

Graph Rewiring: From theory to Applications in Fairness

Tutorial on the 1st Learning on Graphs Conference 2022

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Resources

Tutorial Webpage

<https://ellisalicante.org/tutorials/GraphRewiring>

Slides

<https://ellisalicante.org/tutorials/GraphRewiring>

Video

<https://ellisalicante.org/tutorials/GraphRewiring>

Code

<https://github.com/ellisalicante/GraphRewiring-Tutorial>

Outline

1. Motivation

- Graph Classification and Expressiveness
- Node Classification and Over-smoothing
- Desiderates

2. Graph Spectral Theory

- Average Cut Problem
- Fiedler Vector
- Laplacian and Dirichlet Energies
- Laplacian Eigenfunctions and Spectrum
- Spectral Theorem
- Spectral Commute times

3. Transductive Graph Rewiring

- Diffusive Rewiring
- Cheeger constant
- Curvature Rewiring

4. Inductive Graph Rewiring

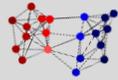
- CT and Lovász Bound
- CT and Sparsification
- CT and Directional Graph Networks
- CT-Layer
 - Loss function and CT-Layer
 - Learned CTE and CT distance
 - Experiments in Graph and Node Classification
 - CT-Layer as Differentiable Curvature
 - CT and Cheeger Constant
- GAP Layer
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 - Approximation of fielder vector

5. Rewiring in Graph Fairness

- Algorithmic Fairness
- Structure: a New Dimension
- Cause of Graph Bias
- Taxonomy of Definitions
- Graph Rewiring Methods for Fairness

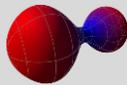


Motivation and Challenges



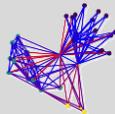
Introduction to Spectral Theory

 Introduction to Spectral Theory



Transductive Rewiring

 Transductive Graph Rewiring



Inductive Rewiring

 Lovász Bound and CT

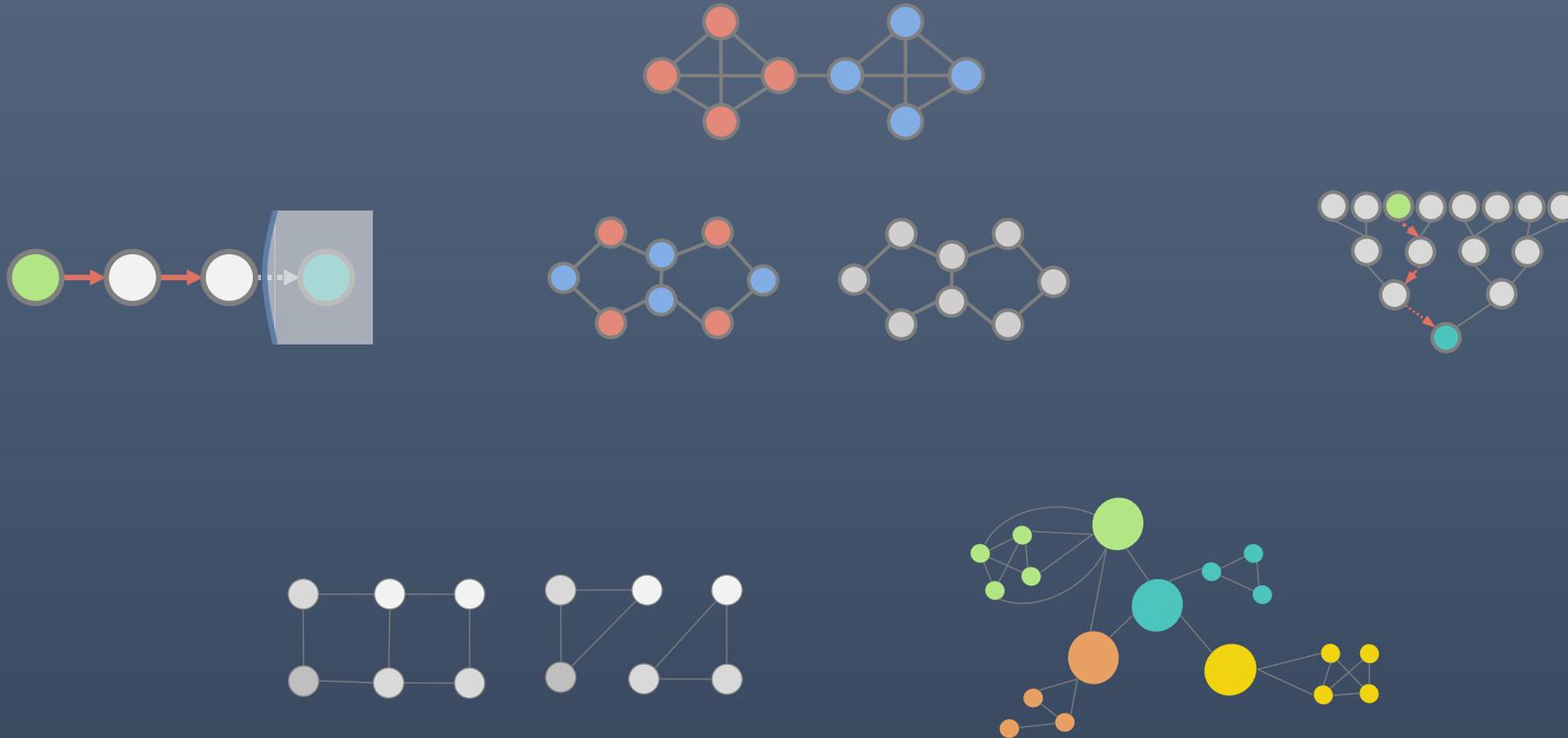
 CT-Layer



Graph Fairness

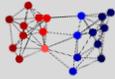
Panel Discussion

Motivation

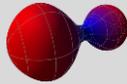




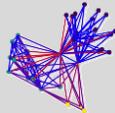
Motivation and Challenges



Introduction to Spectral Theory



Transductive Rewiring



Inductive Rewiring



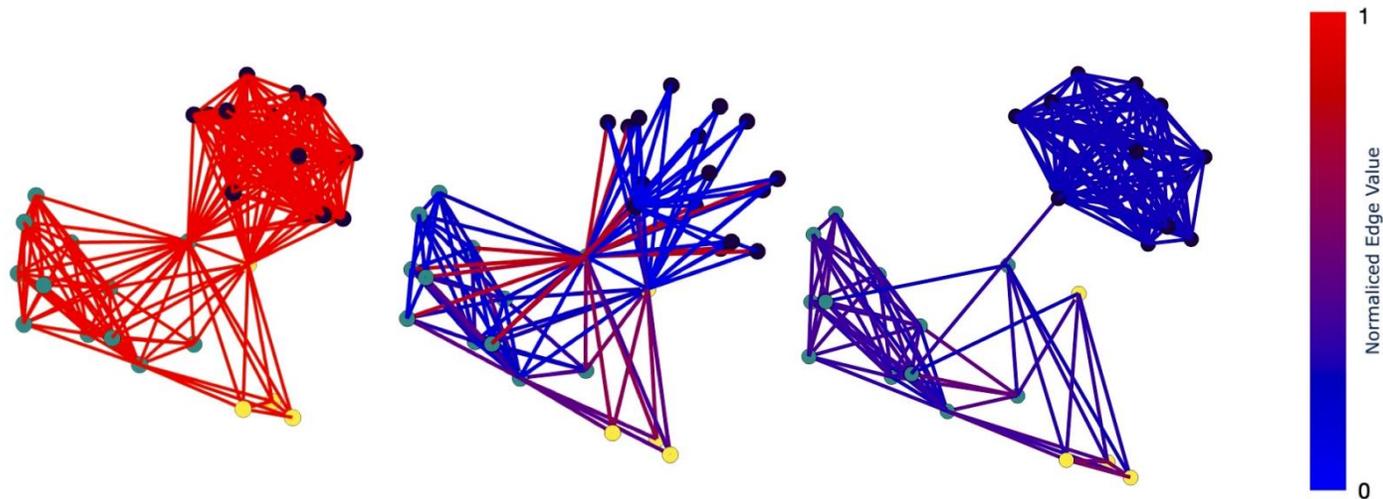
Graph Fairness

Panel Discussion

Motivation

What is (or should be) graph rewiring?

Graph Rewiring pursuits the optimal graph structure for the downstream task



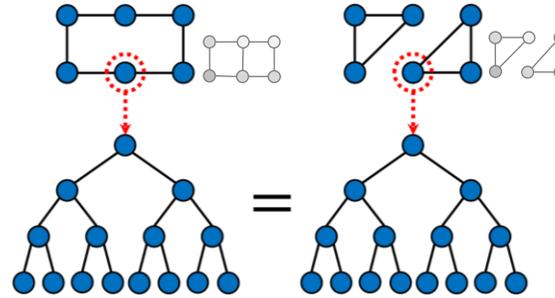
In GRAPH CLASSIFICATION, graph rewiring **skeletonizes** the graph so that the structure becomes more informative

- Given an input graph (left), **bottleneck-preserving** rewiring (center) discriminates graphs whose differences are in the bottlenecks themselves since intra-class edges are often removed or down-weighted.
- **Gap-minimization** rewiring (right) however, discriminates graphs whose differences are in the communities.
- **Example:** Web networks such as COLLAB are better discriminated by 'bottleneck-preserving' rewiring but SBM-like networks with large bottlenecks are better discriminated by gap-minimization rewiring.

Motivation

Graph Classification and Isomorphism

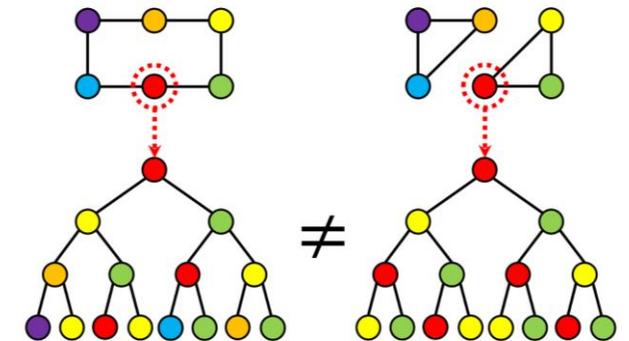
Most GNNs are as powerful as 1-WL test



Distance Encodings (DE) or Positional Encodings (PE) make GNNs more powerful than 1-WL

- **PE:** Random walk measures (e.g. shortest path, diameter, commute times), Spectral metrics (e.g. eigenvectors)
- **Expressiveness:** DE or PE provides strictly more expressive power than 1-WL test [Li, P. et al. 2020] [Velingker, A. et al. 2022]
- **Invariance:** Spectral GCN are permutation and sign equivariant [Lim, D. et al. 2022]
- **Usage:** Usually used as an extra node feature **or to control message aggregation**

Use Spectral metrics to perform
Graph Rewiring



Bronstein, M. GNNs through the lens of differential geometry and algebraic topology. Blog Post, 2021. [Link]

Li, P., et al. "Distance encoding: Design provably more powerful neural networks for graph representation learning". In NeurIPS, 2020.

Lim, D., et al. "Sign and Basis Invariant Networks for Spectral Graph Representation Learning." arXiv preprint arXiv:2202.13013, 2022.

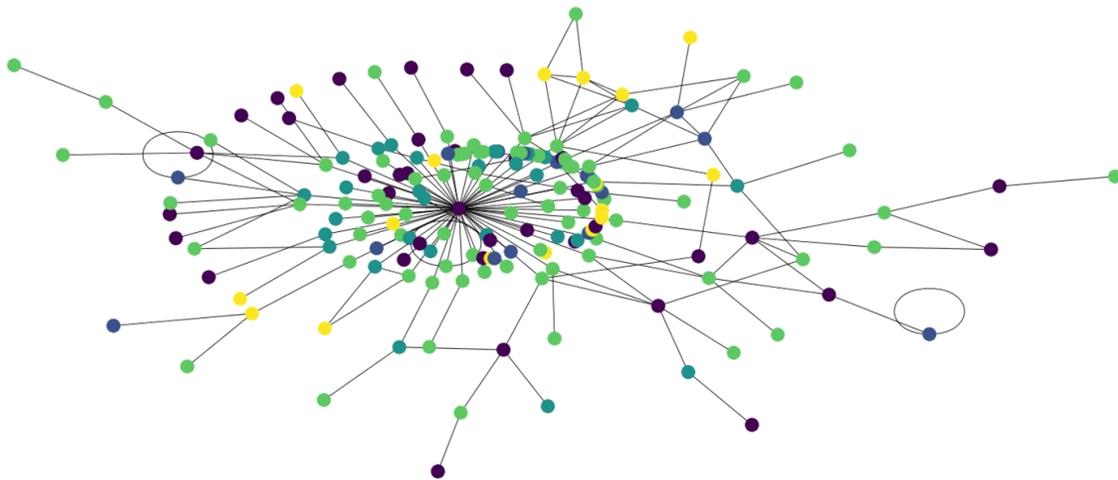
Velingker, A., et al. "Affinity-Aware Graph Networks." arXiv preprint arXiv:2206.11941, 2022.

Motivation

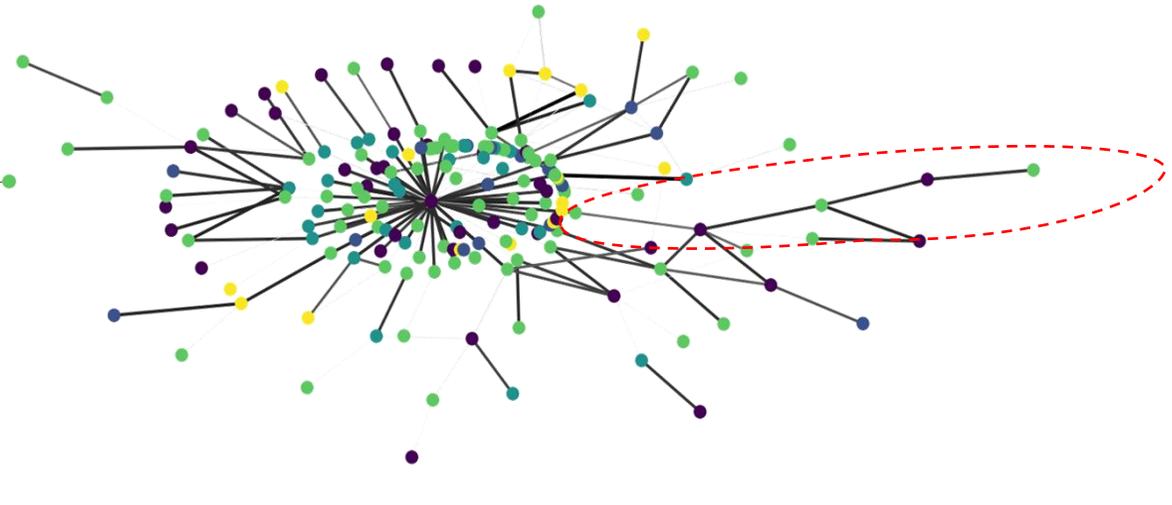
What is (or should be) graph rewiring?

Graph Rewiring pursuits the **optimal graph structure** for the **downstream task**

Original Graph Visualization of cornell()



Rewired Graph Visualization of cornell()



In **NODE CLASSIFICATION**, graph rewiring **enables/disables** information flow between nodes.

- **Homophilic** networks (where structure is correlated with class labels) are easy to rewire (e.g. reduce the gap).
- **Heterophilic** networks often require to increase the flow between heterophilic nodes.
- **In the figure above (Cornell)**: distant **green** nodes can access the periphery of the hub while the gap is preserved.
- **Result**: classes with high heterophilic index are better classified

Motivation

Node Classification. Heterophily and Over-squashing.

GNNs were originally designed based on the smoothness principle

Homophily

Short-range tasks

[Zhu, J., et al., 2020]

$$h_{edges} = \frac{|\{(u, v) \in E: y_u = y_v\}|}{|E|}$$

[Pei, H. et al., 2019]

$$h_{nodes} = \frac{1}{|V|} \sum_{v \in V} \frac{|\{u \in N(v): y_u = y_v\}|}{|N(v)|}$$

$$H_{ij}(E) = \frac{|\{(u, v) \in E: y_u = i \wedge y_v = j\}|}{|\{(u, v) \in E: y_u = i\}|}$$

$$h_{class} = \frac{1}{|C| - 1} \sum_{c \in C} \left[h_c - \frac{|C_c|}{n} \right]_+, \quad h_c = \frac{\sum_{v \in C} |\{u \in N(v): y_u = y_v\}|}{\sum_{v \in C} |N(v)|}$$

[Lim, D. et al., 2021]

i.e. Correlation between structure and labels

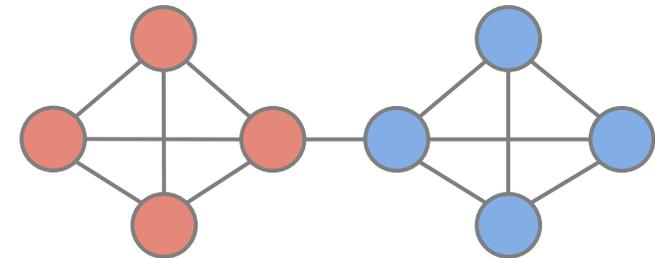
Dirichlet energies

$$h_{smooth} = \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{y}) = \text{Tr}[\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{y}]$$

Assortativity

[Newman, M., 2002]

$h = r =$ Pearson correlation coefficient
between the degrees of linked nodes



Newman, M. "Assortative mixing in networks". Phys. Rev. Lett., 89, 2002.

Pei, H. et al. "Geom-GCN: Geometric GCNs". In ICLR, 2019.

Zhu, J., et al. "Beyond homophily in graph neural networks: Current limitations and effective designs". in NeurIPS, 2020

Lim, D., et al. "New benchmarks for learning on non-homophilous graphs". In WWW Workshop on GLB, 2021.

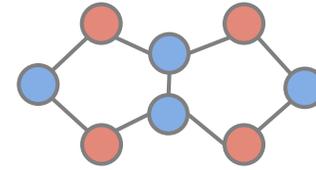
Motivation

Node Classification. Heterophily and Over-squashing.

Heterophily

Long-range tasks

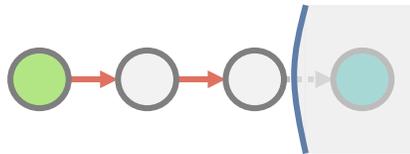
→ Problem with higher radius



$r = \text{radius}$
 $k = n \text{ layers}$
 $d = \text{graph diameter}$

Under-reaching

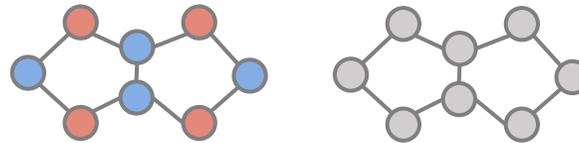
$k < r$



↑ k

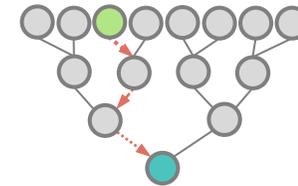
Over-smoothing

$k > r \approx d$



Over-squashing

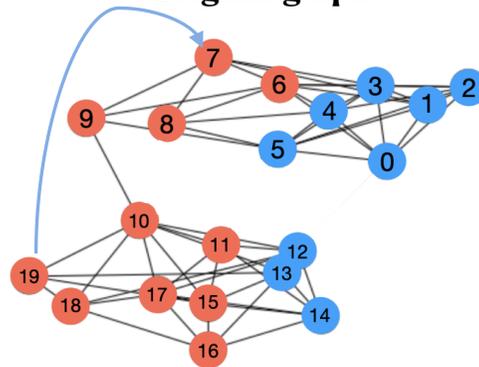
node's receptive field increases exponentially



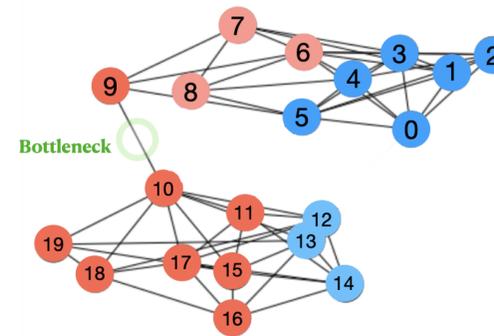
Graph Rewiring as a solution

- Connect distant nodes to overcome the three problems.
- E.g. increase bottleneck

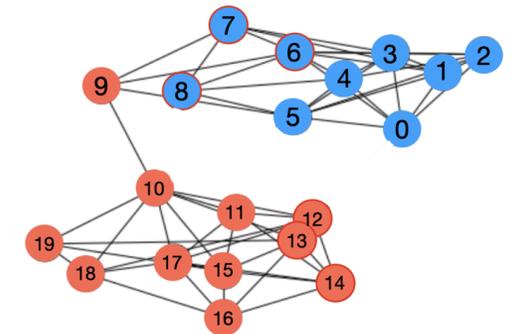
Original graph



Over-squashing



Leads to ● Top ● Bottom



Dominant class in each community absorbs the other



Motivation

Key Challenges – Desiderates of Graph Rewiring

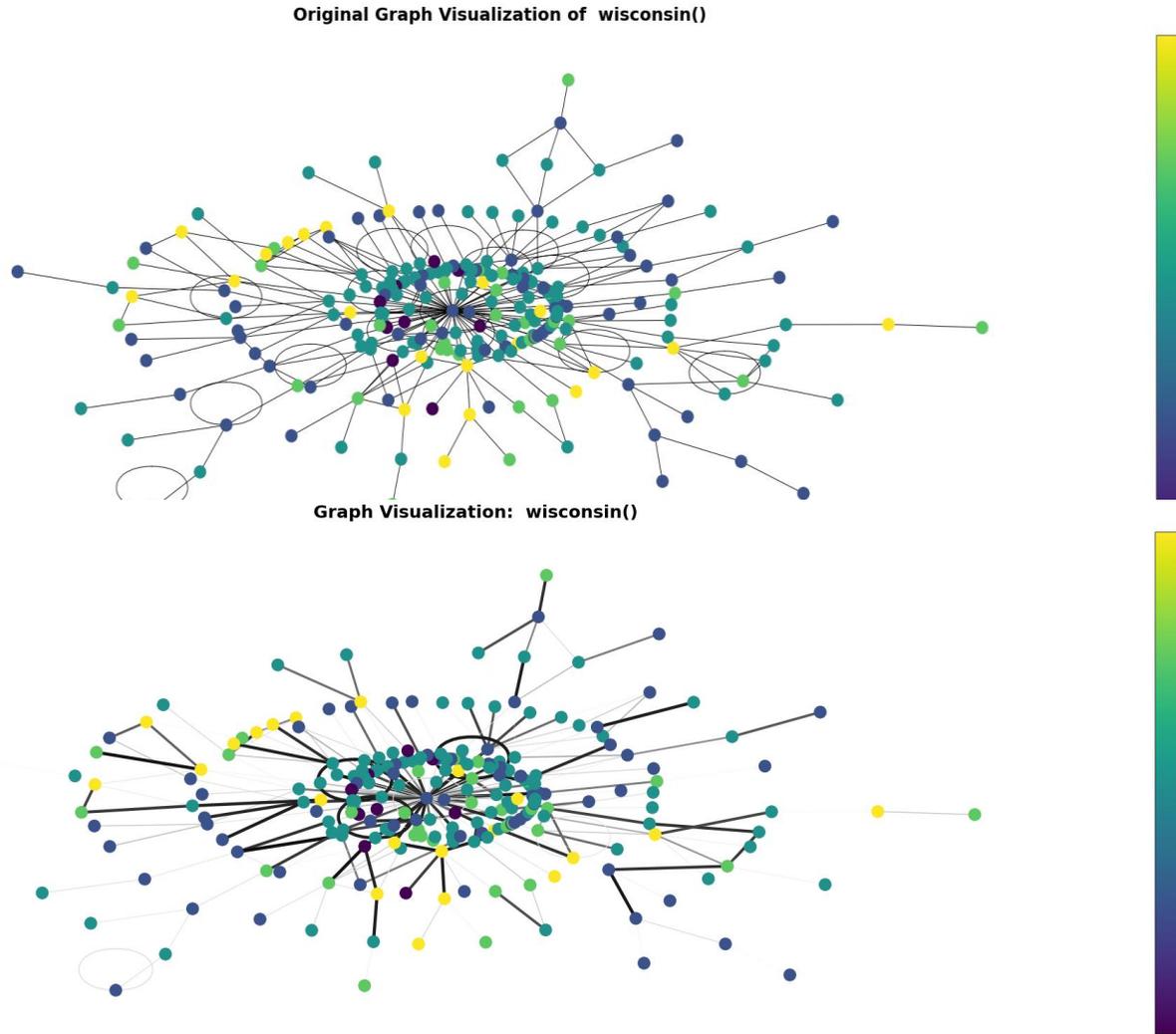
Principled

Expressive

Interpretable

Task-aligned

Parameter-Free



[Deac, A. et al., 2019]

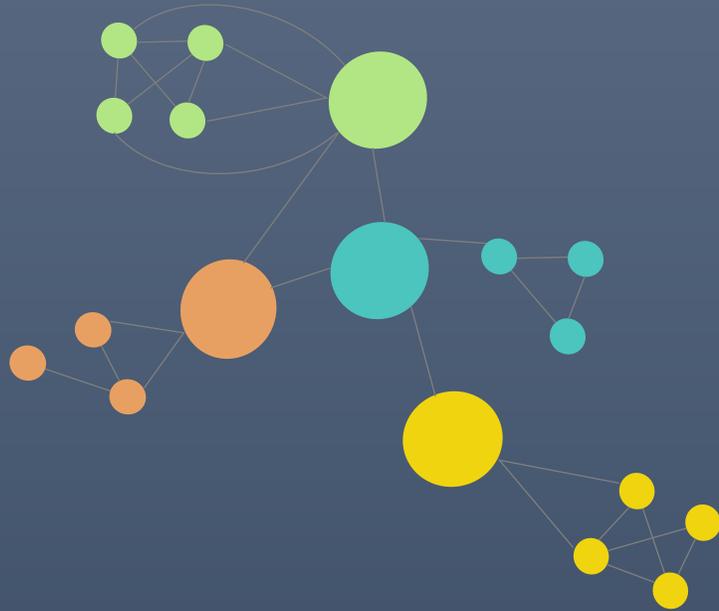
Global Propagation

Remove bottlenecks

Low Complexity

No dedicated preprocessing

Preserve the original structure

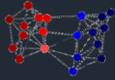


$$\begin{array}{c} \Phi \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \Lambda \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \Phi^T \end{array} \\
 = \begin{pmatrix} | & \vdots & | \\ \mathbf{v}_1 & \vdots & \mathbf{v}_n \\ | & \vdots & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_0 & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \ddots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} - & \mathbf{v}_1 & - \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ - & \mathbf{v}_n & - \end{pmatrix}$$

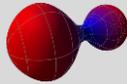
Introduction to Spectral Theory



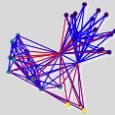
Motivation and Challenges



Introduction to Spectral Theory



Transductive Rewiring



Inductive Rewiring



Graph Fairness

Panel Discussion

Graphs as Combinatorial Objects

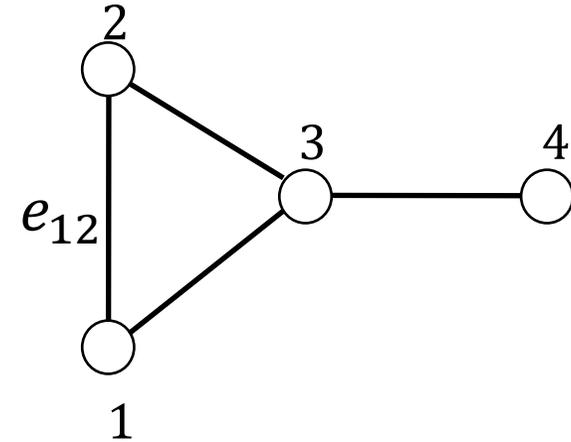
Understanding the Graph Laplacian

- Undirected Graph

$$G = (V, E), V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\} e_{ij} \in E \subseteq V \times V$$

- Adjacency Matrix:

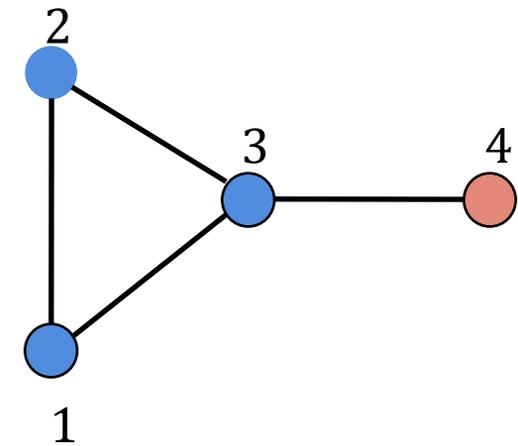
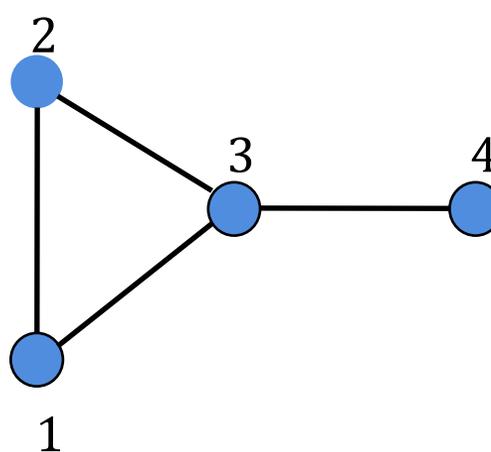
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} A_{ij} \text{ As a variable} \\ a_{ij}, w_{ij} \text{ As a weight} \end{array}$$



G as a Combinatorial Object: 2^n functions f

- Function over the nodes: $f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

- Example: $f: V \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$

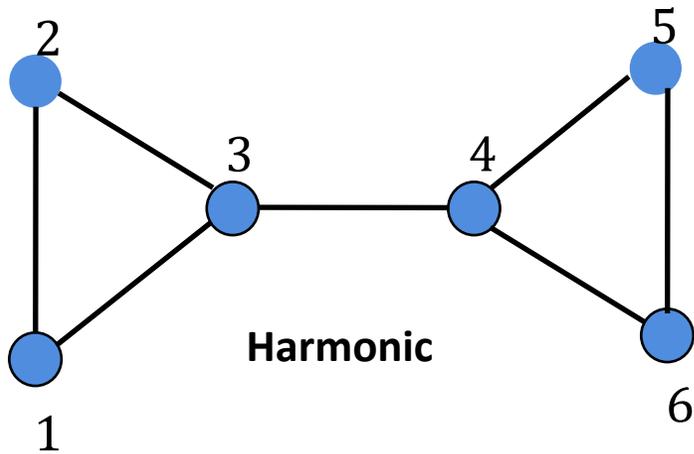


The Average Cut Problem

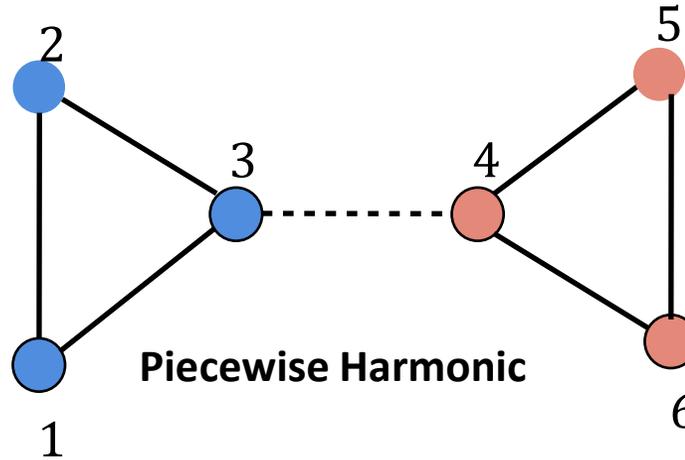
Understanding the Graph Laplacian

- What f s are **more informative** about G ?

$$f(i) = f(j) \forall e_{ij}$$



$$f(i) = f(j) \forall e_{ij} \text{ BUT for } i \in C_A, j \in C_B$$



Vertex Partition

$$A \cup B = V$$

$$A \cap B = \emptyset$$

Cut

$$f(i) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}_i|} \sum_j a_{ij} f(j) = \frac{1}{d_i} \sum_j a_{ij} f(j)$$

$$f = \min_{f \in \Omega} A \text{cut}(A, B) \quad \text{cut}(A, B) = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} a_{ij}$$

$$A \text{cut}(A, B) = \frac{\text{cut}(A, B)}{|A|} + \frac{\text{cut}(A, B)}{|B|}$$

NP-Hard!

