

# Stanford CS224W: Graph Neural Networks

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs

Jure Leskovec, Stanford University

<http://cs224w.stanford.edu>



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Today (01/19):** HW 1 out
- **Monday (01/23):** Recitation session for HW 1
- **Next Thursday (01/26):** Colab 1 due, Colab 2 out

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs

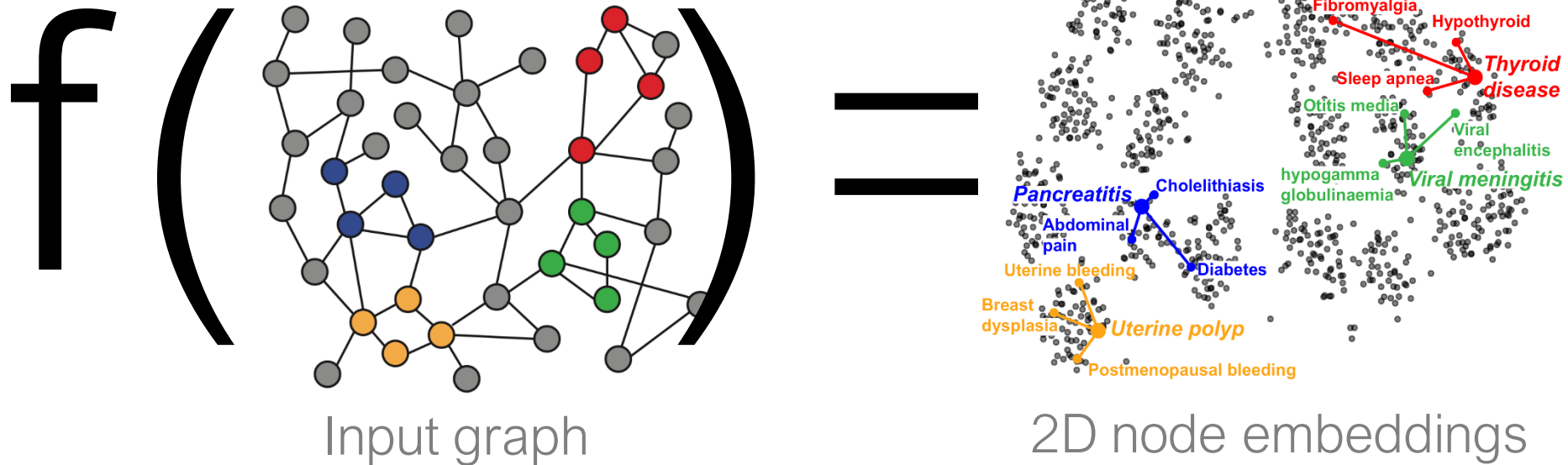
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# Recap: Node Embeddings

- **Intuition:** Map nodes to  $d$ -dimensional embeddings such that similar nodes in the graph are embedded close together

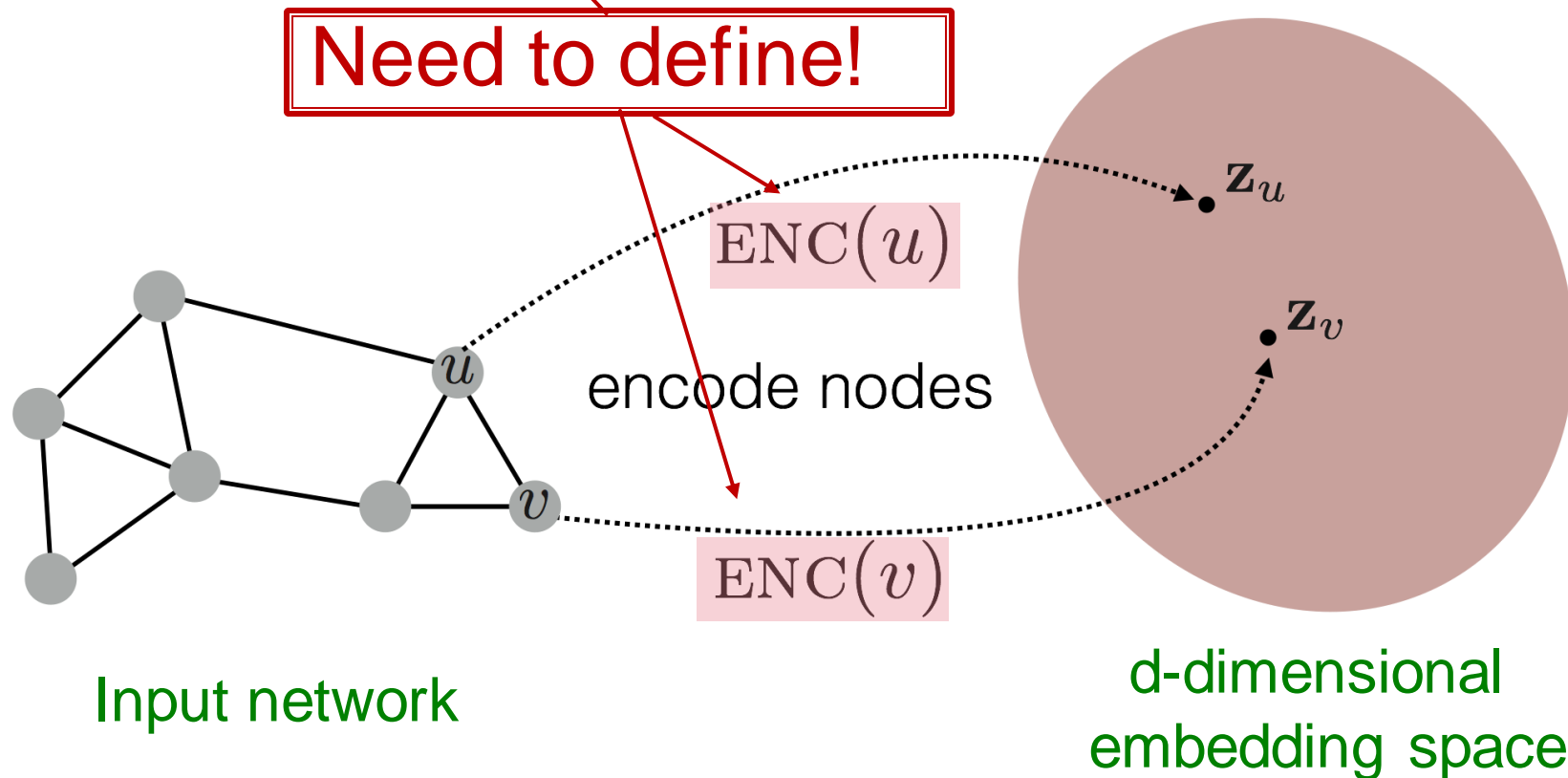


How to learn mapping function  $f$ ?

# Recap: Node Embeddings

Goal:  $\text{similarity}(u, v) \approx \mathbf{z}_v^T \mathbf{z}_u$

Need to define!



# Recap: Two Key Components

- **Encoder:** Maps each node to a low-dimensional vector

$$\text{ENC}(v) = \mathbf{z}_v$$

node in the input graph

$d$ -dimensional embedding

- **Similarity function:** Specifies how the relationships in vector space map to the relationships in the original network

$$\text{similarity}(u, v) \approx \mathbf{z}_v^T \mathbf{z}_u$$

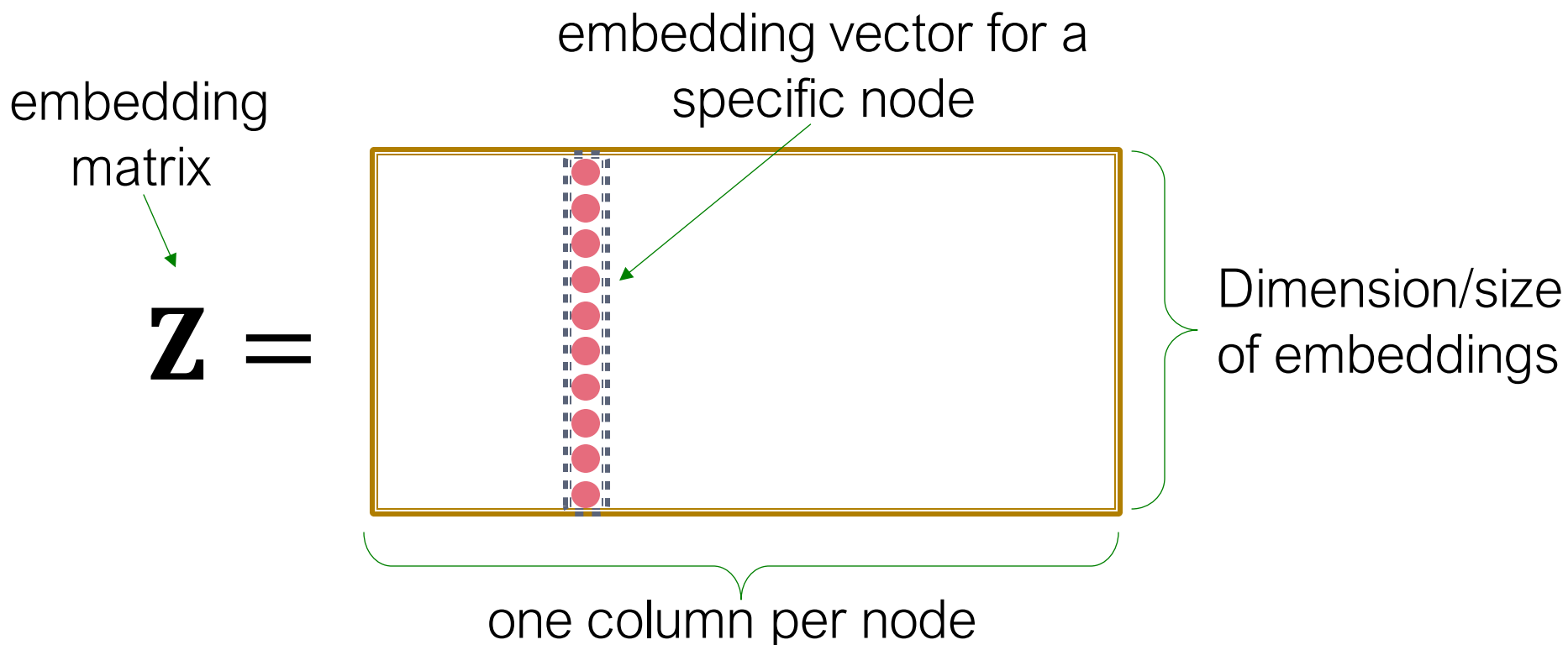
**Decoder**

Similarity of  $u$  and  $v$  in the original network

dot product between node embeddings

# Recap: "Shallow" Encoding

Simplest encoding approach: **Encoder is just an embedding-lookup**



# Recap: Shallow Encoders

- **Limitations of shallow embedding methods:**
  - **$O(|V|d)$  parameters are needed:**
    - No sharing of parameters between nodes
    - Every node has its own unique embedding
  - **Inherently “transductive”:**
    - Cannot generate embeddings for nodes that are not seen during training
  - **Do not incorporate node features:**
    - Nodes in many graphs have features that we can and should leverage

# Today: Deep Graph Encoders

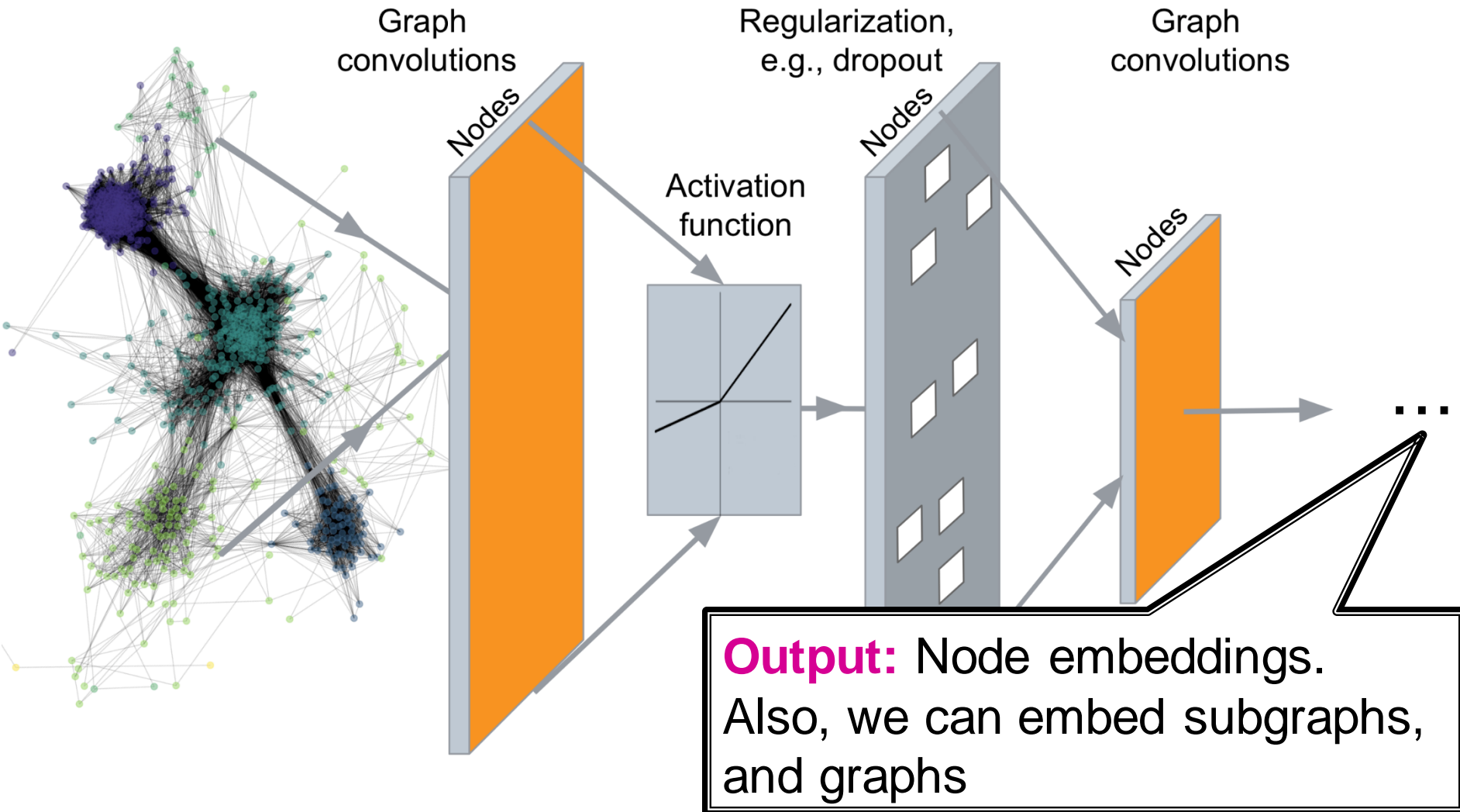
- **Today**: We will now discuss deep learning methods based on **graph neural networks (GNNs)**:

$$\text{ENC}(v) = \text{multiple layers of non-linear transformations based on graph structure}$$

- **Note**: All these deep encoders can be **combined with node similarity functions** defined in the Lecture 3.



