# Deterministic Approaches to Learn Node Embedding

ACMS 80770: Deep Learning with Graphs

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Department of Applied and Comp Math and Stats



## **Representation Learning**

- In the previous lecture, we used non-parametric approaches to extract features from graphs.
- These features were then fed to a machine learning model to perform various tasks.



## **Representation Learning**

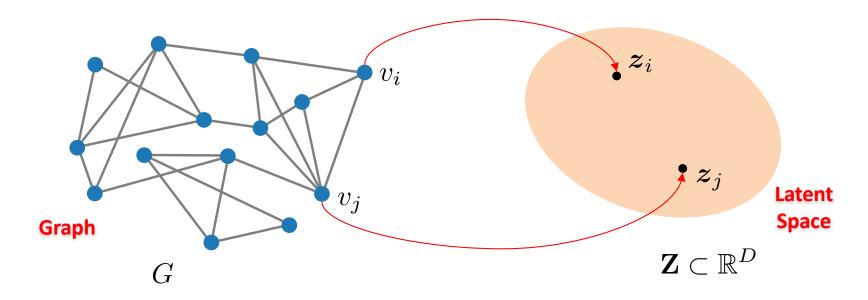
- In the previous lecture, we used non-parametric approaches to extract features from graphs.
- These features were then fed to a machine learning model to perform various tasks.
- In this lecture, we discuss methods to discover the representation rather than hand-designing them.
- These approaches are referred to as representation learning.
- Learned representations perform better than the handdesigned features in the downstream learning tasks.
- In this lecture, we discuss learning feature representations for nodes.



- Node feature vectors  $z_i$ , also called a **node embedding**, are low-dimensional vectors that represent the node on a low-dimensional space.
- This node embedding codifies the node's local **structure** and global **position** within the graph with a vector of real values  $z_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$ .



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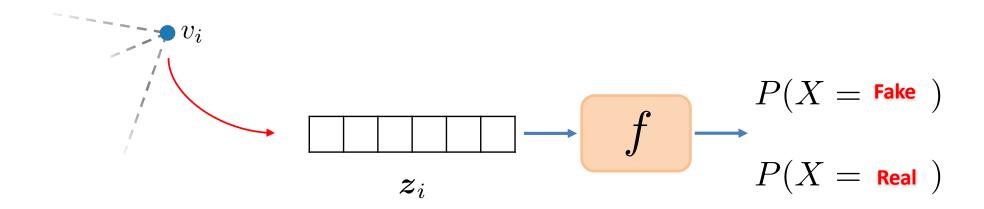




- \* With an appropriate latent representation, the distance between two node embeddings  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  should **preserve** the relation between the corresponding nodes  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ .
- These feature representations are used as inputs to different machine learning models to perform different tasks.

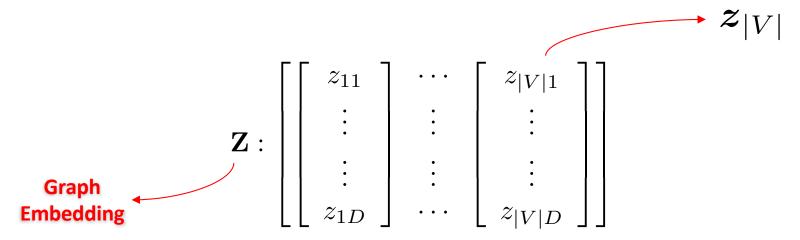


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- These feature representations are used as inputs to different machine learning models to perform different tasks.
  - Node classification