The Fiedler Vector

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

Fiedler's Theorem: Measures the **variability** of the optimal solution

$$\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n \quad x_i = +1 \rightarrow i \in A, x_i = -1 \rightarrow i \in B$$

$\mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{1}$ Minimal variability is $\lambda_1 = 0$, i.e. that of the harmonic function

The variability λ_2 of the **optimal partition** minimizes the ratio between the variability imposed by the structure of the graph and the unconstrained one!

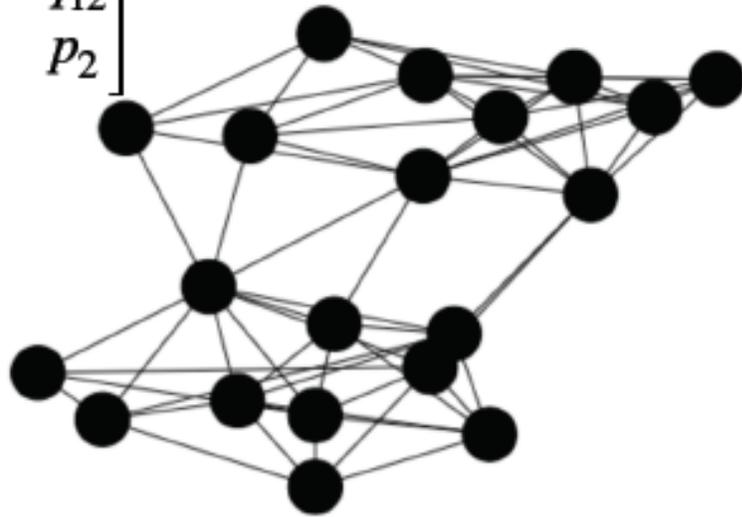
$$\lambda_2 = n \cdot \min \left\{ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} (x_i - x_j)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (x_i - x_j)^2} : \mathbf{x} \neq c \cdot \mathbf{1}, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

The Fiedler Vector

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

$G \in SBM(\mathbf{P})$

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 & q_{12} \\ q_{12} & p_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

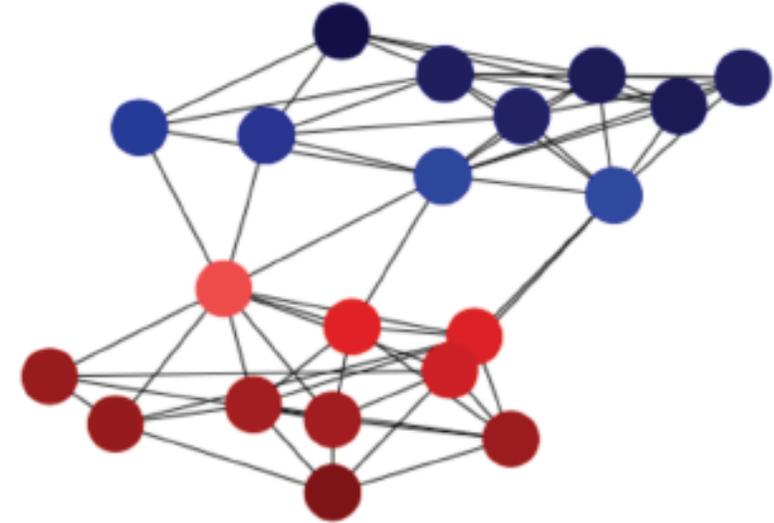


$\lambda_1 = 0$

Fiedler vector and its mapping over G

$\mathbf{x} =$

[	0.25351771]
[	0.25653022]
[	0.25387927]
[	0.16959223]
[	0.17525303]
[	0.24266911]
[	0.24454324]
[	0.1106077]
[	0.2855154]
[	0.19132828]
[	-0.25326518]
[	-0.24898363]
[	-0.15099328]
[	-0.17707374]
[	-0.1441682]
[	-0.2553871]
[	-0.24018788]
[	-0.25043498]
[	-0.19223463]
[	-0.27070759]



$\lambda_2 = 8.37042078e-01$

The Combinatorial Laplacian

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

The combinatorial Laplacian

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{D} = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_n)$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & -a_{12} & \dots & -a_{1n} \\ -a_{21} & d_2 & \dots & -a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -a_{n1} & -a_{n2} & \dots & d_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\forall i : \sum_j \mathbf{L}_{ij} = 0$$

Semidefinite Positive

$$\text{Tr}(\mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f}) \geq 0, \forall \mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

The trace of \mathbf{L} is \propto to the variability imposed by the structure of the graph (Fiedler's Thm)

$$\text{Tr}(\mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} (f_i - f_j)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \sim j} (f_i - f_j)^2$$

Dirichlet Energies!

Harmonicity

$$\mathbf{L} \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0} \rightarrow f(i) = \frac{1}{d_i} \sum_j a_{ij} f(j)$$

Eigenfunctions and Spectrum

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

The **spectrum** and **eigenfunctions** of \mathbf{L}

Courant-Fisher Theorem:

$$\lambda_i = \max_{x^i} \left(\min_{\mathbf{x} \perp x^i, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} R(\mathbf{x}) \right)$$

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{f}_1 = 0 \rightarrow \lambda_1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{f}_2 = \lambda_2 \mathbf{f}_2 \quad \text{Fiedler vector}$$

\vdots

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{f}_n = \lambda_n \mathbf{f}_n$$

$$\mathbf{f}_2 \perp \mathbf{f}_1, \mathbf{f}_3 \perp \{\mathbf{f}_1, \mathbf{f}_2\}, \dots \rightarrow \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$$

For connected graphs

Rayleigh Quotient:

$$R(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Unconstrained Variability:

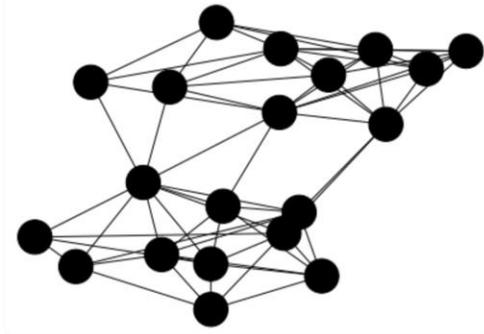
$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (x_i - x_j)^2$$

$$\lambda_2 = n \cdot \min \left\{ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} (x_i - x_j)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (x_i - x_j)^2} : \mathbf{x} \neq c \cdot \mathbf{1}, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

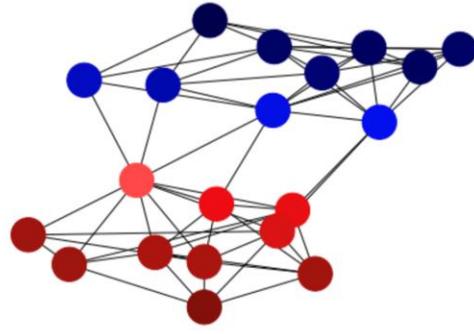
$$\lambda_i = \frac{\mathbf{f}_i^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{f}_i}{\mathbf{f}_i^T \mathbf{f}_i}$$

Eigenfunctions of the Laplacian

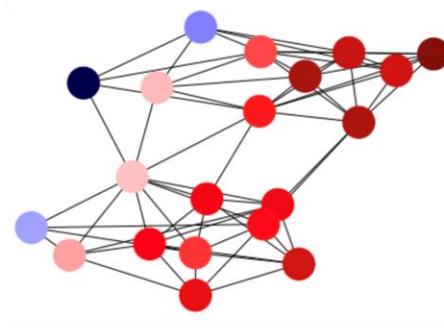
Understanding the Graph Laplacian



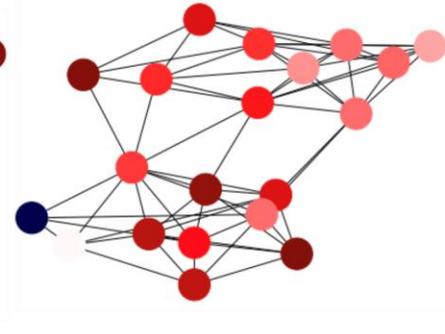
$$\lambda_1 = 0$$



$$\lambda_2 = 0.837$$

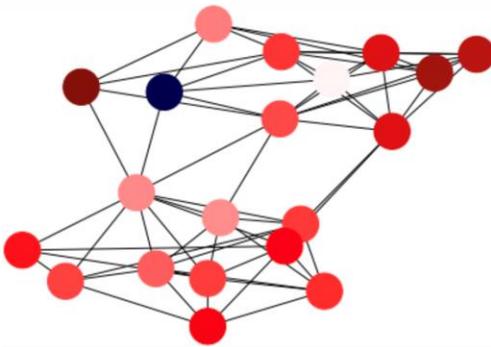


$$\lambda_3 = 3.389$$

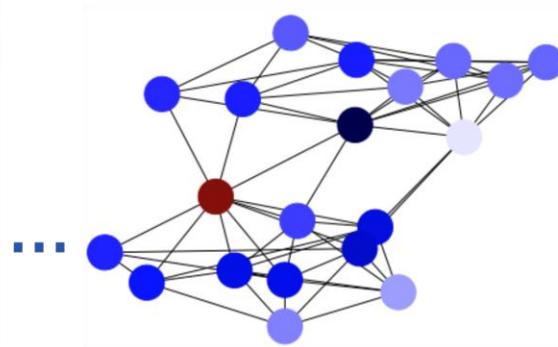


$$\lambda_4 = 3.635$$

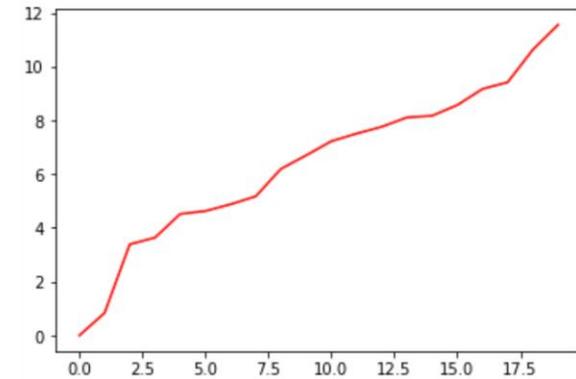
Spectrum



$$\lambda_5 = 4.514$$



$$\lambda_n = 11.547$$



Spectral Theorem and Heat Kernels

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

Diffusion through Heat Kernels

Spectral Decomposition on L

$$\mathbf{L} = \Phi \Lambda \Phi^T, \quad \Phi = [\mathbf{f}_1, \mathbf{f}_2, \dots, \mathbf{f}_n], \quad \Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathbf{L} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathbf{f}_i \mathbf{f}_i^T$$

Solution of heat equation and measures information flow across edges of graph with time:

$$\frac{\partial h_t}{\partial t} = -L h_t$$

Matricial Exponential: Solution found by exponentiating Laplacian eigensystem

$$\mathbf{K}_t = \exp(-t\mathbf{L}) \rightarrow \Phi \exp(-t\Lambda) \Phi^T \rightarrow \Phi \begin{bmatrix} e^{-t\lambda_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-t\lambda_2} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & e^{-t\lambda_n} \end{bmatrix} \Phi^T$$
$$\mathbf{K}_t = \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-t\lambda_i} \mathbf{f}_i \mathbf{f}_i^T$$

$$\exp(-t\mathbf{L}) = \mathbf{I} - t\mathbf{L} + \frac{t^2}{2!} \mathbf{L}^2 - \frac{t^3}{3!} \mathbf{L}^3 + \dots$$

$$t \approx 0 : \mathbf{K}_t \approx \mathbf{I} - t\mathbf{L}$$

$$t \rightarrow \infty : \mathbf{K}_t \approx e^{-t\lambda_2} \mathbf{f}_2 \mathbf{f}_2^T$$

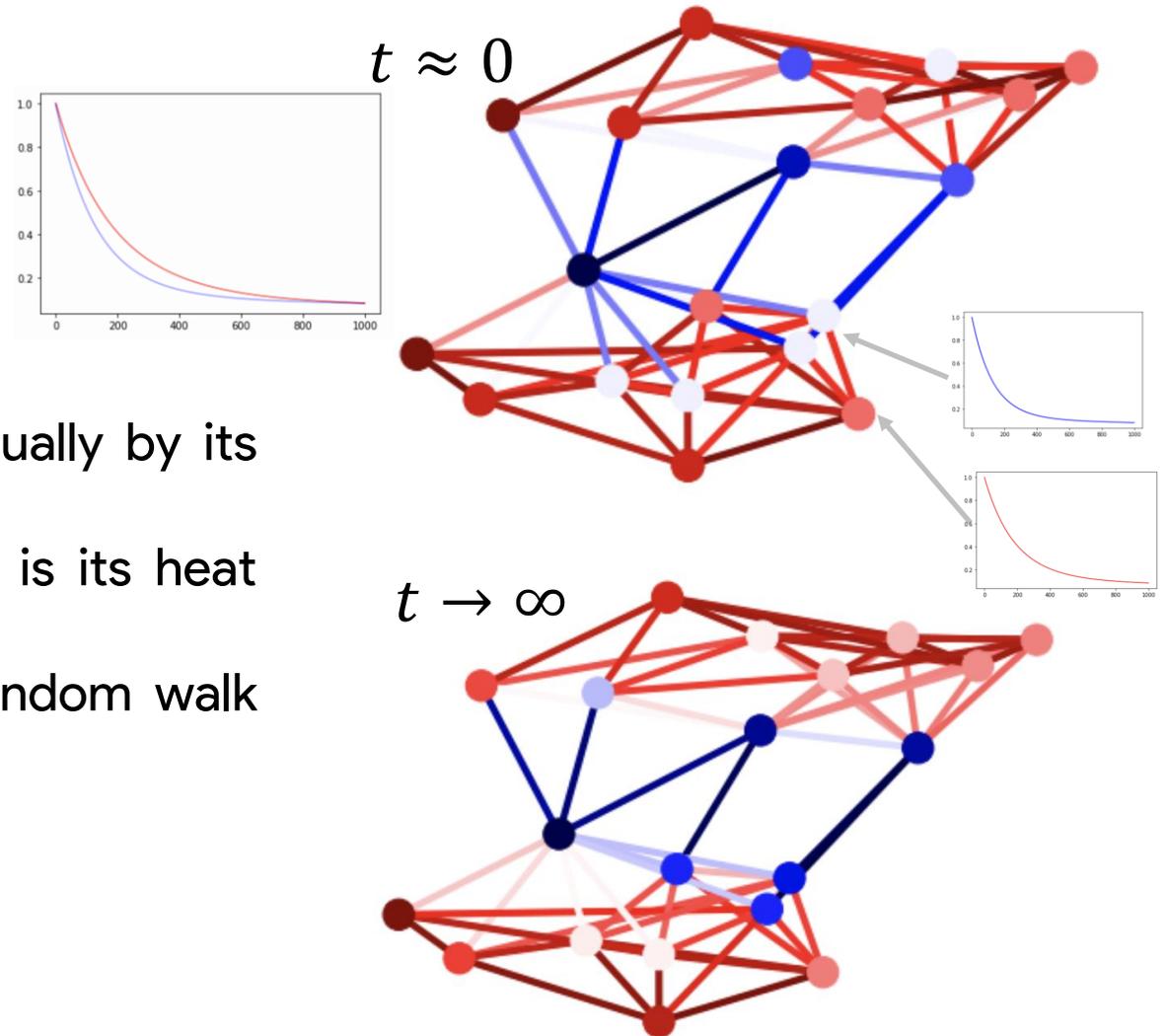
Spectral Theorem and Heat Kernels

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

Diffusion through Heat Kernels

Motivation

- At time $t = 0$, each node has a unit of heat.
- The heat diffuses as $t \rightarrow \infty$ driven by \mathbf{L} (actually by its harmonization behavior).
- The Heat Kernel Signature (HKS) of a node is its heat trace over time.
- Heat $H_t(i, j)$ is the probability that a lazy random walk starting at node i hits node j at time t .



Commute Times

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

Commute Time and its Embedding

$$CT(i, j) = H(i, j) + H(j, i)$$

$$R(i, j) = \frac{CT(i, j)}{vol(G)}$$

$$CT(u, v) = vol(G) \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} (\mathbf{f}_i(u) - \mathbf{f}_i(v))^2$$

Motivation

Time needed by a random walk to hit j (Hitting time) and return. More respectful with G 's structure than SP!

Sum of divergences between eigenfunctions pinpointed at u and v but downweighed by the eigenvalue

Smoothest eigenfunctions contribute less (btw their λ_i is smaller) whereas the contribution of high variance eigenfunctions is reduced by their large inverse λ_i

Commute Times

Understanding the Graph Laplacian

Commute Time and its Embedding

$$CT(u, v) = vol(G) \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} (\mathbf{f}_i(u) - \mathbf{f}_i(v))^2$$

↓

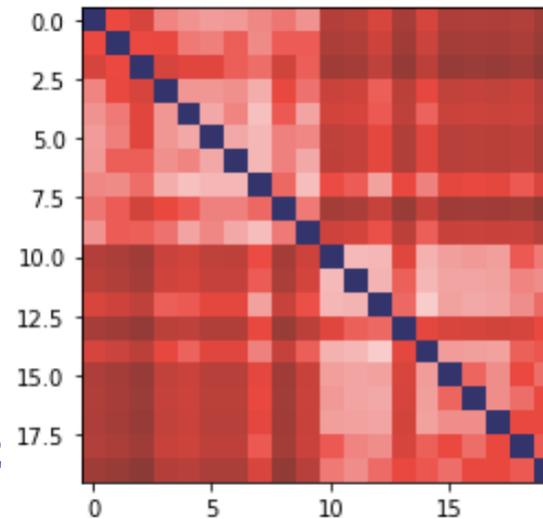
$$\Theta = \sqrt{vol(G)} \Lambda^{-1/2} \Phi^T$$

$$CT(u, v) = vol(G) \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda'_i} \left(\frac{\mathbf{g}_i(u)}{\sqrt{d_u}} - \frac{\mathbf{g}_i(v)}{\sqrt{d_v}} \right)^2$$

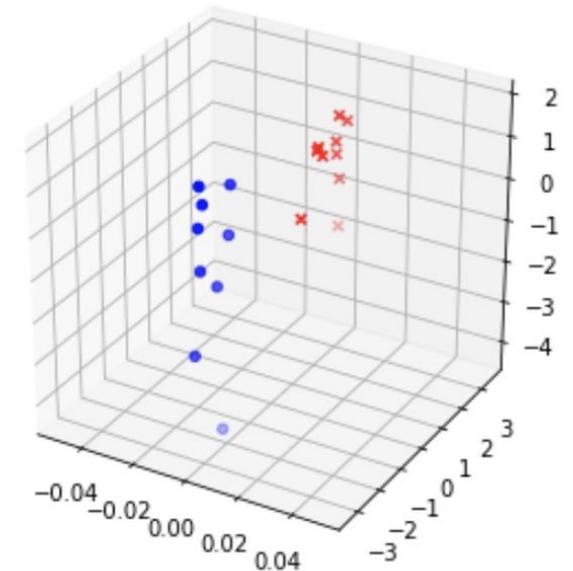
↓

$$\Theta = \sqrt{vol(G)} \Lambda'^{-1/2} \Phi'^T \mathbf{D}^{1/2}$$

CT matrix:



CT Embedding:



CT Embedding in the cols of Θ

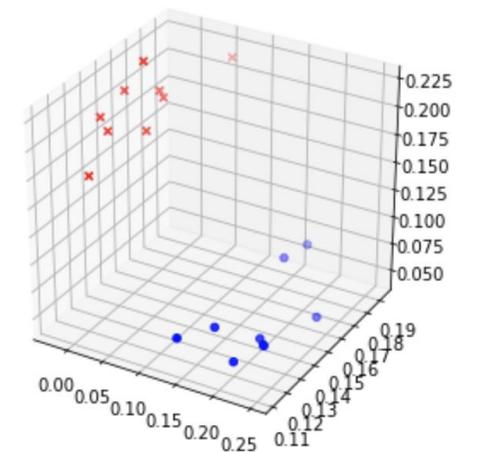
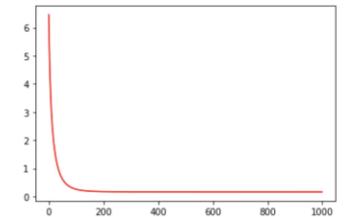
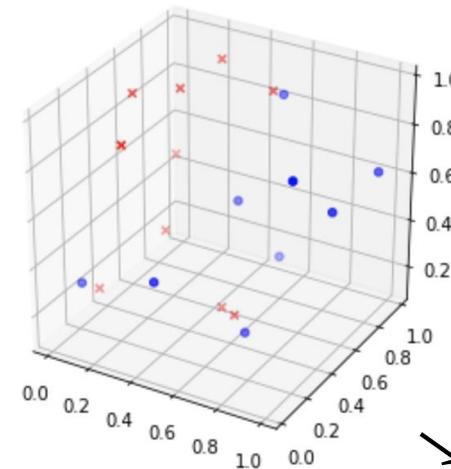
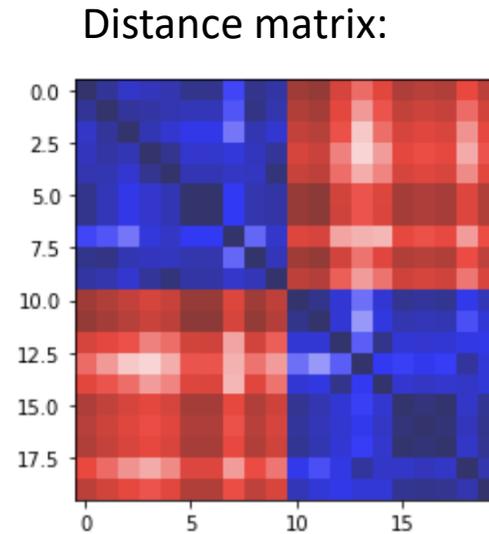
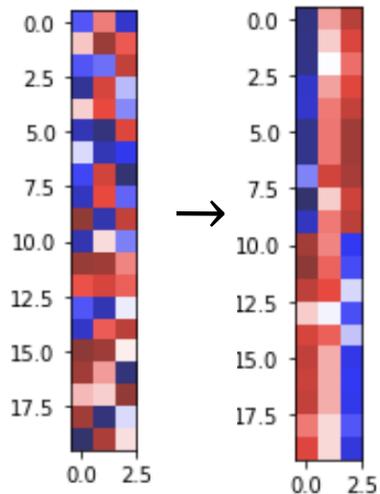
Commute Times

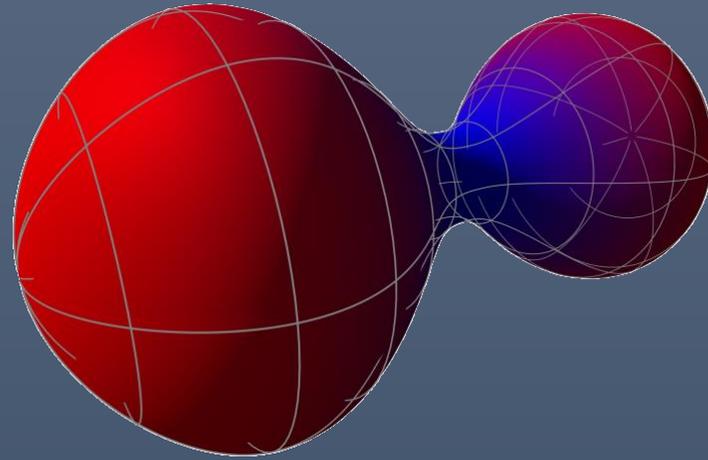
Understanding the Graph Laplacian

Commute Time and its Embedding

$$\Theta^* = \min_{\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}: \Theta \Theta^T = \mathbf{I}} \text{Tr}[\Theta^T \mathcal{L} \Theta] \rightarrow \min L = \text{Tr}[\Theta^T \mathcal{L} \Theta] + \lambda_{reg} \|\Theta \Theta^T - \mathbf{I}\|^2$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \Theta} = 2\mathcal{L}\Theta + 4\lambda_{reg}\Theta(\Theta\Theta^T - \mathbf{I})$$

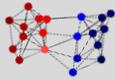




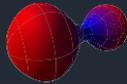
Transductive Graph Rewiring



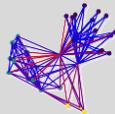
Motivation and Challenges



Introduction to Spectral Theory



Transductive Rewiring



Inductive Rewiring



Graph Fairness

Panel Discussion

Diffusive Rewiring

Motivation and basic equations

Diffusion processes provide principled methods for linking distant nodes [Klicpera et al. 2019]

- **Improving Message Passing:** Spatial MPNNs need deep layers to leverage high-order (distant) neighborhoods.
- **Structural Noise:** Edges in real graphs are often noisy or not correlated with the distribution of nodal features.
- **Spectral principles:** Spectral GNNs allow high-order neighborhoods but are not inductive for unseen graphs
- **GDC/DIGL:** Diffuse (PageRank/RW with restart, Heat Kernels) + sparsify + threshold as an **alternative message passing**.