# Deep Graph Encoders

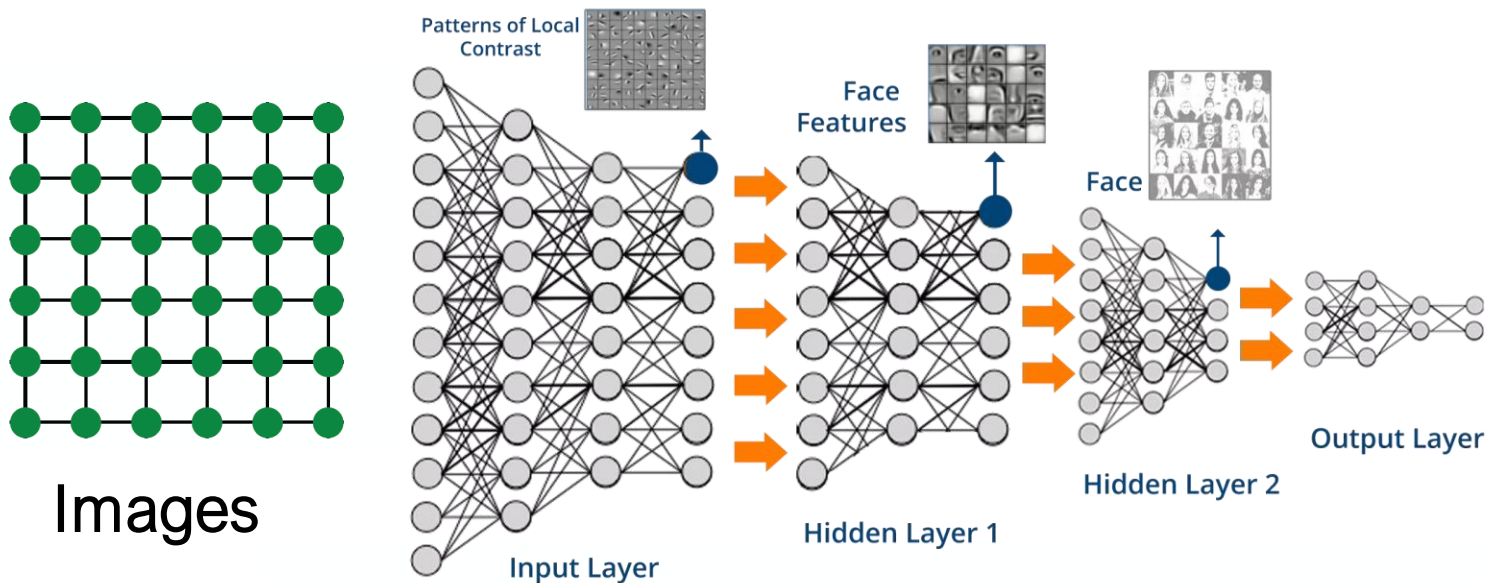


# Tasks on Networks

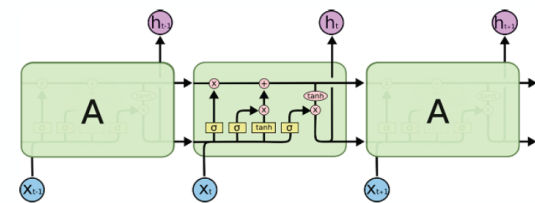
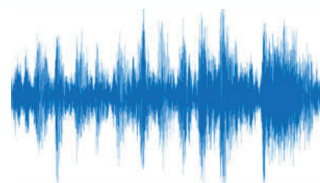
## Tasks we will be able to solve:

- **Node classification**
  - Predict the type of a given node
- **Link prediction**
  - Predict whether two nodes are linked
- **Community detection**
  - Identify densely linked clusters of nodes
- **Network similarity**
  - How similar are two (sub)networks

# Modern ML Toolbox



Text/Speech

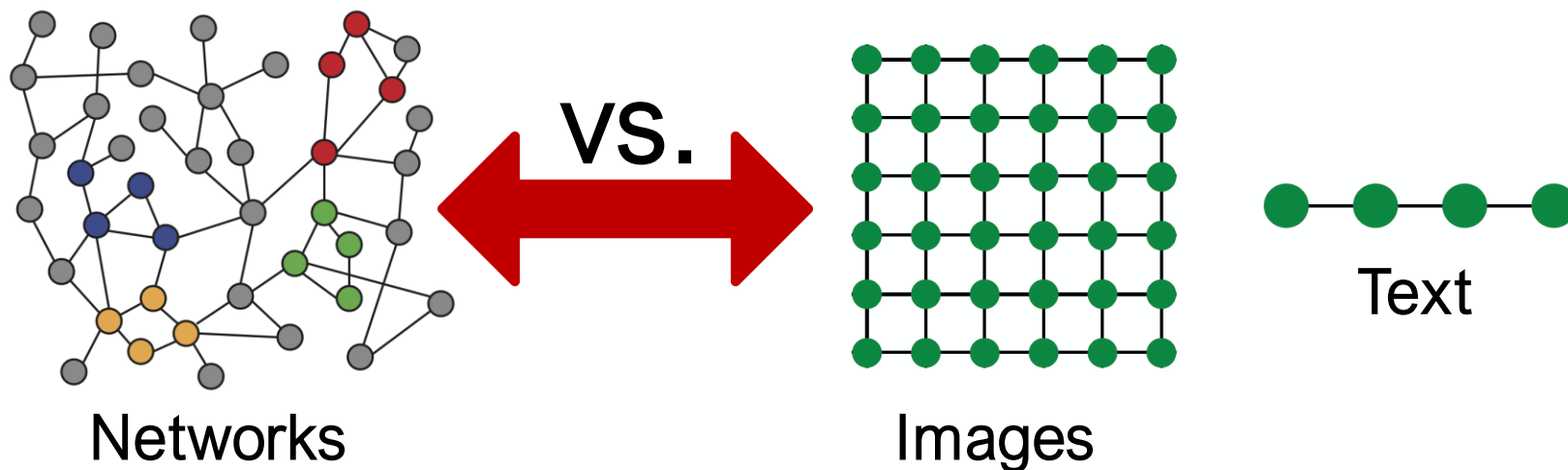


Modern deep learning toolbox is designed for simple sequences & grids

# Why is it Hard?

## But networks are far more complex!

- Arbitrary size and complex topological structure (i.e., no spatial locality like grids)



- No fixed node ordering or reference point
- Often dynamic and have multimodal features

# Outline of Today's Lecture

**1. Basics of deep learning**



**2. Deep learning for graphs**

**3. Graph Convolutional Networks**

**4. GNNs subsume CNNs**

# Stanford CS224W: Basics of Deep Learning

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs

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# Machine Learning as Optimization

- **Supervised learning:** we are given input  $x$ , and the goal is to predict label  $y$ .
- **Input  $x$  can be:**
  - Vectors of real numbers
  - Sequences (natural language)
  - Matrices (images)
  - Graphs (potentially with node and edge features)
- **We formulate the task as an optimization problem.**

# Machine Learning as Optimization

- Formulate the task as an optimization problem:

$$\min_{\Theta} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x}))$$



Objective function

- $\Theta$ : a set of **parameters** we optimize
  - Could contain one or more scalars, vectors, matrices ...
  - E.g.  $\Theta = \{Z\}$  in the shallow encoder (the embedding lookup)

- $\mathcal{L}$ : **loss function**. Example: L2 loss

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x})) = \|\mathbf{y} - f(\mathbf{x})\|_2$$

- Other common loss functions:
  - L1 loss, huber loss, max margin (hinge loss), cross entropy ...
  - See <https://pytorch.org/docs/stable/nn.html#loss-functions>

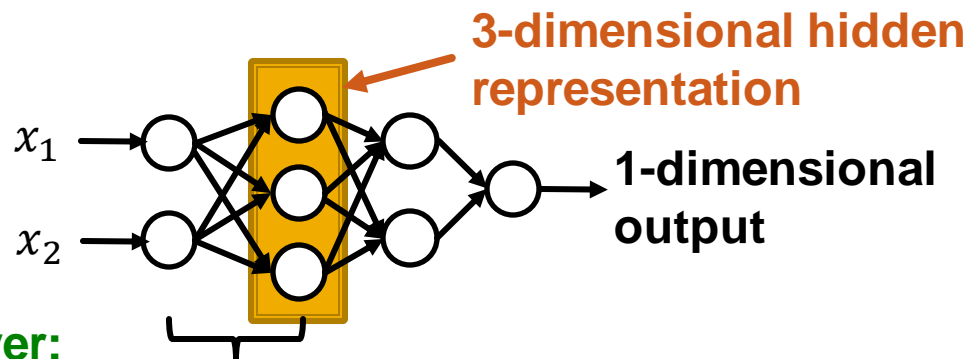


# Multi-layer Perceptron (MLP)

- Each layer of MLP combines linear transformation and non-linearity:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(l+1)} = \sigma(W_l \mathbf{x}^{(l)} + b^l)$$

- where  $W_l$  is weight matrix that transforms hidden representation at layer  $l$  to layer  $l + 1$
  - $b^l$  is bias at layer  $l$ , and is added to the linear transformation of  $\mathbf{x}^{(l)}$
  - $\sigma$  is non-linearity function (e.g., sigmoid)
- Suppose  $\mathbf{x}$  is 2-dimensional, with entries  $x_1$  and  $x_2$



Every layer:  
Linear transformation +  
non-linearity

# Summary

- **Objective function:**

$$\min_{\Theta} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x}))$$

- $f$  can be a simple linear layer, an MLP, or other neural networks (e.g., a GNN later)
- Sample a minibatch of input  $\mathbf{x}$
- **Forward propagation:** Compute  $\mathcal{L}$  given  $\mathbf{x}$
- **Back-propagation:** Obtain gradient  $\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} \mathcal{L}$  using a chain rule.
- Use **stochastic gradient descent (SGD)** to optimize for  $\Theta$  over many iterations.

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3. Graph Convolutional Networks

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# Content

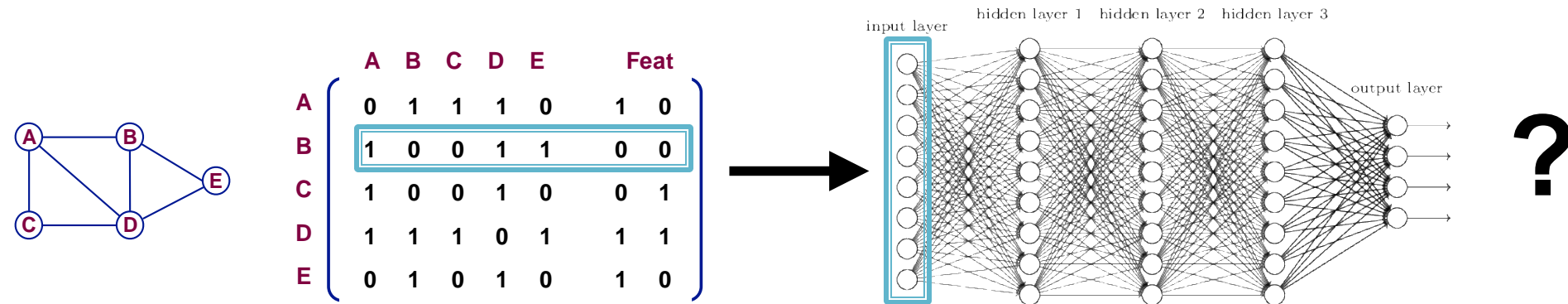
- **Local network neighborhoods:**
  - Describe aggregation strategies
  - Define computation graphs
- **Stacking multiple layers:**
  - Describe the model, parameters, training
  - How to fit the model?
  - Simple example for unsupervised and supervised training

# Setup

- Assume we have a graph  $G$ :
  - $V$  is the **vertex set**
  - $A$  is the **adjacency matrix** (assume binary)
  - $X \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times d}$  is a matrix of **node features**
  - $v$ : a node in  $V$ ;  $N(v)$ : the set of neighbors of  $v$ .
  - **Node features:**
    - Social networks: User profile, User image
    - Biological networks: Gene expression profiles, gene functional information
    - When there is no node feature in the graph dataset:
      - Indicator vectors (one-hot encoding of a node)
      - Vector of constant 1:  $[1, 1, \dots, 1]$

# A Naïve Approach

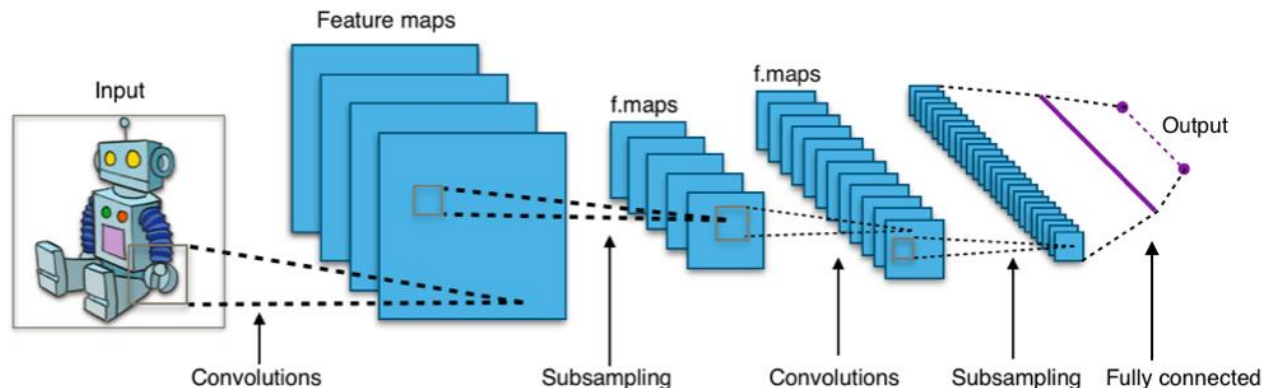
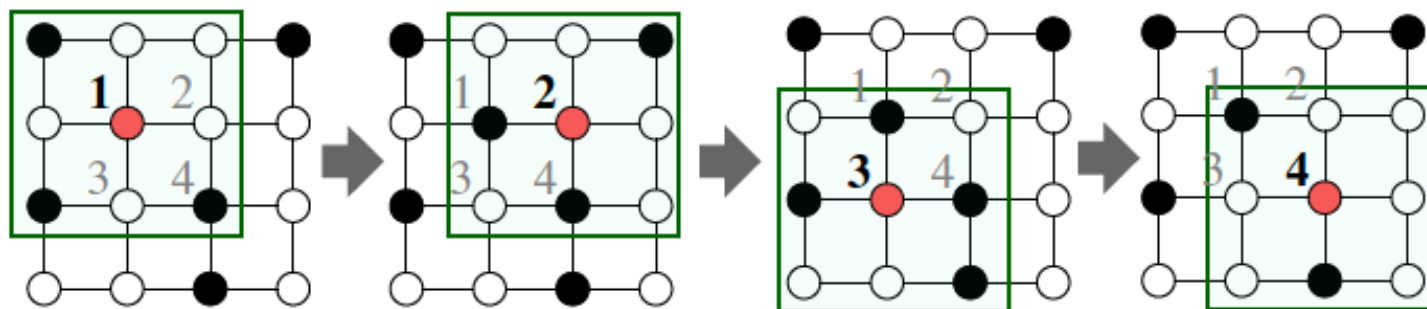
- Join adjacency matrix and features
- Feed them into a deep neural net:



- **Issues with this idea:**
  - $O(|V|)$  parameters
  - Not applicable to graphs of different sizes
  - Sensitive to node ordering

# Idea: Convolutional Networks

## CNN on an image:

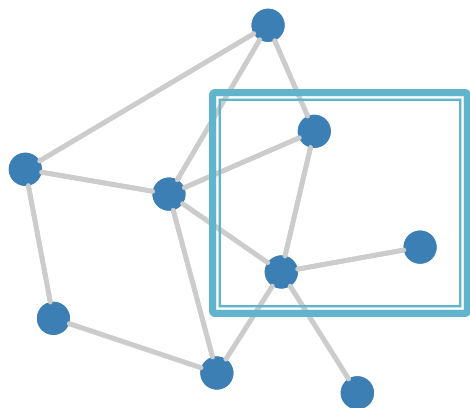


Goal is to generalize convolutions beyond simple lattices  
Leverage node features/attributes (e.g., text, images)

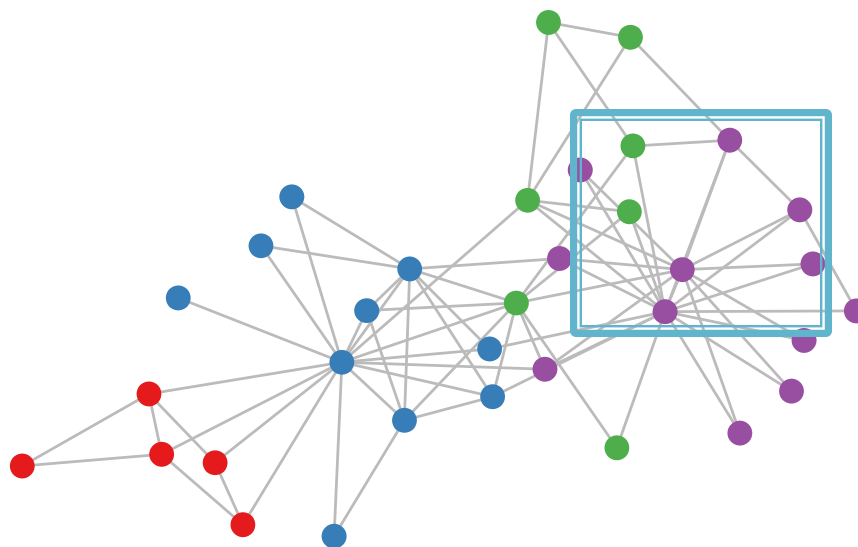


# Real-World Graphs

But our graphs look like this:



or this:



- There is no fixed notion of locality or sliding window on the graph
- Graph is permutation invariant

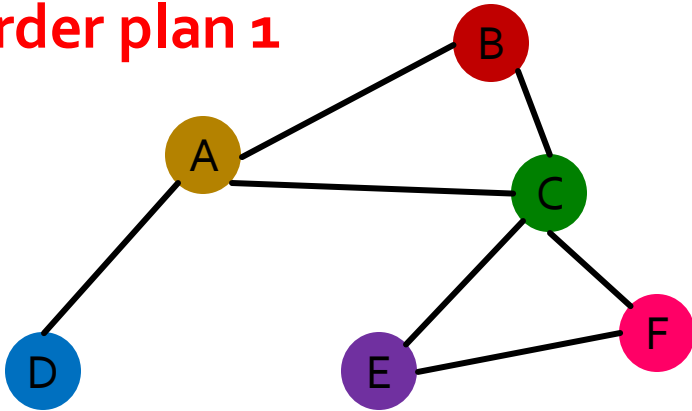
# Permutation Invariance

- **Graph does not have a canonical order of the nodes!**
- We can have many different order plans.

