

# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

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**What?** Architectures of neural networks taking graphs as input

**When?** When data is naturally presented as a graph

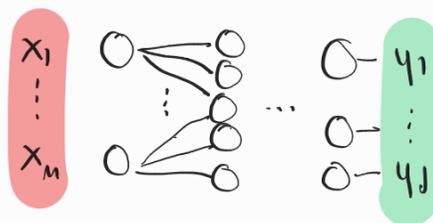
**Why?** Because graphs = relations

**How?** Let's see!

## Background

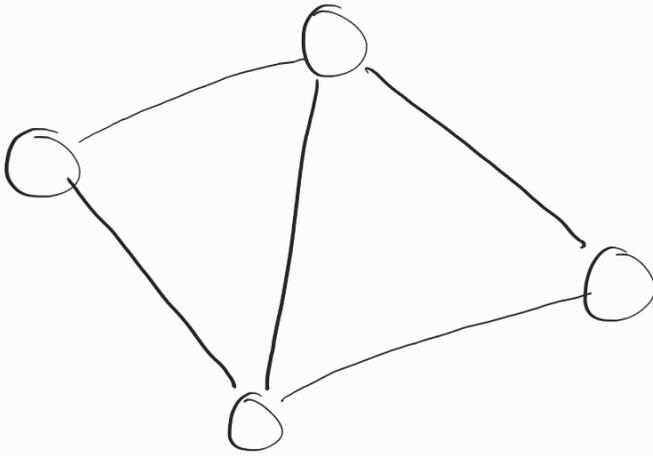
MLP multi layer perceptron

$\phi_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$        $\theta$  set of parameters



MLP can be trained efficiently

# What is a graph?



Nodes:  $V$

Node features:  $F_v \in \mathbb{R}^n$

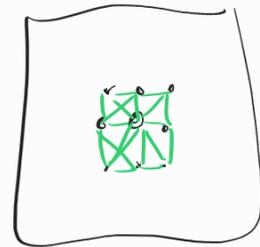
Edges:  $E$

Edge features  $F_e \in \mathbb{R}^d$

Graph features  $g \in \mathbb{R}^k$

# Graph structured data (?)

- social networks ✓
- molecules ✓
- images
- text      this → is → a → sentence
- transportation networks ✓



# What is special about graphs?

→ represent relations between entities

**DIFFICULTY** nodes are typically **UNORDERED**

↳ we do not want to introduce arbitrary order!

this is a representation issue

Good representations:

- improve learning performances
- reduce bias

## 3 types of questions:

### Graph-level

does this molecule smell good?

### Node level

identify fake users in a network

↳ for each node

### Edge level

identify friend relationship

↳ for each edge

Naturally: the answer should NOT depend on representation (chosen order for the nodes, ...)

# A special case : Deep Sets (NeurIPS 2017)

we have a set of points  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}^m$

we want to predict some function

$$F: \mathbb{R}^{m \times k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

we know that  $F$  does NOT depend on order

we already lost when we wrote

$x_1, \dots, x_k$  : arbitrary order!

IDEA:

$$f(x) = \Phi_{\theta} \left( \sum_{i=1}^k \Psi_{\theta'}(x_i) \right)$$

$\Phi_{\theta}, \Psi_{\theta'}$  are MLPs

$\sum$  is order invariant!

(BTW, so is  $\max$  and  $\text{mean}$ )

Now we have a <sup>differentiable</sup> model that only represents unordered functions!

# A step back: permutation invariance

We know that

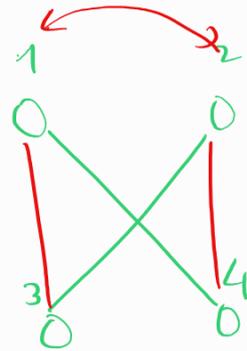
$\forall P$  permutation of  $x_1, \dots, x_k,$

$$F(Px) = F(x)$$

← target function is permutation invariant

So we design a class of models which are permutation invariant:

$$f(Px) = f(x)$$



# Invariance for graphs

Key difference: permuting vertices affects edges

$$F(PV, PEP^T) = F(V, E) \quad \text{invariant}$$

$$F(PV, PEP^T) = P \circ F(V, E) \quad \text{equivariant}$$

# GNN layer

graph-in graph-out:  
maps a graph to a graph

For a node  $v$ :