Parameterized

$$\text{PPR: } S = \alpha (I_n + (\alpha - 1)A)^{-1}$$

Alpha

Top-K or epsilon for thresholding edges

$$\text{Heat: } S = e^{t(A - I_n)}$$

t

Top-K or epsilon for thresholding edges

Powers to the transition matrix

$$S = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \theta_k T^k$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} T^k = (I - T)^{-1}$$

$$\theta_k = \alpha(1 - \alpha)^k$$

$$S = \alpha \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} ((1 - \alpha)T)^k$$

$$S = \alpha(I - (1 - \alpha)T)^{-1}$$

Row-stochastic matrix

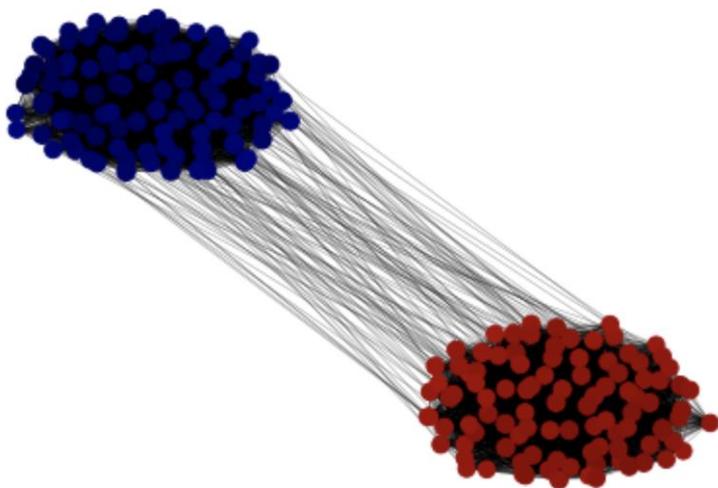
Diffusive Rewiring

Analysis

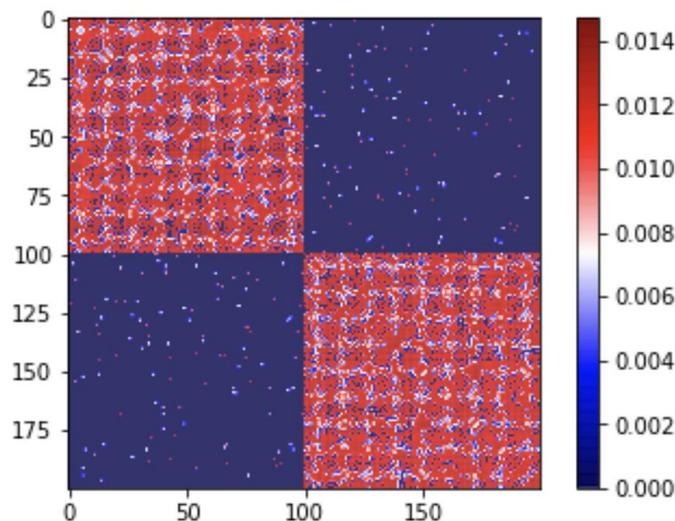
Diffusion works as a low-pass filter of structural noise [Klicpera et al. 2019]

- Trivial choice of T (random walker): $T \equiv T_{rw} = D^{-1}A$
- Interpretation of: $T^k(i,j)$ probability of hitting j from i in k -steps. Hop aggregation: $\theta_1 T + \theta_2 T^2 + \theta_3 T^3 + \dots$
- $k \rightarrow \infty$: Hitting probability is proportional to degree. But more distant modes can be reached -> Structural Smoothing

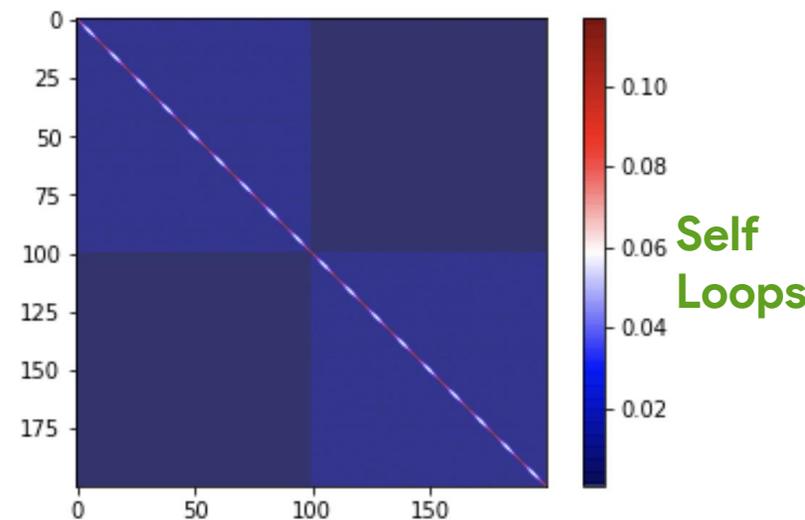
Basic SBM



Structural Noise (white pixels)



Structural smoothing



$$T \equiv T_{sym} = (I + D)^{-1/2}(I + A)(I + D)^{-1/2}$$

$$S = \alpha(I - (1 - \alpha)T)^{-1}$$

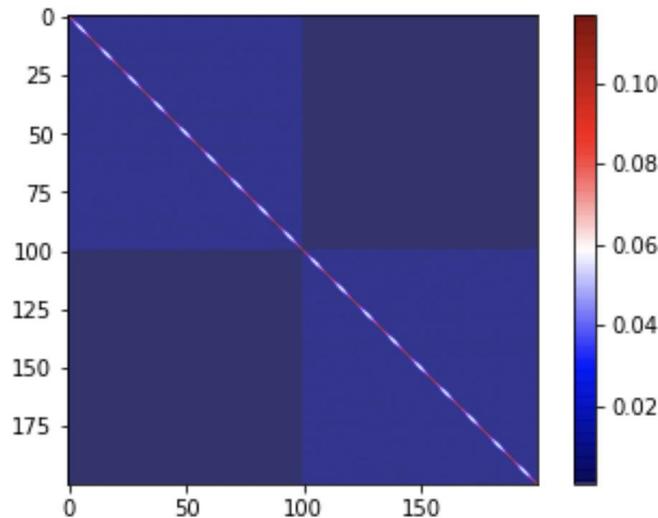
Diffusive Rewiring

Analysis

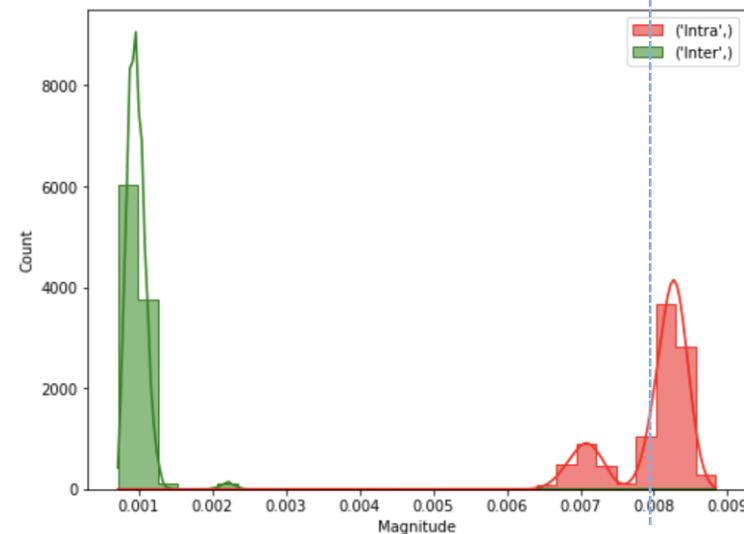
Sparsification and thresholding after diffusion [Nassar et al. 2015]

- Sparsification and thresholding: $\tilde{S} = S * (S \geq \epsilon)$
- Why \tilde{S} ? Limit distribution of S is somewhat sparse (some nodes maybe not visited). This is “localization”.
- Sparsification is enabled by localization! Perturbation mostly affects to highest and lowest eigenvalues.

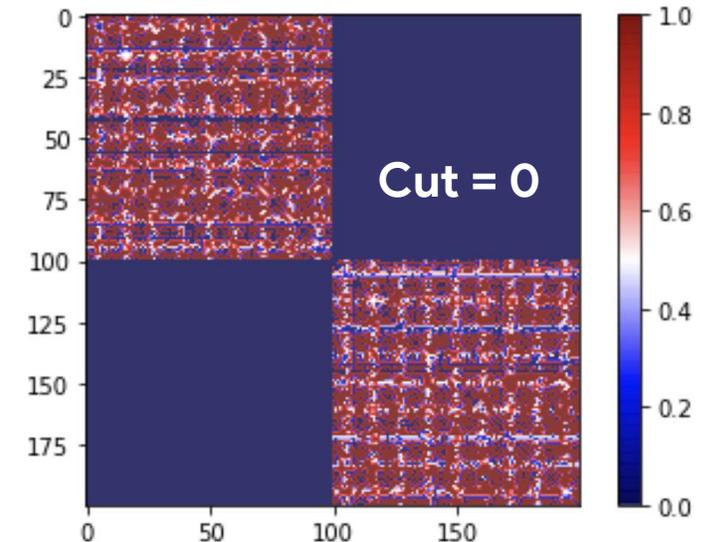
After sparsification



Edge magnitude



Final thresholding



$$T_{sym}^{\tilde{S}} \equiv D_{\tilde{S}}^{-1/2} \tilde{S} D_{\tilde{S}}^{-1/2}$$

$$S(i, j), (i \in V_a, j \in V_b) \text{ vs } S(i, j), (i \in V_a, j \in V_a)$$

$$T_S_th = T_S_zeroD > 0.008$$

Huda Nassar, Kyle Kloster, and David F. Gleich. Strong Localization in Personalized PageRank Vectors. In International Workshop on Algorithms and Models for the Web Graph (WAW), 2015.

GITHUB: <https://github.com/gasteigerjo/gdc> and also recently incorporated to Pytorch Geometric.

Curvature

The Cheeger Constant

The Cheeger Constant is a **separator problem**

- Given a graph G , remove as **few edges as possible** to disconnect the graph into two **parts of almost equal size**
- Solving this problem implies exploring the $2^{|V|}$ subsets $S \subseteq V$ of the graph.
- Each one induces a partition $S \cup \bar{S} = V, S \cap \bar{S} = \emptyset$

$$h_G = \min_{S \subseteq V} h_S, \quad h_S = \frac{\overset{\text{\# edges in the bottleneck}}{cut(S, \bar{S})}}{\underset{\text{Volume of the community}}{\min(\text{vol}(S), \text{vol}(\bar{S}))}}$$

$cut(S, \bar{S}) = |\{(u, v) : u \in S, v \in \bar{S}\}|$ Number of edges in the bottleneck

Minimal edge density in the partition

However, this quantity can be **spectrally bounded (and it bounds the spectra)**

$$\frac{\lambda_2}{2} \leq h_G < \sqrt{2\lambda_2} \quad \text{and} \quad 2h_G \leq \lambda_2 < \frac{h_G^2}{2}$$

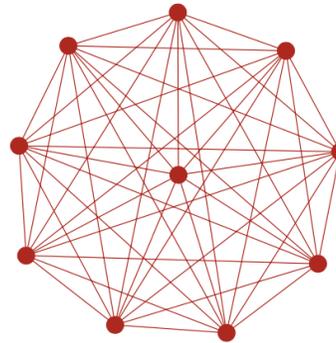
λ_2 is the first non-trivial eigenvalue of the normalized Laplacian of G

Curvature

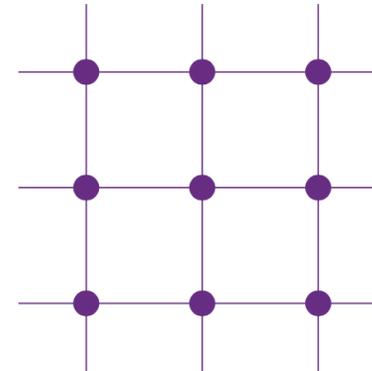
The Cheeger Constant

Since graphs encode manifolds, **curvature** (positive, negative or zero) quantifies the dispersion of geodesics (e.g. shortest paths) : [Devrient and Lambiotte. 2022]

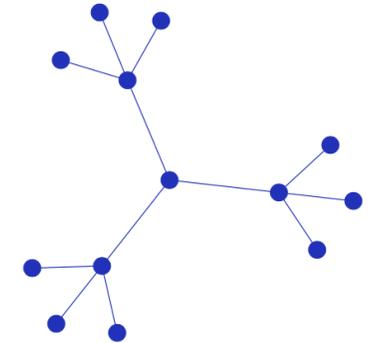
- **Zero**: geodesics remain parallel (e.g. grid)
- **Positive**: geodesics converge (e.g. clique)
- **Negative**: geodesics diverge (e.g. trees)



) Clique (> 0)



) Grid ($= 0$)



) Tree (< 0)

Edge curvature : [Topping et al., 2022]

- $\#_{\triangle}(i, j)$: **Triangles** based at (i, j)
- $\#_{\square}^i(i, j)$: **Neighbors** of i forming a 4-cycle based on (i, j) without diagonals inside.
- $\gamma_{max}(i, j)$: Maximal number of 4-cycles based at (i, j) traversing a common node

Karel Devriendt and Renaud Lambiotte. Discrete curvature on graphs from the effective resistance. arXiv preprint arXiv:2201.06385, 2022. doi: 10.48550/ARXIV.2201.06385. URL <https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.06385>. 2, 6, 7, 18

Jake Topping, Francesco Di Giovanni, Benjamin Paul Chamberlain, Xiaowen Dong, and Michael M. Bronstein. Understanding over-squashing and bottlenecks on graphs via curvature. In International Conference on Learning Representations, 2022. URL <https://openreview.net/forum?id=7UmjRGzp-A>. 2, 3, 6, 8, 18, 23

Curvature

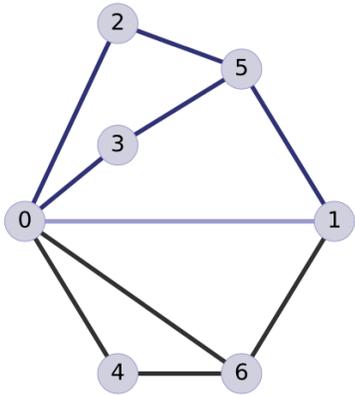
Intuition

Balanced forman curvature

$Ric(i, j) = 0$ if $\min\{d_i, d_j\} = 1$

$$Ric(i, j) = \frac{2}{d_i} + \frac{2}{d_j} - 2 + 2 \frac{|\#_{\Delta}(i, j)|}{\max\{d_i, d_j\}} + \frac{|\#_{\Delta}(i, j)|}{\min\{d_i, d_j\}} + \frac{(\gamma_{\max})^{-1}}{\max\{d_i, d_j\}} (|\#_{\blacksquare}^i| + |\#_{\blacksquare}^j|)$$

$$d_0=5, d_1=3$$



$|\#_{\Delta}(0,1)| = 1$ given by triangle $\{1, 6, 0\}$

$\#_{\blacksquare}^0(0,1) = \{2, 3\}$ without 4,6 because triangle $\{1,6,0\}$

$\#_{\blacksquare}^1(0,1) = \{5\}$ without 4,6 because triangle $\{1,6,0\}$

$\gamma_{\max}(0,1) = 2$ from the two 4-cycles passing through node 5.

$$Ric(0,1) = \frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{3} - 2 + 2 \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{(2)^{-1}}{5} (2 + 1) = \frac{6+10}{15} - 2 + \frac{6+5}{15} + \frac{5}{10} = -2 + \frac{22}{15} + \frac{3}{10} = -2 + \frac{44+9}{30} = -2 + \frac{51}{30} = -0.23 < 0$$

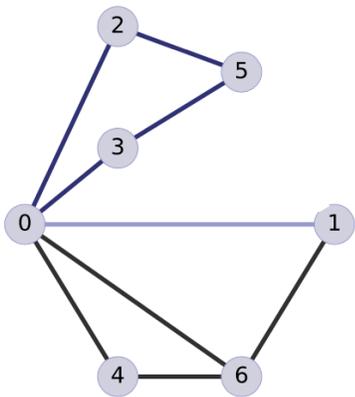
Curvature

Intuition

Balanced forman curvature

$Ric(i, j) = 0$ if $\min\{d_i, d_j\} = 1$

$$Ric(i, j) = \frac{2}{d_i} + \frac{2}{d_j} - 2 + 2 \frac{|\#_{\Delta}(i, j)|}{\max\{d_i, d_j\}} + \frac{|\#_{\Delta}(i, j)|}{\min\{d_i, d_j\}} + \frac{(\gamma_{\max})^{-1}}{\max\{d_i, d_j\}} (|\#_{\blacksquare}^i| + |\#_{\blacksquare}^j|)$$



$$d_0=5, d_1=2$$

$|\#_{\Delta}(0,1)| = 1$ given by triangle $\{1, 6, 0\}$

$\#_{\blacksquare}^0(0,1) = \{2\}$ without 3 and without 4,6 because triangle $\{1,6,0\}$

$\#_{\blacksquare}^1(0,1) = \emptyset$ without 5 and without 4,6 because triangle $\{1,6,0\}$

$\gamma_{\max}(0,1) = 1$ from the 4-cycle passing through node 5.

$$Ric(0,1) = \frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{2} - 2 + 2 \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{(1)^{-1}}{5} (1 + 0) = \frac{4+10}{10} - 2 + \frac{4+5}{10} + \frac{1}{5} = -2 + \frac{23}{10} + \frac{1}{5} = -2 + \frac{25}{10} = 2.5 > 0$$

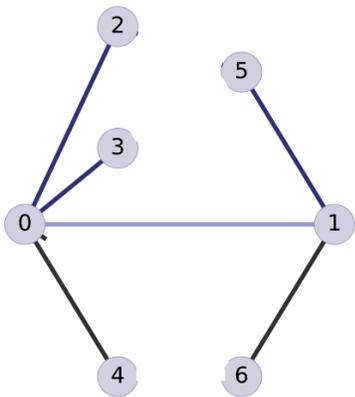
Curvature

Intuition

Balanced forman curvature

$Ric(i, j) = 0$ if $\min\{d_i, d_j\} = 1$

$$Ric(i, j) = \frac{2}{d_i} + \frac{2}{d_j} - 2 + 2 \frac{|\#_{\Delta}(i, j)|}{\max\{d_i, d_j\}} + \frac{|\#_{\Delta}(i, j)|}{\min\{d_i, d_j\}} + \frac{(\gamma_{\max})^{-1}}{\max\{d_i, d_j\}} (|\#_{\blacksquare}^i| + |\#_{\blacksquare}^j|)$$



$|\#_{\Delta}(0, 1)| = 0$ no triangle based at $(0, 1)$

$\#_{\blacksquare}^0(0, 1) = \emptyset$ no 4-cycle based at $(0, 1)$

$\#_{\blacksquare}^1(0, 1) = \emptyset$ no 4-cycle based at $(0, 1)$

$\gamma_{\max}(0, 1) = 0$ no 4-cycle

$d_0=4, d_1=3$

**Strong
bottleneck**

$$Ric(0, 1) = \frac{2}{4} + \frac{2}{3} - 2 + 2 \frac{0}{4} + \frac{0}{3} + \frac{(0)^{-1}}{4} (0 + 0) = \frac{6+8}{12} - 2 + 0 + 0 = -2 + \frac{14}{12} = -2 + \frac{14}{12} = -0.83 < 0$$

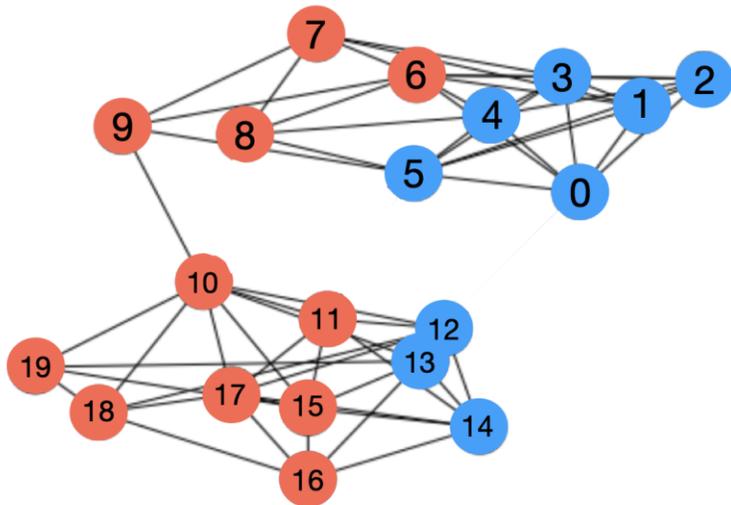
Curvature

Intuition

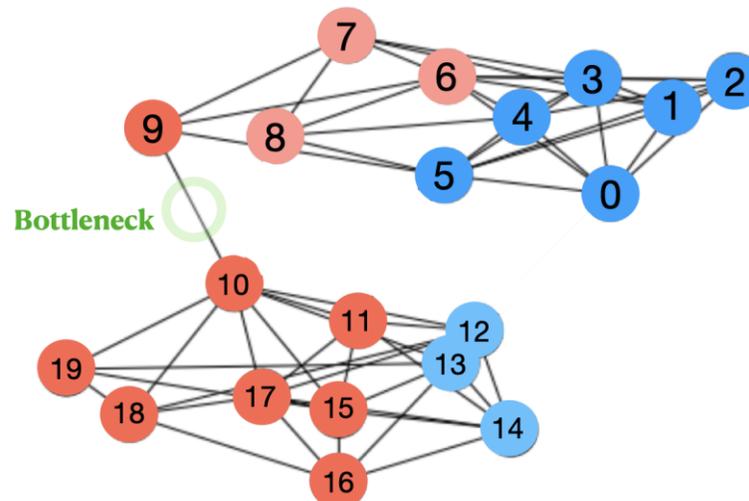
Balanced forman curvature

- Edges with very negative curvature (> -2) create **bottlenecks** and thus **over-squashing**

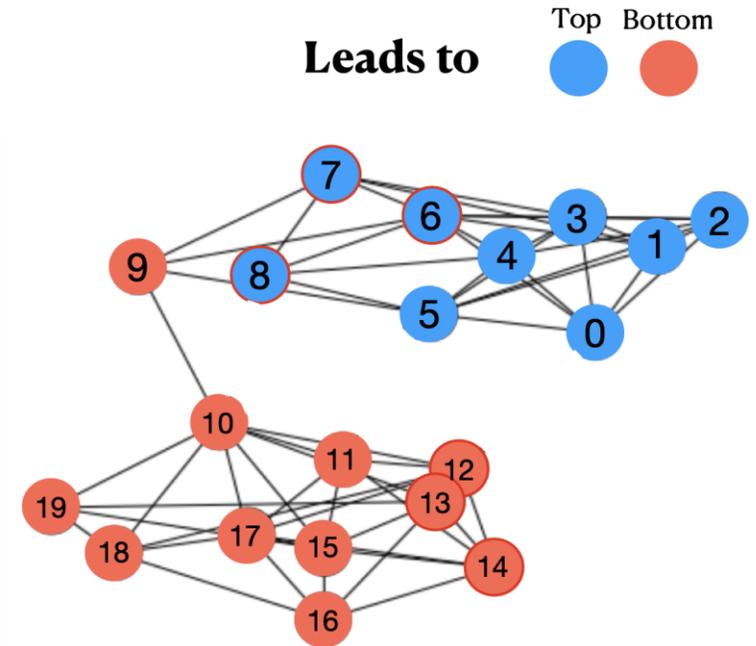
Original graph



Over-squashing



Leads to



Dominant class in each community absorbs the other

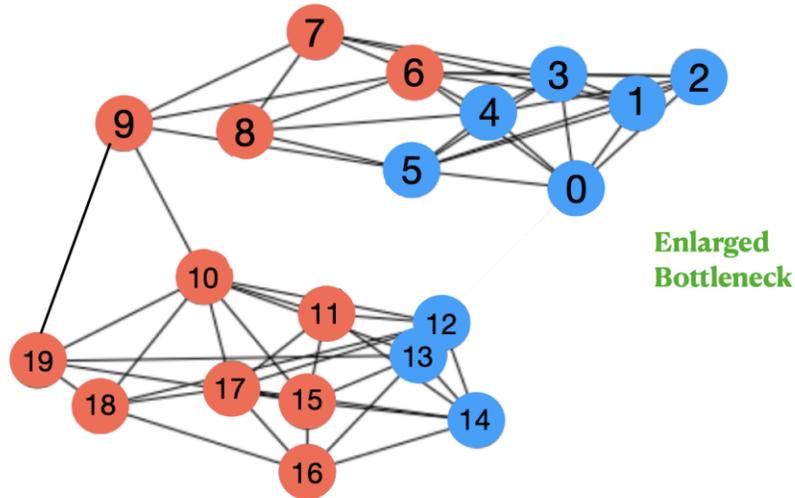
Curvature

Intuition

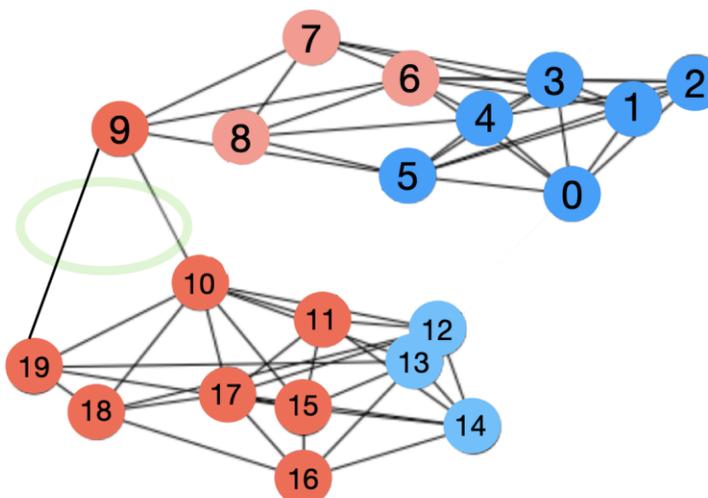
Balanced forman curvature

- Enlarging the **bottlenecks** reduces **over-squashing**

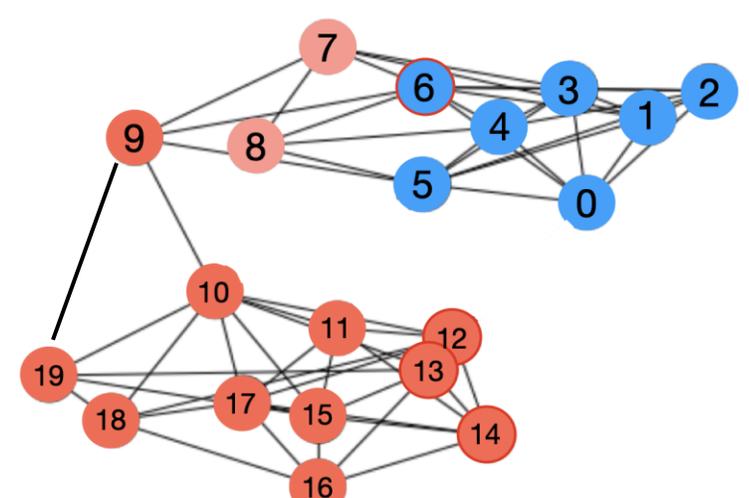
Original graph



Relaxed
Over-squashing



Leads to Top Bottom



Dominant class in each community may NOT absorb the other

Curvature

The SRDF ALGORITHM

Stochastic Discrete Ricci Flow (SDRF)

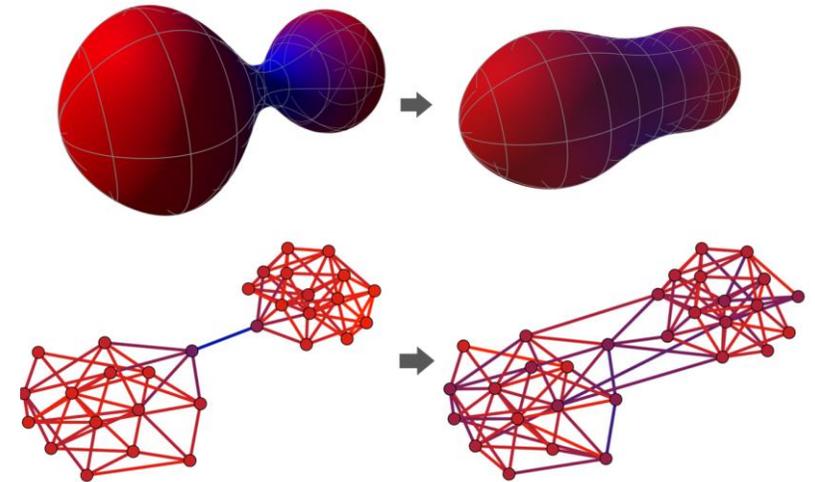
Algorithm 1: Stochastic Discrete Ricci Flow (SDRF)

Input: graph G , temperature $\tau > 0$, max number of iterations, optional Ric upper-bound C^+

Repeat

- 1) For edge $i \sim j$ with minimal Ricci curvature $\text{Ric}(i, j)$:
Calculate vector \mathbf{x} where $x_{kl} = \text{Ric}_{kl}(i, j) - \text{Ric}(i, j)$, the improvement to $\text{Ric}(i, j)$ from adding edge $k \sim l$ where $k \in B_1(i), l \in B_1(j)$;
Sample index k, l with probability $\text{softmax}(\tau \mathbf{x})_{kl}$ and add edge $k \sim l$ to G .
- 2) Remove edge $i \sim j$ with maximal Ricci curvature $\text{Ric}(i, j)$ if $\text{Ric}(i, j) > C^+$.