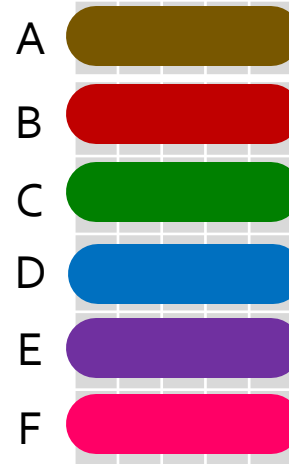
# Permutation Invariance

- Graph does not have a canonical order of the nodes!

Order plan 1



Node features  $X_1$



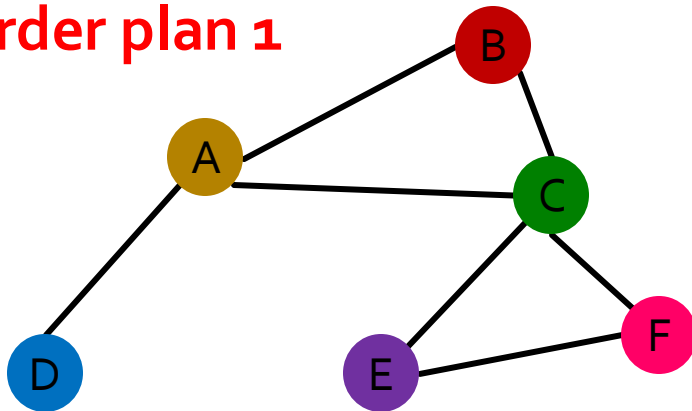
Adjacency matrix  $A_1$

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	0	1	1	1	0	0
B	1	0	1	0	0	0
C	1	1	0	0	1	1
D	1	0	0	0	0	0
E	0	0	1	0	0	1
F	0	0	1	0	1	0

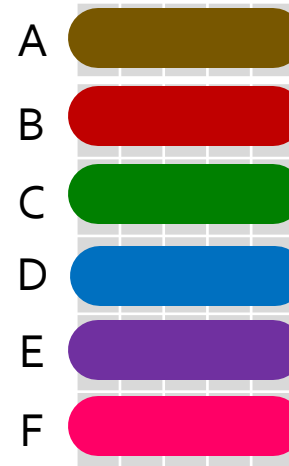
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- Graph does not have a canonical order of the nodes!

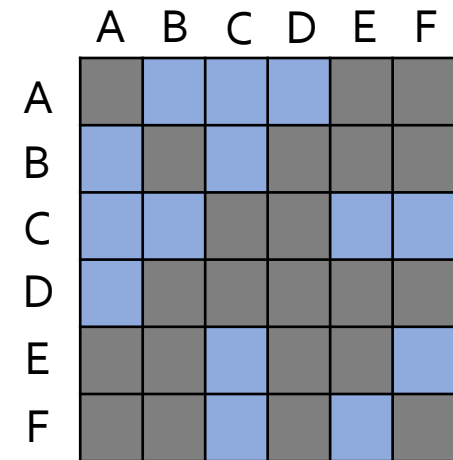
Order plan 1



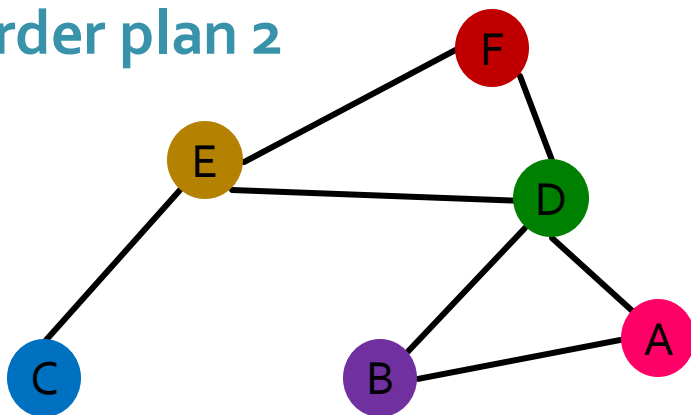
Node features  $X_1$



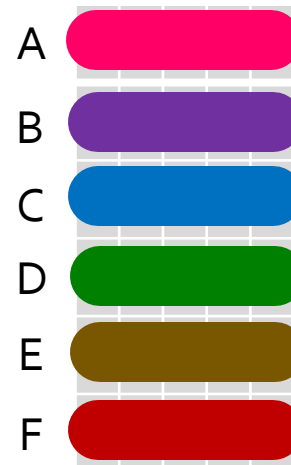
Adjacency matrix  $A_1$



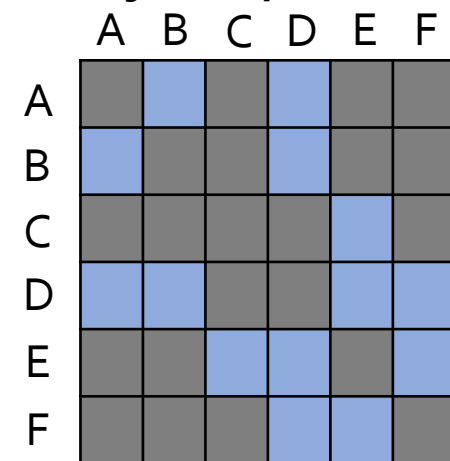
Order plan 2



Node features  $X_2$



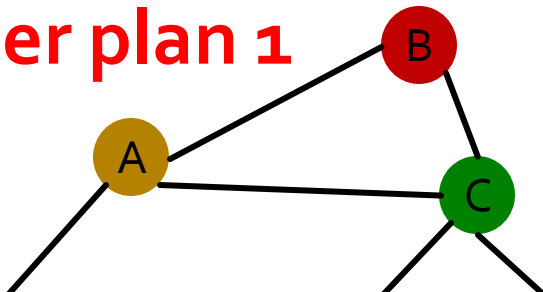
Adjacency matrix  $A_2$



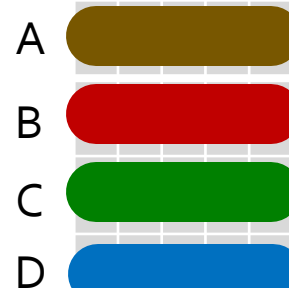
# Permutation Invariance

- Graph does not have a canonical order of the nodes!

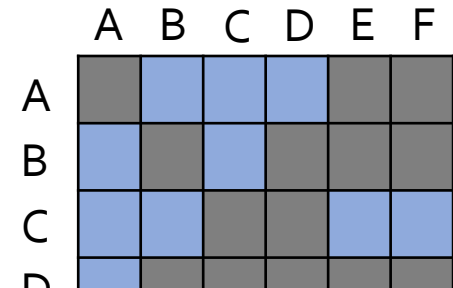
Order plan 1



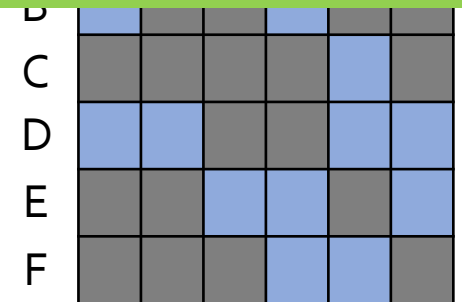
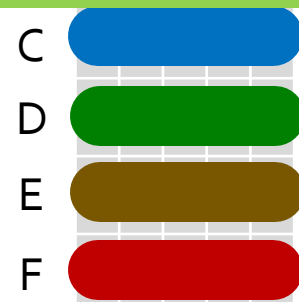
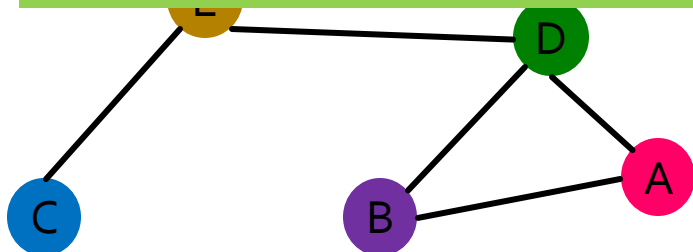
Node feature  $X_1$



Adjacency matrix  $A_1$



Graph and node representations should be the same for **Order plan 1** and **Order plan 2**



# Permutation Invariance

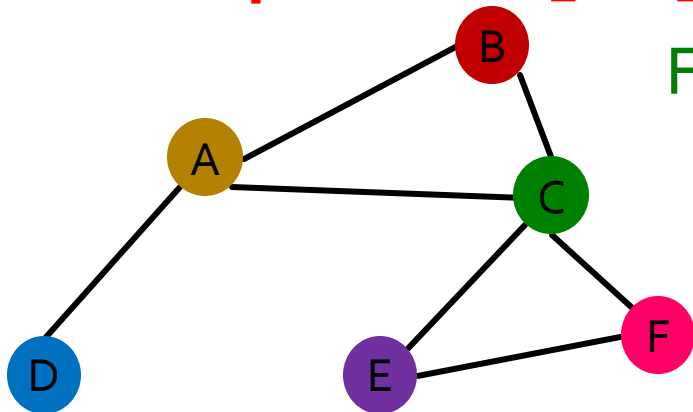
What does it mean by “graph representation is same for two order plans”?

- Consider we learn a function  $f$  that maps a graph  $G = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{X})$  to a vector  $\mathbb{R}^d$  then

$$f(\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{X}_1) = f(\mathbf{A}_2, \mathbf{X}_2)$$

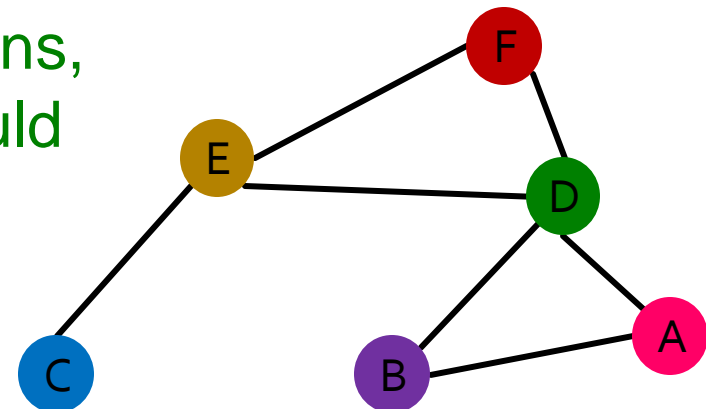
$\mathbf{A}$  is the adjacency matrix  
 $\mathbf{X}$  is the node feature matrix

Order plan 1:  $\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{X}_1$



For two order plans,  
output of  $f$  should  
be the same!

Order plan 2:  $\mathbf{A}_2, \mathbf{X}_2$



# Permutation Invariance

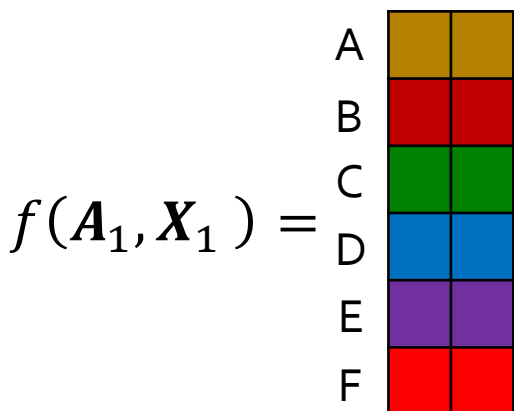
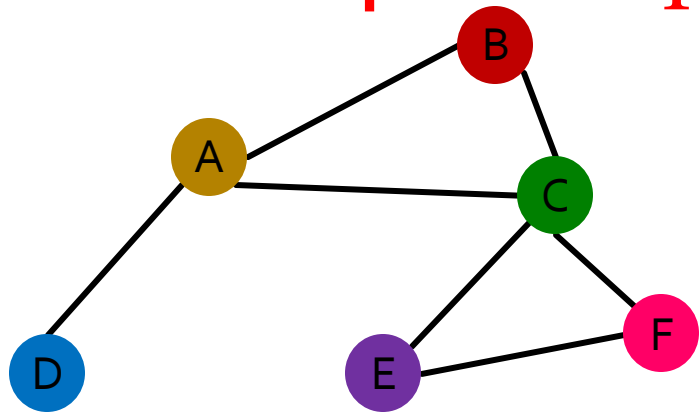
What does it mean by “graph representation is same for two order plans”?

- Consider we learn a function  $f$  that maps a graph  $G = (A, X)$  to a vector  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .  $A$  is the adjacency matrix  
 $X$  is the node feature matrix
- Then, if  $f(A_i, X_i) = f(A_j, X_j)$  for any order plan  $i$  and  $j$ , we formally say  $f$  is a **permutation invariant function**.  
For a graph with  $|V|$  nodes, there are  $|V|!$  different order plans.
- **Definition:** For any graph function  $f: \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times m} \times \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times |V|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $f$  is **permutation-invariant** if  $f(A, X) = f(PAP^T, PX)$  for any permutation  $P$ .  
Permutation  $P$ : a shuffle of the node order  
Example: (A,B,C)->(B,C,A)

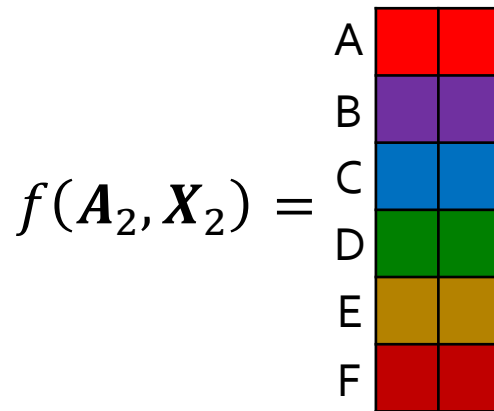
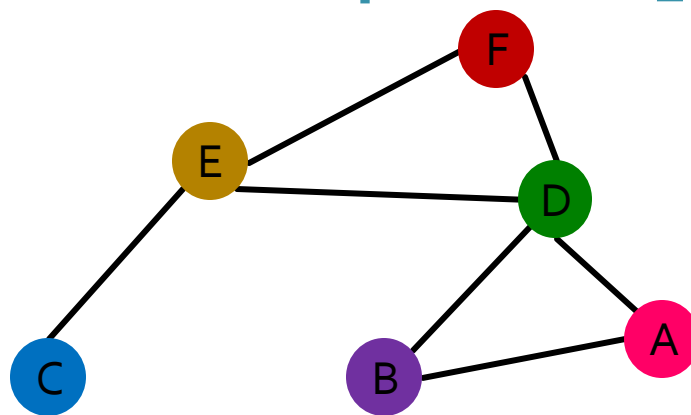
# Permutation Equivariance

**For node representation:** We learn a function  $f$  that maps nodes of  $G$  to a matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ .

