

The background of the slide is a light gray with an abstract geometric pattern. It features a network of thin black lines connecting various points, some of which are solid black dots. Scattered throughout the background are numerous triangles of different sizes and orientations, some outlined in black and others in a lighter gray. The overall aesthetic is technical and modern, suggesting a focus on graph theory or computer science.

# Aggregation Functions in GNNs

Giovanni Pellegrini<sup>1,2,3</sup>

SML<sup>1</sup> Lab, University of Trento, Italy

TIM<sup>2</sup>

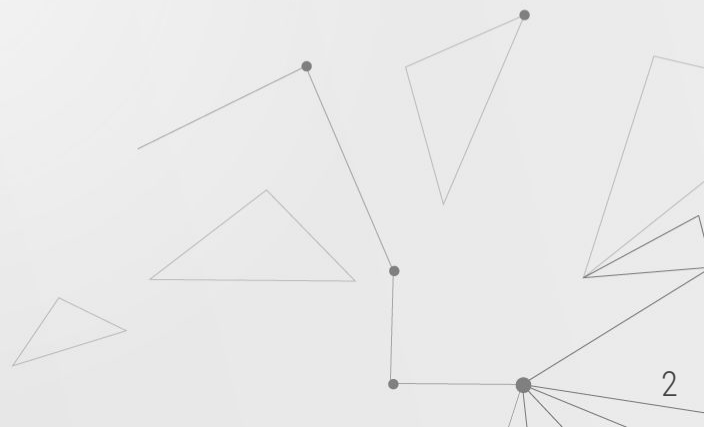
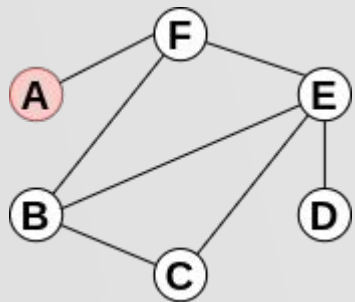
EIT DIGITAL<sup>3</sup>

# 01 Recap

## COMPUTATION GRAPH

The neighbour of a node defines its computation graph

INPUT GRAPH

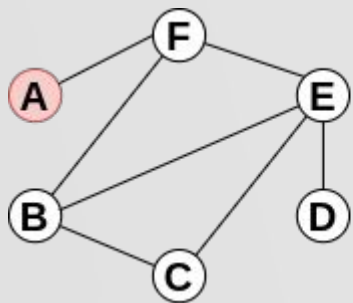


# 01 Recap

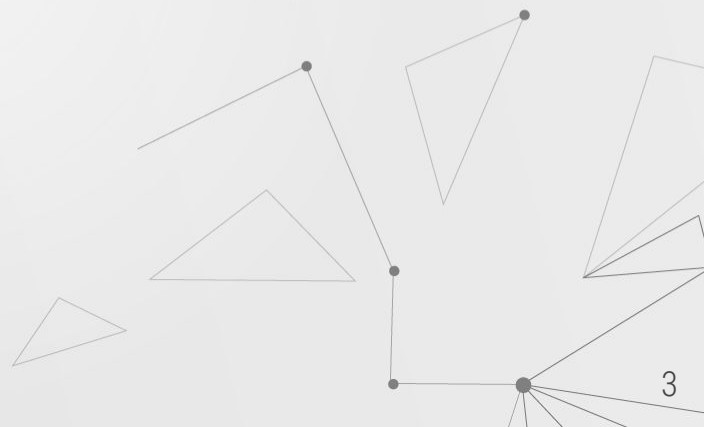
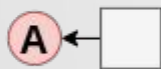
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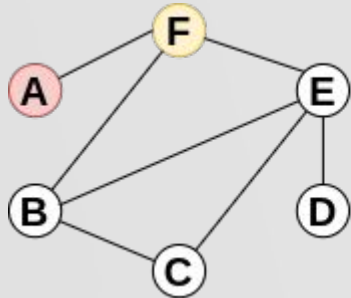


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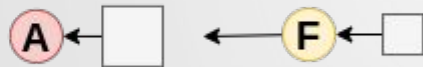
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COMPUTATION GRAPH