Until convergence, or max iterations reached;



SURGICAL REWIRING:

Minimal Ricci curvature: Best candidate edge to improve.

Sample neighboring edges with probability propto improvement

Remove Edge with maximal Ricci curvature

CUDA REQUIRED

$$\text{Ric}(i, j) > k > 0 \forall (i, j) \Rightarrow \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \geq h_G \geq \frac{k}{2}$$

Curvature vs Diffusive Rewiring

Analysis

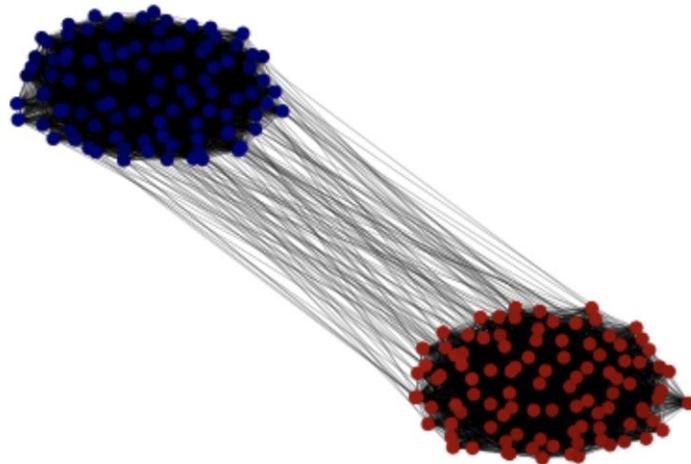
Diffusion works as a low—pass filter of structural noise [Klicpera et al. 2019]

SDRF is quirurgical on behalf of a structural test for each edge [Topping et al., 2022]

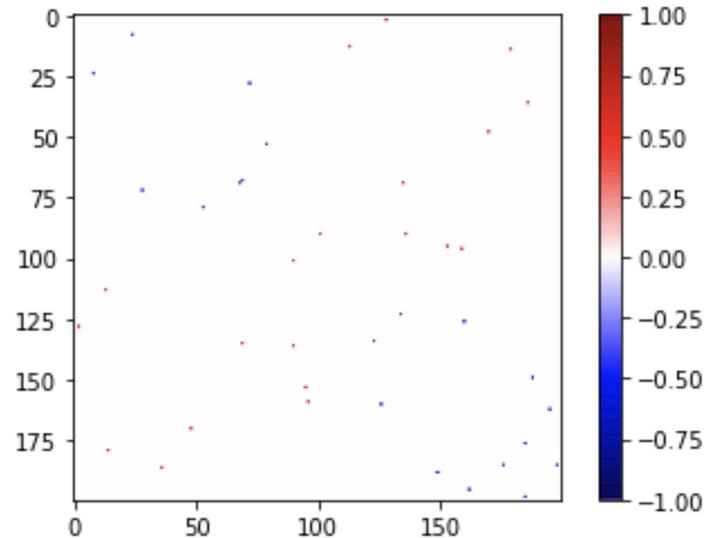
- The Cheeger constant of SGD/DIGL is controlled by that of SDRF: $h_{S,\alpha} \leq \frac{(1-\alpha) d_{avg}(S)}{\alpha d_{min}(S)} h_S$
- SDRF preserves more the structure than SGD/DIGL (which may remove the cut)

$$\lambda_{2,SDRF} = 0.0297$$
$$\lambda_{2,G} = 0.0272$$

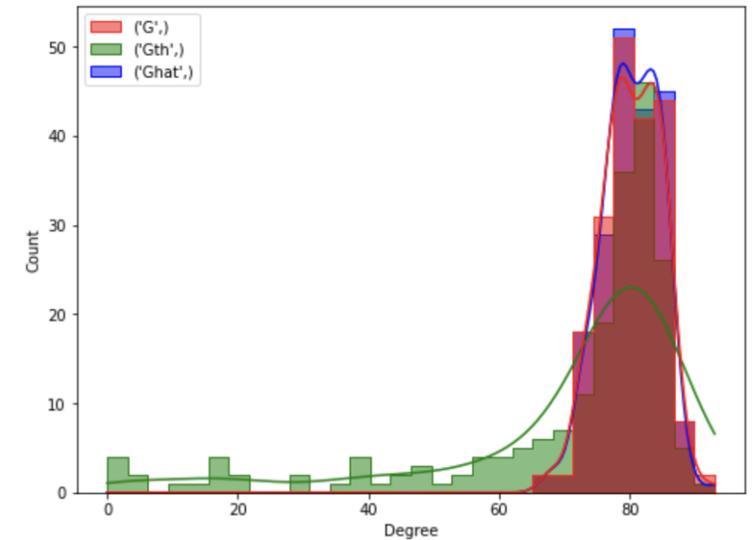
After SDRF



Removes intra & Adds inter



Degree Distributions



Diffusion improves graph learning. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 2019.

<https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper/2019/file/23c894276a2c5a16470e6a31f4618d73-Paper.pdf>

Jake Topping, et al. “Understanding over-squashing and bottlenecks on graphs via curvature”. In ICLR, 2022. [URL](#).

Curvature vs Diffusive Rewiring

Analysis

Diffusion works better in homophilic graphs [Klicpera et al. 2019] Needs parameters α (or t) and ϵ

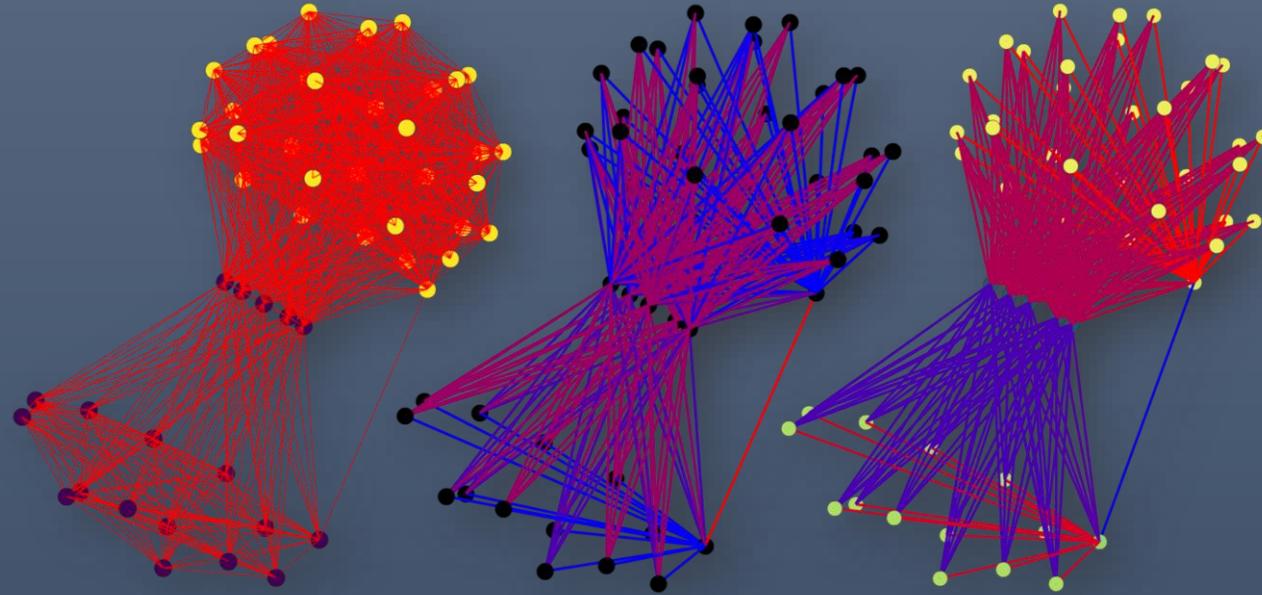
SDRF works better in heterophilic graphs [Topping et al., 2022] Needs parameters τ and C^+

$\mathcal{H}(G)$	Cornell 0.11	Texas 0.06	Wisconsin 0.16	Chameleon 0.25	Squirrel 0.22	Actor 0.24	Cora 0.83	Citeseer 0.71	Pubmed 0.79
None	52.69 \pm 0.21	61.19 \pm 0.49	54.60 \pm 0.86	41.33 \pm 0.18	30.32 \pm 0.99	23.84 \pm 0.43	81.89 \pm 0.79	72.31 \pm 0.17	78.16 \pm 0.23
Undirected	53.20 \pm 0.53	63.38 \pm 0.87	51.37 \pm 1.15	42.02 \pm 0.30	35.53 \pm 0.78	21.45 \pm 0.47	-	-	-
+FA	58.29 \pm 0.49	64.82 \pm 0.29	55.48 \pm 0.62	42.67 \pm 0.17	36.86 \pm 0.44	24.14 \pm 0.43	81.65 \pm 0.18	70.47 \pm 0.18	79.48 \pm 0.12
DIGL (PPR)	58.26 \pm 0.50	62.03 \pm 0.43	49.53 \pm 0.27	42.02 \pm 0.13	33.22 \pm 0.14	24.77 \pm 0.32	83.21 \pm 0.27	73.29 \pm 0.17	78.84 \pm 0.08
DIGL + Undirected	59.54 \pm 0.64	63.54 \pm 0.38	52.23 \pm 0.54	42.68 \pm 0.12	32.48 \pm 0.23	25.45 \pm 0.30	-	-	-
SDRF	54.60 \pm 0.39	64.46 \pm 0.38	55.51 \pm 0.27	42.73 \pm 0.15	37.05 \pm 0.17	28.42 \pm 0.75	82.76 \pm 0.23	72.58 \pm 0.20	79.10 \pm 0.11
SDRF + Undirected	57.54 \pm 0.34	70.35 \pm 0.60	61.55 \pm 0.86	44.46 \pm 0.17	37.67 \pm 0.23	28.35 \pm 0.06	-	-	-

Diffusion improves graph learning. In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 2019.

<https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper/2019/file/23c894276a2c5a16470e6a31f4618d73-Paper.pdf>

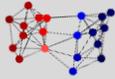
Jake Topping, et al. "Understanding over-squashing and bottlenecks on graphs via curvature". In ICLR, 2022. [URL](#).



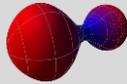
Inductive Graph Rewiring



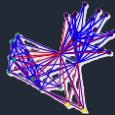
Motivation and Challenges



Introduction to Spectral Theory



Transductive Rewiring



Inductive Rewiring



Graph Fairness

Panel Discussion

The Lovász Bound

Motivation and basic equations

The Lovász bound explains the expressiveness of commute times [Lovász, 1993]

$$\left| \frac{CT(u, v)}{vol(G)} - \left(\frac{1}{d_u} + \frac{1}{d_v} \right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \frac{2}{d_{min}}$$

Effective Resistance Local resistance

- **Deviation from Local resistance:** The **global** effective resistance should be far from its **local estimation** to be **informative**.
- **Inverse of the bottleneck:** High **spectral gaps** induce uninformative effective resistances. ([Link to Cirvature](#))
- **High probability of getting lost** in (some) large graphs [von Luxburg et al., 2014]

Some facts:

- Effective resistances are also given by the **Laplacian's pseudoinverse** or **Green's function**
 $R(u, v) = (e_u - e_v)^T L^+ (e_u - e_v), \quad L^+ = \sum_{i>2}^n \lambda_i^{-1} f_i f_i^T$
- Effective resistances are **upper bounded by shortest paths**
(and they are by far more informative about the role of the Edge (u,v) in the graph since all paths are considered)

László Lovász. Random walks on graphs. Combinatorics, Paul Erdős is eighty, 2(1-46):4, 1993. URL <https://web.cs.elte.hu/~lovasz/erdos.pdf>. 2, 4

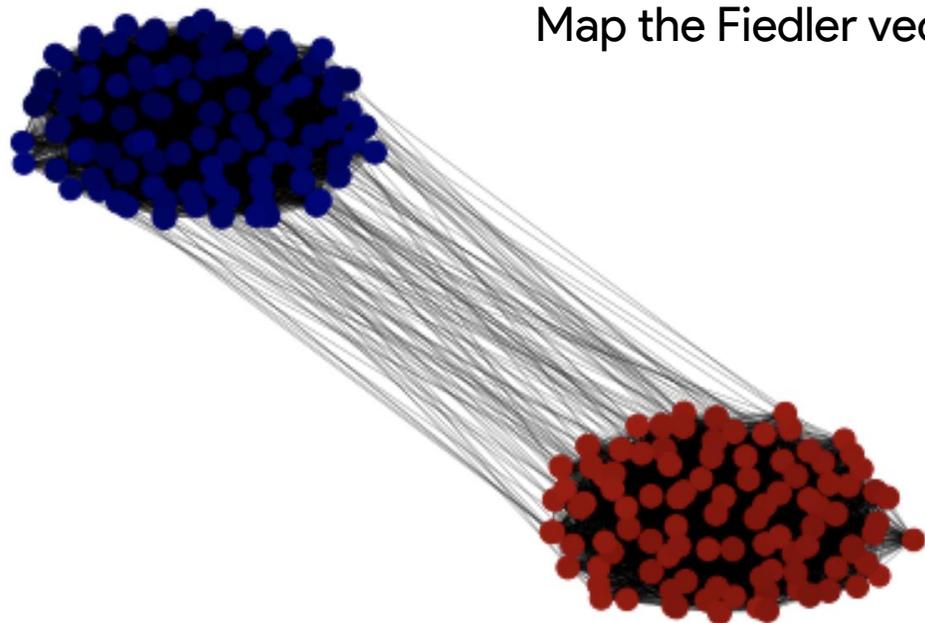
Ulrike von Luxburg, Agnes Radl, and Matthias Hein. Hitting and commute times in large random neighborhood graphs. Journal of Machine Learning Research, 15(52):1751–1798, 2014. URL <http://jmlr.org/papers/v15/vonluxburg14a.html>. 4, 20

The Lovász Bound

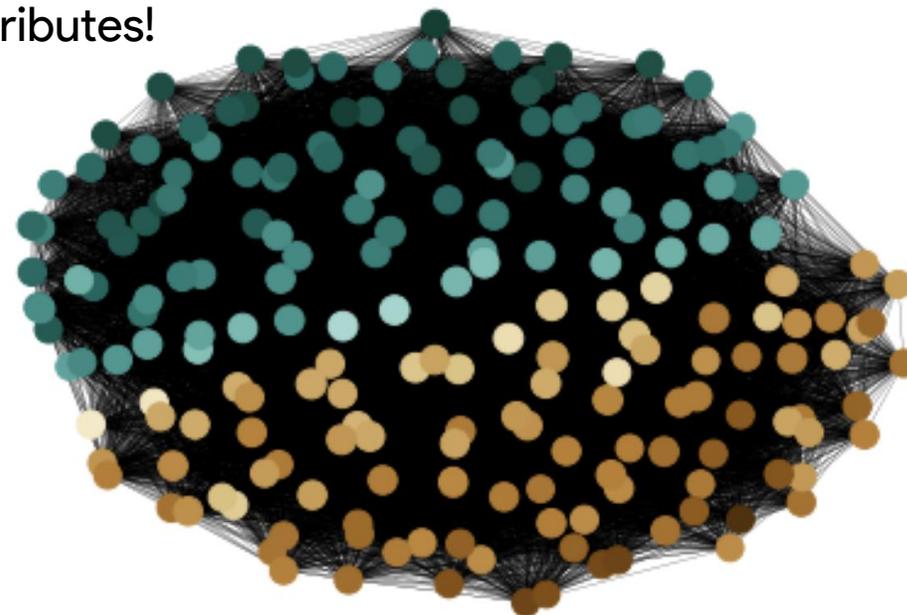
Impact of the bound

Consider two SBMs with small and large gap respectively:

Map the Fiedler vector as node attributes!



Bottleneck of G is 0.027295784924703657



Bottleneck of H is 0.7588701310820082

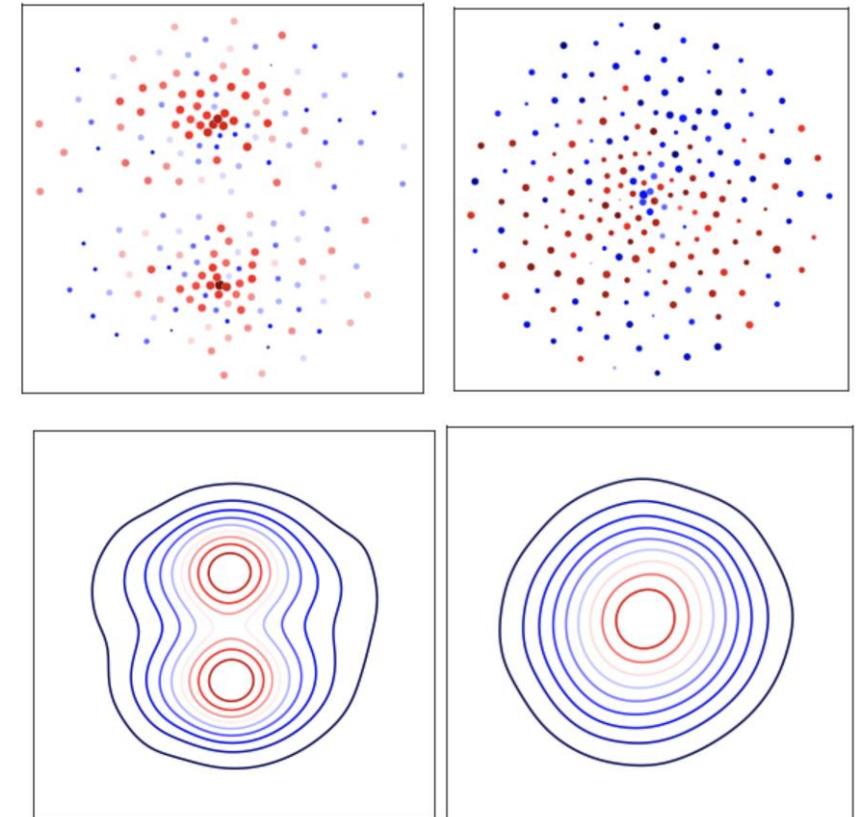
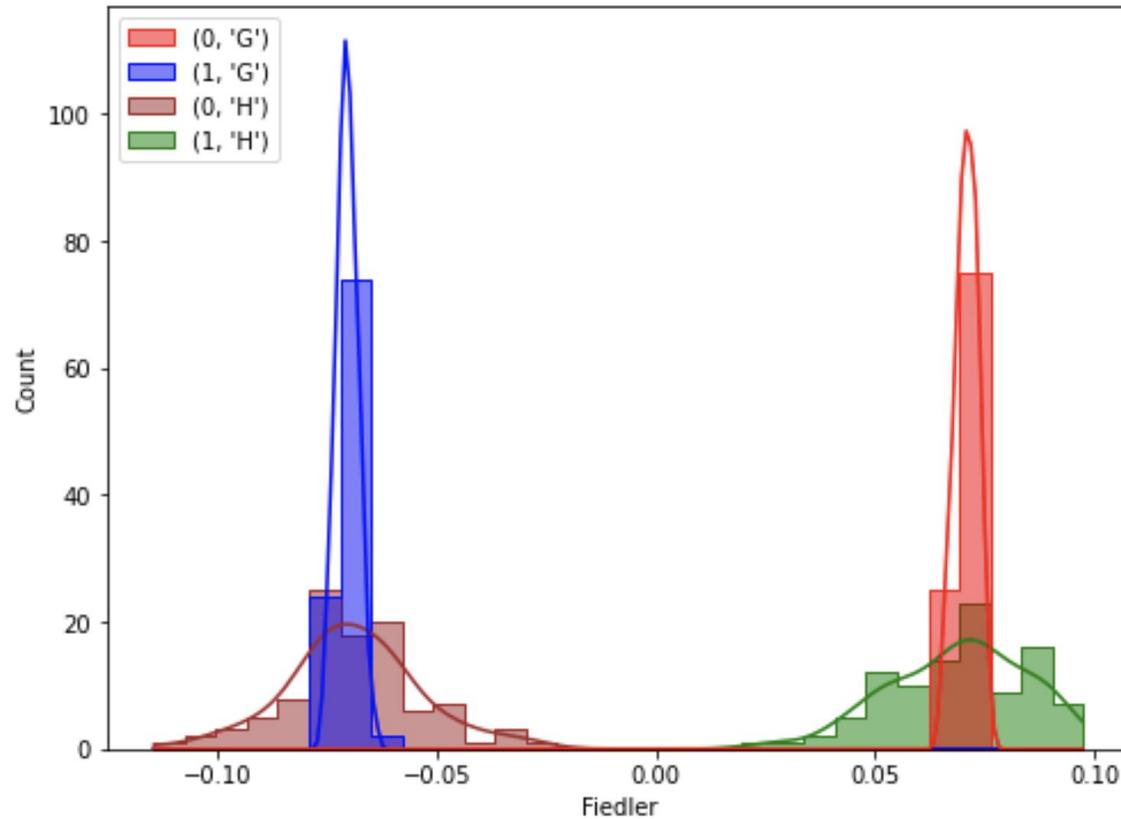
László Lovász. Random walks on graphs. *Combinatorics, Paul Erdős is eighty*, 2(1-46):4, 1993. URL <https://web.cs.elte.hu/~lovasz/erdos.pdf>. 2, 4

Ulrike von Luxburg, Agnes Radl, and Matthias Hein. Hitting and commute times in large random neighborhood graphs. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 15(52):1751–1798, 2014. URL <http://jmlr.org/papers/v15/vonluxburg14a.html>. 4, 20

The Lovász Bound

Impact of the bound

The spectral gap (i.e. the **Dirichlet energy of the Fiedler vector**) controls the variance of f_2 and consequently the scatter in the latent space: **Latent spaces: Nodes and KDEs**



The Lovász Bound

Sparsification

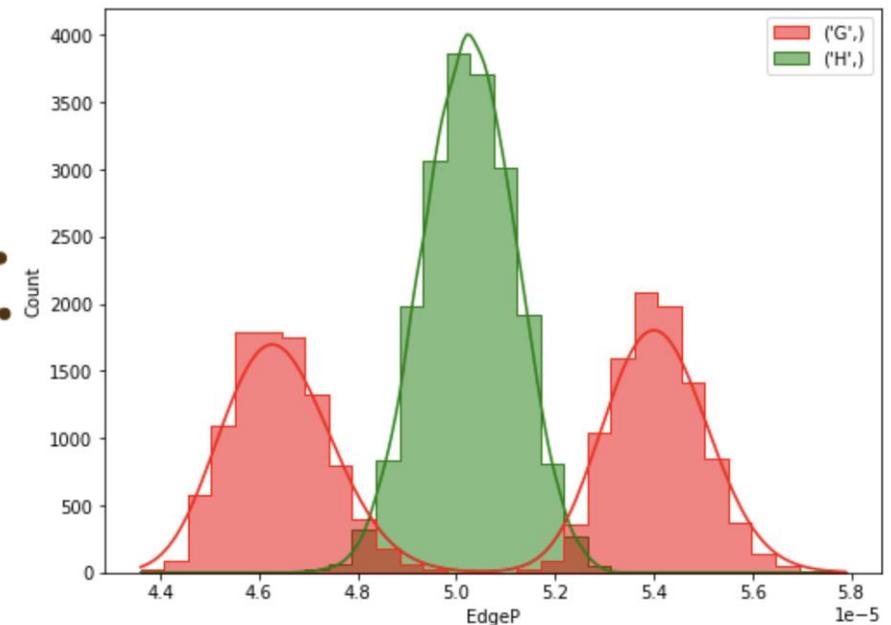
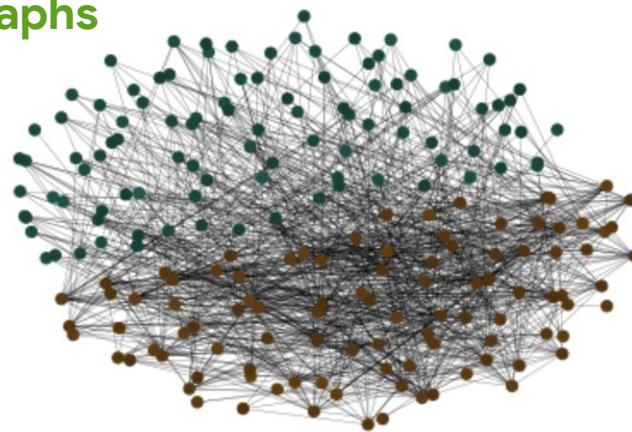
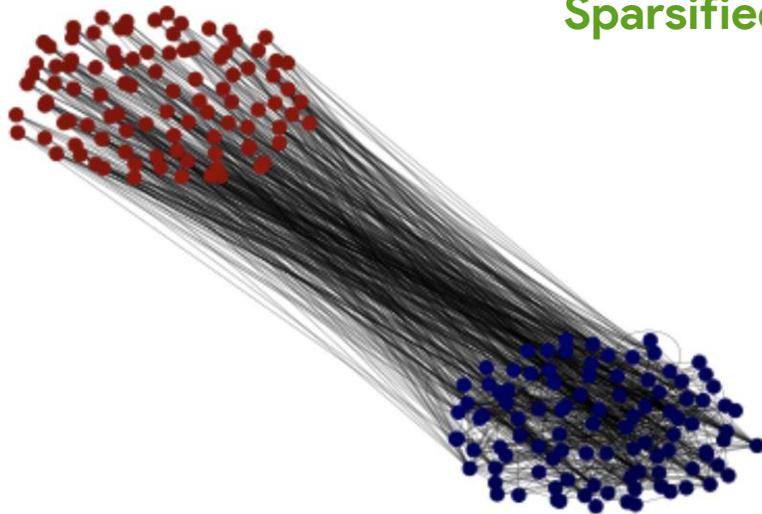
Effective resistances (when informative) $R(u,v)$ reveal the impact of each Edge (u,v) in the topology of the Graph. Therefore, sampling edges with a probability proportional to the effective resistance results in a sparse version of the graph. [Spielman and Srivastava, 2011]

$O\left(\frac{n \log n}{\epsilon}\right)$ samples suffice to satisfy

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n: (1 - \epsilon)x^T L_G x \leq x^T L_{G'} x \leq (1 + \epsilon)x^T L_G x$$

KDE of probabilities

Sparsified graphs



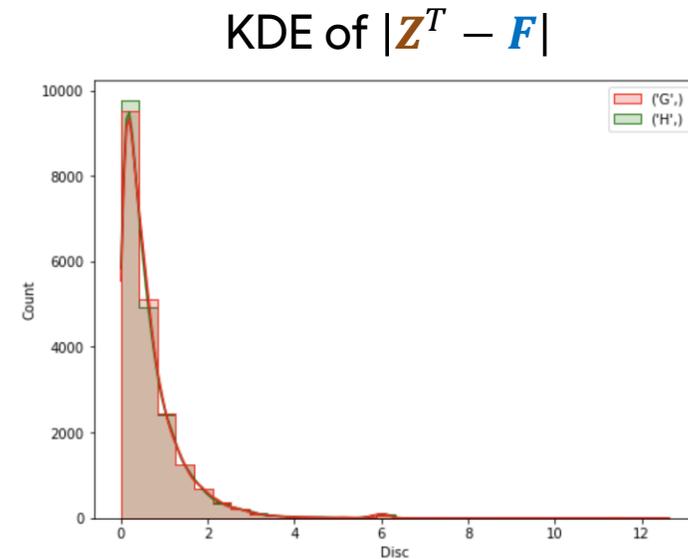
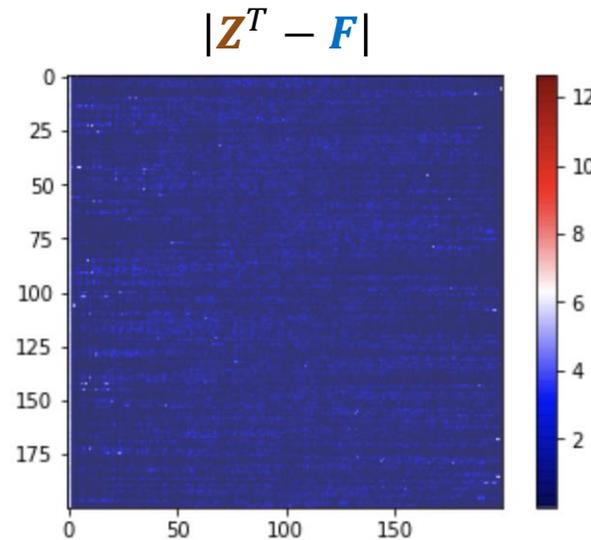
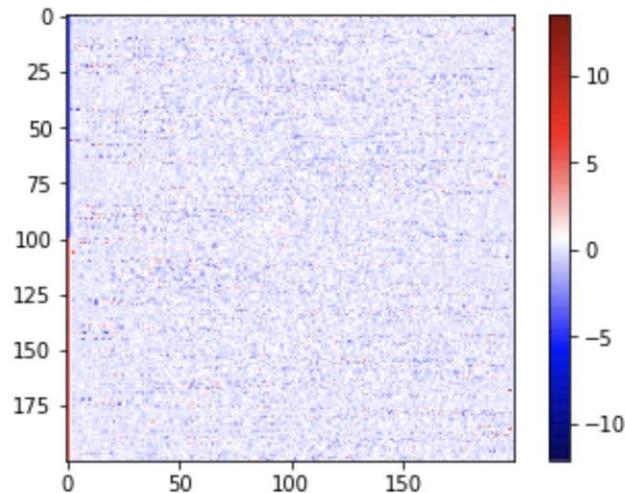
The Lovász Bound

Link with Directional Graph Networks

Commute Times embeddings rely on **down-scaled versions** of the eigenvectors F and the scale factor is the corresponding eigenvalue.

