

# Graph Filters and Its Parameterization

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This slides are made by referring to the following materials:

- Youtube video: "**Xiaowen Dong: Learning graphs from data: A signal processing perspective**", [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ds4A11DSOw&list=PLe0J3\\_6vYq7tgrMvHC6M7w6Ncqsy38flm](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ds4A11DSOw&list=PLe0J3_6vYq7tgrMvHC6M7w6Ncqsy38flm)
- Shuman, David I., et al. "The emerging field of signal processing on graphs: Extending high-dimensional data analysis to networks and other irregular domains." IEEE signal processing magazine 30.3 (2013): 83-98.
  - Bianchi, Filippo Maria, et al. "Graph neural networks with convolutional arma filters." IEEE transactions on pattern analysis and machine intelligence 44.7 (2021): 3496-3507.
  - Tremblay, Nicolas, Paulo Gonçalves, and Pierre Borgnat. "Design of graph filters and filterbanks." Cooperative and Graph Signal Processing. Academic Press, 2018. 299-324.
    - Kipf, Thomas N., and Max Welling. "Semi-supervised classification with graph convolutional networks." ICLR 2017

Reading group material

# Filtering in Data

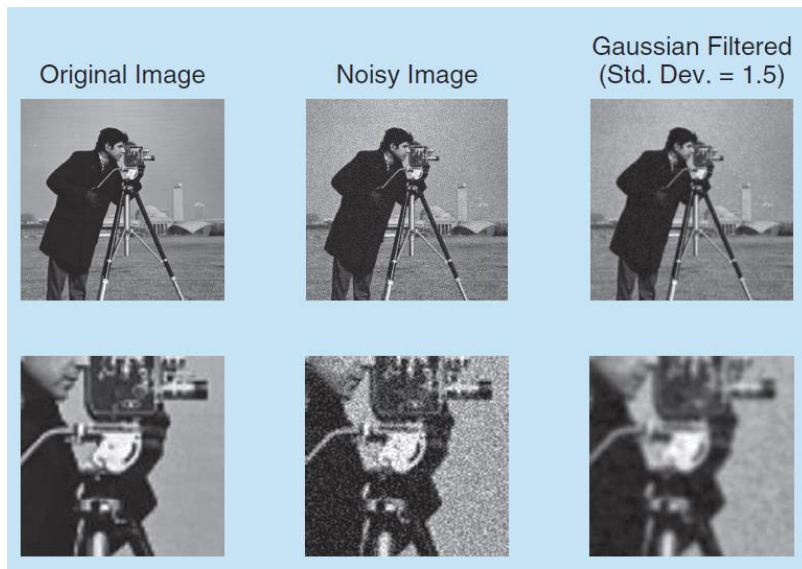
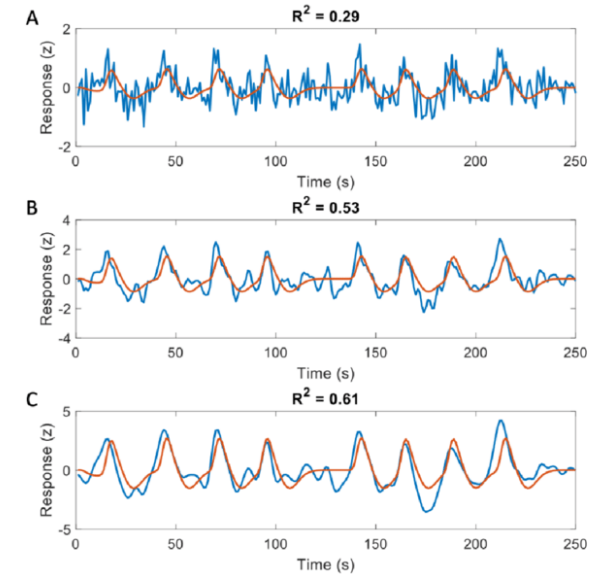


Image data

Brand Ratings

ID	Age	Gender	Preferred cola	Coca-Cola	Diet Coke	Coke Zero	Pepsi	Diet Pepsi	Pepsi Max
1	25 to 29	Female	Pepsi Max	2	5	2	3	1	4
2	45 to 49	Male	Pepsi Max	5	1	5	5	3	4
3	25 to 29	Female	Diet Coke	5	4	2	3	1	1
4	25 to 29	Female	Coca-Cola	4	2	2	2	2	2
5	55 to 64	Female	Diet Coke	3	4	3	3	4	2
6	55 to 64	Female	Diet Pepsi	3	3	3	3	4	4
7	50 to 54	Female	Coke Zero	2	3	5	2	2	2
8	35 to 39	Female	Coca-Cola	4	2	5	3	2	5
9	65 or more	Male	Diet Pepsi	5	5	3	5	5	3
10	45 to 49	Female	Coke Zero	4	4	4	5	5	3
11	45 to 49	Male	Coca-Cola	4	1	1	4	1	1
12	55 to 64	Male	Coca-Cola	5	2	2	5	2	2
13	55 to 64	Male	Coca-Cola	5	2	2	3	2	2
14	30 to 34	Male	Pepsi Max	3	2	5	3	3	5
15	65 or more	Female	Diet Pepsi	2	4	2	5	4	2

