

Def: A **graphon** is an integrable function $W: [0,1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ such that $W(x, y) = W(y, x)$ for all $x, y \in [0,1]$

Embedding Graphs into Graphons: Given G on $[n]$, let I_1, \dots, I_n be adjacent intervals of lengths $1/n$. Define $W^G: [0,1]^2 \rightarrow [0,1]$ by setting W^G to $A_{ij}(G)$ on $I_i \times I_j$ where $A(G)$ is the adjacency matrix of G

Cut norm and distance

$$\|W\|_{\square} = \sup_{S, T \subset [0,1]} \left| \int_{S \times T} W(x, y) dx dy \right|$$

$$d_{\square}(W, W') = \|W - W'\|_{\square}$$

$$\delta_{\square}(W, W') = \inf_{\sigma} d_{\square}(W^{\sigma}, W')$$

where the sup goes over measurable subsets $S, T \subset [0,1]$, the inf goes over invertible functions $\sigma: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$ s.th. both σ and its inverse are measure preserving, and $W^{\sigma}(x, y) = W(\sigma(x), \sigma(y))$.

Def.: G_n converges to W iff $\delta_{\square}(G_n, W) \rightarrow 0$

Thm [LS] The L^{∞} ball of graphons equipped with the cut metric δ_{\square} is a compact metric space. In particular, every graph sequence has a convergent subsequence.