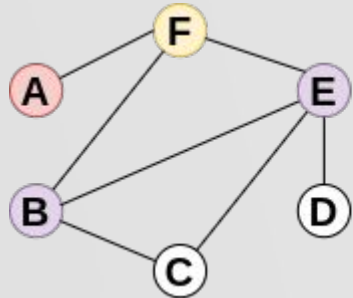


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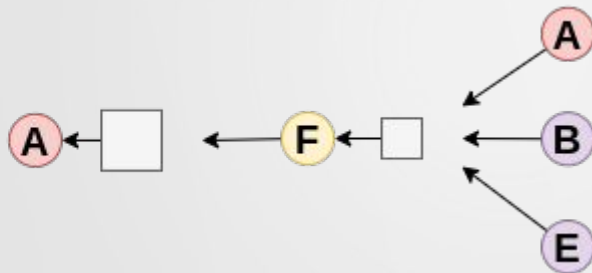
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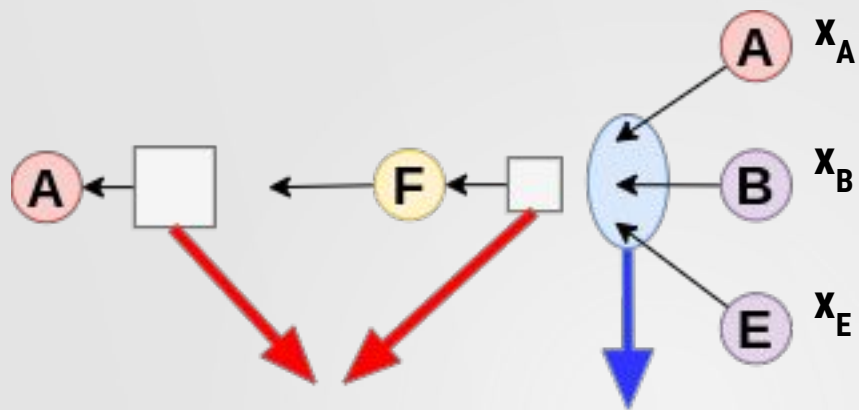
INPUT GRAPH



COMPUTATION GRAPH



# 01 Recap



Neural Networks

Permutation invariant  
Aggregation

Sum  
Average  
Max



# 01 Recap

---

**GCN**

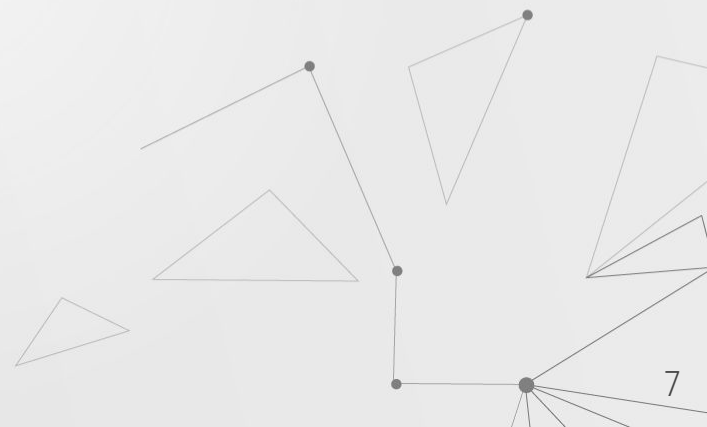
mean

**GraphSage**

max, mean, LSTM

**GAT**

sum





Recap **01**

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**04** Sum Decomposition

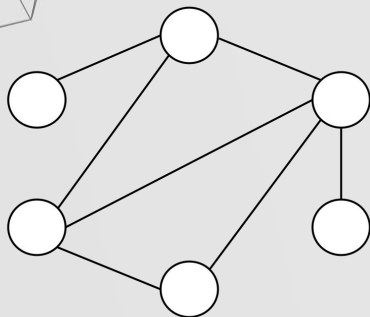
**05** Principal Neighborhood  
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**06** Learning Aggregation  
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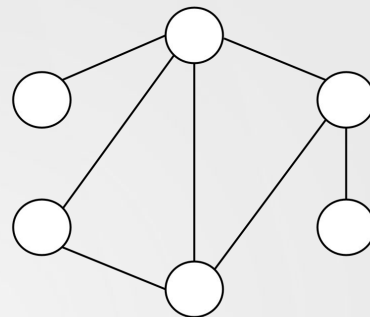
**07** Aggregation in PyG



## 02 WL Isomorphism Test



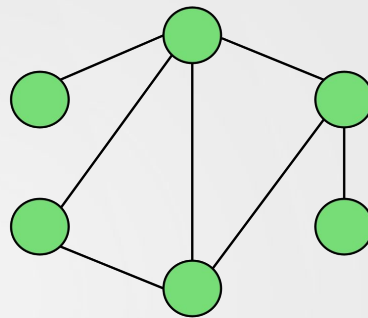
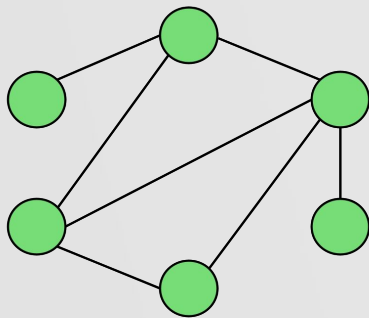
?



Solution: Weisfeiler-Lehman isomorphism test<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Weisfeiler and Lehman. *A reduction of a graph to a canonical form and an algebra arising during this reduction*. Nauchno-Tekhnicheskaya Informatsia, 1968.

