

The background features a light gray gradient with abstract geometric elements. On the left, there is a complex network graph with dark gray nodes and edges. Scattered across the right side are several thin, light gray triangles of various sizes and orientations. The title 'Recurrent Graph Neural Networks' is centered in a large, bold, dark gray font.

# Recurrent Graph Neural Networks

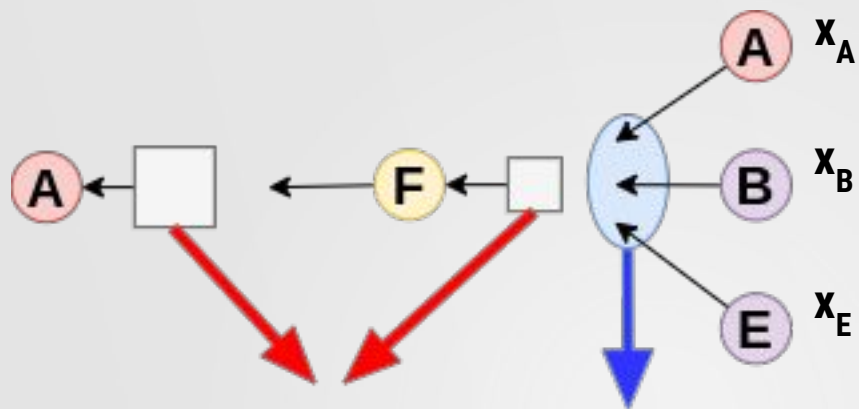
Giovanni Pellegrini<sup>1,2,3</sup>

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

TIM<sup>2</sup>

EIT DIGITAL<sup>3</sup>

# 01 GNNs so far

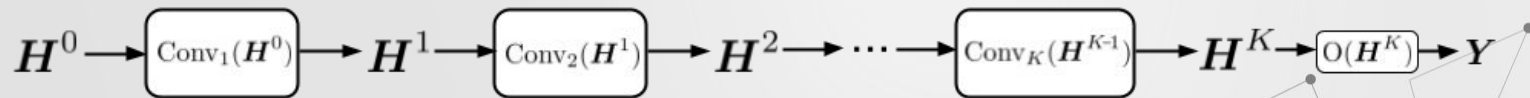
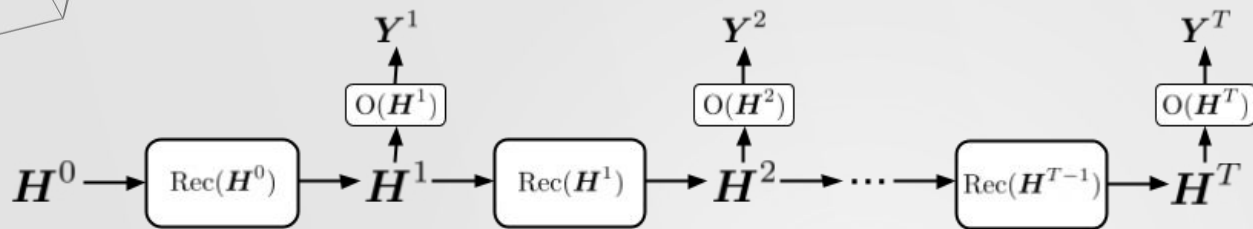


Neural Networks

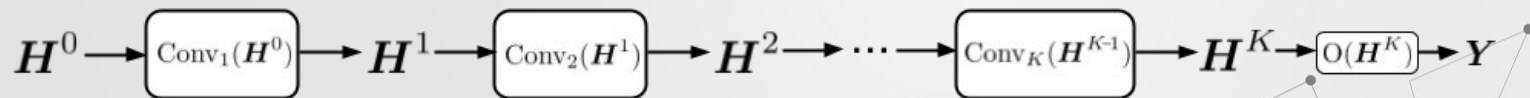
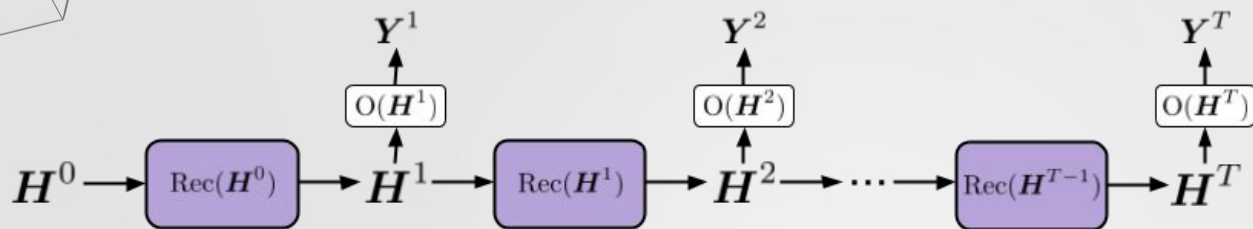
Permutation invariant  
Aggregation

