

Graph networks for developing AI

Based on: [Relational inductive biases, deep learning, and graph networks](#)

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Introduction

“... the world is compositional, or at least, we understand it in compositional terms. When learning, we either fit new knowledge into our existing structured representations, or adjust the structure itself to better accommodate (and make use of) the new and the old. “

Modern deep learning

Done incredibly well avoiding explicit structure.

But seems to be finding its limitations in some areas.

We need a structured representation with structured computations!

What is structure?

- An entity with attributes.
- A relation is a property between entities.
- A rule is a function that maps entities and relations to other entities and relations.

Relational inductive biases

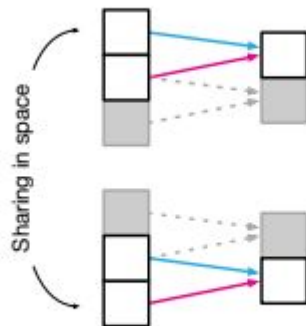
Inductive bias is how an algorithm prioritises one solution over another, independent of the observed data.

Relational inductive bias imposes constraints on relationships and interactions among entities.

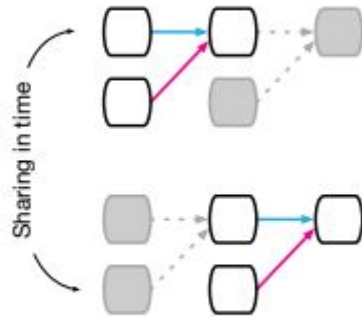
Component	Entities	Relations	Rel. inductive bias	Invariance
Fully connected	Units	All-to-all	Weak	-
Convolutional	Grid elements	Local	Locality	Spatial translation
Recurrent	Timesteps	Sequential	Sequentiality	Time translation
Graph network	Nodes	Edges	Arbitrary	Node, edge permutations



(a) Fully connected



(b) Convolutional



(c) Recurrent

Computations over sets and graphs

What if we want to find:

- Barycenter
- Velocities of planets
- Velocities of planets and their moons

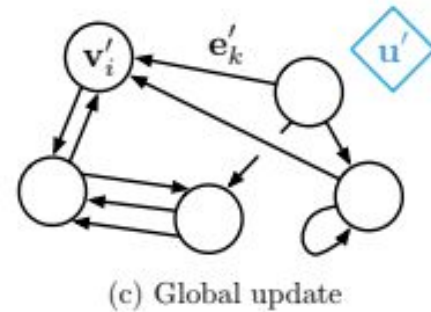
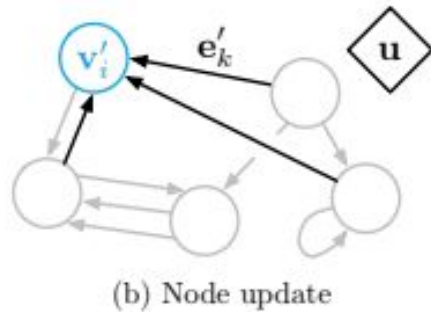
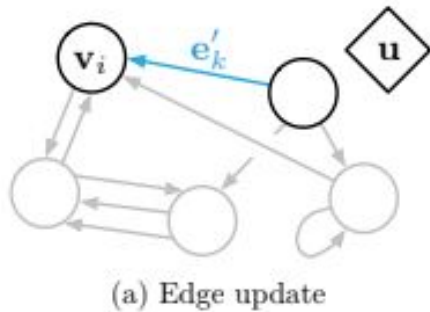
Graph networks

Consist of:

- Nodes
- Edges
- Attributes

Algorithm 1 Steps of computation in a full GN block.

```
function GRAPHNETWORK( $E, V, \mathbf{u}$ )  
  for  $k \in \{1 \dots N^e\}$  do  
     $\mathbf{e}'_k \leftarrow \phi^e(\mathbf{e}_k, \mathbf{v}_{r_k}, \mathbf{v}_{s_k}, \mathbf{u})$  ▷ 1. Compute updated edge attributes  
  end for  
  for  $i \in \{1 \dots N^n\}$  do  
    let  $E'_i = \{(\mathbf{e}'_k, r_k, s_k)\}_{r_k=i, k=1:N^e}$   
     $\bar{\mathbf{e}}'_i \leftarrow \rho^{e \rightarrow v}(E'_i)$  ▷ 2. Aggregate edge attributes per node  
     $\mathbf{v}'_i \leftarrow \phi^v(\bar{\mathbf{e}}'_i, \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{u})$  ▷ 3. Compute updated node attributes  
  end for  
  let  $V' = \{\mathbf{v}'_i\}_{i=1:N^n}$   
  let  $E' = \{(\mathbf{e}'_k, r_k, s_k)\}_{k=1:N^e}$   
   $\bar{\mathbf{e}}' \leftarrow \rho^{e \rightarrow u}(E')$  ▷ 4. Aggregate edge attributes globally  
   $\bar{\mathbf{v}}' \leftarrow \rho^{v \rightarrow u}(V')$  ▷ 5. Aggregate node attributes globally  
   $\mathbf{u}' \leftarrow \phi^u(\bar{\mathbf{e}}', \bar{\mathbf{v}}', \mathbf{u})$  ▷ 6. Compute updated global attribute  
  return ( $E', V', \mathbf{u}'$ )  
end function
```



