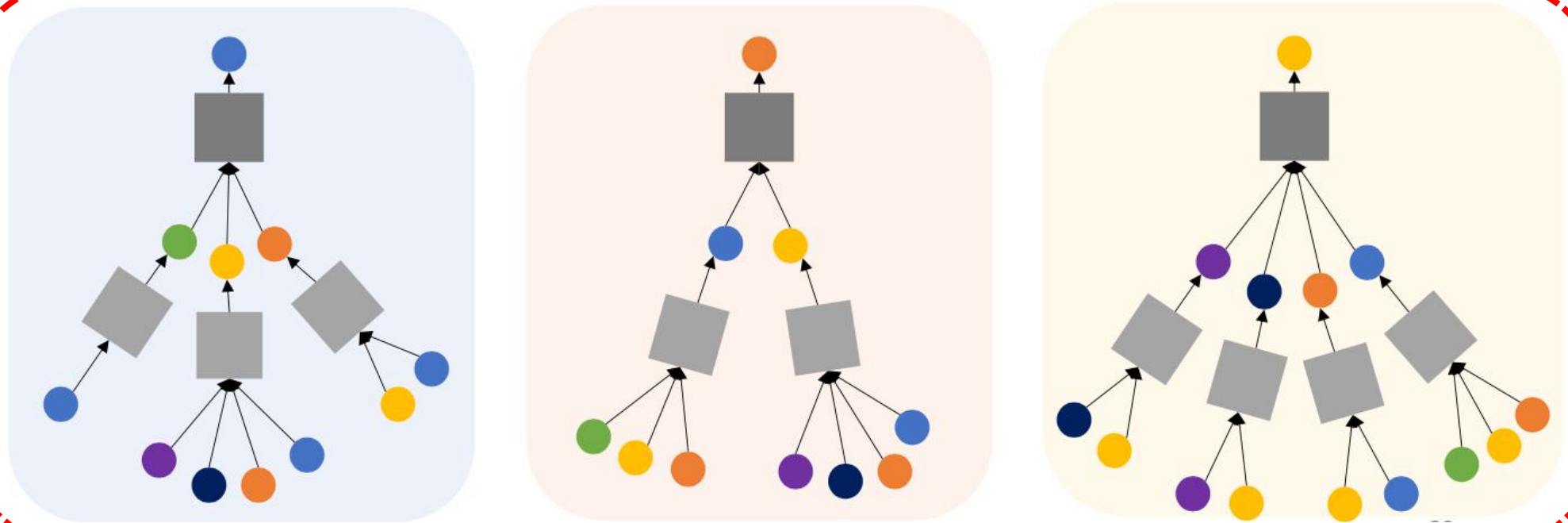


$$h_v^{(l)} = \sigma(W^{(l)} \circ (\frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(v)+1|} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} h_u^{(l-1)}))$$

$$H^{(l)} = \sigma(\widetilde{(A+I)} H^{(l-1)} W^{(l)})$$

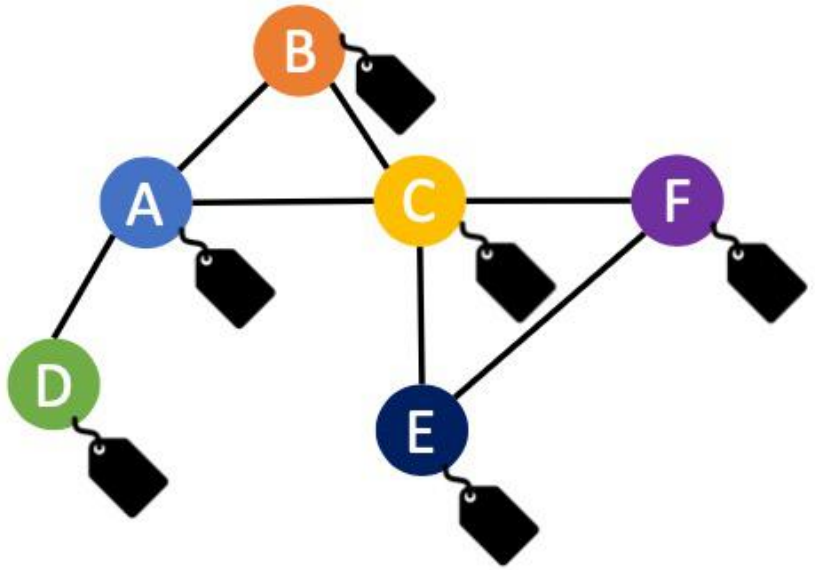
Fixed Trainable

Batch size = 3



Downstream tasks

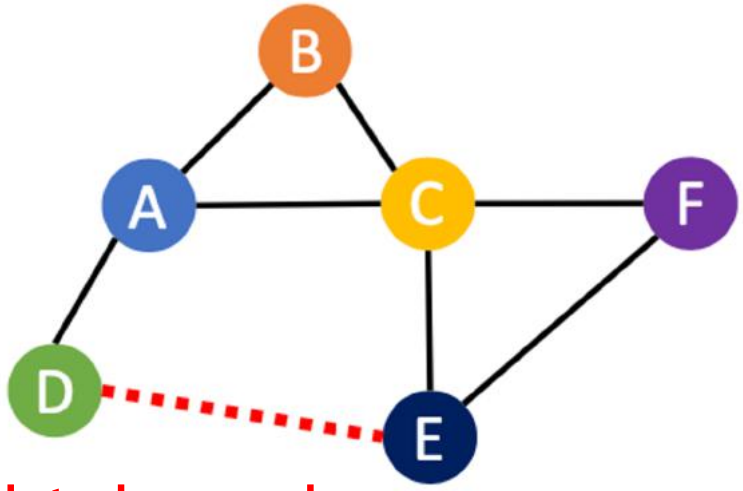
- Node-level prediction



Downstream tasks

- Node-level prediction

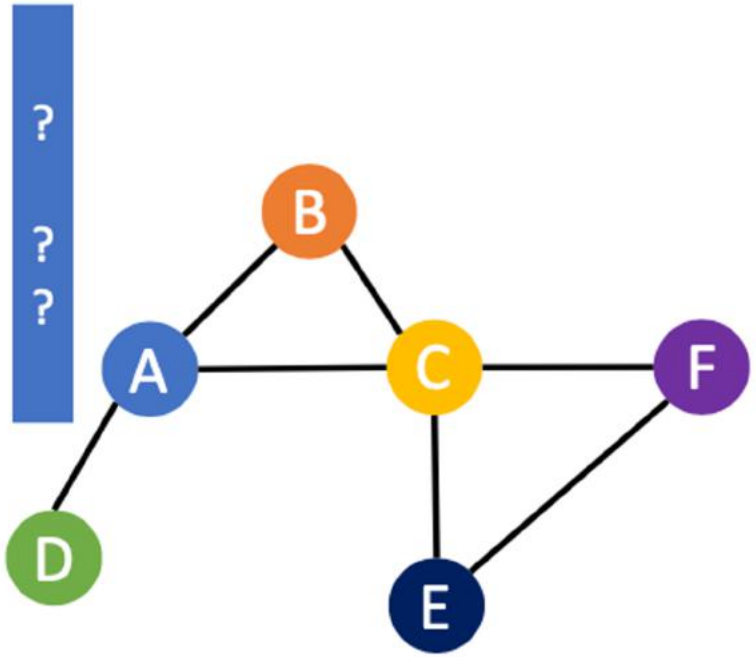
- Edge-level prediction



D and E are related enough to be connected?

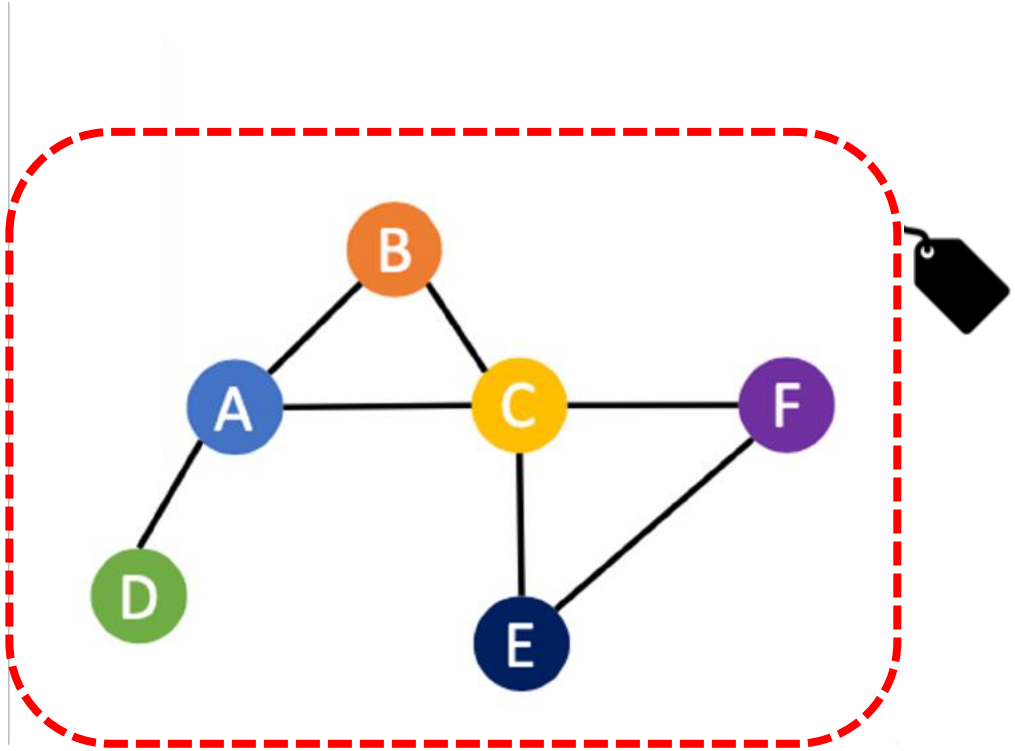
Downstream tasks

- Node-level prediction
- Edge-level prediction
- Attribute-level prediction



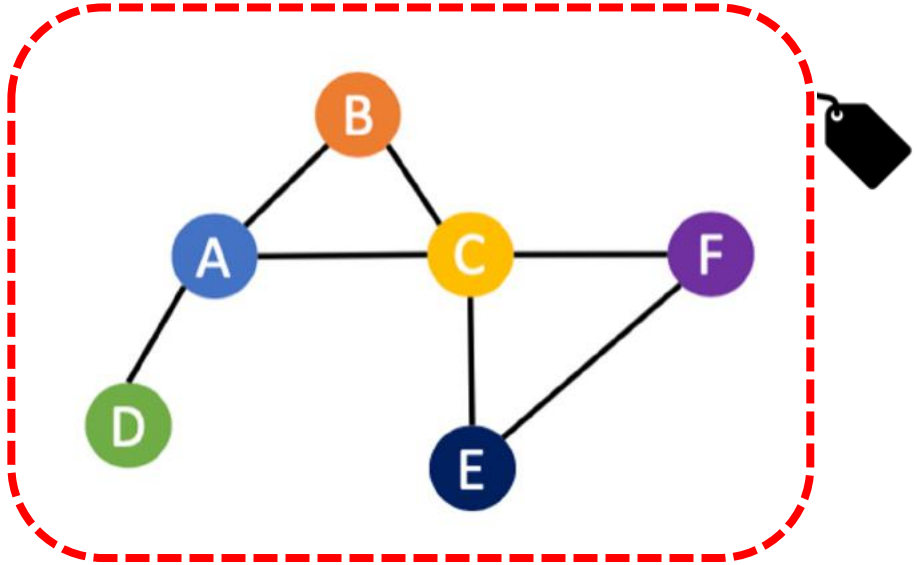
Downstream tasks

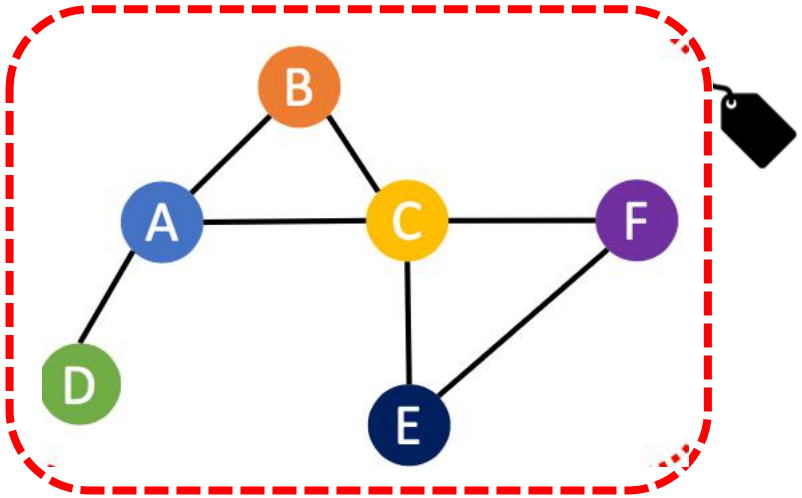
- Node-level prediction
- Edge-level prediction
- Attribute-level prediction
- Graph-level prediction

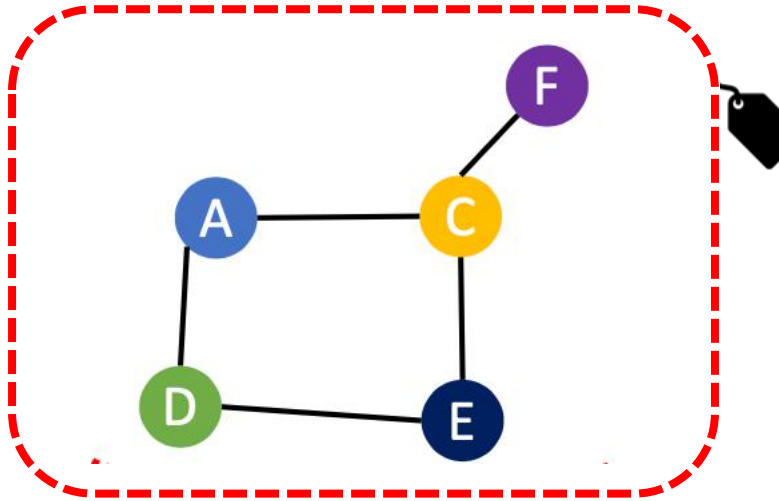


Downstream tasks

- Node-level prediction
- Edge-level prediction
- Attribute-level prediction
- Graph-level prediction

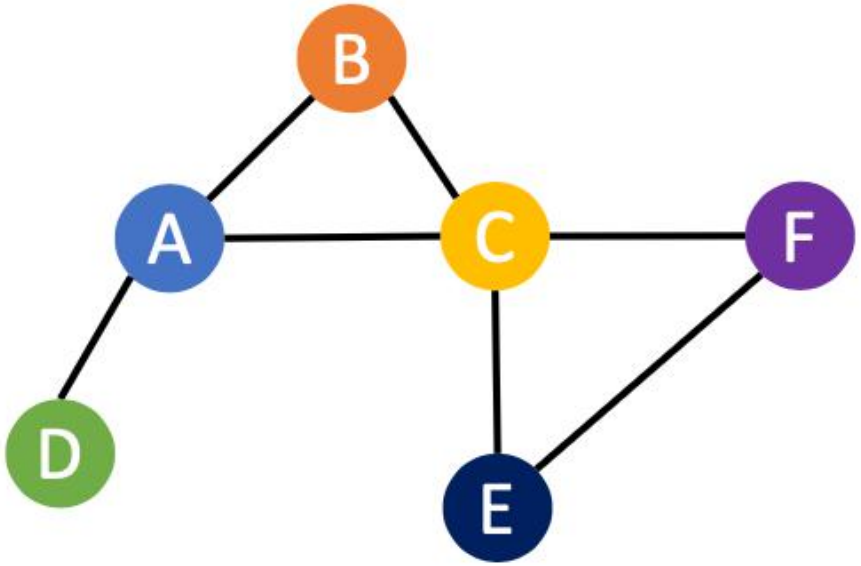




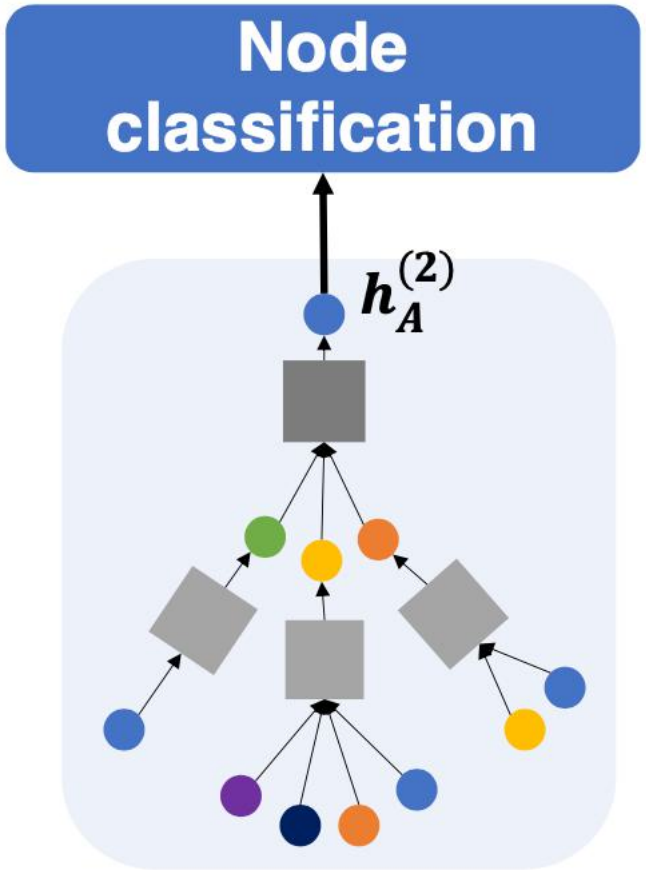


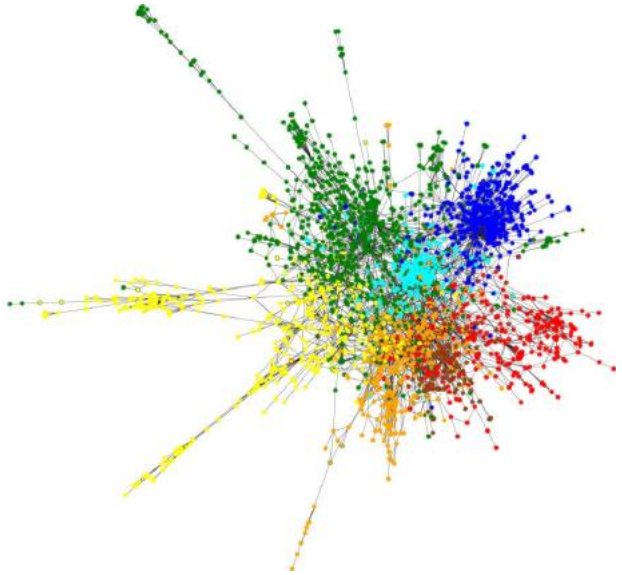
Downstream tasks

- **Node-level prediction**
- Edge-level prediction
- Attribute-level prediction
- **Graph-level prediction**