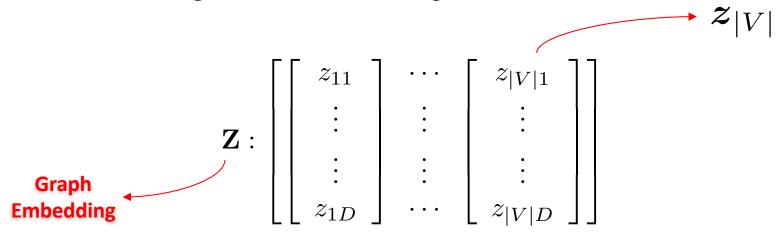


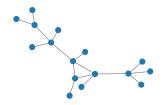
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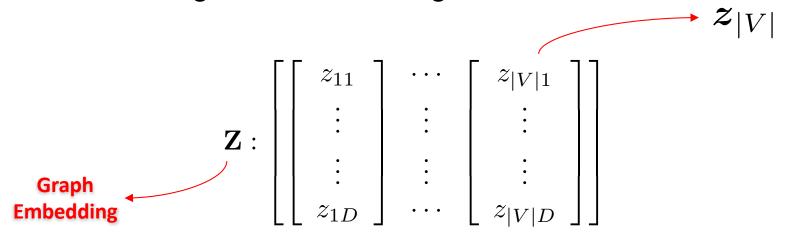
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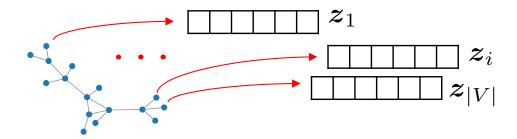






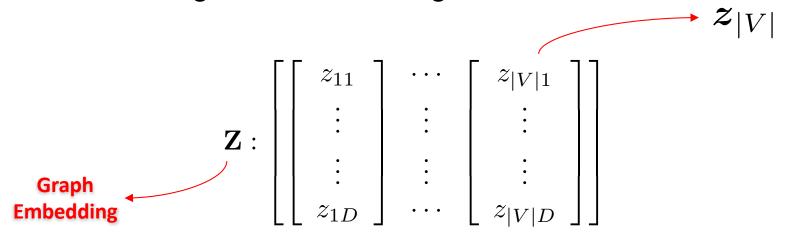
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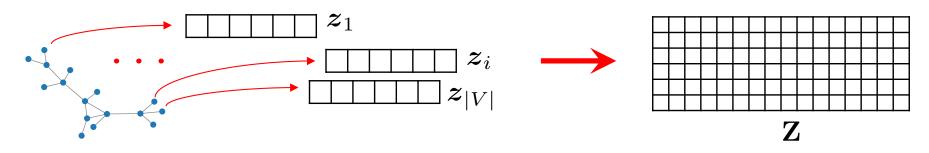






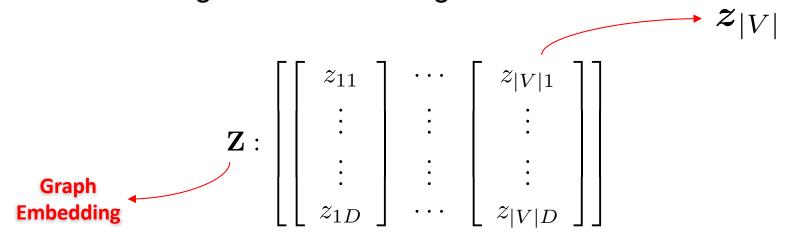
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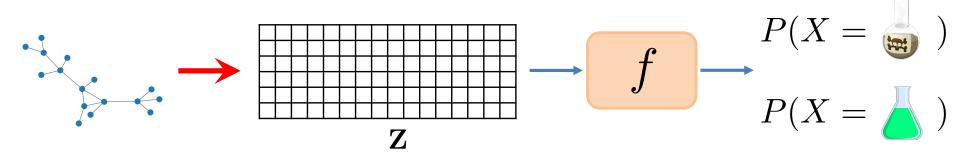






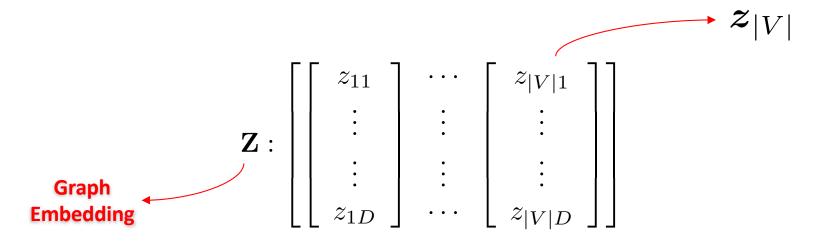
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- This graph embedding can be used to perform graph-level machine learning tasks.
- This, however, is not the best approach to perform this.



- One standard approach to representation learning is through the encoder-decoder architecture.
- ❖ Encoder is a map  $f_e$ :  $x \to z$  that projects a data point x to a latent space  $Z \subset \mathbb{R}^D$ .

$$\mathbf{x} \longrightarrow f_e \longrightarrow \mathbf{z}$$

\* Through this mapping, x is converted to a low-dimensional embedding vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^D$ .



