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Stanford CS224W: Node Embeddings

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs
Jure Leskovec, Stanford University
<http://cs224w.stanford.edu>



Stanford CS224W: Announcements

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs
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Course Logistics: Colab 0

- **Colab 0 will be released today by 9PM on our course website**
- **Colab 0:**
 - Overview of NetworkX and PyTorch Geometric
 - Does not need to be handed in
 - **TAs will hold a recitation session to walk you through Colab 0:**
 - Time: Friday (09/27), 3-4pm PT
 - Location: Zoom, link is posted on Ed
 - Session will be recorded

Course Logistics: Colab 1

- **Colab 1 will be released today by 9PM on our course website**
- **Colab 1:**
 - Will cover material from Lectures 1-2, so you can get started right away!
 - Due on Thursday 10/10 (2 weeks from today)
 - Submit written answers and code on Gradescope

Stanford CS224W: Node Embeddings

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs

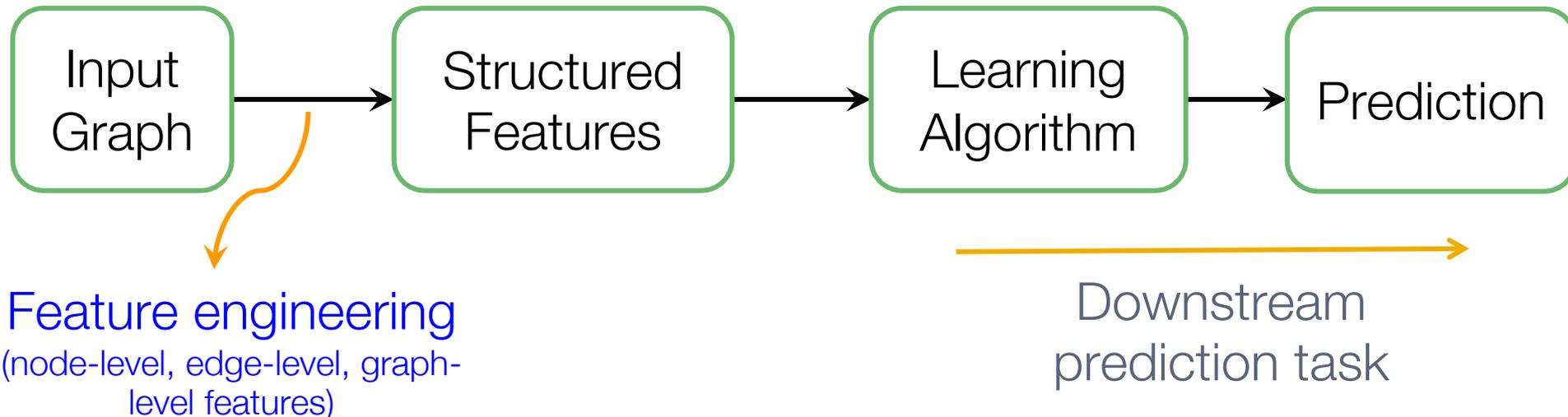
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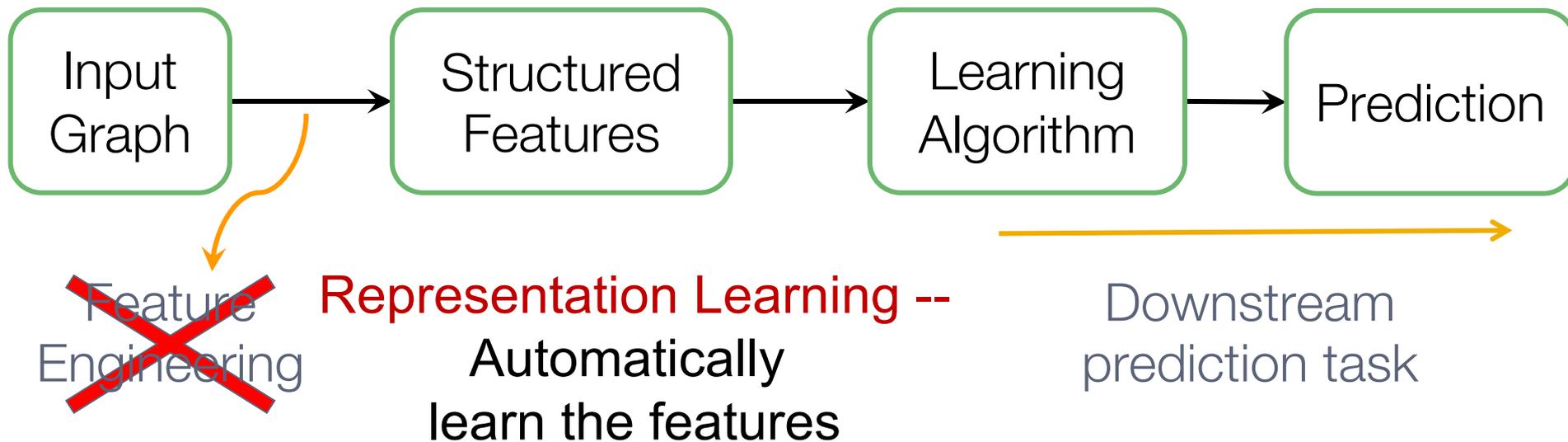
Recap: Traditional ML

Given an input graph, extract node, link and graph-level features, then learn a model (SVM, neural network, etc.) that maps features to labels.



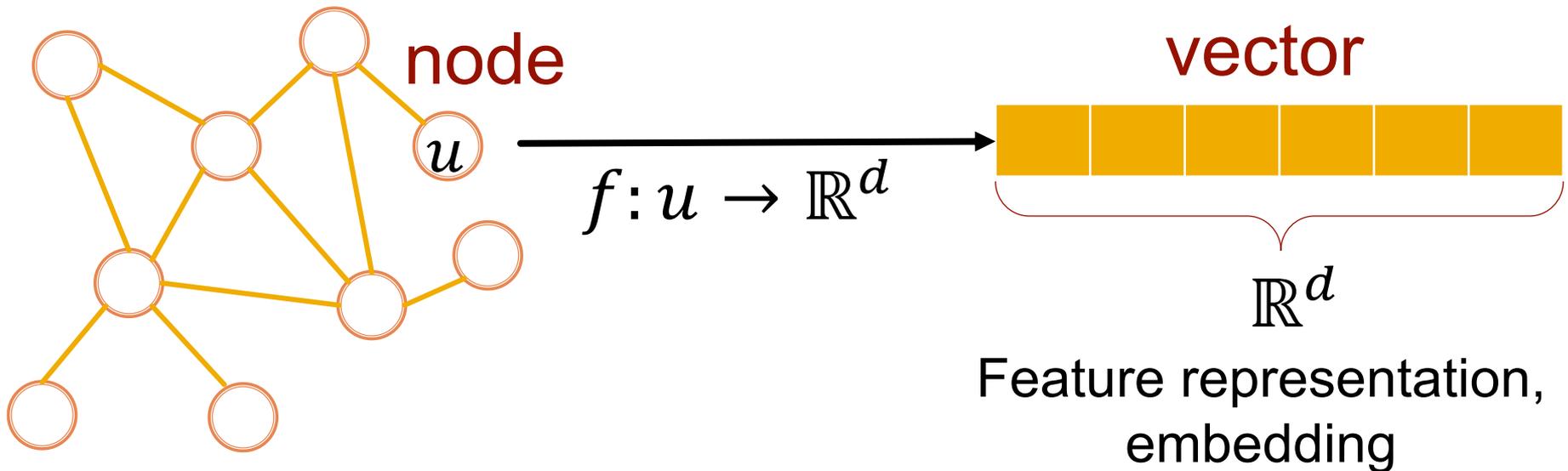
Graph Representation Learning

Graph Representation Learning alleviates the need to do feature engineering **every single time.**



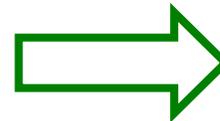
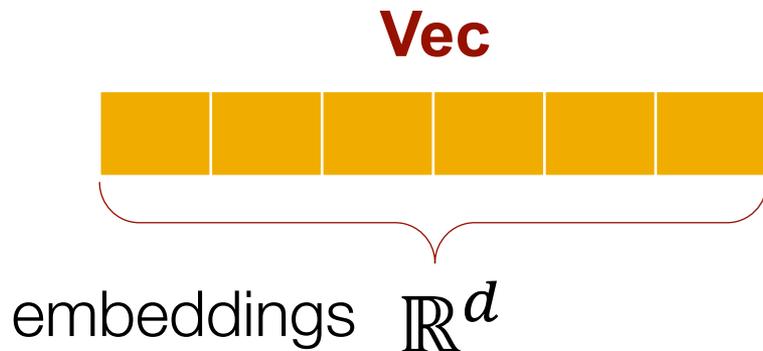
Graph Representation Learning

Goal: Efficient task-independent feature learning for machine learning with graphs!



Why Embedding?