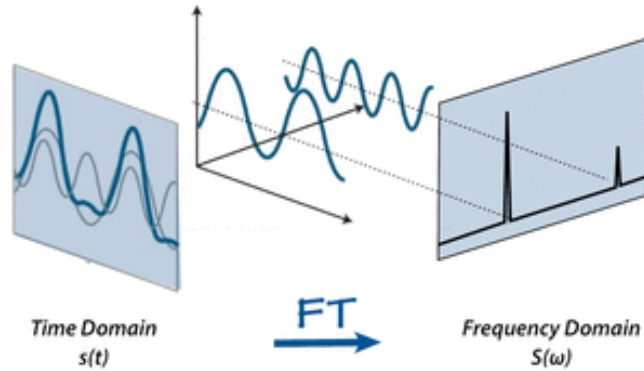
Tabular data



Time-series data

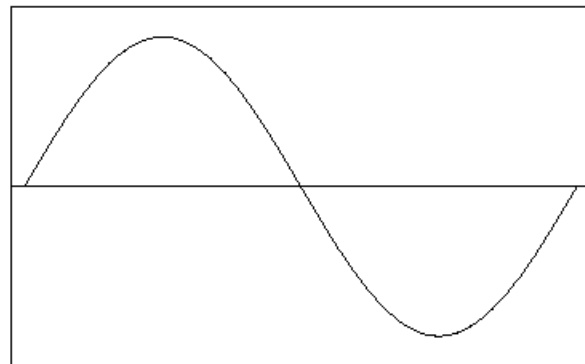
Data filtering is a prominent technique that can be applicable for various types of data

# Fourier Transform



- **Fourier Transform**

A mathematical procedure a signal in the **time domain** to a complex number in the **frequency domain**



Fourier transform

$$\hat{f}(\xi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-i2\pi\xi x} dx.$$

# Graph Spectral Decomposition



- **Graph** is a flexible model for representing data in many problems
- **Fourier Transform**

A mathematical procedure a signal in the **time domain** to a complex number in the **frequency domain**

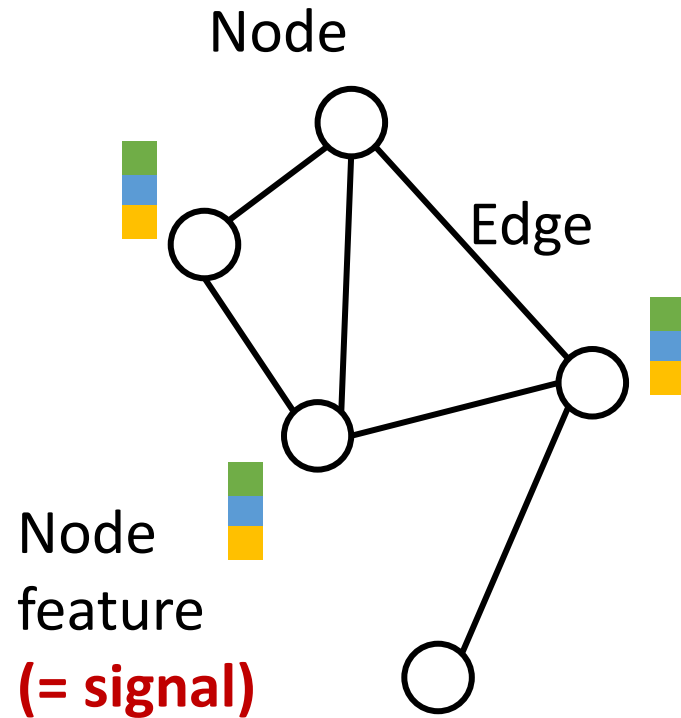


$$f(x) \xleftrightarrow{\mathcal{F}} \hat{f}(\xi)$$

## Graph Fourier Transform (GFT)

How to analyze **graph in frequency domain**, via GFT?