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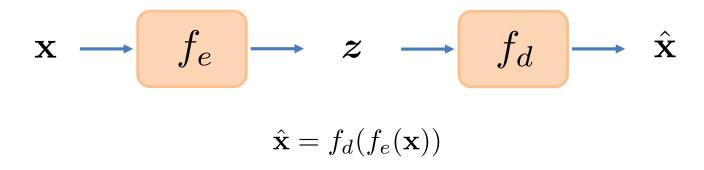
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- \* Through this mapping, x is converted to a low-dimensional embedding vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^D$ .
- ❖ Decoder is a map  $f_d$ :  $z \to x$ , that reconstructs data point x from its latent representation z.

$$z \longrightarrow f_d \longrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$



 $\clubsuit$  An encoder-decoder architecture trains  $f_e$  and  $f_d$  simultaneously such that the encoder maps x to z and the decoder uses feature vector z to reconstruct the original x





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$$\mathbf{x} \longrightarrow f_e \longrightarrow \mathbf{z} \longrightarrow f_d \longrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = f_d(f_e(\mathbf{x}))$$

- \* The objective of this architecture is to reconstruct  $\hat{x}$  as similar as possible to x.
- This objective can be formulated as minimizing a loss function that measures this closeness

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}, \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}) = \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}, f_d(f_e(\boldsymbol{x})))$$



- We formulate learning the node embeddings as an encoder decoder problem.
- In this setting
  - The encoder  $f_e: V \to \mathbb{R}^D$ , is a function parameterized by  $\theta_e$  that maps a node  $v_i \in V$  to embedding vector  $\mathbf{z}_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$ .

$$V \longrightarrow f_e \longrightarrow \mathbf{Z} \longrightarrow f_d \longrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{S}}$$



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  - The decoder  $f_d: \mathbb{R}^D \times \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}^+$ , is a function parameterized by  $\theta_d$  that reconstructs the local structure of the node given its embedding.

$$V \longrightarrow f_e \longrightarrow \mathbf{Z} \longrightarrow f_d \longrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{S}}$$



- To establish the framework, we need to define the following elements
  - Encoder

$$V \longrightarrow f_e \longrightarrow \mathbf{Z} \longrightarrow f_d \longrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{S}}$$

$$\arg \min_{\theta_e, \theta_d} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{S}, \hat{\mathbf{S}})$$



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  - Encoder
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  - Measure of similarity

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- To establish the framework, we need to define the following elements
  - Encoder
  - Decoder
  - Measure of similarity
  - Objective function

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- We rely on shallow embedding method to learn node representations.
- ❖ In this method, the encoder  $f_e$  is an embedding **look up** that only takes the node index i as input and returns an embedding  $z_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$  for the node.
- $\diamond$  Given node  $v_i$

$$\boldsymbol{z}_i = f_e(v_i; \theta_e)$$



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Siven the set of graph nodes V, encoder  $f_e$  returns an embedding dictionary  $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times D}$ 

$$\mathbf{Z} = f_e(V; \theta_e)$$



 $\bullet$  Encoder  $f_e$  is a dictionary look up that given node index, returns

$$oldsymbol{z}_i = \mathbf{Z} e^{(i)}$$

where  $e^{(i)} \in \{0,1\}^{|V|}$  is an indicator vector for node  $v_i$ .

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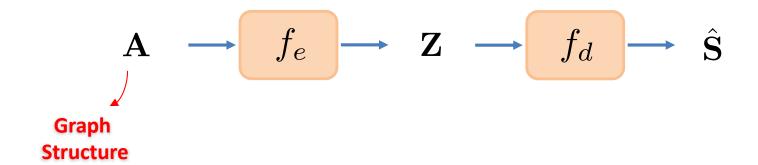
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Therefore, embedding Z is learned as model parameter for the encoder

$$\mathbf{Z} = \theta_e$$



- This type of encoder does not use the local structure or neighborhood of the node to yield an embedding.
- Adding this elements leads to . . .