- **Task: Map nodes into an embedding space**
 - Similarity of embeddings between nodes indicates their similarity in the network. For example:
 - Both nodes are close to each other (connected by an edge)
 - Encode network information
 - Potentially used for many downstream predictions



Tasks

- Node classification
- Link prediction
- Graph classification
- Anomalous node detection
- Clustering
-

Example Node Embedding

- 2D embedding of nodes of the Zachary's Karate Club network:

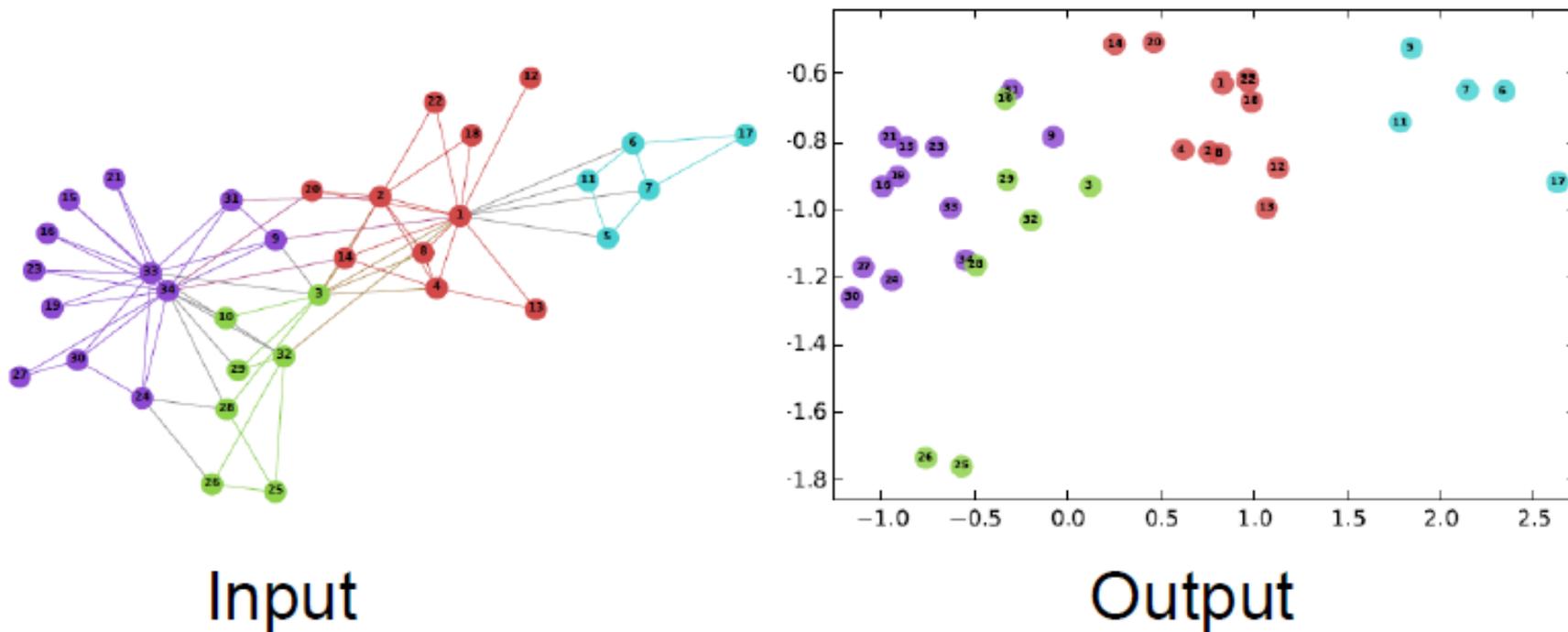


Image from: [Perozzi et al.](#) DeepWalk: Online Learning of Social Representations. *KDD 2014*.

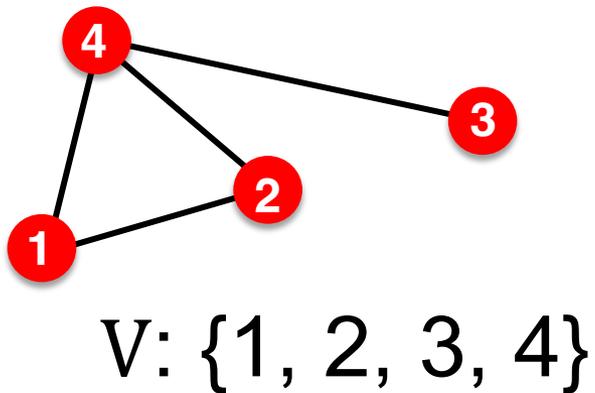
Stanford CS224W: Node Embeddings: Encoder and Decoder

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs
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Setup

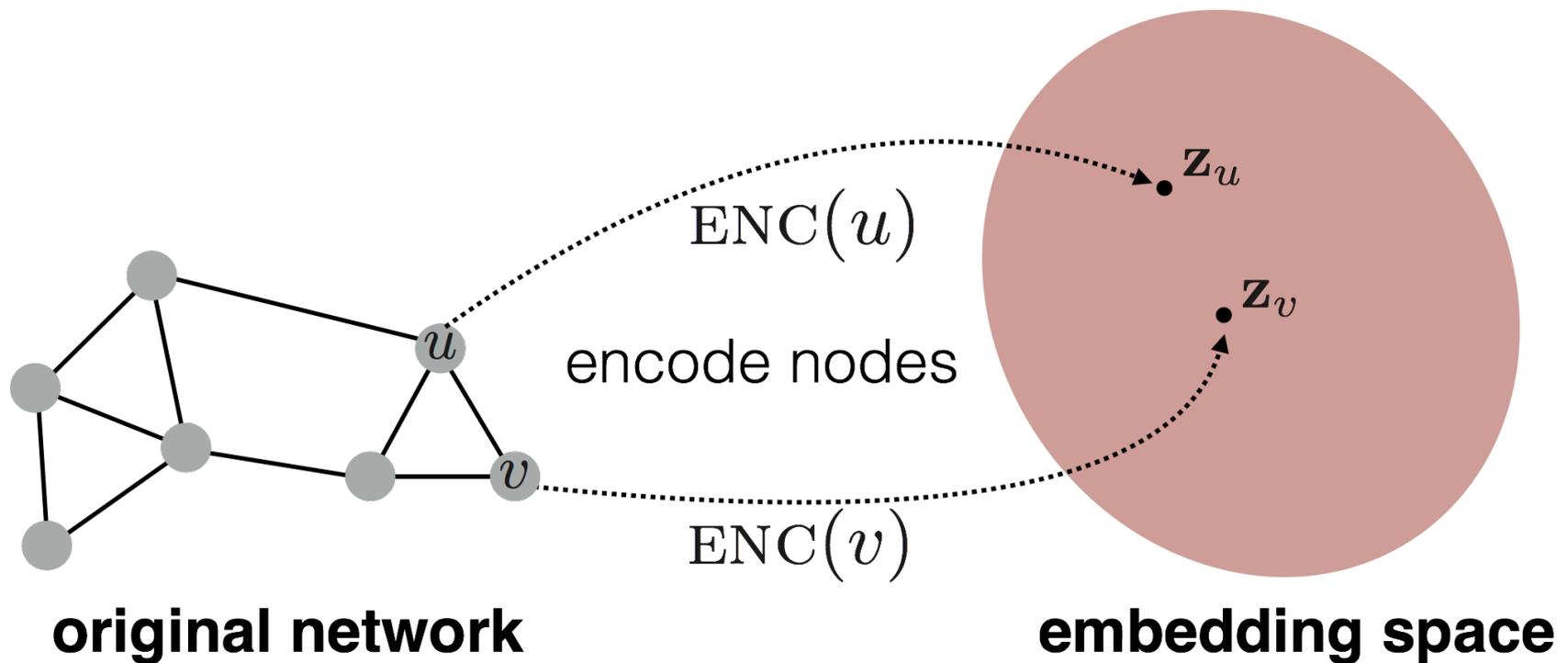
- Assume we have an (undirected) graph G :
 - V is the vertex set.
 - A is the adjacency matrix (assume binary).
 - **For simplicity: No node features or extra information is used**



$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Embedding Nodes

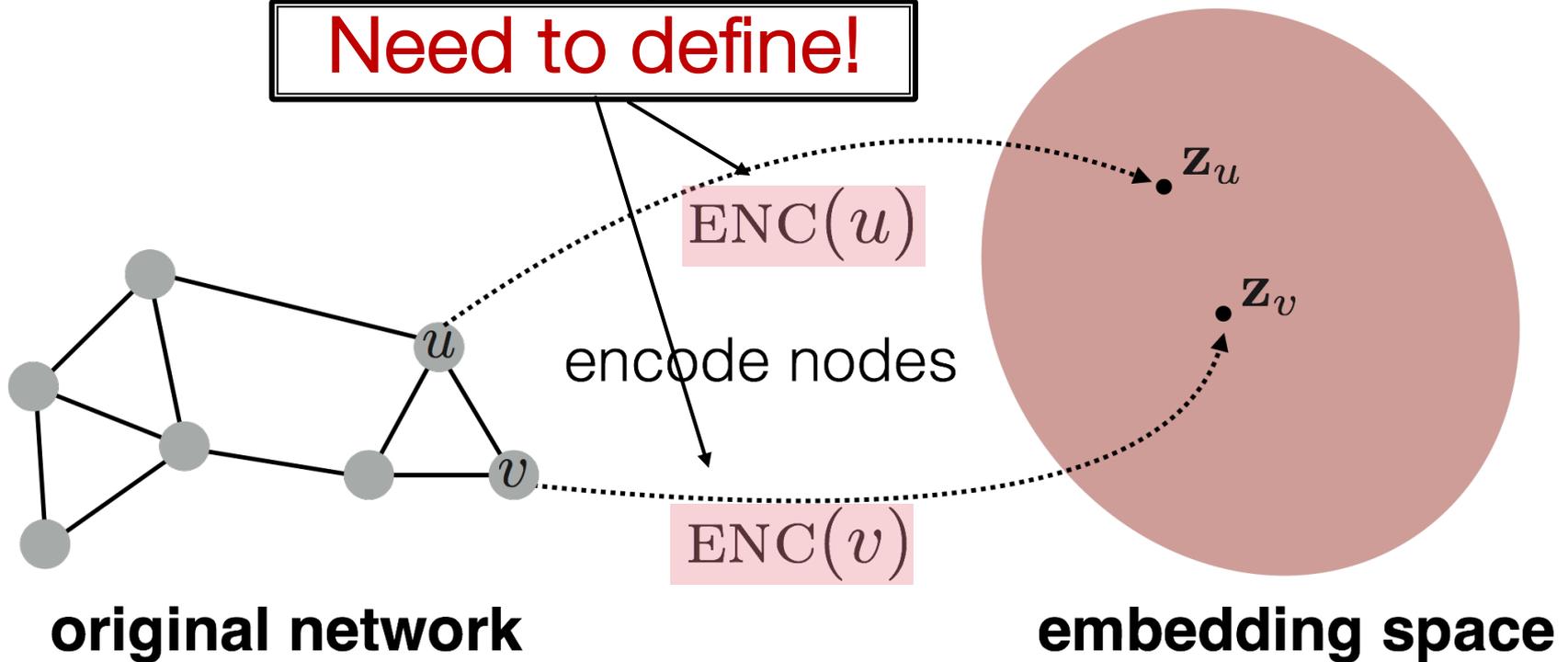
- Goal is to encode nodes so that **similarity in the embedding space** (e.g., dot product) approximates **similarity in the graph**