CT Embedding $\rightarrow CT_{uv} = ||z_u - z_v||_2^2$ comes from $Z = \sqrt{vol(G)}\Lambda^{-1/2}F^T$

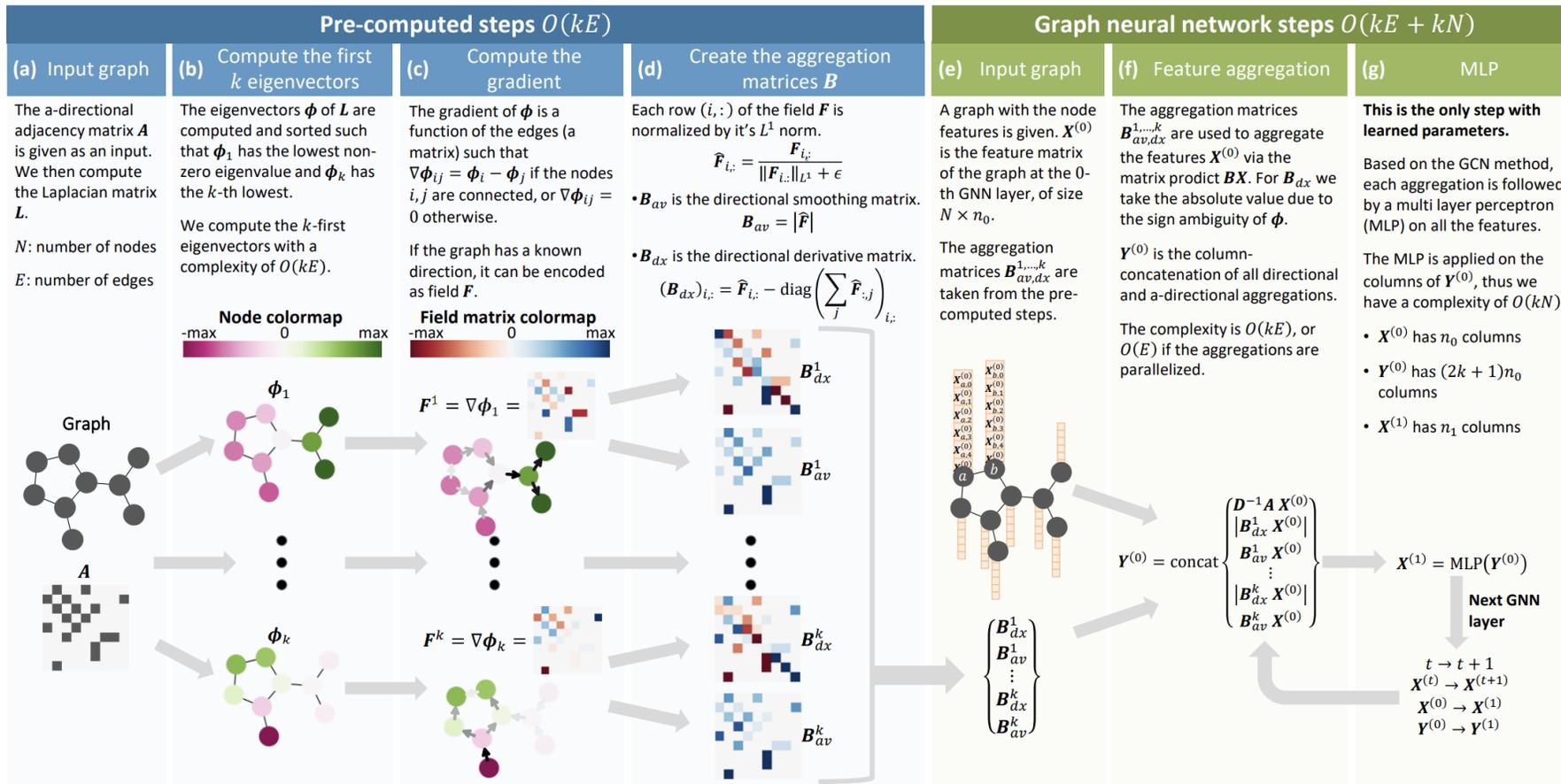
$z_u = \sqrt{vol(G)} \left(0 \quad \frac{f_2(u)}{\sqrt{\lambda_2}} \quad \frac{f_3(u)}{\sqrt{\lambda_3}} \quad \dots \quad \frac{f_n(u)}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}} \right)^T$ and consequently Z^T gets the scaled non-trivial eigenvectors



The Lovász Bound

Link with Directional Graph Networks

Directional Graph Networks



CT-Layer

Why commute times for rewiring? Quick Recap!

$$CT_{uv} \propto R_{uv} = H_{uv} + H_{vu}$$

→ Expected time to from u to v and come back to u

$$\text{CT Embedding} \rightarrow CT_{uv} = \|\mathbf{z}_u - \mathbf{z}_v\|_2^2$$

→ Node embedding which pairwise Euclidean distance is CT_{uv}

Direct relationship with

- Eigenvectors

$$R_{uv} = \frac{CT_{uv}}{\text{vol}(G)} = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} (\mathbf{f}_i(u) - \mathbf{f}_i(v))^2$$

- Dirichlet Energies

$$\mathcal{E}_G(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{x} = \sum_{(u,v) \in E} (x_u - x_v)^2 = \text{Tr}[\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{X}]$$

- Expanders and Sparsifiers

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n: (1 - \epsilon) \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}_{G'} \mathbf{x} \leq (1 + \epsilon) \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{x}$$

- Cheeger Constant

$$h_G = \min_{S \subseteq V} h_S, h_S = \frac{|\{(u,v): u \in S, v \in \bar{S}\}|}{\min(\text{vol}(S), \text{vol}(\bar{S}))}$$

- Curvature

$$p_u := 1 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{v \in N(u)} R_{uv} \quad \kappa_{uv} := \frac{2(p_u + p_v)}{R_{uv}}$$

Spectral computation

$$CT_{uv} = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} (\mathbf{f}_i(u) - \mathbf{f}_i(v))^2$$

$$\mathbf{Z} = \sqrt{\text{vol}(G)} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1/2} \mathbf{F}^T \text{ given } \mathbf{L} = \mathbf{F} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{F}^T$$

or

$$R_{uv} = (\mathbf{e}_u - \mathbf{e}_v) \mathbf{L}^+ (\mathbf{e}_u - \mathbf{e}_v)$$

$$\mathbf{L}^+ = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} \mathbf{f}_i \mathbf{f}_i^T$$

Optimization problem

$$\mathbf{Z} = \arg \min_{s.t. \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{I}} \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D}_G \mathbf{Z}]}$$

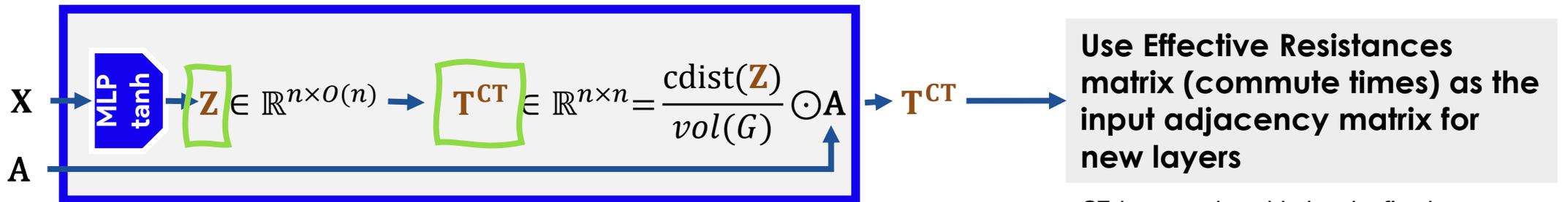
$$CT_{uv} = \|\mathbf{z}_u - \mathbf{z}_v\|_2^2$$

CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer

$$\mathbf{Z} = \sqrt{\text{vol}(G)} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1/2} \mathbf{F}^T \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} = \arg \min_{\text{s.t. } \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{I}} \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D}_G \mathbf{Z}]}$$

$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$



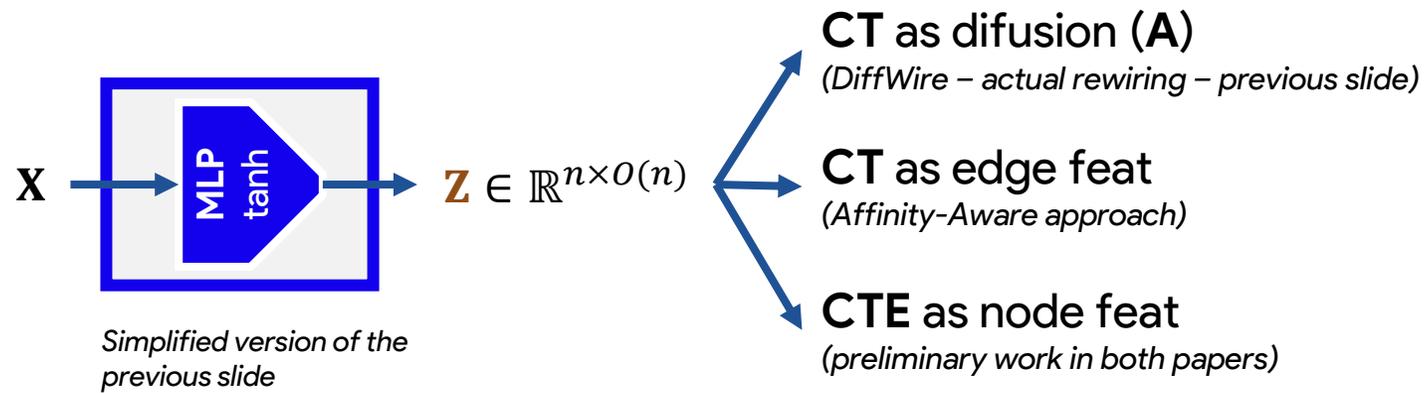
$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$

CT-layer can be added as the first layer or as the # desired layer

CT-Layer

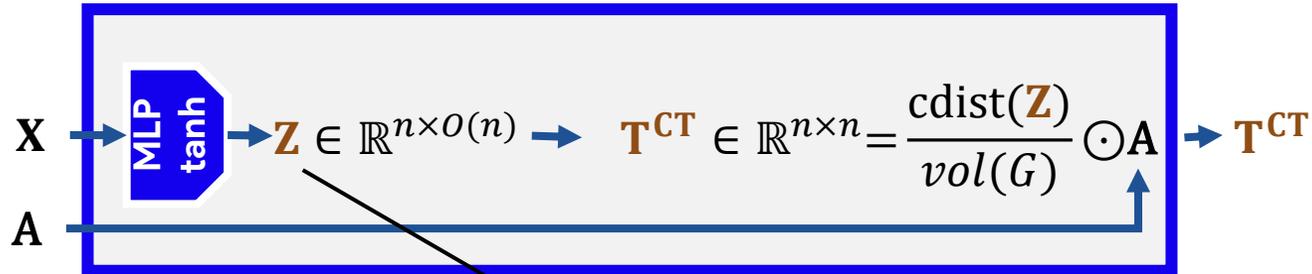
From Spectral CT to CT-Layer

$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$



CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer



$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[Z^T L Z]}{\text{Tr}[Z^T D Z]} + \left\| \frac{Z^T Z}{\|Z^T Z\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$

```
# Pooling for CT embedding
num_of_centers1 = k_centers # k1 #order of number of nodes
self.pool1 = Linear(hidden_channels, num_of_centers1)

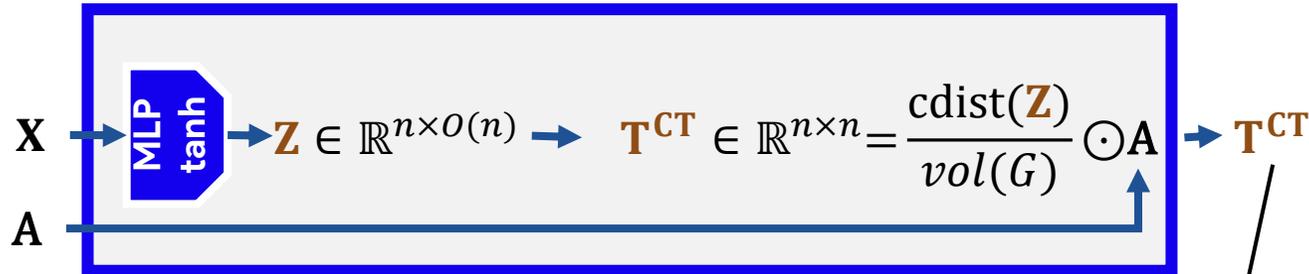
# CT REWIRING
s = self.pool1(x)
```



https://github.com/AdrianArnaiz/DiffWire/blob/main/layers/CT_layer.py

CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer



$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$

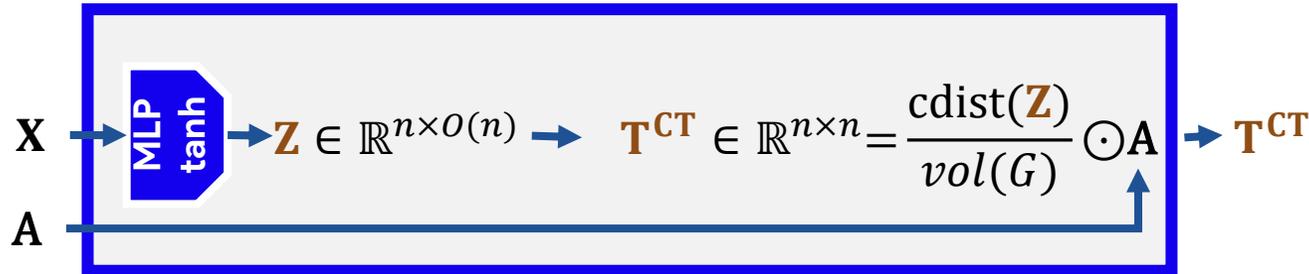
```
14 # Calculate CT_dist as cdist(s,s)/vol(G)
15 CT_dist = torch.cdist(s,s) # [b, N, k], [b, N, k]-> [20,N,N]
16 ## Calculate degree d_flat and degree matrix d
17 d_flat = torch.einsum('ijk->ij', adj) # torch.Size([b, N])
18 d = _rank3_diag(d_flat)+EPS # d torch.Size([b, N, N])
19 ## Calculate Vol (volumes): one per graph
20 vol = _rank3_trace(d) # torch.Size([b])
21 ## Calculate out_adj as CT_dist*(N-1)/vol(G)
22 N = adj.size(1)
23 CT_dist = (CT_dist) / vol.unsqueeze(1).unsqueeze(1)
24 ## Mask with adjacency
25 adj = CT_dist*adj
```



https://github.com/AdrianArnaiz/DiffWire/blob/main/layers/CT_layer.py

CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer



$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$

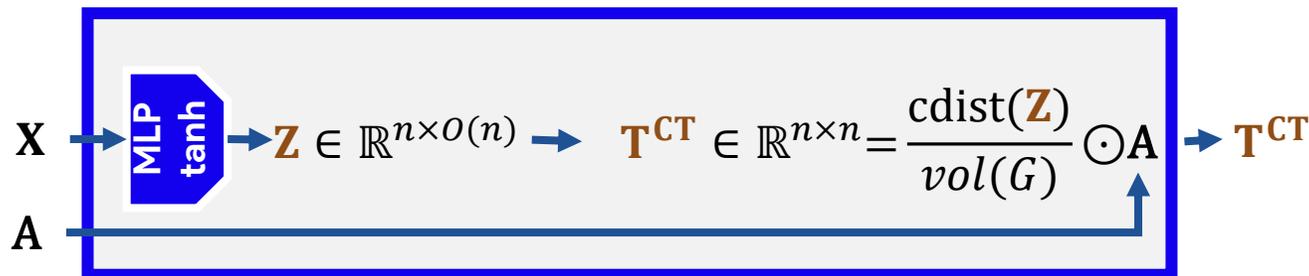
```
28 # Losses
29 ## Loss cut
30 ### Calculate Laplacian L = D - A
31 L = d - adj
32 ### Calculate loss num as Tr[S.T*L*S]
33 num = torch.matmul(torch.matmul(s.transpose(1, 2), L), s)
34 CT_num = _rank3_trace(num) # mincut_num torch.Size([b]) one sum over each graph
35 ### Calculate CT_den
36 CT_den = _rank3_trace(
37     torch.matmul(torch.matmul(s.transpose(1, 2), d), s))+EPS
38 ### Calculate loss cut
39 CT_loss = CT_num / CT_den
40 CT_loss = torch.mean(CT_loss) # Mean over batch!
```



https://github.com/AdrianArnaiz/DiffWire/blob/main/layers/CT_layer.py

CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer



$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$

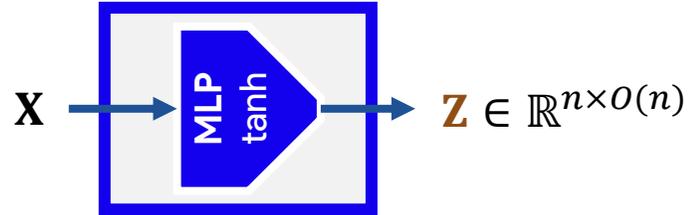
```
41  ## Loss Orthogonality regularization.
42  ss = torch.matmul(s.transpose(1, 2), s)  #[b, k, N]*[b, N, k]-> [b, k, k]
43
44  i_s = torch.eye(k).type_as(ss)  # [k, k]
45  ortho_loss = torch.norm(
46      ss / torch.norm(ss, dim=(-1, -2), keepdim=True) -
47      i_s)
48  ortho_loss = torch.mean(ortho_loss)  # Mean over batch!
49
```



https://github.com/AdrianArnaiz/DiffWire/blob/main/layers/CT_layer.py

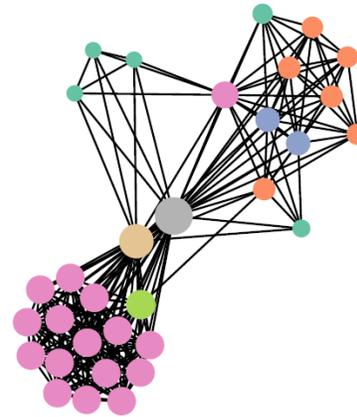
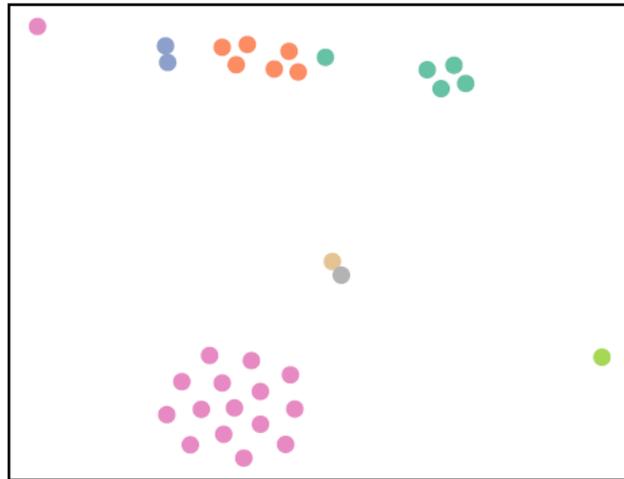
CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer

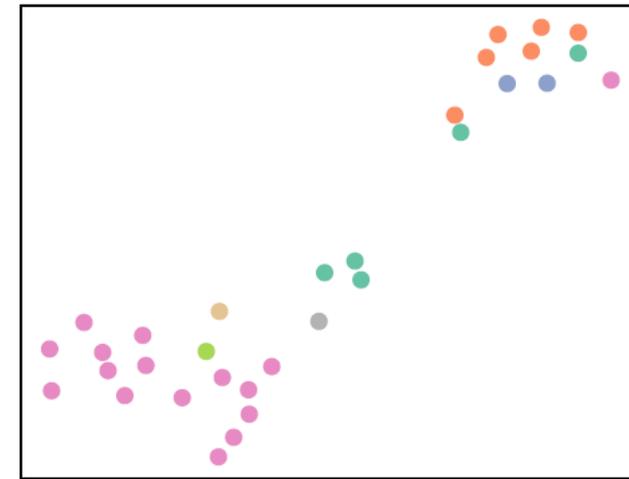


$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$

CT-Layer CTE

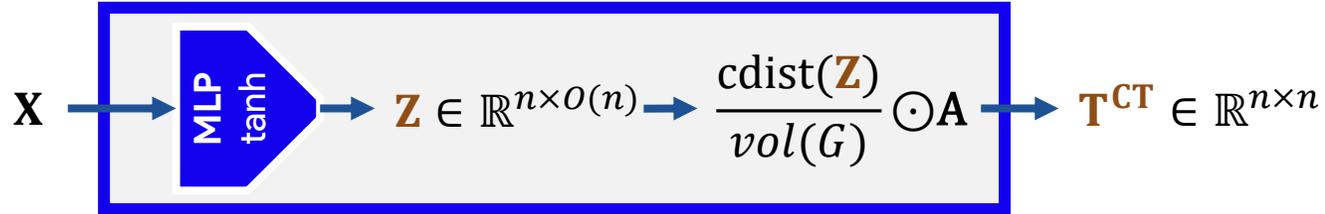


Spectral CTE

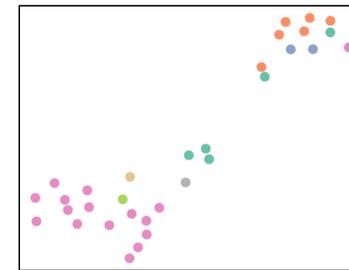
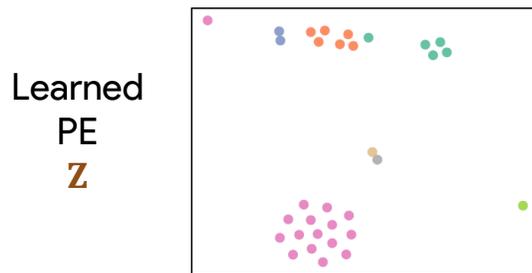
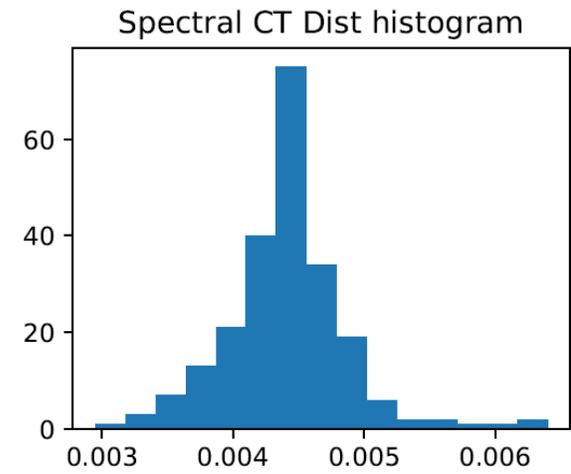
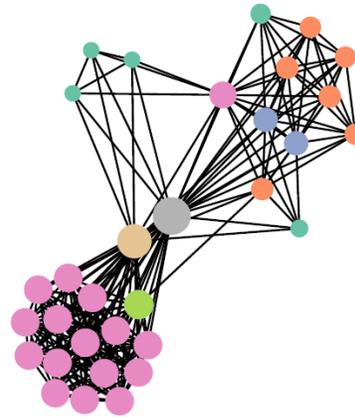
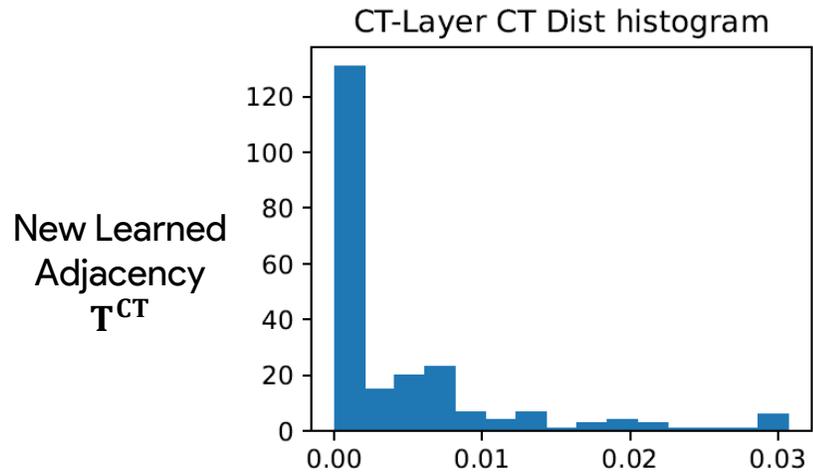


CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer

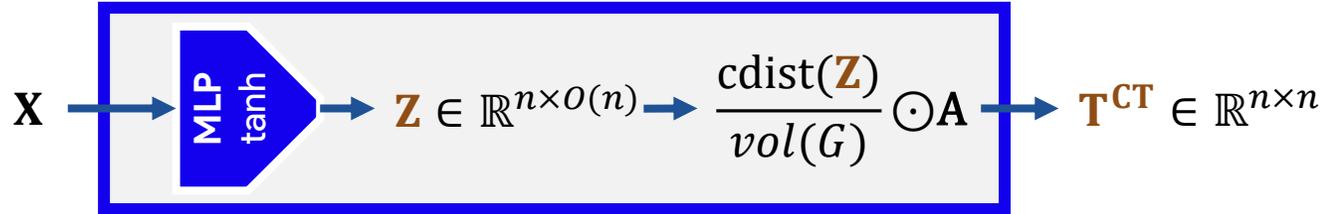


$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[Z^T LZ]}{\text{Tr}[Z^T DZ]} + \left\| \frac{Z^T Z}{\|Z^T Z\|_F} - I_N \right\|_F$$