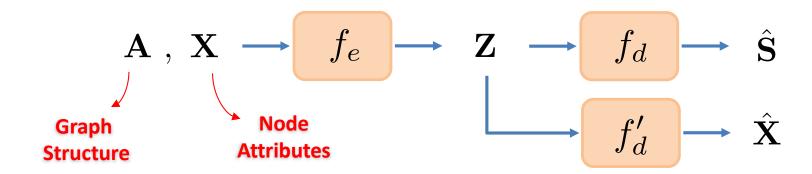


$$\mathbf{Z} = f_e\left(\mathbf{A}; \theta_e\right)$$

$$f_e: \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times |V|} \to \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times D}$$



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- It also does not use the node features.
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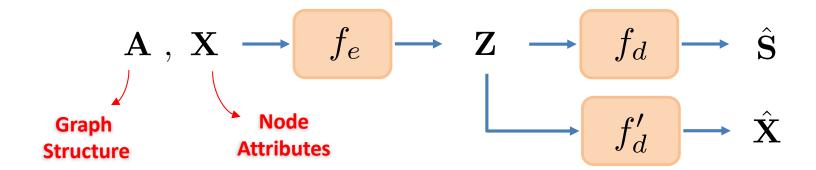


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- Adding these elements leads to Graph Neural Network (GNN) architectures.

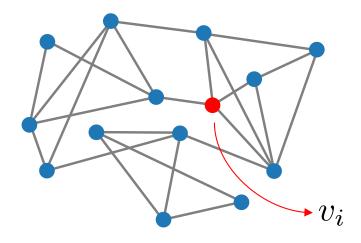


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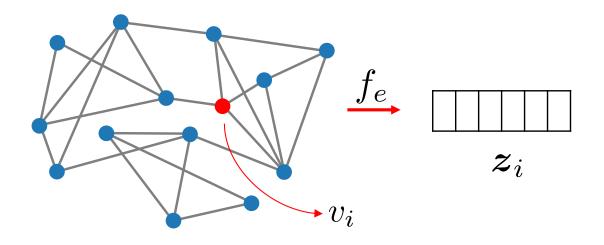


- The goal of the encoder decoder framework is to reconstruct node's local structure and relationship to other nodes.
- This is done by reconstructing pairwise relationship of the nodes in the graph.



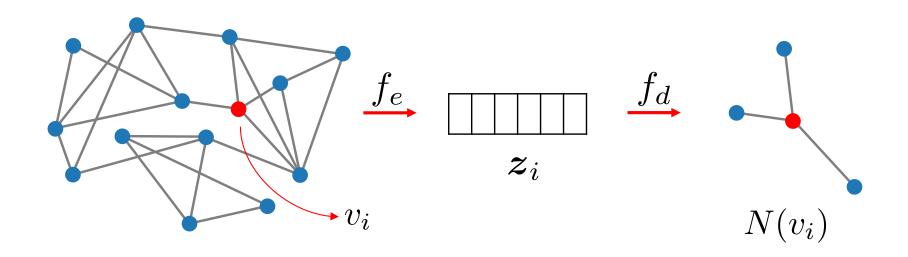


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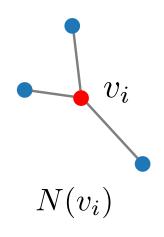


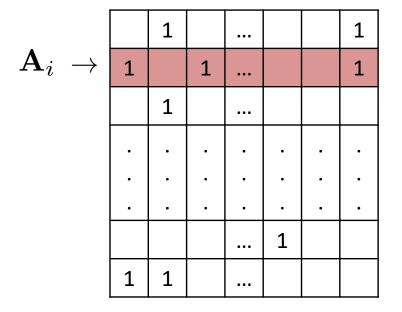
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- This is done by reconstructing pairwise relationship of the nodes in the graph.
- Simplest approach would be to reconstruct the neighborhood.





\* We can reconstruct that by finding the corresponding row of the adjacency matrix  $A_i$  for a node  $v_i$ .

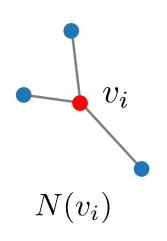


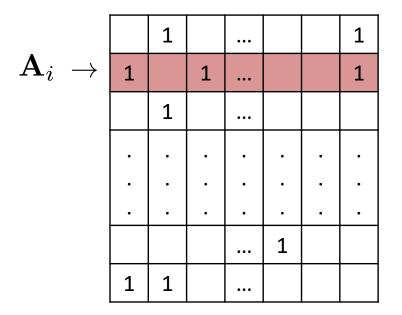




## **Similarity Measure**

- \* We can reconstruct that by finding the corresponding row of the adjacency matrix  $A_i$  for a node  $v_i$ .
- Likewise, we can set a transformation of the adjacency matrix or any node-node similarity measure *S* discussed in the previous lectures as the framework's reconstruction goal.