# Graph and Graph Signals



- Nodes (vertices), edges

$$G = (V, E)$$

- **Graph signal**

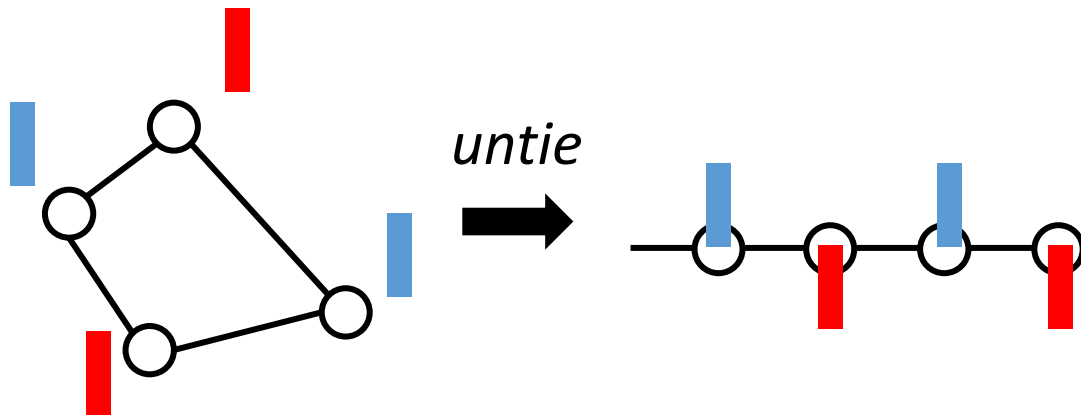
$$\mathbf{X} = x_1, x_2, \dots$$

# Graph Frequency

- **Graph signal**

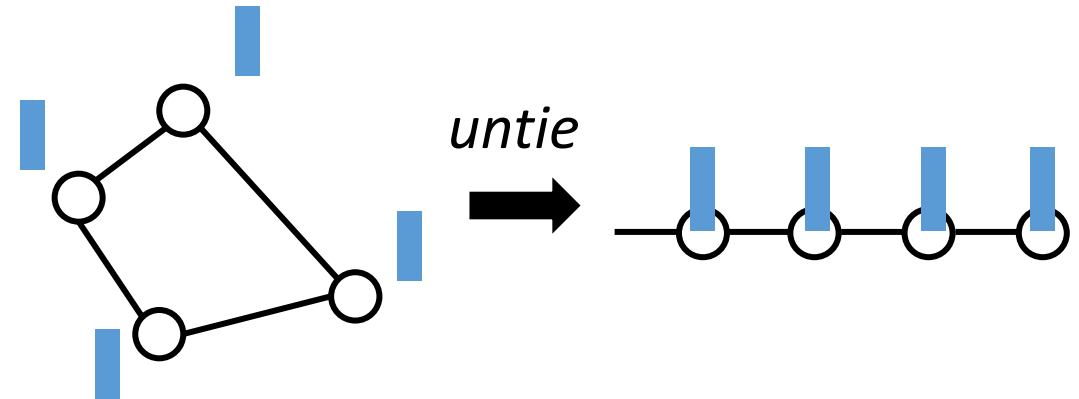
$$\mathbf{X} = x_1, x_2, \dots$$

**High Frequency**



*Connected components have different signals*

**Low Frequency**



*Connected components have same (similar) signals*

# Reference Operator for GFT

\* We only consider real-valued component of eigenvalues now

- Graph Spectral Decomposition**

- Reference operator should be **diagonalizable**

$$\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

Reference operator



Eigendecomposition

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{U}^{-1}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \chi_0 & \cdots & \chi_{N-1} \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} \chi_0 \text{---} \\ \cdots \\ \text{---} \chi_{N-1} \text{---} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Definition 1.2** (Graph Fourier Transform). For a given diagonalizable reference operator  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{U}^{-1}$  acting on a graph  $\mathcal{G}$ , the GFT of a graph signal  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  is:

$$\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{G}} \mathbf{x} \doteq \hat{\mathbf{x}} \doteq \mathbf{U}^{-1} \mathbf{x}. \tag{2}$$

- Graph Frequency**

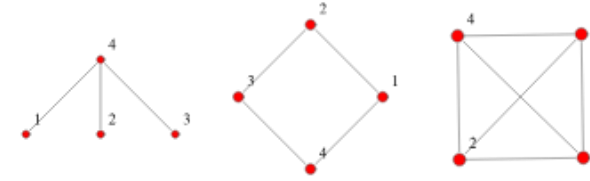
**Definition 1.3** (Graph frequency). Let  $\mathbf{R}$  be a reference operator. If its eigenvalues are real, the generalized graph frequency  $\nu$  of a graph Fourier mode  $\mathbf{u}_k$  is:

$$\nu(\mathbf{u}_k) = \lambda_k \geq 0. \tag{10}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Algebraic representations of Graph

<https://mathworld.wolfram.com/AdjacencyMatrix.html>



- **Adjacency matrix  $A$**

- each entry: edge weight
- if zero: not connected

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- **Degree matrix  $D = \text{diag}(d_i)$**

- Sum of edge weights for each node

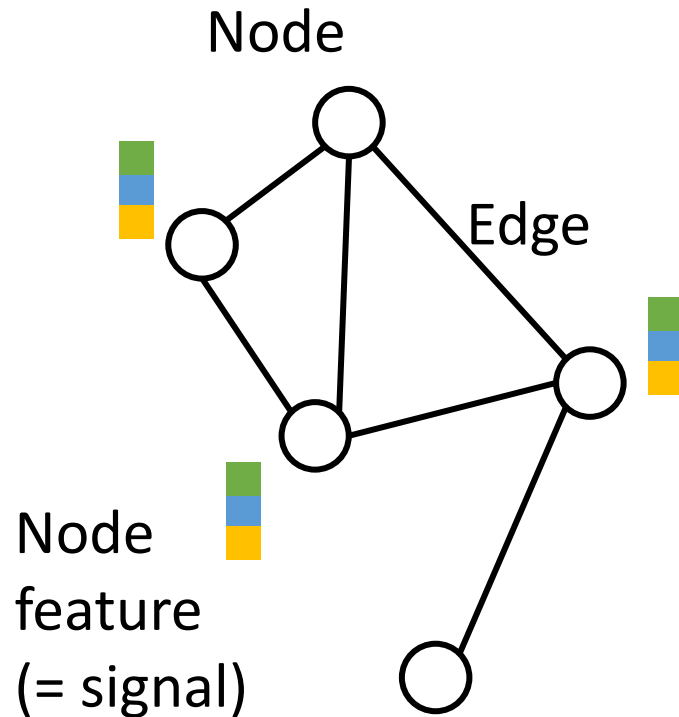
Vertex labeled graph	Degree matrix
	$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Degree\\_matrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Degree_matrix)