Embedding Nodes

Goal: $\text{similarity}(u, v)$ $\approx \mathbf{z}_v^T \mathbf{z}_u$
in the original network Similarity of the embedding

Need to define!



Learning Node Embeddings

1. **Encoder** maps from nodes to embeddings
2. **Define a node similarity function** (i.e., a measure of similarity in the original network)
3. **Decoder DEC** maps from embeddings to the similarity score
4. **Optimize the parameters of the encoder so that:**

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

in the original network

Similarity of the embedding

$$\text{DEC}(\mathbf{z}_v^T \mathbf{z}_u)$$

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

“Shallow” Encoding

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

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

$$\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times |\mathcal{V}|}$$

matrix, each column is a node embedding [what we learn / optimize]

$$\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{I}^{|\mathcal{V}|}$$

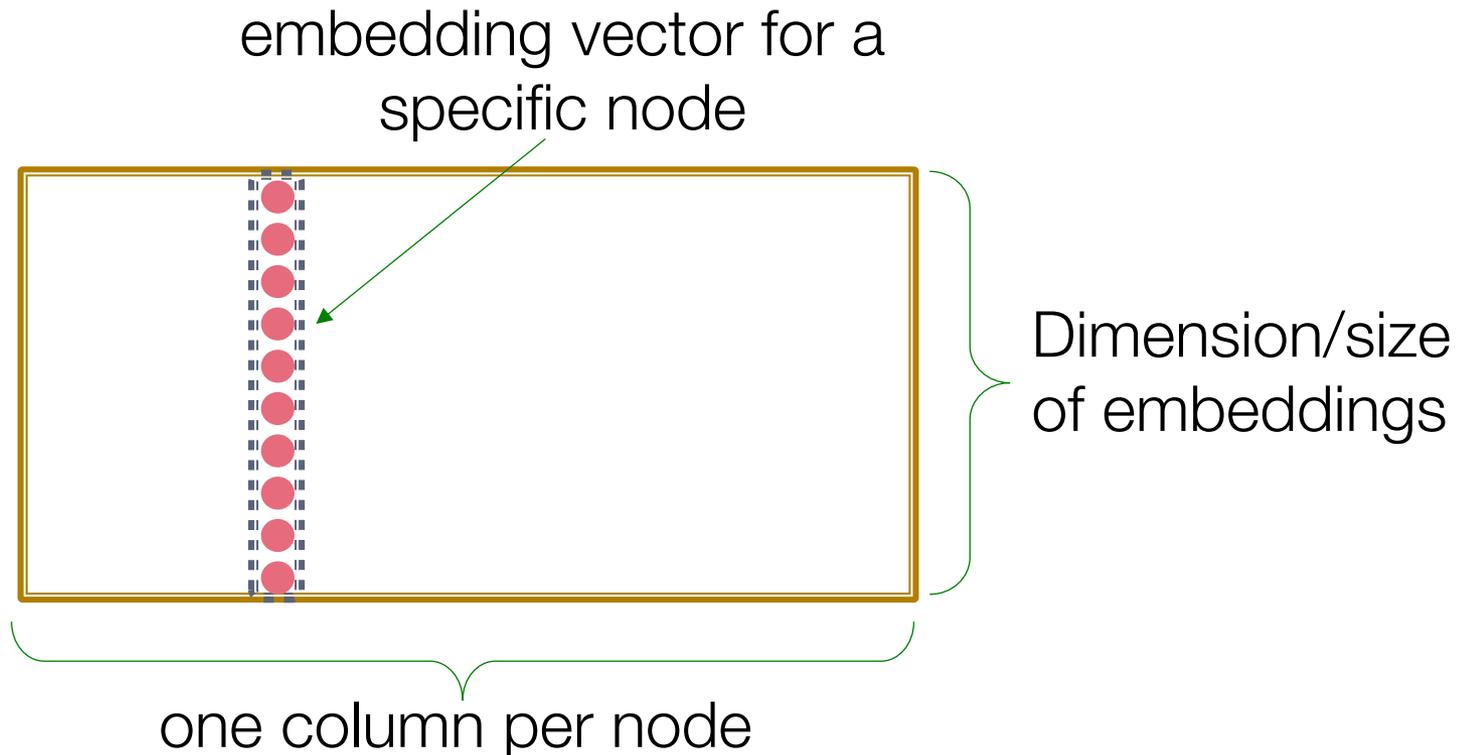
indicator vector, all zeroes except a one in column indicating node v

"Shallow" Encoding

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

embedding matrix

$$\mathbf{Z} =$$



“Shallow” Encoding

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

Each node is assigned a unique embedding vector

(i.e., we directly optimize the embedding of each node)

Many methods: DeepWalk, node2vec

Framework Summary

- **Encoder + Decoder Framework**
 - Shallow encoder: Embedding lookup
 - Parameters to optimize: \mathbf{Z} which contains node embeddings \mathbf{z}_u for all nodes $u \in V$
 - We will cover deep encoders in the GNNs
 - **Decoder:** based on node similarity.
 - **Objective:** maximize $\mathbf{z}_v^T \mathbf{z}_u$ for node pairs (u, v) that are **similar**

How to Define Node Similarity?

- Key choice of methods is **how they define node similarity**.
- Should two nodes have a similar embedding if they...
 - are linked?
 - share neighbors?
 - have similar “structural roles”?
- We will now learn node similarity definition that uses **random walks**, and how to optimize embeddings for such a similarity measure.

Note on Node Embeddings

- This is **unsupervised/self-supervised** way of learning node embeddings.
 - We are **not** utilizing node labels
 - We are **not** utilizing node features
 - The goal is to directly estimate a set of coordinates (i.e., the embedding) of a node so that some aspect of the network structure (captured by DEC) is preserved.
- These embeddings are **task independent:**
 - They are not trained for a specific task but can be used for any task.

Stanford CS224W: Random Walk Approaches for Node Embeddings

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs
Jure Leskovec, Stanford University
<http://cs224w.stanford.edu>