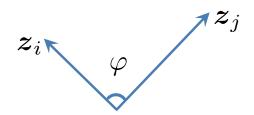
- $\clubsuit$  Decoder  $f_d$  reconstructs the desired similarity measure S for a neighborhood  $N(v_i)$  of node  $v_i$  given its latent representation  $z_i$ .
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- ightharpoonup The decoder  $f_d: \mathbb{R}^D \times \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}^+$  uses inner product

$$f_d(oldsymbol{z}_i,oldsymbol{z}_j) = oldsymbol{z}_i^Toldsymbol{z}_j$$

to predict the node similarity  $\hat{S}_{ij}$  of nodes  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ .





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- \* The distance between embedding vectors  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  is measured based on the nature of the **underlying embedding space**.
- For probabilistic similarity measures, where the similarity is in the form  $p(v_j|v_i)$ , the decoder should return a **probability** using functions like a softmax function.



## **Objective function**

- The encoder-decoder framework aims to
  - $\triangleright$  Learn embeddings **Z** of nodes *V* using the encoder  $f_e$ .
  - **Reconstruct** some user-defined notion of similarity S between nodes using the decoder  $f_d$ .



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- The optimization objective **minimizes the discrepancy** between the reconstructed structure  $\widehat{S}$  and the similarity measure S over the set of edges E in the graph G.
- Mathematically put,

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{S}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}) = \sum_{\varepsilon \in E} \ell(S_{ij}, f_d(v_i, v_j))$$

with  $\ell: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ .



## **Embedding Learning Methods**

- Based on the choice of the objective function, decoder, and similarity, we can learn different node embeddings.
- Deterministic approaches to learn node embeddings are divided into following categories based on decoding:
  - Distance-based methods
    - Laplacian Eigenmaps
    - Multi-dimensional Scaling (MDS)
    - Non-Euclidean methods
  - Outer product methods
    - Graph Factorization
    - GraRep



- Laplacian Eigenmap or Spectral embedding is a classical approach to learn embeddings.
- This approach **minimizes the distance** between a data point with its neighbors in the embedding space.



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- This approach **minimizes the distance** between a data point with its neighbors in the embedding space.
- This objective function can be formulated as

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Z}) = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \| \boldsymbol{z}_i - \boldsymbol{z}_j \|_2^2$$

Intuitively, when neighboring nodes  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  have embeddings  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  that are distant from each other, loss function **penalizes** the optimization algorithm



- In an encoder-decoder framework, we reformulate this as
  - Decoder

$$\hat{S}_{ij} = f_d(\boldsymbol{z}_i, \boldsymbol{z}_j) = \|\boldsymbol{z}_i - \boldsymbol{z}_j\|_2^2$$

Loss function

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{A}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}) = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \hat{S}_{ij}$$

 $\diamond$  We can reformulate the decoder  $f_d$  as

$$egin{aligned} \left\|oldsymbol{z}_{i}-oldsymbol{z}_{j}
ight\|_{2}^{2} &= \left[\sqrt{\left(oldsymbol{z}_{i1}-oldsymbol{z}_{j1}
ight)^{2}+\cdots+\left(oldsymbol{z}_{in}-oldsymbol{z}_{jn}
ight)^{2}}
ight]^{2} \ &= oldsymbol{z}_{i1}^{2}+\cdots+oldsymbol{z}_{in}^{2}+oldsymbol{z}_{j1}^{2}+\cdots+oldsymbol{z}_{j1}^{2}+\cdots+oldsymbol{z}_{jn}^{2} \ &= \left\|oldsymbol{z}_{i1}
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Plugging this in the loss equation, we get

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{A}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}) &= \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \left( \| \boldsymbol{z}_{i} \|_{2}^{2} + \| \boldsymbol{z}_{j} \|_{2}^{2} - 2 \boldsymbol{z}_{i} \boldsymbol{z}_{j}^{T} \right) \\ &= \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \left\| \boldsymbol{z}_{i} \right\|_{2}^{2} + \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \left\| \boldsymbol{z}_{j} \right\|_{2}^{2} - 2 \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \boldsymbol{z}_{i} \boldsymbol{z}_{j}^{T} \\ &= \sum_{i} d_{i} \left\| \boldsymbol{z}_{i} \right\|_{2}^{2} + \sum_{j} d_{j} \left\| \boldsymbol{z}_{j} \right\|_{2}^{2} - 2 \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \boldsymbol{z}_{i} \boldsymbol{z}_{j}^{T} \end{split}$$