**Order plan 1:  $A_1, X_1$**



**Order plan 2:  $A_2, X_2$**

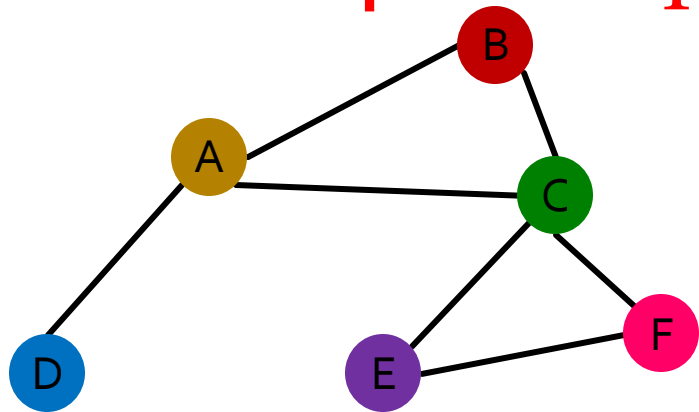




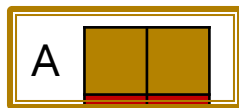
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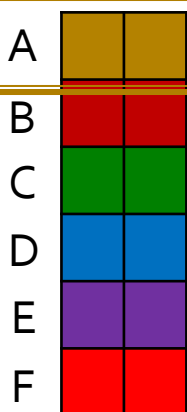
**Order plan 1:  $A_1, X_1$**



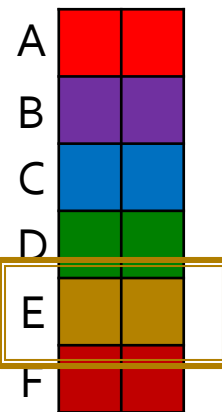
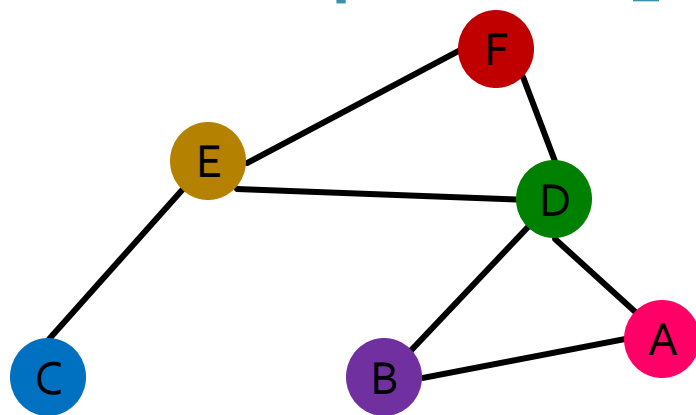
Representation vector of the brown node A



$$f(A_1, X_1) =$$



**Order plan 2:  $A_2, X_2$**



$$f(A_2, X_2) =$$

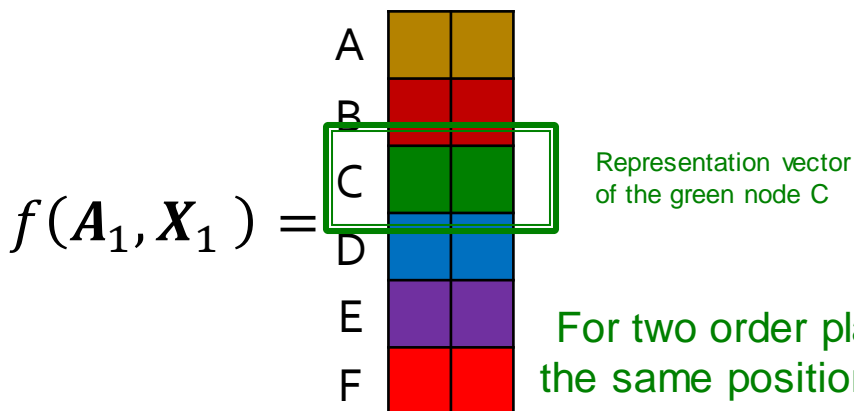
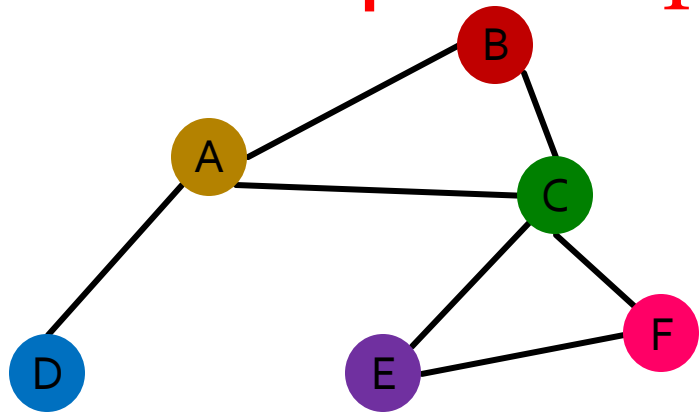
Representation vector of the brown node E

For two order plans, the vector of node at the same position in the graph is the same!

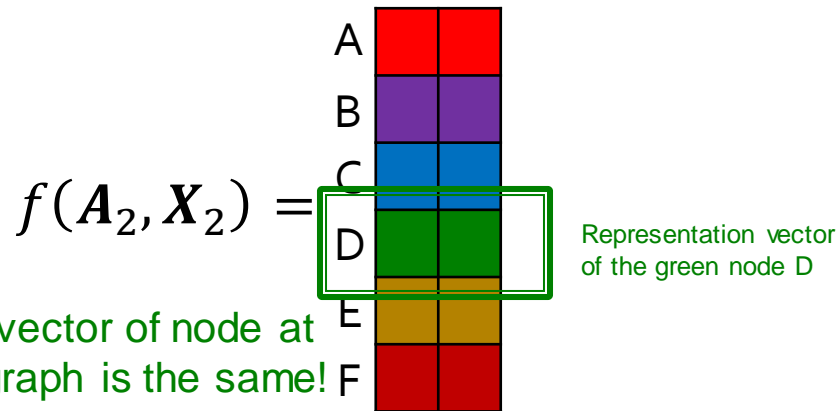
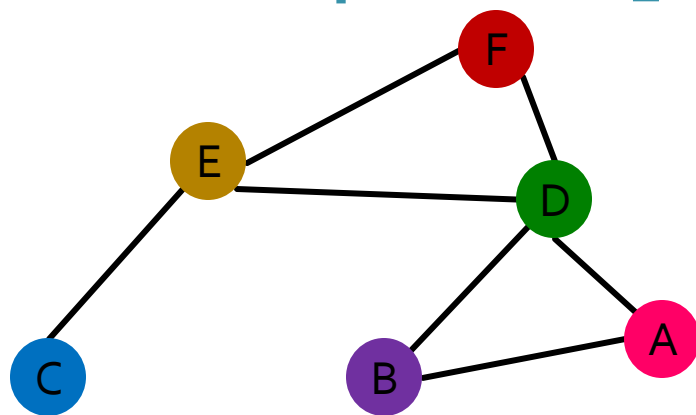
# Permutation Equivariance

**For node representation:** We learn a function  $f$  that maps nodes of  $G$  to a matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ .

**Order plan 1:  $A_1, X_1$**



**Order plan 2:  $A_2, X_2$**



# Permutation Equivariance

## For node representation

- Consider we learn a function  $f$  that maps a graph  $G = (A, X)$  to a matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$
- If the output vector of a node at the same position in the graph remains unchanged for any order plan, we say  $f$  is **permutation equivariant**.
- **Definition:** For any **node** function  $f: \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times m} \times \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times |V|} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times m}$ ,  $f$  is **permutation-equivariant** if  $Pf(A, X) = f(PAP^T, PX)$  for any permutation  $P$ .

# Summary: Invariance and Equivariance

- **Permutation-invariant**

$$f(A, X) = f(PAP^T, PX)$$

Permute the input, the output stays the same.  
(map a graph to a vector)

- **Permutation-equivariant**

$$Pf(A, X) = f(PAP^T, PX)$$

Permute the input, output also permutes accordingly.  
(map a graph to a matrix)

- **Examples:**

- $f(A, X) = \mathbf{1}^T X$  : Permutation-**invariant**

- Reason:  $f(PAP^T, PX) = \mathbf{1}^T PX = \mathbf{1}^T X = f(A, X)$

- $f(A, X) = X$  : Permutation-**equivariant**

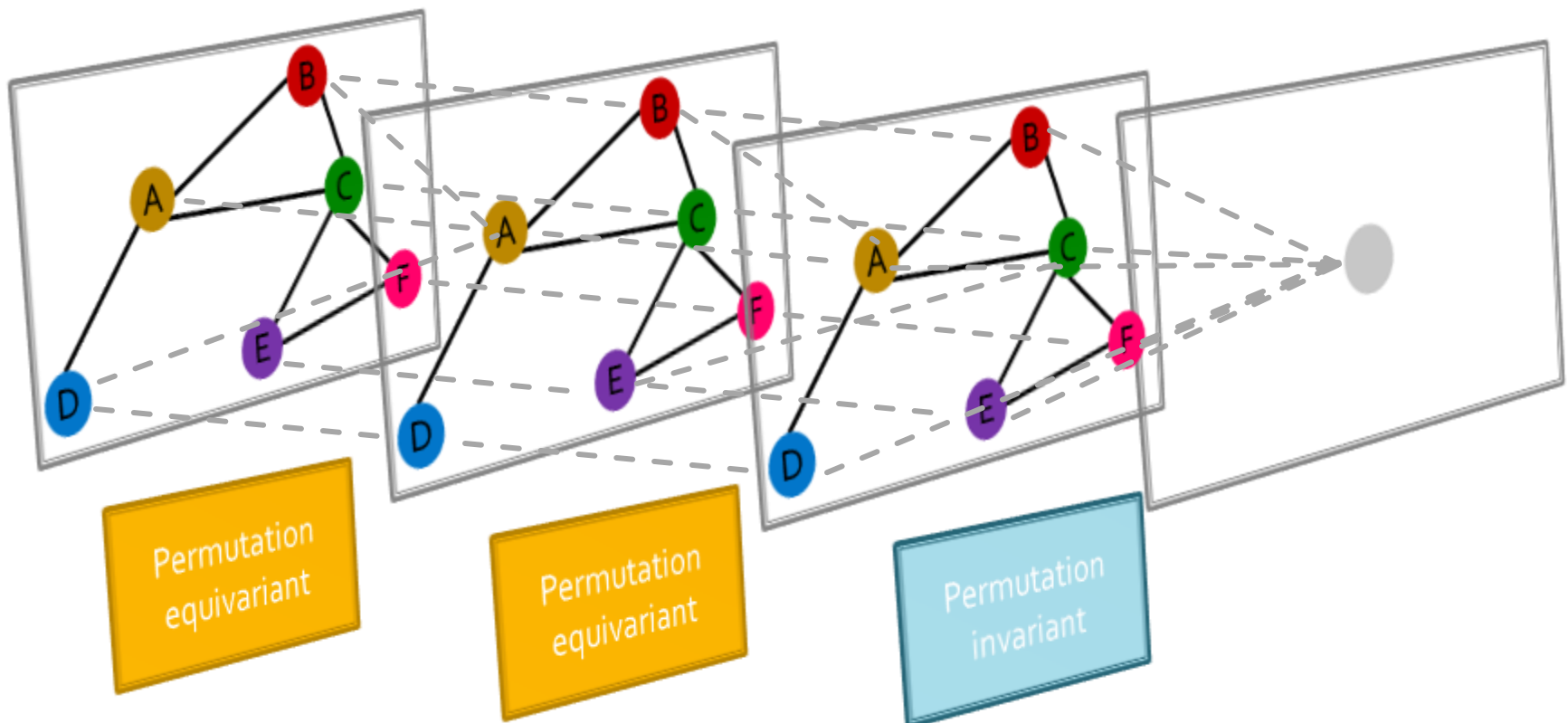
- Reason:  $f(PAP^T, PX) = PX = Pf(A, X)$

- $f(A, X) = AX$  : Permutation-**equivariant**

- Reason:  $f(PAP^T, PX) = PAP^T PX = PAX = Pf(A, X)$

# Graph Neural Network Overview

- Graph neural networks consist of multiple permutation equivariant / invariant functions.

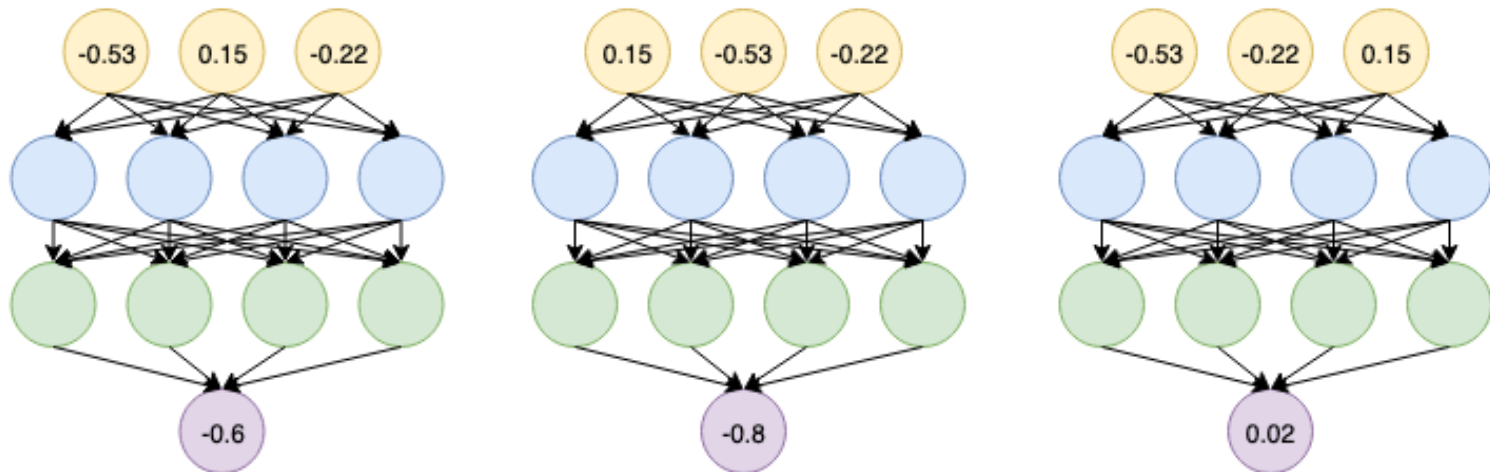


# Graph Neural Network Overview

Are other neural network architectures, e.g., MLPs, permutation invariant / equivariant?

■ **No.**

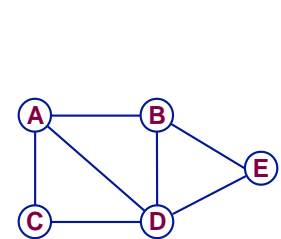
Switching the order of the input leads to different outputs!



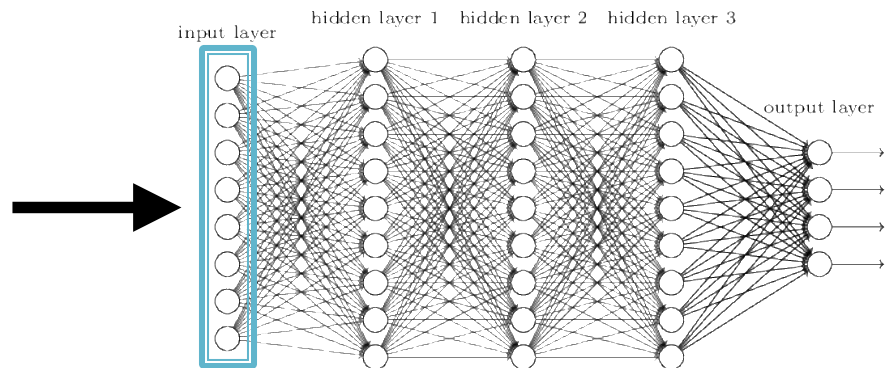
# Graph Neural Network Overview

Are other neural network architectures, e.g., MLPs, permutation invariant / equivariant?

■ **No.**



	A	B	C	D	E	Feat	
A	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
B	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
C	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
D	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
E	0	1	0	1	0	1	0



This explains why **the naïve MLP approach fails for graphs!**

# Graph Neural Network Overview

- Are any neural network architecture, e.g.,

Next: Design graph neural networks that are permutation invariant / equivariant by **passing and aggregating information from neighbors!**

?



# Outline of Today's Lecture

1. Basics of deep learning



2. Deep learning for graphs



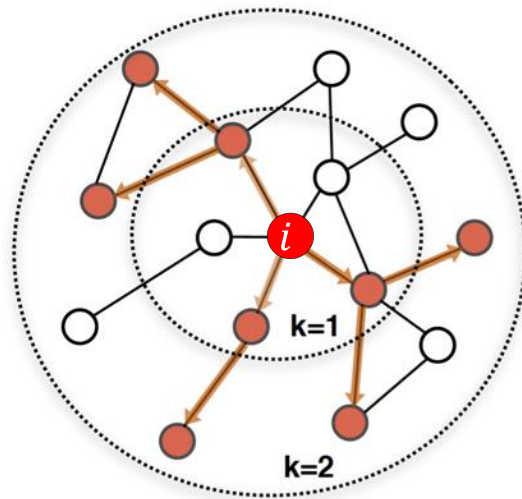
3. Graph Convolutional Networks



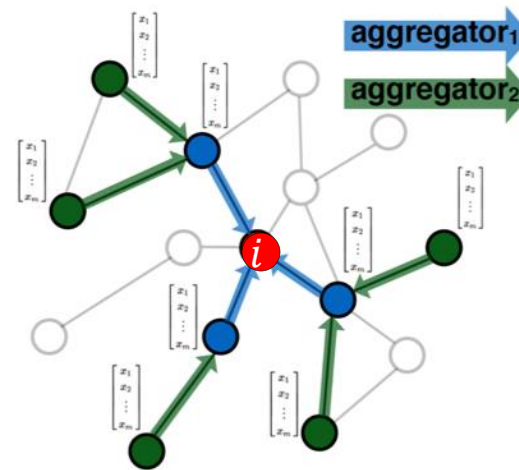
4. GNNs subsume CNNs

# Graph Convolutional Networks

**Idea:** Node's neighborhood defines a computation graph



Determine node  
computation graph

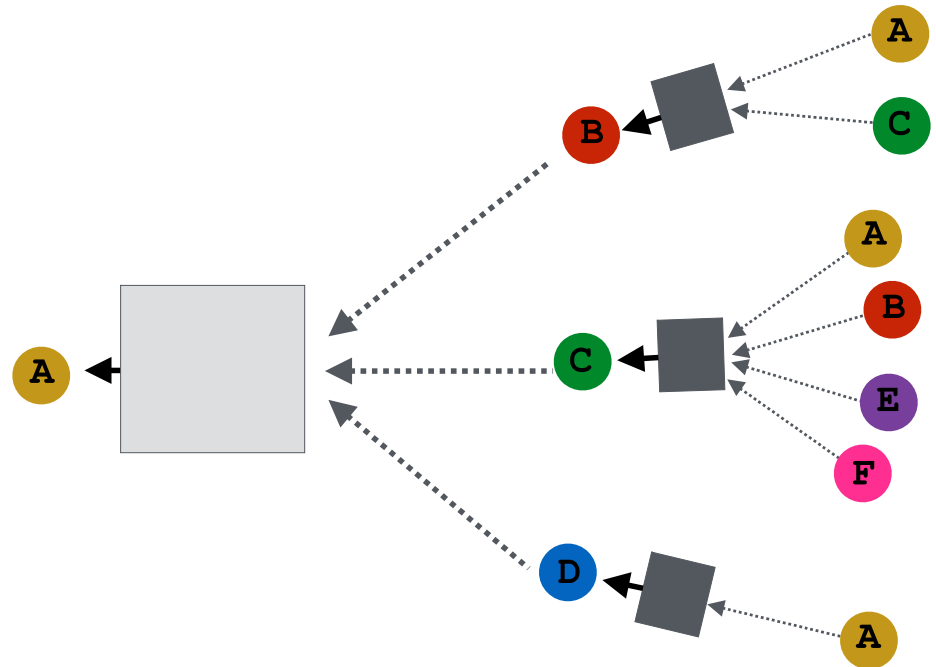
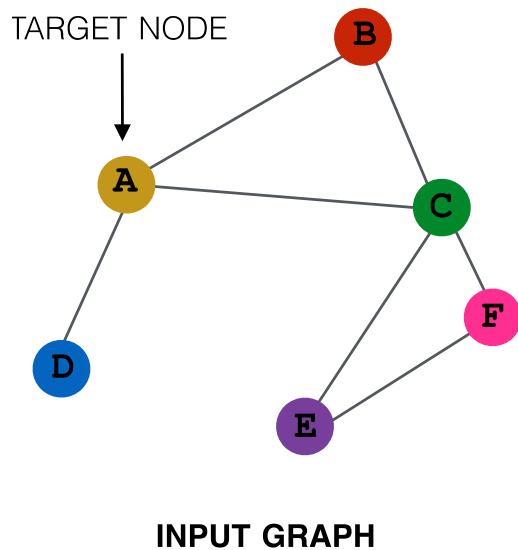


