

# Self Introduction

Jingwei Guo

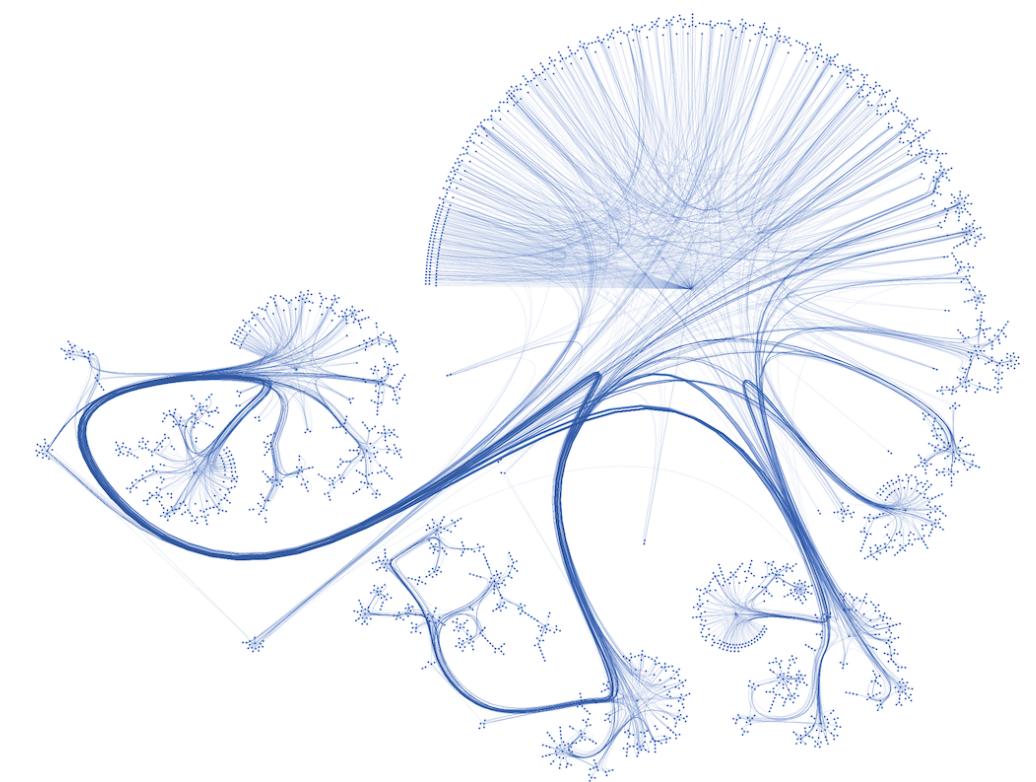
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UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL



Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University  
西交利物浦大學



- Basic Information
- Research Experience





# Basic Information

## University of Liverpool

Dec. 2019 - Jul. 2024

- Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Electronic
- Off-based Program in China
- Advisors: Prof. Kaizhu Huang, Prof. Xinping Yi



DKU



SEU

## Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University

Sep. 2014 - Aug. 2018

- B.S. in Applied Mathematics (GPA-WES: 3.86/4.00)

## Academic Reviewers

- Conference x 5: NeurIPS, KDD, ECML-PKDD, ICPR, ACML
- Journal x 5: TNNLS, NN, PR, IJON, COGN

## Awards

- Full Doctoral Scholarship at University of Liverpool (2019)
- Honorable Mention at Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling (2017)



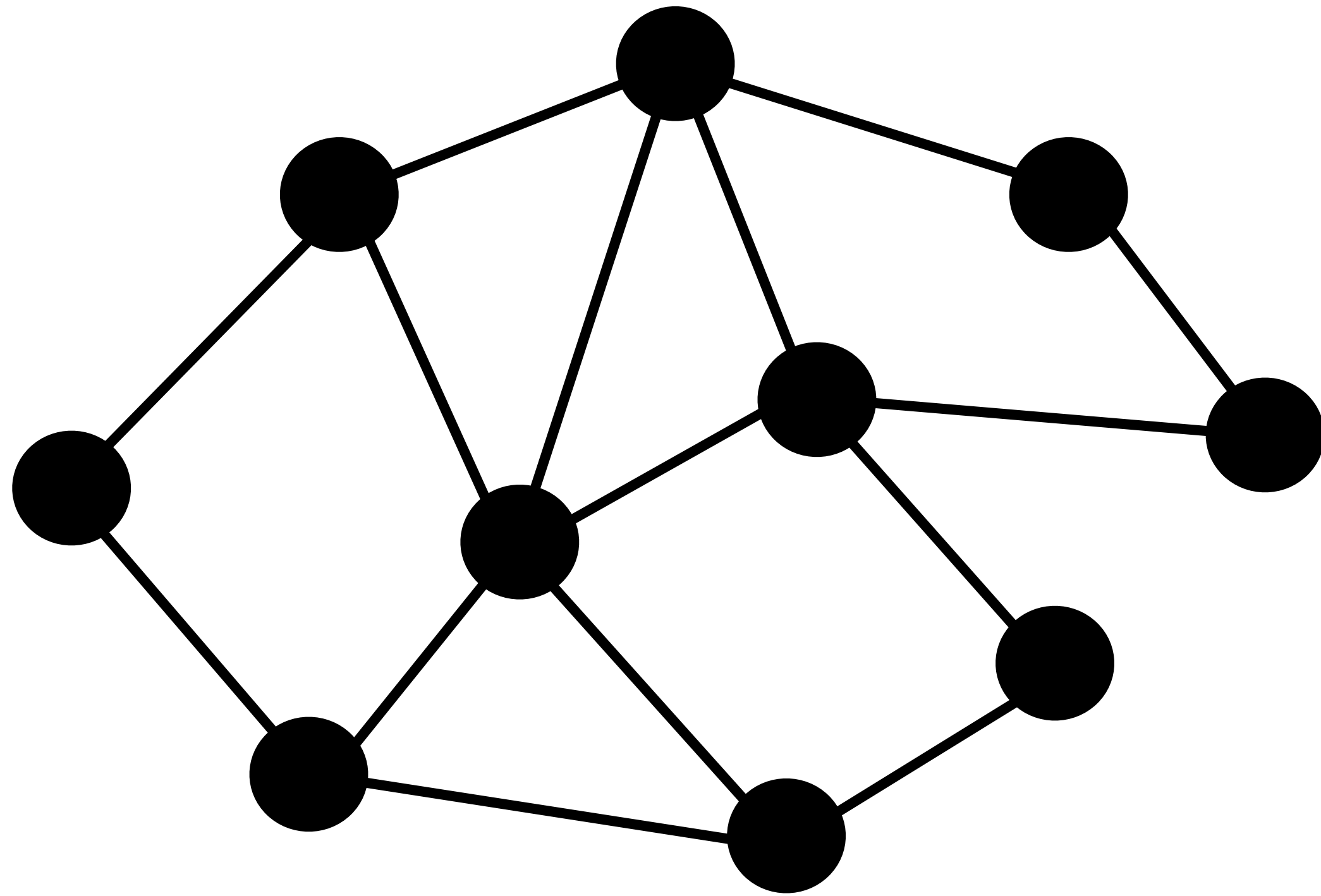
## Graph Learning Against Homophilous Assumptions