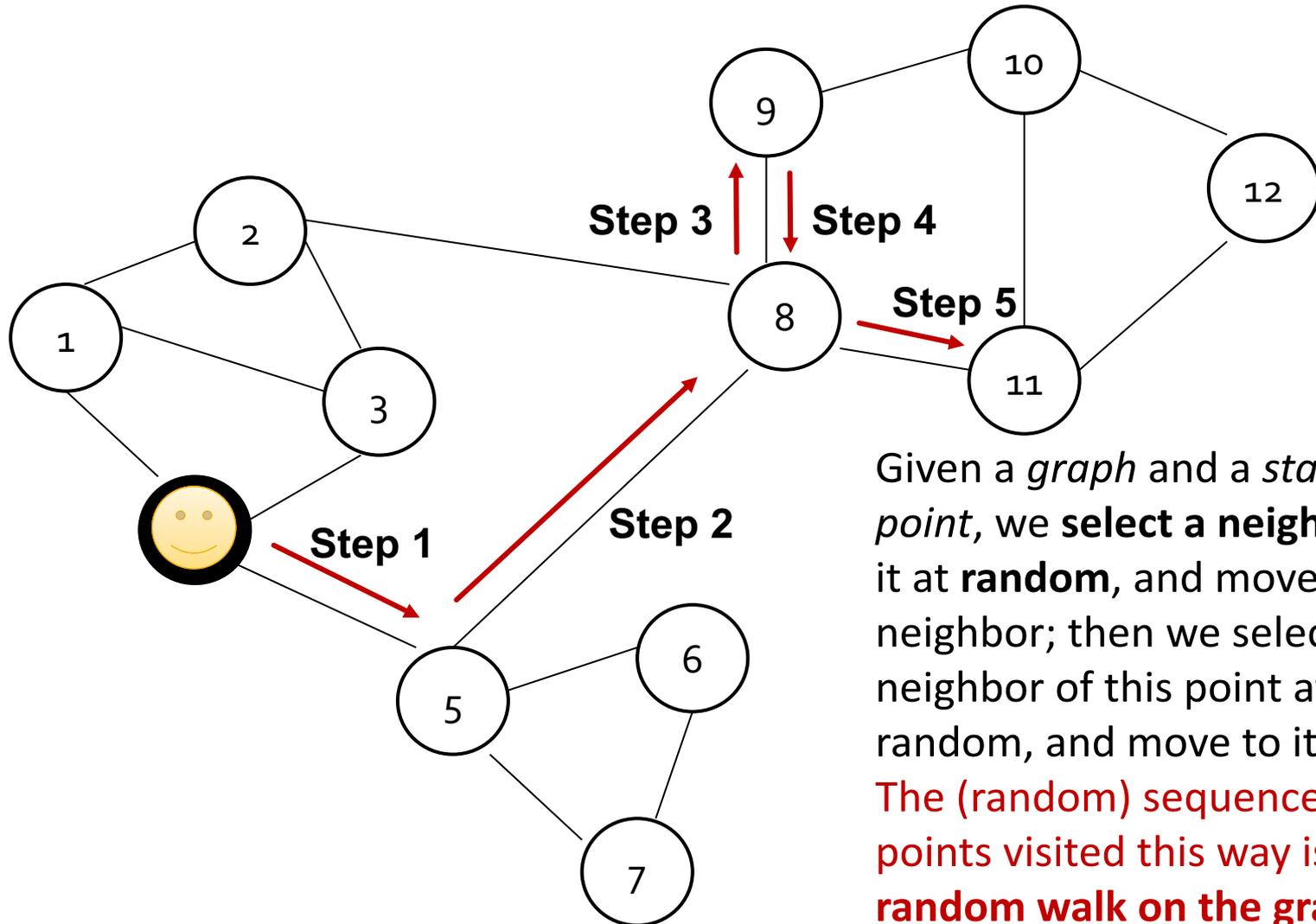
Notation

- **Vector** \mathbf{z}_u :
 - The embedding of node u (what we aim to find).
 - **Probability** $P(v | \mathbf{z}_u)$:  Our model prediction based on \mathbf{z}_u
 - The **(predicted) probability** of visiting node v on random walks starting from node u .
-

Non-linear functions used to produce predicted **probabilities**

- **Softmax** function:
 - Turns vector of K real values (model predictions) into K probabilities that sum to 1: $S(\mathbf{z})[i] = \frac{e^{z[i]}}{\sum_{j=1}^K e^{z[j]}}$
- **Sigmoid** function:
 - S-shaped function that turns real values into the range of $(0, 1)$.
Written as $\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$.

Random Walk



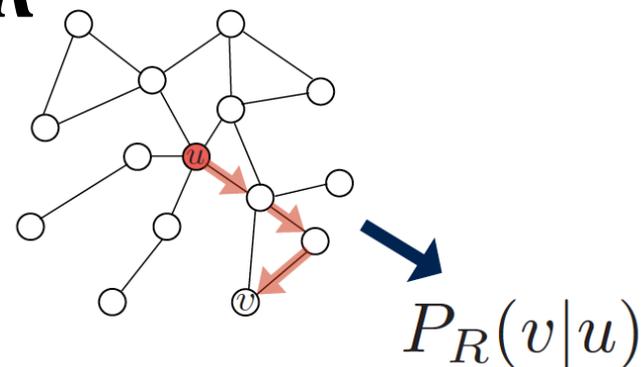
Given a *graph* and a *starting point*, we **select a neighbor** of it at **random**, and move to this neighbor; then we select a neighbor of this point at random, and move to it, etc. **The (random) sequence of points visited this way is a random walk on the graph.**

Random-Walk Embeddings

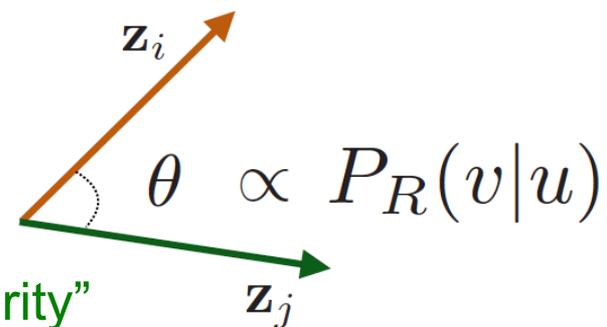
$\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v \approx$ probability that u
and v co-occur on
a random walk over
the graph

Random-Walk Embeddings

1. Estimate probability of visiting node v on a random walk starting from node u using some random walk strategy R



2. Optimize embeddings to encode these random walk statistics:



Similarity in embedding space (Here: dot product = $\cos(\theta)$) encodes random walk “similarity”

Why Random Walks?

- 1. Expressivity:** Flexible stochastic definition of node similarity that **incorporates both local and higher-order neighborhood information**
Idea: if random walk starting from node u visits v with high probability, u and v are similar (high-order multi-hop information)
- 2. Efficiency:** Do not need to consider all node pairs when training; **only need to consider pairs that co-occur on random walks**

Unsupervised Feature Learning

- **Intuition:** Find embedding of nodes in d -dimensional space that preserves similarity
- **Idea:** Learn node embedding such that **nearby** nodes are close together in the network
- **Given a node u , how do we define nearby nodes?**
 - $N_R(u)$... neighbourhood of u obtained by some **random walk strategy R**

Feature Learning as Optimization

- Given $G = (V, E)$,
- Our goal is to learn a mapping $f: u \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$:
 $f(u) = \mathbf{z}_u$

- Log-likelihood objective:

$$\arg \max_{\mathbf{z}} \sum_{u \in V} \log P(N_R(u) | \mathbf{z}_u)$$

- $N_R(u)$ is the neighborhood of node u by strategy R
- Given node u , we want to learn feature representations that are predictive of the nodes in its random walk neighborhood $N_R(u)$.

Random Walk Optimization

1. Run **short fixed-length random walks** starting from each node u in the graph using some random walk strategy R .
2. For each node u collect $N_R(u)$, the multiset* of nodes visited on random walks starting from u .
3. Optimize embeddings according to: **Given node u , predict its neighbors $N_R(u)$.**

$$\arg \max_{\mathbf{z}} \sum_{u \in V} \log P(N_R(u) | \mathbf{z}_u) \implies \text{Maximum likelihood objective}$$

* $N_R(u)$ can have repeat elements since nodes can be visited multiple times on random walks

Random Walk Optimization

Equivalently,

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{z}} \mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log(P(v|\mathbf{z}_u))$$

- **Intuition:** Optimize embeddings \mathbf{z}_u to **minimize** the negative log-likelihood of random walk neighborhoods $N(u)$.

- **Parameterize $P(v|\mathbf{z}_u)$ using softmax:** **Why softmax?**
We want node v to be most similar to node u (out of all nodes n).
Intuition: $\sum_i \exp(x_i) \approx \max_i \exp(x_i)$

$$P(v|\mathbf{z}_u) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_n)}$$

Random Walk Optimization

Putting it all together:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} - \log \left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_n)} \right)$$

sum over all nodes u

sum over nodes v seen on random walks starting from u

predicted probability of u and v co-occurring on random walk

Optimizing random walk embeddings =
Finding embeddings \mathbf{z}_u that minimize \mathcal{L}

Random Walk Optimization

But doing this naively is too expensive!

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log\left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_n)}\right)$$

Nested sum over nodes gives
 $O(|V|^2)$ complexity!

Random Walk Optimization

But doing this naively is too expensive!

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log\left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_n)}\right)$$

The normalization term from the softmax is the culprit... can we approximate it?

Negative Sampling

- **Solution: Negative sampling**

$$-\log\left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_n)}\right)$$

$$\approx \log\left(\sigma(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)\right) + \sum_{i=1}^k \log\left(\sigma(-\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_{n_i})\right), n_i \sim P_V$$

sigmoid function

(makes each term a “probability”
between 0 and 1)

random distribution
over nodes

Why is the approximation valid?

Technically, this is a different objective. But Negative Sampling is a form of Noise Contrastive Estimation (NCE) which approx. maximizes the log probability of softmax.

New formulation corresponds to using a logistic regression (sigmoid func.) to distinguish the target node v from nodes n_i sampled from background distribution P_v .

More at <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1402.3722.pdf>

Instead of normalizing w.r.t. all nodes, just normalize against k random “**negative samples**” n_i

- Negative sampling allows for quick likelihood calculation.

Negative Sampling

$$\log\left(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)}{\sum_{n \in V} \exp(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_n)}\right)$$

random distribution
over nodes

$$\approx \log\left(\sigma(\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_v)\right) + \sum_{i=1}^k \log\left(\sigma(-\mathbf{z}_u^T \mathbf{z}_{n_i})\right), n_i \sim P_V$$

- Sample k negative nodes n_i each with prob. proportional to its degree.
- Two considerations for k (# negative samples):
 1. Higher k gives more robust estimates
 2. Higher k corresponds to higher bias on negative eventsIn practice $k = 5-20$.

Can negative sample be any node or only the nodes not on the walk? People often sample any node (for efficiency).

Stochastic Gradient Descent

- After we obtained the objective function, how do we optimize (minimize) it?

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log(P(v|\mathbf{z}_u))$$

- Gradient Descent:** a simple way to minimize \mathcal{L} :

- Initialize z_u at some randomized value for all nodes u .
- Iterate until convergence:

- For all u , compute the derivative $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial z_u}$.

η : learning rate

- For all u , make a step in reverse direction of derivative: $z_u \leftarrow z_u - \eta \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial z_u}$.