Propagate and  
transform information

Learn how to propagate information across the graph to compute node features

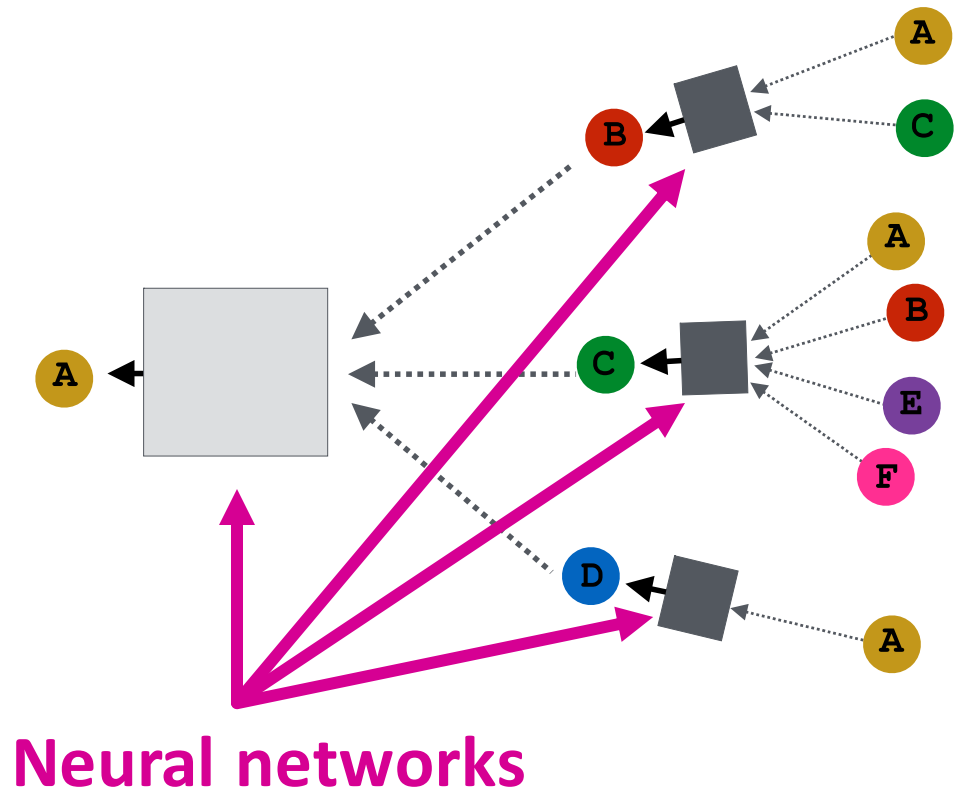
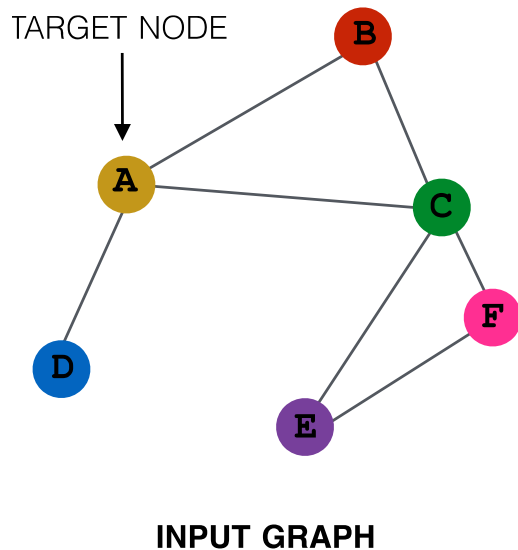
# Idea: Aggregate Neighbors

- **Key idea:** Generate node embeddings based on **local network neighborhoods**



# Idea: Aggregate Neighbors

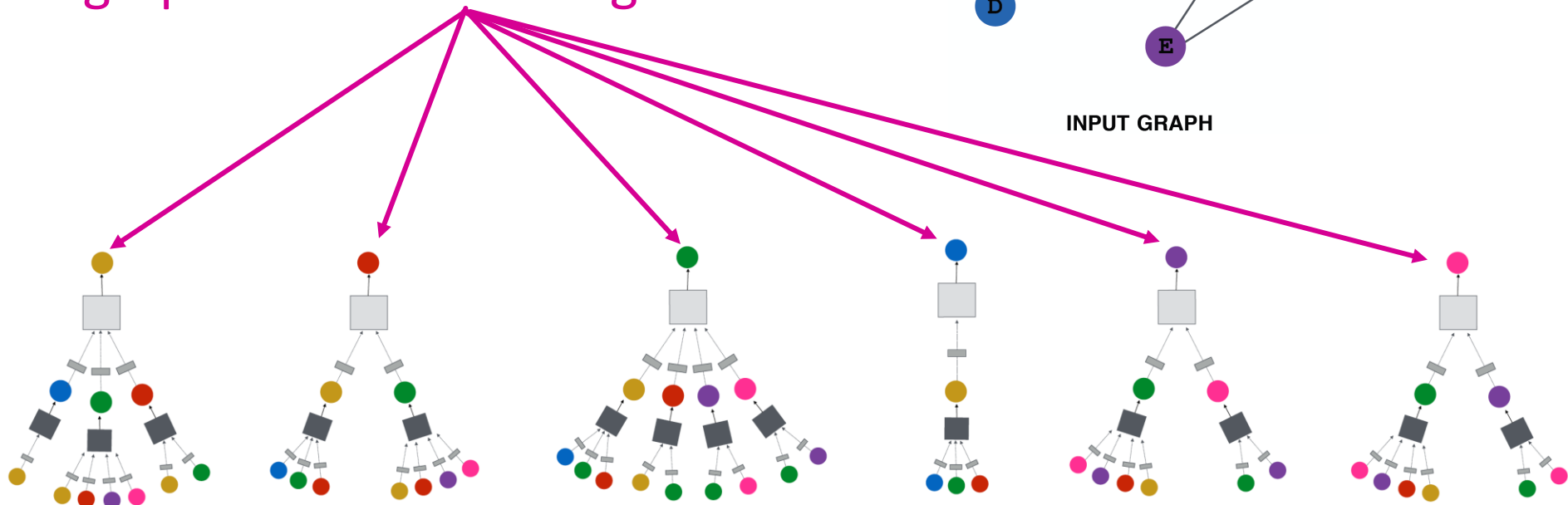
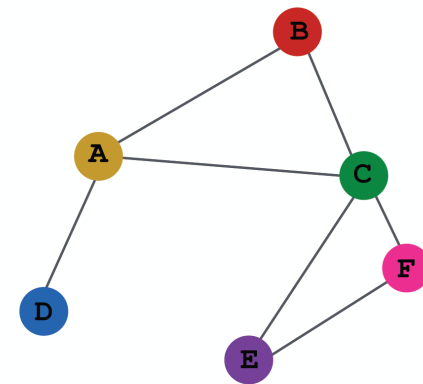
- **Intuition:** Nodes aggregate information from their neighbors using neural networks



# Idea: Aggregate Neighbors

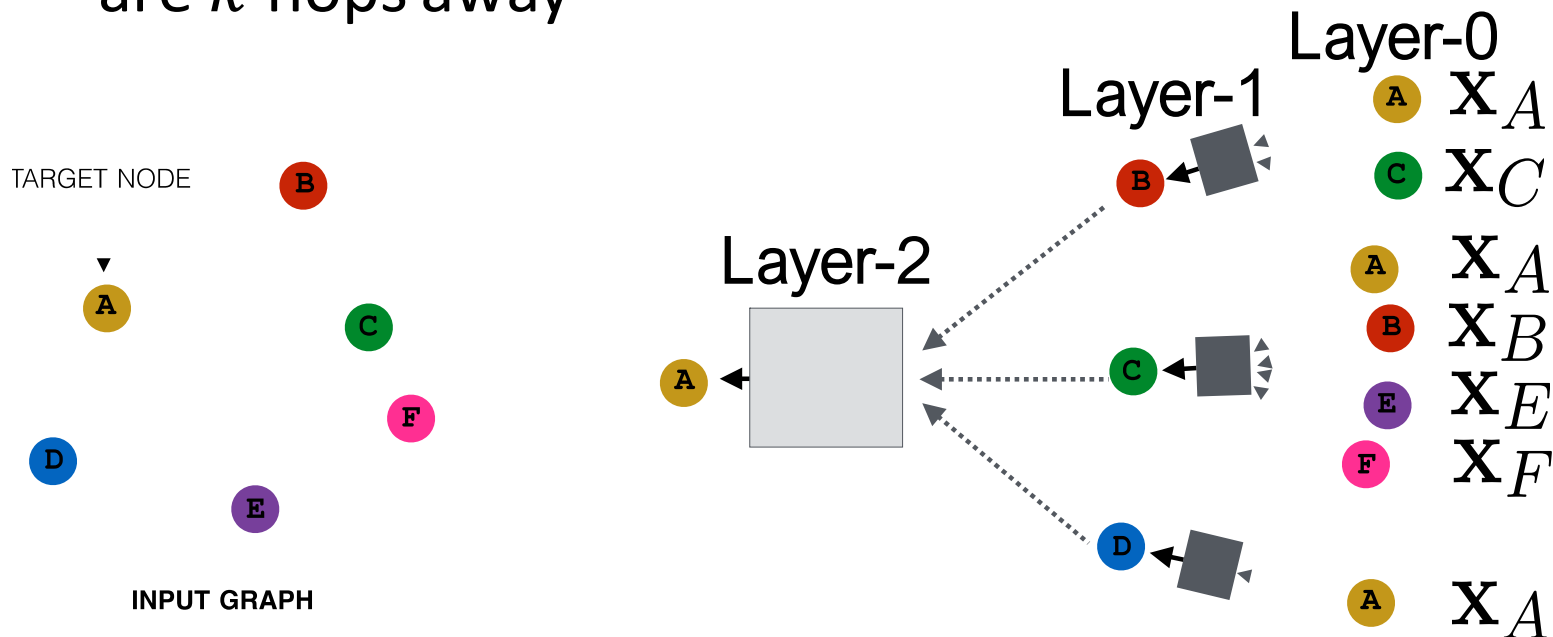
- **Intuition:** Network neighborhood defines a computation graph

Every node defines a computation graph based on its neighborhood!



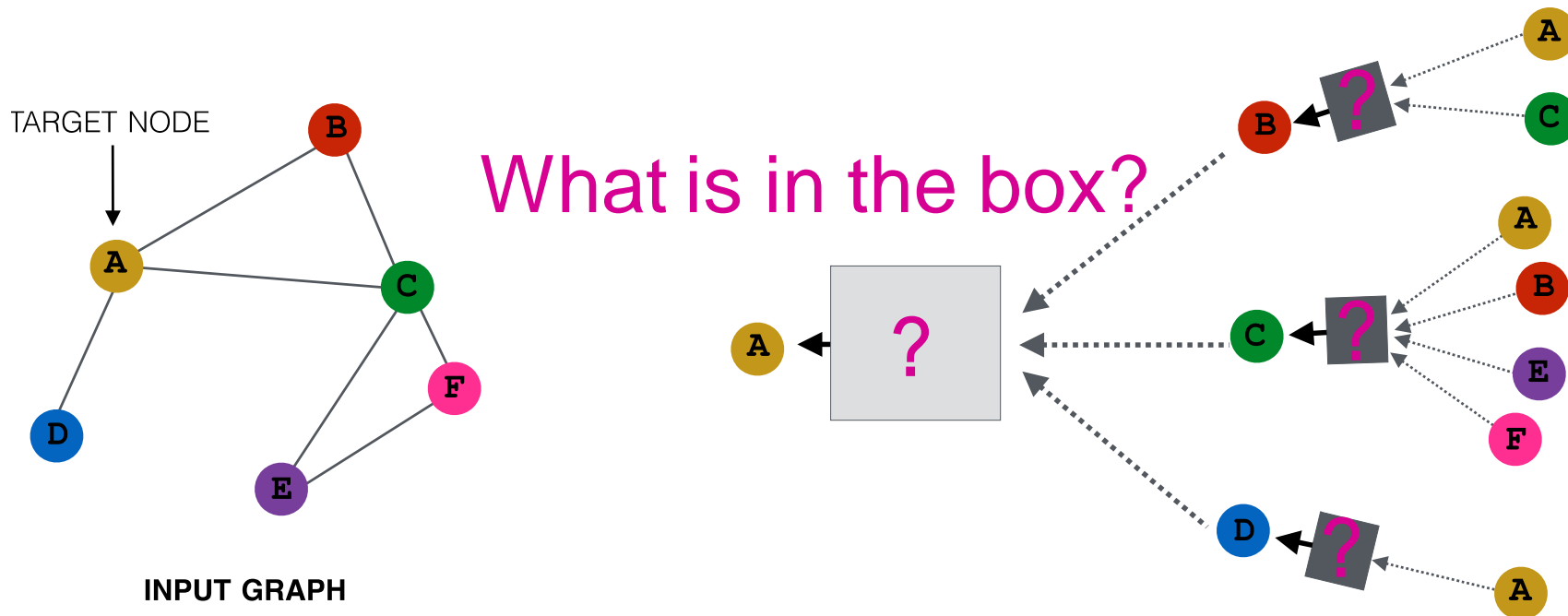
# Deep Model: Many Layers

- Model can be **of arbitrary depth**:
  - Nodes have embeddings at each layer
  - Layer-0 embedding of node  $v$  is its input feature,  $x_v$
  - Layer- $k$  embedding gets information from nodes that are  $k$  hops away