- Primary Contribution
- Output x 4: WWW [CCF A], TPAMI [CCF A], TNNLS [CCF B]

## Transfer Learning Under Distribution Shift

- Secondary Contribution
- Output x 2: AAAI [CCF A], A Survey [UE]

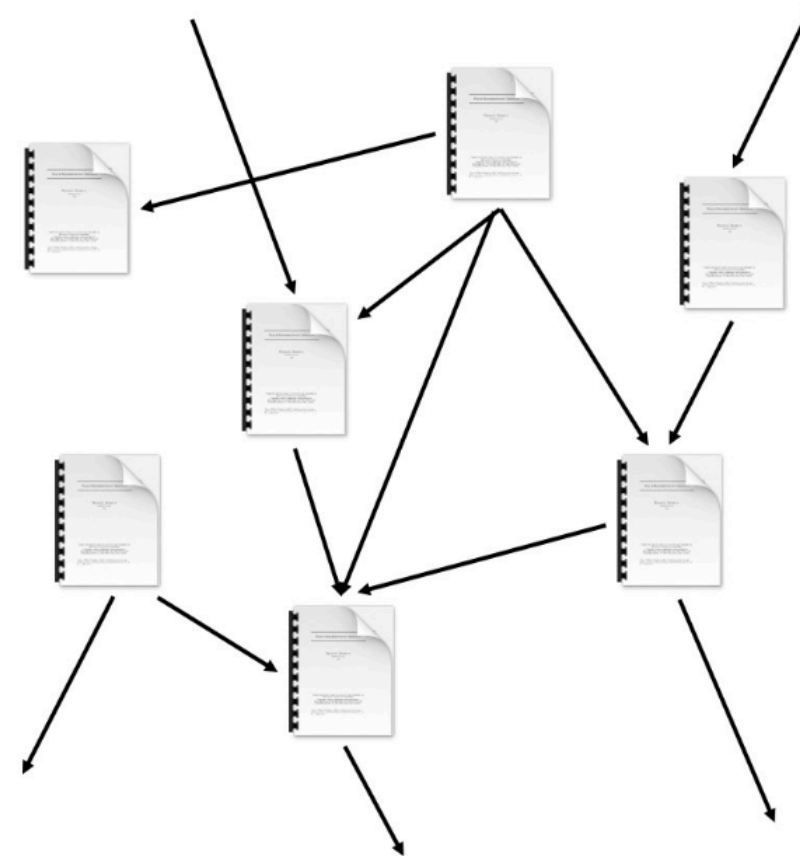
## What is Graph?



Graphs are a general language describing and analyzing **entities with relations or interactions.**