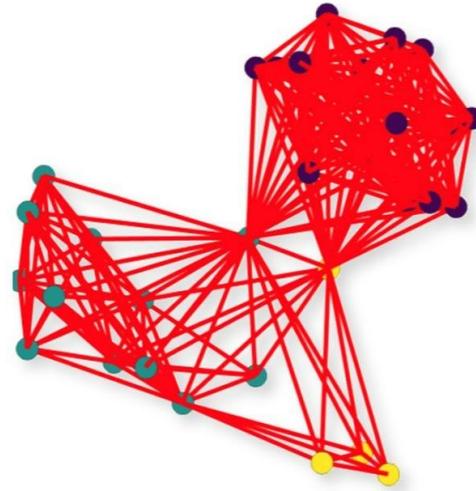
CT-Layer

From Spectral CT to CT-Layer

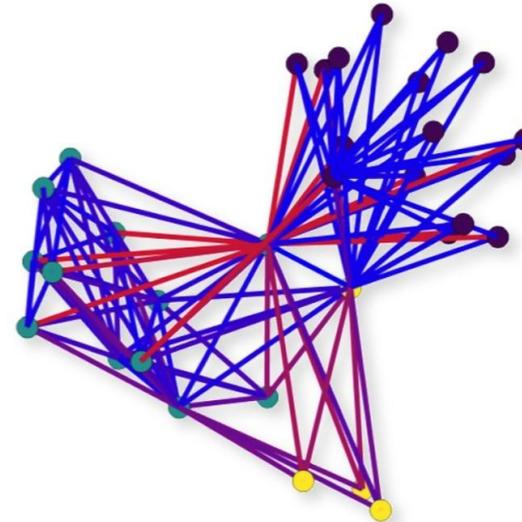


$$L_{CT} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{Z}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}}{\|\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_F} - \mathbf{I}_N \right\|_F$$

Original



CT-LAYER

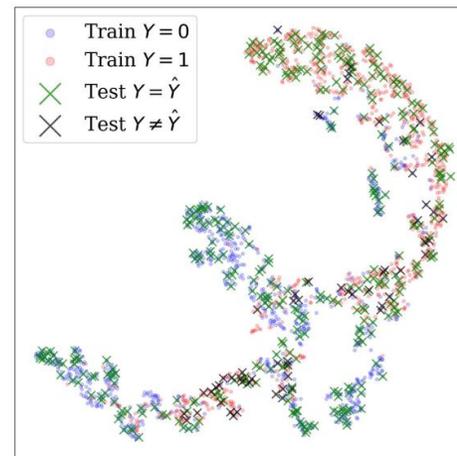
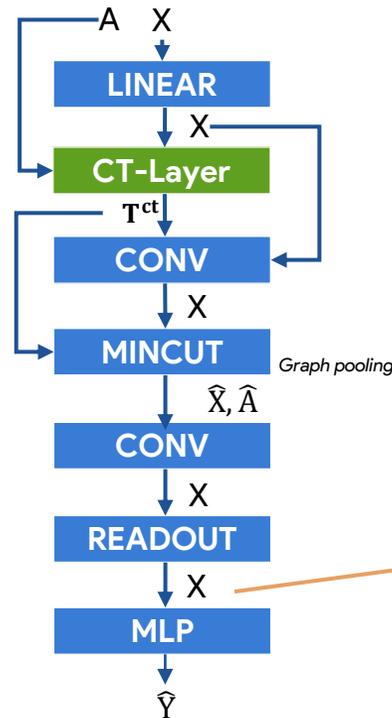


Graph from COLLAB Test Set

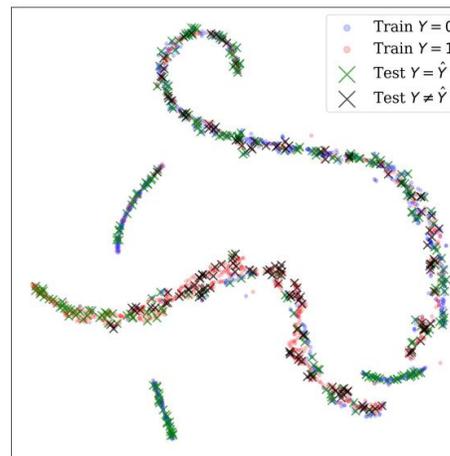
CT-Layer

Experiments on Graph Classification

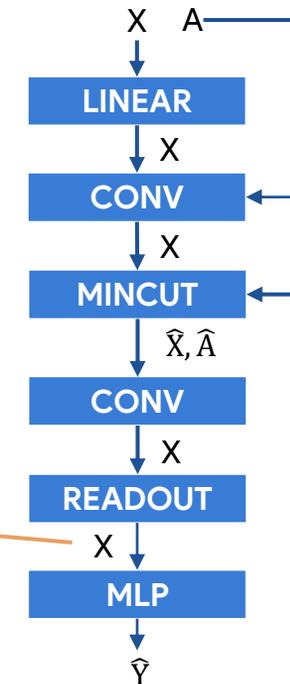
	MinCutPool	k -NN	DIGL	SDRF	CT-LAYER
REDDIT-B*	66.53±4.4	64.40±3.8	76.02±4.3	65.3±7.7	78.45±4.5
IMDB-B*	60.75±7.0	55.20±4.3	59.35±7.7	59.2±6.9	69.84±4.6
COLLAB*	58.00±6.2	58.33±11	57.51±5.9	56.60±10	69.87±2.4
MUTAG	84.21±6.3	87.58±4.1	85.00±5.6	82.4±6.8	87.58±4.4
PROTEINS	74.84±2.3	76.76±2.5	74.49±2.8	74.4±2.7	75.38±2.9
SBM*	53.00±9.9	50.00±0.0	56.93±12	54.1±7.1	81.40±11
Erdős-Rényi*	81.86±6.2	63.40±3.9	81.93±6.3	73.6±9.1	79.06±9.8



(a) CT-LAYER



(b) MinCut



EXPRESSIVENESS

More sparse Graph Readouts → greater ability to detect differences between graphs

DE or PE provides strictly more expressive power than 1-WL test [Li, P. et al. 2020] [Velingker, A. et al. 2022]

CT-Layer

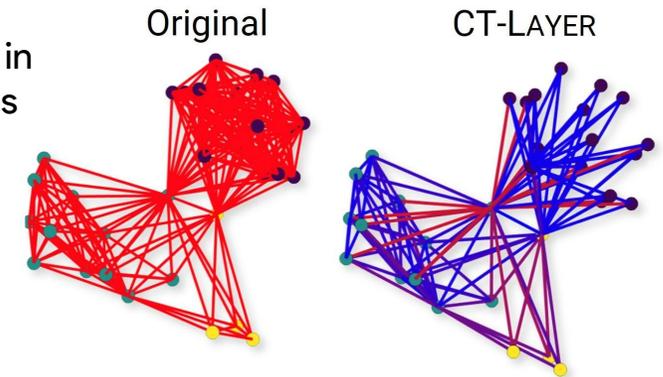
Implications in Cheeger constant

CT prioritizes edges in the bottleneck while it sparsifies the communities

$$h_G = \min_{S \subseteq V} h_S, \quad h_S = \frac{\substack{\text{\# edges in the bottleneck} \\ |\{(u, v) : u \in S, v \in \bar{S}\}|}}{\substack{\text{Volume of the community} \\ \min(\text{vol}(S), \text{vol}(\bar{S}))}}$$

Giving priority to the edges in the bottleneck maintains this
 Community sparsification minimizes this

$$R_{uv} \propto CT_{uv} = T_{uv}^{CT}$$

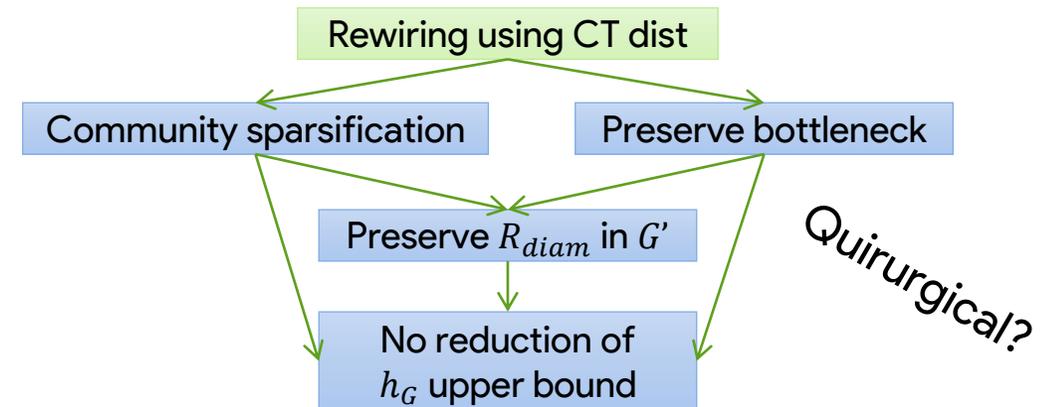


In the rewired graph G' : bottleneck is wider \rightarrow resistances are lower in G'

[Alev. et al., 2018]

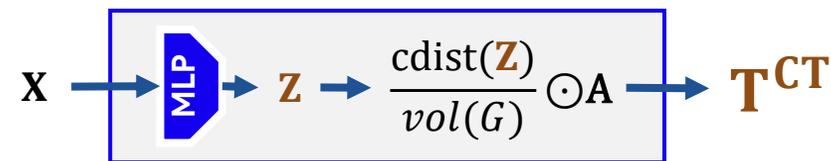
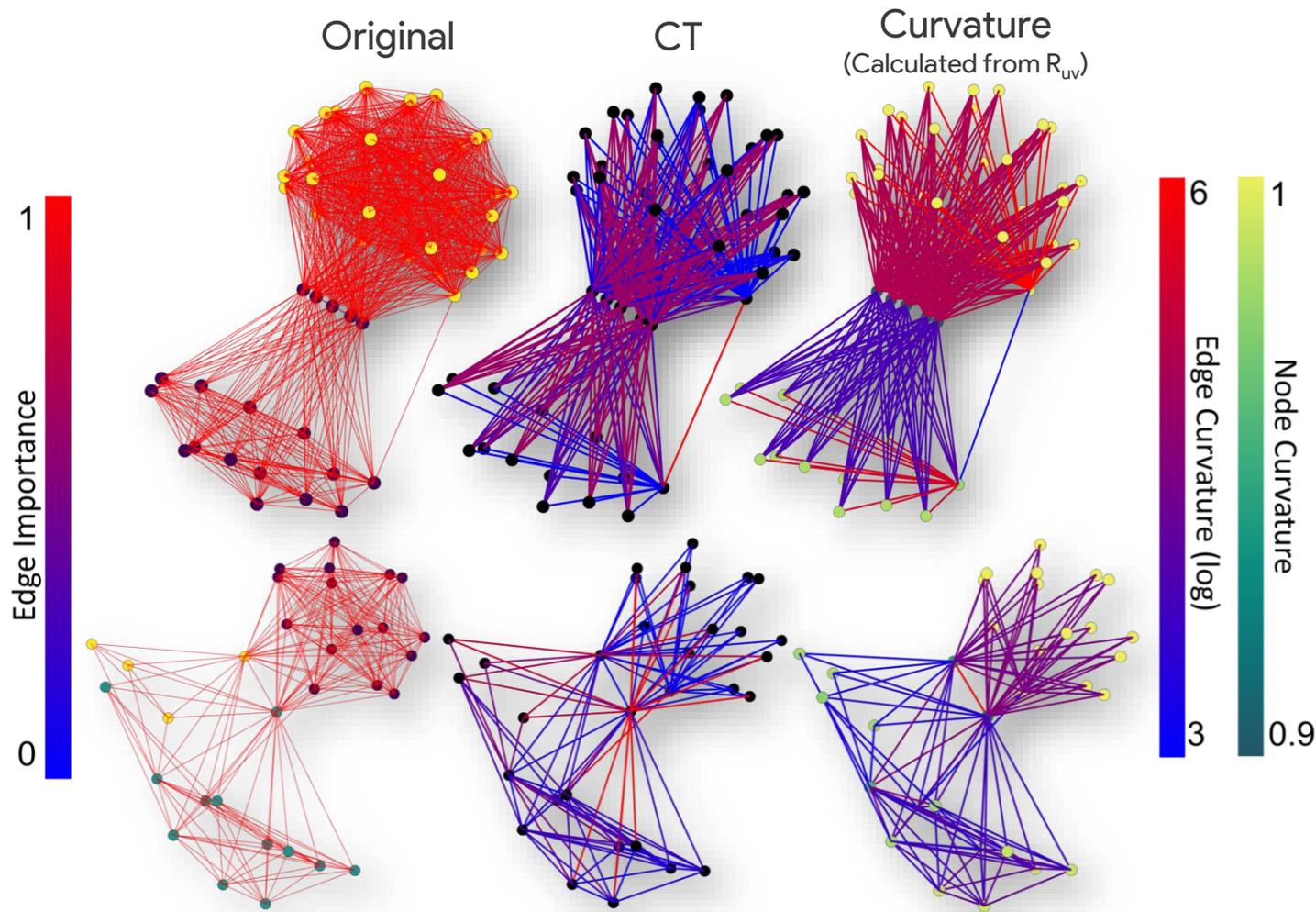
$$R_{diam} := \max_{u,v} R_{uv} \rightarrow \text{Edges in the bottleneck}$$

$$h_G \leq \frac{\alpha^\epsilon}{\sqrt{R_{diam}} \cdot \epsilon} \text{vol}(S)^{\epsilon - \frac{1}{2}} \rightarrow \text{Prioritizing edges in the bottleneck maintains upper bound (at least)}$$



CT-Layer

Relationship with Curvature



$$R_{uv} = T_{uv}^{CT}$$

[Devriendt. et al., 2022]
Node Curvature

$$p_u := 1 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{v \in N(u)} R_{uv}$$

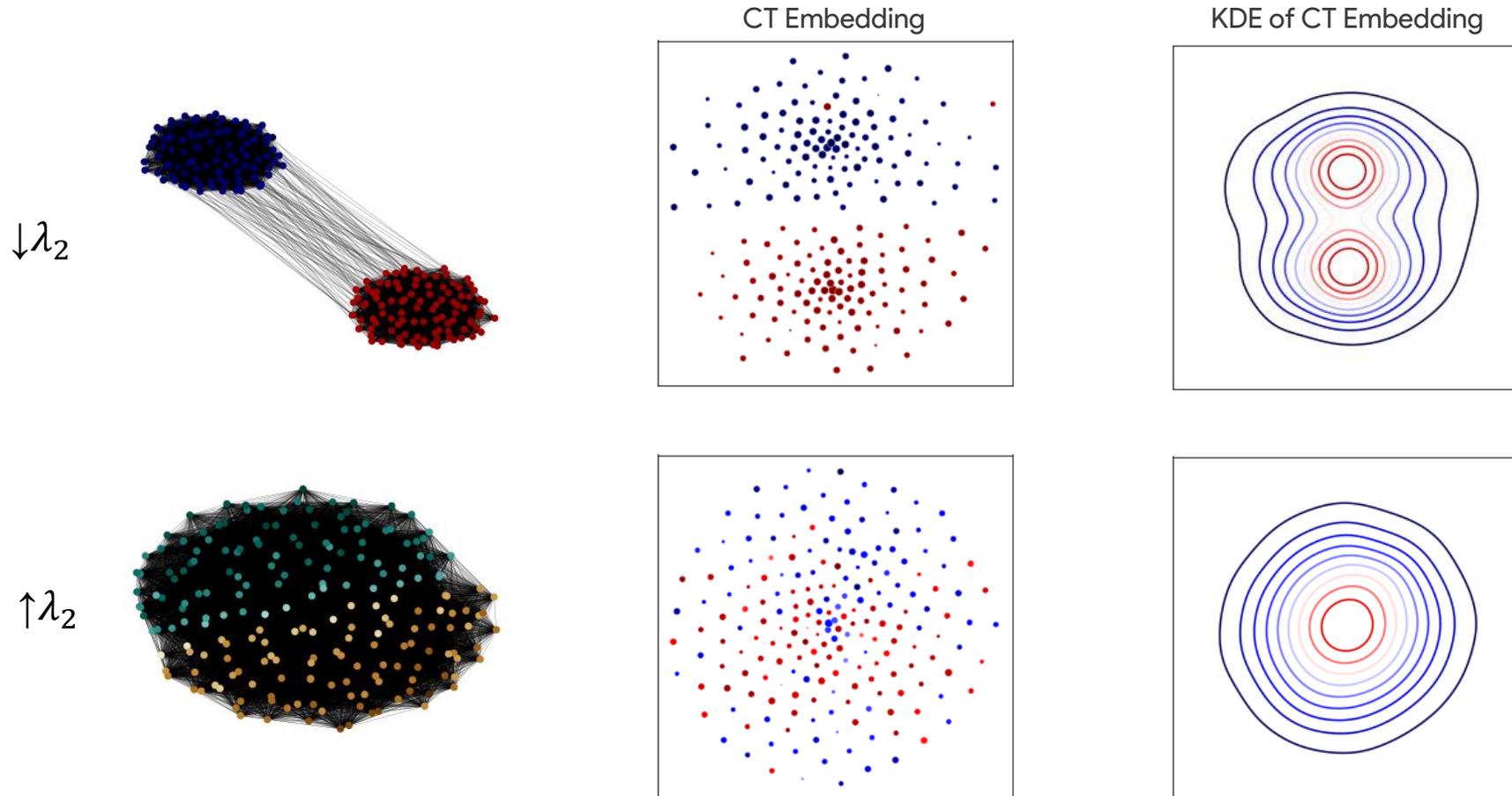
Edge Curvature

$$\kappa_{uv} := \frac{2(p_u + p_v)}{R_{uv}}$$

CT-Layer as differentiable curvature

CT-Layer

Relationship with Curvature

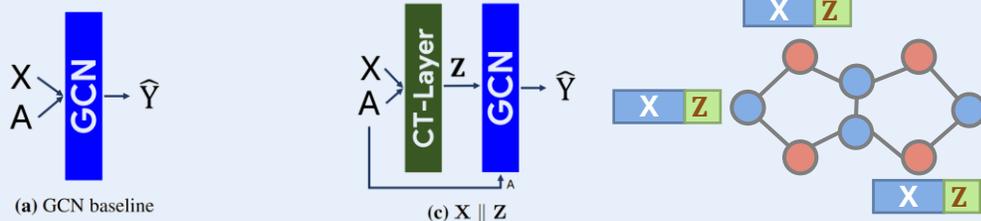


CT-Layer

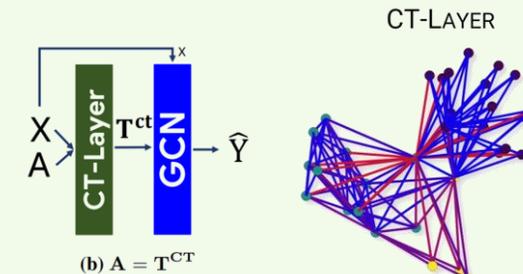
Node Classification. CT-Diffusions vs CT as Positional Encoding.

$$\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \text{MLP}_{\tanh} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times O(n)} \rightarrow \frac{\text{cdist}(\mathbf{Z})}{\text{vol}(G)} \rightarrow \mathbf{T}^{\text{CT}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

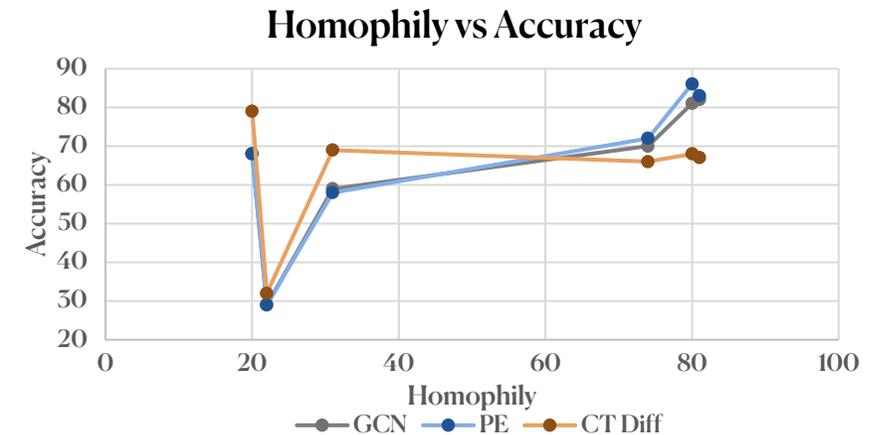
- CTE as structural feature (PE) reinforces performance in homophily tasks



- CT Distance for diffusion helps in heterophilic tasks

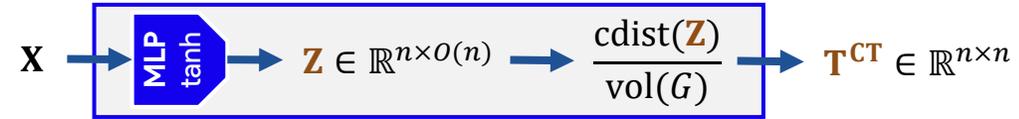


Dataset	GCN (baseline)	model 1: $\mathbf{X} \parallel \mathbf{Z}$	model 2: $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{T}^{\text{CT}}$	Homophily
Cora	82.01 \pm 0.8	83.66 \pm 0.6	67.96 \pm 0.8	81.0%
Pubmed	81.61 \pm 0.3	86.07 \pm 0.1	68.19 \pm 0.7	80.0%
Citeseer	70.81 \pm 0.5	72.26 \pm 0.5	66.71 \pm 0.6	73.6%
Cornell	59.19 \pm 3.5	58.02 \pm 3.7	69.04 \pm 2.2	30.5%
Actor	29.59 \pm 0.4	29.35 \pm 0.4	31.98 \pm 0.3	21.9%
Wisconsin	68.05 \pm 6.2	69.25 \pm 5.1	79.05 \pm 2.1	19.6%

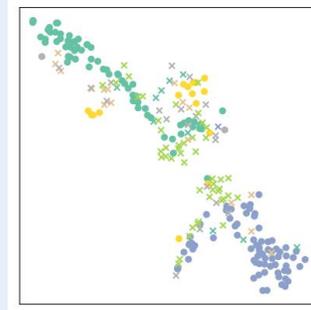
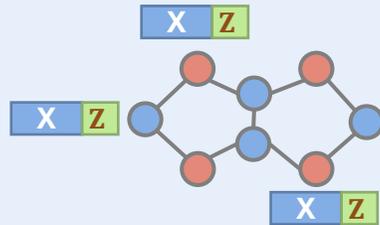


CT-Layer

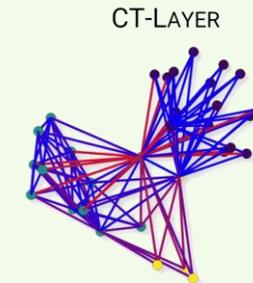
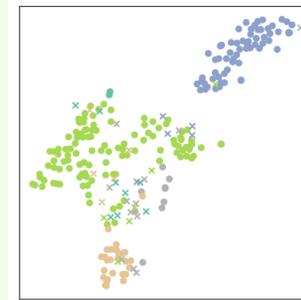
Node Classification. CT-Diffusions vs CT as Positional Encoding.



- CTE as structural feature (PE) reinforces performance in homophily tasks

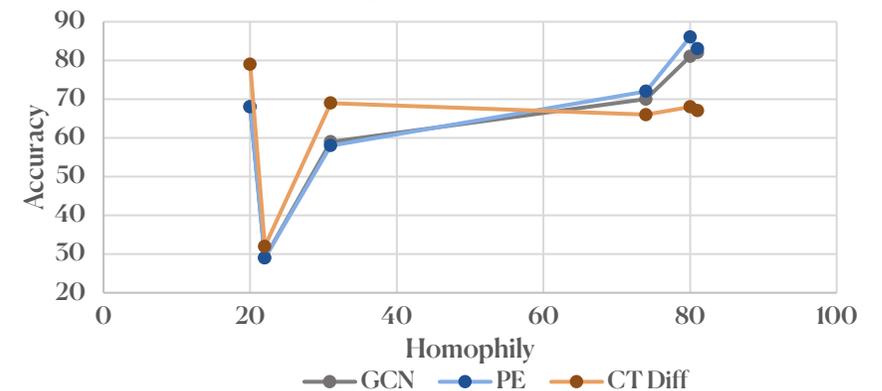


- CT Distance for diffusion helps in heterophilic tasks



Dataset	GCN (baseline)	<i>model 1:</i> $X \parallel Z$	<i>model 2:</i> $A = T^{CT}$	Homophily
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Homophily vs Accuracy



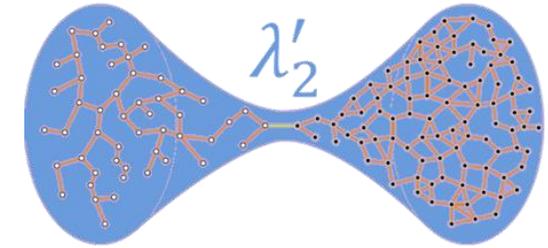
GAP-Layer

Spectral Derivatives

- **Goal:** Optimize bottleneck width

λ_2 := spectral gap or bottleneck size

- Search $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ as similar as \mathbf{A} but **minimizing bottleneck size**
 - **Spectral derivatives**



$$L_{Fiedler} = \|\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A}\|_F + \alpha(\lambda_2)^2$$

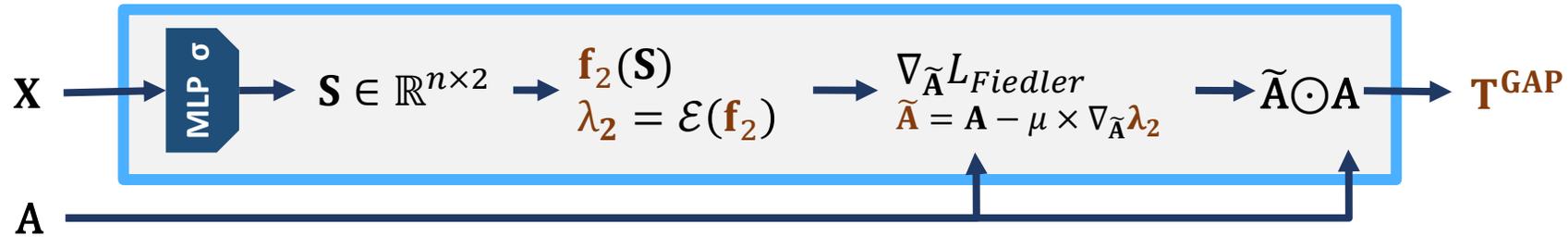
$$\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \lambda_2 := Tr[(\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{L}}} \lambda_2)^T \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \tilde{\mathbf{L}}] = \text{diag}(\mathbf{f}_2 \mathbf{f}_2^T) \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T - \mathbf{f}_2 \mathbf{f}_2^T$$

But λ_2 and \mathbf{f}_2 are spectrally computed? NO!
GAP-Layer learns them

- $\mathbf{f}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$:= Fiedler vector
 - \mathbf{f}_2 : Node membership to each of the 2 clusters
 - λ_2 : Eigenvalue of \mathbf{f}_2 (Dirichlet energies of \mathbf{f}_2)
- Main problem: λ_2 and \mathbf{f}_2 are **usually spectrally computed**

GAP-Layer

Gap-Layer: Approximating the Fiedler vector



$$L_{\text{cut}} = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{S}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{S}]}{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{S}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{S}]} + \left\| \frac{\mathbf{S}^T \mathbf{S}}{\|\mathbf{S}^T \mathbf{S}\|_F} - \frac{\mathbf{I}_N}{\sqrt{2}} \right\|_F$$

$$L_{\text{fiedler}} = \|\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A}\|_F + \alpha(\lambda_2)^2$$

$$\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \lambda_2 = [2(\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A}) + (\text{diag}(\mathbf{f}_2 \mathbf{f}_2^T) \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T - \mathbf{f}_2 \mathbf{f}_2^T) \times \lambda_2]$$

How does GAP-Layer learn \mathbf{f}_2 ?

