Spectral Graph Convolutional Networks

ACMS 80770: Deep Learning with Graphs Instructor: Navid Shervani-Tabar Department of Applied and Comp Math and Stats



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- We discussed that Fourier transform takes a data residing on the Euclidean space and maps it to the Fourier domain

$$\mathcal{F}(f(t)) = \hat{f}(s) := \langle f, e^{2\pi i s t} \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(t) e^{-2\pi i s t} dt$$

where $e^{2\pi i s t}$ represents the **Fourier basis** and $\hat{f}(s)$ is the corresponding **Fourier coefficient**.



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where $e^{2\pi i s t}$ represents the **Fourier basis** and $\hat{f}(s)$ is the corresponding **Fourier coefficient**.

Given f(s), one can recover the function f by projecting f(s) back to the Euclidean domain using inverse Fourier transform.

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}(\widehat{f}(s)) = f(t) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} \widehat{f}(s) e^{2\pi i s t} ds$$



Fourier Transform

We recall that the Laplace operator is defined as

$$\Delta f(t) = \nabla^2 f(t) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}$$

We can show that bases of the Fourier domain are eigenfunctions of the Laplace operator

$$-\Delta\left(e^{2\pi ist}\right) = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\left(e^{2\pi ist}\right) = (2\pi s)^2 e^{2\pi ist}$$



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- We can exploit the analogy between the Laplacian matrix and the Laplace operator to extend the Fourier transform to graphs.
- To that end, one can define the graph Fourier bases as the eigenvectors {u_l}_{l=0,...,|V|-1} of the Laplacian matrix

$$\mathbf{L}u_{\ell} = \lambda_{\ell} u_{\ell}$$



❖ Using the eigenvectors U as Fourier bases, we can define the **Fourier transform** of a signal $f \in \mathbb{R}^N$ in the **graph domain** as

$$\hat{f}(\lambda_{\ell}) := \langle f, u_{\ell} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{N} f(i)u_{\ell}(i)$$

In the matrix form

 $\hat{\mathbf{f}} = \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{f}$



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Analogously, one can define the inverse graph Fourier transform as

$$f(i) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{N-1} \hat{f}(\lambda_{\ell}) u_{\ell}(i)$$

In the matrix notation

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{U}\hat{\mathbf{f}}$$

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- This is shown by the Hadamard product

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where $*_G$ denotes a convolution operator specific to the graph G, and **U** is eigenvector of **L**.



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where $*_G$ denotes a convolution operator specific to the graph G, and **U** is eigenvector of **L**.

- Note that since the Fourier transform on graphs is defined using the **eigenvectors** of Laplacian L of the graph, the transform is **specific to the graph** G.
- Therefore, convolution operator $*_G$ is defined for the graph G.

In the spectral representation of the convolution,

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The term $\mathbf{U}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{h}$ transforms the filter \mathbf{h} , which is defined in the spatial domain, to the spectral domain.

In index notation, this is represented as

$$(f * h)(i) := \sum_{\ell=0}^{N-1} \hat{f}(\lambda_{\ell}) \hat{h}(\lambda_{\ell}) u_{\ell}(i)$$

where $\{u_{\ell}\}_{\ell=0,\dots,N-1}$ is the set of eigenvectors of the Laplacian matrix and \hat{f} and \hat{h} are spectral representations of the signal f and filter h, respectively.

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This approach enables us to define the convolution filter directly in the spectral domain.

$$\mathbf{f} *_G \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{U} \left(\mathbf{U}^{ op} \mathbf{f} \odot \mathbf{ heta}_h
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where

$$\theta_h = \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^{|V|}$$



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- This spectral representation of the convolution can be used to define trainable convolution layers on graph.
- Let θ_h be a **non-parametric filter**; that is all parameters in the filter are free

$$\mathbf{f} *_G \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{U} \left(\mathbf{U}^{\top} \mathbf{f} \odot \mathbf{\theta}_h
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where $diag(\theta_h) \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times |V|}$ is a diagonal matrix of the graph Fourier coefficients of the filter.