Sum  
Average  
Max

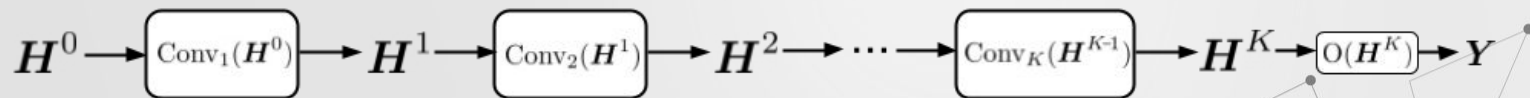
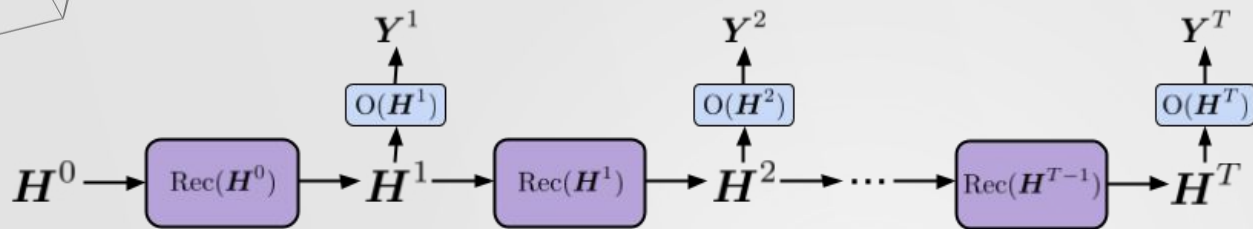
## 02 Recurrent VS Convolutional



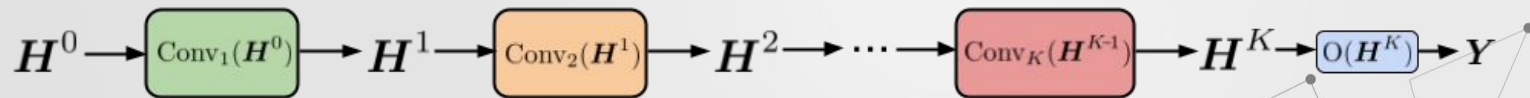
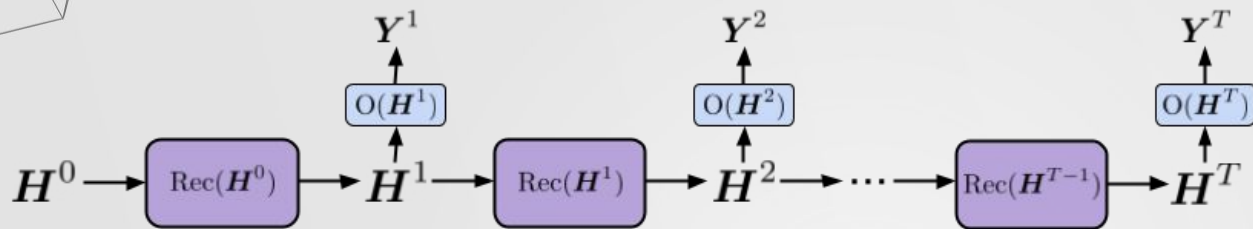