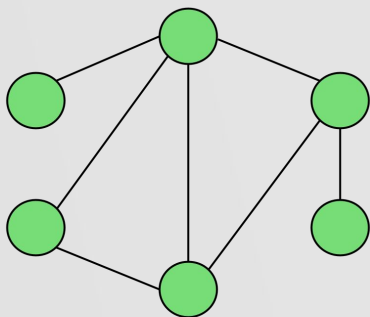
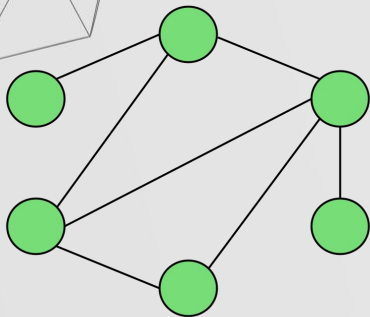
## 02 WL Isomorphism Test



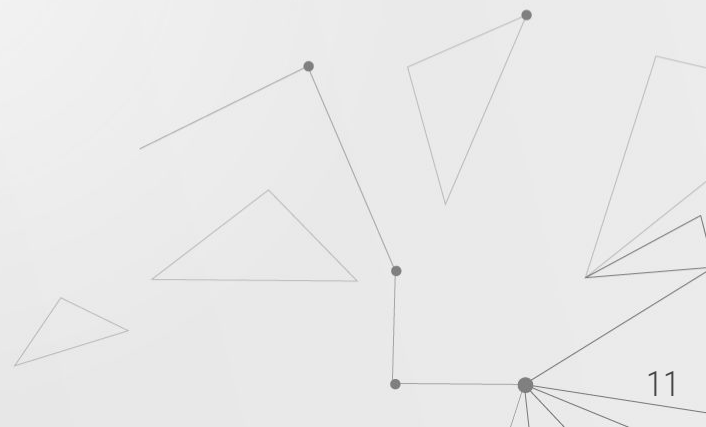
Step 0

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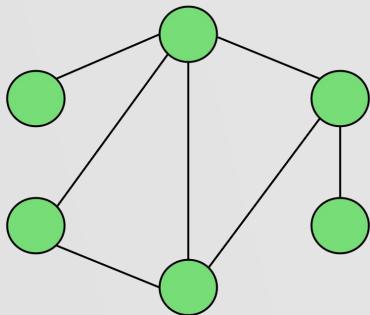
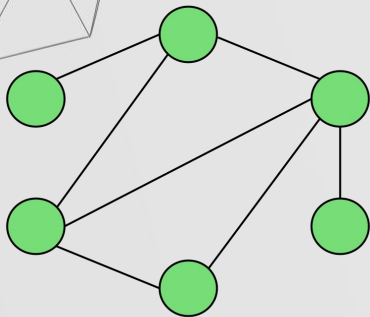
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Step 1



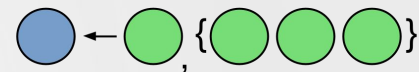
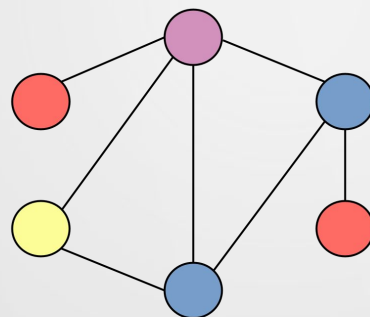
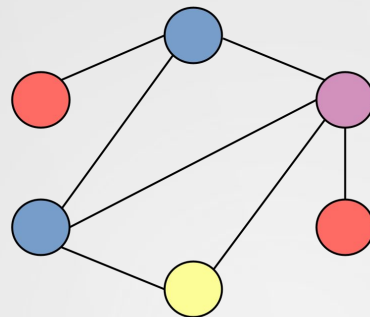
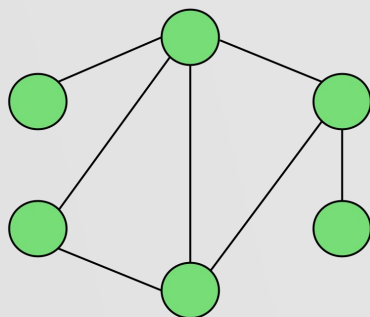
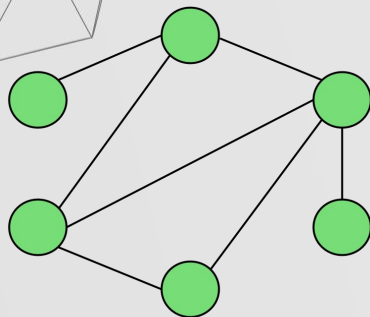
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Step 1