Node-level prediction tasks



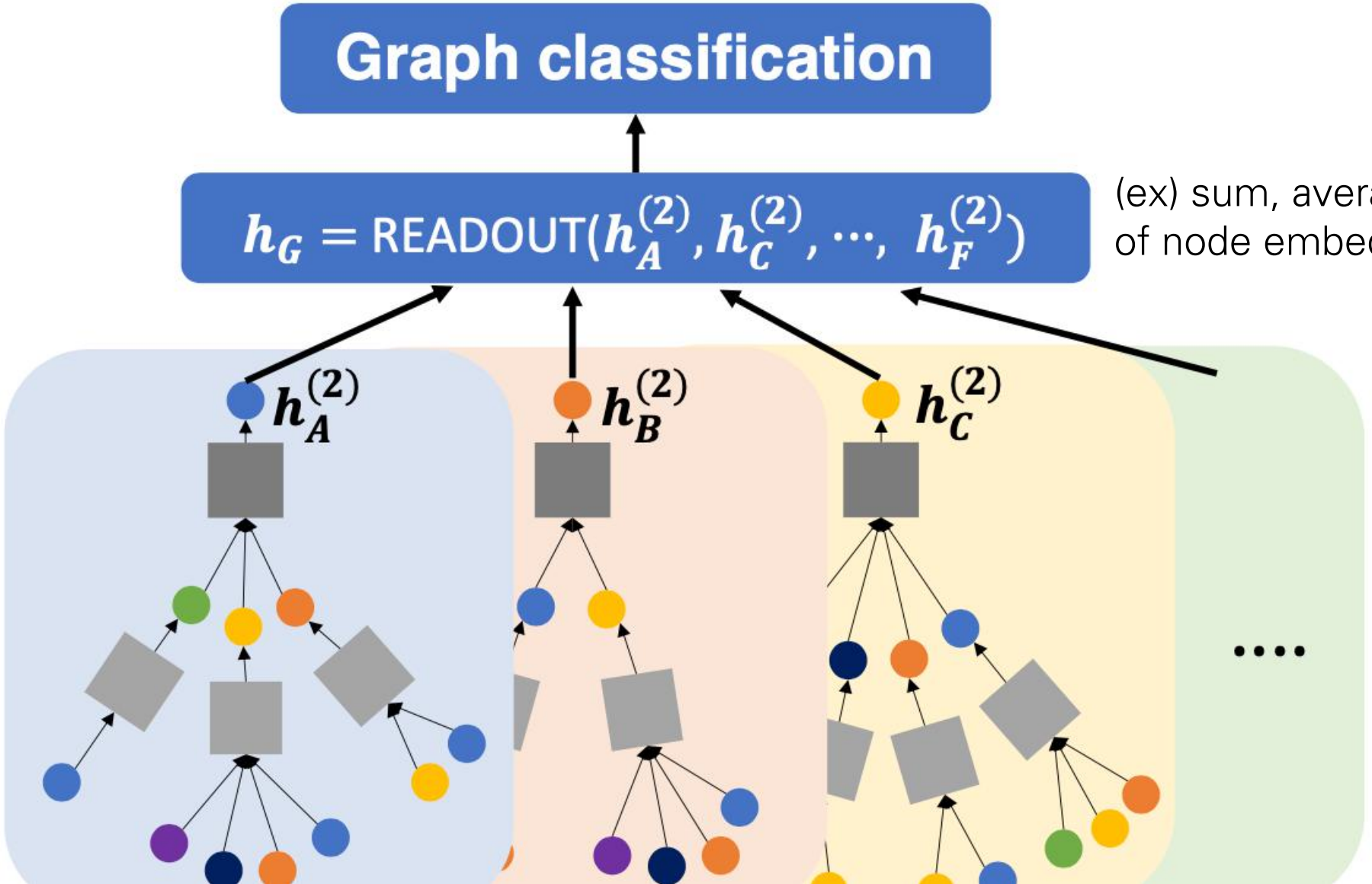


reddit

amazon

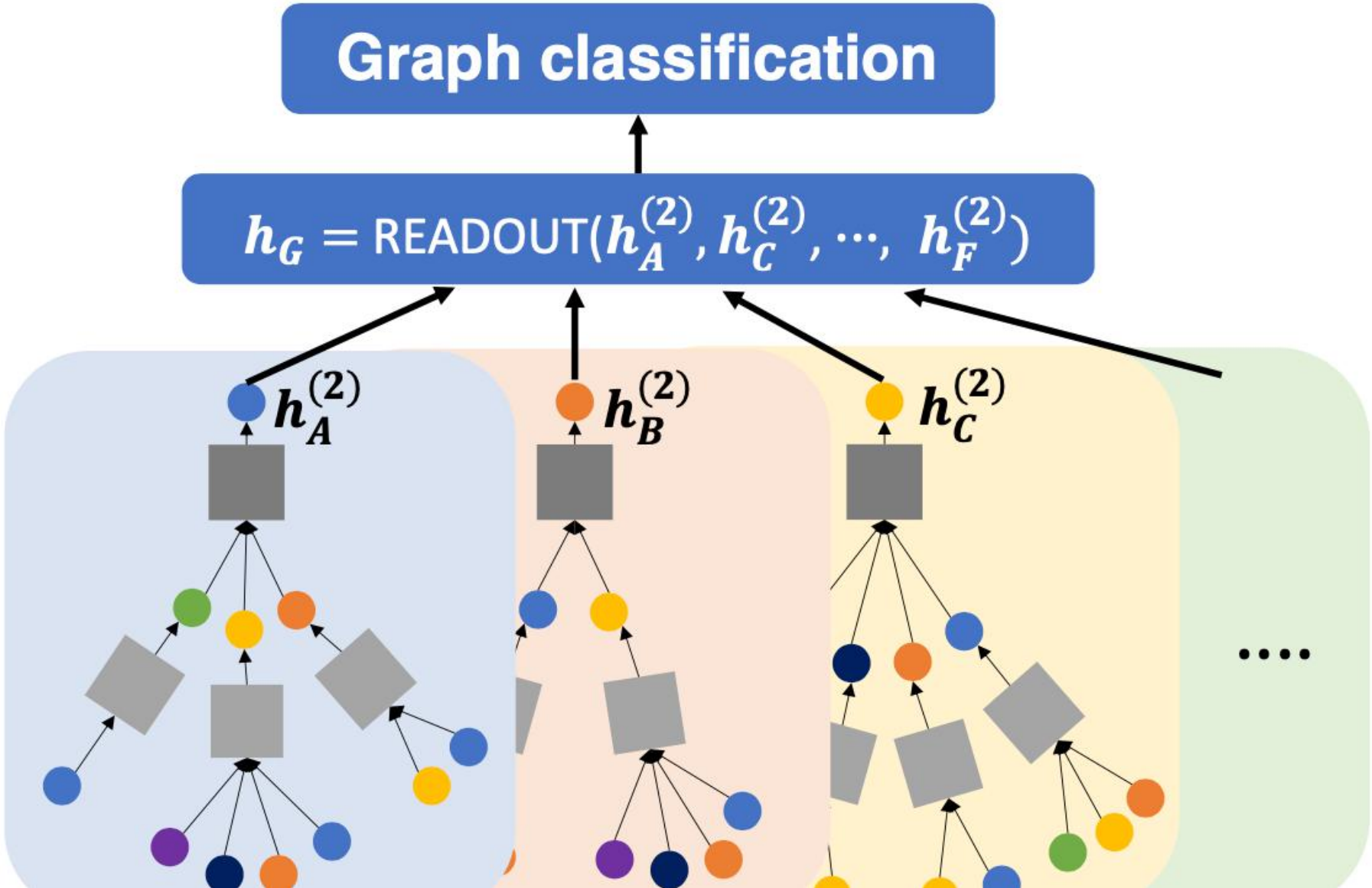
- Classify **papers** into topics on **citation networks**
- Cluster **posts** into subgroups on **Reddit networks**
- Classify **products** into categories on **Amazon co-purchase graphs**

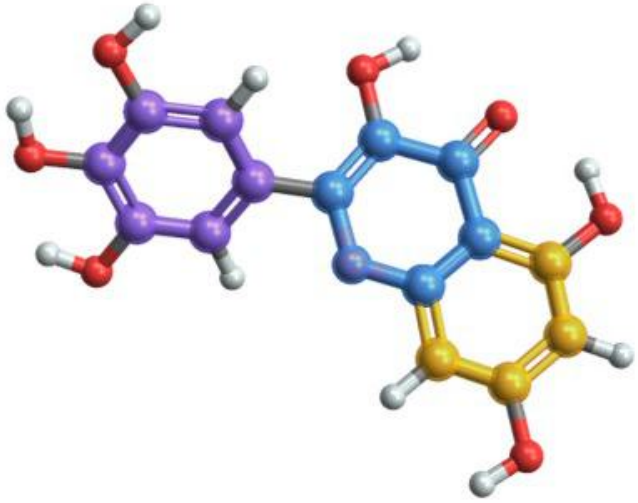
Graph-level prediction tasks



(ex) sum, average, min/max pooling of node embeddings

Graph-level prediction tasks

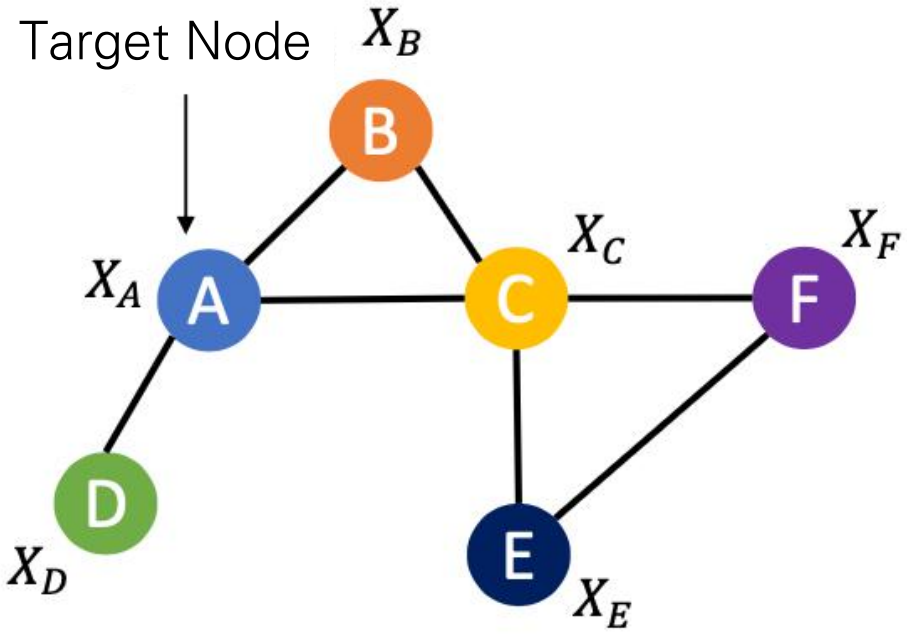


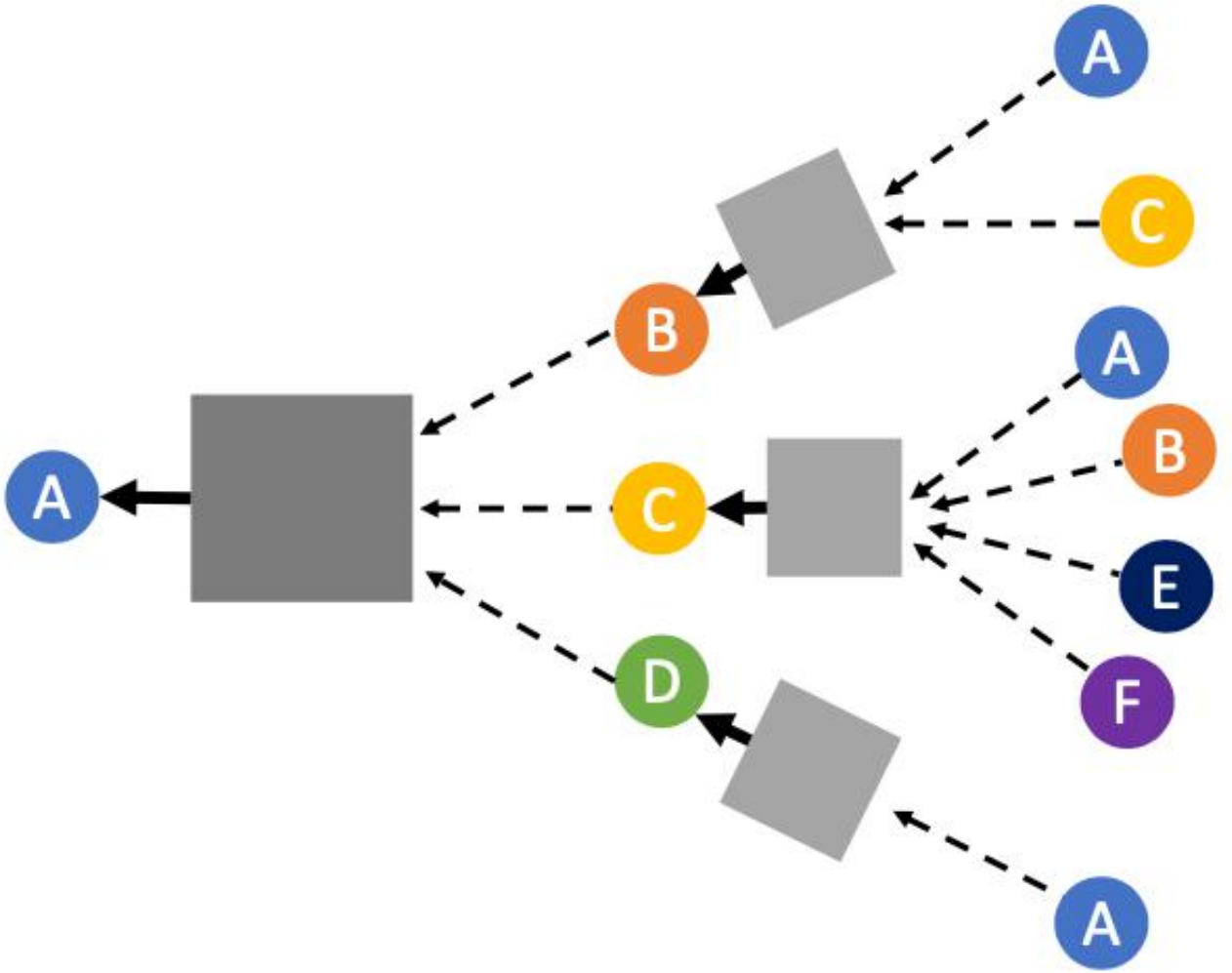


- Predict **properties of a molecule (graph)** where nodes are atoms and edges are chemical bonds

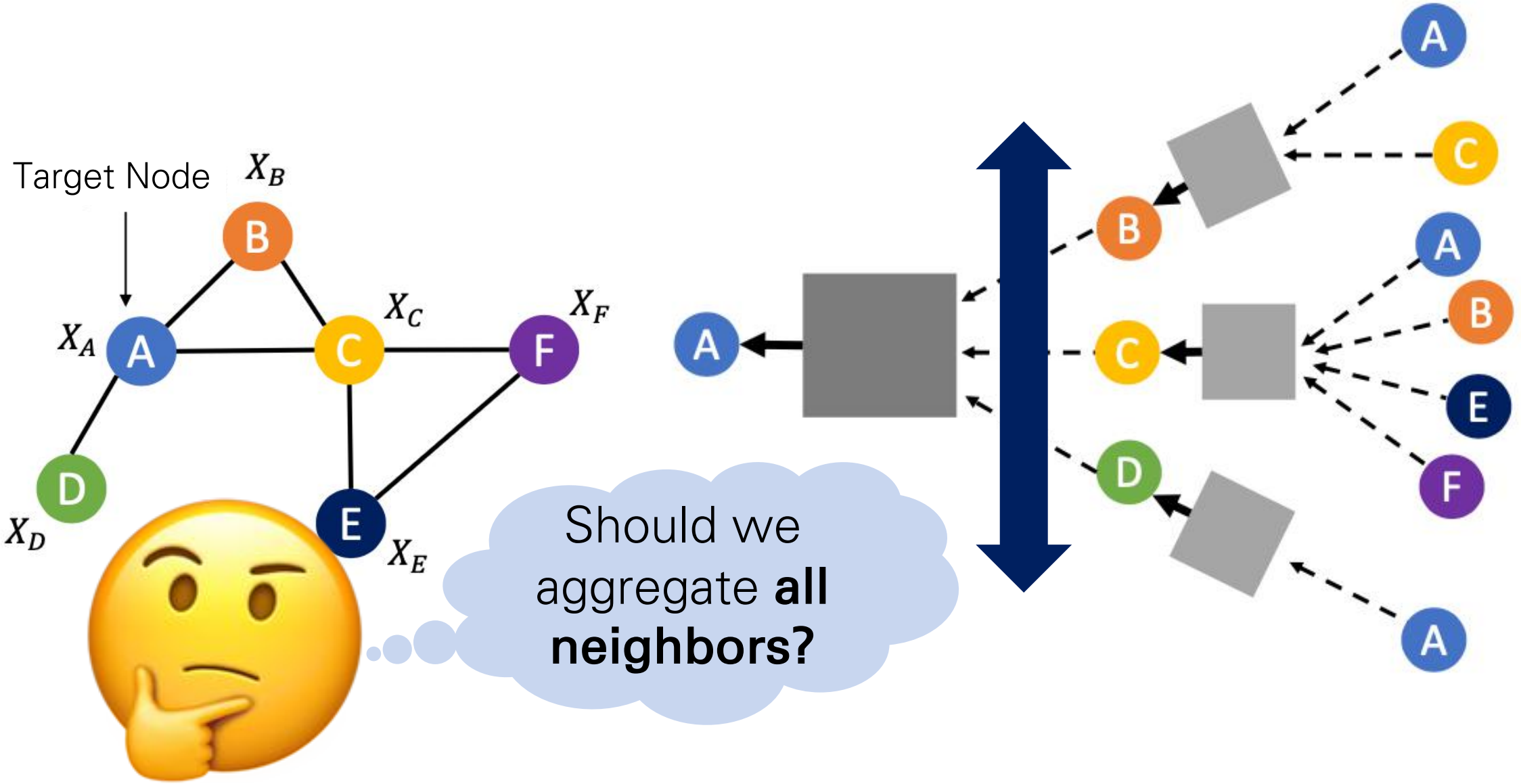
More on aggregation and Transformation operations