$$N_v = \{ v' : (v, v') \in E \}$$

↑ neighborhood

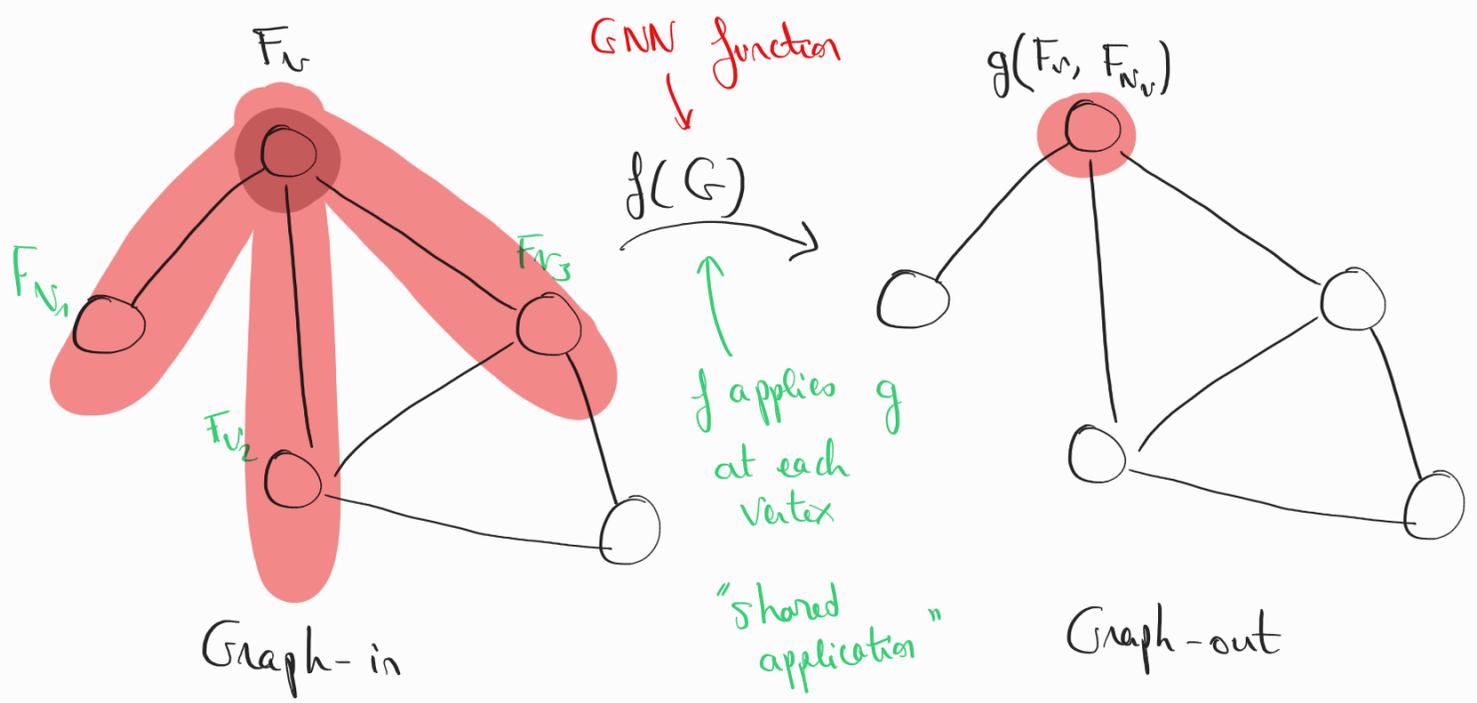
$$F_{N_v} = \left\{ \left\{ F_{v'} : v' \in N_v \right\} \right\}$$