# Research Experience — Background



Citation Network



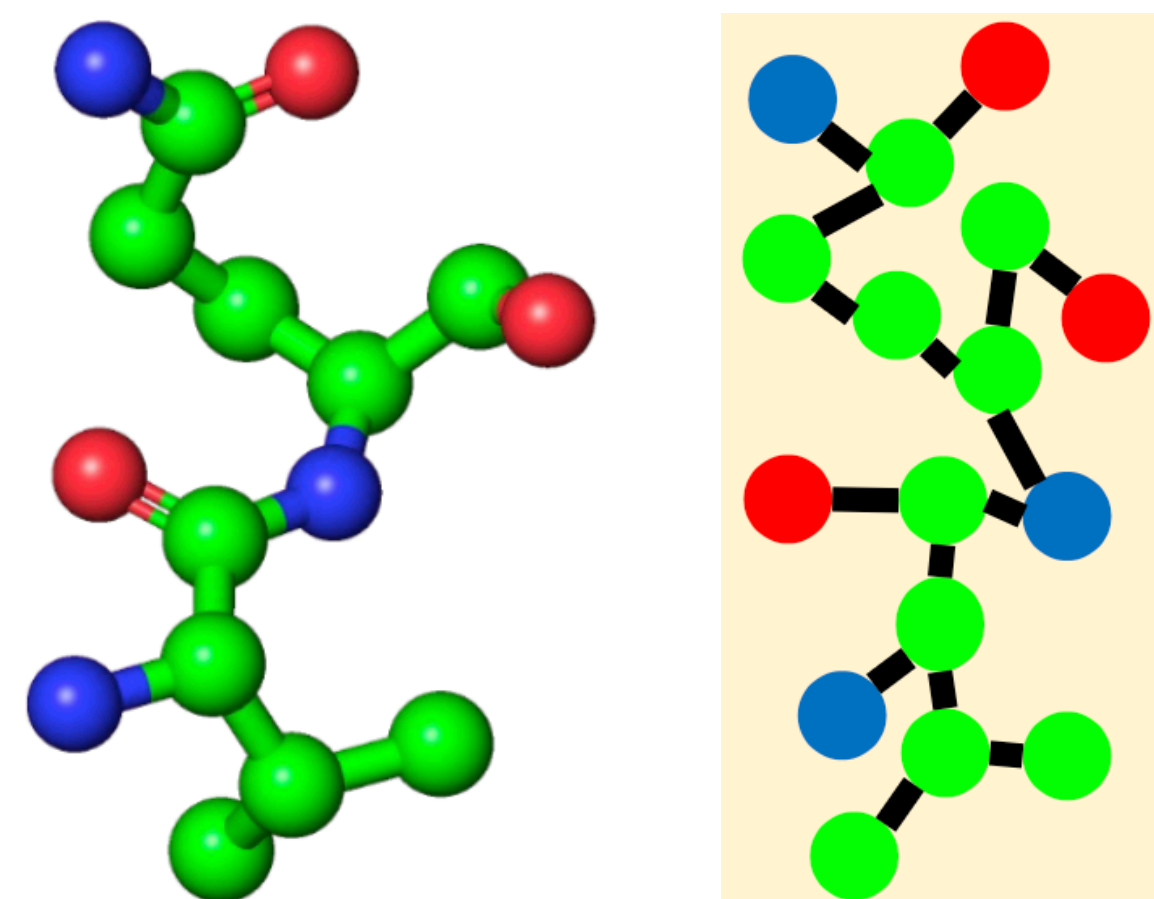
Social Network



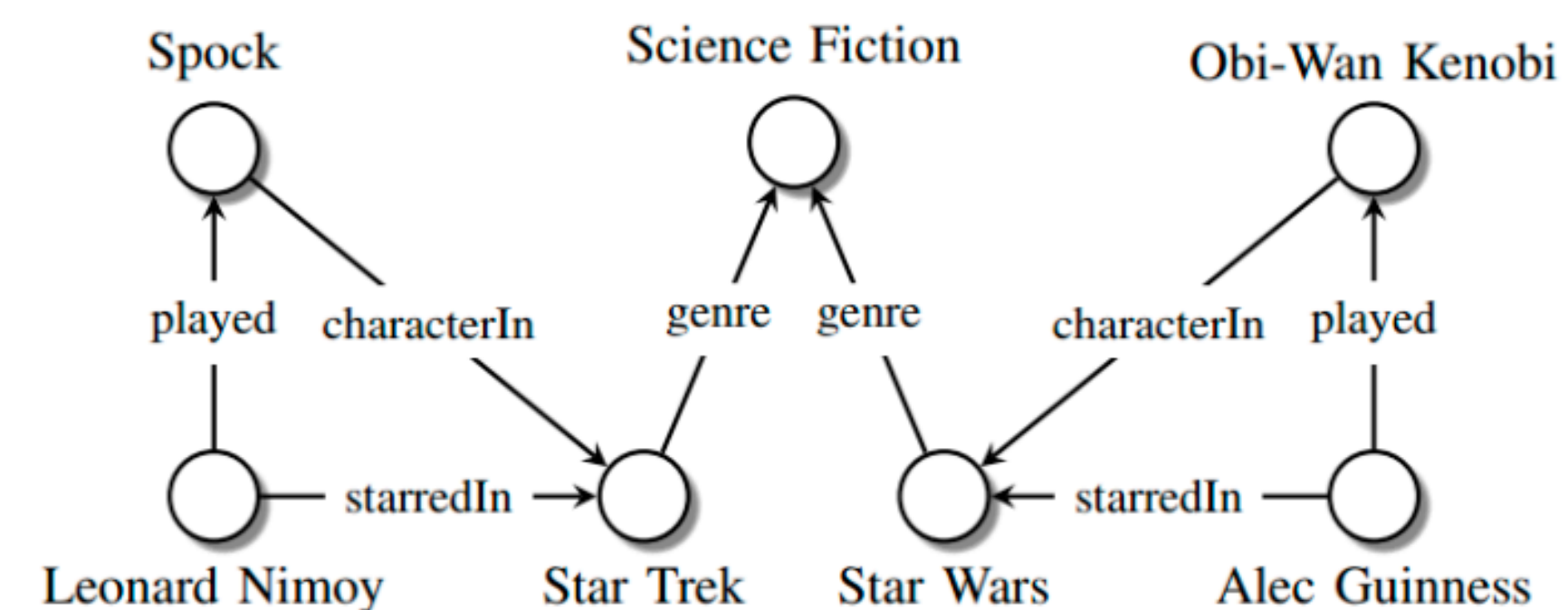
Internet (e.g., Webpage)