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Due to their dependence on the domain of the graph (through the eigenvectors) models using such convolutional layers are referred to as spectrum-based methods.

Spectral Convolutional Neural Networks

Spectral Convolutional Neural Network (SCNN) layers define convolution layers as

$$\boldsymbol{H}_{:,j}^{(t+1)} = \sigma \left(\sum_{i=1}^{d_{\ell}} \mathbf{U}_{K} \operatorname{diag}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})_{i,j} \mathbf{U}_{K}^{\top} \boldsymbol{H}_{:,i}^{(t)} \right)$$

with $1 \le j \le d_{t+1}$ and $1 \le i \le d_t$, σ is non-linearity, and $diag(\theta)_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ are trainable diagonal spectral filters.



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- ♦ Note that, only top *K* eigenvectors $U_K \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times K}$ of the Laplacian *L* are used as they carry the **most informative** data.
- Due to their spectrum-based nature, these methods can only be used in the transductive setting.

- One problem with such a definition is that $diag(\theta_h)$ has no dependency on the **structure** if the graph.
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- To that end, we can approximate the spectral filter as a polynomial expansion of the graph spectrum



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$$p_K(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = \sum_{k=0}^K \theta_k \mathbf{\Lambda}^k$$

which represents a polynomial of degree K with respect to the eigenvalues of the Laplacian **L**.

Thus, we can reformulate the convolution as

$$\mathbf{f} \ast_G \mathbf{h} = \left(\mathbf{U} p_K(\mathbf{\Lambda}) \mathbf{U}^\top \right) \mathbf{f}$$



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• By interpreting the eigenvalues as analogs to the **frequency**, we can interpret $p_K(\Lambda)$ as the **filter frequency response**.



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- By interpreting the eigenvalues as analogs to the **frequency**, we can interpret $p_K(\Lambda)$ as the **filter frequency response**.
- One drawback with this representation of the convolution is that it requires us to perform **eigendecomposition** of the Laplacian matrix.
- For large graphs, such an operation may be prohibitively expensive.

Social networks.

Noting that

$$\left(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{U}^{ op}
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we can show that this polynomial parameterization may be reformulated as a **polynomial function** of the **Laplacian** matrix

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- We can see that defining a filtering matrix as a degree k polynomial of the Laplacian constructs a k –localized filtering.
- Therefore, parametrizing filter with eigenvalues Λ results in localized filters.

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- These networks use either the non-parametric spectral filters

$$\mathbf{f} *_{G} \mathbf{h} = \left(\mathbf{U} \operatorname{diag} \left(\theta_{h} \right) \mathbf{U}^{\top} \right) \mathbf{f}$$



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Or parametric spectral filters

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Combined with non-linear layers and stack them to build deep graph-based neural networks.

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- One such model, **ChebNet**, uses a **Chebyshev polynomial** to approximate the $p_K(L)$.
- A Chebyshev polynomial of order K is computed through the recursive relation

$$T_k(\lambda) = 2\lambda T_{k-1}(\lambda) - T_{k-2}(\lambda)$$

where

$$T_0(\lambda) = 1,$$

$$T_1(\lambda) = \lambda.$$



- Chebyshev polynomials define orthonormal basis in the interval [-1,1].
- We can **parametrize** the filter $p_K(\Lambda)$ using the Chebyshev polynomials as

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \theta_k T_k(\tilde{\mathbf{\Lambda}})$$

where $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{K}$ is the vector of **polynomial coefficients**, and $T_{K}(\widetilde{\Lambda})$ is a Chebyshev **polynomial** of order *K*.



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Note that, in order for polynomials to form orthonormal basis, the eigenvalues are normalized as

$$ilde{oldsymbol{\Lambda}} = rac{2oldsymbol{\Lambda}}{\lambda_{ ext{max}}} - I_{|V|}$$

to map them from the interval $[0, \lambda_{max}]$ to [-1,1].