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$$= \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \|\mathbf{z}_{i}\|_{2}^{2} + \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \|\mathbf{z}_{j}\|_{2}^{2} - 2\sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij}\mathbf{z}_{i}\mathbf{z}_{j}^{T}$$

$$= \sum_{i} d_{i} \|\mathbf{z}_{i}\|_{2}^{2} + \sum_{j} d_{j} \|\mathbf{z}_{j}\|_{2}^{2} - 2\sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij}\mathbf{z}_{i}\mathbf{z}_{j}^{T}$$

$$= 2\mathbf{Z}^{T}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Z} - 2\mathbf{Z}^{T}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{Z}$$

$$= 2\mathbf{Z}^{T}(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A})\mathbf{Z}$$

Therefore

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Z}) = 2\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}$$



Therefore, we rewrite the objective function as

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
& \mathbf{min} & \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z} \\
\mathbf{Z} & \\
\text{subject to} & \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \overrightarrow{\mathbf{1}} = 0 \\
& \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z} = I
\end{array}$$

- The reformulated objective function shows that Laplacian Eigenmap build upon the spectral clustering ideas to construct node embeddings.
- Similar to the spectral clustering, the solution for  $Z \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  is the last D eigenvectors with non-zero eigenvalues.



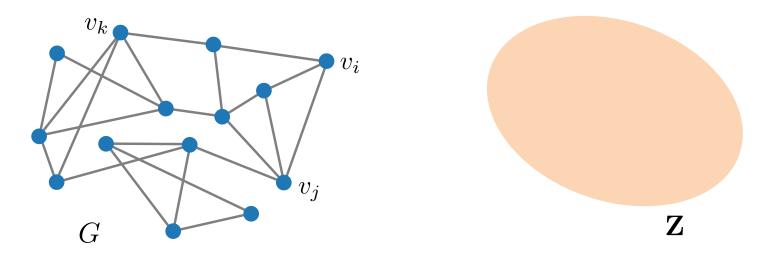
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- Similar to the spectral clustering, the solution for  $\mathbf{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  is the last D eigenvectors with non-zero eigenvalues.
- While we used adjacency matrix as similarity for the derivation, we can use any similarity matrix that has properties of the Laplacian L.

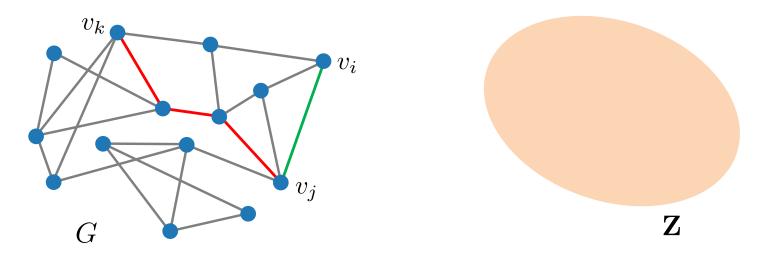


- Another node embedding approach based upon classical manifold learning methods is MDS.
- In this approach, the distance between the learned embeddings  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  preserves the **dissimilarity** between the corresponding nodes  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ .
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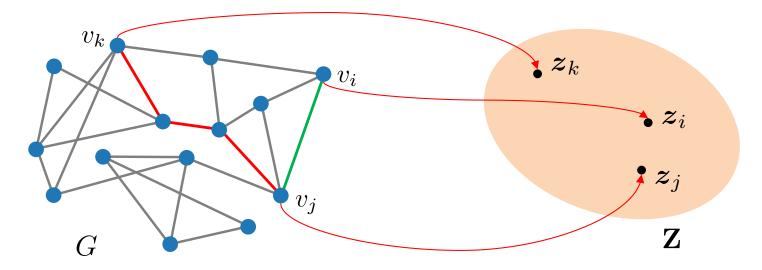


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- In the encoder-decoder framework, the MDS approach is formulated as
  - The loss function L is defined as

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{S}, \hat{\mathbf{S}}) = \|\mathbf{S} - \hat{\mathbf{S}}\|_F^2$$