- **Combinatorial Laplacian matrix**

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A}$$

- Measure difference between own signal and its neighbors
- Widely selected as a **reference operator**



Node feature (= signal)



# Reference Operator in Graph

- Combinatorial Laplacian matrix

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A}$$

Labelled graph	Degree matrix	Adjacency matrix	Laplacian matrix
	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laplacian\\_matrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laplacian_matrix)

**Total variation** of the whole graph can be measured by

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} (f(j) - f(i))^2 = f^T \mathbf{L} f$$

## Other Possible Choices of Reference Operator

### Other possible choices of $\mathbf{R}$

- *Normalized Laplacian*

$$\mathbf{L}_n = \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

All eigenvalues lie between 0 and 2

- *Adjacency matrix*

$\mathbf{A}$

Eigenbasis  $\mathbf{U}$  of  $\mathbf{A}$  and the eigenbasis of the deformed Laplacian,  $\mathbf{L}_d = \mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{A}}{\|\mathbf{A}\|_2}$ , are the same

- *Random walk Laplacian*

$$\mathbf{L}_{rw} = \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{L} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{A}$$

Same eigenvalues with  $\mathbf{L}_n$ , but the Fourier basis are not orthonormal

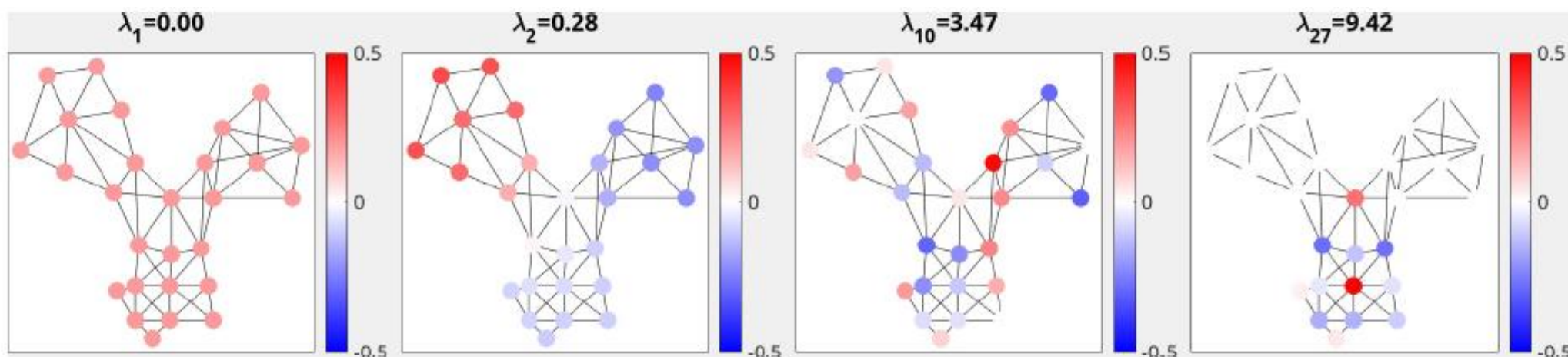
- *ETC (Consensus operator, geometric Laplacian, deformed Laplacian, ...)*

# Reference Operator for GFT

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{U}^{-1}$$

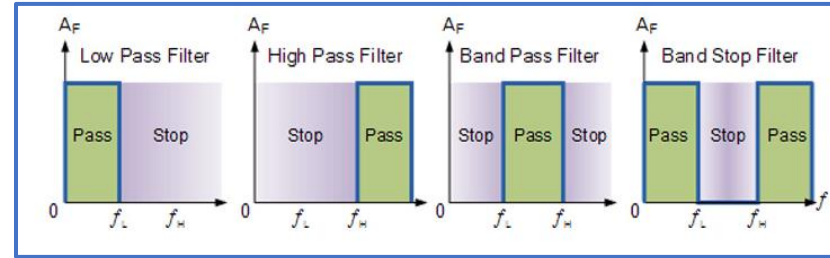
$$\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \chi_0 & \cdots & \chi_{N-1} \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} \chi_0 \text{---} \\ \cdots \\ \text{---} \chi_{N-1} \text{---} \end{bmatrix}$$

[Ortega et al., 2018]



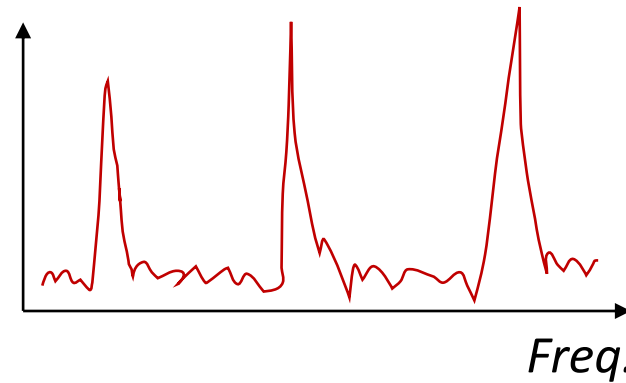
# What is Graph Filter?