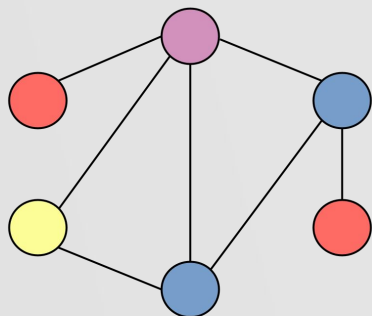
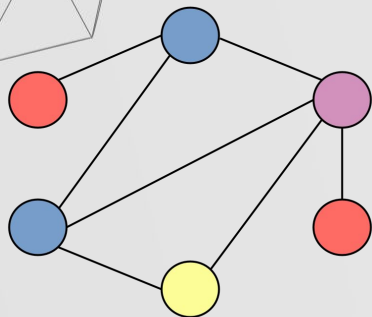


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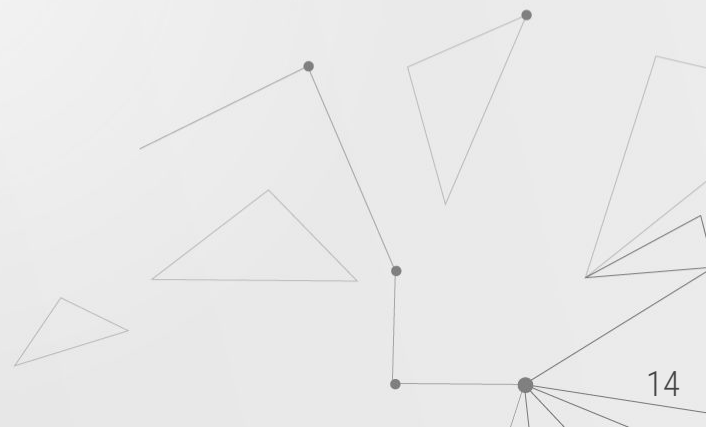


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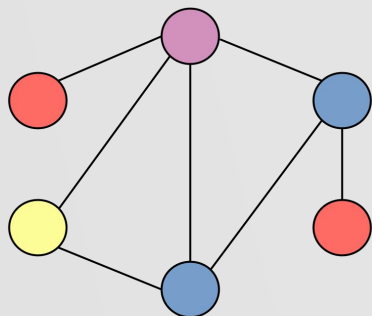
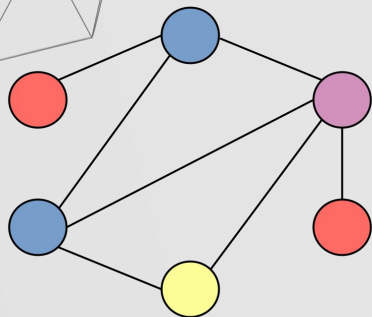
## 02 WL Isomorphism Test