Graph Neural Networks – Width

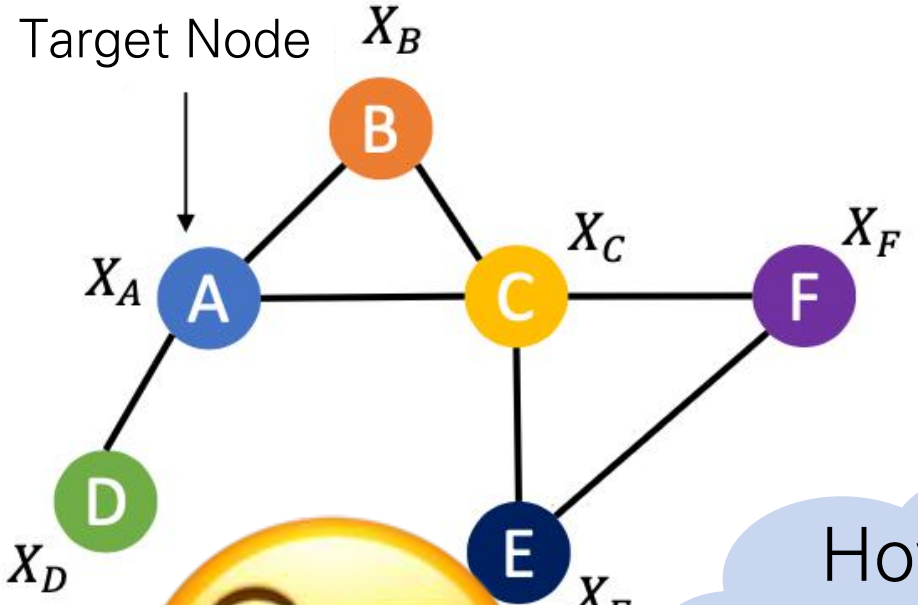




Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

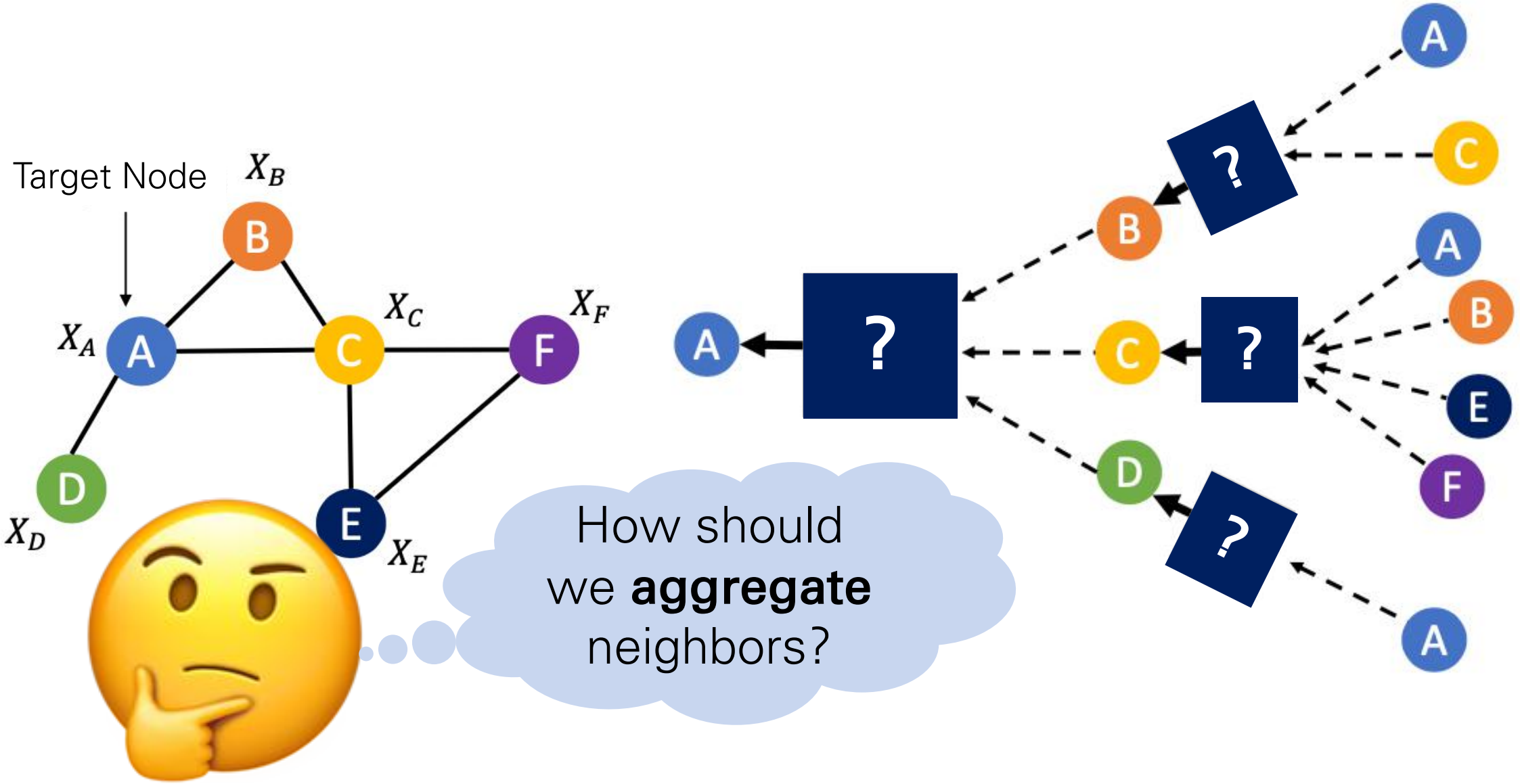


Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



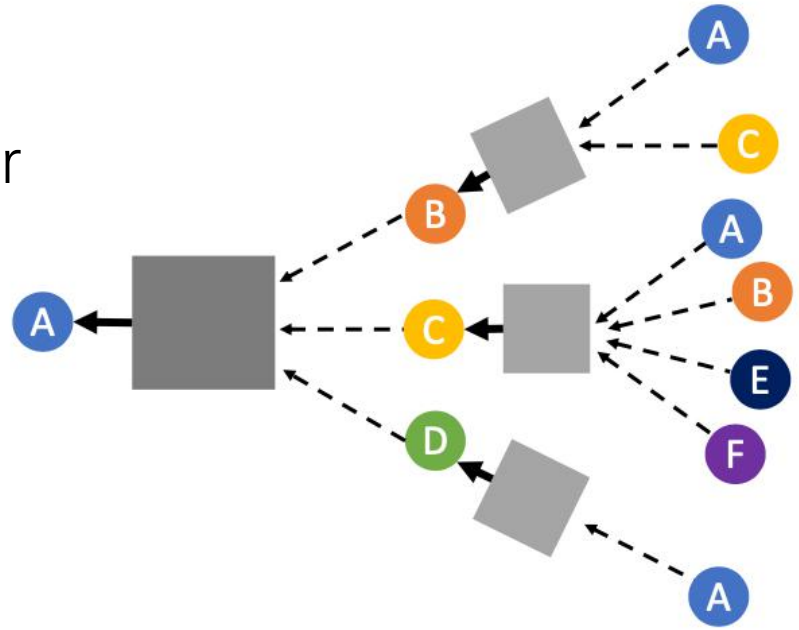
How **many hops** should we xplore?

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)



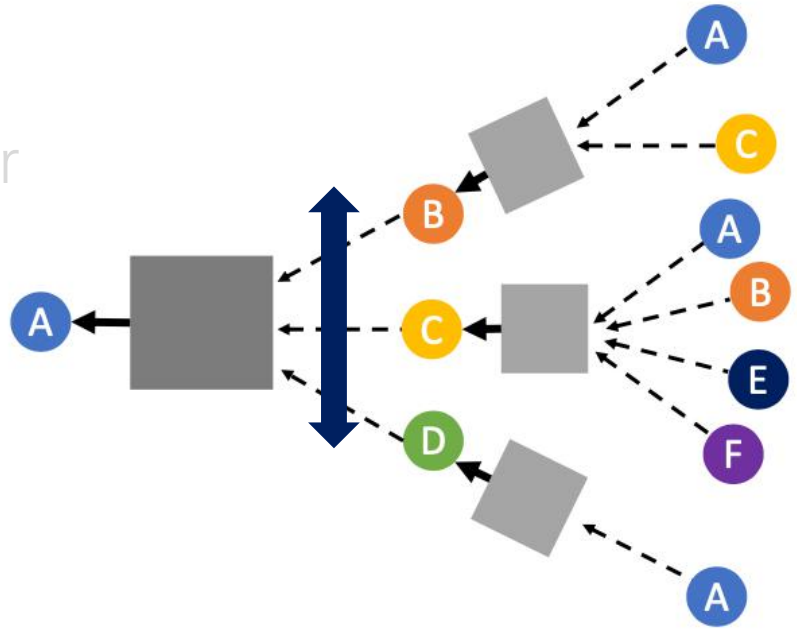
Graph Neural Network Architectures

- Width
  - Which neighbors should we aggregate messages from?
- Depth
  - How many hops should we check?
- Aggregation
  - How should we aggregate messages from neighbor



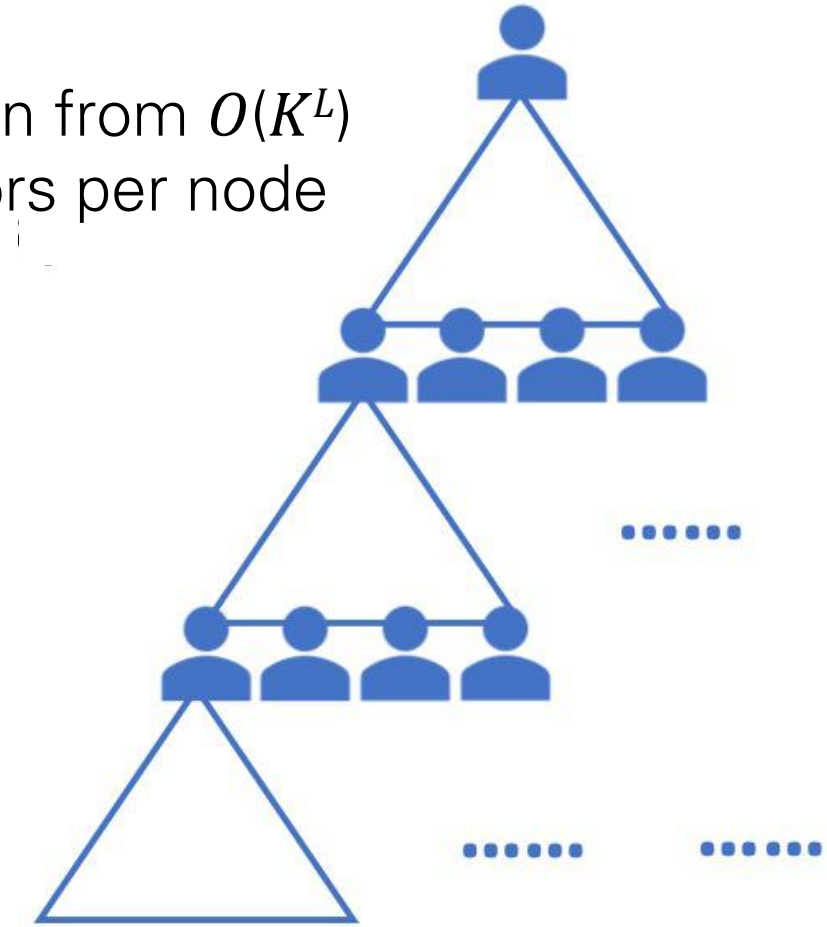
Graph Neural Network Architectures

- Width
  - Which neighbors should we aggregate messages from?
- Depth
  - How many hops should we check?
- Aggregation
  - How should we aggregate messages from neighbor



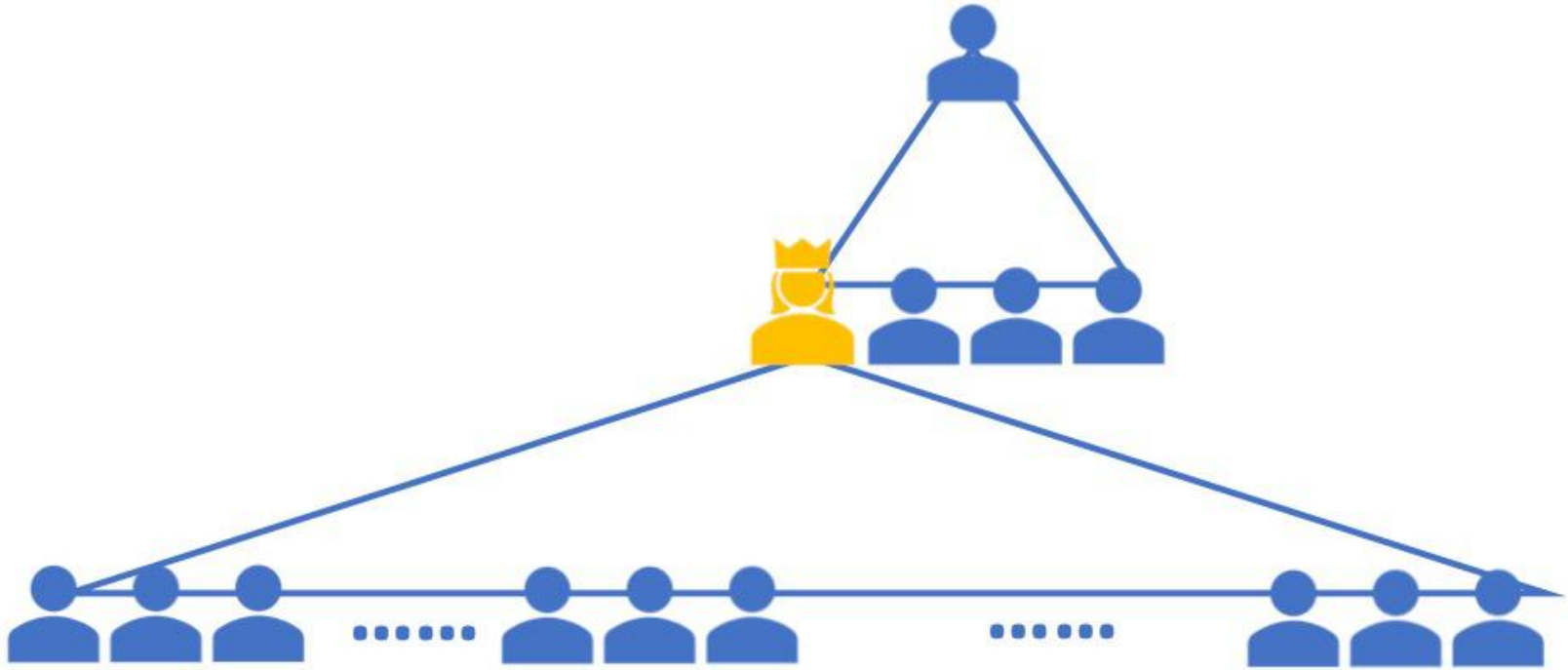
Aggregation Width in GNNs

- If we aggregate all neighbors, GNNs have scalability issues
- Neighbor explosion
  - In L -layer GNNs, one node aggregates information from $O(K^L)$ nodes where K is the average number of neighbors per node



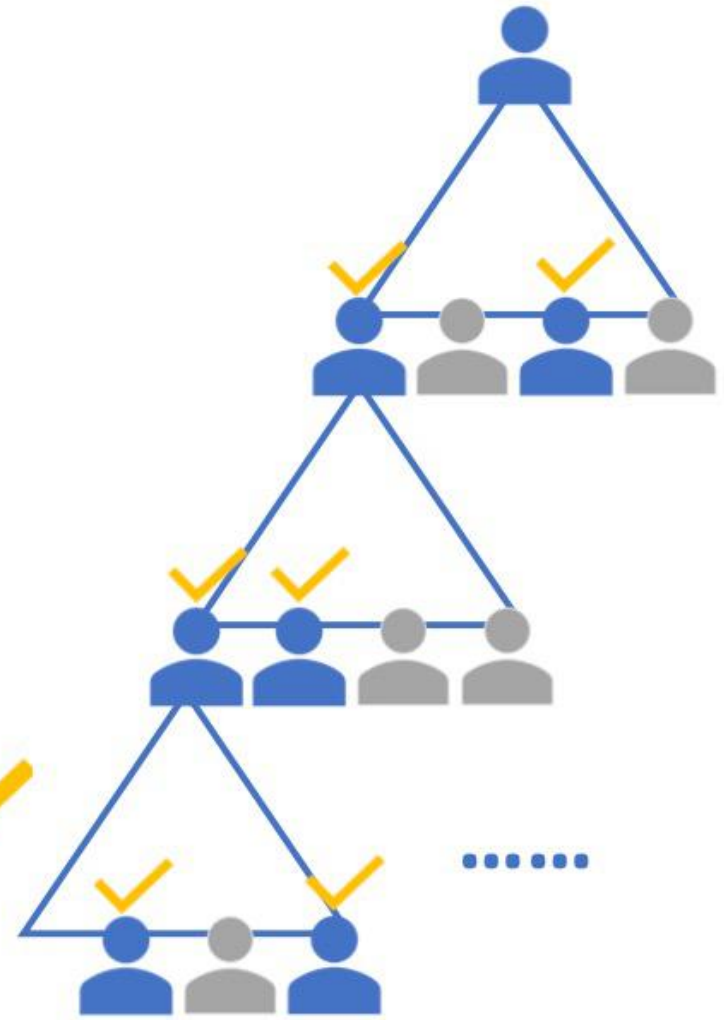
Aggregation Width in GNNs

- If we aggregate all neighbors, GNNs have scalability issues
- Neighbor explosion
  - Hub nodes who are connected to a huge number of nodes



Aggregation Width in GNNs

- Limit the neighborhood expansion by **sampling** a fixed number of neighbors



Sample the neighbors ✓

Aggregation Width in GNNs

- Random sampling
  - Assign **same** sampling probabilities to all neighbors
  - GraphSage[4]
- Importance sampling
  - Assign **different** sampling probabilities to all neighbors
  - FastGCN[5], LADIES[6], AS-GCN[7], GCN-BS[8], PASS[9]

[4] Will Hamilton, et al. "Inductive representation learning on large graphs"
[5] Jie Chen, et al. "Fastgcn: fast learning with graph convolutional networks via importance sampling"
[6] Difan Zou, et al. "Layer-Dependent Importance Sampling for Training Deep and Large Graph Convolutional Networks"
[7] Wenbing Huang, et al. "Adaptive sampling towards fast graph representation learning"
[8] Ziqi Liu, et al. "Bandit Samplers for Training Graph Neural Networks"
[9] Minji Yoon, et al. "Performance-Adaptive Sampling Strategy Towards Fast and Accurate Graph Neural Networks"

Aggregation Width in GNNs

Importance sampling

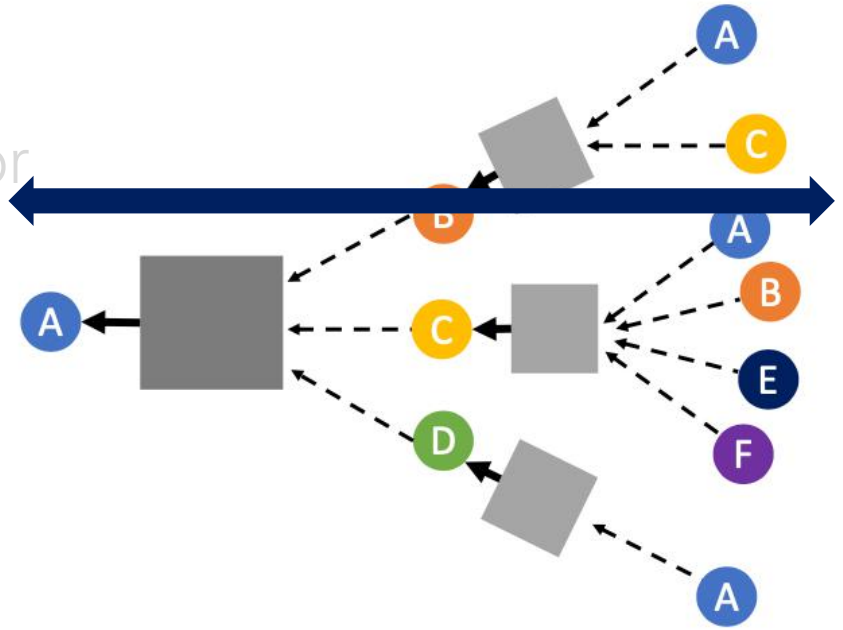
: assign higher sampling probabilities to neighbors who

- **Minimize variance in sampling**
  - FastGCN[5], LADIES[6], AS-GCN[7], GCN-BS[8]
- **Maximize GNN performance**
  - PASS[9]

[4] Will Hamilton, et al. "Inductive representation learning on large graphs"
[5] Jie Chen, et al. "Fastgcn: fast learning with graph convolutional networks via importance sampling"
[6] Difan Zou, et al. "Layer-Dependent Importance Sampling for Training Deep and Large Graph Convolutional Networks"
[7] Wenbing Huang, et al. "Adaptive sampling towards fast graph representation learning"
[8] Ziqi Liu, et al. "Bandit Samplers for Training Graph Neural Networks"
[9] Minji Yoon, et al. "Performance-Adaptive Sampling Strategy Towards Fast and Accurate Graph Neural Networks"

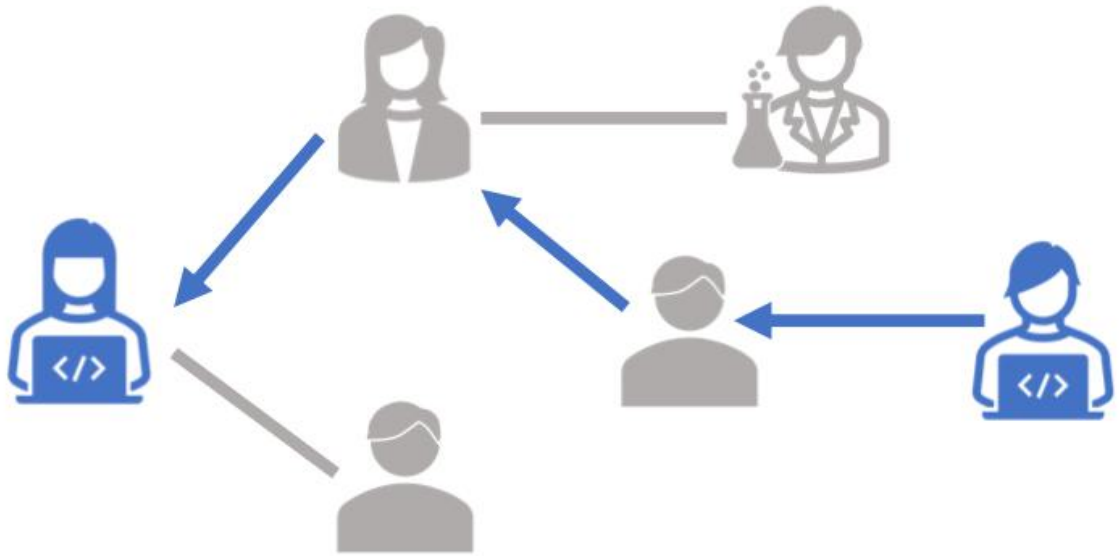
Graph Neural Network Architectures

- Width
  - Which neighbors should we aggregate messages from?
- Depth
  - How many hops should we check?
- Aggregation
  - How should we aggregate messages from neighbor