[https://www.electronics-tutorials.ws/filter/filter\\_2.html](https://www.electronics-tutorials.ws/filter/filter_2.html)

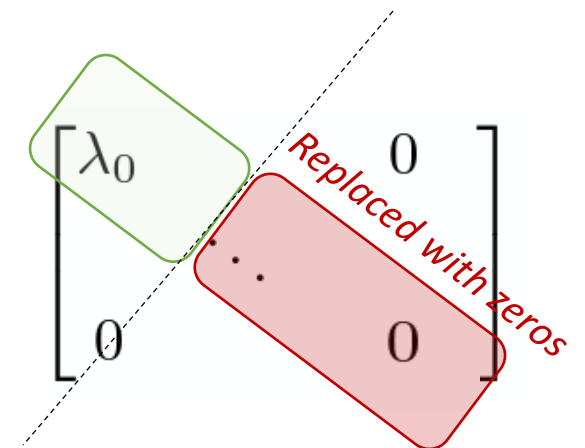
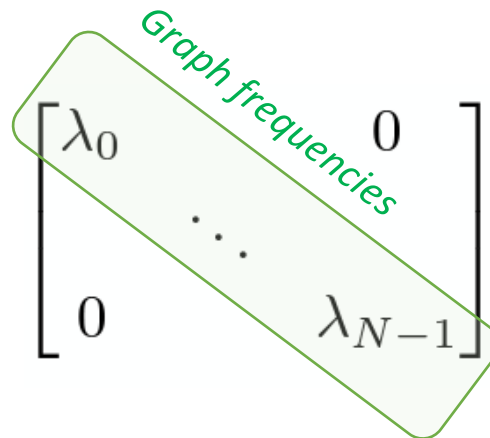
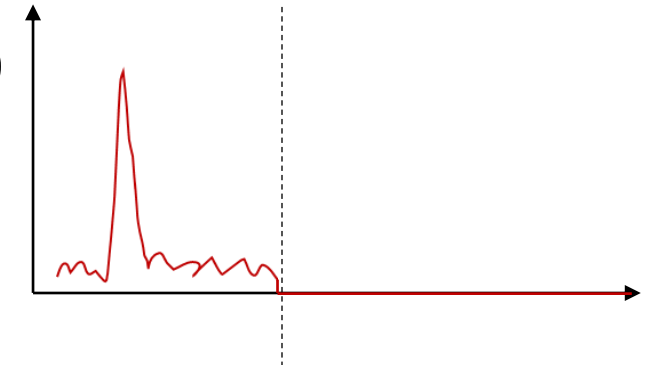


$G$

$\xrightarrow{\text{GFT}}$   
Spectral  
Domain

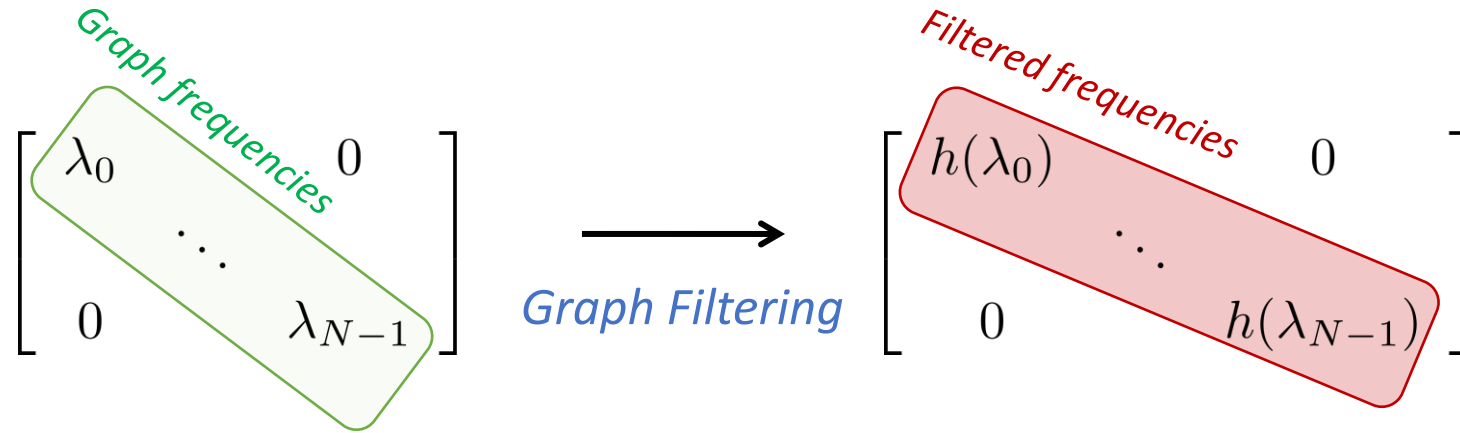


(Low-pass)  
Filtering



# General Definition of Graph Filter

We can generally design any filter with *function*.