$S \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 2} \rightarrow$ cluster membership

$$\mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{S}) = \begin{cases} +1/\sqrt{n} & \text{if } u \text{ belongs to cluster \#1} \\ -1/\sqrt{n} & \text{if } u \text{ belongs to cluster \#2} \end{cases}$$

[Hoang, et al., 2020]

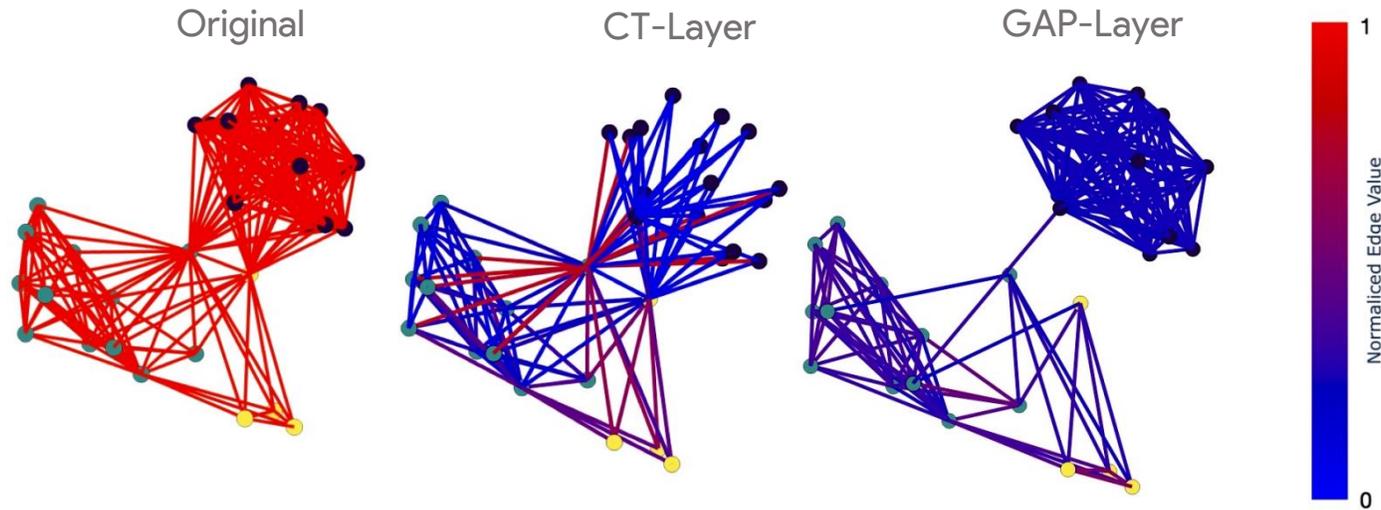
How does GAP-Layer learn λ_2 ?

$$\lambda_2 = \mathcal{E}_G(\mathbf{f}_2) = \mathbf{f}_2^T \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{f}_2$$

Dirichlet energies of the approximated \mathbf{f}_2

GAP-Layer

Experiments



	MinCutPool	k -NN	DIGL	SDRF	CT-LAYER	GAP-LAYER (R)	GAP-LAYER (N)
REDDIT-B*	66.53±4.4	64.40±3.8	76.02±4.3	65.3±7.7	78.45±4.5	77.63±4.9	76.00±5.3
IMDB-B*	60.75±7.0	55.20±4.3	59.35±7.7	59.2±6.9	69.84±4.6	69.93±3.3	68.80±3.1
COLLAB*	58.00±6.2	58.33±11	57.51±5.9	56.60±10	69.87±2.4	64.47±4.0	65.89±4.9
MUTAG	84.21±6.3	87.58±4.1	85.00±5.6	82.4±6.8	87.58±4.4	86.90±4.0	86.90±4.0
PROTEINS	74.84±2.3	76.76±2.5	74.49±2.8	74.4±2.7	75.38±2.9	75.03±3.0	75.34±2.1
SBM*	53.00±9.9	50.00±0.0	56.93±12	54.1±7.1	81.40±11	90.80±7.0	92.26±2.9
Erdős-Rényi*	81.86±6.2	63.40±3.9	81.93±6.3	73.6±9.1	79.06±9.8	79.26±10	82.26±3.2

Future work

Rewiring

- Dynamic Rewiring wrt structure, homophily-heterophily and utility
 - Reduce or enforce over-squahing when needed (merge only util information)
- Rewiring with Interpretability

DiffWire

- Use of learned CT for different objectives
- Code to sparse → efficient computation
- Code to PyG → Easy use (even more)





Graph Fairness

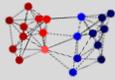
Algorithmic Fairness
with Graph Rewiring



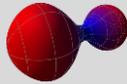
Illustration by **Justin Metz** in *Chouldechova, A. and Roth, A., 2020. A snapshot of the frontiers of fairness in machine learning. Communications of the ACM, 63(5), pp.82-89.*



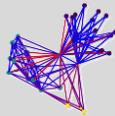
Motivation and Challenges



Introduction to Spectral Theory



Transductive Rewiring



Inductive Rewiring



Graph Fairness

Panel Discussion

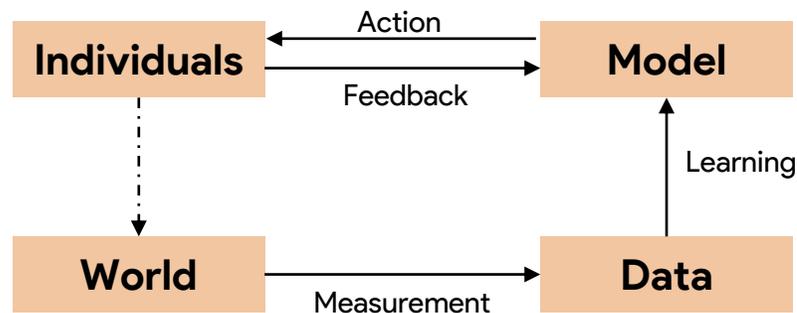
Algorithmic Fairness

ML for Critical Decision Making



- ✓ Privacy
- ✓ Transparency
- ✓ Accountability

- ✓ Reliability
- ✓ Autonomy
- ✓ Fairness



Social Biased decisions leads to

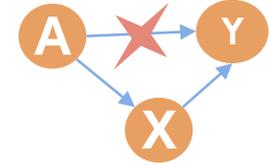
INDIVIDUAL HARMS		AJL	COLLECTIVE SOCIAL HARMS
ILLEGAL DISCRIMINATION	UNFAIR PRACTICES		
HIRING			LOSS OF OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT			
INSURANCE & SOCIAL BENEFITS			
HOUSING			
EDUCATION			
CREDIT			ECONOMIC LOSS
DIFFERENTIAL PRICES OF GOODS			
LOSS OF LIBERTY			SOCIAL STIGMATIZATION
INCREASED SURVEILLANCE			
STEREOTYPE REINFORCEMENT			
DIGNATORY HARMS			

Algorithmic Fairness

Independence on the Protected Attributes

Ensure that the **outputs** of a model **DO NOT** depend on sensitive attributes

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = R, \quad S \in \mathbf{X} \rightarrow R \perp S$$



Group Fairness

Groups (defined by sensitive attributes) are treated equally

$P(R|S)$	$P(R|Y, S)$	$P(Y|R, S)$
<i>Independence</i>	<i>Separation</i>	<i>Sufficiency</i>
$R \perp S$	$R \perp S | Y$	$S \perp Y | R$

Demographic parity

$$P(R=1|S=a) = P(R=1|S=b)$$

Positive Predicted Ratio:
Equal acceptance rate

Equalized odds

$$P(R=1 | Y=i, S=a) = P(R=1 | Y=i, S=b), \quad i \in 0, 1$$

TPR – FPR
Equal error rates

Predictive Parity

$$P(Y=1 | R=1, S=a) = P(Y=1 | R=1, S=b)$$

PPV – NPV
Equal success rate

Individual Fairness

Treat similar individuals in a similar way



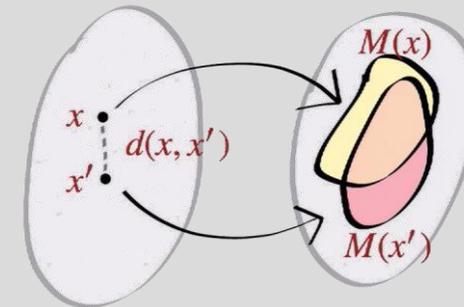
Our Dataset: $D = \{(x_i, y_i)\}_i^N$

Distance between x_i pairs: $k: V \times V \rightarrow R$.

Mapping from x_i to outcomes probability distribution $M: V \rightarrow \alpha S$

Distance between distributions of outputs D

$$D(M(x), M(y)) = k(x, y)$$

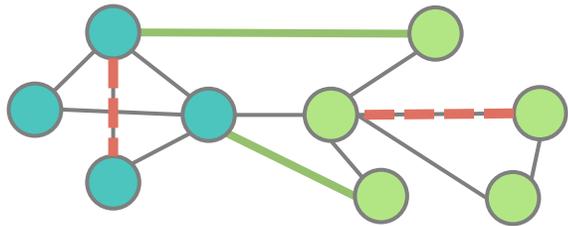


Why Graph Fairness?

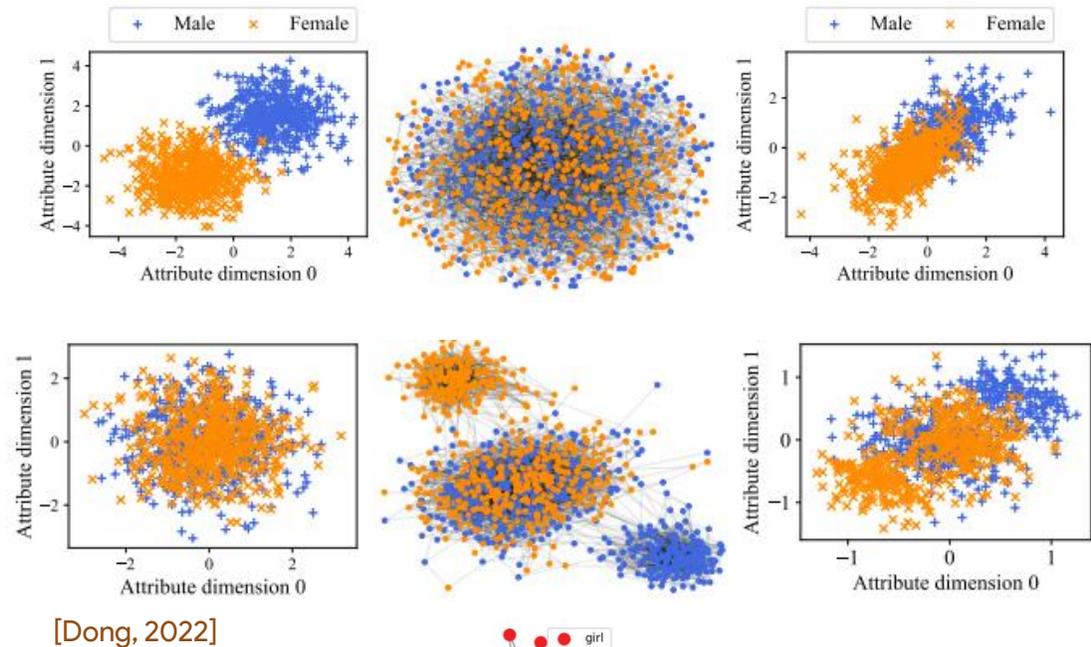
The Graph Structure: a New Biased Element

Topology of the graph (A) can be biased \rightarrow correlated with sensitive attributes

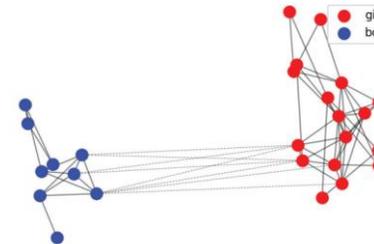
- **Over-representing homophilic edges**
(social stratification, fraudulent links, social homophily [McPherson, 2001])
- **Missing heterophilic edges** that
would have been present in more fair settings



Friendship among students in a Dutch School
[Masrour, 2020]



[Dong, 2022]



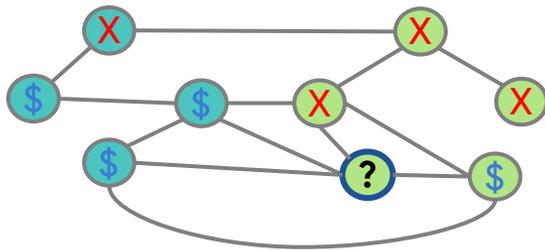
Why Graph Fairness?

Consequences on the Real world

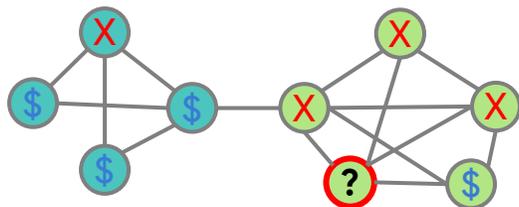
Decisions on the nodes

● ● Protected attributes
X, \$ Labels

Fair Topology



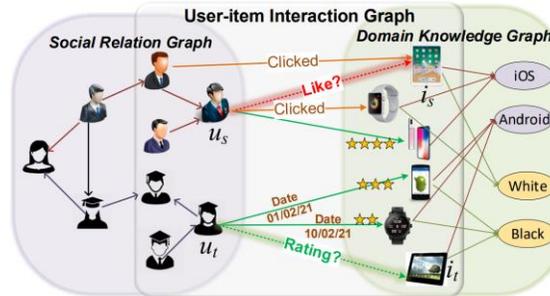
Biased Topology



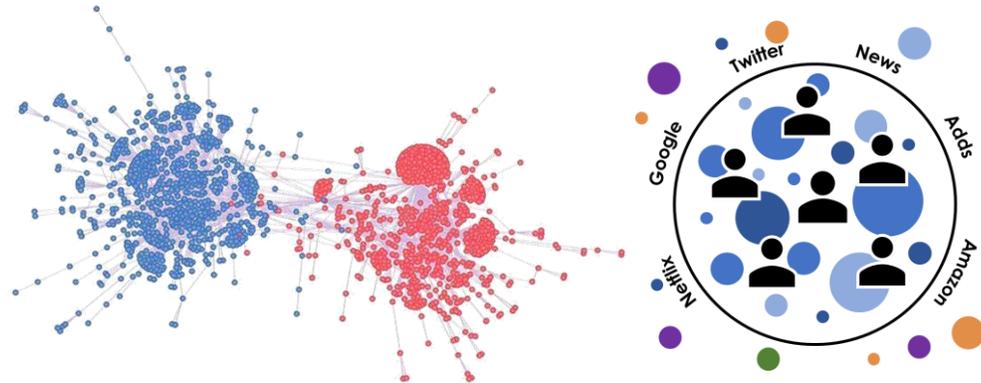
* Also applies to community detection and Link prediction

Recommendations

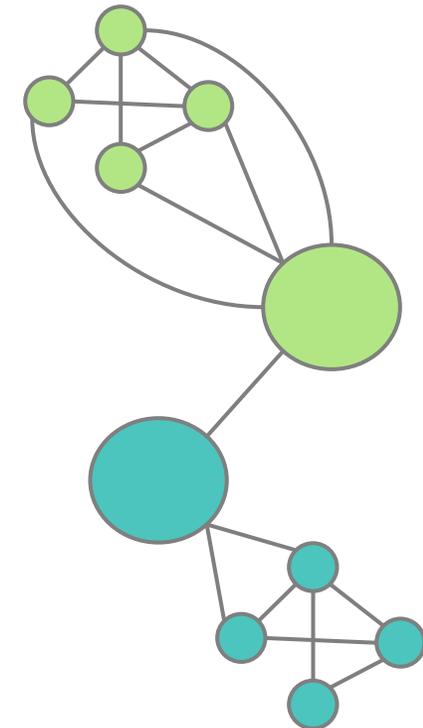
Biased recommendations (Products, jobs, content...)



Echo Chambers and Filter bubbles

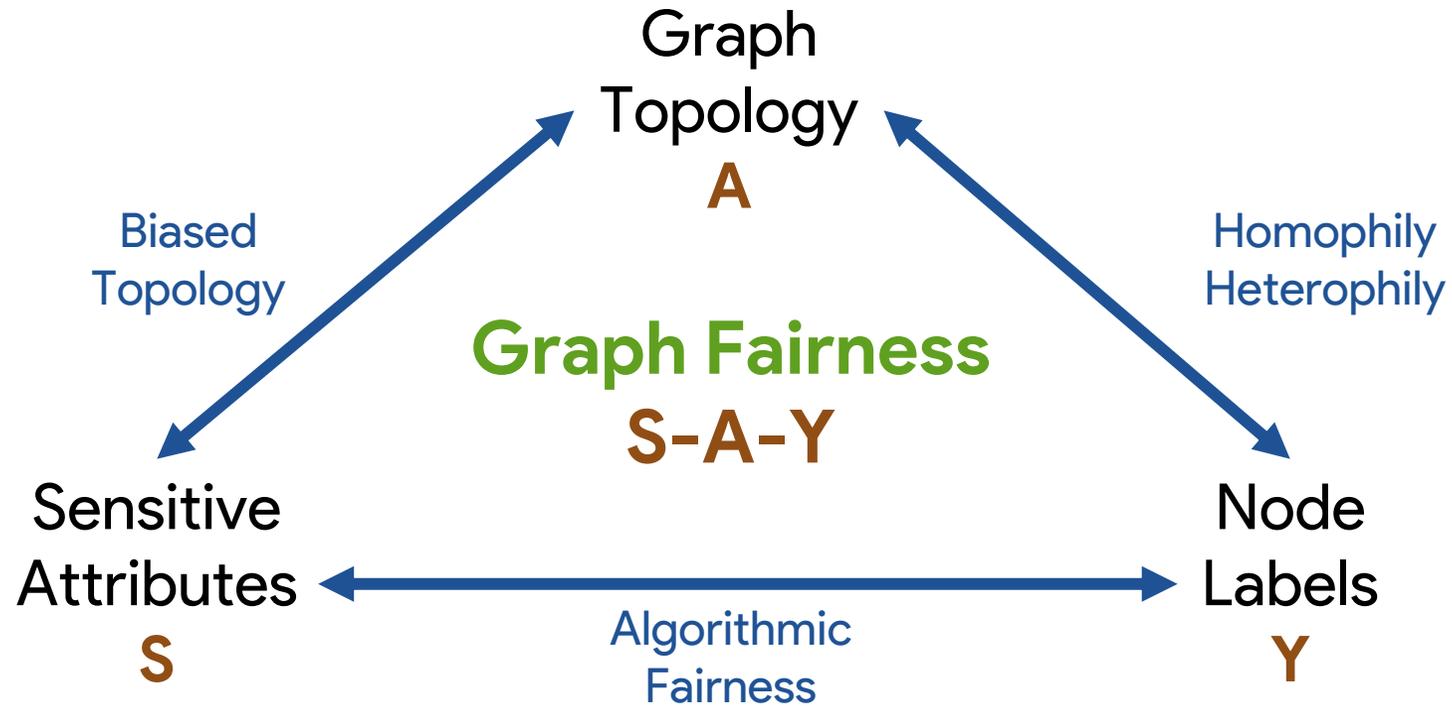


Influence Maximization



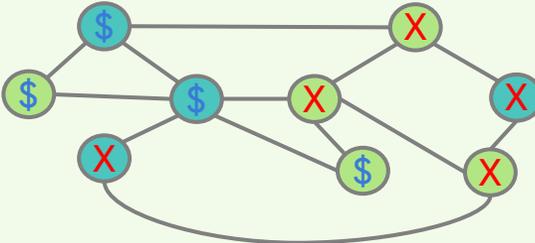
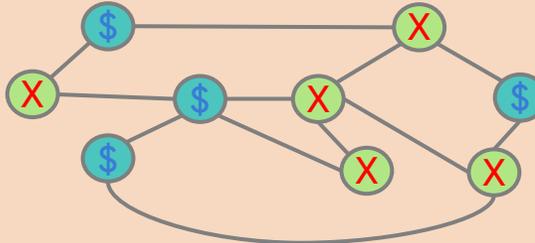
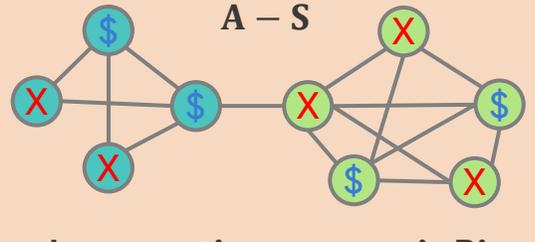
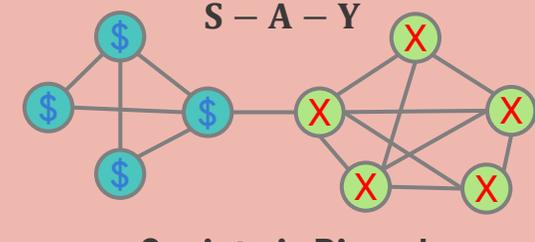
Graph Fairness

Causes



Graph Fairness

Causes

	Unbiased Attributes	Biased Attributes [Y-S]
Unbiased Structure		<p>Label correlates with the protected attribute $Y - S$</p>  <p>Individuals are biased, their relationships are not</p>
Biased Structure [A-S]	<p>Structure correlates with the protected attribute $A - S$</p>  <p>Graph generation process is Biased People built relationships in correlation only with A Model will have bad accuracy and biased decision <i>Assortativity in protected attribute</i></p>	<p>Both correlate with the protected attribute $S - A - Y$</p>  <p>Society is Biased People built relationships in correlation with Y and/or A Model will have good accuracy but biased decision <i>Assortativity in protected attribute (S-A) and label homophily (A-Y)</i></p>

S: Sensitive attribute **A:** Adjacency, i.e. Matrix Structure **Y:** Node Label

Dimensions of taxonomy

Perspectives to analyze graph fairness

Causes

- **A-S** correlation
- **Y-S** correlation
- **Y-A** correlation (homophily)

Fairness definitions

- **Node-level decision**
 - Group
 - ...
 - Individual
 - ...
- **Structure segregation**
 - Group
 - ...
 - Individual
 - ...

Tasks

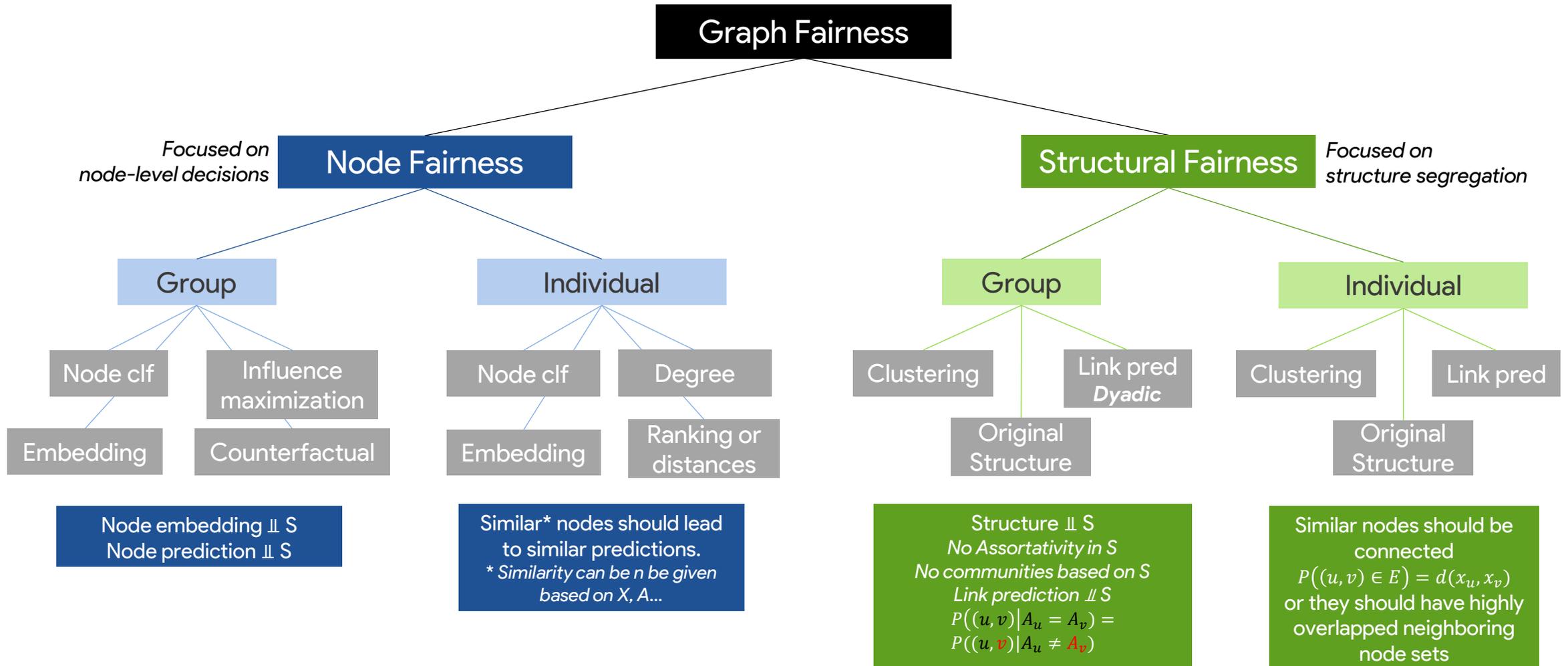
- Topology analysis
- Representation Learning
- Classification/Regression
- Link prediction
- Community detection
- Application specific
 - Recommender systems
 - Influence maximization
 - Ranking

Techniques

- Constrained optimization
- Adversarial/orthogonal
- Rebalancing
- **Graph Rewiring**

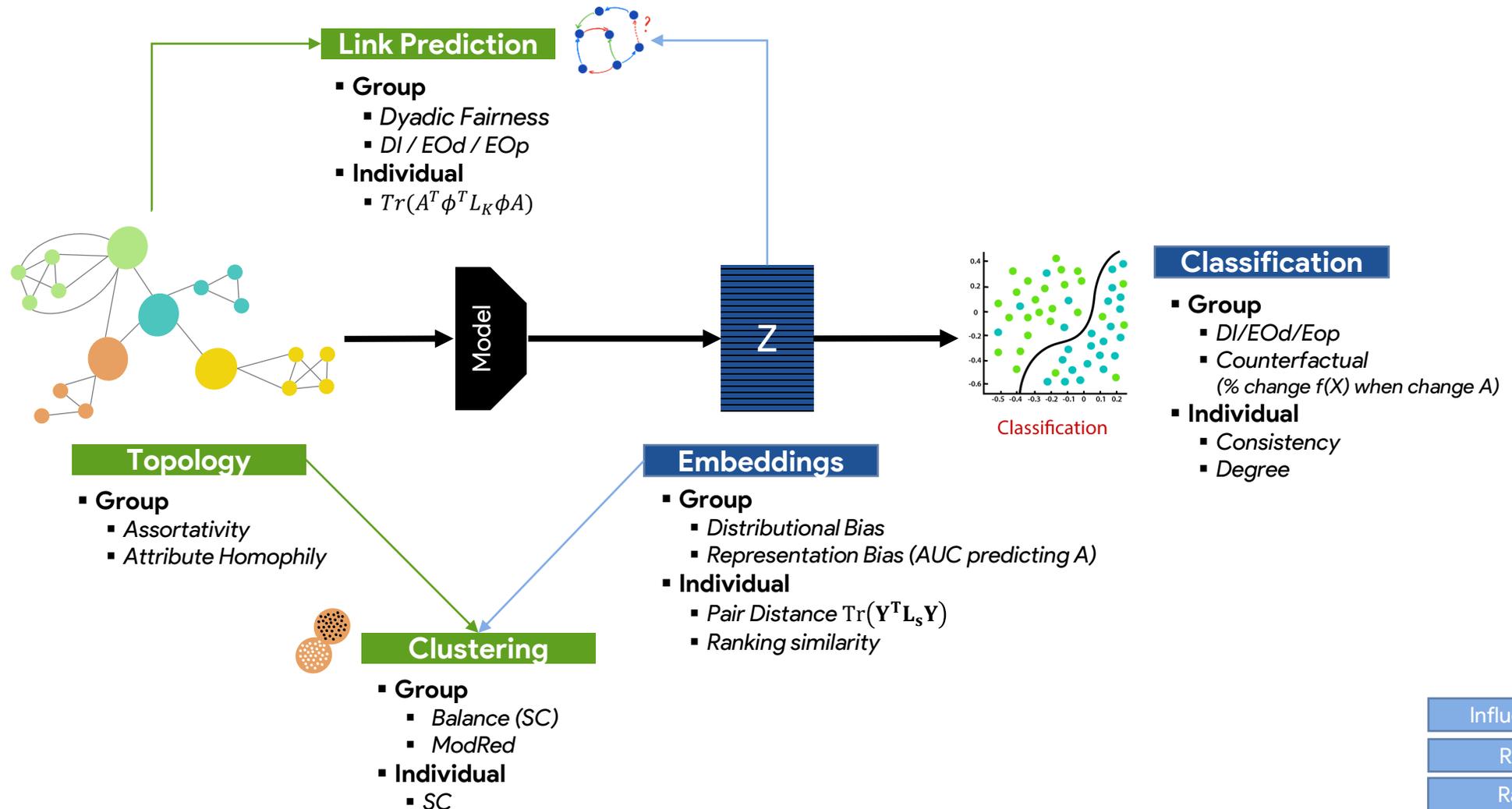
Graph Fairness Definitions

Definitions and Metrics



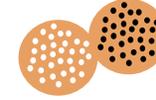
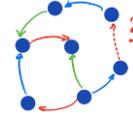
Graph Fairness Definitions