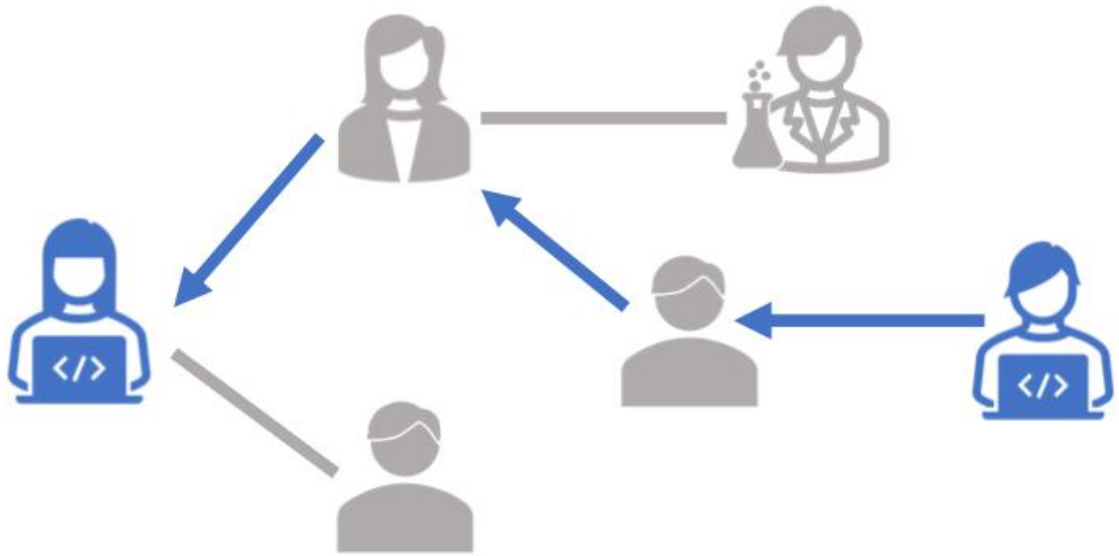
Aggregation Depth in GNNs

- Informative neighbors could be indirectly connected with a target node



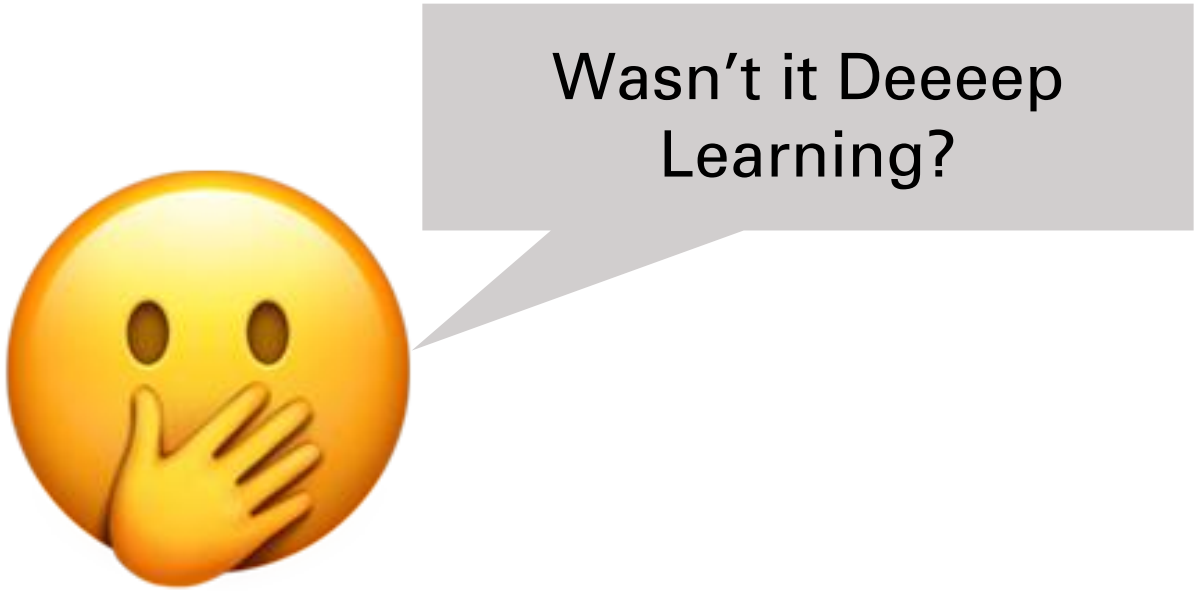
Aggregation Depth in GNNs

- Informative neighbors could be indirectly connected with a target node
- Can’t we just look multiple hops away from the target node?



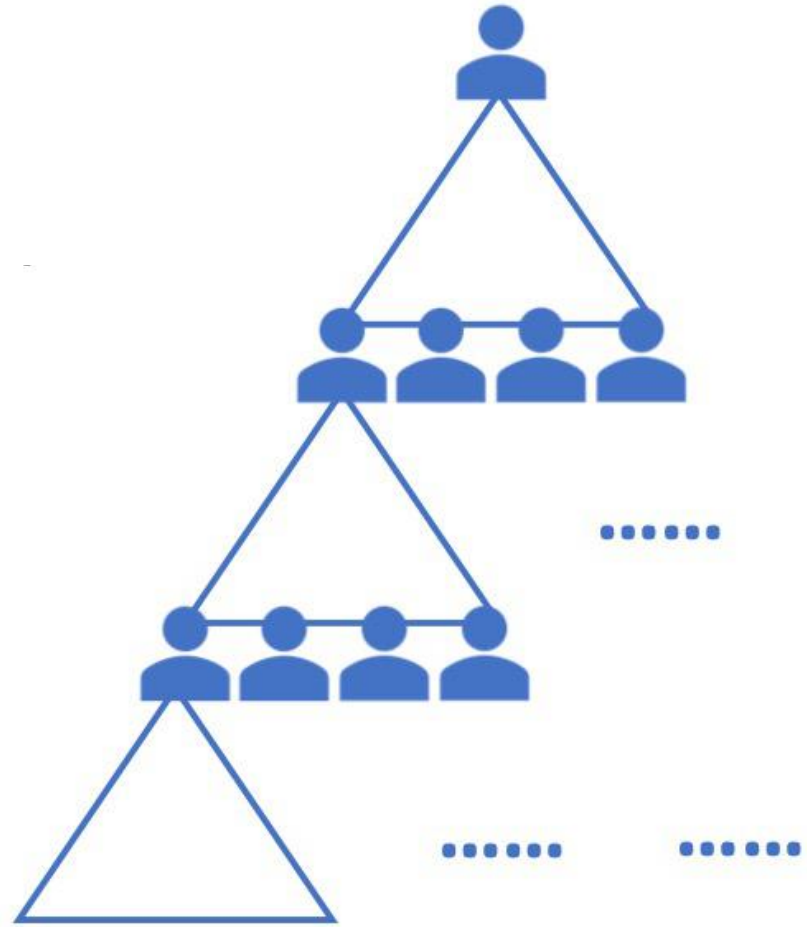
Aggregation Depth in GNNs

- 2-layer or 3-layer GNNs are commonly used in real worlds



Aggregation Depth in GNNs

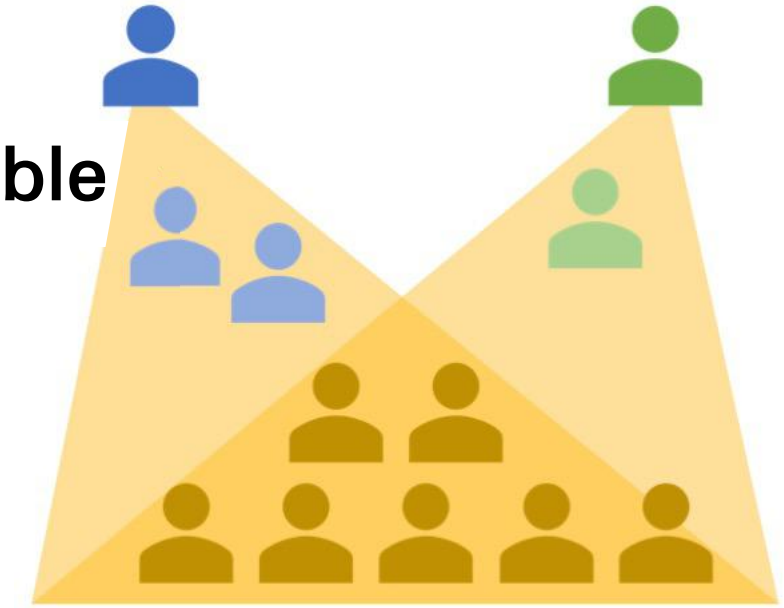
- When we increase the depth L more than this, GNNs face neighbor explosion $O(K^L)$
  - **Over-smoothing**
  - **Over-squashing**



Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Over-smoothing[10]

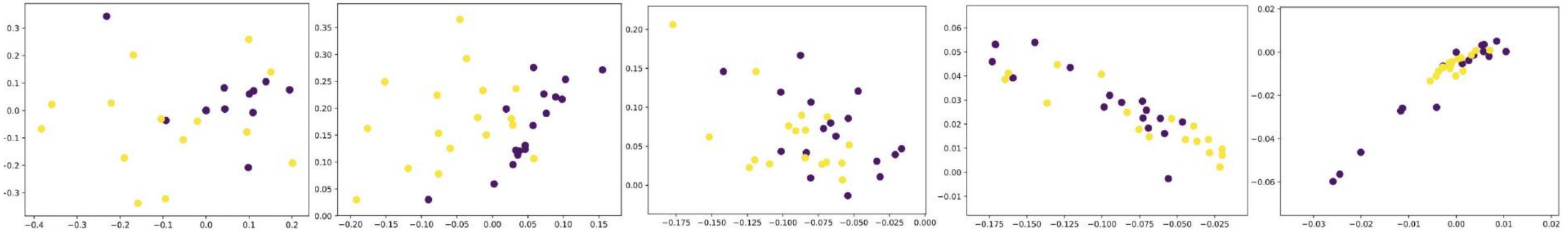
- When GNNs become deep, nodes share many neighbors
- Node embeddings become **indistinguishable**



[10] Qimai Li, et al. "Deeper Insights into Graph Convolutional Networks for Semi-Supervised Learning"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

- Over-smoothing[10]
- Node embeddings of Zachary's karate club network with GNNs



(a) 1-layer (b) 2-layer (c) 3-layer (d) 4-layer (e) 5-layer

[10] Qimai Li, et al. "Deeper Insights into Graph Convolutional Networks for Semi-Supervised Learning"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Mitigate over-smoothing

PairNorm[11]

- Keep total pairwise squared distance (TPSD) **constant** across layers
- Push away pairs that are not connected

Connected pairs Disconnected pairs

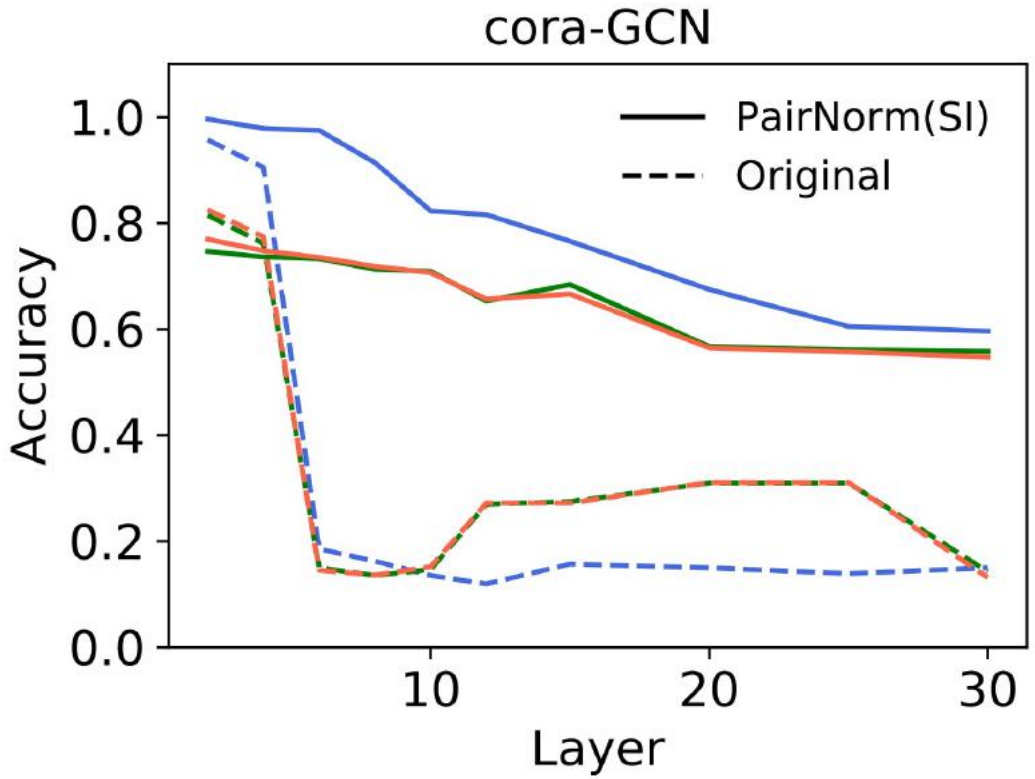
$$\mathrm{TPSD}(\dot{X}) = \sum_{(i,j)\in\mathcal{E}} ||\dot{x}_i - \dot{x}_j||_2^2 + \sum_{(i,j)\notin\mathcal{E}} ||\dot{x}_i - \dot{x}_j||_2^2 = C$$

[11] Lingxiao Zhao, et al. "PairNorm: Tackling Oversmoothing in GNNs"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Mitigate over-smoothing

PairNorm[11]

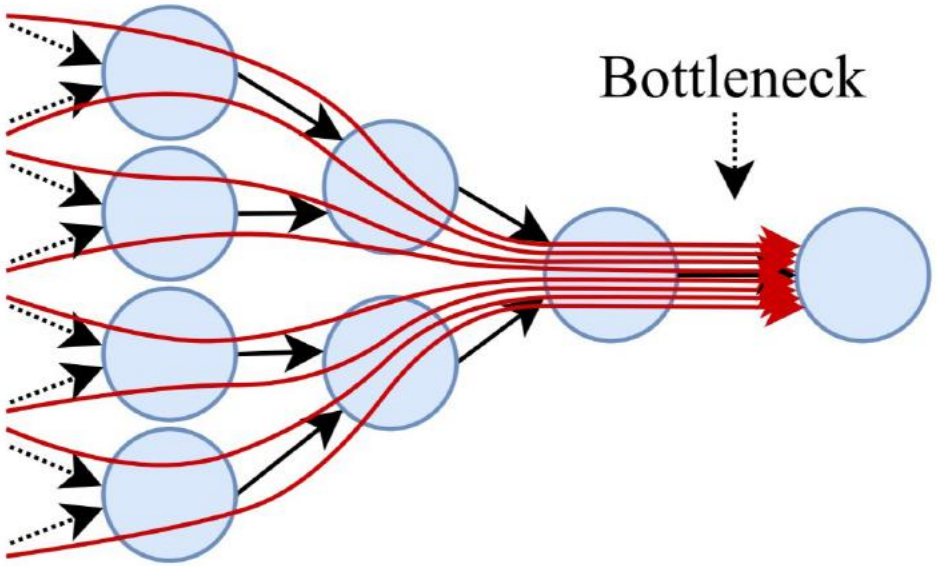


[11] Lingxiao Zhao, et al. "PairNorm: Tackling Oversmoothing in GNNs"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Over-squashing[12]

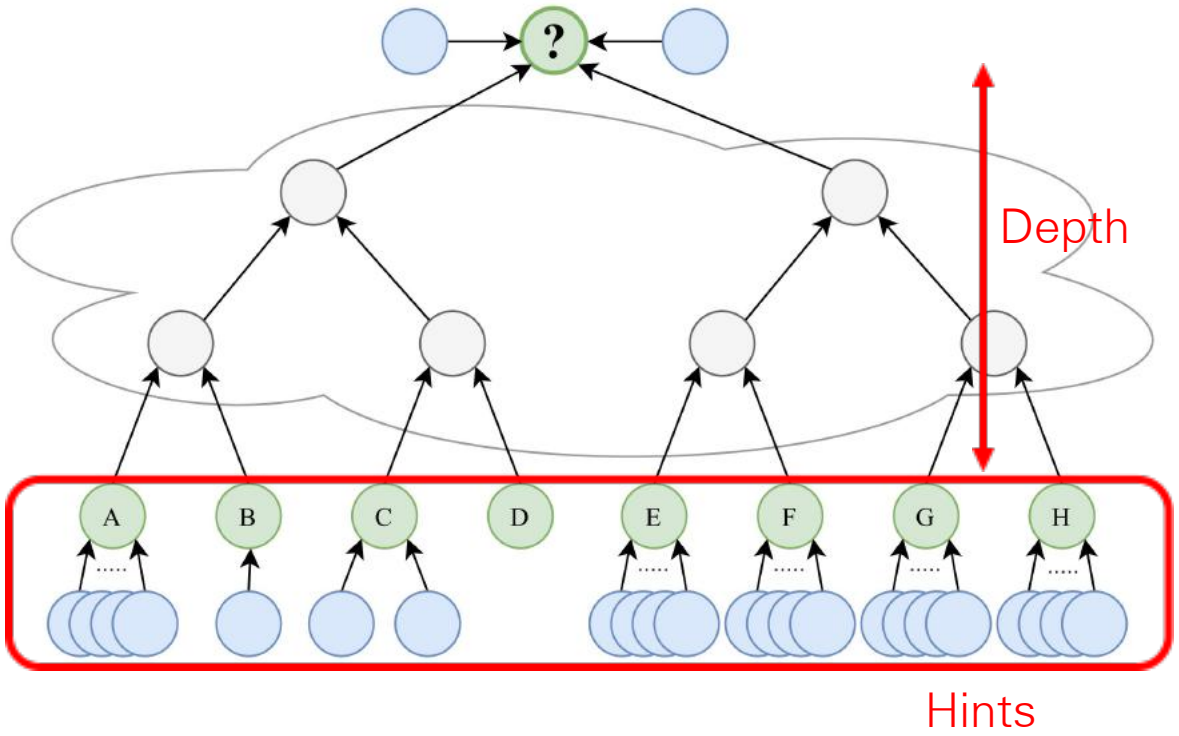
- A node's exponentially-growing neighborhood is compressed into a fixed-size vector

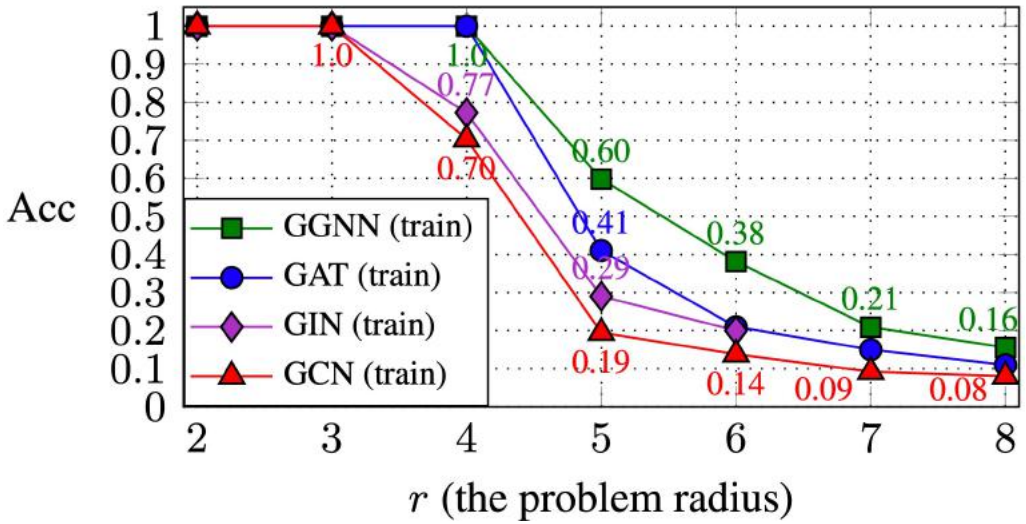


[12] Uri Alon, et al. "On the Bottleneck of Graph Neural Networks and its Practical Implications"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Over-squashing[12]