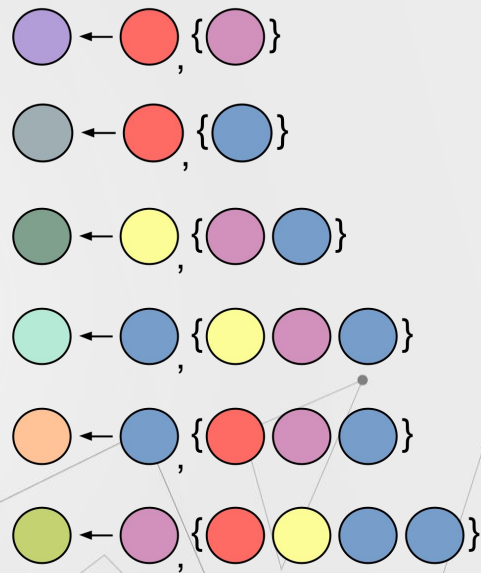
Step 2



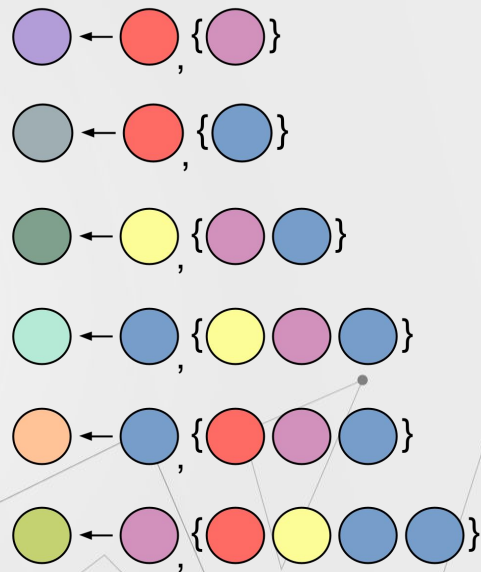
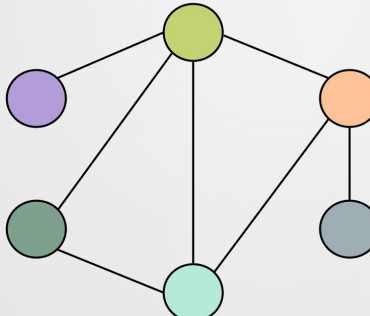
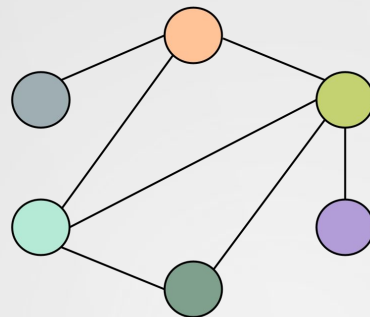
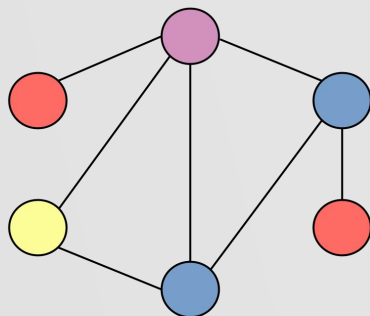
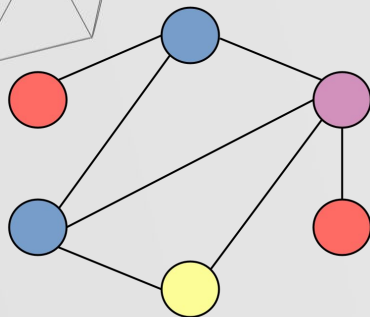
## 02 WL Isomorphism Test



Step 2



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Step 2



## 02 WL Isomorphism Test

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$$c_i^{(k)} = h\left(c_i^{(k-1)}, \{c_j^{(k-1)} : j \in \mathcal{N}(i)\}\right)$$


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Observed node

Neighbours' color

## 02 WL Isomorphism Test


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Injective function

Observed node

Neighbours' color



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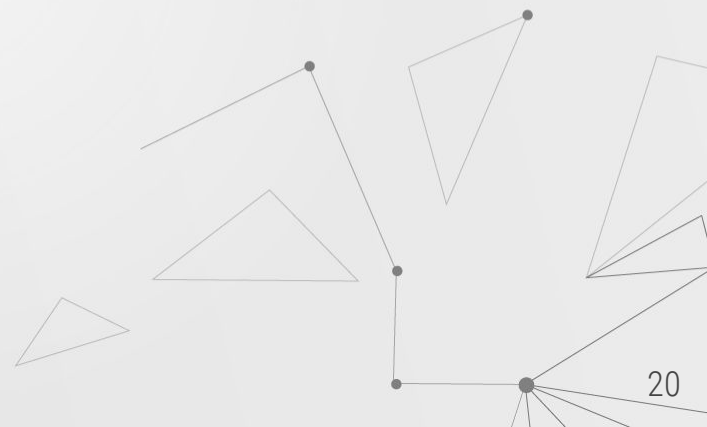
Injective function


Observed node

Neighbours' color

- Efficient heuristic
- Isomorphic graphs  $\rightarrow$  same labels
- Nodes are uniquely coloured
- Distinguish most graphs

But... limited use in practice

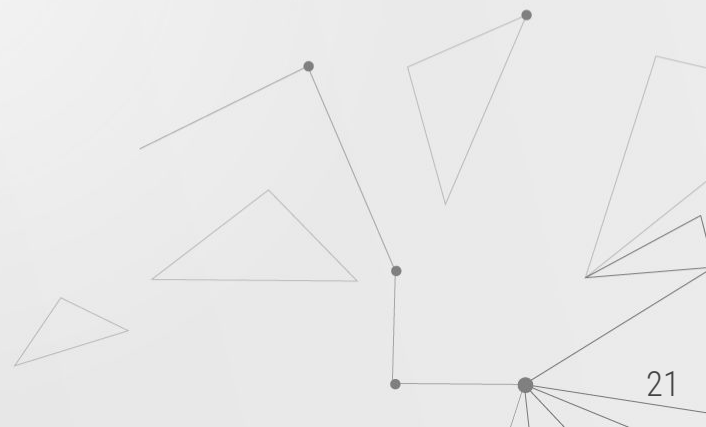





## 03 Graph Isomorphism Network (GIN)

---

Can we construct a GNNs as powerful as the WL isomorphism test?