Definition (Graph Filter)  $\mathbf{H}$

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{U}^{-1}$$

$$h : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\nu \rightarrow h(\nu).$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{U}h(\nu(\mathbf{\Lambda}))\mathbf{U}^{-1}$$

# Examples of Filters

$$h(\nu) = c$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Graph Filtering}} \begin{bmatrix} c & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & c \end{bmatrix}$$

All frequencies are allowed to pass

## Usecase (response by ChatGPT)

- 1) **Graph reconstruction:** in case graph signals are incomplete or corrupted (help infer missing signals)
- 2) **Graph denoising:** Suppress high-frequency and sharpen low-frequency

## INDEX

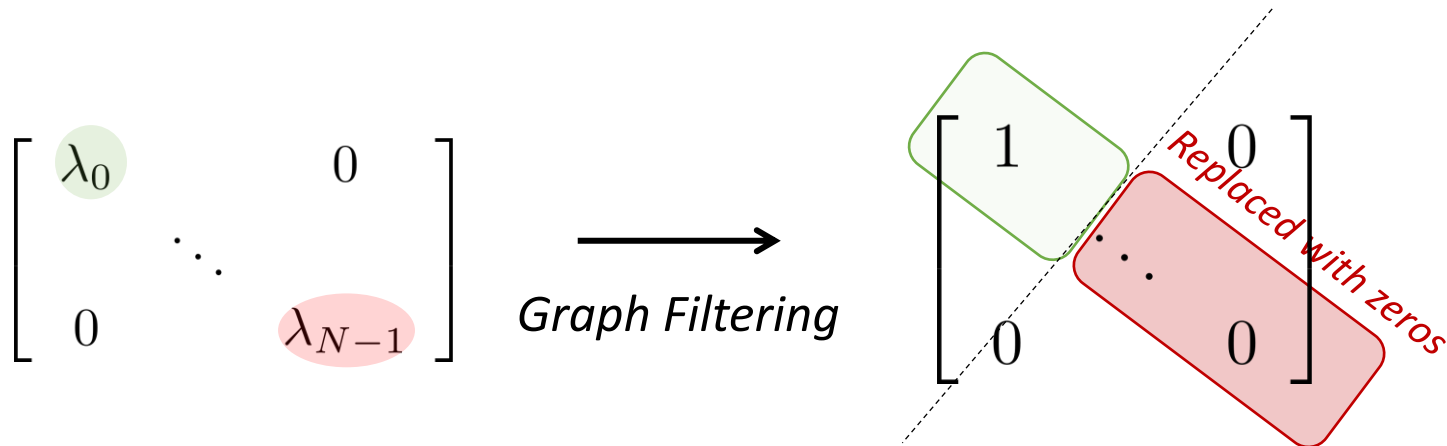
- **Constant filter**
- *Ideal low-pass with cut-off frequency*
  - *Kronecker delta*
    - *Heat kernel*

# Examples of Filters

$$h(\nu) = 1 \text{ if } \nu \leq \nu_c \text{ and } 0 \text{ otherwise}$$

## INDEX

- Constant filter
- **Ideal low-pass with cut-off frequency**
- Kronecker delta
- Heat kernel



## Usecase

- 1) **Recommendation:** Application where low-frequency is important (similar connectivity pattern)
- 2) **Graph Denoising**
- 3) **Graph Convolutional Networks**

Examples of Filters

$$h(\nu) = \delta_{\nu, \nu^*}$$

## INDEX

- Constant filter
- *Ideal low-pass with cut-off frequency*
  - **Kronecker delta**
    - Heat kernel

Frequencies with certain conditions ( $\nu^*$ ) are allowed pass

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Graph Filtering}} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