[12] Uri Alon, et al. "On the Bottleneck of Graph Neural Networks and its Practical Implications"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Decoupling the two concepts of depths in GNNs[13]

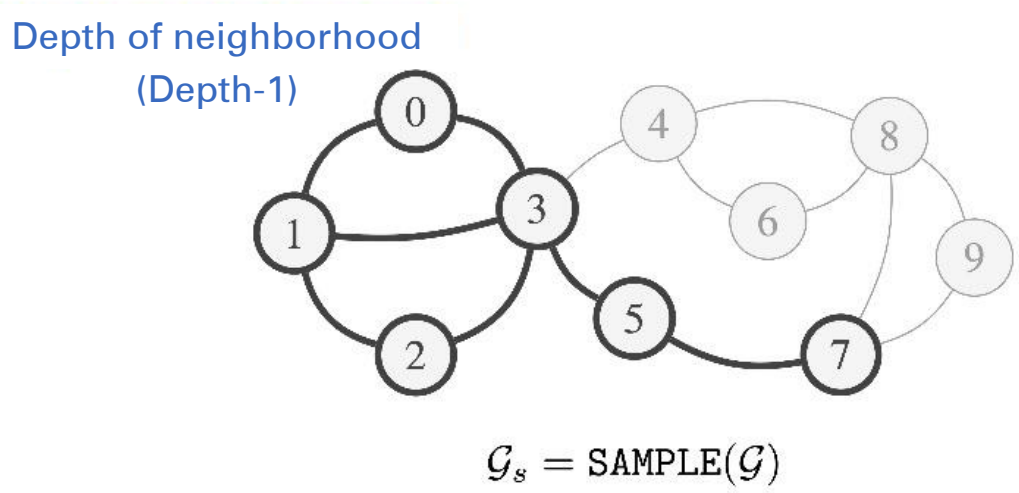
- **Depth-1**: neighborhood that each node aggregates information from
- **Depth-2**: number of layers in GNNs

[13] Hanqing Zeng, et al. "Decoupling the Depth and Scope of Graph Neural Networks"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Decoupling the two concepts of depths in GNNs[13]

- **Depth-1**: neighborhood that each node aggregates information from
- **Depth-2**: number of layers in GNNs

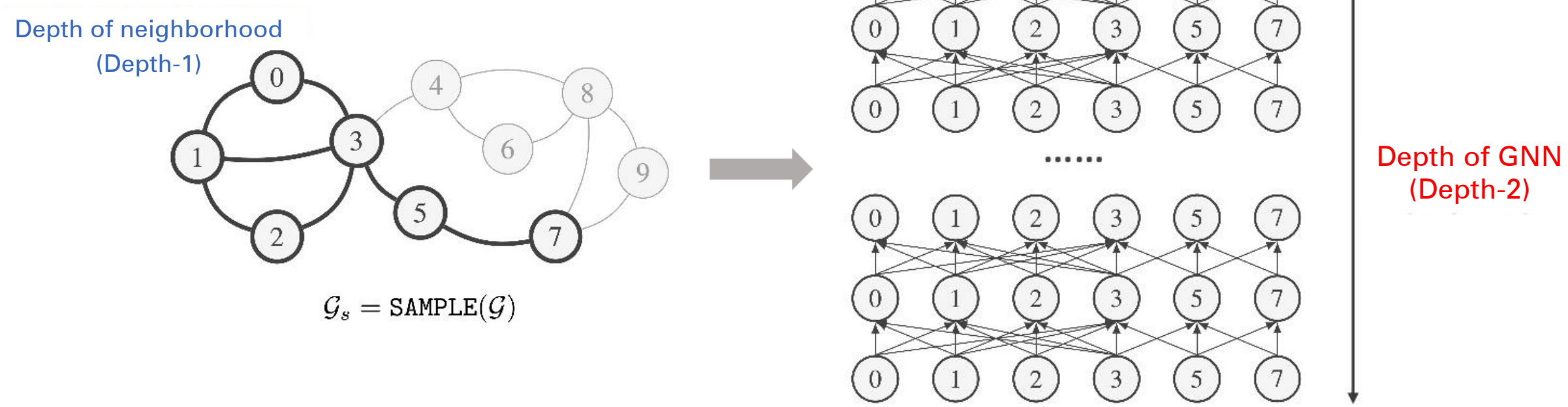


[13] Hanqing Zeng, et al. "Decoupling the Depth and Scope of Graph Neural Networks"

Aggregation Depth in GNNs

Decoupling the two concepts of depths in GNNs[13]

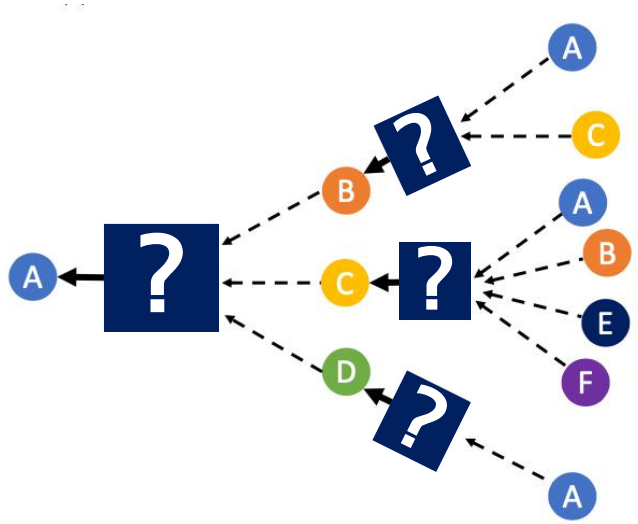
- **Depth-1**: neighborhood that each node aggregates information from
- **Depth-2**: number of layers in GNNs



[13] Hanqing Zeng, et al. "Decoupling the Depth and Scope of Graph Neural Networks"

Graph Neural Network Architectures

- Width
  - Which neighbors should we aggregate messages from?
- Depth
  - How many hops should we check?
- Aggregation
  - How should we aggregate messages from neighbor



Aggregation strategy in GNNs

In each layer l :

Aggregate over neighbors

$$m_v^{(l-1)} = \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_v^{(l-1)}, \left\{h_u^{(l-1)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\right\}\right)$$

Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}(m_v^{(l-1)})$$

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

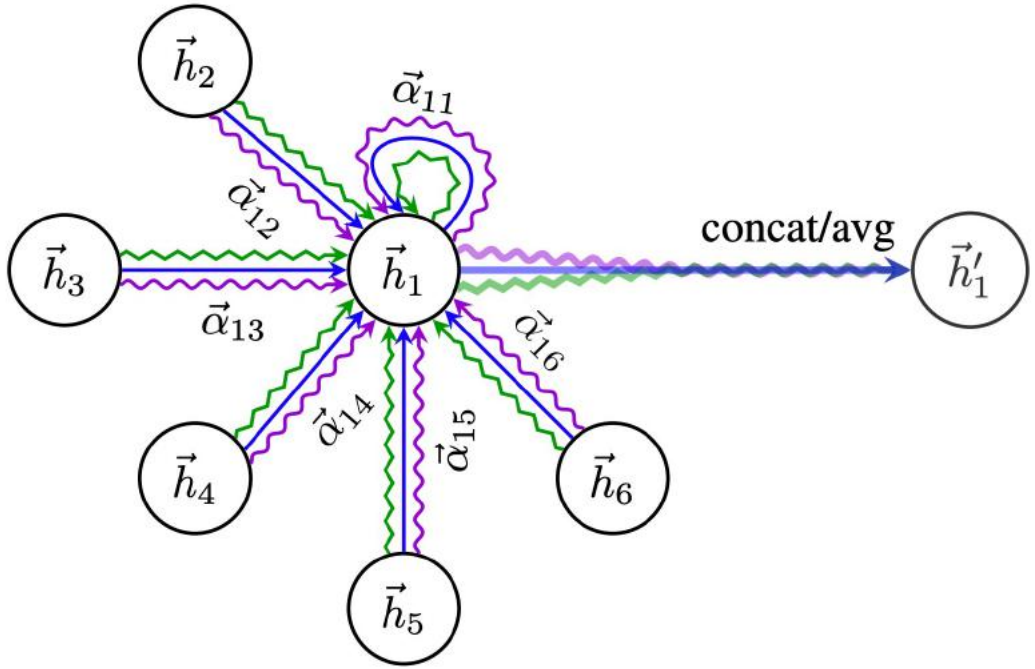
- GCN[1]
  - Average embeddings of neighboring nodes

[1] Kipf, Thomas N., et al. "Semi-supervised classification with graph convolutional networks."

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- GAT[14]
  - Different weights to different nodes in a neighborhood
  - Multi-head attention

$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{\exp\left(\text{LeakyReLU}\left(\vec{\mathbf{a}}^T[\mathbf{W}\vec{h}_i \| \mathbf{W}\vec{h}_j]\right)\right)}{\sum_{k\in\mathcal{N}_i}\exp\left(\text{LeakyReLU}\left(\vec{\mathbf{a}}^T[\mathbf{W}\vec{h}_i \| \mathbf{W}\vec{h}_k]\right)\right)}$$



[14] Petar Veličković., et al. "GRAPH ATTENTION NETWORKS."

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

In each layer l :

Aggregate over neighbors

$$m_v^{(l-1)} = \boldsymbol{f}^{(l)}\left(h_v^{(l-1)}, \left\{h_u^{(l-1)} : u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\right\}\right)$$

Core part of GNNs

Transform messages

$$h_v^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{g}^{(l)}(m_v^{(l-1)})$$

Any neural network module can fit in 1-layer MLP is commonly used

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

Power of **GNNs**

=

Power of **aggregation strategies**

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

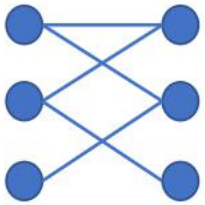
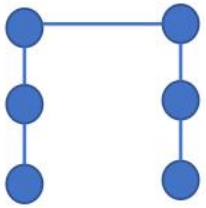
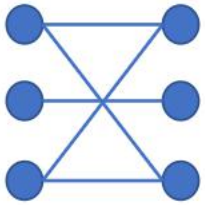
- By measuring the power of GNNs, we can find the best aggregation strategy!!

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- By measuring the power of GNNs, we can find the best aggregation strategy!!
- But.. what is the power of GNNs and how can we measure it?

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

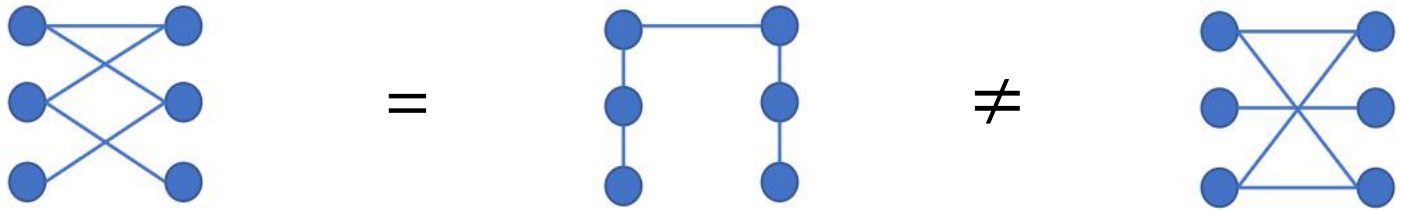
- How powerful are Graph Neural Networks?[2]
- Metric
  - Graph-level prediction task
  - Can a GNN model distinguish two non-isomorphic graphs?

[2] Keyulu Xu., et al. "How Powerful are Graph Neural Networks?"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- How powerful are Graph Neural Networks?[2]
- Metric
  - Graph-level prediction task
  - Can a GNN model distinguish two non-isomorphic graphs?

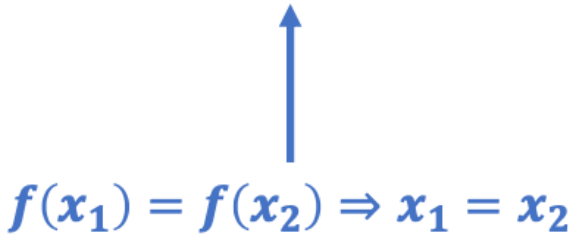


[2] Keyulu Xu., et al. "How Powerful are Graph Neural Networks??"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- How powerful are Graph Neural Networks?[2]
  - Any aggregation-based GNN is at most as powerful as the **WL test**[15]
  - Maximum power = aggregation strategy is injective

Weisfeiler-Lehman (WL) graph isomorphism test



[2] Keyulu Xu., et al. "How Powerful are Graph Neural Networks?"
[15] Boris Weisfeiler and AA Leman. "A reduction of a graph to a canonical form and an algebra arising during this reduction"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- How powerful are Graph Neural Networks?[2]
  - Any aggregation-based GNN is at most as powerful as the **WL test**[15]
  - Maximum power = aggregation strategy is injective
  - (ex) summation

Mean and Max both fail, while Sum can distinguish them!!

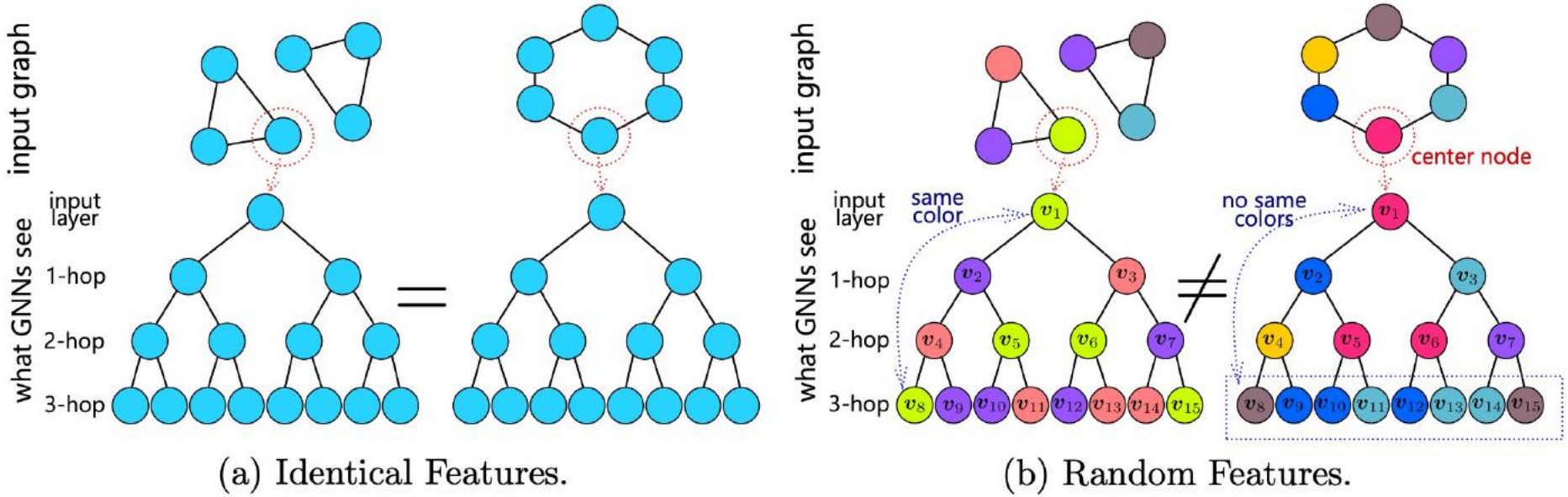
[2] Keyulu Xu., et al. "How Powerful are Graph Neural Networks?"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- Can we make more powerful GNNs?
  - Very active area, with many open problems

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

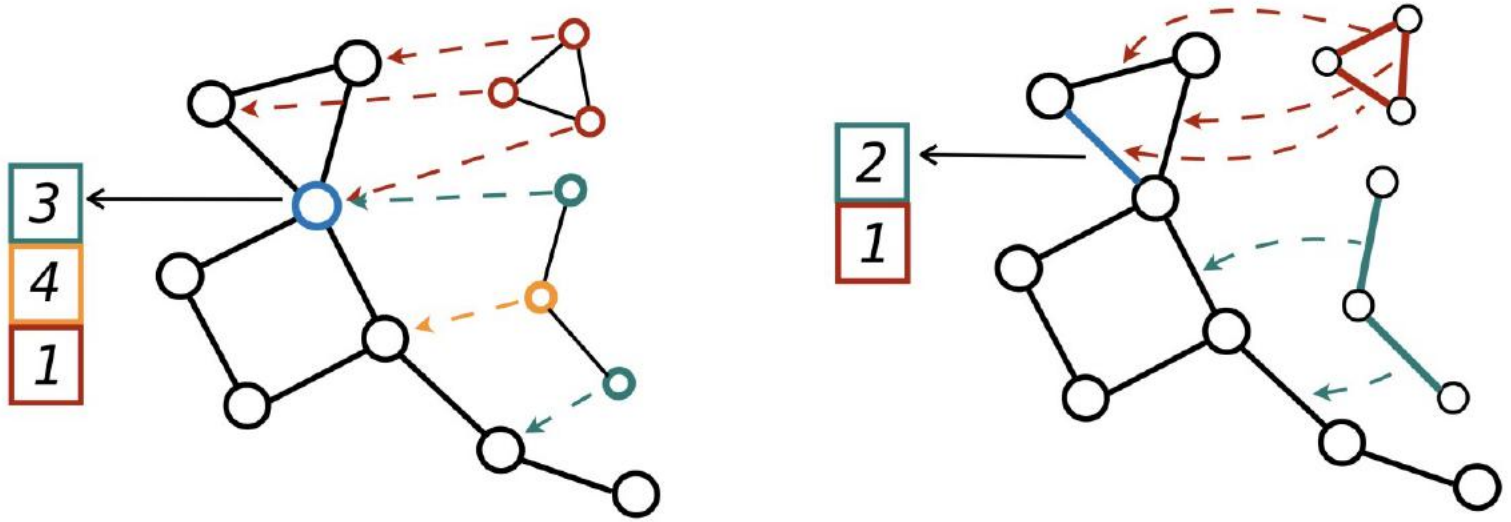
- Can we make more powerful GNNs?
- Augment nodes with randomized/positional features[16]



[16] Ryoma Sato, et al. "Random Features Strengthen Graph Neural Networks"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