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GIN - Graph Isomorphism Network<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Xu et al., *How powerful are graph neural networks?*, International Conference on Learning Representations, 2019

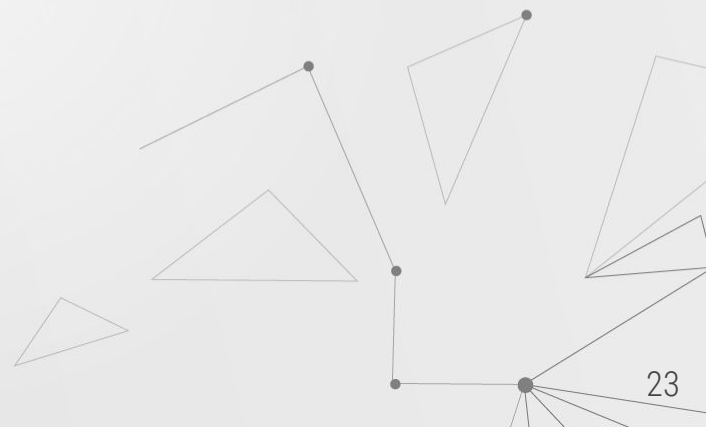


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$G, G'$  two non-isomorphic graphs

$\mathcal{A} : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  a GNN





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Construct  $\mathcal{A}$  s.t.  $\{h_i : i \in V(G)\}$  and  $\{h_j : j \in V(G')\}$  differ

→ WL test decides they are non-isomorphic





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→ WL test decides they are non-isomorphic

$$h_i^{(k)} = \boxed{\phi}\left(h_i^{(k-1)}, \boxed{f}\left(\{h_j^{(k-1)} : j \in \mathcal{N}(i)\}\right)\right)$$

**Injective**

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$G, G'$  two non-isomorphic graphs

$\mathcal{A} : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  a GNN

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$$h_i^{(k)} = \phi\left(h_i^{(k-1)}, f\left(\{h_j^{(k-1)} : j \in \mathcal{N}(i)\}\right)\right)$$

**Injective**

Sum-decomposition



## 04 Sum-decomposition<sup>3</sup>

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Any injective function on multisets can be decomposed as

$$g(X) = \phi\left(\sum_{x \in X} f(x)\right)$$

<sup>3</sup>Zaheer et al., *Deep sets*, Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 30, 2017



## 04 Sum-decomposition<sup>3</sup>

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Any injective function on multisets can be decomposed as

$$g(X) = \phi\left(\sum_{x \in X} f(x)\right)$$

$$g(\mathbf{h}, X) = \phi\left((1 + \epsilon) \cdot f(\mathbf{h}) + \sum_{x \in X} f(x)\right)$$

<sup>3</sup>Zaheer et al., *Deep sets*, Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 30, 2017

## 04 Back to GIN

---

Use an MLP for representing  $\phi \circ f$

$$\mathbf{h}_i^{(k)} = \text{MLP}^{(k)} \left( (1 + \epsilon^{(k)}) \cdot \mathbf{h}_i^{(k-1)} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} \mathbf{h}_j^{(k-1)} \right)$$

## 04 Back to GIN

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### Cons of sum-decomposition:

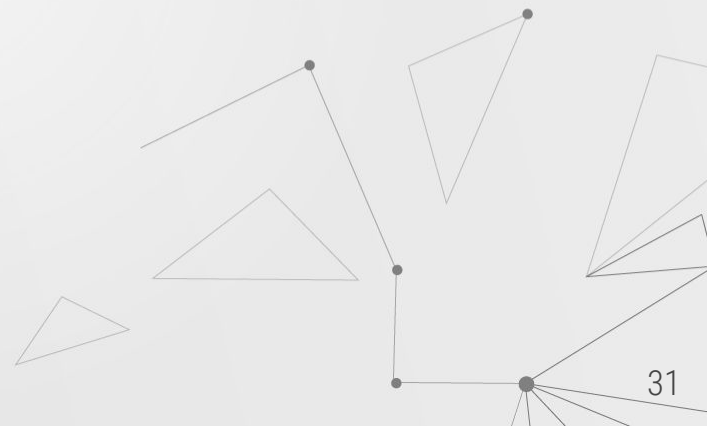
- Highly discontinuous functions
- For uncountable domains, latent dimension of  $f$  should be higher than the number of elements in the set<sup>4</sup>
- No guarantee to find the right function

<sup>4</sup>Wagstaff et al., *On the limitations of representing functions on sets*, Proceedings of the 36th International Conference on Machine Learning, 2019