← multiset

$$g(F_v, F_{N_v}, \dots)$$

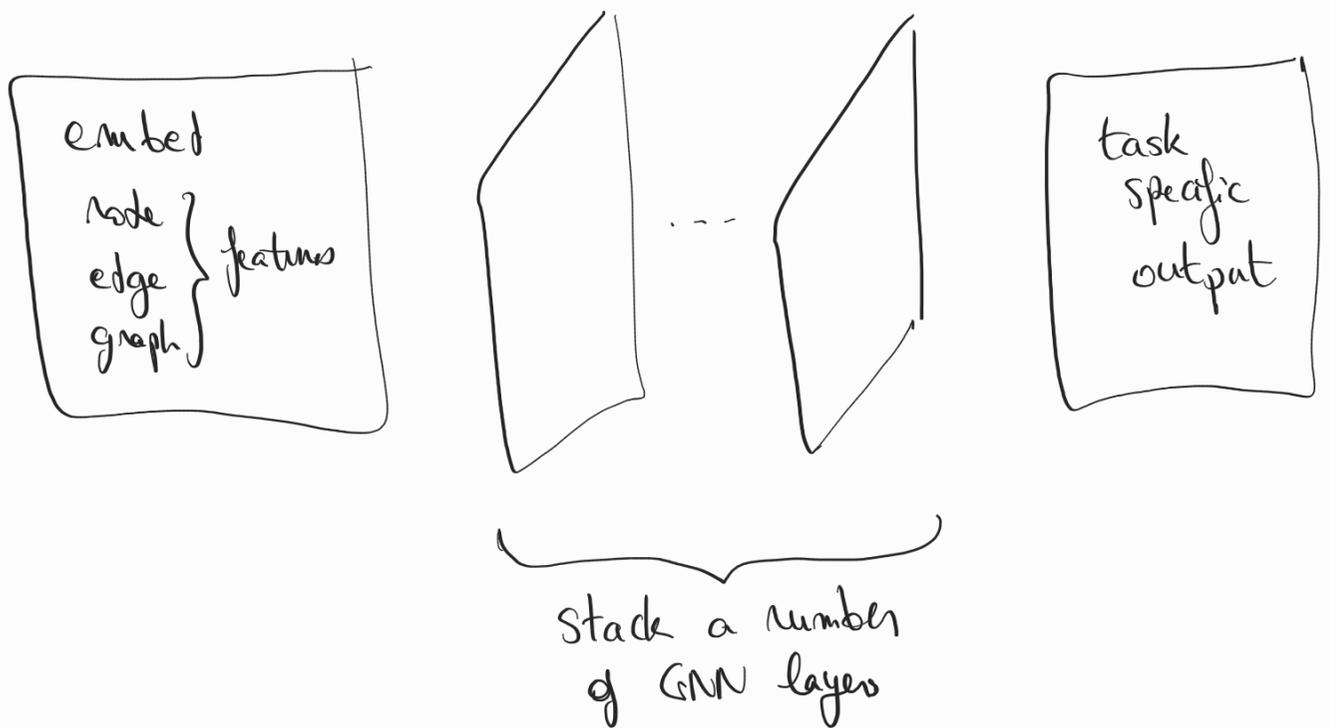
$g$  local function :  $g(F_v, F_{N_v})$

$g$  is invariant under permutations of neighbours  
(we'll talk about  $g$  soon)



Slightly more general: output node features using node + edge features, etc...

# GNN: the full model



## Constructing the local function $g$

$g$  is called "diffusion" / "propagation" / "message passing"

General definition: **message-passing style!**

$$g(F_v, F_{N_v}) = \Phi_{\theta} \left( F_v, \bigoplus_{v' \in N_v} \Psi_{\theta'}(F_v, F_{v'}) \right)$$

$\Phi_{\theta}, \Psi_{\theta'}$  are MLPs

$\bigoplus$  is sum / mean / max

Less general: **attentional GNNs**

$$g(F_v, F_{N_v}) = \Phi_{\theta} \left( F_v, \bigoplus_{v' \in N_v} a(v, v') F_{v'} \right)$$

*learnable weights*

Even less: **convolutional GNNs**

$$g(F_v, F_{N_v}) = \Phi_{\theta} \left( F_v, \bigoplus_{v' \in N_v} c(v, v') F_{v'} \right)$$

*fixed weights*

Packages:

Pytorch Geometric

References:

Distill article (Google)

ICLR'21 invited talk by Bronstein