Brain Network



Molecules



Knowledge Graph

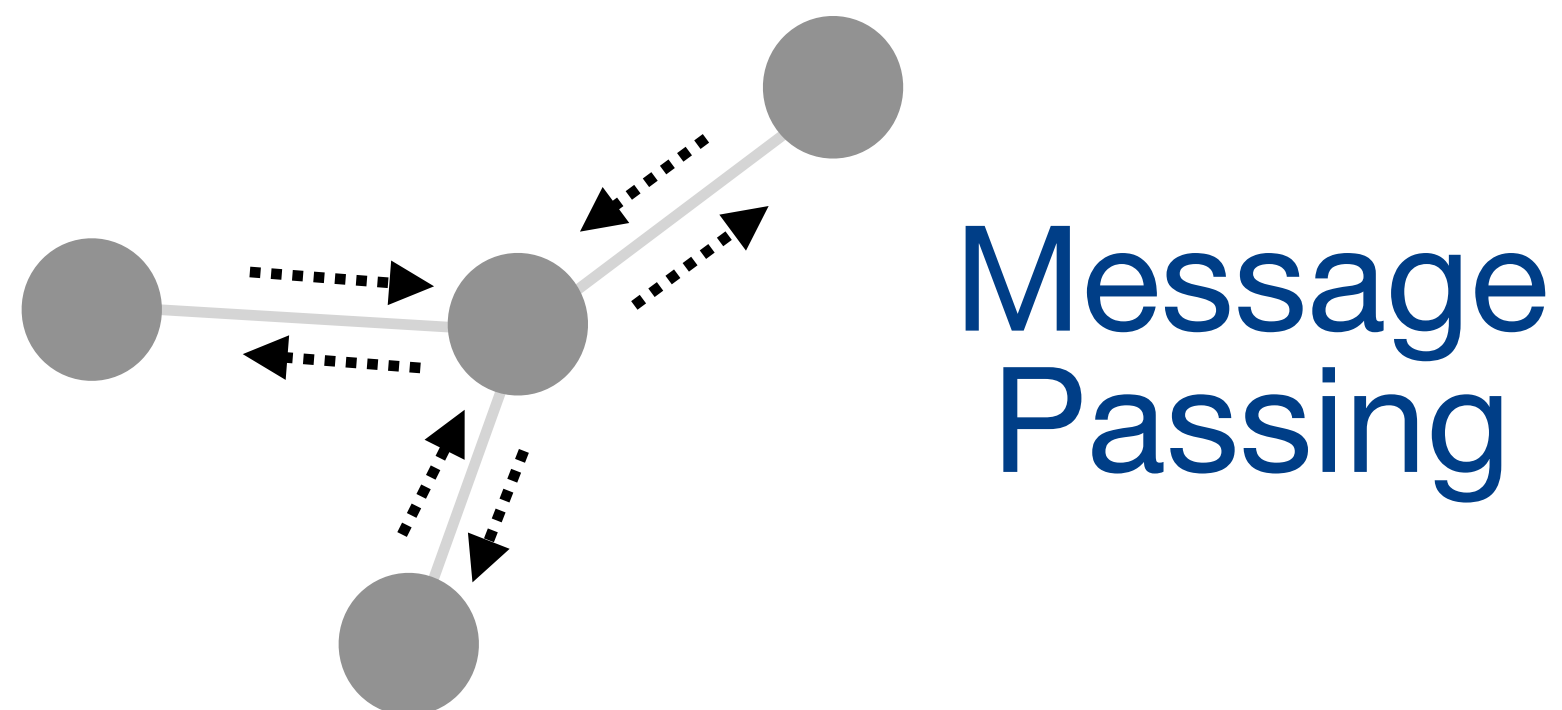


## Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

- Integrate both node features and graph topology via either a **message passing framework** or a **graph filtering operation**.

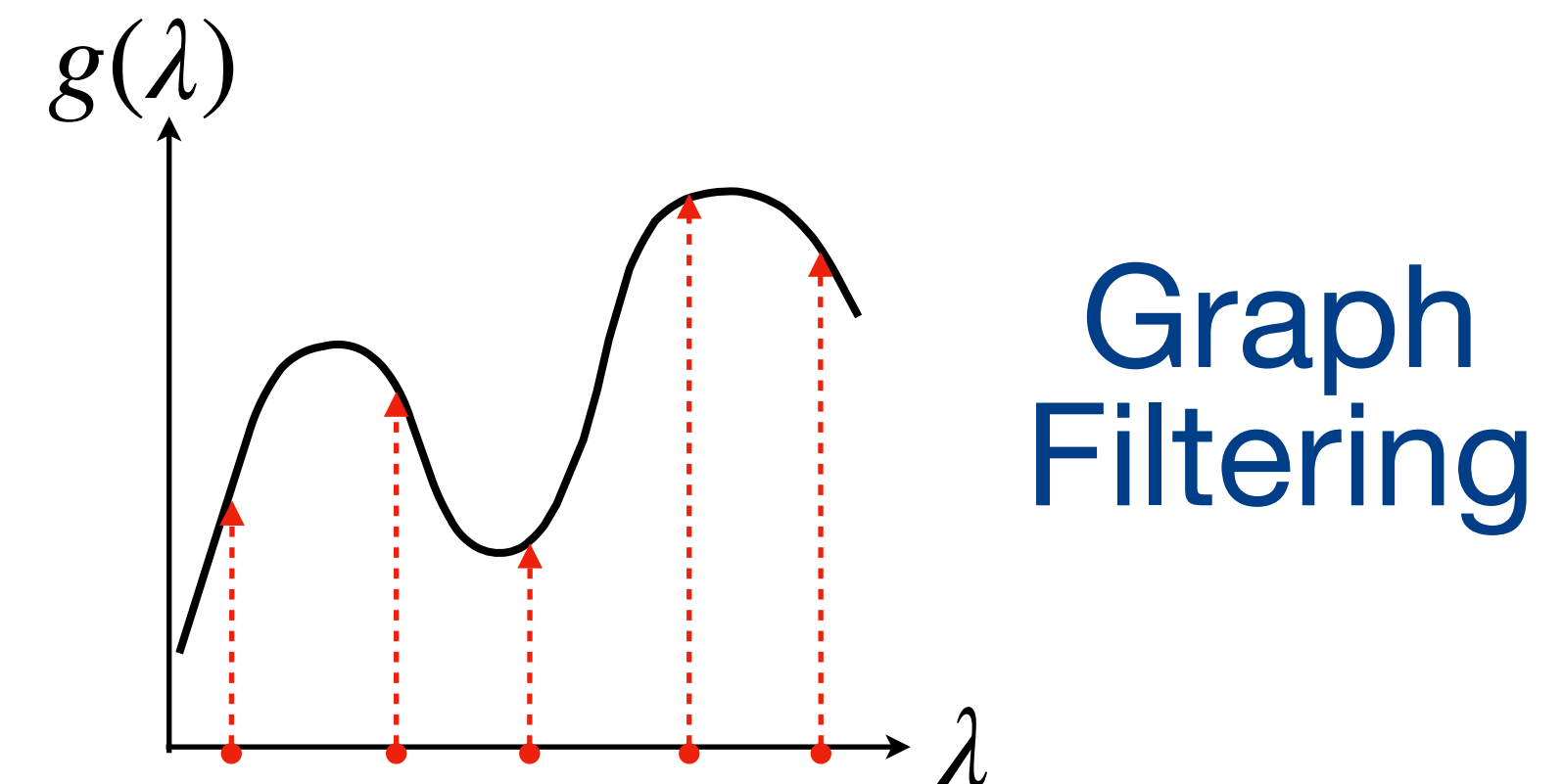
- ▶ Spatial-based Methods

$$\mathbf{z}_i = f_{upd}(\mathbf{x}_i, f_{agg}(\{\mathbf{x}_j | \forall v_j \in N_i\}))$$



- ▶ Spectral-based Methods

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}g(\mathbf{\Lambda})\mathbf{U}^T\mathbf{X}$$



## Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)

- Can be interpreted as **different solutions to the same graph denoising problem:**

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{Z}} \alpha \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\|_2^2 + (1 - \alpha) \text{tr}(\mathbf{Z}^T \hat{\mathbf{L}} \mathbf{Z})$$