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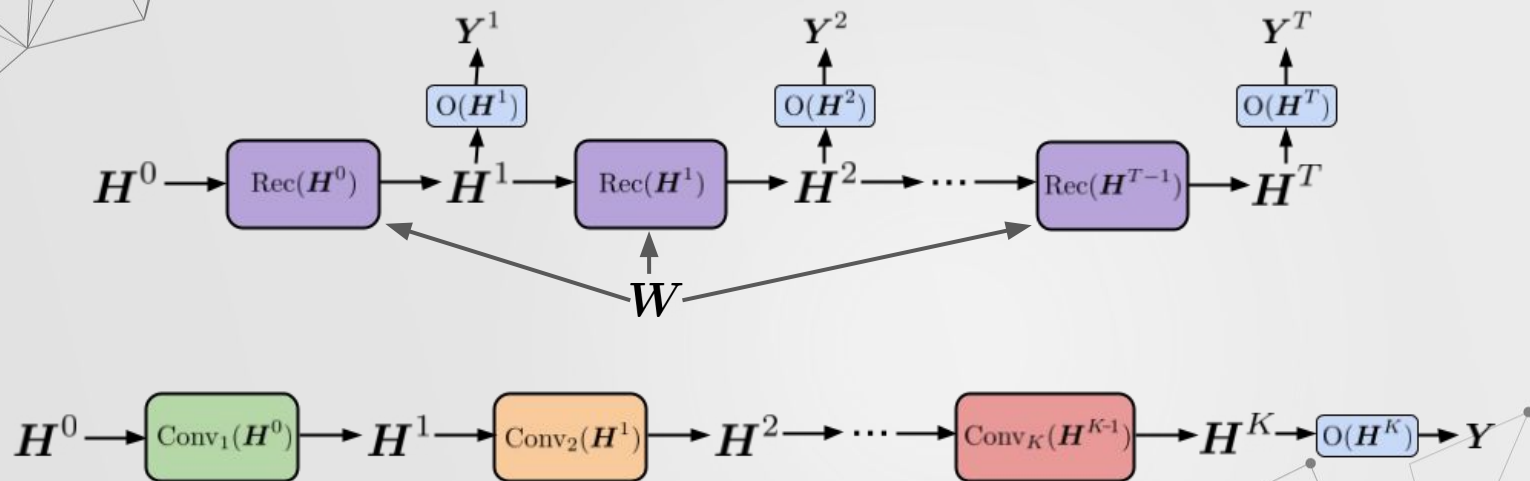
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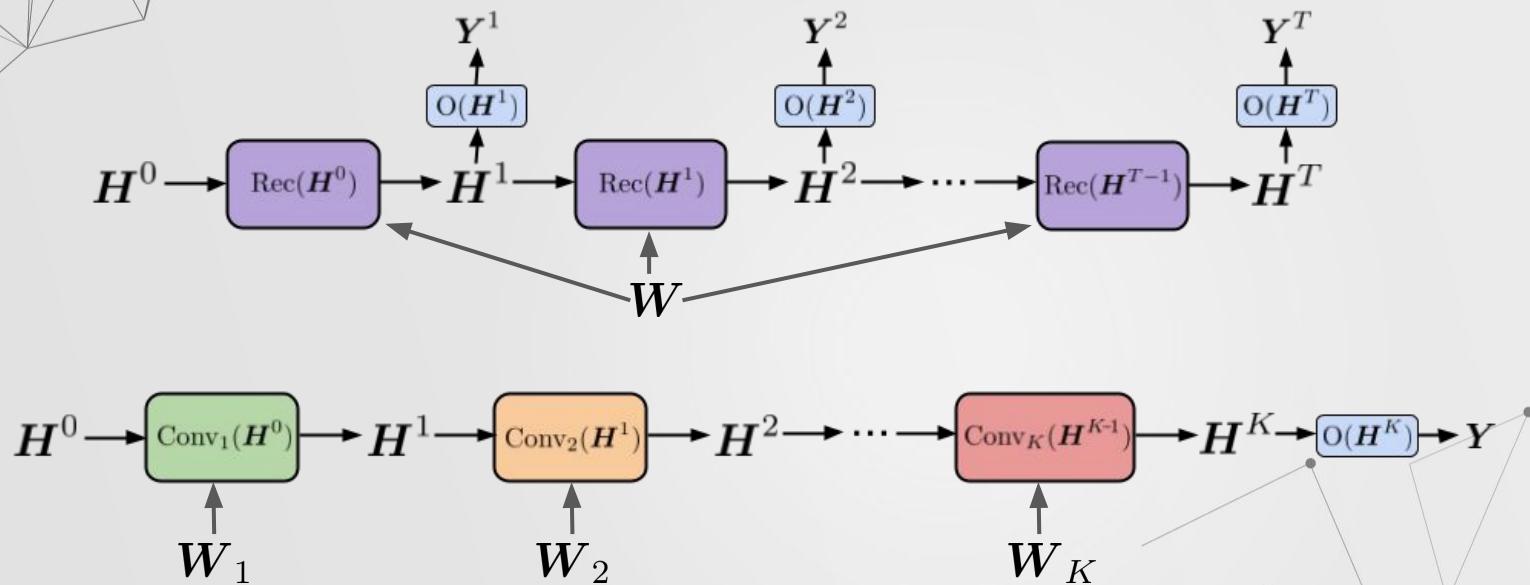
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## 02 Recurrent VS Convolutional