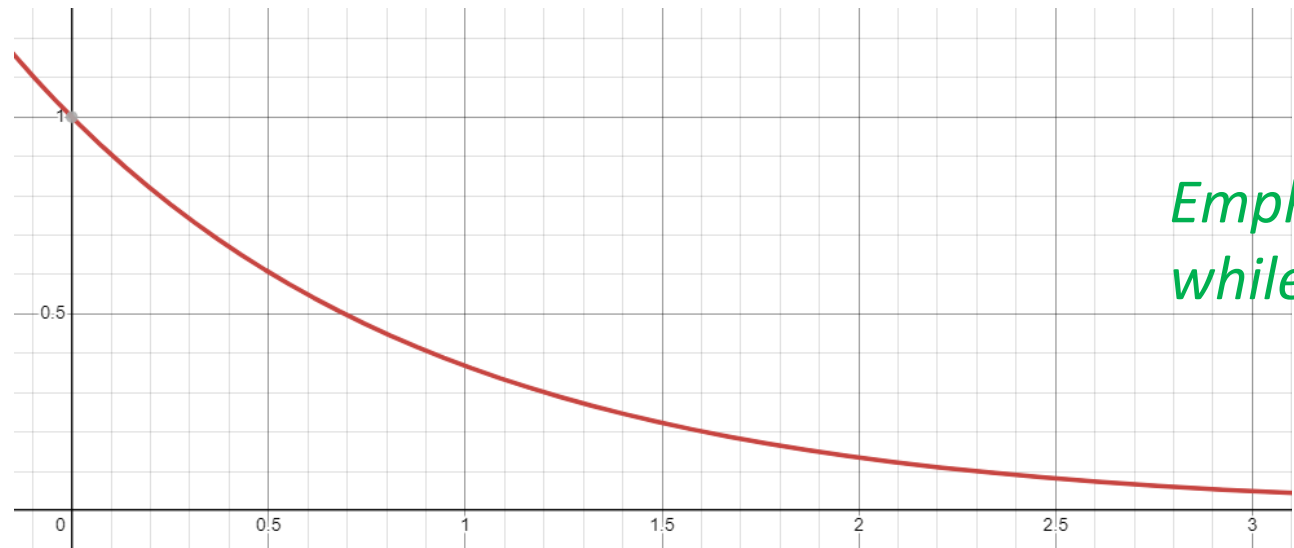
# Examples of Filters

$$h(\nu) = e^{-\frac{\nu}{\nu_0}}$$



## INDEX

- Constant filter
- Ideal low-pass with cut-off frequency
- Kronecker delta
  - Heat kernel



Emphasize low-frequencies,  
while weaken high-frequencies

# Learning Filters by Parameterization

## *Filter Parameterization*

- However, **finding optimal filters** for a given task is **difficult**



What if we **learn** graph filter?



- **Parameterizing** graph filter

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & & 0 \\ & \dots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \theta_0 & & 0 \\ & \dots & \\ 0 & & \theta_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Learning Filters by Parameterization

## *Spectral Graph Convolutions*

$$h * x = \mathbf{U}h(\mathbf{\Lambda})\mathbf{U}^{-1}x$$

- Eigendecomposition is **expansive** for large graph
- Multiplication with  $\mathbf{U}$ :  $O(N^2)$



*Approximated by a truncated expansion of **Chebyshev polynomials** up to  $K$ -th order (Hammond et al., 2011)*

$$h_{\theta} * x = \sum_{k=0}^K \theta_k T_k(\hat{\mathbf{L}})x$$

$$T_k(x) = 2xT_{k-1}(x) - T_{k-2}(x)$$

$$T_0(x) = 1, T_1(x) = x$$

➡ *Now, it only requires  **$O(|E|)$** !*

# GCN: Layer-wise Linear Model

$$h_{\theta} * x = \sum_{k=0}^K \theta_k T_k(\hat{L})x$$

**K-localized** since it is a K-th order polynomial in the Laplacian



1. Linearize with **K=1**
2. Instead, **stack multiple layers** (deeper model)

$$h_{\theta} * x = \theta_0 x + \theta_1 (L - I_N)x$$



Integrate two free parameters, for practicality

$$h_{\theta} * x = \theta (I_N + D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}})x$$



1. Eigenvalues in  $[0,2]$  -> stacking layer -> unstable
2. **Renormalization trick**

\* **Renormalization tick**

$$I_N + D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \rightarrow \tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{A} \tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\tilde{A} = A + I_N$$

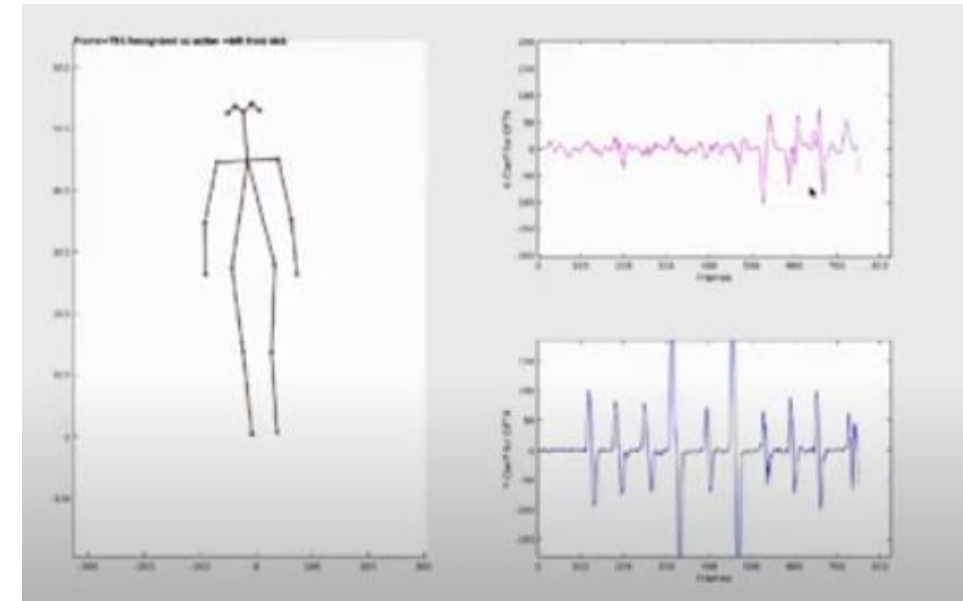
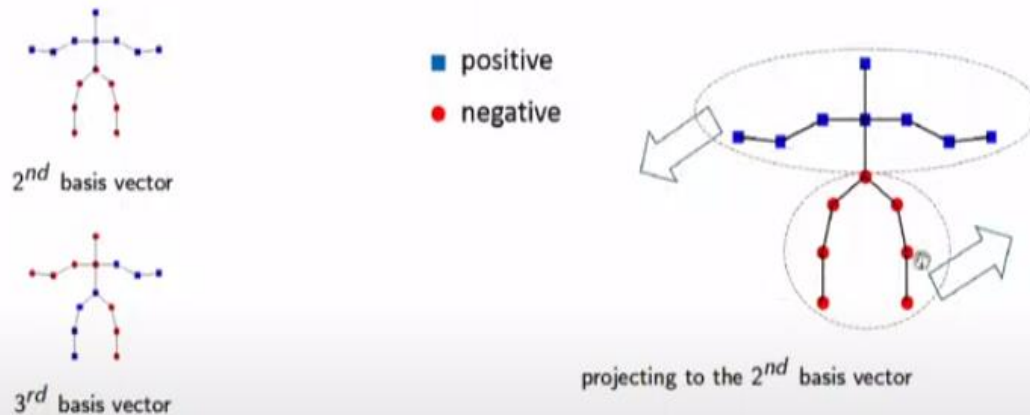
$$Z = \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{A} \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} X \Theta$$