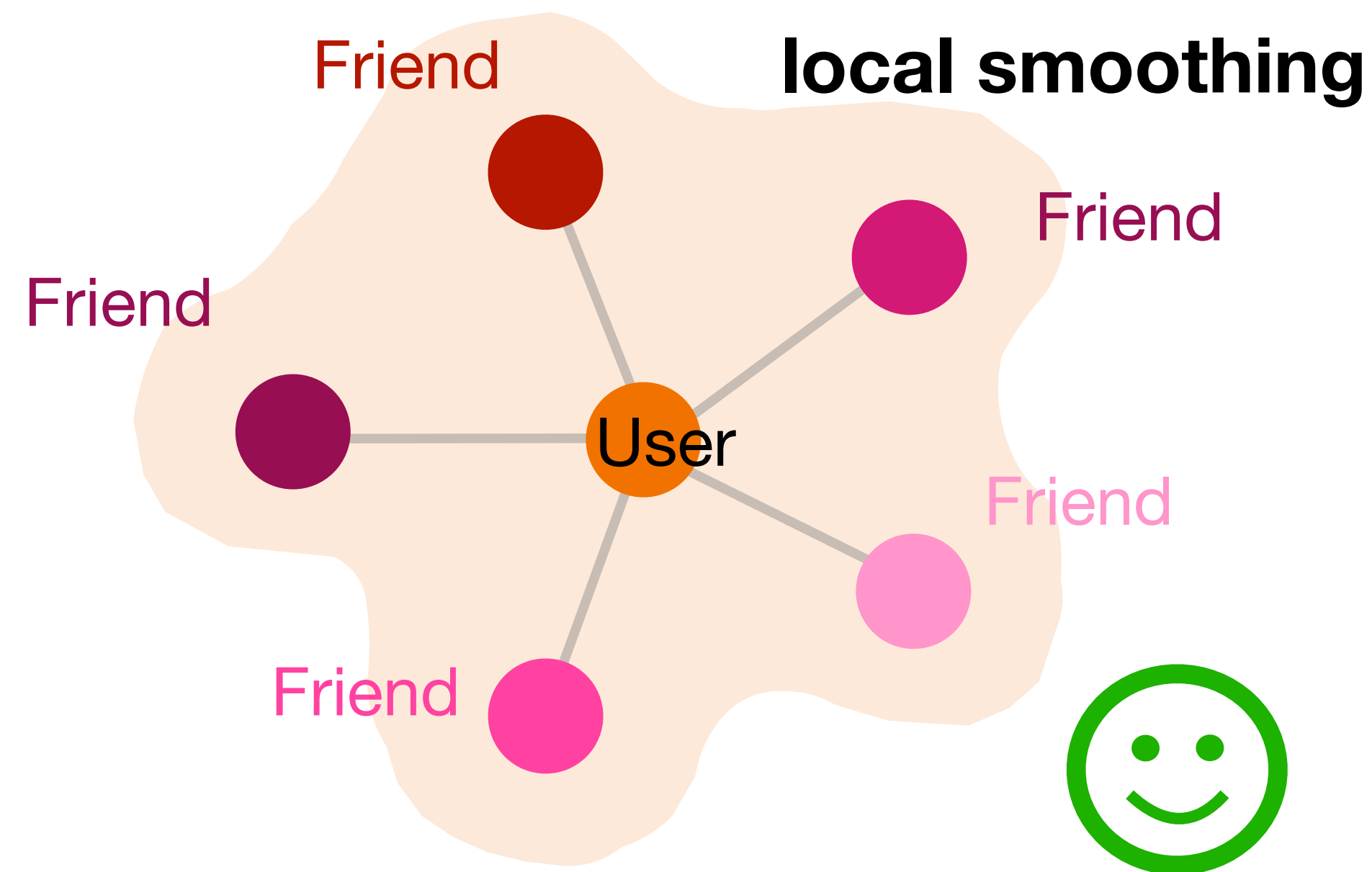
↑  
keep close to the  
original features