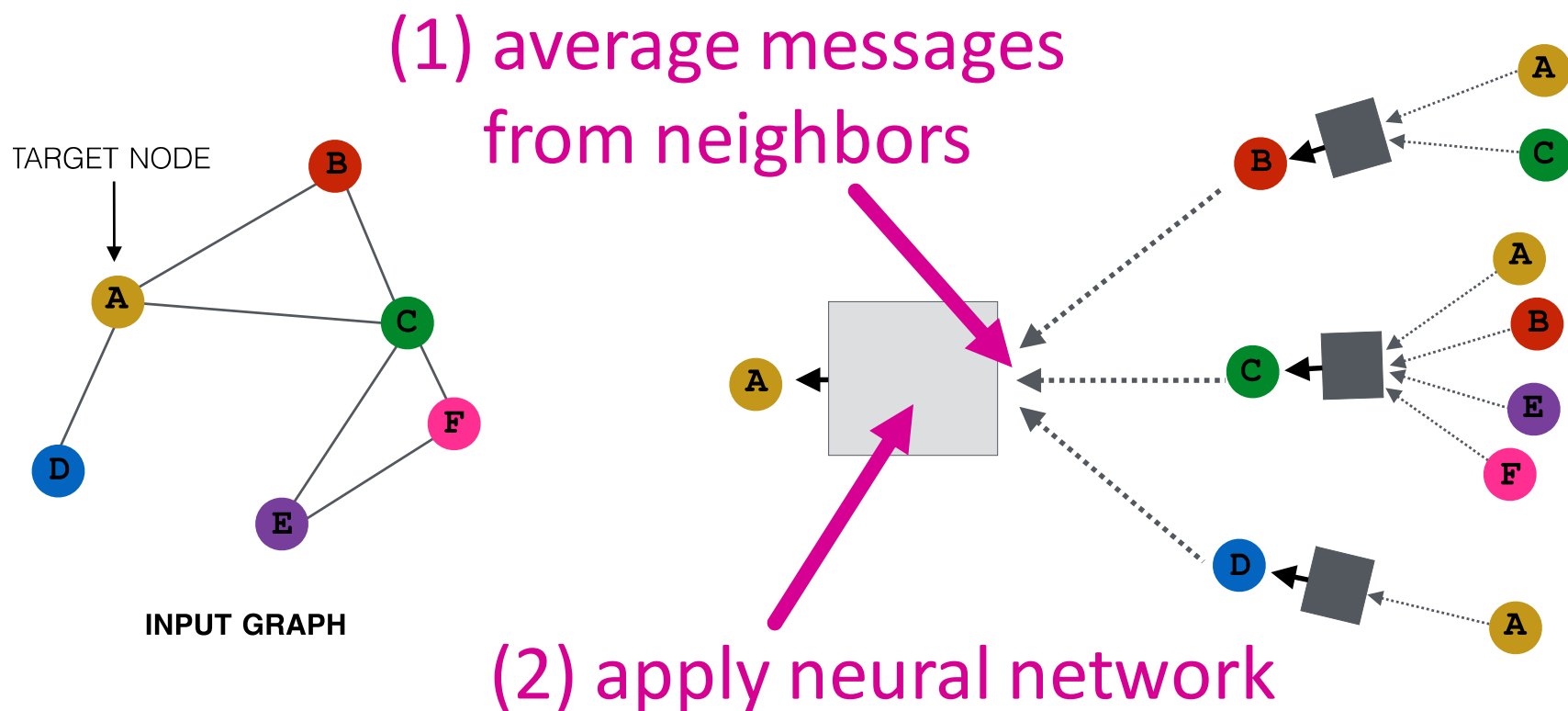
# Neighborhood Aggregation

- **Neighborhood aggregation:** Key distinctions are in how different approaches aggregate information across the layers



# Neighborhood Aggregation

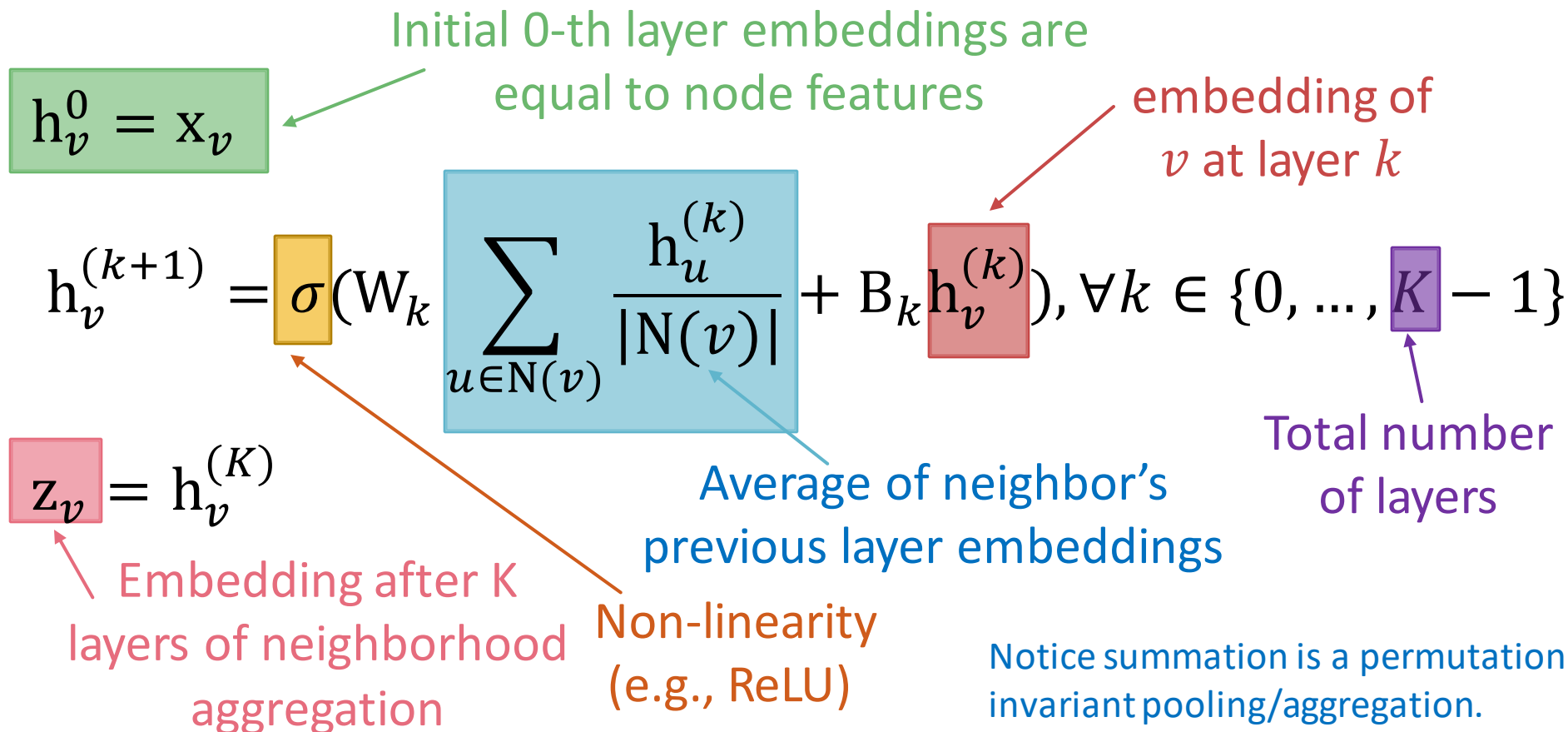
- **Basic approach:** Average information from neighbors and apply a neural network





# The Math: Deep Encoder

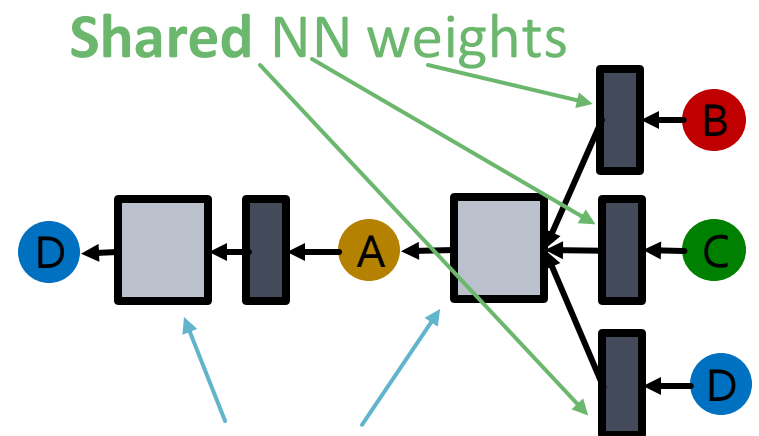
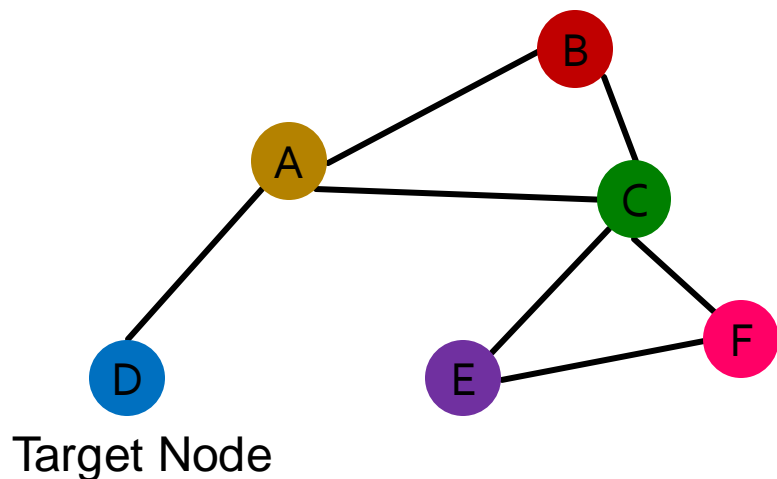
- **Basic approach:** Average neighbor messages and apply a neural network



# GCN: Invariance and Equivariance

What are the **invariance** and **equivariance** properties for a GCN?

- **Given a node**, the GCN that computes its embedding is **permutation invariant**

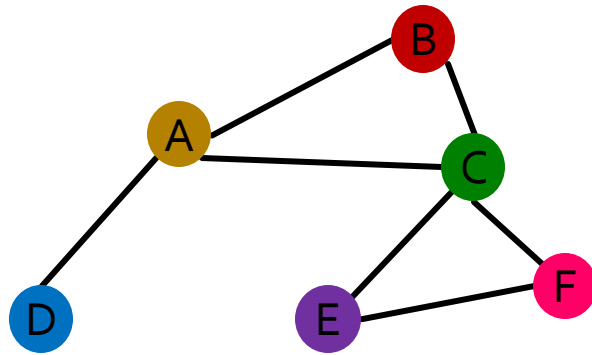


Average of neighbor's previous layer embeddings - **Permutation invariant**

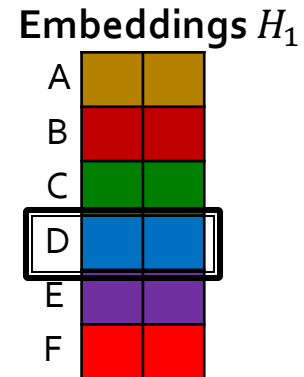
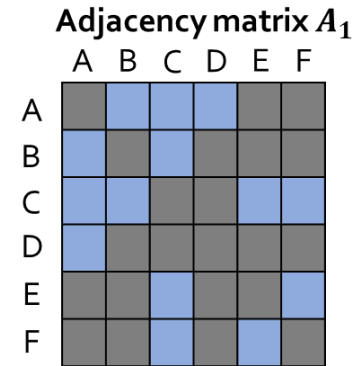
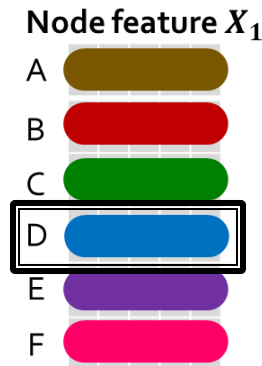
# GCN: Invariance and Equivariance

- Considering all nodes in a graph, GCN computation is **permutation equivariant**

Order plan 1

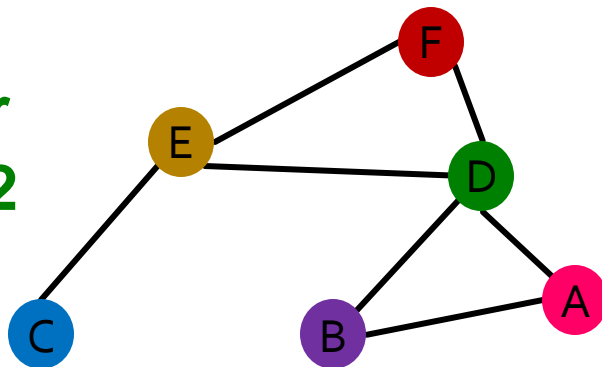


Target Node

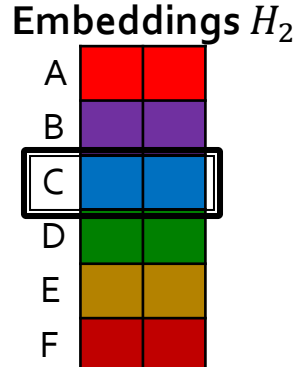
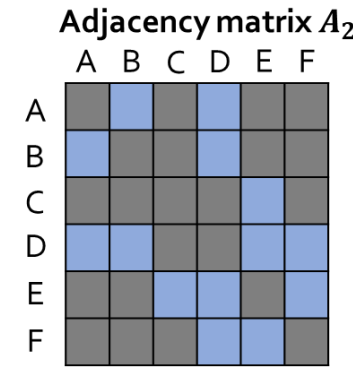
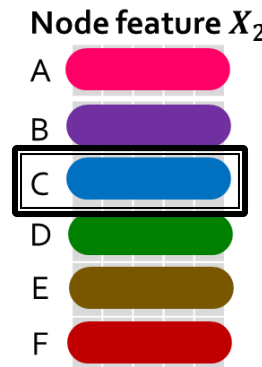


Permute the input, the output also permutes accordingly - permutation equivariant

Order plan 2



Target Node

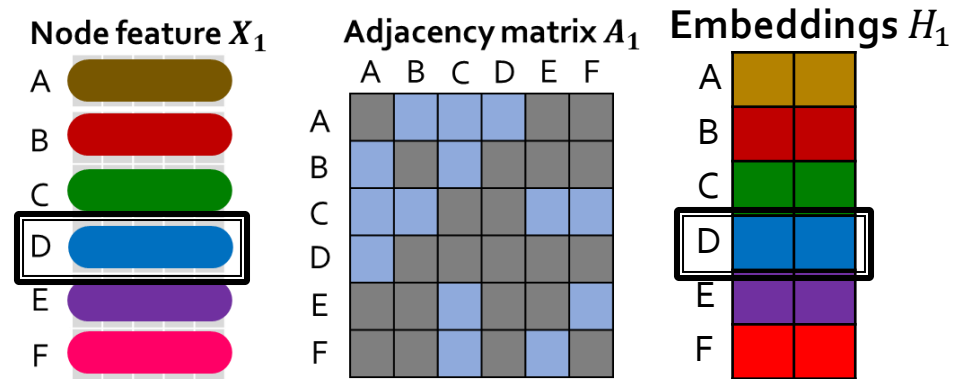


# GCN: Invariance and Equivariance

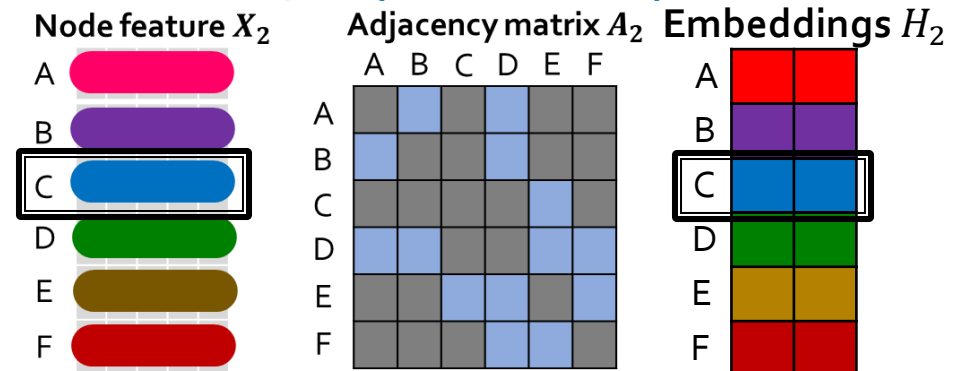
- Considering all nodes in a graph, GCN computation is **permutation equivariant**

## Detailed reasoning:

- The rows of **input node features** and **output embeddings** are **aligned**
- We know computing the embedding of a **given node** with GCN is **invariant**.
- So, after permutation, the **location** of a **given node** in the **input node feature matrix** is changed, and the **the output embedding of a given node stays the same** (the colors of node feature and embedding are **matched**)  
**This is permutation equivariant**

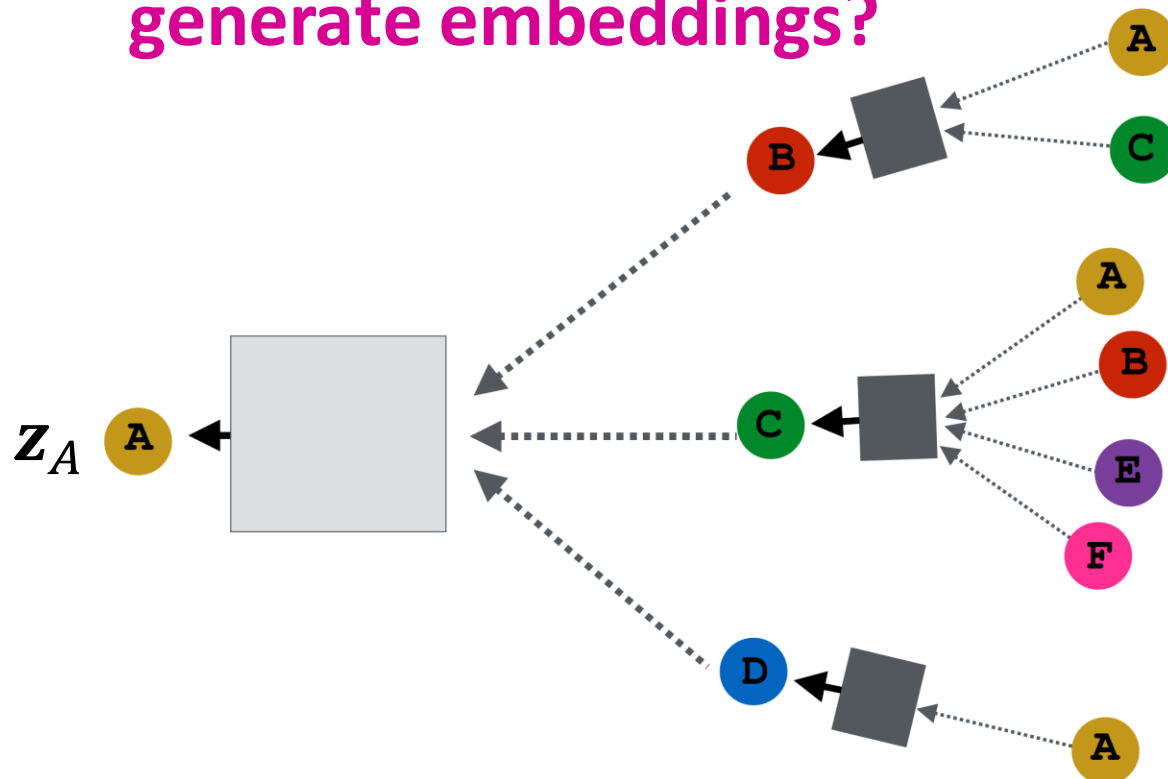


**Permute the input, the output also permutes accordingly - permutation equivariant**



# Training the Model

How do we train the GCN to generate embeddings?