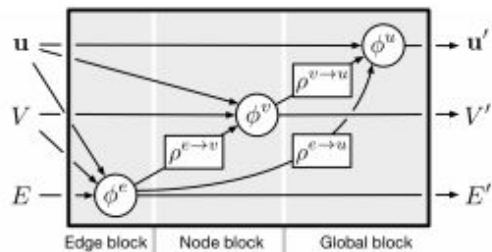
Let's consider an example graph where nodes represent rubber balls and edges are springs connecting them.

Why GN are interesting?

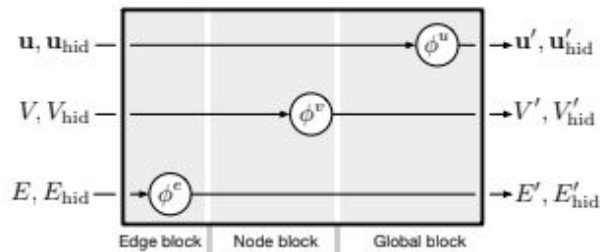
- The nodes and the edges between provide strong relational inductive biases (e.g. the absence of an edge between two nodes means that they should not directly influence each other).
- Entities and relations are represented as sets, and thus are invariant to ordering and permutations.
- Since the per-edge and per-node functions are reused across all edges and nodes respectively, GNs automatically support a form of combinatorial generalisation.

Design principles

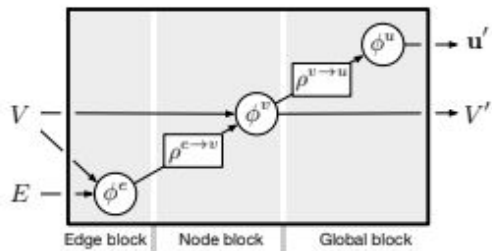
- Flexible representations.
- Configurable within-block structure
- Composable multi-block architectures



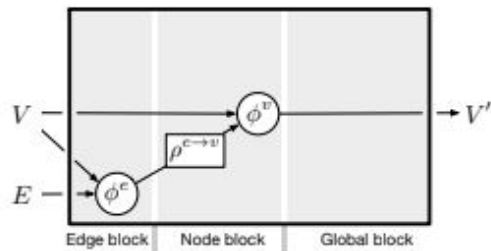
(a) Full GN block



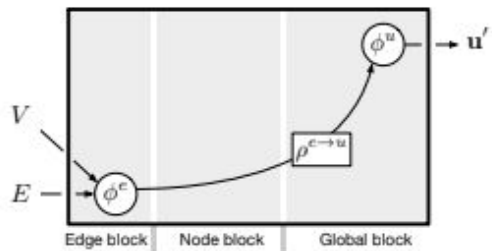
(b) Independent recurrent block



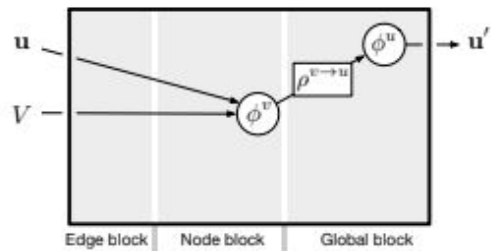
(c) Message-passing neural network



(d) Non-local neural network

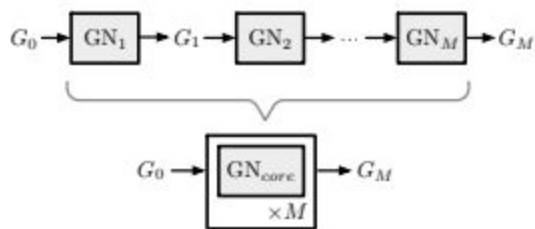


(e) Relation network

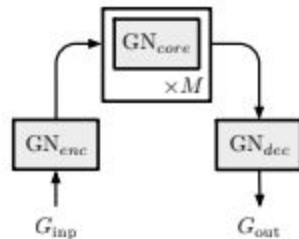


(f) Deep set

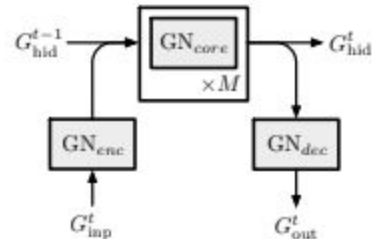
GN architectures



(a) Composition of GN blocks



(b) Encode-process-decode



(c) Recurrent GN architecture

Graph Nets open-source software library

Examples:

- Shortest path
- Sort
- Physical system

Some problems

- Where do the for building GN comes from?
- How to implement recursion, control flow, and conditional iteration?
- How to adaptively modify graph structures during the course of computation?

Thank you!