↑  
smooth node features  
across the graph

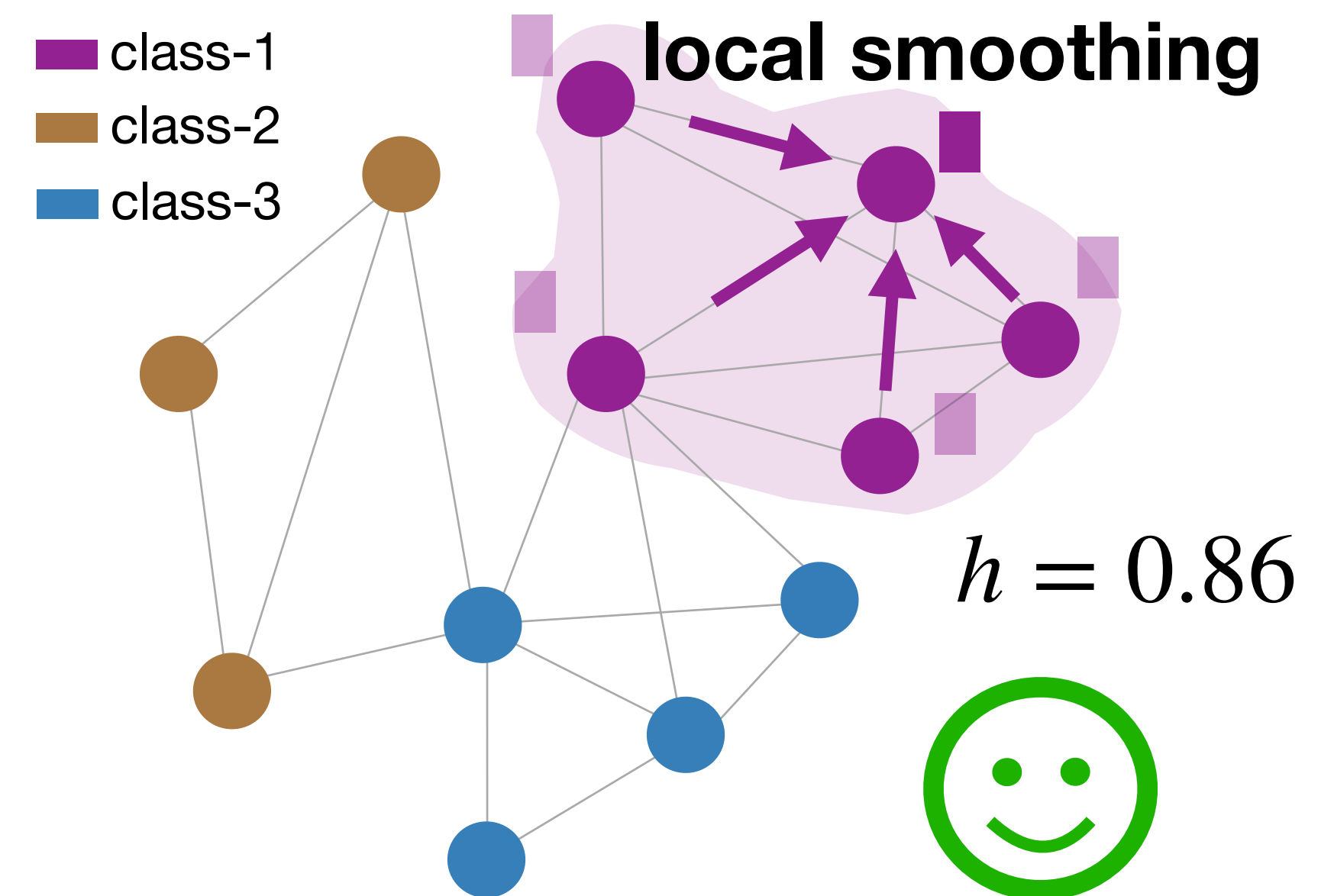
## Motivation & Challenges

- Most GNNs assume homogenous node interactions and employ neighborhood smoothing.