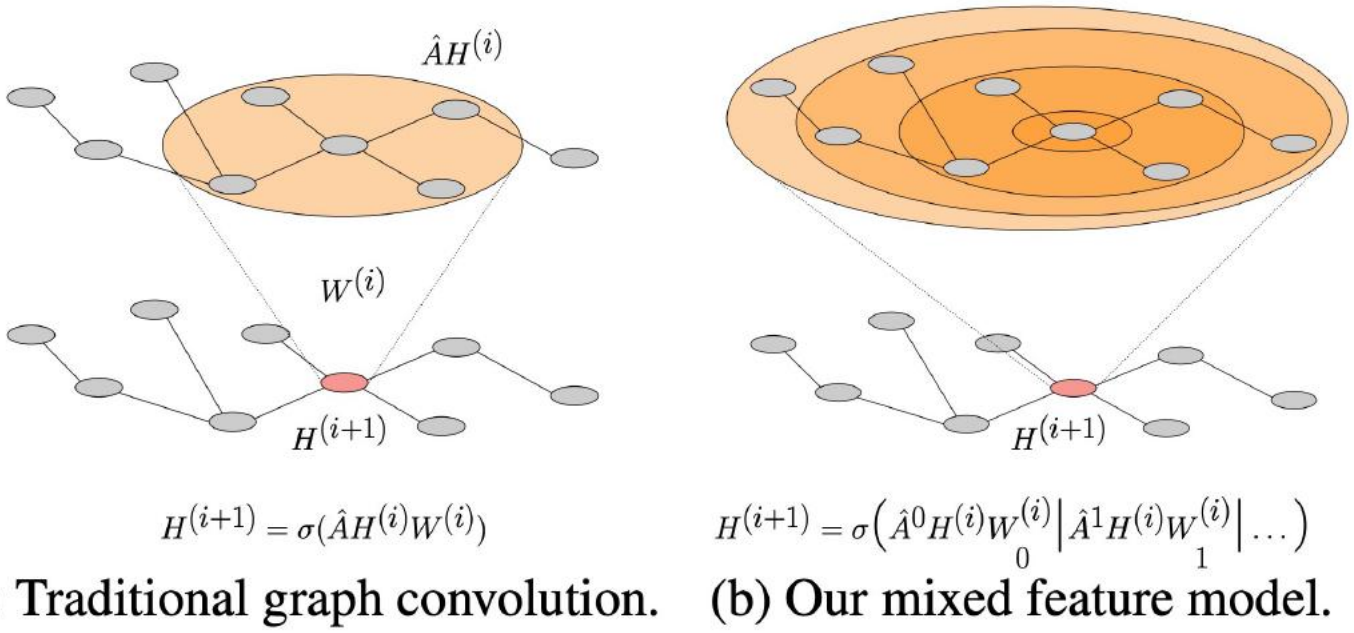
- Can we make more powerful GNNs?
- Augment nodes with randomized/positional features[16]



[17] Giorgos Bouritsas, et al. "Improving Graph Neural Network Expressivity via Subgraph Isomorphism Counting"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- Can we make more powerful GNNs?
- Directly aggregates k-hop information by using adjacency matrix powers[18]

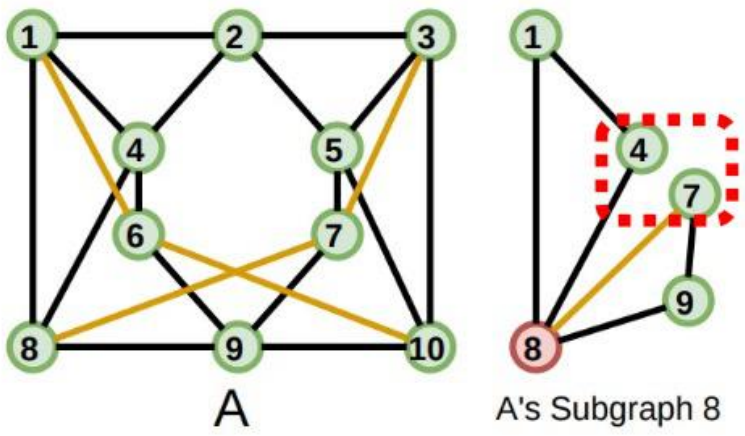


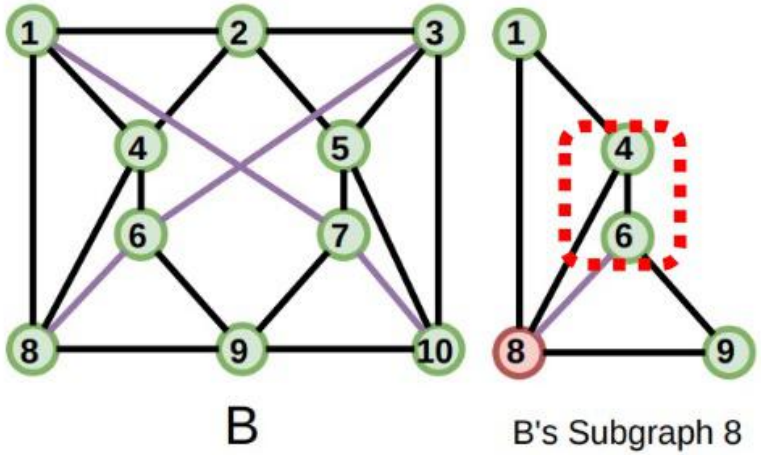
(a) Traditional graph convolution. (b) Our mixed feature model.

[18] Sami Abu-El-Haija, et al. "MixHop: Higher-Order Graph Convolutional Architectures via Sparsified Neighborhood Mixing"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- Can we make more powerful GNNs?
- Extending local aggregation in GNNs from star patterns to general subgraph patterns[19]





[19] Lingxiao Zhao, et al. "From Stars to Subgraphs: Uplifting Any GNN with Local Structure Awareness"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- [20] proves that there isn't a clear single "winner" aggregator

Theorem 1 (Number of aggregators needed). *In order to discriminate between multisets of size n whose underlying set is $\mathbb{R}$, at least n aggregators are needed.*

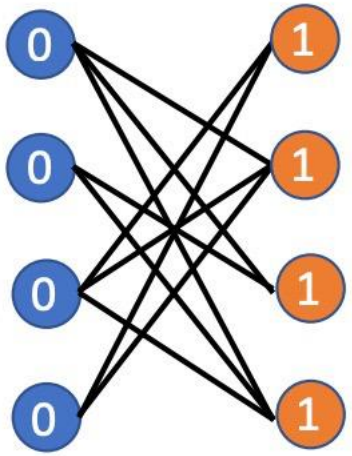
[20] Gabriele Corso, et al. "Principal Neighbourhood Aggregation for Graph Nets"

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

- Homophily assumption
  - Connected nodes are similar/related/informative

Aggregation strategy in GNNs

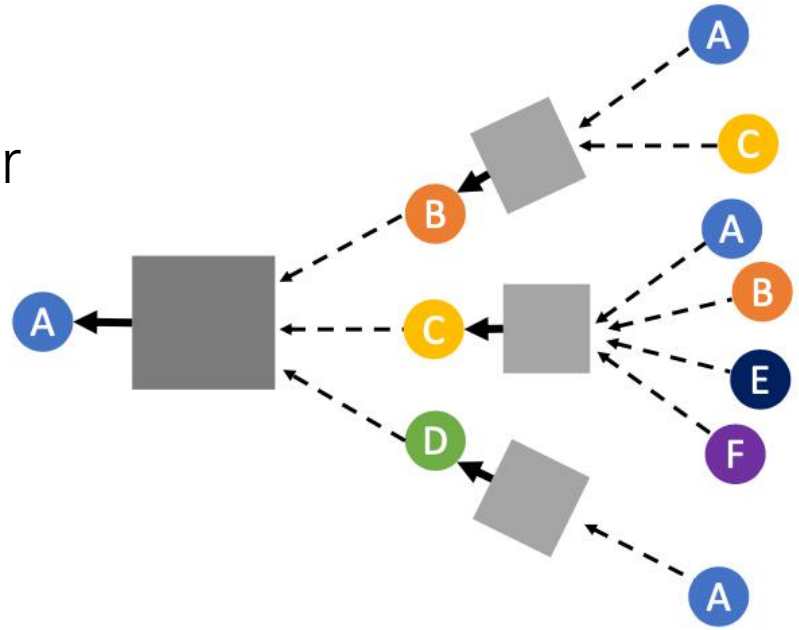
- Homophily assumption
  - Connected nodes are similar/related/informative
- How can we deal with heterophilous networks?[21,22]
  - Connected nodes have different class labels and dissimilar features



[21] Jiong Zhu., et al. "Beyond Homophily in Graph Neural Networks: Current Limitations and Effective Designs"
[22] Yao Ma, et al. "IS HOMOPHILY A NECESSITY FOR GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS?"

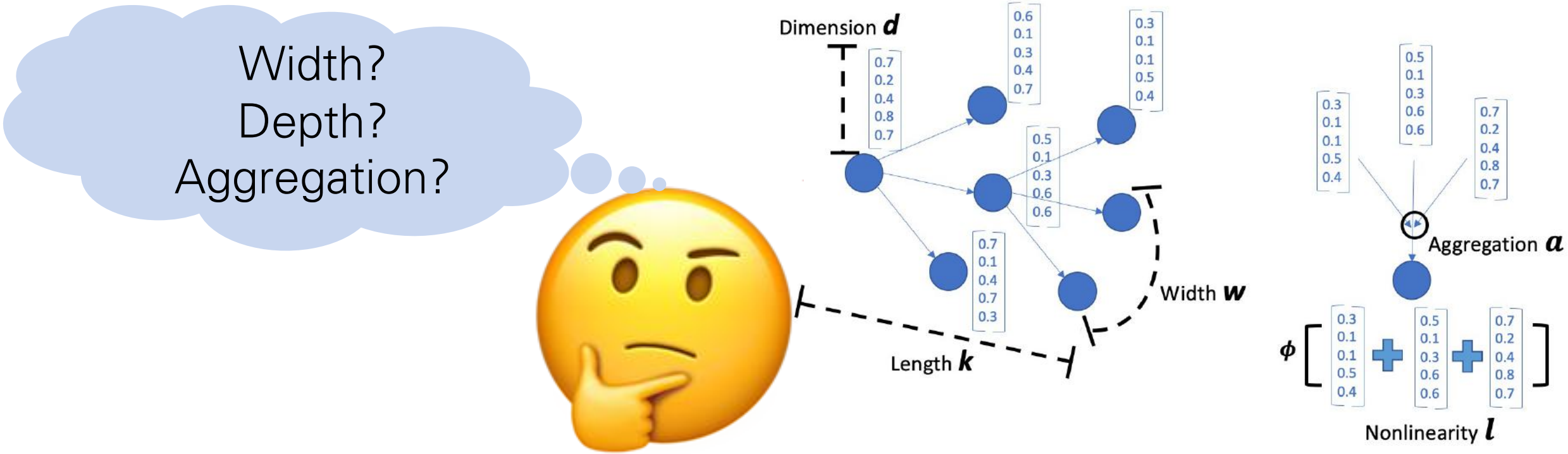
Graph Neural Network Architectures

- Width
  - Which neighbors should we aggregate messages from?
- Depth
  - How many hops should we check?
- Aggregation
  - How should we aggregate messages from neighbor



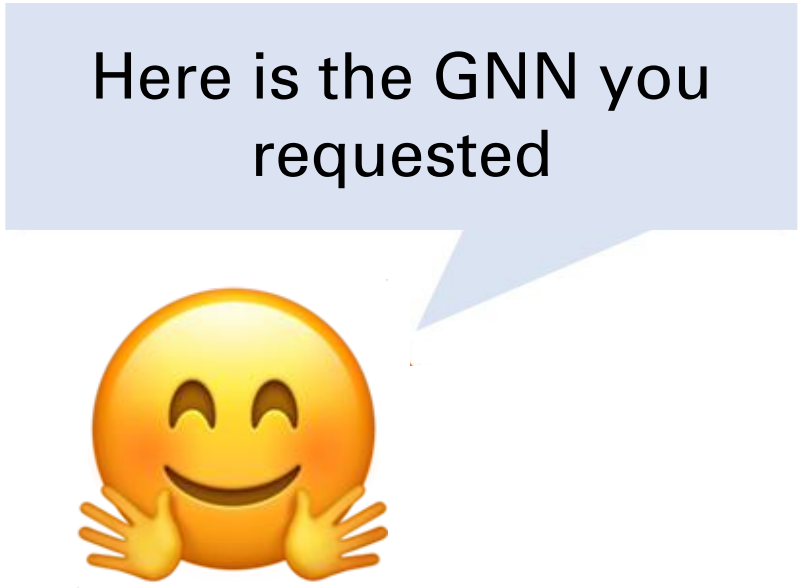
Neural Architecture Search for GNNs

- Which width, depth, and aggregation strategy are proper for a given graph and task?



Neural Architecture Search for GNNs

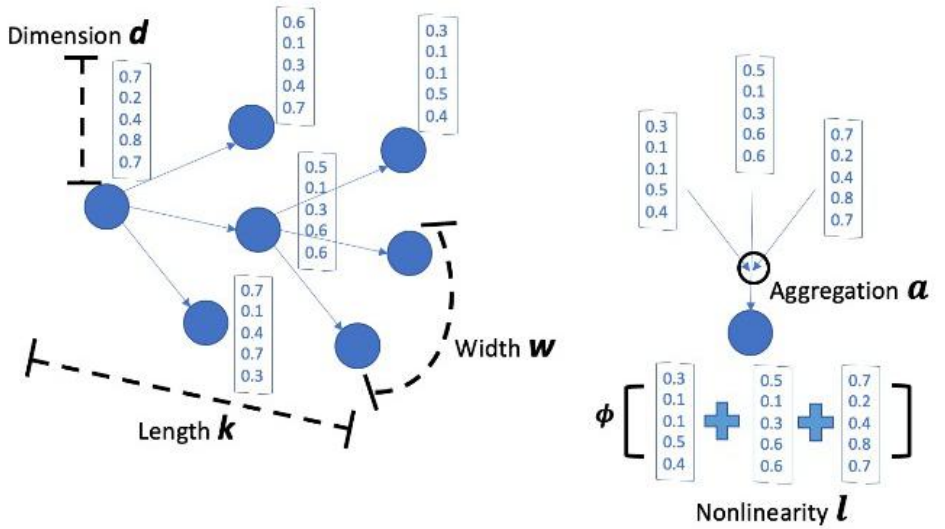
- Finding proper width, depth, and aggregation strategy for a given graph and task **automatically**[1,2,3]



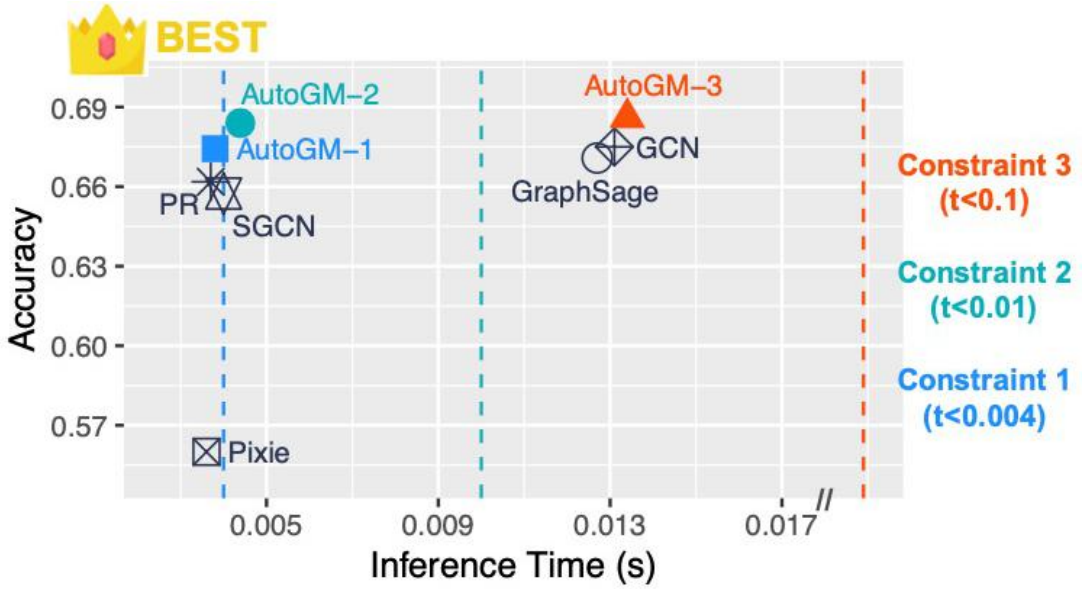
[23] Minji Yoon., et al. "Autonomous Graph Mining Algorithm Search with Best Speed/Accuracy Trade-off" [24] Kaixiong Zhou, et al. "Auto-GNN: Neural Architecture Search of Graph Neural Networks"
[25] Yang Gao, et al. "GraphNAS: Graph Neural Architecture Search with Reinforcement Learning"

Neural Architecture Search for GNNs

- AutoGM[23]



Step 1: define a hyperparameter space



Step 2: explore the space efficiently

[23] Minji Yoon., et al. "Autonomous Graph Mining Algorithm Search with Best Speed/Accuracy Trade-off"

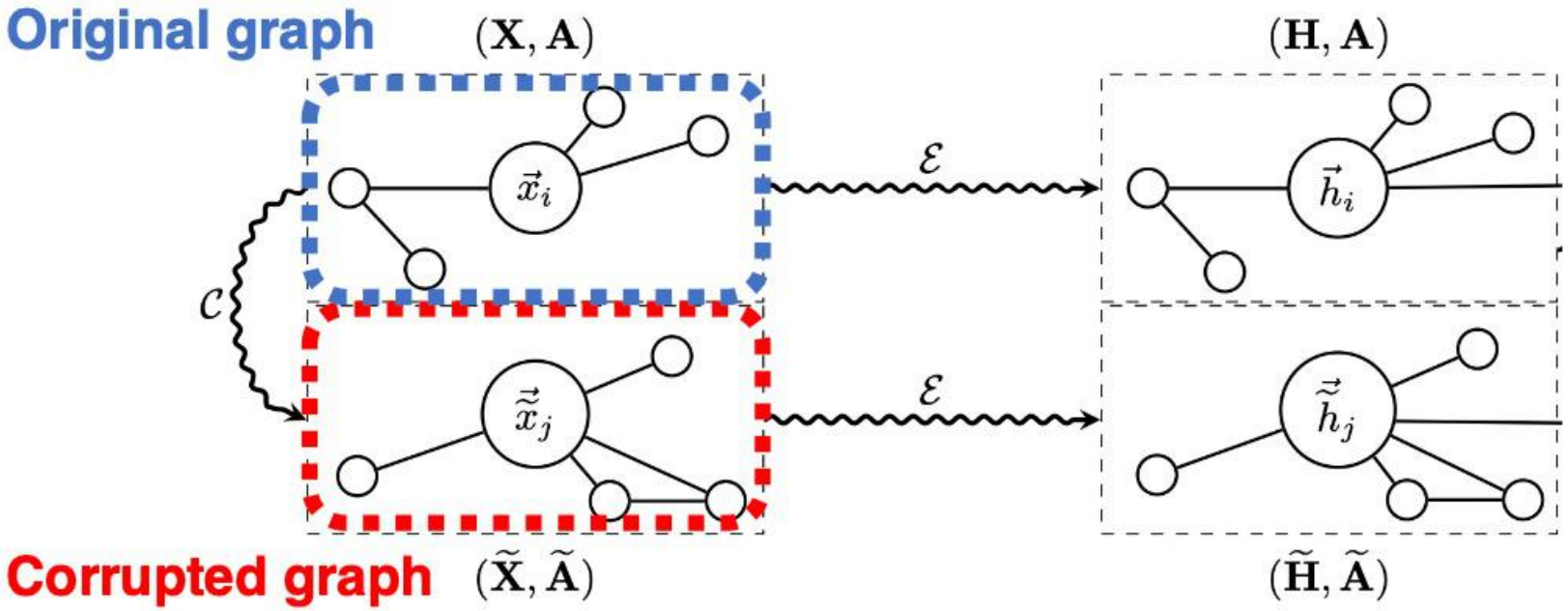
How to train GNNs?