Stochastic Gradient Descent

- **Stochastic Gradient Descent:** Instead of evaluating gradients over all examples, evaluate it for each **individual** training example.
 - Initialize z_u at some randomized value for all nodes u .
 - Iterate until convergence: $\mathcal{L}^{(u)} = \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log(P(v|\mathbf{z}_u))$
 - Sample a node u , for all v calculate the gradient $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}^{(u)}}{\partial z_v}$.
 - For all v , update: $z_v \leftarrow z_v - \eta \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}^{(u)}}{\partial z_v}$.

Random Walks: Summary

1. Run **short fixed-length** random walks starting from each node on the graph
2. For each node u collect $N_R(u)$, the multiset of nodes visited on random walks starting from u .
3. Optimize embeddings Z using Stochastic Gradient Descent:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in N_R(u)} -\log(P(v|\mathbf{z}_u))$$

We can efficiently approximate this using negative sampling!

How should we randomly walk?

- So far we have described how to optimize embeddings given a random walk strategy R
- **What strategies should we use to run these random walks?**
 - Simplest idea: **Just run fixed-length, unbiased random walks starting from each node** (i.e., [DeepWalk from Perozzi et al.](#))
 - The issue is that such notion of similarity is too constrained
- **How can we generalize this?**

Reference: Perozzi et al. [DeepWalk: Online Learning of Social Representations](#). *KDD*.

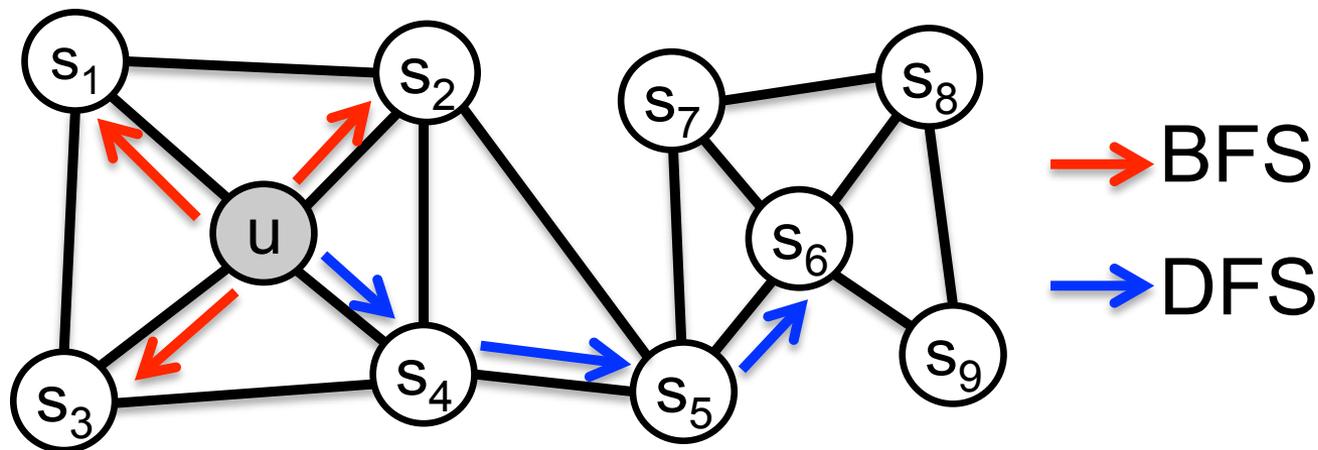
Overview of node2vec

- **Goal:** Embed nodes with similar network neighborhoods close in the feature space.
- We frame this goal as a maximum likelihood optimization problem, independent to the downstream prediction task.
- **Key observation:** Flexible notion of network neighborhood $N_R(u)$ of node u leads to rich node embeddings
- Develop biased 2nd order random walk R to generate network neighborhood $N_R(u)$ of node u

Reference: Grover et al. [node2vec: Scalable Feature Learning for Networks](#). *KDD*.

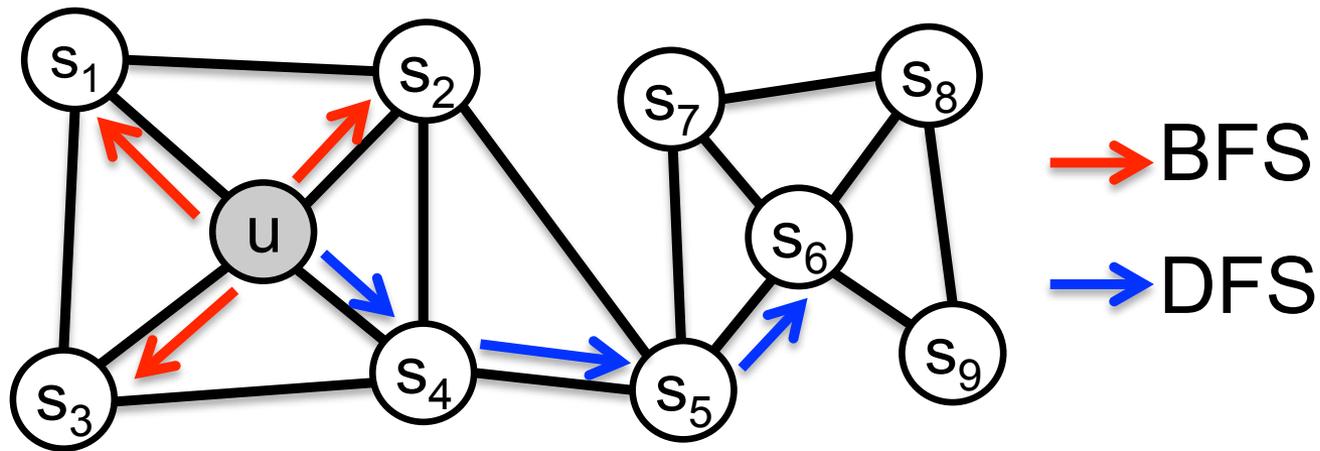
node2vec: Biased Walks

Idea: use flexible, biased random walks that can trade off between **local** and **global** views of the network ([Grover and Leskovec](#)).



node2vec: Biased Walks

Two classic strategies to define a neighborhood $N_R(u)$ of a given node u :

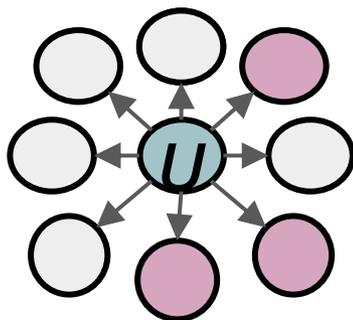


Walk of length 3 ($N_R(u)$ of size 3):

$$N_{BFS}(u) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3\} \quad \text{Local microscopic view}$$

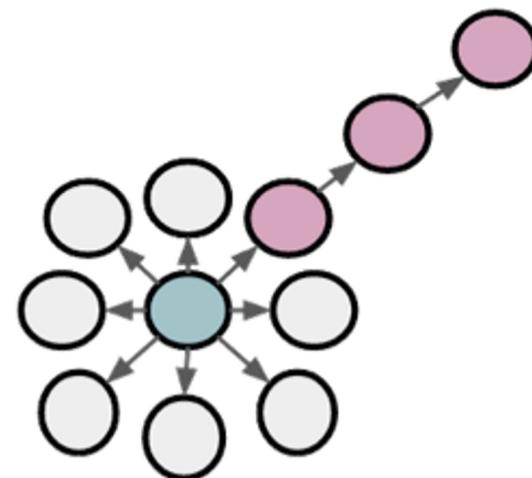
$$N_{DFS}(u) = \{s_4, s_5, s_6\} \quad \text{Global macroscopic view}$$

BFS vs. DFS



BFS:

$N_R(\cdot)$ will provide a micro-view of neighbourhood



DFS:

$N_R(\cdot)$ will provide a macro-view of neighbourhood

Interpolating BFS and DFS

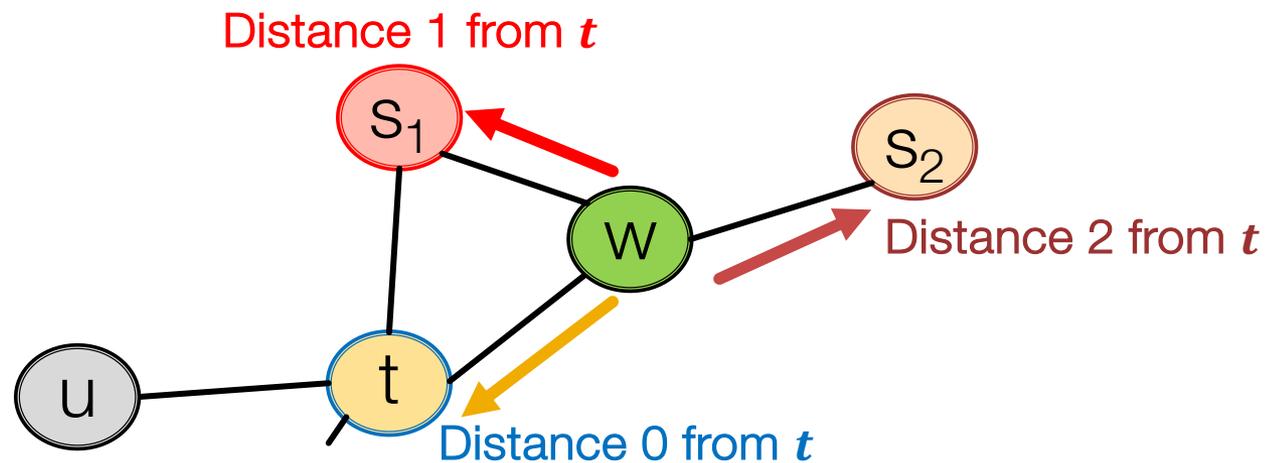
Biased fixed-length random walk R that given a node u generates neighborhood $N_R(u)$

- Random walk has two parameters:
 - **Return parameter p :**
 - Return back to the previous node
 - **In-out parameter q :**
 - Moving outwards (DFS) vs. inwards (BFS) from the previous node
 - Intuitively, q is the “ratio” of BFS vs. DFS
- Next, we specify how a **single step** of biased random walk is performed.
- Random walk is then just a sequence of these steps.