Become efficient operation with  $O(|E|)$

# GSP Application example: motion capturing

GSP can be used for motion capturing

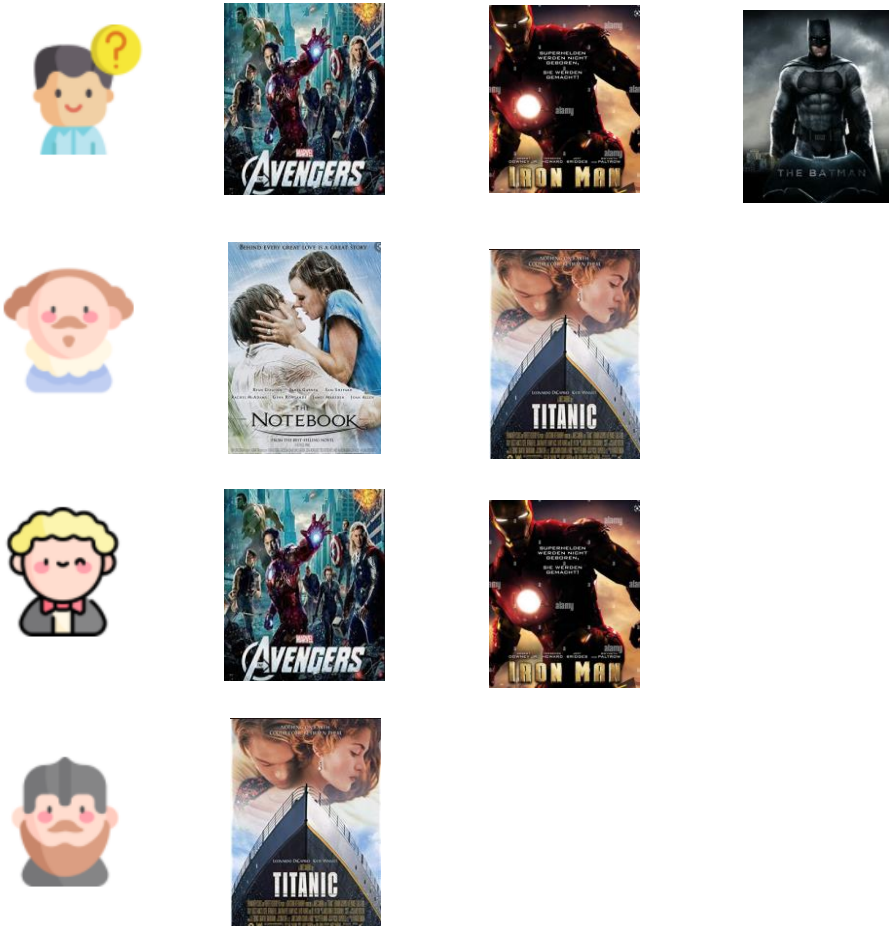
- ▶ Different GFT vectors can capture different motions.





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=296S-zh3WnU&list=PLeMXQeoNccrjCFyCUUpvAkCcsREa88WFQ>:  
2017-2018 ECE Distinguished Lecture Series - Antonio Ortega, University of Southern California

# GSP Application example: recommendation

GSP can be used for recommendation (CF)



Q: What movie would you recommend for 

A: 

CF: Recommendation based on **similarity of historical interactions.**

GF-CF [Shen et al., 2021]

$$s_u = r_u \left( \tilde{R}^T \tilde{R} + \alpha D_I^{-\frac{1}{2}} \bar{U} \bar{U}^T D_I^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

➔ Low-pass filtered (Top-k eigenvectors)

## Takeaways

- Graph signal processing is a prominent area for processing irregular graph domain
- GNNs can be viewed as learning graph filter, by its parameterization
- GSP can be applied in various domains includes recommender system (next topic)

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal:  
it is the courage to continue that counts."  
- Winston Churchill

Thank you!

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