**GNNs so far**

**01**

**Recurrent VS  
Convolutional**

**02**

**The Graph Neural  
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## 03 Graph Neural Network Model<sup>1</sup>

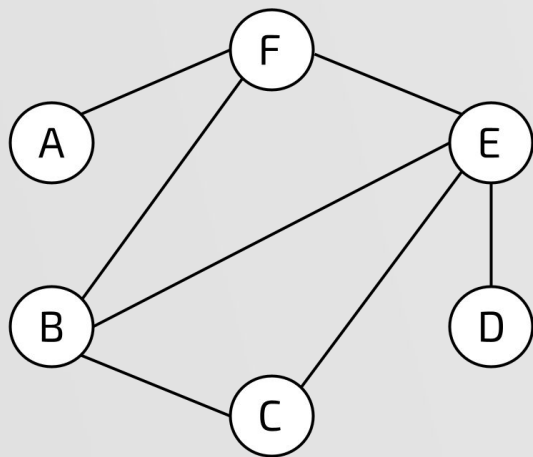
- Pioneer work on Graph Neural Network
- Diffusion mechanism (convolution)
- General framework for graph processing

<sup>1</sup> Scarselli, et al., *The graph neural network model*, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, 2009

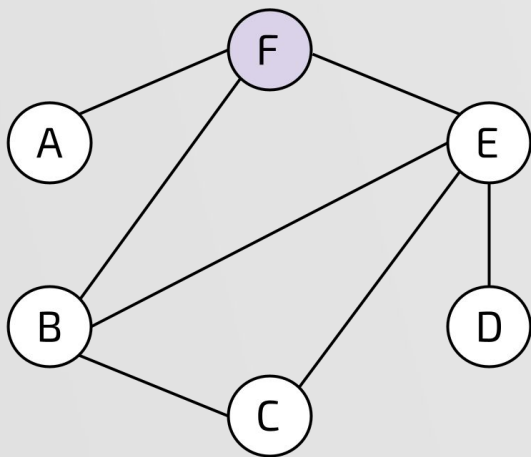


# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

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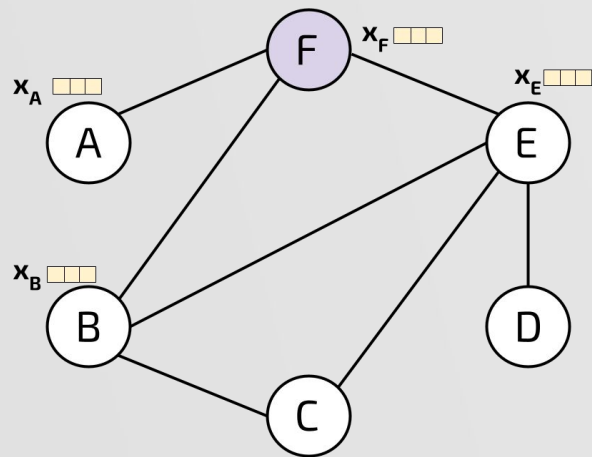


# 03 Graph Neural Network Model



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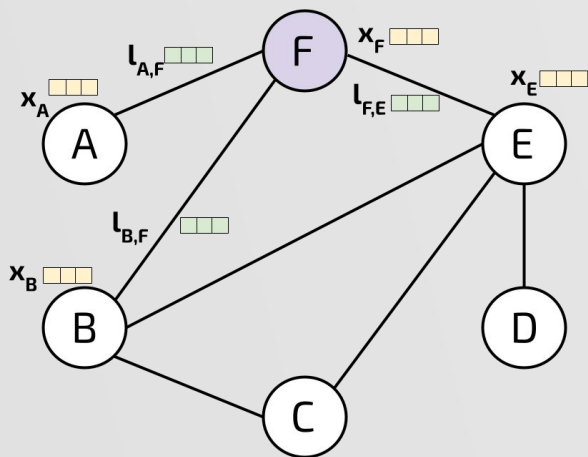
$$\mathbf{x}_v = \mathbb{R}^d$$



# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

$$\mathbf{x}_v = \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$\mathbf{l}_{v,u} = \mathbb{R}^{l_E}$$

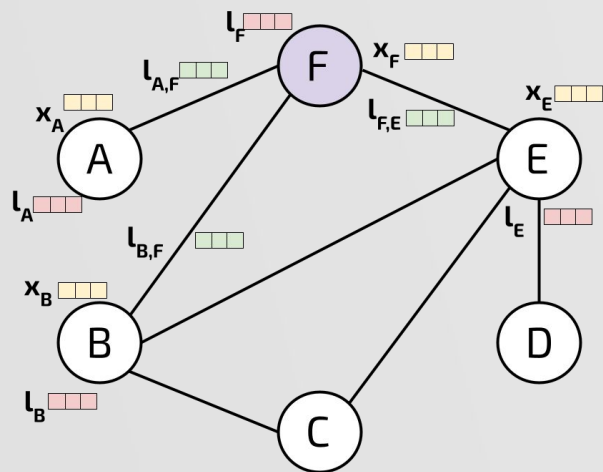


# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

$$\mathbf{x}_v = \mathbb{R}^d$$

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$$\mathbf{l}_v = \mathbb{R}^{l_N}$$



# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

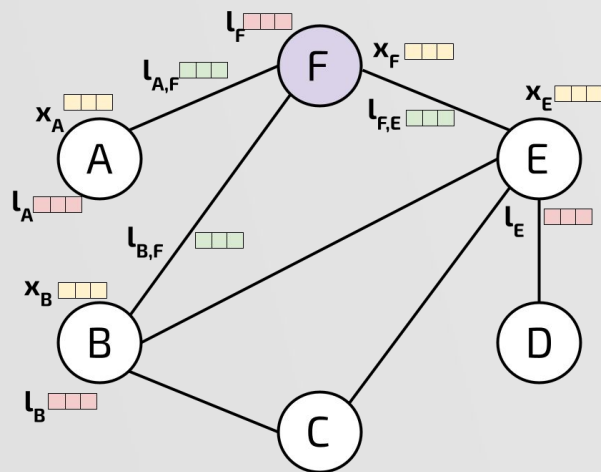
$$\mathbf{x}_v = \mathbb{R}^d$$

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$co(v)$  = edges connected to  $v$

$ne(v)$  = neighbours of  $v$





# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

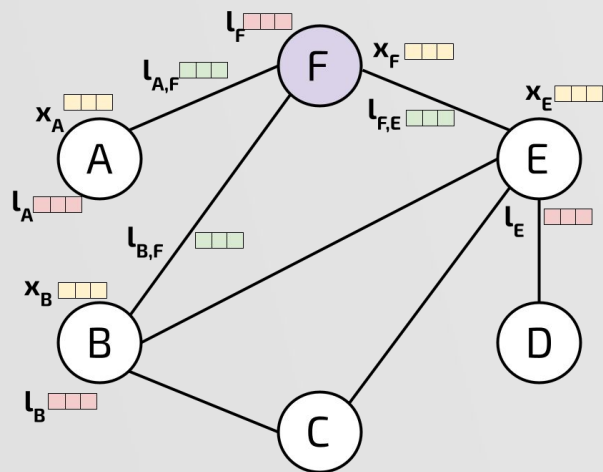
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$$\mathbf{x}_v^{t+1} = f_w(\mathbf{l}_v, \mathbf{l}_{co(v)}, \mathbf{x}_{ne(v)}^t, \mathbf{l}_{ne(v)})$$

# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

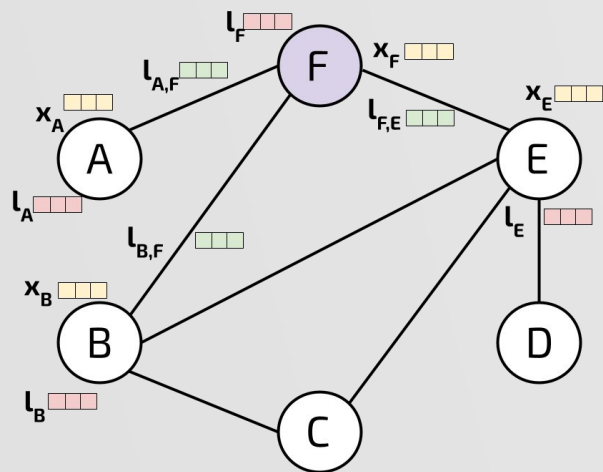
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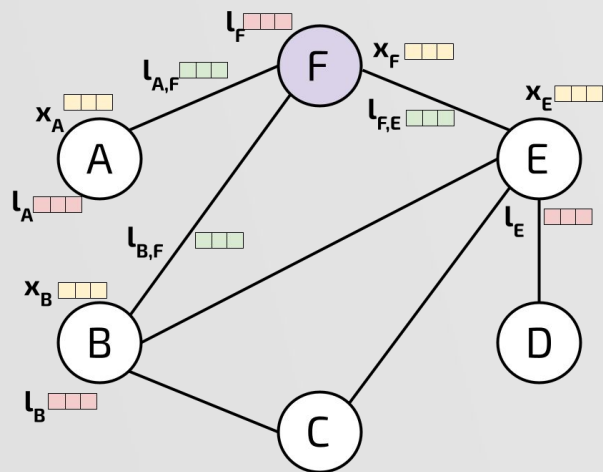
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$$\mathbf{x}_v^{t+1} = f_{\boxed{w}}(\mathbf{l}_v, \mathbf{l}_{co(v)}, \mathbf{x}_{ne(v)}^t, \mathbf{l}_{ne(v)})$$

learnable parameters

$$\mathbf{o}_v^t = g_{\boxed{w}}(\mathbf{x}_v^t, \mathbf{l}_v)$$

# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

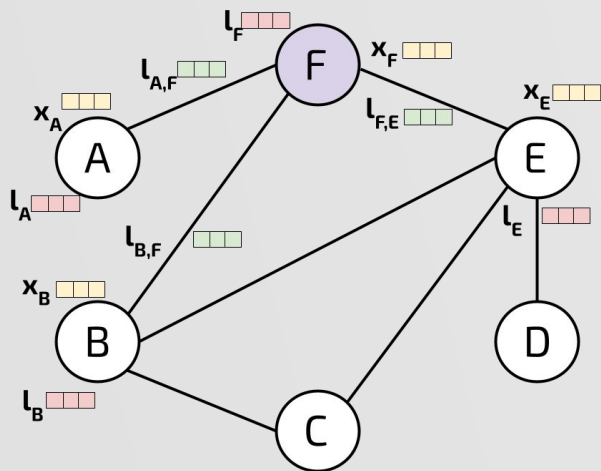
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$$\mathbf{x}_v^{t+1} = f_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{l}_v, \mathbf{l}_{co(v)}, \mathbf{x}_{ne(v)}^t, \mathbf{l}_{ne(v)})$$

$$\mathbf{o}_v^t = g_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}_v^t, \mathbf{l}_v)$$

learnable parameters

$f_{\mathbf{w}}$  = transition function

$g_{\mathbf{w}}$  = output function

# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

Repeated forward of the transition function create an **encoding network**  $\varphi_w$