One Step of the Biased Random Walk

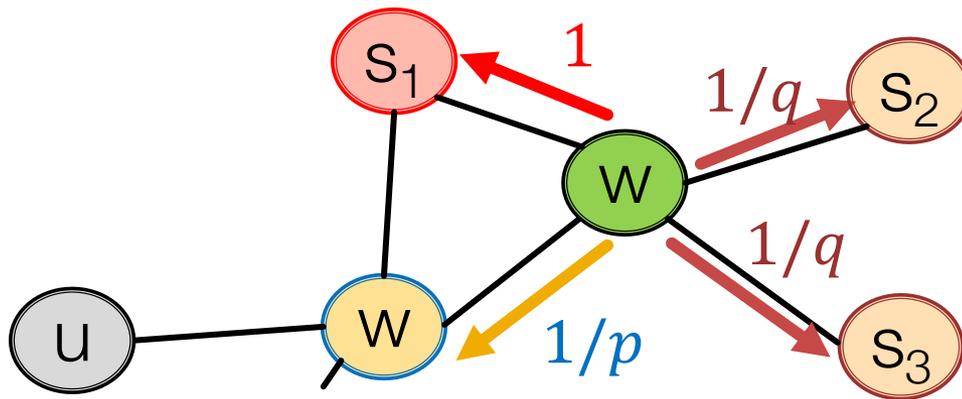
Define the random walk by specifying the walk transition probabilities on edges adjacent to the current node w :

- Rnd. walk just traversed edge (t, w) and is now at w
- We specify edge transition probs. out of node w
- **Insight:** Neighbors of w can only be:



One Step of the Biased Random Walk

- Walker came over edge (t, w) and is now at w .
How to set edge transition probabilities?



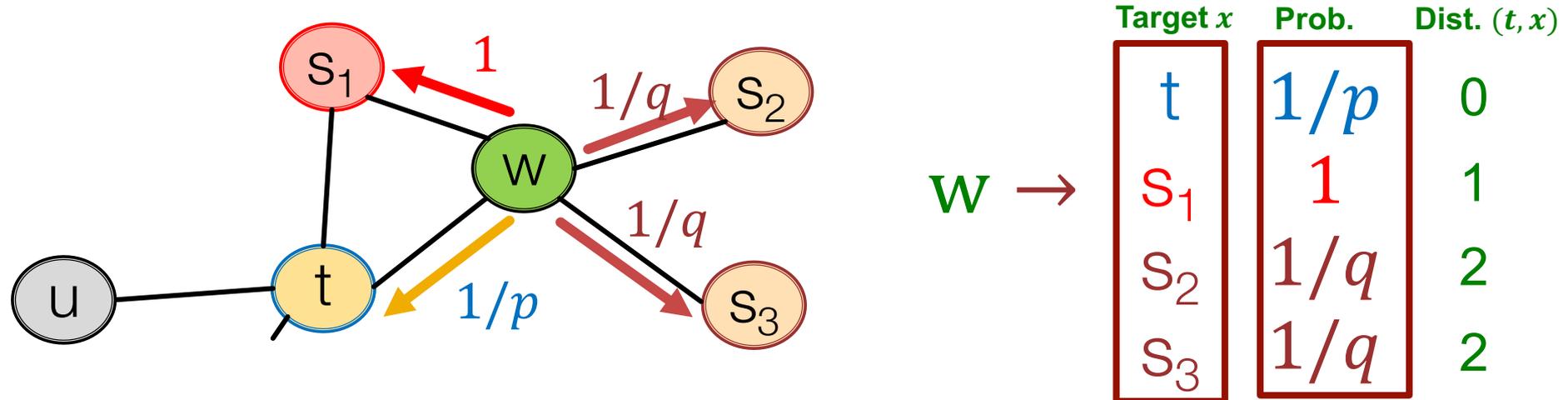
$1/p, 1/q, 1$ are
unnormalized
probabilities

- p, q model transition probabilities
 - p ... return parameter
 - q ... "walk away" parameter

One Step of the Biased Random Walk

- Walker came over edge (s_1, w) and is at w .

How to set edge transition probabilities?



- BFS-like walk: Low value of p
- DFS-like walk: Low value of q

Unnormalized transition prob. segmented based on distance from t

$N_R(u)$ are the nodes visited by the biased walk

node2vec algorithm

- **1)** Compute edge transition probabilities:
 - For each edge (t, w) we compute edge walk probabilities (based on p, q) of edges (w, \cdot)
- **2)** Simulate r random walks of length l starting from each node u
- **3)** Optimize the node2vec objective using Stochastic Gradient Descent

- **Linear-time complexity**
- All 3 steps are **individually parallelizable**

Other Random Walk Ideas

- **Different kinds of biased random walks:**
 - Based on node attributes ([Dong et al.](#)).
 - Based on learned weights ([Abu-El-Haija et al.](#))
- **Alternative optimization schemes:**
 - Directly optimize based on 1-hop and 2-hop random walk probabilities (as in [LINE from Tang et al.](#)).
- **Network preprocessing techniques:**
 - Run random walks on modified versions of the original network (e.g., [Ribeiro et al. struct2vec](#), [Chen et al. HARP](#)).

Summary so far

- **Core idea:** Embed nodes so that distances in embedding space reflect node similarities in the original network.
- **Different notions of node similarity:**
 - Naïve: Similar if two nodes are connected
 - Random walk approaches (covered today)

Summary so far

- **So, what method should I use..?**
- No one method wins in all cases....
 - E.g., node2vec performs better on node classification while alternative methods perform better on link prediction ([Goyal and Ferrara, survey](#)).
- Random walk approaches are generally more efficient.
- **In general:** Must choose definition of node similarity that matches your application.

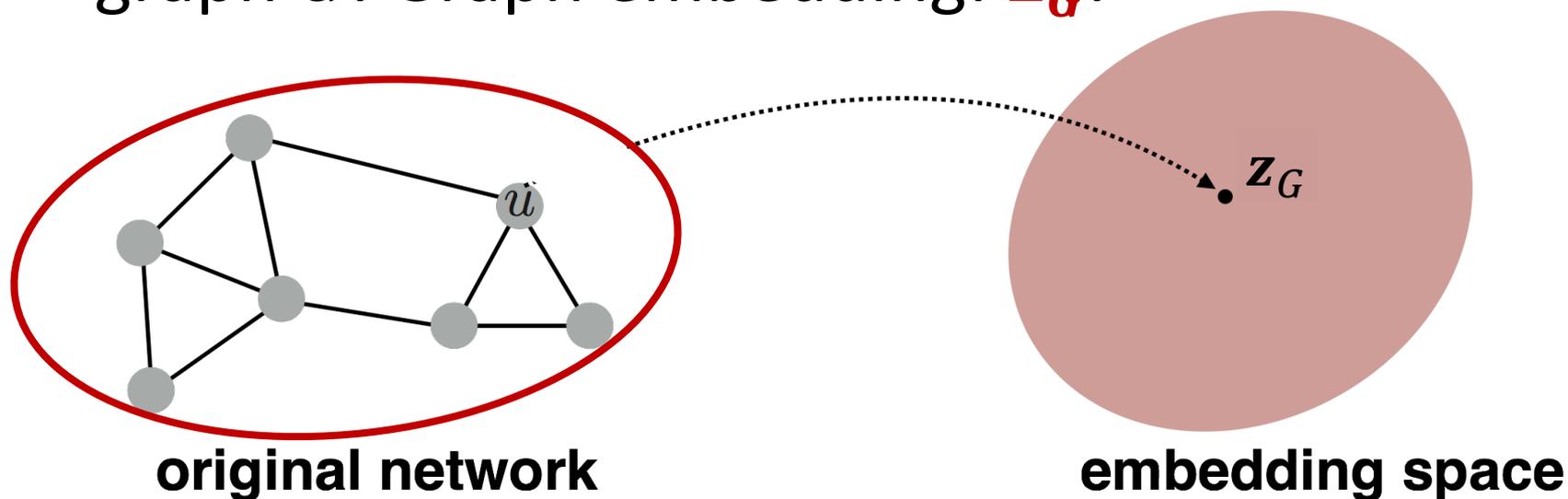
Stanford CS224W: Embedding Entire Graphs

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs
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Embedding Entire Graphs

- **Goal:** Want to embed a subgraph or an entire graph G . Graph embedding: \mathbf{z}_G .