# 05 Principal Neighborhood Aggregation<sup>5</sup>

Select the best combination of aggregators and scalers



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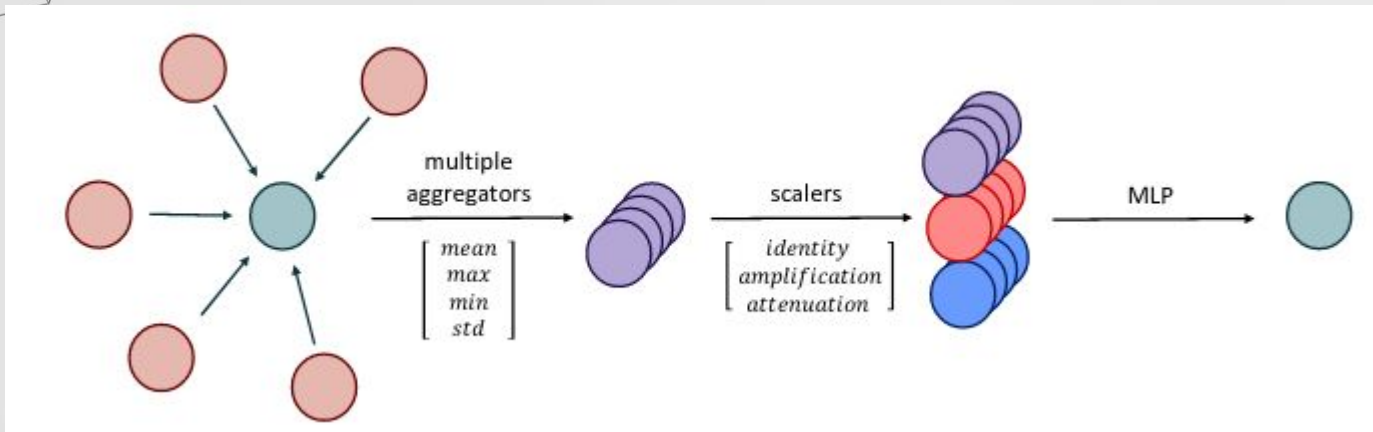


Image taken from the arXiv version of the paper.

<sup>5</sup>Corso et al., *Principal Neighbourhood Aggregation for Graph Nets*, Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 33 (NeurIPS 2020), 2020



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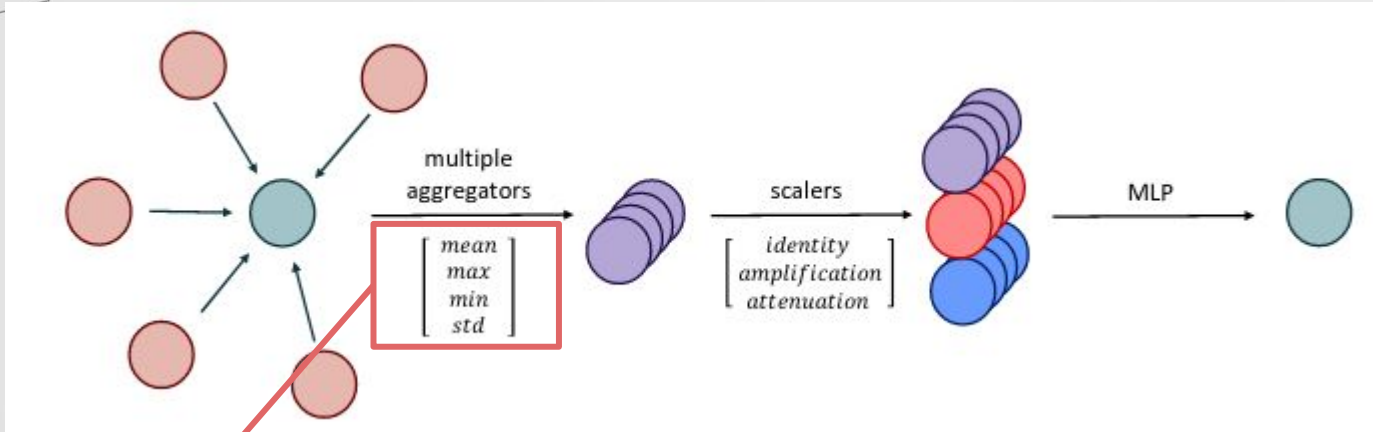


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**Library of aggregators**

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# 05 Principal Neighborhood Aggregation<sup>5</sup>

Select the best combination of aggregators and scalars

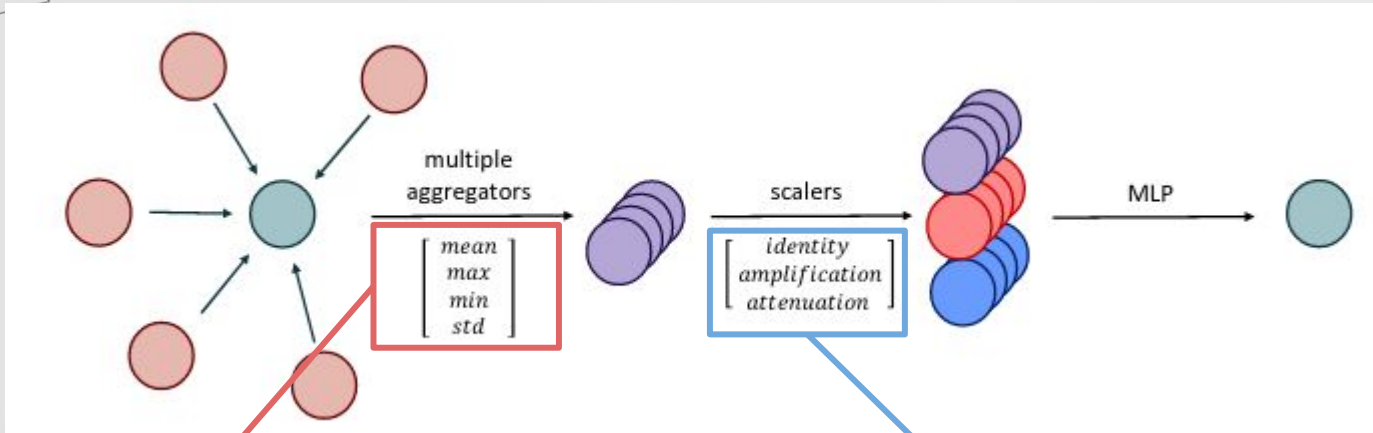


Image taken from the arXiv version of the paper.