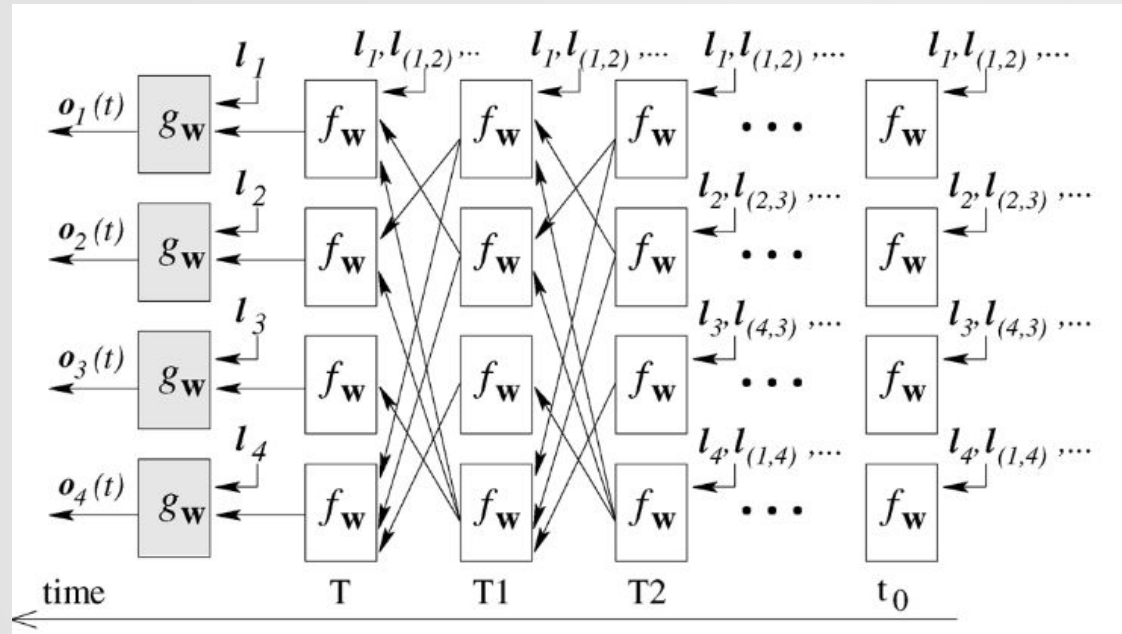


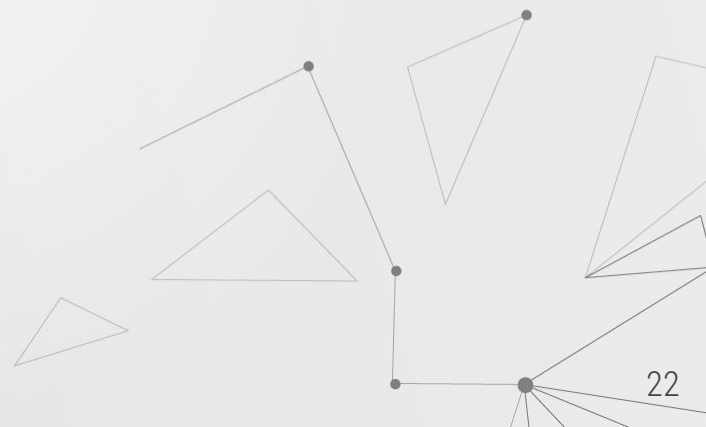
Image taken from the original publication



# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

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Goal: converge to a unique solution for  $\mathbf{x}_v$  and  $\mathbf{o}_v$





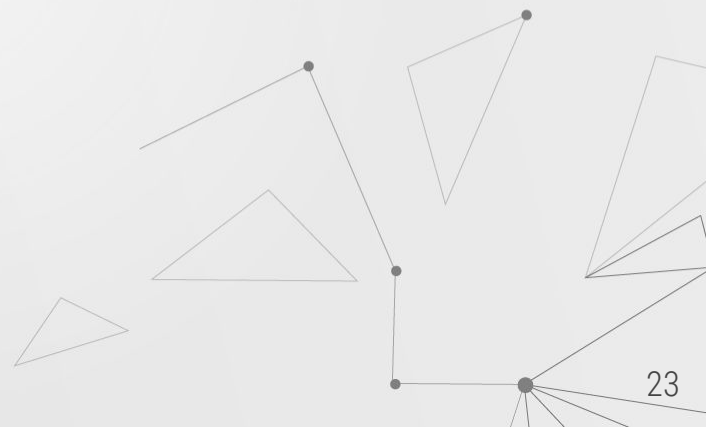
# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

---

Goal: converge to a unique solution for  $\mathbf{x}_v$  and  $\mathbf{o}_v$

If the transition function  $f_w$  is a **contraction mapping**,  
there exists a fixed point solution

$$\|\mathbf{x}_v^{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_v^t\| < \epsilon$$





## 03 Graph Neural Network Model

---

Goal: converge to a unique solution for  $\mathbf{x}_v$  and  $\mathbf{o}_v$

If the transition function  $f_w$  is a **contraction mapping**,  
there exists a fixed point solution

$$\|\mathbf{x}_v^{t+1} - \mathbf{x}_v^t\| < \epsilon$$

If  $f_w$  is a NN, to ensure the contraction mapping a  
penalty based on the norm of the Jacobian is added to  
the loss function



# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

MAIN

initialize  $w$ ;

$x = \text{Forward}(w)$ ;

repeat

$\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w} = \text{BACKWARD}(x, w)$ ;

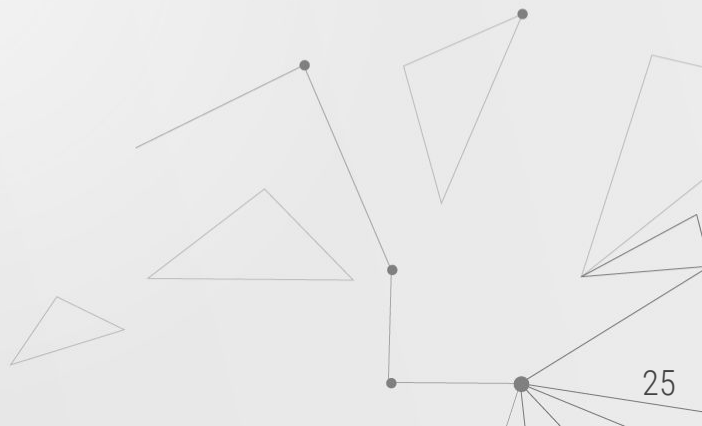
$w = w - \lambda \cdot \frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ ;