How to train GNNs

- Semi-supervised learning
  - Input node features are given for all nodes in a graph
  - Only a subset of nodes have labels

How to train GNNs

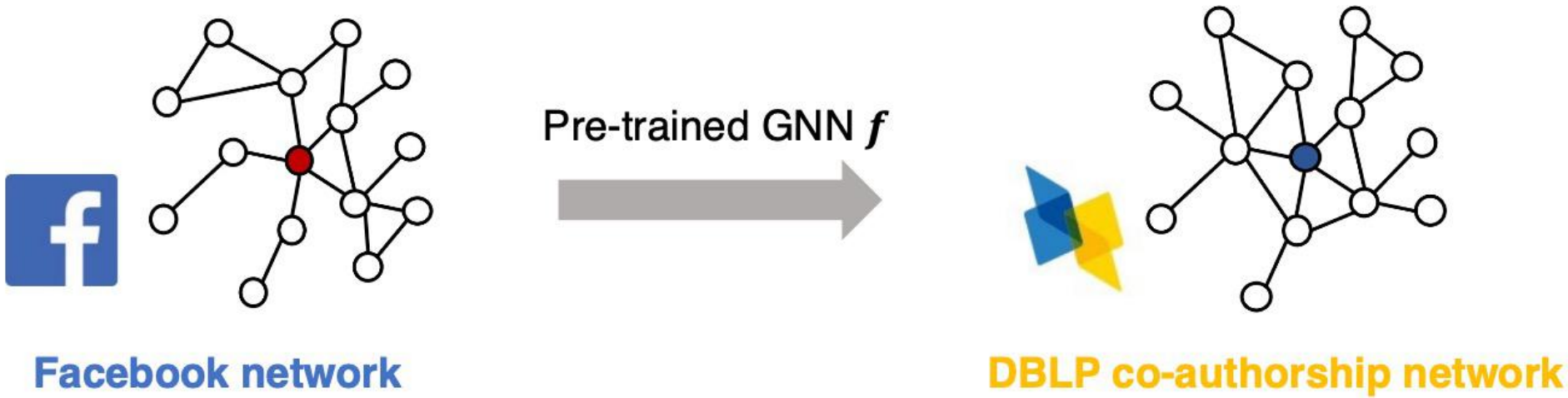
- Unsupervised learning[26]
  - Contrastive learning



[26] Petar Veličković., et al. "DEEP GRAPH INFOMAX"

How to train GNNs

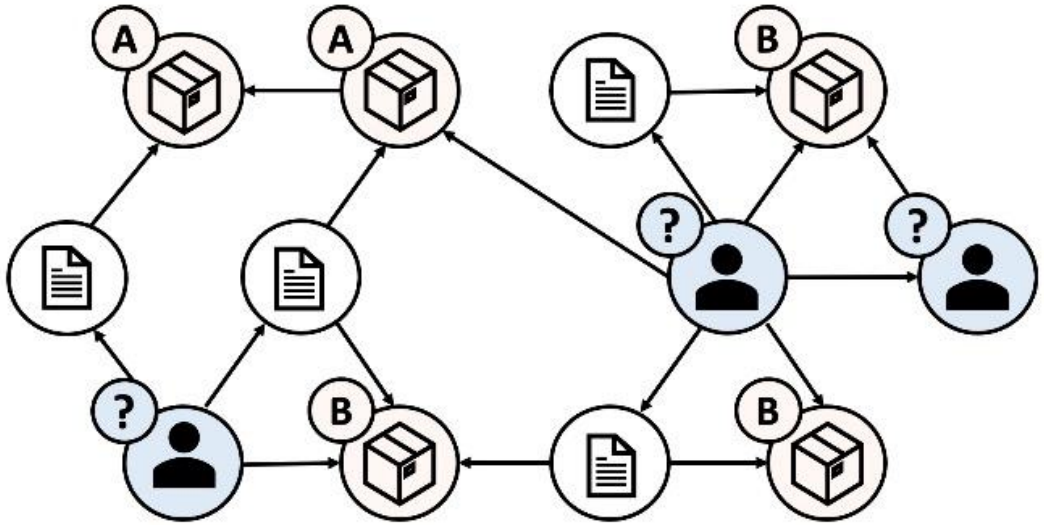
- Transfer learning
  - Transfer a pre-trained GNN model between graphs[27]



[27] Jiezhong Qiu, et al. "GCC: Graph Contrastive Coding for Graph Neural Network Pre-Training"

How to train GNNs

- Transfer learning
  - Transfer between different node types across a **heterogeneous graph**[28]

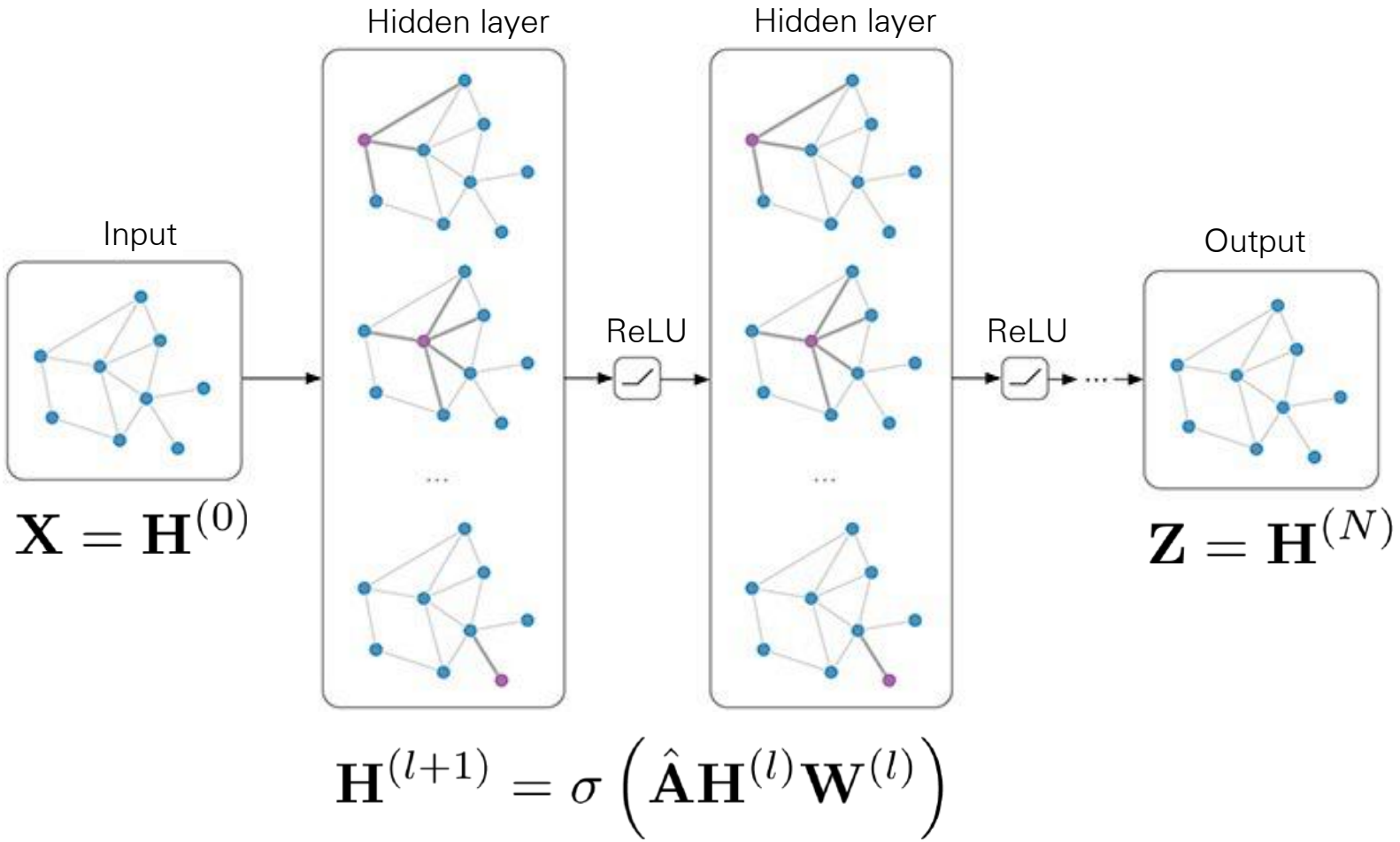


[28] Minji Yoon, et al. "Zero-shot Domain Adaptation of Heterogeneous Graphs via Knowledge Transfer Networks "

Applications to “classical” network problems

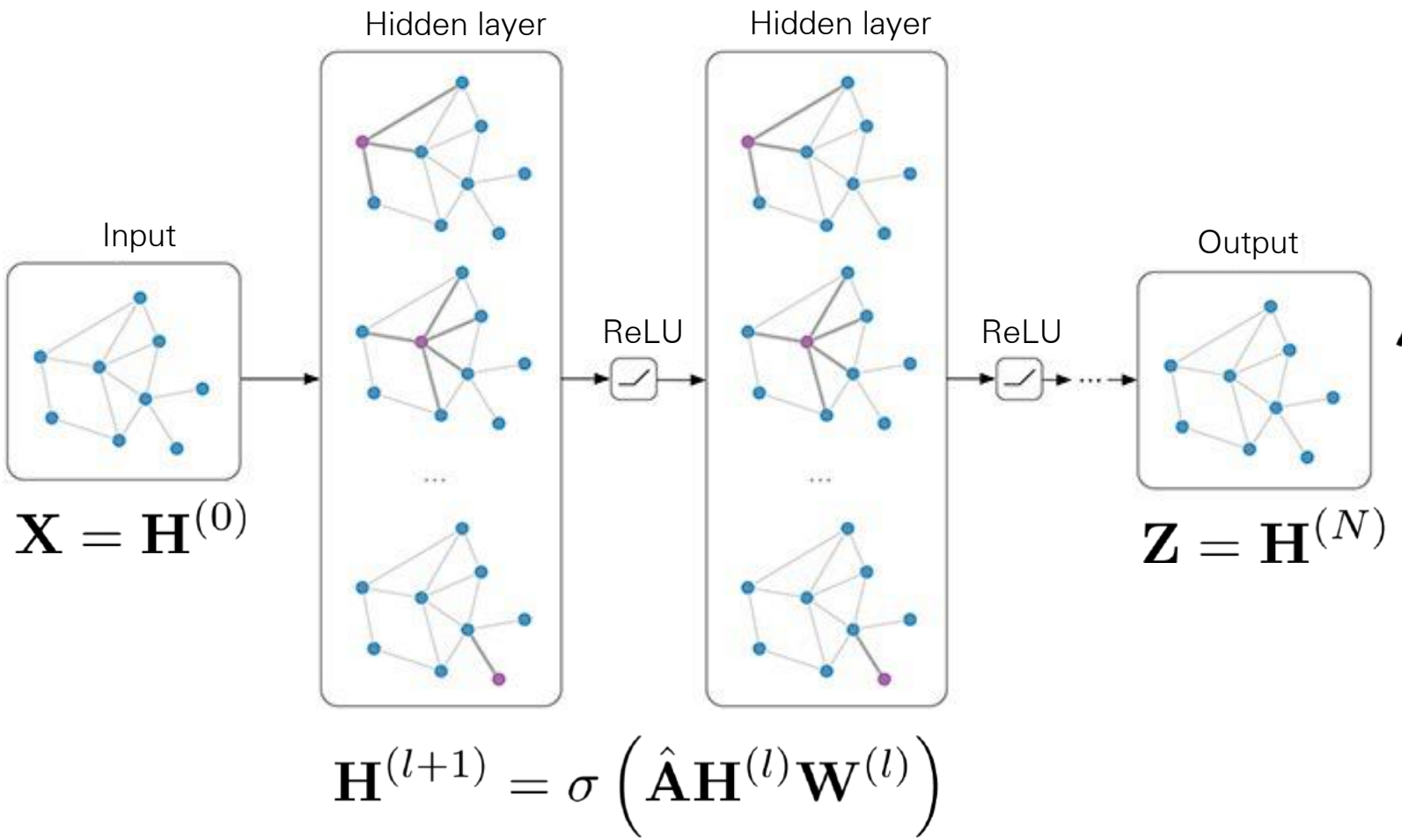
One fits all: Classification and link prediction with GNNs/GCNs

Input: Feature matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times E}$, preprocessed adjacency matrix $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$



One fits all: Classification and link prediction with GNNs/GCNs

Input: Feature matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times E}$, preprocessed adjacency matrix $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$



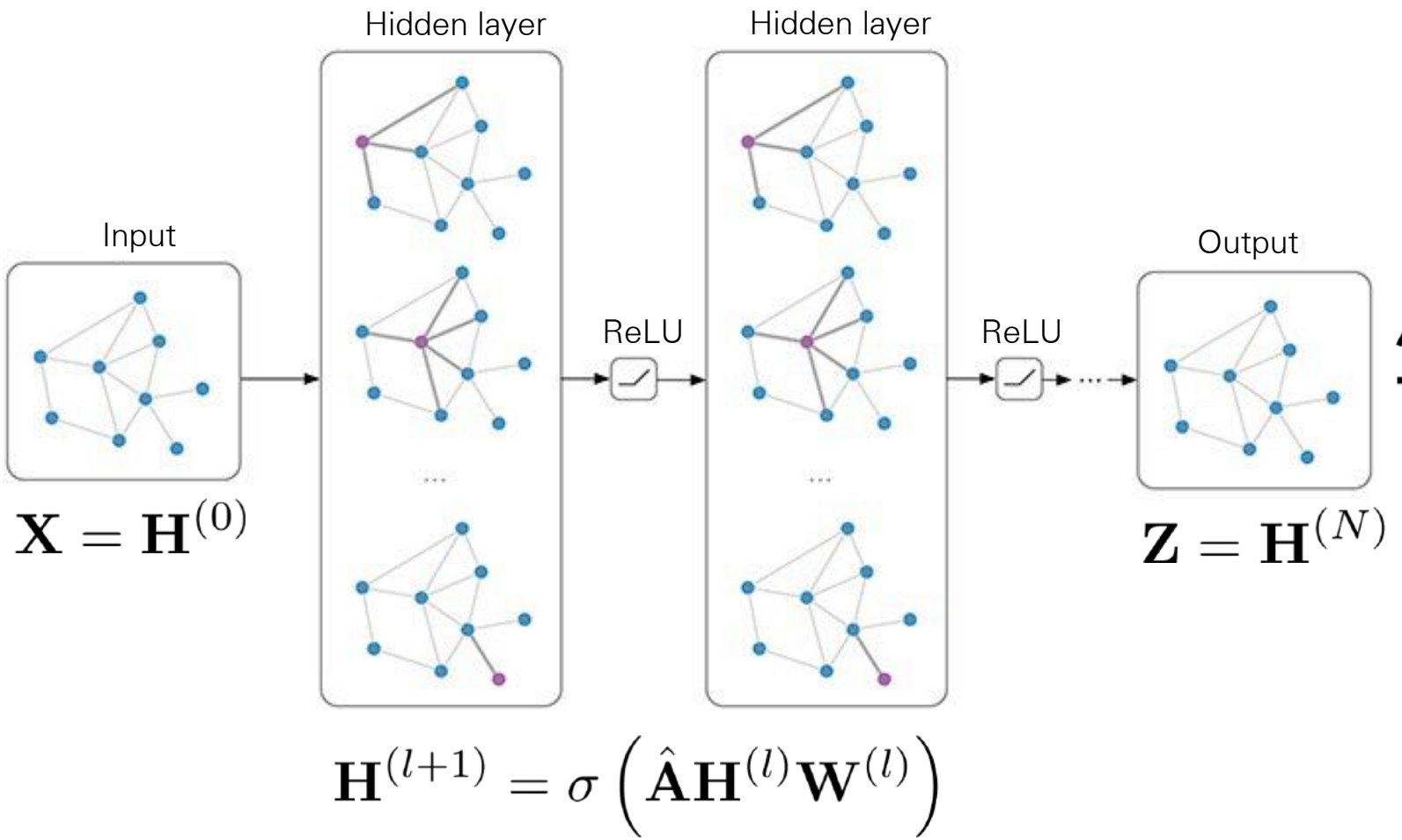
Node classification:

$\mathrm{softmax}(\mathbf{z_n})$

e.g. Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017)

One fits all: Classification and link prediction with GNNs/GCNs

Input: Feature matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times E}$, preprocessed adjacency matrix $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$



Node classification:

$\mathrm{softmax}\left(\mathbf{z_n}\right)$

e.g. Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017)

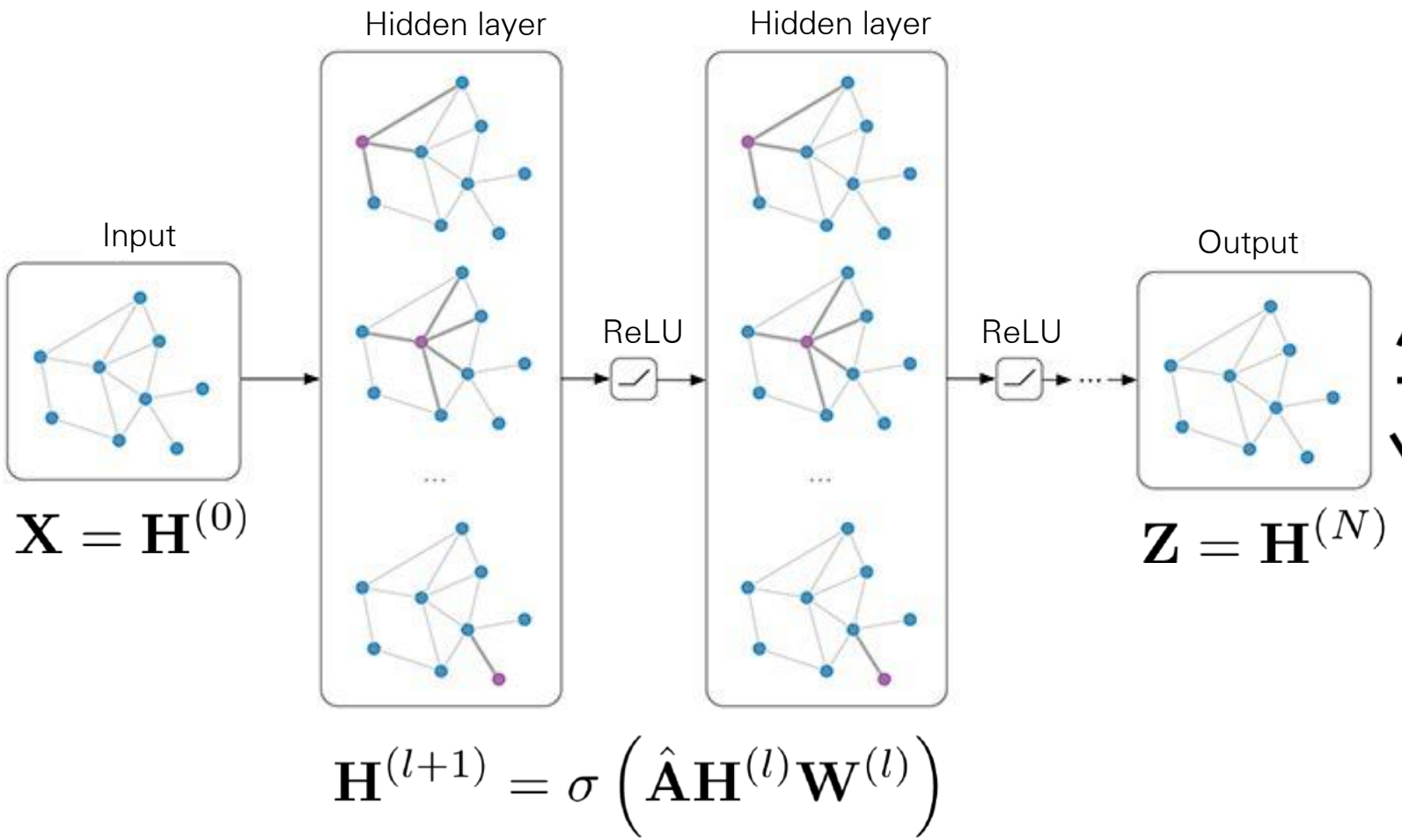
Graph classification:

$\mathrm{softmax}\left(\sum_n \mathbf{z_n}\right)$

e.g. Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015)

One fits all: Classification and link prediction with GNNs/GCNs

Input: Feature matrix $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times E}$, preprocessed adjacency matrix $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$



Node classification:

$\mathrm{softmax}\left(\mathbf{z_n}\right)$

e.g. Kipf & Welling (ICLR 2017)

Graph classification:

$\mathrm{softmax}\left(\sum_n \mathbf{z_n}\right)$

e.g. Duvenaud et al. (NIPS 2015)

Link prediction:

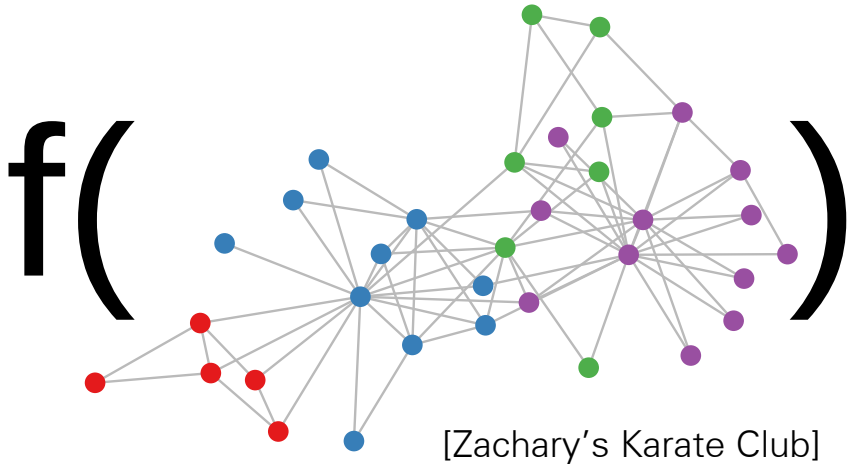
$p\left(A_{ij}\right) = \sigma\left(\mathbf{z_i^T z_j}\right)$

Kipf & Welling (NIPS BDL 2016)
"Graph Auto-Encoders"

What do learned representations look like?