Need to define a loss function on the embeddings.

# Model Parameters

Trainable weight matrices  
(i.e., what we learn)

$$\begin{aligned}h_v^{(0)} &= x_v \\h_v^{(k+1)} &= \sigma\left(W_k \sum_{u \in N(v)} \frac{h_u^{(k)}}{|N(v)|} + B_k h_v^{(k)}\right), \forall k \in \{0..K-1\} \\z_v &= h_v^{(K)}\end{aligned}$$

Final node embedding

We can feed these **embeddings into any loss function** and run SGD to **train the weight parameters**

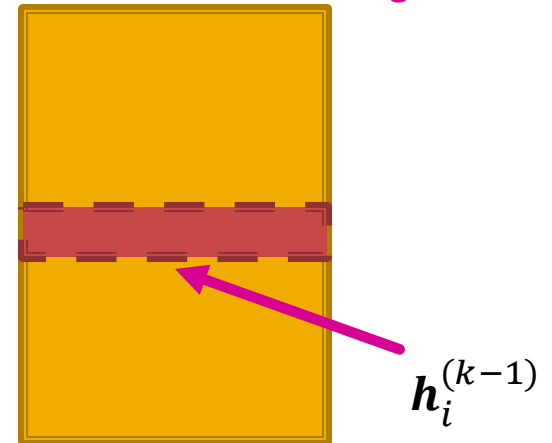
- $h_v^k$ : the hidden representation of node  $v$  at layer  $k$
- $W_k$ : weight matrix for neighborhood aggregation
  - $B_k$ : weight matrix for transforming hidden vector of self

# Matrix Formulation (1)

- Many aggregations can be performed efficiently by (sparse) matrix operations

- Let  $H^{(k)} = [h_1^{(k)} \dots h_{|V|}^{(k)}]^T$
- Then:  $\sum_{u \in N_v} h_u^{(k)} = A_{v,:} H^{(k)}$
- Let  $D$  be diagonal matrix where  $D_{v,v} = \text{Deg}(v) = |N(v)|$ 
  - The inverse of  $D$ :  $D^{-1}$  is also diagonal:  
 $D_{v,v}^{-1} = 1/|N(v)|$
- Therefore,

Matrix of hidden embeddings  $H^{(k-1)}$



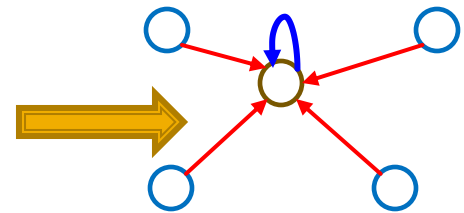
$$\sum_{u \in N(v)} \frac{h_u^{(k-1)}}{|N(v)|} \longrightarrow H^{(k+1)} = D^{-1} A H^{(k)}$$

# Matrix Formulation (2)

- Re-writing update function in matrix form:

$$H^{(k+1)} = \sigma(\tilde{A}H^{(k)}W_k^T + H^{(k)}B_k^T)$$

where  $\tilde{A} = D^{-1}A$



$$H^{(k)} = [h_1^{(k)} \dots h_{|V|}^{(k)}]^T$$

- Red: neighborhood aggregation
- Blue: self transformation
- In practice, this implies that efficient sparse matrix multiplication can be used ( $\tilde{A}$  is sparse)
- **Note:** not all GNNs can be expressed in matrix form, when aggregation function is complex



# How to Train A GNN

- Node embedding  $\mathbf{z}_v$  is a function of input graph
- **Supervised setting**: we want to minimize the loss  $\mathcal{L}$  (see also Slide 15):

$$\min_{\Theta} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{z}_v))$$

- $\mathbf{y}$ : node label
- $\mathcal{L}$  could be L2 if  $\mathbf{y}$  is real number, or cross entropy if  $\mathbf{y}$  is categorical
- **Unsupervised setting**:
  - No node label available
  - **Use the graph structure as the supervision!**

# Unsupervised Training

- “Similar” nodes have similar embeddings

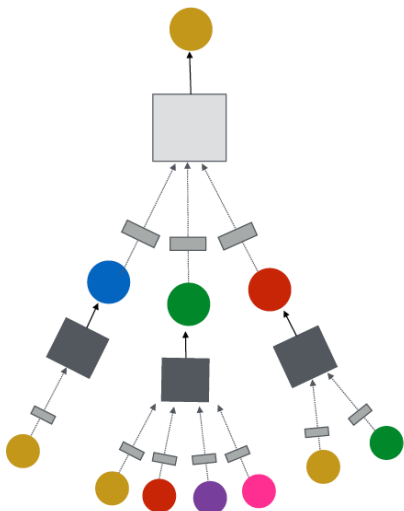
$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{z_u, z_v} \text{CE}(y_{u,v}, \text{DEC}(z_u, z_v))$$

- Where  $y_{u,v} = 1$  when node  $u$  and  $v$  are **similar**
- **CE** is the cross entropy (Slide 16)
- **DEC** is the decoder such as inner product (Lecture 4)
- **Node similarity** can be anything from Lecture 3, e.g., a loss based on:
  - **Random walks** (node2vec, DeepWalk, struc2vec)
  - **Matrix factorization**
  - **Node proximity in the graph**

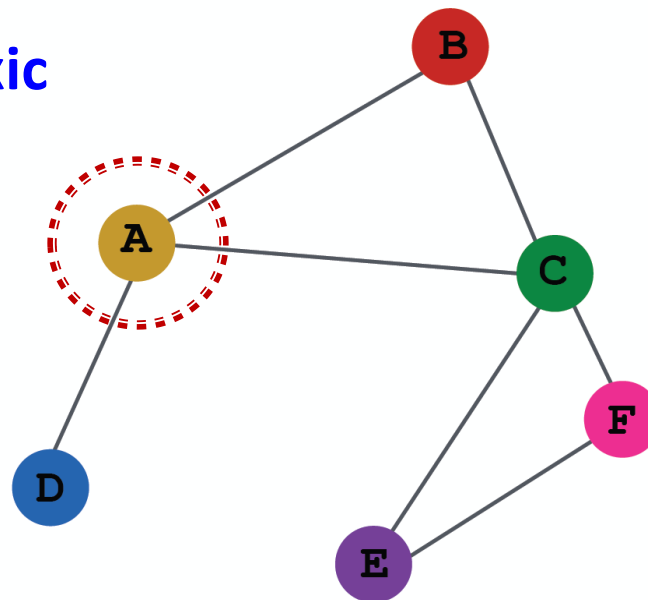
# Supervised Training

**Directly train** the model for a supervised task (e.g., node classification)

Safe or toxic drug?



Safe or toxic drug?



E.g., a drug-drug interaction network

# Supervised Training

**Directly train** the model for a supervised task (e.g., **node classification**)

- Use cross entropy loss (Slide 16)

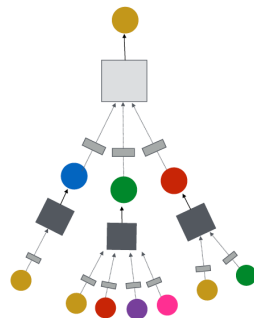
$$\mathcal{L} = - \sum_{v \in V} y_v \log(\sigma(z_v^T \theta)) + (1 - y_v) \log(1 - \sigma(z_v^T \theta))$$

Encoder output:  
node embedding

Classification  
weights

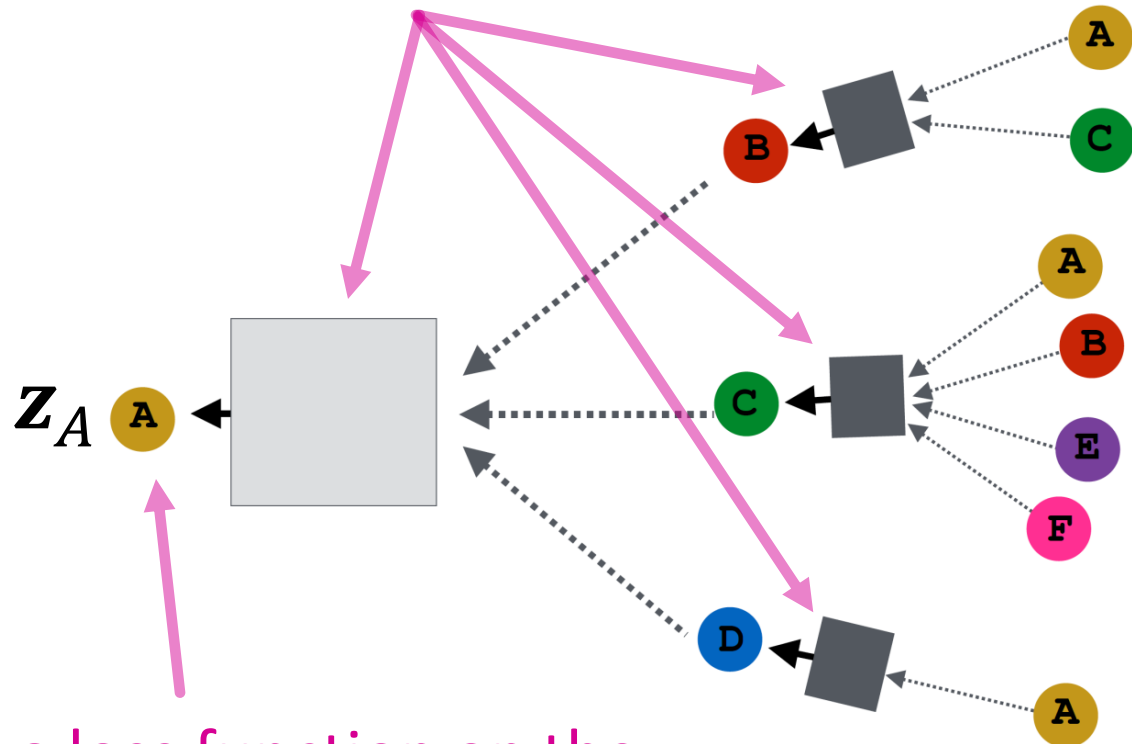
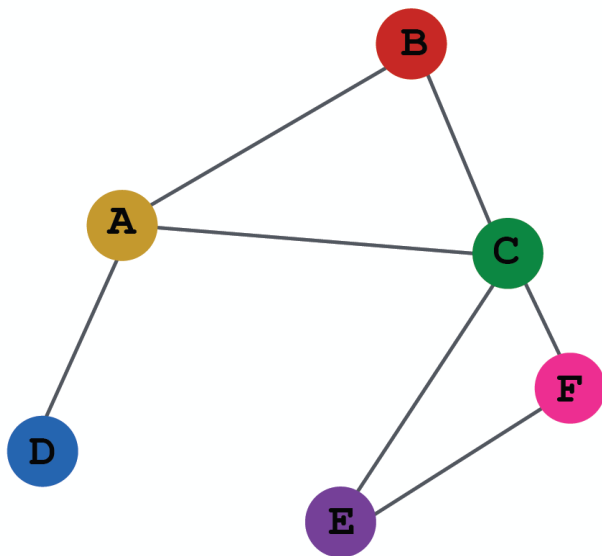
Node class  
label

Safe or toxic drug?



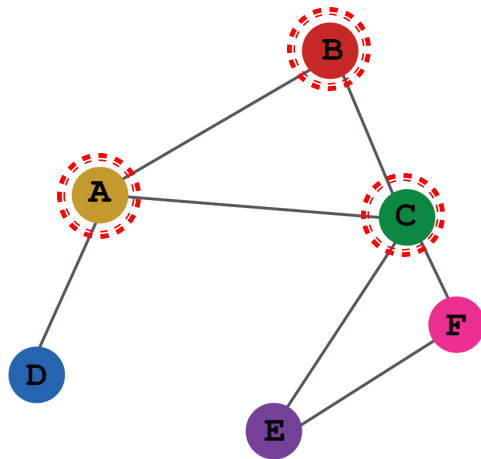
# Model Design: Overview

(1) Define a neighborhood aggregation function



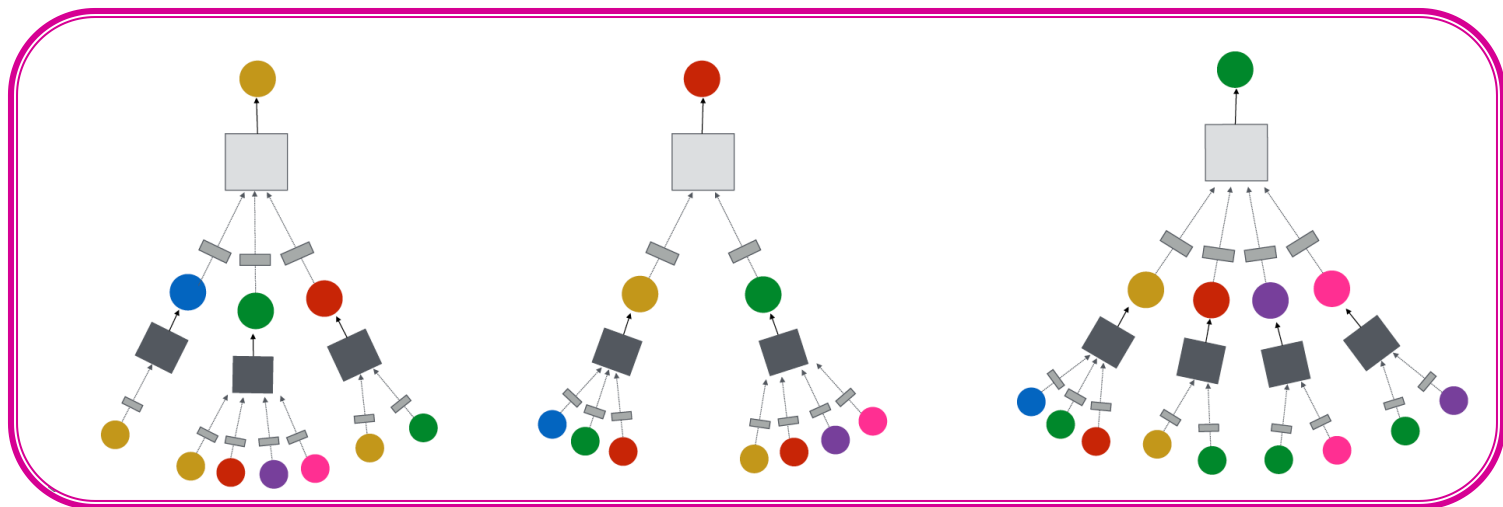
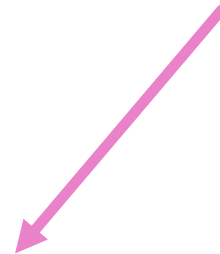
(2) Define a loss function on the embeddings

# Model Design: Overview

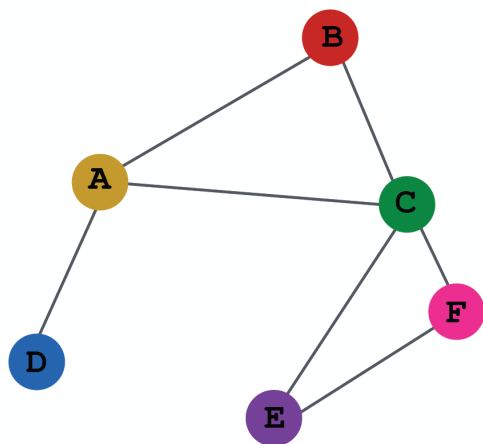


INPUT GRAPH

(3) Train on a set of nodes, i.e.,  
a batch of compute graphs



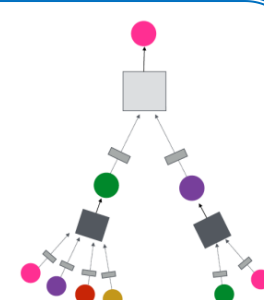
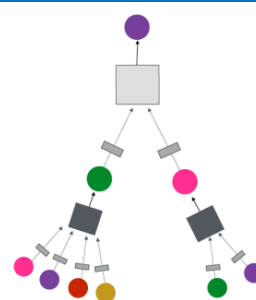
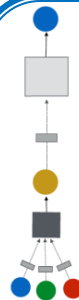
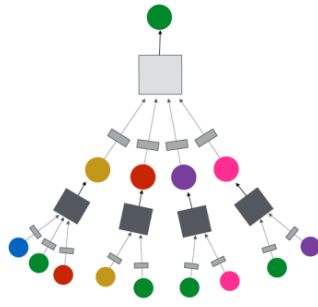
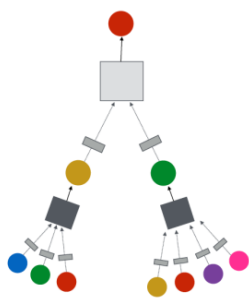
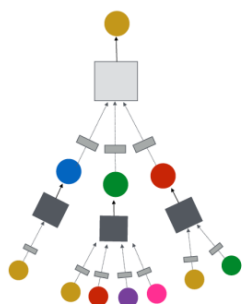
# Model Design: Overview