 $\triangleright$  The decoder  $f_d$  is formulated as

$$\hat{S}_{ij} = f_d\left(oldsymbol{z}_i, oldsymbol{z}_j
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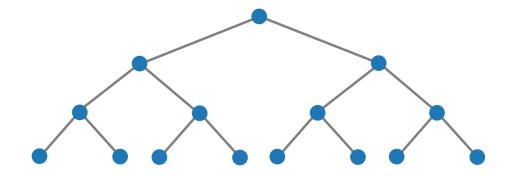
The distance matrix S can be any method that reflects dissimilarity of a pair of nodes on the graph



- In the previous method, the underlying feature representation of the graph is assumed to lie on a Euclidean space.
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- Not all data can best be represented on a Euclidean feature space.
- ❖ For instance, feature representation for hierarchical graphs are ideally represented on a hyperbolic space, which has a hierarchical structure





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The loss function L is defined as

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{A}, \hat{\mathbf{A}}) = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} A_{ij} \log \frac{\exp(-\hat{A}_{ij})}{\sum_{k|A_{ik}=0} \exp(-\hat{A}_{ik})}$$



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- The idea is that the dot product of **two feature** vectors  $z_i$  and  $z_i$  measures the **similarity** of corresponding nodes  $v_i$  and  $v_i$ .



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- In this approach, we define the decoder as the inner product of the pair of embeddings

$$\hat{S}_{ij} = f_d(\boldsymbol{z}_i, \boldsymbol{z}_j) = \boldsymbol{z}_i^T \boldsymbol{z}_j$$

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Therefore, the solution to this minimization problem can be found through a matrix factorization approach.

$$\hat{\mathbf{S}} = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{Z}^T pprox \mathbf{S}$$

We can find the optimal Z through matrix factorization approaches such as SVD.



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- This limits use of these approaches in the directed graphs.



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- This limits use of these approaches in the directed graphs.
- The similarity measure used by GraRep model resolves this issue.
- \* This approach defines the similarity measure between to nodes as probability value of transition from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$ .

$$P_{ij} = \frac{A_{ij}}{d_i}$$

In matrix notation

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{A}$$



\* We can leverage this to capture k —step transition probability from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  as

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- GraRep defines K different reconstruction goals  $P^k$  with k = 1, ..., K to learn embeddings capturing different k-step transition probability

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Using matrix factorization, minimizing £ has the solution

$$\hat{ extbf{P}}^{(k)} = extbf{Z}_s extbf{Z}_t^T pprox extbf{P}^k$$



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For a pair of embeddings, decoder is defined as

$$f_d(\boldsymbol{z}_{i, \text{Source}}^{(k)}, \boldsymbol{z}_{j, \text{Target}}^{(k)}) = \boldsymbol{z}_{i, \text{Source}}^{(k), T} \boldsymbol{z}_{j, \text{Target}}^{(k)}$$

Where the embedding is defined separately for source node and target node:

- The first embedding  $z_{i,source}$  corresponds to the **source** node  $v_i$ .
- ightharpoonup the second one  $z_{j,target}$  correspond to the **destination** node  $v_{j}$ .



Minimizing each loss function

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- GraRep solves this problem for K matrices  $P^k$ , where k = 1, ..., K.
- ❖ Then, the node embeddings for source and target nodes are constructed by concatenating the embeddings learned from each k −step transition matrix.

$$\mathbf{Z}_{\mathrm{source}} = \left[\mathbf{Z}_{\mathrm{source}}^{(1)} \mid \dots \mid \mathbf{Z}_{\mathrm{source}}^{(k)}\right]$$

$$\mathbf{Z}_{\mathrm{target}} = \left[\mathbf{Z}_{\mathrm{target}}^{(1)} \mid \ldots \mid \mathbf{Z}_{\mathrm{target}}^{(k)} \right]$$



### **Summary**

- Learning Node embedding
- Encoder-Decoder framework
- Encoder
- Similarity Measure
- Decoder
- Reconstruction Objective
- Deterministic approaches to learning node embeddings



### **Summary**

- Deterministic approaches to learning node embeddings
  - Distance-based methods
    - Laplacian Eigenmaps
    - Multi-dimensional Scaling (MDS)
    - Non-Euclidean methods
  - Outer product methods
    - Graph Factorization
    - GraRep