$x = \text{FORWARD}(w)$ ;

until (a stopping criterion);

return  $w$ ;

end



# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

MAIN

```
initialize  $w$ ;  
 $x$ =Forward( $w$ );  
repeat  
     $\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ =BACKWARD( $x, w$ );  
     $w=w - \lambda \cdot \frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ ;  
     $x$ =FORWARD( $w$ );  
until (a stopping criterion);  
return  $w$ ;  
end
```

FORWARD( $w$ )

```
initialize  $x(0)$ ,  $t = 0$ ;  
repeat  
     $x(t+1) = F_w(x(t), l)$ ;  
     $t=t+1$ ;  
until  $\|x(t) - x(t-1)\| \leq \varepsilon_f$   
return  $x(t)$ ;  
end
```

# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

MAIN

```
initialize  $w$ ;  
 $x$ =Forward( $w$ );  
repeat  
     $\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ =BACKWARD( $x, w$ );  
     $w=w - \lambda \cdot \frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ ;  
     $x$ =FORWARD( $w$ );  
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return  $w$ ;  
end
```

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until  $\|x(t) - x(t-1)\| \leq \varepsilon_f$   
return  $x(t)$ ;
```

end

BACKWARD( $x, w$ )

```
 $o = G_w(x, l_N)$ ;  
 $A = \frac{\partial F_w}{\partial x}(x, l)$ ;  
 $b = \frac{\partial e_w}{\partial o} \cdot \frac{\partial G_w}{\partial x}(x, l_N)$ ;  
initialize  $z(0)$ ,  $t=0$ ;  
repeat  
     $z(t) = z(t+1) \cdot A + b$ ;  
     $t=t-1$ ;  
until  $\|z(t-1) - z(t)\| \leq \varepsilon_b$ ;  
 $c = \frac{\partial e_w}{\partial o} \cdot \frac{\partial G_w}{\partial w}(x, l_N)$ ;  
 $d = z(t) \cdot \frac{\partial F_w}{\partial w}(x, l)$ ;  
 $\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w} = c + d$ ;  
return  $\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ ;
```

end

# 03 Graph Neural Network Model

MAIN

```
initialize  $w$ ;  
 $x$ =Forward( $w$ );  
repeat  
     $\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ =BACKWARD( $x, w$ );  
     $w=w - \lambda \cdot \frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ ;  
     $x$ =FORWARD( $w$ );  
until (a stopping criterion);  
return  $w$ ;  
end
```

FORWARD( $w$ )

```
initialize  $x(0)$ ,  $t = 0$ ;  
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     $x(t+1) = F_w(x(t), l)$ ;  
     $t=t+1$ ;  
until  $\|x(t) - x(t-1)\| \leq \varepsilon_f$   
return  $x(t)$ ;
```

end

BACKWARD( $x, w$ )