Forward pass through **untrained** 3-layer GCN model

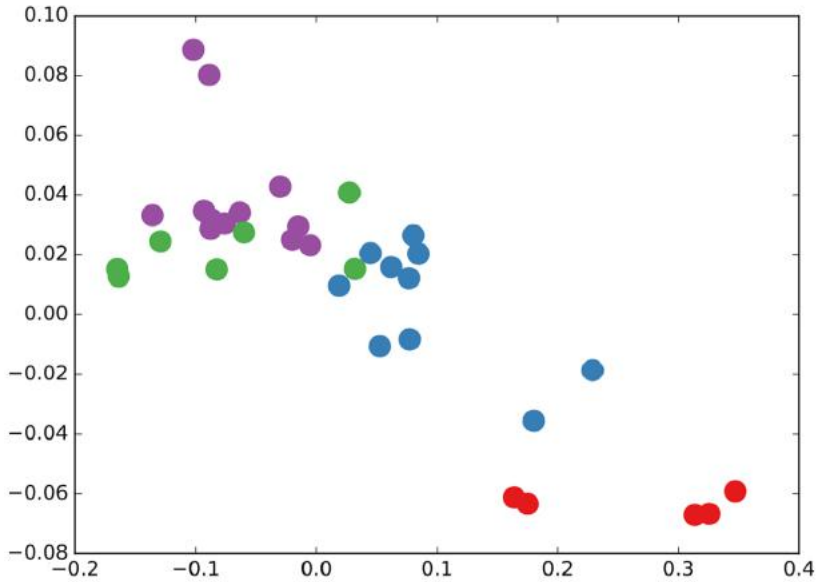
Parameters initialized randomly



[Zachary's Karate Club]

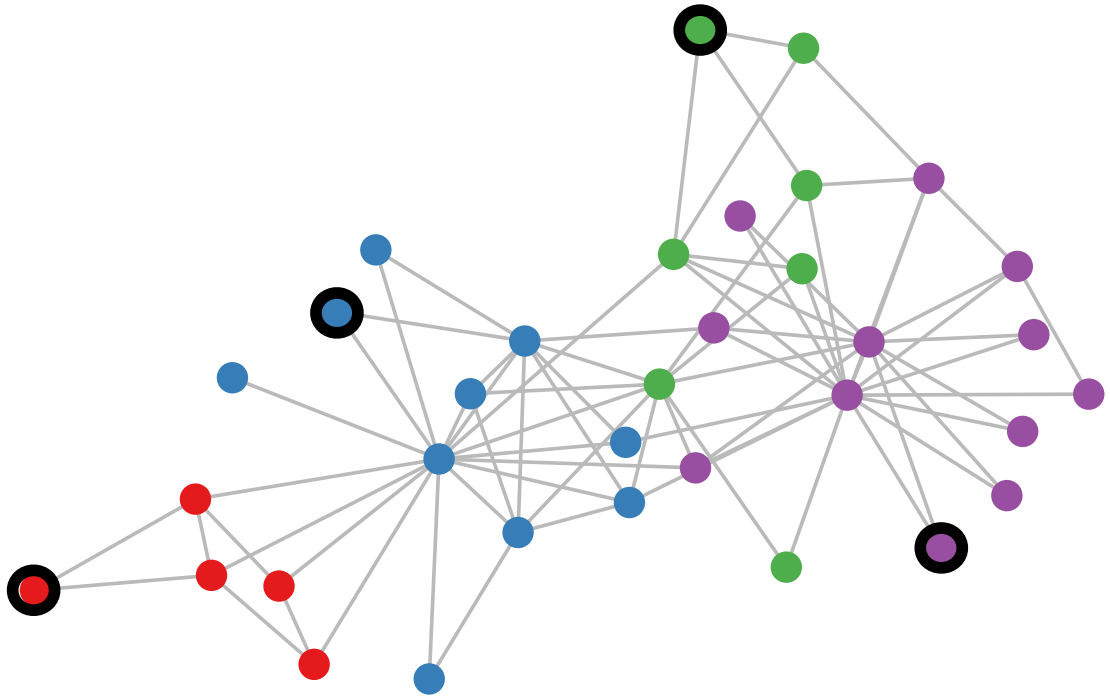
=

2-dim output per node



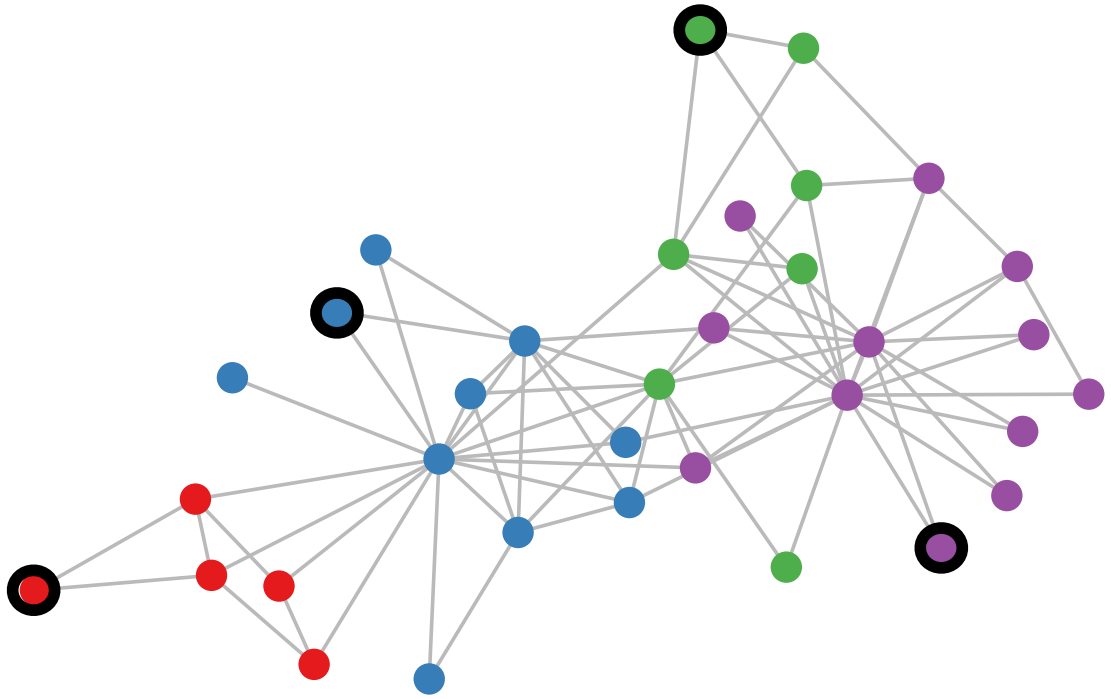
Semi-supervised classification on graphs

- **Setting:**
  Some nodes are labeled (black circle)
  All other nodes are unlabeled
- **Task:**
  Predict node label of unlabeled nodes



Semi-supervised classification on graphs

- **Setting:**
  Some nodes are labeled (black circle)
  All other nodes are unlabeled
- **Task:**
  Predict node label of unlabeled nodes



Evaluate loss on labeled nodes only:

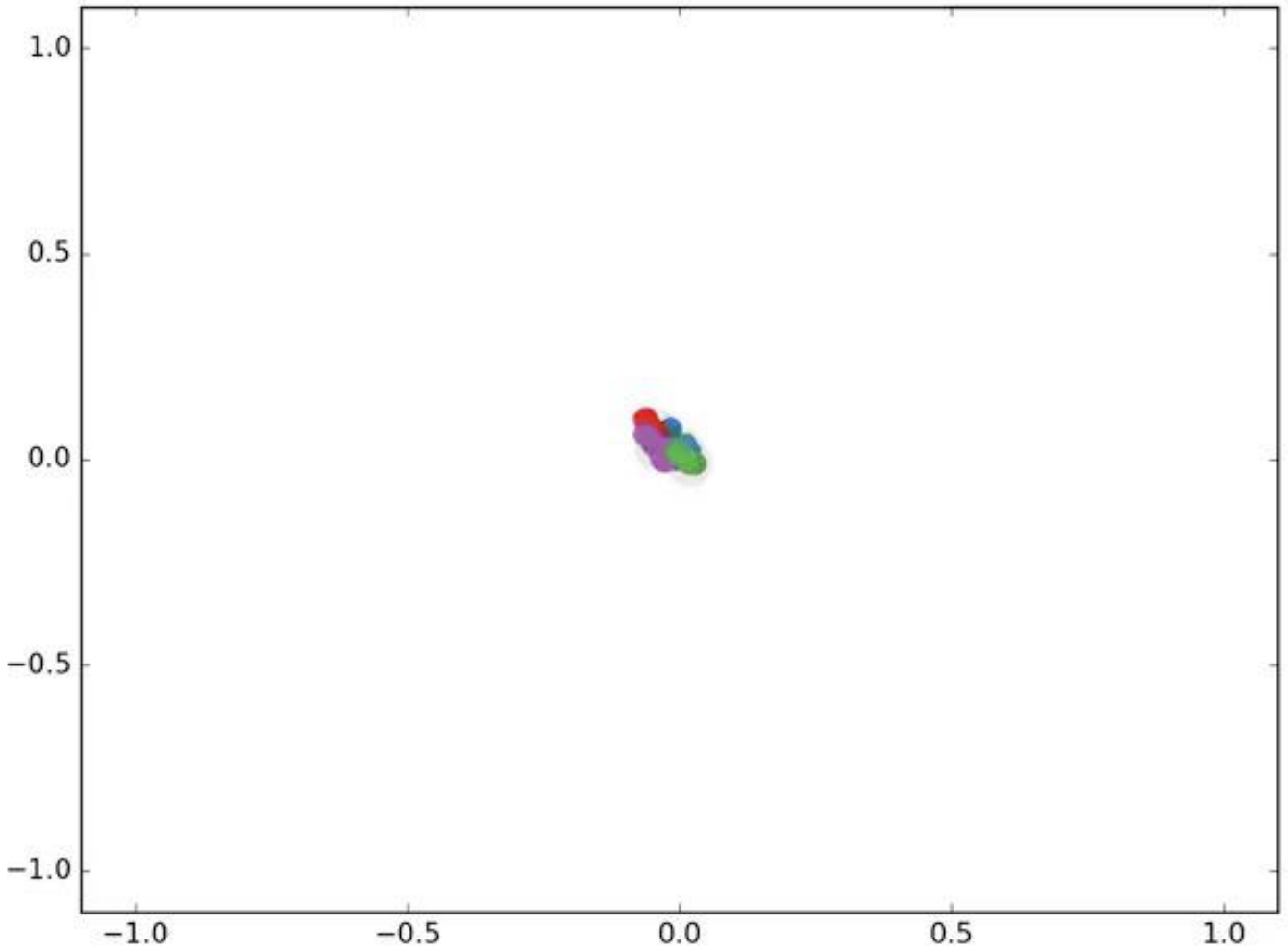
$$\mathcal{L} = -\sum_{l \in \mathcal{Y}_L} \sum_{f=1}^{F} Y_{lf} \ln Z_{lf}$$

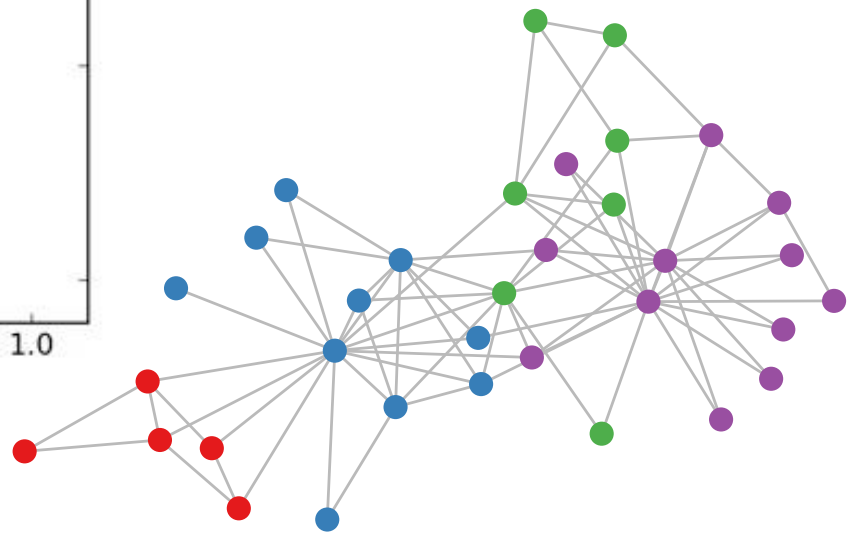
$\mathcal{Y}_L$ set of labeled node indices

$\mathbf{Y}$ label matrix

$\mathbf{Z}$ GCN output (after softmax)

Toy example (semi-supervised learning)





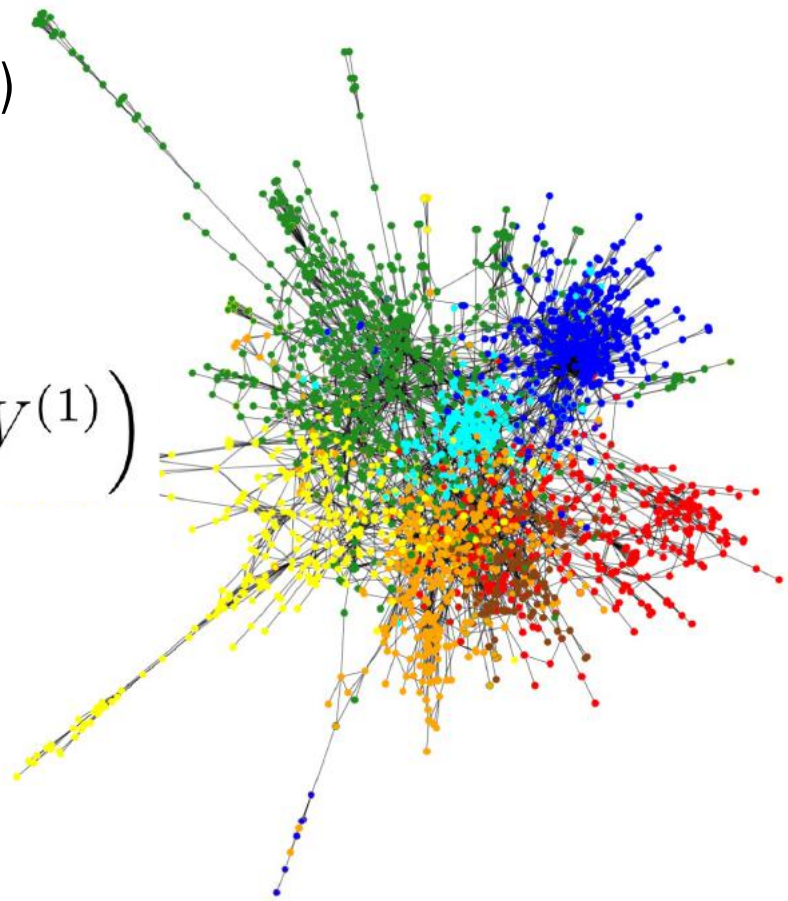
Application: Classification on citation networks

Input: Citation networks (nodes are papers, edges are citation links, optionally bag-of-words features on nodes)

Target: Paper category (e.g. stat.ML, cs.LG, ...)

Model: 2-layer GCN

$$Z = f(X, A) = \mathrm{softmax}\Big(\hat{A}\ \mathrm{ReLU}\Big(\hat{A}XW^{(0)}\Big)\ W^{(1)}\Big)$$



(Figure from: Bronstein, Bruna, LeCun, Szlam, Vandergheynst, 2016)

Kipf & Welling, Semi-Supervised Classification with Graph Convolutional Networks, ICLR 2017

Application: Classification on citation networks

Input: Citation networks (nodes are papers, edges are citation links, optionally bag-of-words features on nodes)

Target: Paper category (e.g. stat.ML, cs.LG, ...)

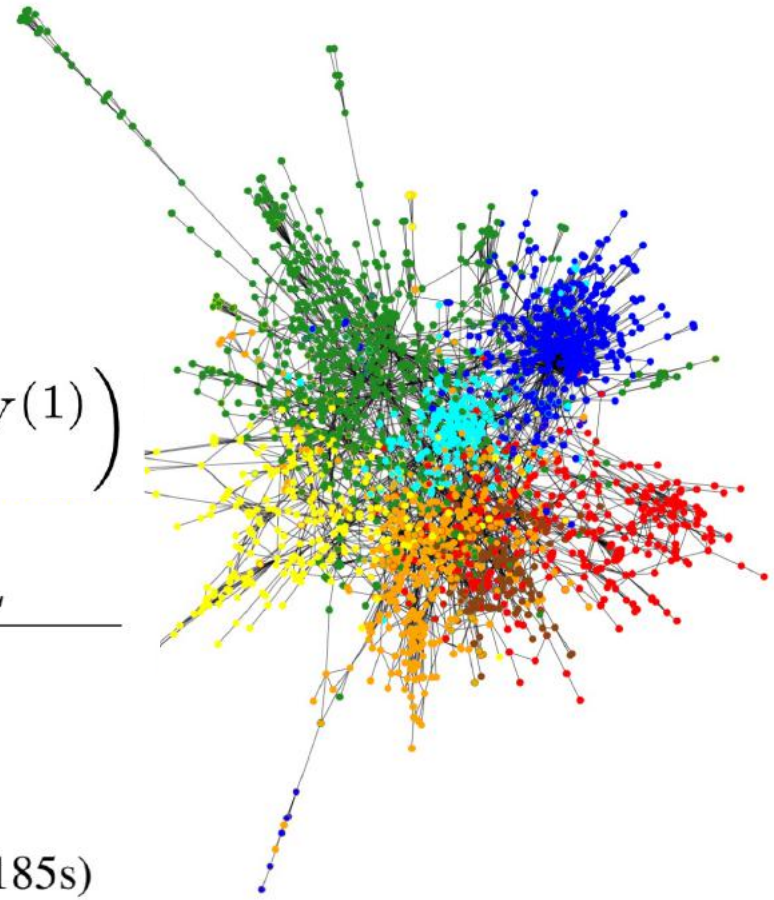
Model: 2-layer GCN

$$Z = f(X, A) = \mathrm{softmax}\Big(\hat{A}\ \mathrm{ReLU}\Big(\hat{A}XW^{(0)}\Big)\ W^{(1)}\Big)$$

Classification results (accuracy)

Method	Citeseer	Cora	Pubmed	NELL
ManiReg [3]	60.1	59.5	70.7	21.8
SemiEmb [24]	59.6	59.0	71.1	26.7
LP [27]	45.3	68.0	63.0	26.5
DeepWalk [18]	43.2	67.2	65.3	58.1
Planetoid* [25]	64.7 (26s)	75.7 (13s)	77.2 (25s)	61.9 (185s)
GCN (this paper)	**70.3** (7s)	**81.5** (4s)	**79.0** (38s)	**66.0** (48s)
GCN (rand. splits)	67.9 ± 0.5	80.1 ± 0.5	78.9 ± 0.7	58.4 ± 1.7

no input features



(Figure from: Bronstein, Bruna, LeCun, Szlam, Vandergheynst, 2016)

Kipf & Welling, Semi-Supervised Classification with Graph Convolutional Networks, ICLR 2017

Still many open problems..

- And many more chances to do groundbreaking research
- ex) other graph formats
  - 3-dimensional graphs
  - Temporal graphs
  - ...

Next Lecture:
Pretraining Language Models