### ▶ Homogenous Node Relationships



### ▶ Homophilic Linking Patterns



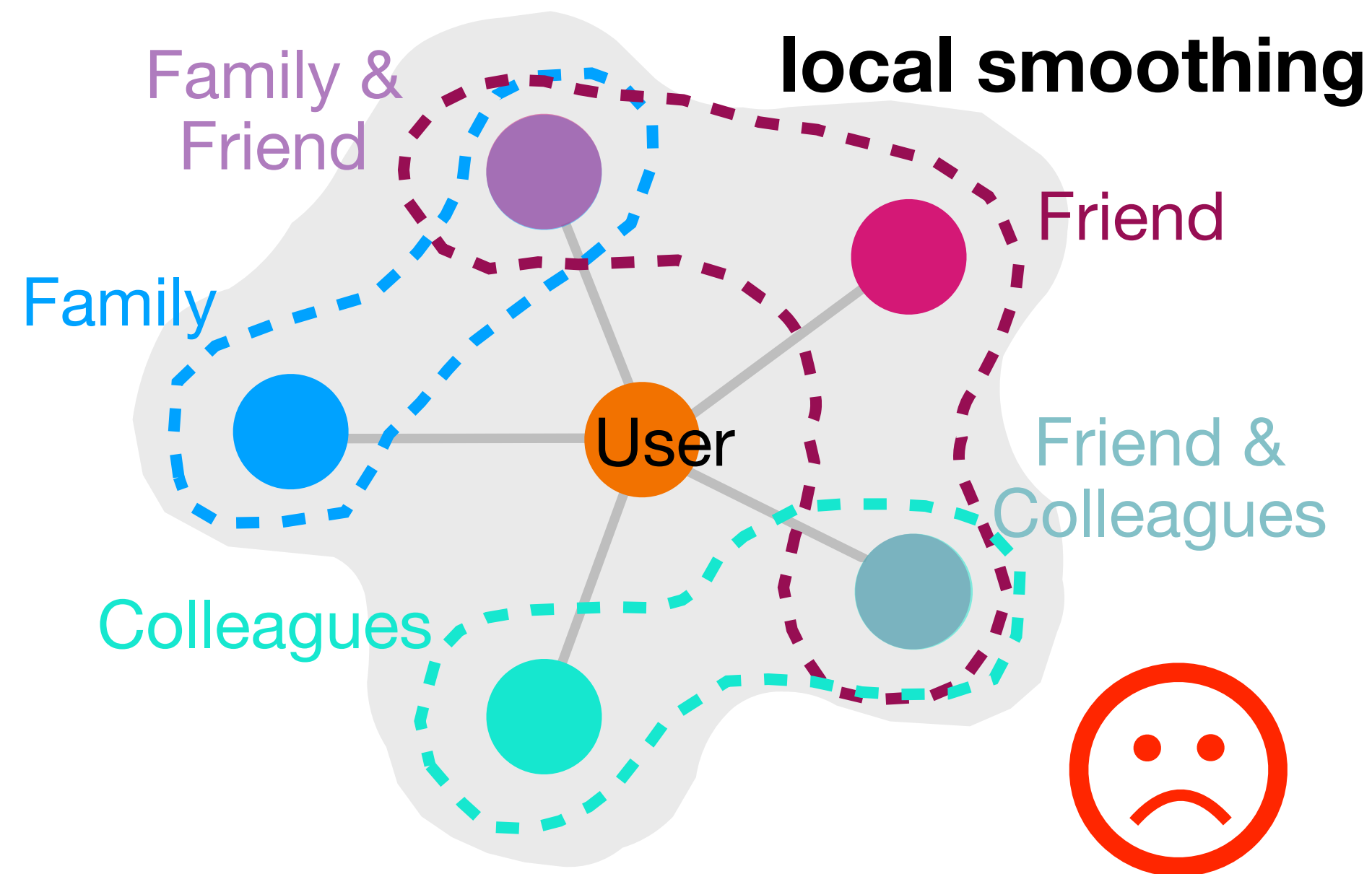


# Research Experience — Challenges

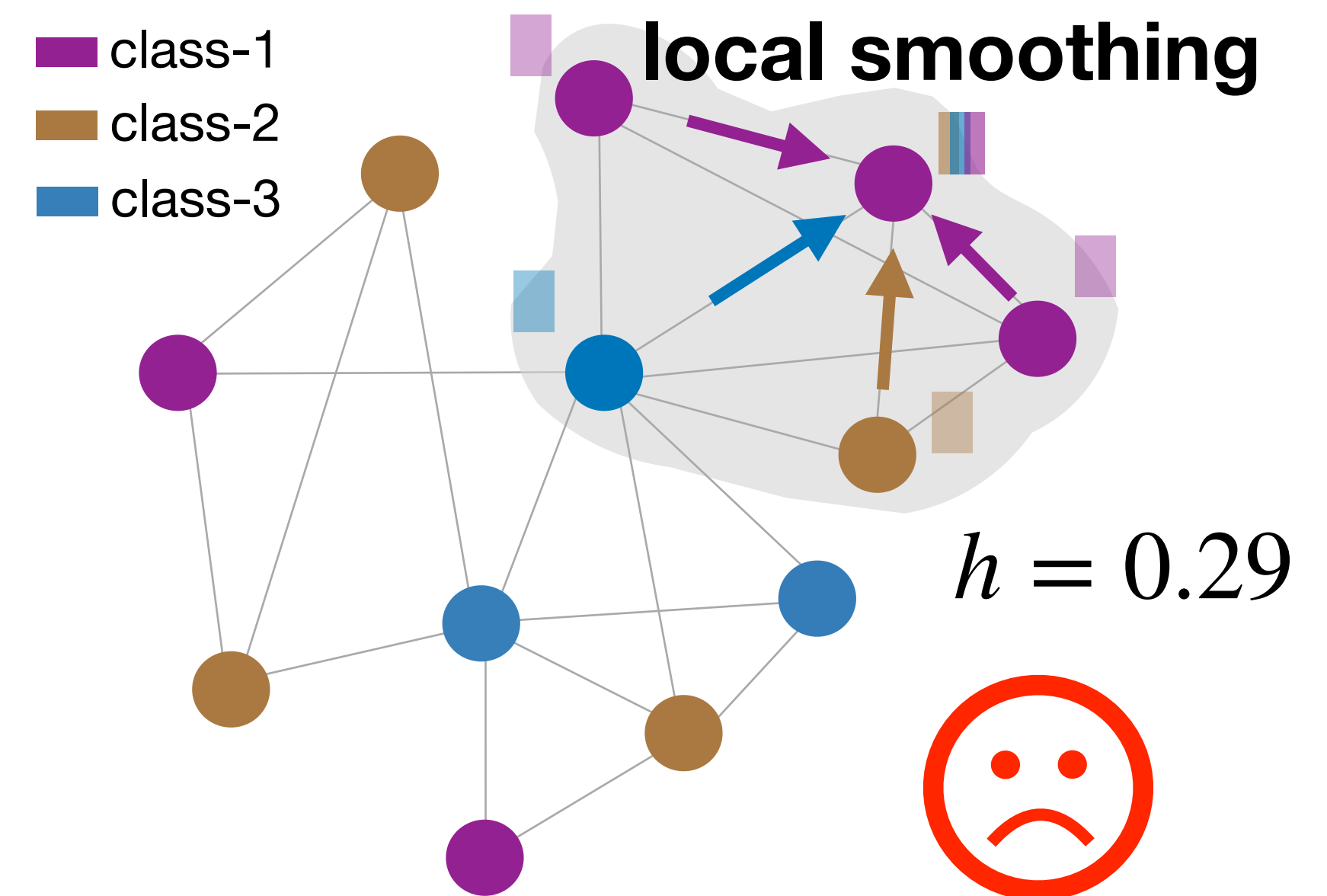
## Motivation & Challenges

- Most GNNs assume homogenous node interactions and employ neighborhood smoothing.

### ► Entangled Node Relationships



### ► Heterophilic Linking Patterns



## Graph Learning Against Homophilous Assumptions

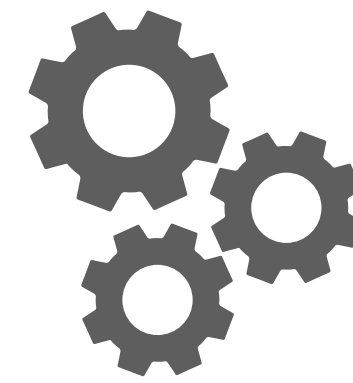
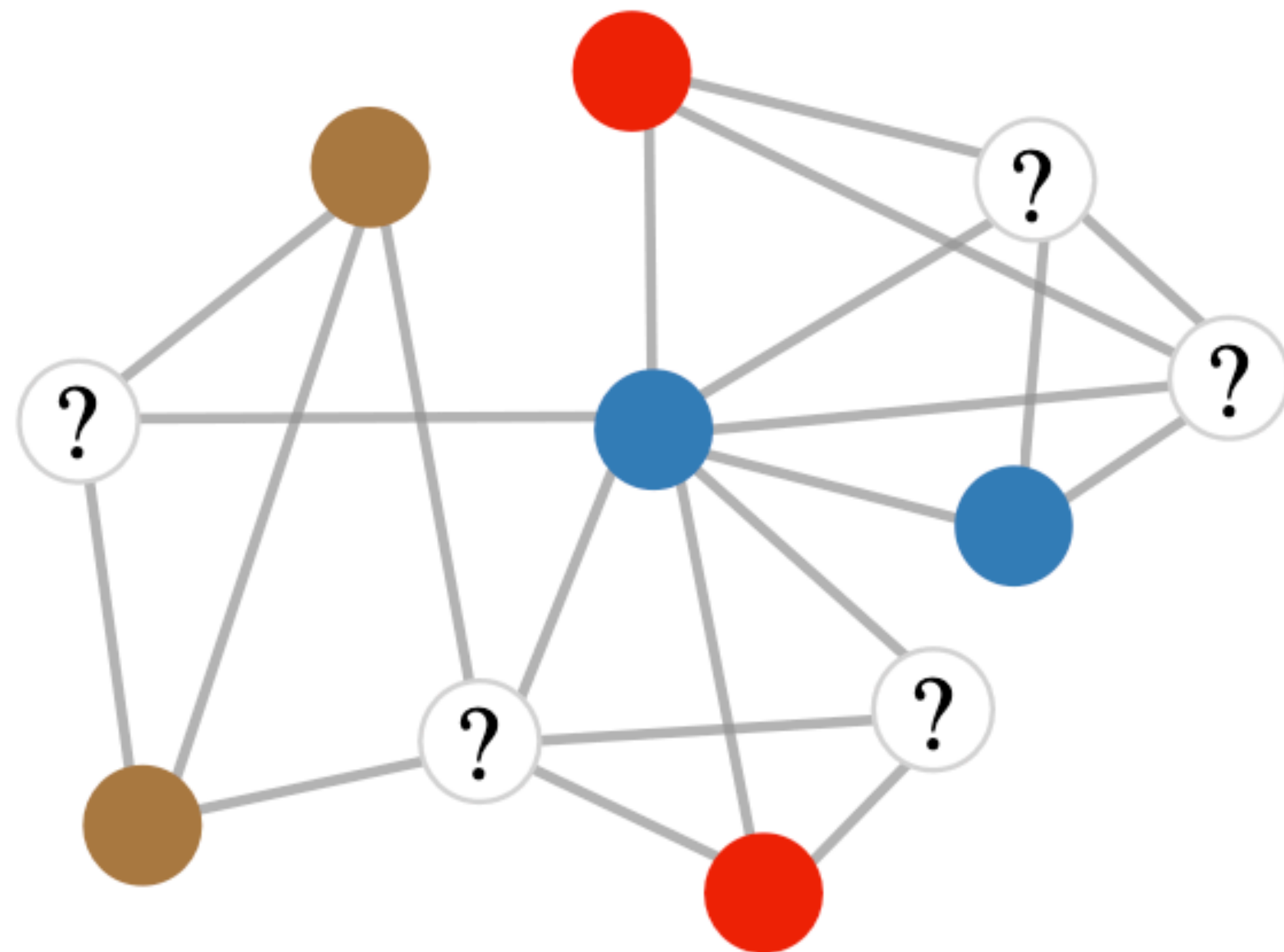
- ▶ **Jingwei Guo**, et.al. Learning Disentangled Graph Convolutional Networks Locally and Globally. *TNNLS 2022 [CCF B, IF 10.2]*.
- ▶ **Jingwei Guo**, et.al. ES-GNN: Generalizing Graph Neural Networks Beyond Homophily with Edge Splitting. *TPAMI 2024 [CCF A, IF 20.8]*.
- ▶ **Jingwei Guo**, et.al. Graph Neural Networks with Diverse Spectral Filtering. *WWW 2023 [CCF A]*.
- ▶ **Jingwei Guo**, et.al. Rethinking Spectral Graph Neural Networks with Spatially Adaptive Filtering. *TNNLS (Under Review) 2024 [CCF B, IF 10.2]*.