**Library of aggregators**

**Logarithmic scalars**

<sup>5</sup>Corso et al., *Principal Neighbourhood Aggregation for Graph Nets*, Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 33 (NeurIPS 2020), 2020



## 05 Principal Neighborhood Aggregation<sup>5</sup>

---

$$S = \left( \frac{\log(d + 1)}{\delta} \right)^\alpha$$

$$\delta = \frac{1}{|train|} \sum_{i \in train} \log(d_i + 1)$$

$$S_{amp}, \alpha = 1 \quad S_{att}, \alpha = -1$$

$$S_{identity}$$




## 06 Learning Aggregation Functions<sup>6</sup>

Don't choose the aggregation function(s) - learn it!

<sup>5</sup>Pellegrini et al., *Learning Aggregation Functions*, under revision, 2020





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$$L_{a,b}(X) := \left( \sum_{x_i \in X} x_i^b \right)^a \quad a, b \geq 0, x_i > 0$$

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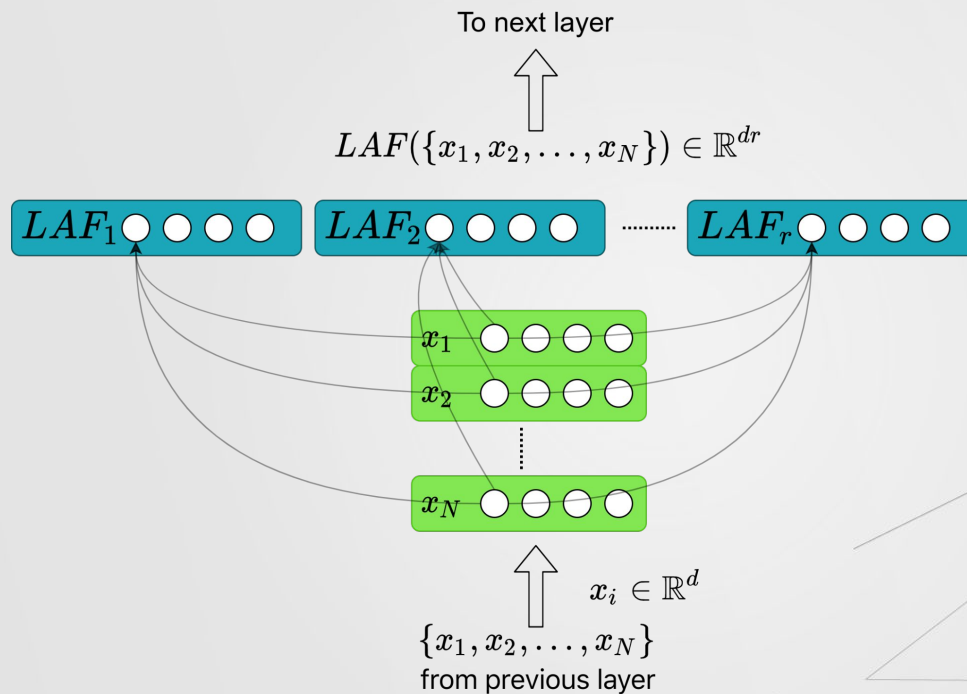
**Learnable parameters**

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MAX, MIN, SUM, MEAN, MOMENTS, MIN/MAX, COUNT ...

<sup>6</sup>Pellegrini et al., *Learning Aggregation Functions*, under revision, 2020

## 06 Learning Aggregation Functions





# 07 Aggregation in Pytorch Geometric

PyTorch Geometric provides the MessagePassing base class.

## METHODS

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CLASS MessagePassing ( aggr: Optional[str] = 'add', flow: str = 'source_to_target', node_dim: int =  
- 2 ) \[source\]
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Aggregates messages from  
neighbors (sum, mean, max)

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Constructs messages from node  $j$   
to node  $i$  in analogy to  $\phi\Theta$

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message ( x_j: torch.Tensor ) → torch.Tensor \[source\]
```

Propagate messages

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propagate ( edge_index: Union[torch.Tensor, torch_sparse.tensor.SparseTensor], size:  
Optional[Tuple[int, int]] = None, **kwargs ) \[source\]
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