INPUT GRAPH

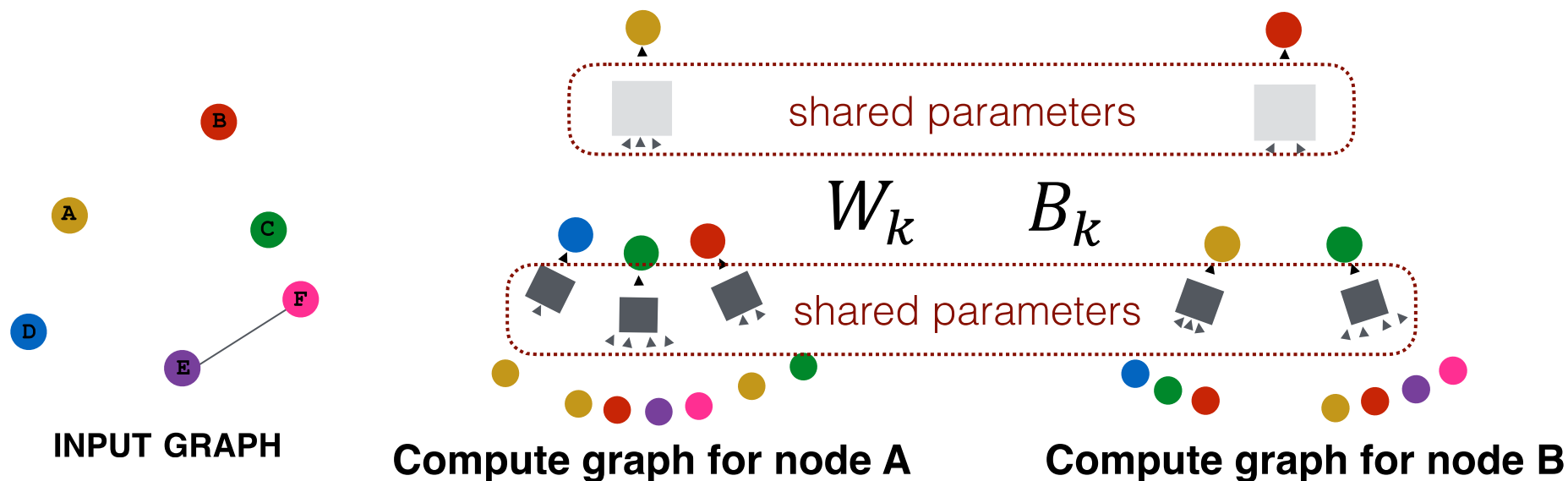
(4) Generate embeddings for nodes as needed

Even for nodes we never trained on!



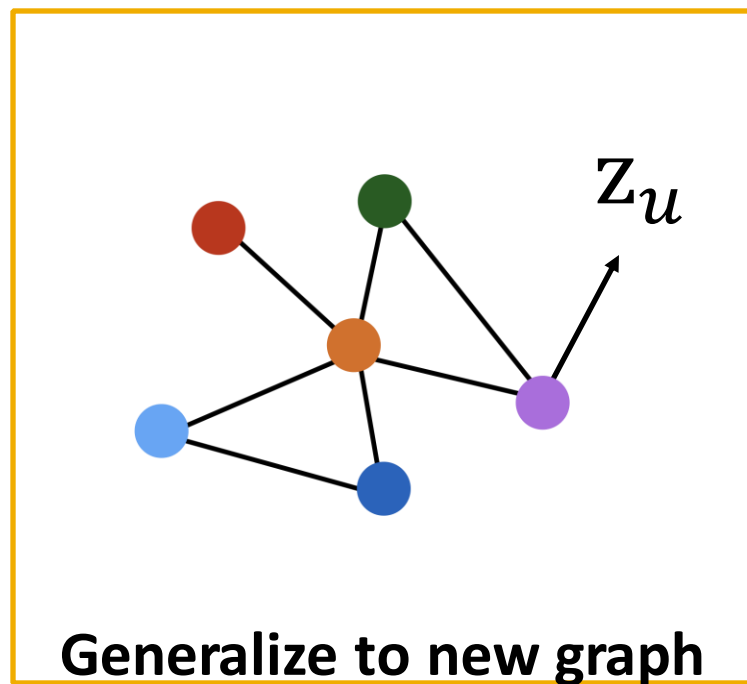
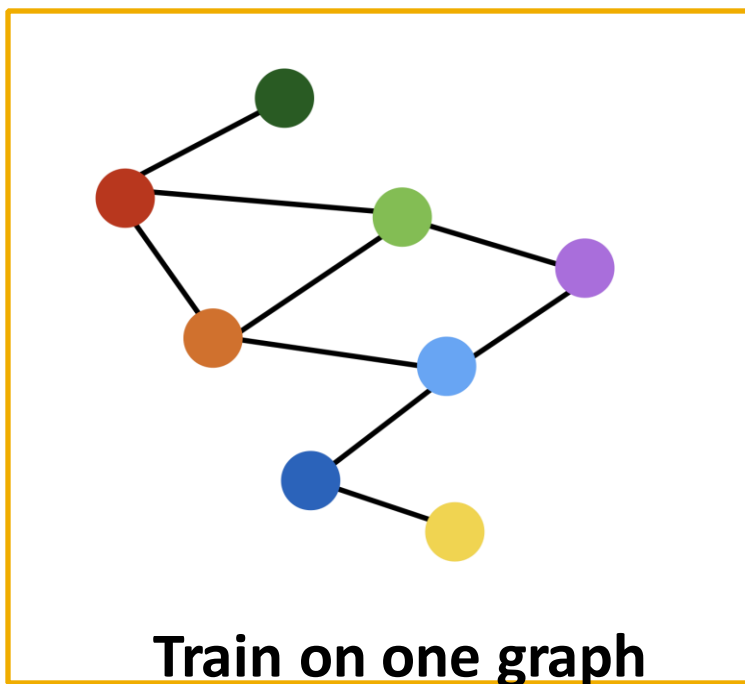
# Inductive Capability

- The same aggregation parameters are shared for all nodes:
  - The number of model parameters is sublinear in  $|V|$  and we can **generalize to unseen nodes!**





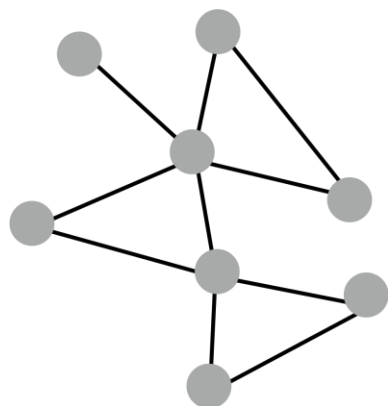
# Inductive Capability: New Graphs



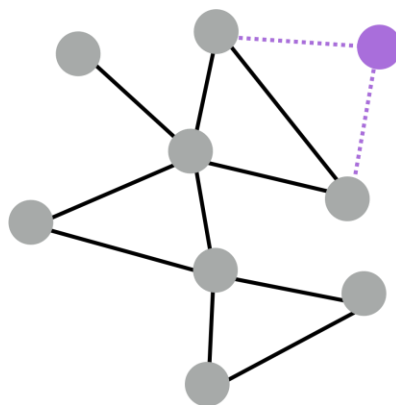
Inductive node embedding → Generalize to entirely unseen graphs

E.g., train on protein interaction graph from model organism A and generate embeddings on newly collected data about organism B

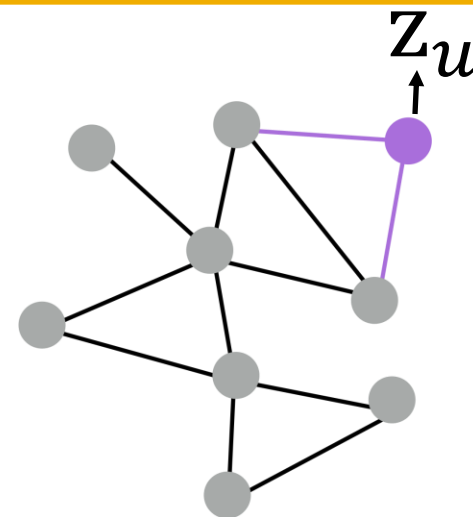
# Inductive Capability: New Nodes



Train with snapshot



New node arrives



Generate embedding  
for new node

- Many application settings constantly encounter previously unseen nodes:
  - E.g., Reddit, YouTube, Google Scholar
- Need to generate new embeddings “on the fly”

# Outline of Today's Lecture

1. Basics of deep learning



2. Deep learning for graphs



3. Graph Convolutional Networks



4. GNNs subsume CNNs

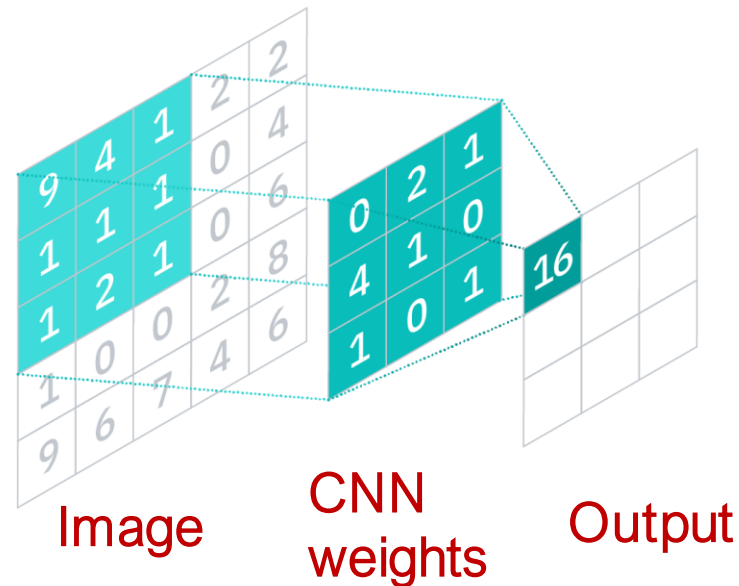
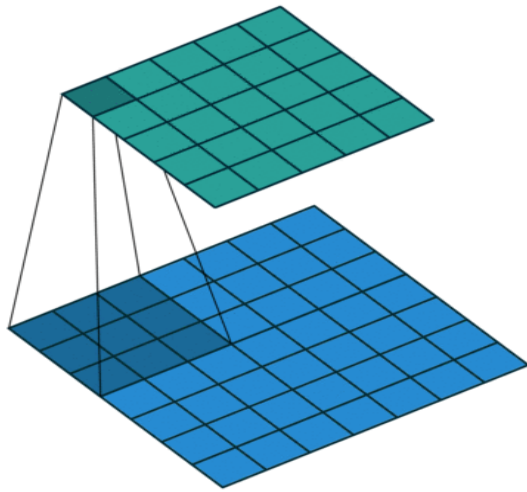


# Architecture Comparison

- **How do GNNs compare to prominent architectures such as Convolutional Neural Nets?**

# Convolutional Neural Network

Convolutional neural network (CNN) layer with 3x3 filter:

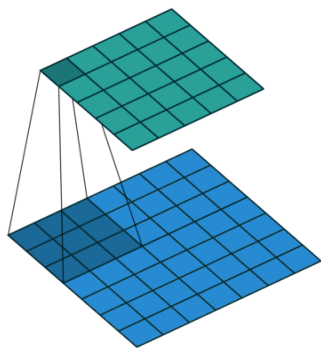


$$\text{CNN formulation: } h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma\left(\sum_{u \in N(v) \cup \{v\}} W_l^u h_u^{(l)}\right), \quad \forall l \in \{0, \dots, L-1\}$$

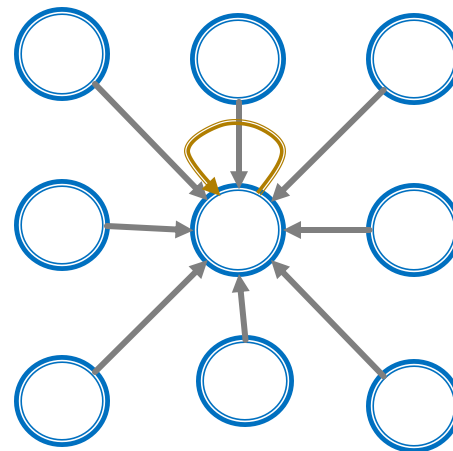
**$N(v)$  represents the 8 neighbor pixels of  $v$ .**

# GNN vs. CNN

Convolutional neural network (CNN) layer with 3x3 filter:



Image

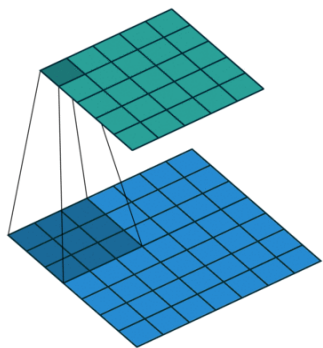


Graph

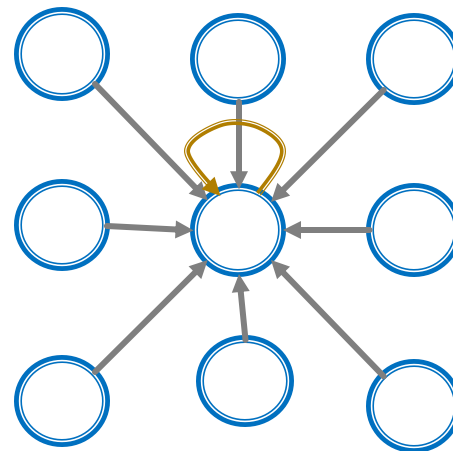
- GNN formulation:  $h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_l \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \frac{h_u^{(l)}}{|\mathcal{N}(v)|} + \mathbf{B}_l h_v^{(l)}), \forall l \in \{0, \dots, L-1\}$
- CNN formulation: (previous slide)  $h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \cup \{v\}} W_l^u h_u^{(l)}), \forall l \in \{0, \dots, L-1\}$   
if we rewrite:  $h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \mathbf{W}_l^u h_u^{(l)} + \mathbf{B}_l h_v^{(l)}), \forall l \in \{0, \dots, L-1\}$

# GNN vs. CNN

Convolutional neural network (CNN) layer with 3x3 filter:



Image



Graph

$$\text{GNN formulation: } h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_l \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \frac{h_u^{(l)}}{|\mathcal{N}(v)|} + B_l h_v^{(l)}), \forall l \in \{0, \dots, L-1\}$$

$$\text{CNN formulation: } h_v^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \mathbf{W}_l^u h_u^{(l)} + B_l h_v^{(l)}), \forall l \in \{0, \dots, L-1\}$$

**Key difference:** We can learn different  $\mathbf{W}_l^u$  for different “neighbor”  $u$  for pixel  $v$  on the image. The reason is we can pick an order for the 9 neighbors using **relative position** to the center pixel:  $\{(-1, -1), (-1, 0), (-1, 1), \dots, (1, 1)\}$

# GNN vs. CNN

Convolutional neural network (CNN) layer with 3x3 filter:



- CNN can be seen as a special GNN with fixed neighbor size and ordering:
  - The size of the filter is pre-defined for a CNN.
  - The advantage of GNN is it processes arbitrary graphs with different degrees for each node.
- CNN is not permutation invariant/equivariant.
  - Switching the order of pixels will leads to different outputs.

**Key difference:** We can learn different  $W_l^u$  for different “neighbor”  $u$  for pixel  $v$  on the image. The reason is we can pick an order for the 9 neighbors using **relative position** to the center pixel:  $\{(-1,-1), (-1,0), (-1,1), \dots, (1,1)\}$



# Summary

- **In this lecture, we introduced**
  - Basics of neural networks
    - Loss, Optimization, Gradient, SGD, non-linearity, MLP
  - Idea for Deep Learning for Graphs
    - Multiple layers of embedding transformation
    - At every layer, use the embedding at previous layer as the input
    - Aggregation of neighbors and self-embeddings
  - Graph Convolutional Network
    - Mean aggregation; can be expressed in matrix form
  - GNN is a general architecture
    - CNN can be viewed as a special GNN