Definitions and metrics from a Pipeline Point of View



Graph Fairness Definitions

Definitions and metrics from a Pipeline Point of View



Topology	Link Prediction	Clustering
<p>Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assortativity [Newman, 2003] Modularity: <i>modred</i> [Masrouf, 2020] $Q = \frac{1}{2 E } \sum_{ij} \left(A_{ij} - \frac{d_i d_j}{2 E } \right) (S_u \otimes S_v)$ $\text{modred} = \frac{Q_{\text{ref}} - Q_{\text{pred}}}{Q_{\text{ref}}}$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attribute Homophily $h_{\text{edges}} = \frac{ \{(u, v) \in E: S_u = S_v\} }{ E }$ $h_{\text{nodes}} = \frac{1}{ V } \sum_{v \in V} \frac{ \{u \in N(v): S_u = S_v\} }{ N(v) }$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Unfairness Score [Jalali 2020] $M = \sum \theta A^k; \text{Max}(\{d: d = D(M_{S_u=i, S_v=j}, M_{S_k=S_v=l})\}) \forall i \in \{0,1\}$ <p>Individual</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dirichlet energies wrt node features \mathbf{X} $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{y}) = \text{Tr}[\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{X}]$	<p>Group – Dyadic Fairness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statistical Parity or Disparate Impact [Laclau, 2020; Rahman, 2019; Buyl, 2020; Li, 2021; Spinelli, 2021] $P((u, v) S_u = S_v) = P((u, v) S_u \neq S_v)$ $\frac{P((u, v) S_u = S_v)}{P((u, v) S_u \neq S_v)}$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equal opportunity [Buyl, 2020; Li, 2021] $P((u, v) y_{uv} = 1, S_u = S_v) = P((u, v) y_{uv} = 1, S_u \neq S_v)$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equalized odds [Li, 2021] $P((u, v) y_{uv} = i, S_u = S_v) = P((u, v) y_{uv} = i, S_u \neq S_v) \forall i \in \{0,1\}$ <p><i>* More group metrics like ARP [Rahman, 2019] or DI or EO based on group and subgroup dyadic-specific [Spinelli, 2021] (above metrics are mixed dyadic)</i></p> <p>Individual</p> $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{y}) = \text{Tr}[\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{X}]$ $P((u, v) \in E) = d(x_u, x_v)$	<p>Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same proportion of each group in each cluster as in the population as a whole $\text{balance} = \min \frac{ V_S \cap C_k }{ V'_S \cap C_k }$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For each node, each cluster must contain an adequate number of members similar* to the individual. *similar defined by some graph R built using sensitive attributes. $\frac{ \{j: R_{ij} = 1 \wedge v_j \in C_k\} }{ C_k } = \frac{ \{j: R_{ij} = 1\} }{ V }, \forall k \in K$ <p>Individual</p> $\frac{1}{ C(u) - 1} \sum_{v \in C(u)} d(u, v) \leq \frac{1}{ C_k } \sum_{v \in C_k} d(x, y), \forall k \in K$

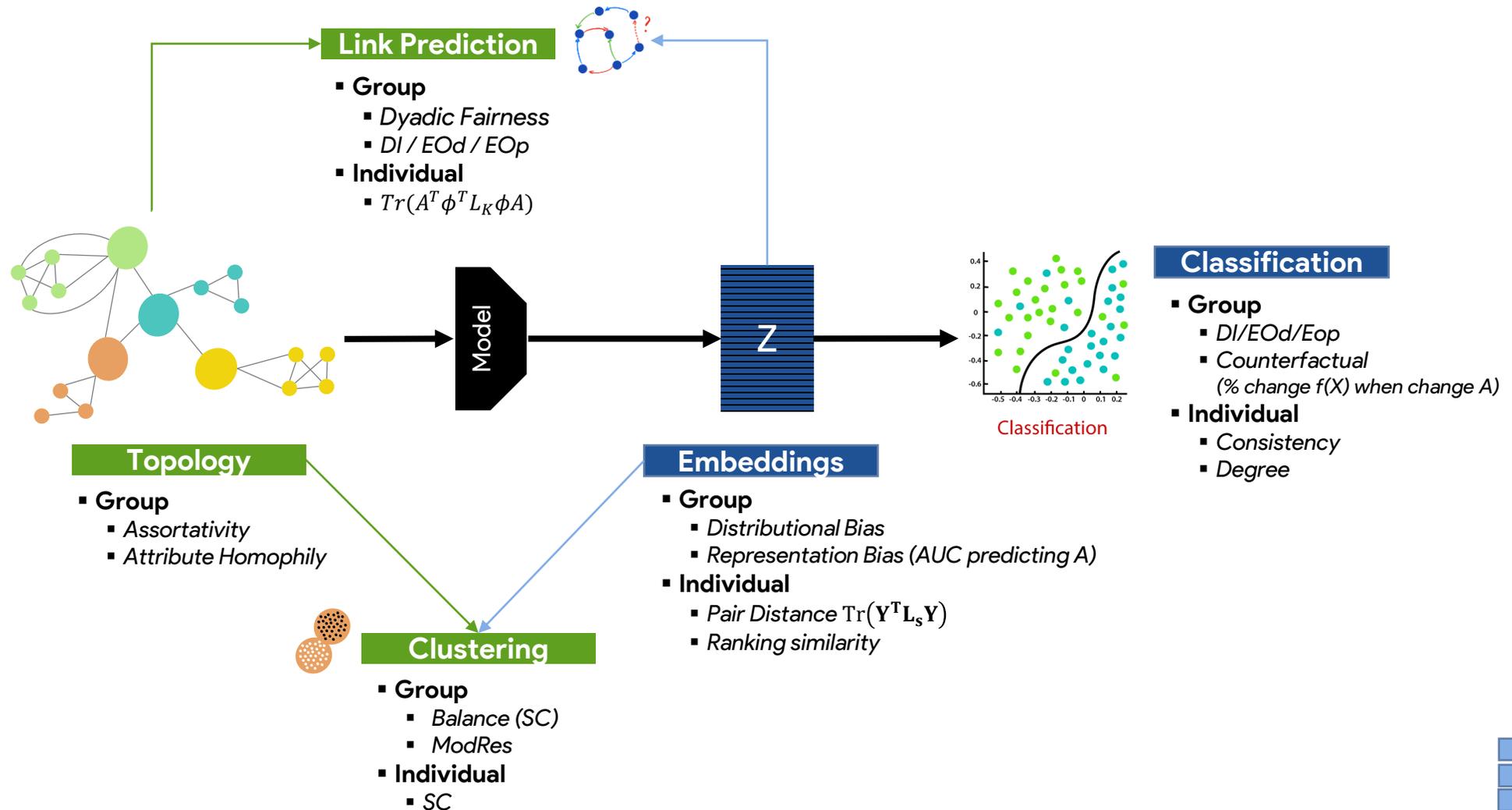
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Laclau, C., et al. “All of the Fairness for Edge Prediction with Optimal Transport”. In ICAIS, 2020.
 Rahman, T. et al. “FairWalk: Towards Fair Graph Embedding”. In IJCAI, 2019.
 Li, P., et al. “On dyadic fairness: Exploring and mitigating bias in graph connections”. In ICLR, 2021.
 Spinelli, I., et al. “FairDrop: Biased edge dropout for enhancing fairness in GRL”. In TAI 2021



Graph Fairness Definitions

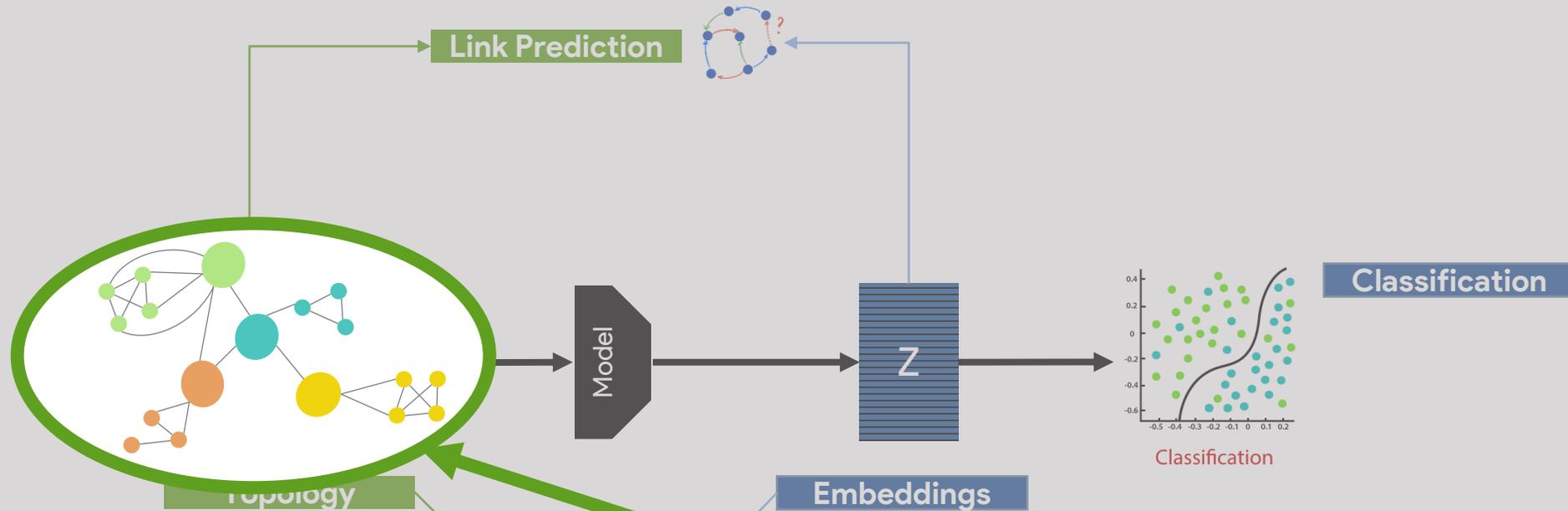
Definitions and metrics from a Pipeline Point of View



Influence Max
Rec Sys
Ranking

Graph Fairness Definitions

Definitions and metrics from a Pipeline Point of View



Graph Rewiring

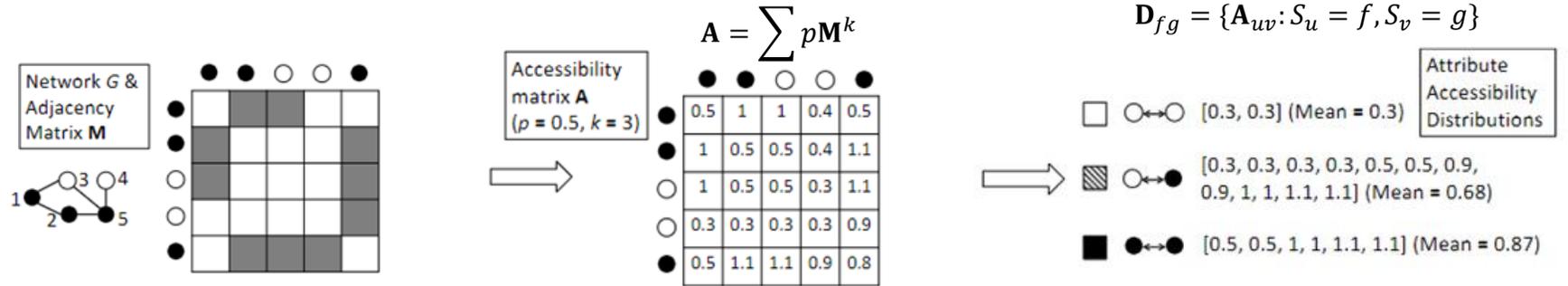
- Benefits all tasks in the pipeline
- Provides a strong interpretability
- Lot of theory behind
- Aligned with other problems in GNNs
 - Homophily/Heterophily
 - Expressiveness

Rewiring for Topology Debiasing

On the Information Unfairness of Social Networks

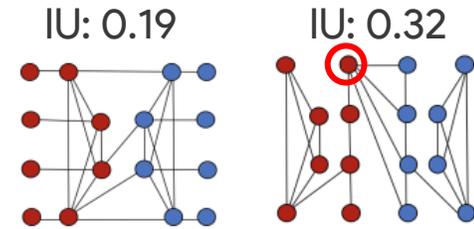
Information Unfairness

Maximum difference between distribution of intra and inter edge weights



The ● ↔ ● distribution is similar to ● ↔ ○: low distance.

The ● ↔ ● distribution is very different from ○ ↔ ○: high distance. (lots of ● ↔ ● flow, little ○ ↔ ○ flow)



Assortativity = 0.66
*same intra-inter edges

Rewiring for Topology Debiasing

On the Information Unfairness of Social Networks

MaxFair

Find b edges such that the IU of $G' = (V, E \cup B)$ is minimized

1. **Calculate Node-Attribute centrality:** Quantify how well a node spreads information into a group

- $vec_s \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n} = \sum_k p^k \times vec_{s,k}$: each node's centrality with respect to sensitive group. One for each $s \in S$.
 - $vec_{s,0}$: vector of node membership to sensitive group. i.e. $vec_{s,0}(u) = 1$ if $S_u = f$ else 0
 - $vec_{s,k}(u) = \text{sum}([vec_{s,k-1}(v)]_{j \in N(u)})$: message passing using $vec_{s,0}$ as initial feature

Weighted MultiHead Message passing using one hot encoded sensitive attribute as X

2. **Score unconnected pair of nodes using vec_s**

- $A = \sum p M^k \rightarrow D_{fg} = \{A_{uv} : S_u = f, S_v = g\}, \forall f, g \in S$, i.e.
- $s_{fg} = \text{mean}(A) - \text{mean}(D_{fg})$. How each distribution deviate from the mean of all edges.
- $\text{score}(u, v) = \sum_{f, g \in S} s_{fg} * (vec_f(u) * vec_g(v) + vec_g(u) * vec_f(v))$



How a given edge would relief over-squashing between 2 different communities defined by sensitive attributes?

3. **Select the highest scoring edge**

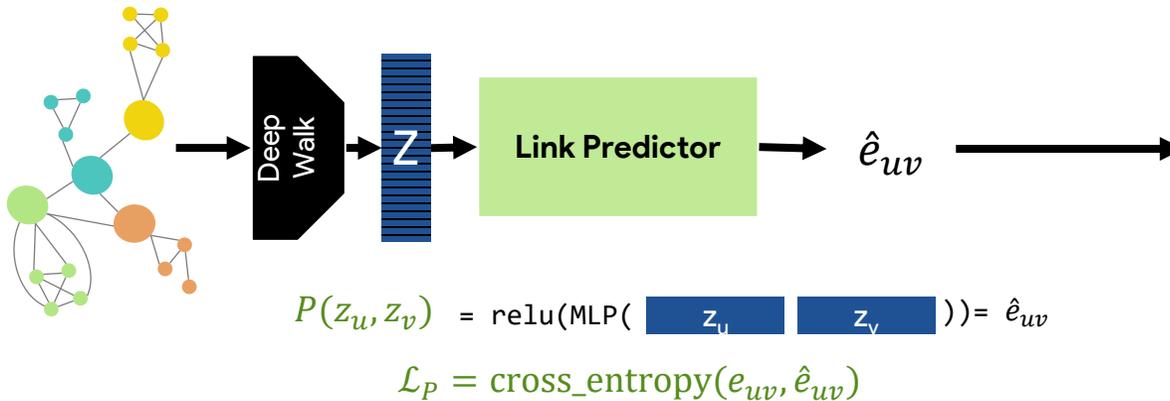
Rewiring for Fair Link Prediction

Bursting the Filter Bubble: Fairness-aware network link prediction

Evaluate Structural Fairness by change in modularity after link prediction $Q = \frac{1}{2|E|} \sum_{ij} \left(A_{ij} - \frac{d_i d_j}{2|E|} \right) (S_u \otimes S_v)$ modred = $\frac{Q - Q'}{Q}$

Greedy-FLIP

Greedy rewiring at post-processing



How flipping an edge prediction change the modularity?

Flip edge with the lowest score and repeat

$$\text{score}(\dot{e}_{xy}) = \frac{(-1)^{\delta(\dot{e}_{xy})}}{2m} \left(-1 + \frac{d_x + d_y - 1}{2m} \right) \delta(X_x^{(p)}, X_y^{(p)}) + \left(\sum_{v \in V, X_v^{(p)} \neq X_x^{(p)} \atop v \neq y} d_v + \sum_{v \in V, X_v^{(p)} \neq X_y^{(p)} \atop v \neq x} d_v \right) / 4m^2$$

Adversarial Learning for Fair Link Prediction

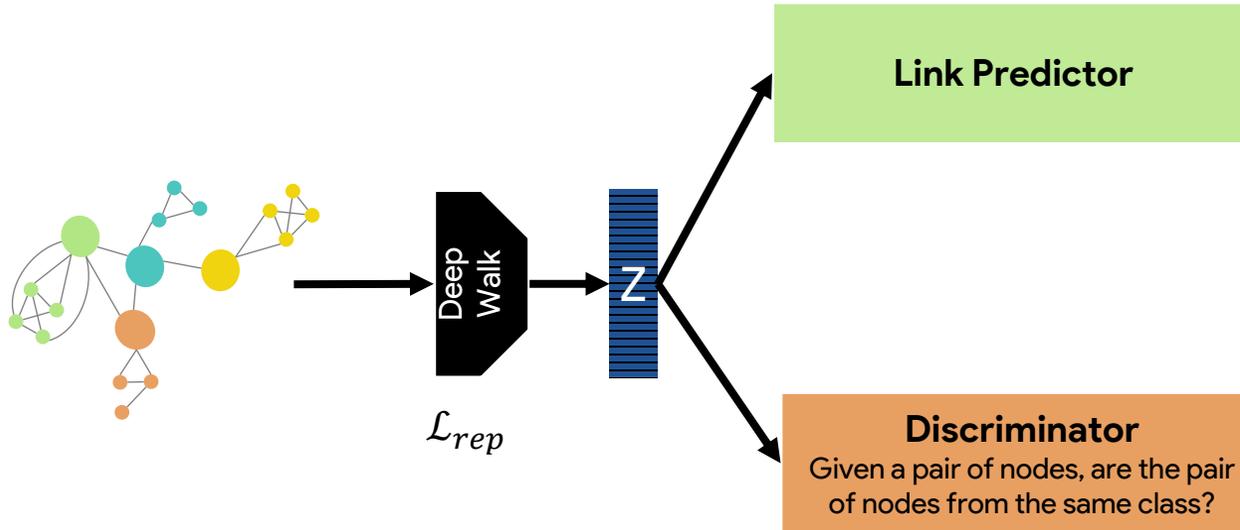
Bursting the Filter Bubble: Fairness-aware network link prediction

Evaluate Structural Fairness by change in modularity after link prediction

$$Q = \frac{1}{2|E|} \sum_{ij} \left(A_{ij} - \frac{d_i d_j}{2|E|} \right) (S_u \otimes S_v) \quad \text{modred} = \frac{Q - Q'}{Q}$$

FLIP

Adversarial Rewiring



$$P(z_u, z_v) = \text{relu}(\text{MLP}(\begin{bmatrix} z_u \\ z_v \end{bmatrix})) = \hat{e}_{uv}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_P = \text{cross_entropy}(e_{uv}, \hat{e}_{uv})$$

$$D(z_u, z_v) = \text{relu}(\text{MLP}(\begin{bmatrix} z_u \\ z_v \end{bmatrix})) = \hat{g}_{uv}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_D = \text{cross_entropy}(g_{uv}, \hat{g}_{uv})$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \alpha \mathcal{L}_{rep} - (1 - \alpha) \mathcal{L}_D + \beta \mathcal{L}_P$$

Rewiring for Fair Link Prediction

On dyadic fairness: Exploring and mitigating bias in graph connections

Dyadic Fairness: $P((u, v) | S_u = S_v) = P((u, v) | S_u \neq S_v) \rightarrow$ predict equal number of



* Also, same TPR, TNR, FPR and FNR

FairAdj

Rewire the graph topology to get fair embeddings to perform fair link prediction using projected gradient descent \rightarrow maintain \mathbf{A} nature

- They prove that their rewiring reduces an upper bound of a constant that, if low, is a sufficient condition for Dyadic Fairness
 - It reduces the disparity of representation between nodes of different groups after message passing

Until convergence of θ or $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$

Train θ n epochs for utility

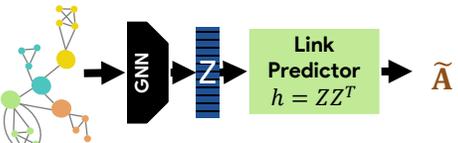
$$\max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}_{VGAE} := E[\log p(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{Z})] - K[\text{GNN}(\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{X}, \tilde{\mathbf{A}}) || N(0,1)]$$

Train $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ m epochs for fairness

$$\min_{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{fair}} := \left\| E_{u,v \sim U \times U} [h(u, v) | S_u = S_v] - E_{u,v \sim U \times U} [h(u, v) | S_u \neq S_v] \right\|^2$$

s.t $[\tilde{\mathbf{A}}]_{uv} = 0$ if $[\mathbf{A}]_{uv} = 0$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}$

Same probability of **inter** and **intra** links without adding edges and being a RW matrix



$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}} = \tilde{\mathbf{A}} - (\eta \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{fair}})$$

Modify $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ to **minimize** $\mathcal{L}_{\text{fair}}$

Project $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - (\eta \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{fair}})$ to the feasible space

$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - (\eta \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{fair}}) \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1}$$

Modify $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ to be row stochastic

Rewiring for Fair Representation Learning

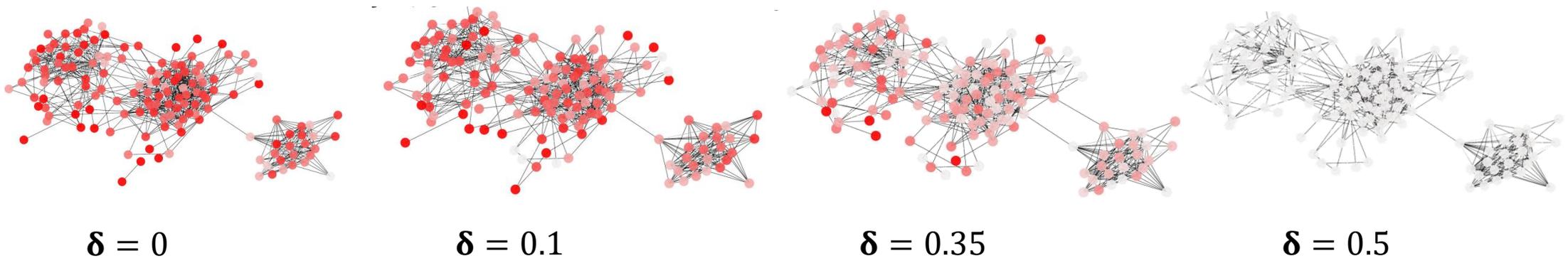
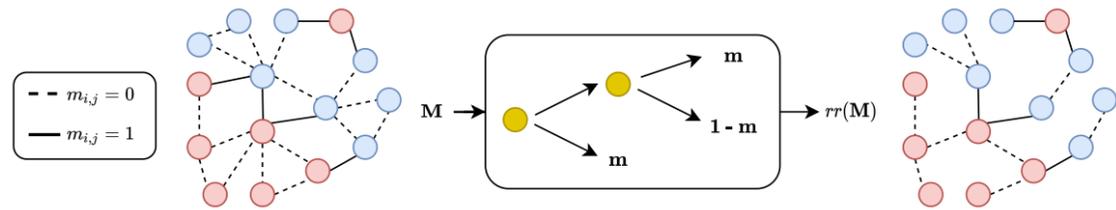
FairDrop: Biased edge dropout for enhancing fairness in Graph Representation Learning

Fairness: AUC predicting S *they also perform link prediction evaluated with dyadic fairness

FairDrop

Fair edge dropout

- Dropout **homophilic** edges with prob $\frac{1}{2} + \delta$
- Dropout **heterophilic** edges with prob $\frac{1}{2} - \delta$



That's not all Folks!

More Graph Rewiring Methods for Graph Fairness

RW for topology debiasing

- *MaxFair*
Jalali Z. S., et al. "On the information unfairness of social networks". In SDM, 2020

RW first for link prediction

- *Greedy-FLIP*
Masrour, F., et al. "Bursting the filter bubble: Fairness-aware network link prediction". In AAAI, 2020.
- *FairAdj*
Li, P., et al. "On dyadic fairness: Exploring and mitigating bias in graph connections". In ICLR, 2021.
- *FairDrop*
Spinelli, I., et al. "FairDrop: Biased edge dropout for enhancing fairness in GRL". In TAI 2021
- OT: Individual Fairness
Laclau, C., et al. "All of the Fairness for Edge Prediction with Optimal Transport". In ICAIS, 2020.

RW for fair representation learning

- InForm: Individual Fairness
Kang, J. et al. "Inform: Individual fairness on graph mining". In SIGKDD 2020.
- *FairDrop* – [Spinelli, I., 2021]
- *FairAdj* – [Li, P., 2021]

RW for node classification

- OT - [Laclau, C., 2020]
- EDITS
Dong, Y., et al. "EDITS: Modeling and mitigating data bias for graph neural networks". In WWW, 2022.
- FairEdit
Loveland, Donald, et al. "FairEdit: Preserving Fairness in Graph Neural Networks through Greedy Graph Editing." preprint, 2022.

RW for specific applications

- Recommender systems
 - Fabbri, F., et al. "Rewiring What-to-Watch-Next Recommendations to Reduce Radicalization Pathways". In WWW, 2022.

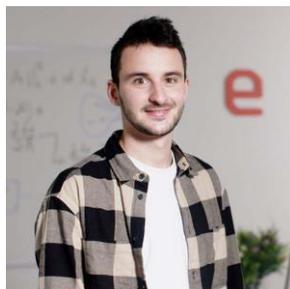


What can we do now?

- Normalization of benchmarks, evaluation metrics and pipelines
- Formalization of Graph Fairness as happens in Algorithmic Fairness
- Beyond Dyadic fairness
- Accuracy-fairness tradeoff in Graph Fairness?
- More efficient and Interpretable Rewiring Methods
- Causality Aware GNNs for fairness
- Ethical challenges:
 - Different values and philosophical fairness definitions
 - Human-in-the-loop
 - Robustness, XAI, privacy...
 - Go beyond known, measurable, discrete and static sensitive attributes*

Acknowledgments

The following authors...



Adrián Arnaiz Rodríguez
ELLIS Alicante

Speaker, panel moderator and content creator



Francisco Escolano
University of Alicante
ELLIS Alicante

Speaker and content creator



Nuria Oliver
ELLIS Alicante

Panel moderator and content creator



Edwin Hancock
University of York

Speaker and content creator



Ahmed Begga
University of Valencia

Content creator

... want to thanks to LoG reviewers of DiffWire and other researches that we got feedback from!

This work is partially funded by:

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Recommender Systems

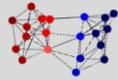
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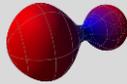
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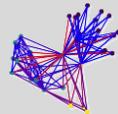
Motivation and Challenges



Introduction to Spectral Theory



Transductive Rewiring



Inductive Rewiring



Graph Fairness

Panel Discussion



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Nuria Oliver

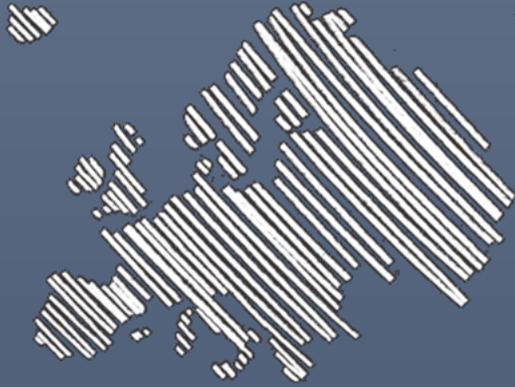
Petar Veličković

Marinka Zitnik

Francesco Fabbri

Francesco Di Giovanni

Panel



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<https://ellisalicante.org/tutorials/GraphRewiring>

<https://github.com/ellisalicante/GraphRewiring-Tutorial>



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Thanks



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