

Figure 4: Top Cora SSTs with Bidirected Citations – (See Section 5.3.2) – SSTs 2, 3, and 6 indicate that if articles A and B mutually cite each other, A tends to cite whatever B cites unless another article C who bi-cites with B does not. SSTs 4 and 5 indicate that articles are more likely to bi-cite each other if they cite the same articles.

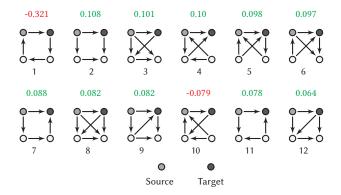


Figure 5: Top Cora ML SSTs Without Bidirected Citations – (See Section 5.3.2) – The top SST indicates that if an edge closes a 4-cycle that is considered a strong indicator that the edge is not genuine. Similarly, SST 10 suggests that a 3-cycle is unlikely, but not as unlikely as a 4-cycle. Other than SSTs 1 and 4, the top SSTs are positive indicators. SSTs 2 - 9, and 11 - 12 all include some kind of "transitivity", that nodes which cite (or are cited by) similar articles cite each other.

or deletions) using temporal graph attention layers. A Multi-Layer Perceptron decoder allows the TGN to score candidate edges with probabilities for evaluation of future link prediction.

5.4.2 Quantitative Results. Quantitative results are listed in Table 4. Once again our SST-based link predictors are among the top performers. Again, we suggest that these numbers be taken with a grain of salt because we simply used the GNNs' default hyperparameters. Chiefly, our tests demonstrate that our SSTs' elegant and interpretable results are validated by good prediction performance.

Note that we bypassed computing AUPR<sub>3</sub> on the Wikipedia graph due to the sheer size of the false test edge set -  $O((10^5)^2)$ .

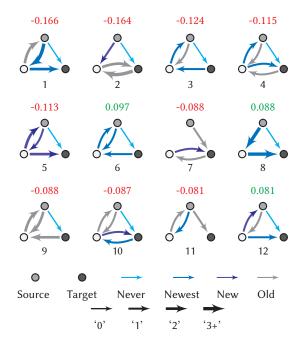


Figure 6: Top 3-Node SSTs for Wikipedia Link Additions – Main Takeaway: Wedges only close to triangles when the wedge had recent edges (e.g. Newest) appearing for the first or maybe second time (low frequency, e.g. '1'), ideally including an edge pointing to the target node of the new edge.

5.4.3 Interpretable Temporal Results. To demonstrate the interpretability of SSTs on temporal graphs, we explore the three-node SSTs on the Wikipedia edge additions graph. We find that, unlike the general assumption of triadic closure, according to our model many triangles are considered unlikely to close. It is only the triangles where certain connection combinations in the wedge were formed recently (indicated by our recency trait) and for the first (or maybe second) time (indicated by our frequency trait) that the wedge is quite likely to close into a triangle. See Figure 6. This is evidenced quantitatively by the fact that the three-node SST predictor performed much better than the Common Neighbors.

## 6 CONCLUSION

We defined an elegant generalization of Triadic Closure, the Subgraph-to-Subgraph Transition (SST). This generalization allowed us to use a simple classifier, the Linear SVM, to create interpretable link prediction models which performed comparatively with state of the art graph neural networks. We expect that the Subgraph-to-Subgraph Transition will become a standard tool in modeling graphs and that future research will produce new and creative ways to use and efficiently count SSTs.

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