

# Hierarchical Graph Representation Learning via Differentiable Pooling

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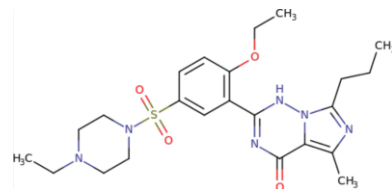


# Motivation: ML for Graphs

- Graph classification tasks:

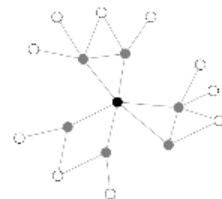
- Molecule prediction

- Classify molecule properties (toxicity, drug-likeness etc.)



- Social networks

- Predict social group properties

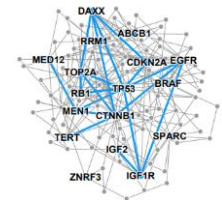


- Biological applications

- Model disease pathways in PPI networks

- Physical systems

- Evolving dynamical systems



# Graph Pooling

Graph Neural Networks (GNNs) have revolutionized machine learning with graphs

But GNNs learn individual node representations and then simply globally aggregate them:

- Mean/max/sum of all node embeddings (e.g. `structure2vec`)
- Pool by sorting (e.g. DGCNN, PatchySan)

**Problem:** How to aggregate information in a hierarchical way to capture the entire graph

# Pooling for GNNs

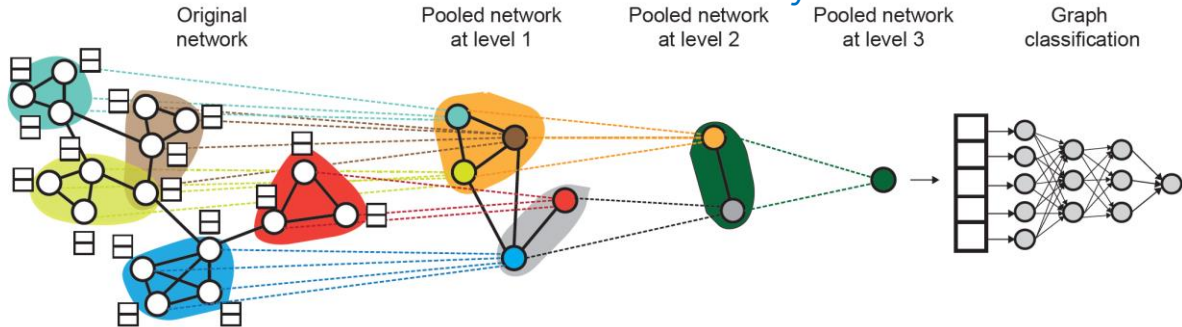
**Problem:** Learn a hierarchical pooling strategy that respects graph structure

## **Our solution: DIFFPOOL**

- Learns hierarchical pooling analogous to CNNs
- Sets of nodes are pooled hierarchically
- Soft assignment of nodes to next-level nodes

# DIFFPOOL Architecture

A different GNN is learned at every level of abstraction



**Our approach:** Use two sets of GNNs

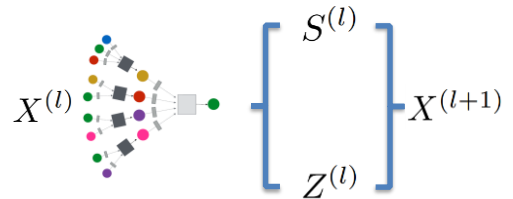
- GNN1 to learn how to pool the network
  - Learn cluster assignment matrix
- GNN2 to learn the node embeddings

# DIFFPOOL Architecture

Assuming general GNN model:

$$H^{(k)} = M(A, H^{(k-1)}; \theta^{(k)})$$

Concretely:  $\text{ReLU}(\tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{A} \tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} H^{(k-1)} W^{(k-1)})$



Two-tower architecture

$$Z^{(l)} = \text{GNN}_{l, \text{embed}}(A^{(l)}, X^{(l)})$$

Embedding

$$S^{(l)} = \text{softmax}(\text{GNN}_{l, \text{pool}}(A^{(l)}, X^{(l)}))$$

Assignment

Aggregate embedding via assignment to generate next-level representations and adjacency

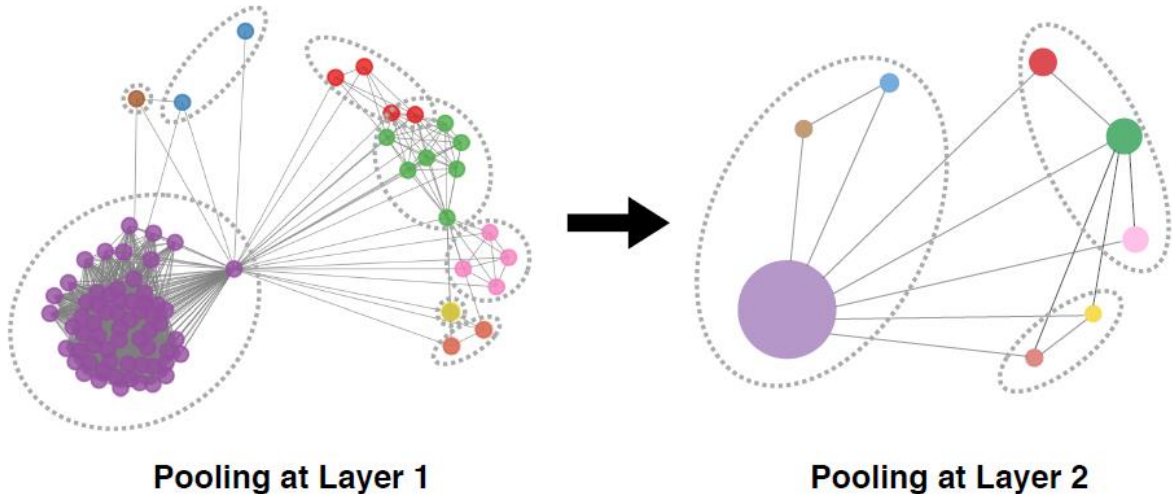
# Experimental Results

An average of 6.27% improvement in accuracy for graph classification tasks on biological and social networks

	Method	Data Set					
		ENZYMES	D&D	REDDIT-MULTI-12K	COLLAB	PROTEINS	Gain
GNN	PATCHYSAN	–	76.27	41.32	72.60	75.00	4.17
	GRAPHSAGE	54.25	75.42	42.24	68.25	70.48	–
	ECC	53.50	74.10	41.73	67.79	72.65	0.11
	SET2SET	60.15	78.12	43.49	71.75	74.29	3.32
	SORTPOOL	57.12	79.37	41.82	73.76	75.54	3.39
	DIFFPOOL-DET	58.33	75.47	46.18	<b>82.13</b>	75.62	5.42
	DIFFPOOL-NO LP	61.95	79.98	46.65	75.58	76.22	5.95
	DIFFPOOL	<b>62.53</b>	<b>80.64</b>	<b>47.08</b>	75.48	<b>76.25</b>	<b>6.27</b>

# Experimental Results

DIFFPOOL learns reasonable pooling architectures





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Thank you!

Poster: AB #14

Code: <https://github.com/RexYing/diffpool>