

Samueli Computer Science

Non-Euclidean Mixture Model for Social Network Embedding

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Introduction and Preliminaries

- **Social networks** are omnipresent because they model interactions on social platforms
- Social network analysis is key to community detection, user connectivity etc.
- Widely agreed that social network links are formed from **homophily** or **social influence**
- **Homophily:** associated nodes imply feature similarity (form cycles)
- **Social Influence:** popular nodes have direct influence in forming links (form hierarchies)

Social Network Embedding Models

Observations:

- **Shallow embedding models (structural** embedding) do not effectively learn graph structure (limited to attributes)
- Models do not capture all social network factors e.g., social influence
- All network structures are modeled in same space e.g., flat Euclidean space

SOTA baseline models

Motivation and Problem Definition

- A social network *G* = (*V, A)* consists of vertices *V* = { v_j }^{*N*}_{i=1}, and adjacency matrix e_{ij} ∈ *A*
- We aim to design a model to jointly learn both node homophily and social influence representation, denoted *zⁱ S* and *zⁱ ^H*respectively, that can best **explain** the social network for link reconstruction.

Encoder and Prior Distributions

• The encoder maps nodes into **z**^S (homophily) and **z**^H (social influence), which follow non-Euclidean prior distributions.

Decoder: Non-Euclidean Mixture Model

- Embeddings are passed into our mixture model decoder (homophily + social influence).
- Objective: maximize likelihood to observe links (= minimize link reconstruction loss).

Space Unification

- $min(dist_s(z_i^S, z_i^{S'}))$ $p(\mathbf{z})$ $z_i^{S'}$ $= \text{proj}_{s}(\mathbf{z}_{i}^{H})$ **KL Divergence** Poincaré ball (3D) nification z_i^S **Surface of KL** Spherical ball (2D) **Divergence** $p(\mathbf{z}_i^S)$
	- Space unification architecture

- We design **space unification** component to align distinct geometric spaces
	- Ensures two embeddings of same node correspond to each other
	- *zⁱ ^H*in the Poincaré ball is projected on the surface of the sphere and its distance to $\mathbf{z}_i^{\mathcal{S}}$ is minimized

Dataset Statistics

Experiment Evaluation: 90% of links randomly sampled as training. Do not perform cross-validation as it may cause overfitting of learnable parameters: *z_s, z_H, J, B, C, D, γ, W_ι.*

Evaluation: Classification & Link Prediction

Table 3: Results of social network classification and link prediction for **Jaccard Index** (%), **Hamming Loss** (%), **F1 Score** (%), **AUC** (%) using embedding dimension 64. Our NMM and its variants are in gray shading. For each group of models, the best results are bold-faced. The overall best results on each dataset are underscored. [†]Ablation study variant models using distinct non-Euclidean geometric spaces for **NMM** (homophily/social influence) where E , S , and H denote Euclidean, Spherical, and Hyperbolic spaces.

- Modeling for both social network factors jointly achieves superior performance
- Homophily is best modeled in spherical space and social influence is best modeled in hyperbolic space

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Additional Ablation Studies

- **NMM**_{hom}: $p_{\theta}(e_{ij} = 1) = \alpha \cdot p_{hom}(e_{ij} = 1)$
- **• NMM**_{rank}: $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{e}_y = 1) = \beta \cdot p_{\text{rank}}(\mathbf{e}_y = 1)$
- **NMM: our mixed distribution model**

On embedding dimension 64 for AUC score

- **NMM-GNN** and **RaRE** on *LiveJournal*
- As less training nodes are observed, NMM-GNN outperforms RaRE by larger margins (e.g., 10% vs. 70% training nodes) ○ better generalization to unseen graphs

NMM-GNN Contributions

- (1) We propose Graph-based Non-Euclidean Mixture Model (NMM) to explain social network generation. NMM represents nodes via joint influence by homophily (spherical space) and social influence (hyperbolic space), with space alignment component.
- (2) The first to couple NMM with graph-based VAE learning framework, NMM-GNN.
	- (a) We introduce a novel non-Euclidean VAE framework where node embeddings are learned with a powerful encoder of GNNs using spherical and hyperbolic spaces, non-Euclidean Gaussian priors, and unified non-Euclidean optimization.