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Using this expansion, one can represent the convolution as

$$\hat{\mathbf{f}} = p_K(\mathbf{L})\mathbf{f} = \sum_{k=0}^{K-1} \theta_k T_k(\tilde{\mathbf{L}})\mathbf{f}$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}$ is the scaled normalized Laplacian matrix

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Thus, each layer of ChebNet implements

$$\boldsymbol{H}^{(t+1)} = \sigma \left(\sum_{k=0}^{K} T_k(\tilde{\mathbf{L}}) \boldsymbol{H}^{(t)} \boldsymbol{\Theta}_k^{(t)} \right)$$

where $\mathbf{H}^{(t)} \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times d}$ and $\Theta_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d'}$.

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- This yields a first order approximation of the convolution operation in ChebNet.



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- We can derive this as

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$$\mathbf{f} *_{G} \mathbf{h} = \theta_{0} f + \theta_{1} \left[\mathbf{L} - I_{|V|} \right] \mathbf{f}$$



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Since eigenvalues of *L* fall in the interval [0,2], we can approximate $\lambda_{max} = 2$ and write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f} *_{G} \mathbf{h} &= \theta_{0} f + \theta_{1} \left[\mathbf{L} - I_{|V|} \right] \mathbf{f} \\ &= \theta_{0} \mathbf{f} + \theta_{1} \left[\mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A} \right) \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} - I_{|V|} \right] \mathbf{f} \\ &= \theta_{0} \mathbf{f} + \theta_{1} \left[\mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} A \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} - I_{|V|} \right] \mathbf{f} \\ &= \theta_{0} \mathbf{f} + \theta_{1} \left[I_{|V|} - \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} - I_{|V|} \right] \mathbf{f} \\ &= \theta_{0} \mathbf{f} - \theta_{1} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\mathbf{f} *_{G} \mathbf{h} = \theta \left(I_{|V|} + \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \mathbf{f}$$

Applying K successive filters

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effectively convolves the *k*-hop neighborhood of a node v_i .



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✤ However, since eigenvalues of $I_{|V|} + D^{-\frac{1}{2}}AD^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ fall in the interval [0,2], successive application of the operator may be numerically **unstable**.



Applying K successive filters

$$\mathbf{f} *_{G} \mathbf{h} = \theta \left(I_{|V|} + \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \mathbf{f}$$

effectively convolves the *k*-hop neighborhood of a node v_i .

- ✤ However, since eigenvalues of $I_{|V|} + D^{-\frac{1}{2}}AD^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ fall in the interval [0,2], successive application of the operator may be numerically **unstable**.
- Thus, using a renormalization trick, one can rewrite this as

$$\mathbf{f} *_G \mathbf{h} = \theta \left(\tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-rac{1}{2}} \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-rac{1}{2}}
ight) \mathbf{f}$$

where

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{A} + I_{|V|}$$
 and $\widetilde{\mathbf{D}}_{ii} = \sum_j \widetilde{\mathbf{A}}_{ij}$



♦ For higher dimensional signals $H \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times d}$, this results in

$$\boldsymbol{H}^{(t+1)} = \tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \boldsymbol{H}^{(t)} \boldsymbol{\Theta}$$

Where $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d'}$ and $H^{(t+1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times d'}$.

- Adding a non-linearity one can arrive at the definition of the GCN layer.
- Therefore, GCN layers are a first-order approximation of the spectral convolution parametrized by Chebyshev polynomials.



Basic GNN

 We observe that a convolution layer defined as a polynomial of *I* + *A* is equivalent of

- Message aggregation and
- Combining these information with the information of the node itself.



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 We observe that a convolution layer defined as a polynomial of *I* + *A* is equivalent of

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- Combining these information with the information of the node itself.
- By adding weights and nan-linearities to this convolution formulation, one can recover the basic GNN model

$$\boldsymbol{H}^{(t+1)} = \sigma \left(\mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{F} \Theta_N + \boldsymbol{H}^{(t)} \Theta_v \right)$$



Summary