```
 $o = G_w(x, l_N)$ ;  
 $A = \frac{\partial F_w}{\partial x}(x, l)$ ;  
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repeat  
     $z(t) = z(t+1) \cdot A + b$ ;  
     $t=t-1$ ;  
until  $\|z(t-1) - z(t)\| \leq \varepsilon_b$ ;  
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 $d = z(t) \cdot \frac{\partial F_w}{\partial w}(x, l)$ ;  
 $\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w} = c + d$ ;  
return  $\frac{\partial e_w}{\partial w}$ ;
```

end

Almeida - Pineda  
algorithm



# 04 Gated Graph Neural Network<sup>2</sup>

---

- Adaptation of the GNNM
- Uses GRU (Gated Recurrent Units) as transition function
- Iterate over T timesteps (instead of until convergence)
- Uses BTT (BackProp Through Time) to compute gradient

<sup>1</sup> Li et al, *Gated graph sequence neural networks*, ICLR, 2015.

# 04 Gated Graph Neural Network

Node annotations: node embeddings with additional information

Propagation Model:

$$\mathbf{h}_v^{(1)} = [\mathbf{x}_v^\top, \mathbf{0}]^\top \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{a}_v^{(t)} = \mathbf{A}_v^\top \left[ \mathbf{h}_1^{(t-1)\top} \dots \mathbf{h}_{|\mathcal{V}|}^{(t-1)\top} \right]^\top + \mathbf{b} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{z}_v^t = \sigma \left( \mathbf{W}^z \mathbf{a}_v^{(t)} + \mathbf{U}^z \mathbf{h}_v^{(t-1)} \right) \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{r}_v^t = \sigma \left( \mathbf{W}^r \mathbf{a}_v^{(t)} + \mathbf{U}^r \mathbf{h}_v^{(t-1)} \right) \quad (4)$$

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{h}}_v^{(t)} = \tanh \left( \mathbf{W} \mathbf{a}_v^{(t)} + \mathbf{U} \left( \mathbf{r}_v^t \odot \mathbf{h}_v^{(t-1)} \right) \right) \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{h}_v^{(t)} = (1 - \mathbf{z}_v^t) \odot \mathbf{h}_v^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{z}_v^t \odot \widetilde{\mathbf{h}}_v^{(t)}. \quad (6)$$

# 04 Gated Graph Neural Network

Node annotations: node embeddings with additional information

Propagation Model:

Node  
state

Node  
annotation

$$\mathbf{h}_v^{(1)} = [\mathbf{x}_v^\top, \mathbf{0}]^\top \quad (1)$$

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# 04 Gated Graph Neural Network

Node annotations: node embeddings with additional information

Propagation Model:

Node state  
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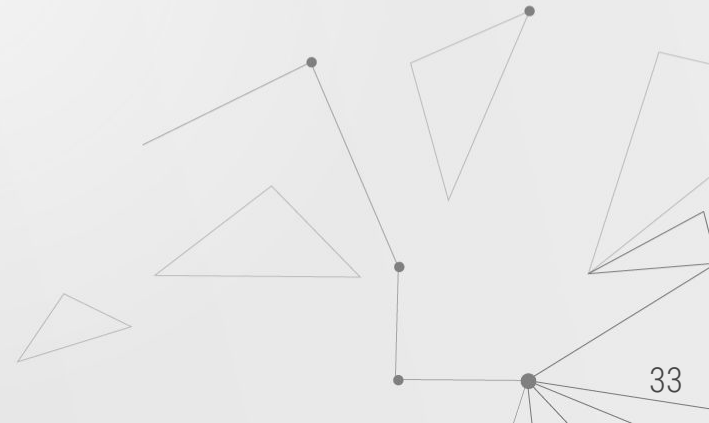
$$\mathbf{o}_v = g(\mathbf{h}_v^{(T)}, \mathbf{x}_v)$$





# 05 Gated Graph Sequence Neural Network

What if we want to produce sequences of output values?





# 05 Gated Graph Sequence Neural Network

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What if we want to produce sequences of output values?

**GGsNN** : multiple GGNNs operate in sequence to produce  $\mathbf{o}_v^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{o}_v^{(k)}$



## 05 Gated Graph Sequence Neural Network

---

What if we want to produce sequences of output values?

**GGsNN** : multiple GGNNs operate in sequence to produce  $\mathbf{o}_v^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{o}_v^{(k)}$

$\mathcal{F}_x^{(k)}$  Computes  $\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)}$  from  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$

$\mathcal{F}_o^{(k)}$  Computes  $\mathbf{o}^{(k)}$  from  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$





## 05 Gated Graph Sequence Neural Network

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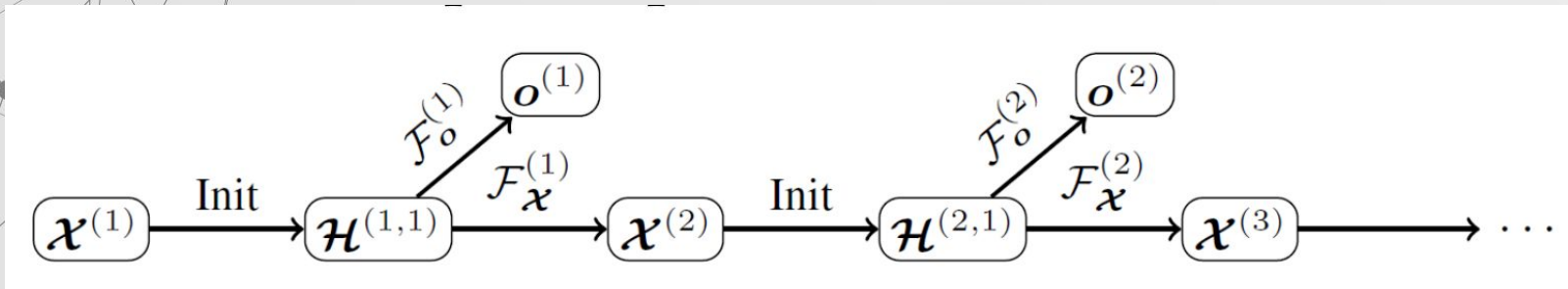
$\mathcal{F}_x^{(k)}$  Computes  $\mathbf{X}^{(k+1)}$  from  $\mathbf{X}^{(k)}$

$\mathcal{F}_o^{(k)}$  Computes  $\mathbf{o}^{(k)}$  from  $\mathbf{X}^{(k)}$

$\mathcal{F}^{(k)}$  implements both the **transition** and **output** function!



# 05 Gated Graph Sequence Neural Network



$$\mathbf{X}^{(k)} = [\mathbf{x}_1^{(k)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_v^{(k)}]$$

$$\mathbf{H}^{(k,t)} = [\mathbf{h}_1^{(k,t)}, \dots, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k,t)}]$$

$k$  = length of the sequence

$t$  = timesteps



# 06 PyG tutorial

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Let's go to the Jupyter notebook....