- **Tasks:**
 - Classifying toxic vs. non-toxic molecules
 - Identifying anomalous graphs

Approach 1

Simple (but effective) approach 1:

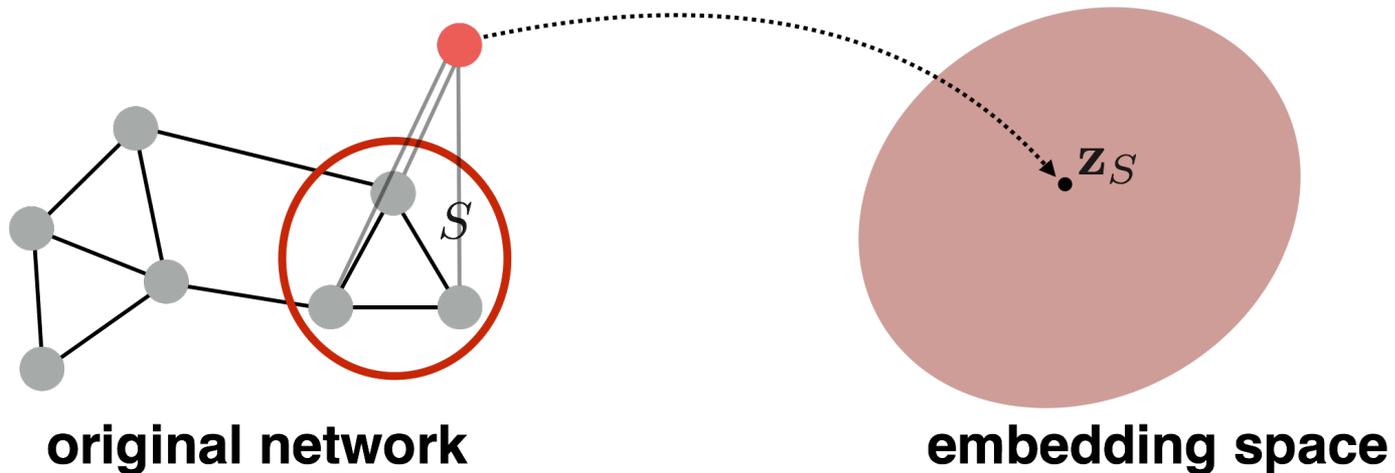
- Run a standard graph embedding technique *on* the (sub)graph G .
- Then just sum (or average) the node embeddings in the (sub)graph G .

$$\mathbf{z}_G = \sum_{v \in G} \mathbf{z}_v$$

- Used by [Duvenaud et al.](#) to classify molecules based on their graph structure

Approach 2

- **Approach 2:** Introduce a “**virtual node**” to represent the (sub)graph and run a standard graph embedding technique



- Proposed by [Li et al.](#) as a general technique for subgraph embedding

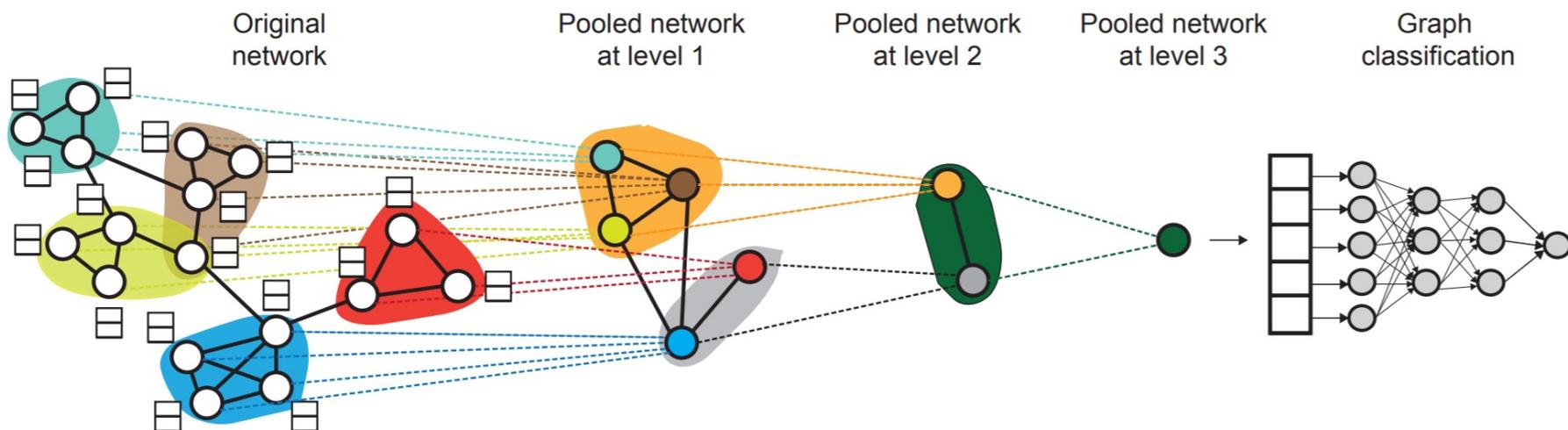
Summary

We discussed 2 ideas to graph embeddings:

- **Approach 1:** Embed nodes and sum/avg them
- **Approach 2:** Create super-node that spans the (sub) graph and then embed that node.

Preview: Hierarchical Embeddings

- **DiffPool:** We can also **hierarchically** cluster nodes in graphs, and **sum/avg** the node embeddings according to these clusters.



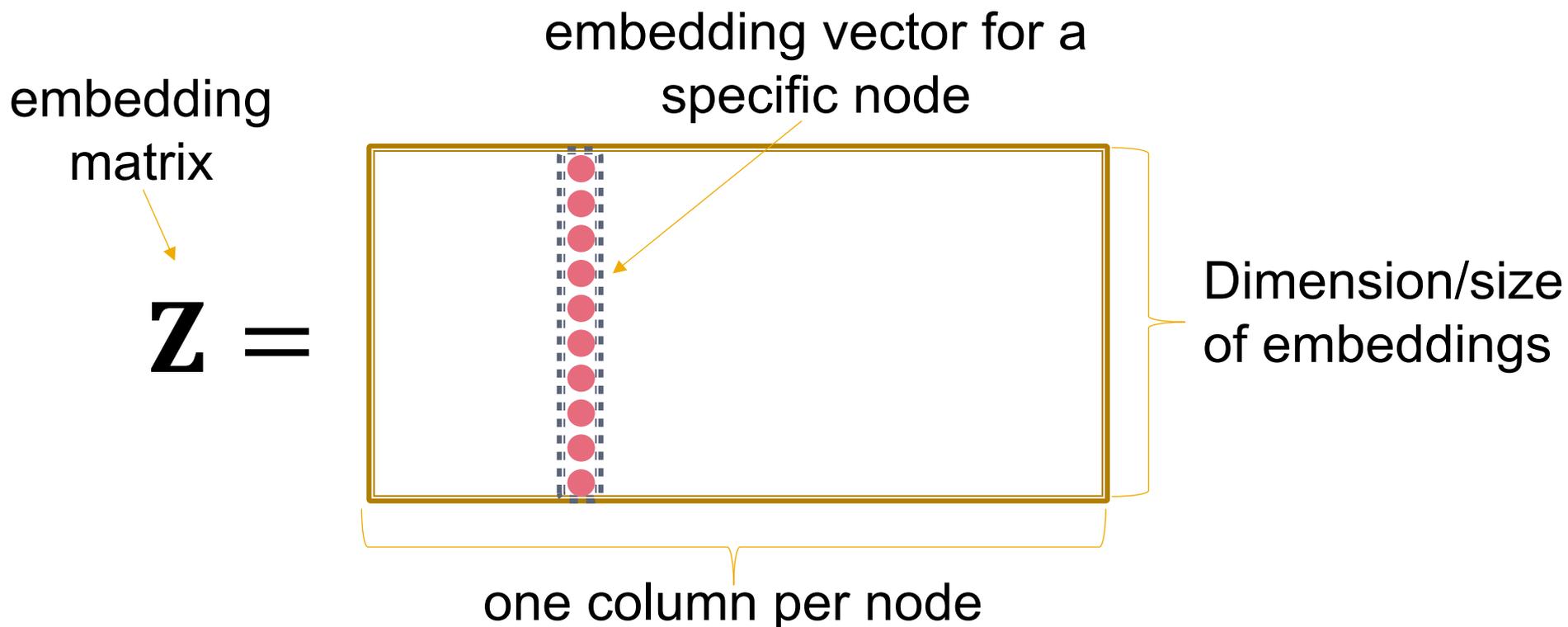
Stanford CS224W: Matrix Factorization and Node Embeddings

CS224W: Machine Learning with Graphs
Jure Leskovec, Stanford University
<http://cs224w.stanford.edu>



Embeddings & Matrix Factorization

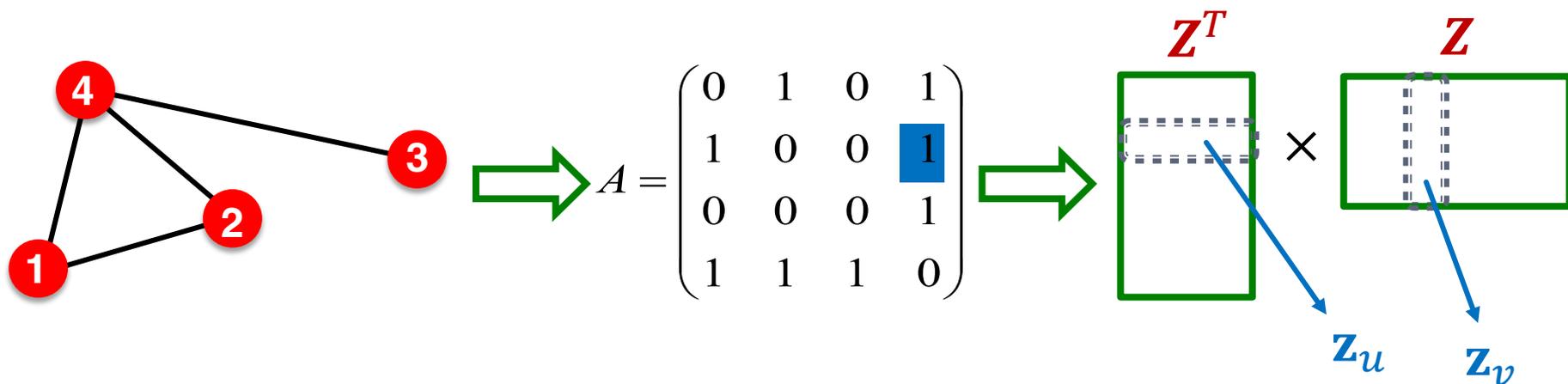
- **Recall:** encoder as an embedding lookup



Objective: maximize $\mathbf{z}_v^T \mathbf{z}_u$ for node pairs (u, v) that are **similar**

Connection to Matrix Factorization

- Simplest **node similarity**: Nodes u, v are similar if they are connected by an edge
- This means: $\mathbf{z}_v^T \mathbf{z}_u = A_{u,v}$
which is the (u, v) entry of the graph adjacency matrix A
- Therefore, $\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z} = A$



Matrix Factorization

- The embedding dimension d (number of rows in \mathbf{Z}) is much smaller than number of nodes n .
- Exact factorization $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}$ is generally not possible
- However, we can learn \mathbf{Z} approximately
- **Objective:** $\min_{\mathbf{Z}} \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}\|_2$
 - We optimize \mathbf{Z} such that it minimizes the L2 norm (Frobenius norm) of $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}$
 - Note today we used softmax instead of L2. But the goal to approximate \mathbf{A} with $\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{Z}$ is the same.
- Conclusion: **Inner product decoder with node similarity defined by edge connectivity is equivalent to matrix factorization of \mathbf{A} .**

Random Walk-based Similarity

- **DeepWalk** and **node2vec** have a more complex **node similarity** definition based on random walks
- **DeepWalk** is equivalent to matrix factorization of the following complex matrix expression:

$$\log \left(\text{vol}(G) \left(\frac{1}{T} \sum_{r=1}^T (D^{-1}A)^r \right) D^{-1} \right) - \log b$$

- Explanation of this equation is on the next slide.

Random Walk-based Similarity

Volume of graph

$$\text{vol}(G) = \sum_i \sum_j A_{i,j}$$

$$\log \left(\text{vol}(G) \left(\frac{1}{T} \sum_{r=1}^T (D^{-1}A)^r \right) D^{-1} \right) - \log b$$

Diagonal matrix D
 $D_{u,u} = \text{deg}(u)$

context window size

See Lec 3 slide 30:

$$T = |N_R(u)|$$

Power of normalized adjacency matrix

Number of negative samples

- **Node2vec** can also be formulated as a matrix factorization (albeit a more complex matrix)
- Refer to the paper for more details:

How to Use Embeddings

- **How to use embeddings \mathbf{z}_i of nodes:**
 - **Clustering/community detection:** Cluster points \mathbf{z}_i
 - **Node classification:** Predict label of node i based on \mathbf{z}_i
 - **Link prediction:** Predict edge (i, j) based on $(\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_j)$
 - Where we can: concatenate, avg, product, or take a difference between the embeddings:
 - Concatenate: $f(\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_j) = g([\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_j])$
 - Hadamard: $f(\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_j) = g(\mathbf{z}_i * \mathbf{z}_j)$ (per coordinate product)
 - Sum/Avg: $f(\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_j) = g(\mathbf{z}_i + \mathbf{z}_j)$
 - Distance: $f(\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{z}_j) = g(\|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{z}_j\|_2)$
 - **Graph classification:** Graph embedding \mathbf{z}_G via aggregating node embeddings or virtual-node.
Predict label based on graph embedding \mathbf{z}_G .

Today's Summary

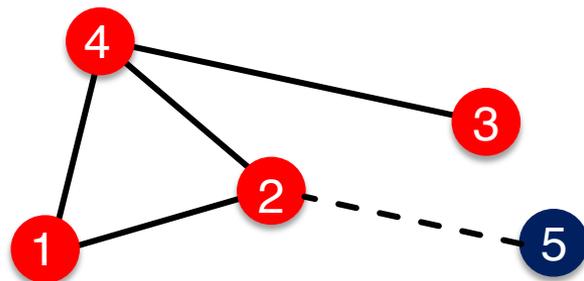
We discussed **graph representation learning**, a way to learn **node and graph embeddings** for downstream tasks, **without feature engineering**.

- **Encoder-decoder framework:**
 - Encoder: embedding lookup
 - Decoder: predict score based on embedding to match node similarity
- **Node similarity measure: (biased) random walk**
 - Examples: DeepWalk, Node2Vec
- **Extension to Graph embedding: Node embedding aggregation**

Limitations (1)

Limitations of node embeddings via matrix factorization and random walks

- **Transductive (not inductive) method:**
 - Cannot obtain embeddings for nodes not in the training set
 - Cannot apply to new graphs
 - If you apply DeepWalk to the same graph multiple times, each time you'll get a different embedding each time. Why?



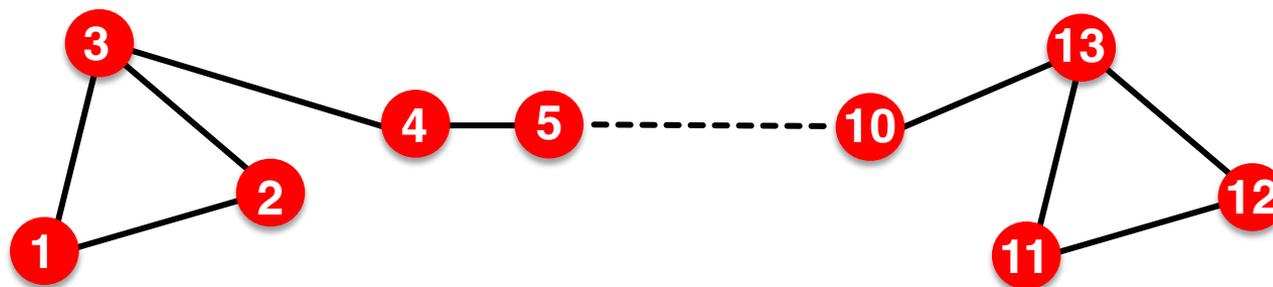
Training set

A newly added node 5 at test time
(e.g., new user in a social network)

Cannot compute its embedding
with DeepWalk / node2vec. Need to
recompute all node embeddings.

Limitation (2)

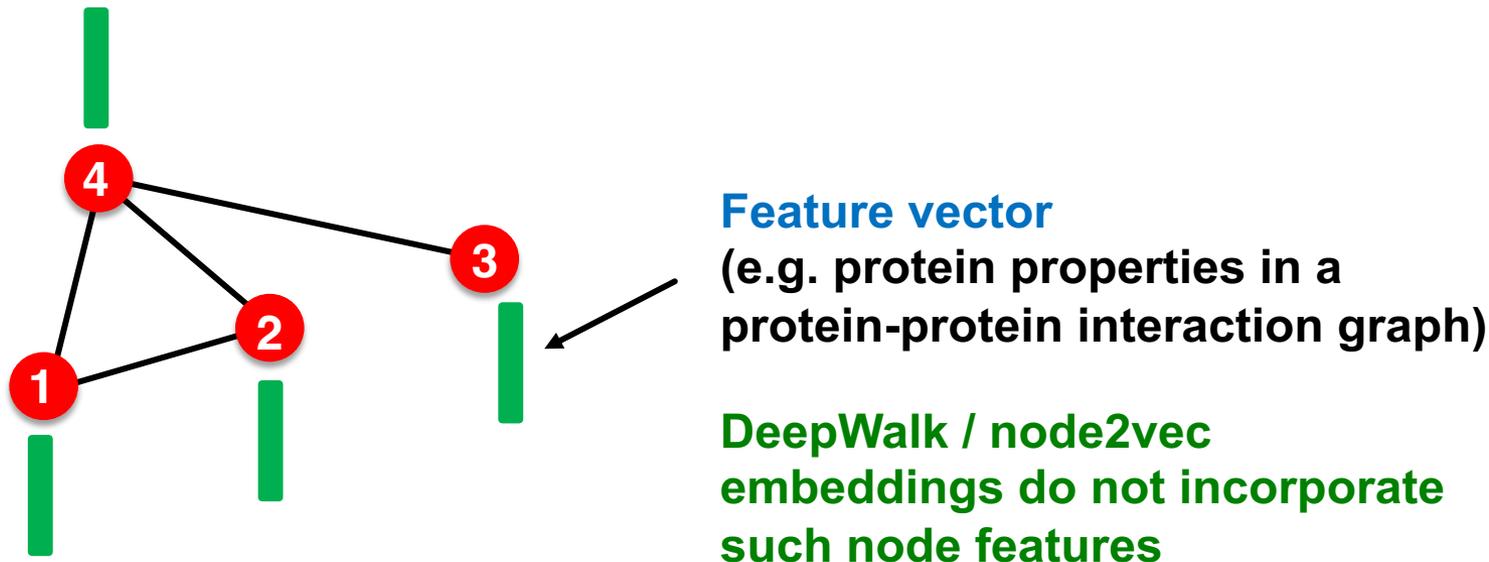
- Cannot capture **structural similarity**:



- Node 1 and 11 are **structurally similar** – part of one triangle, degree 2, ...
- However, they have very **different** embeddings.
 - It's unlikely that a random walk will reach node 11 from node 1.
- **DeepWalk and node2vec do not capture structural similarity.**

Limitations (3)

- Cannot utilize node, edge and graph features



Solution to these limitations: Deep Representation Learning and Graph Neural Networks
(To be covered in depth next)