# Research Experience — Node Classification Tasks

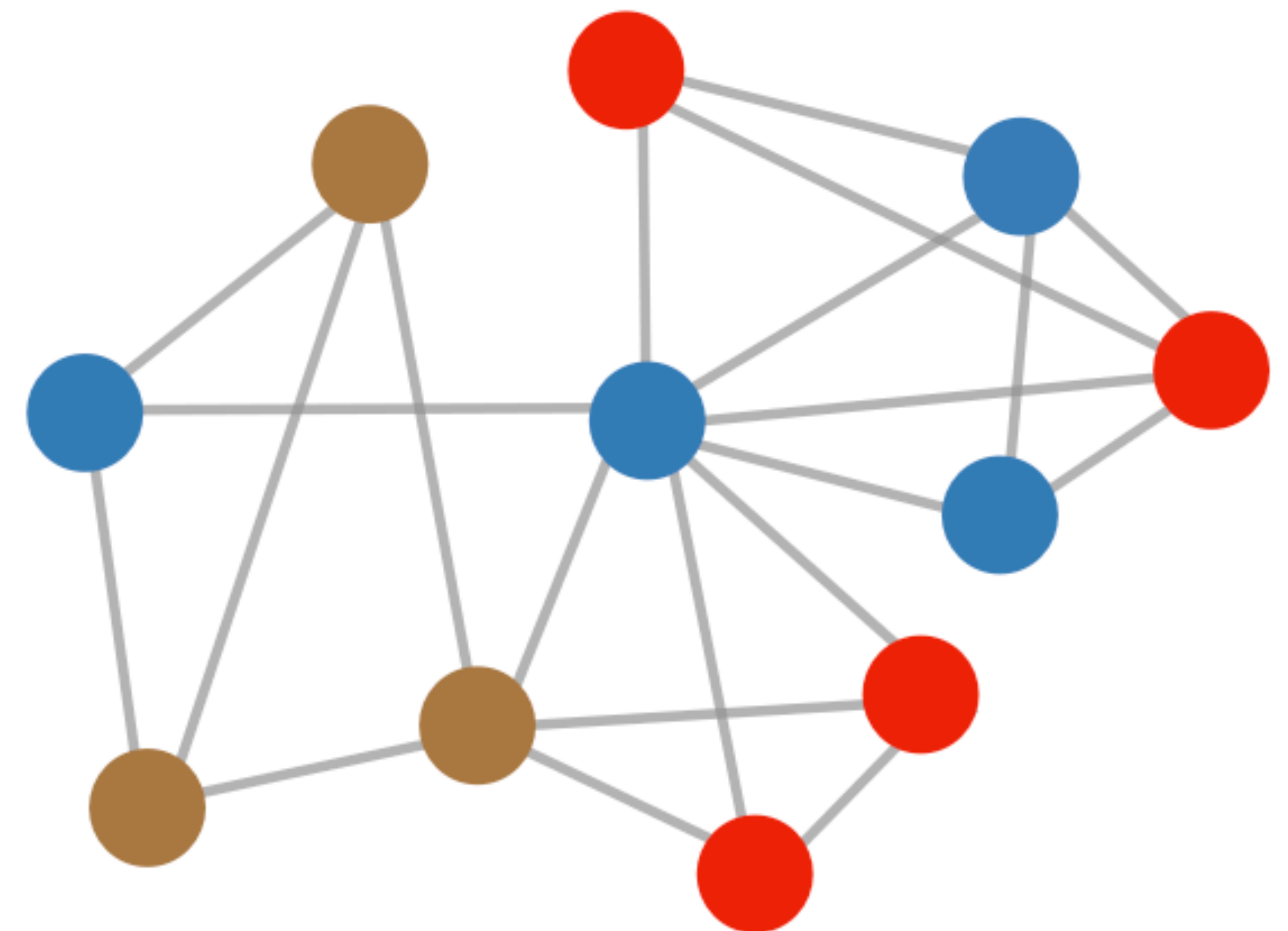
■ Class-1

■ Class-2

■ Class-3



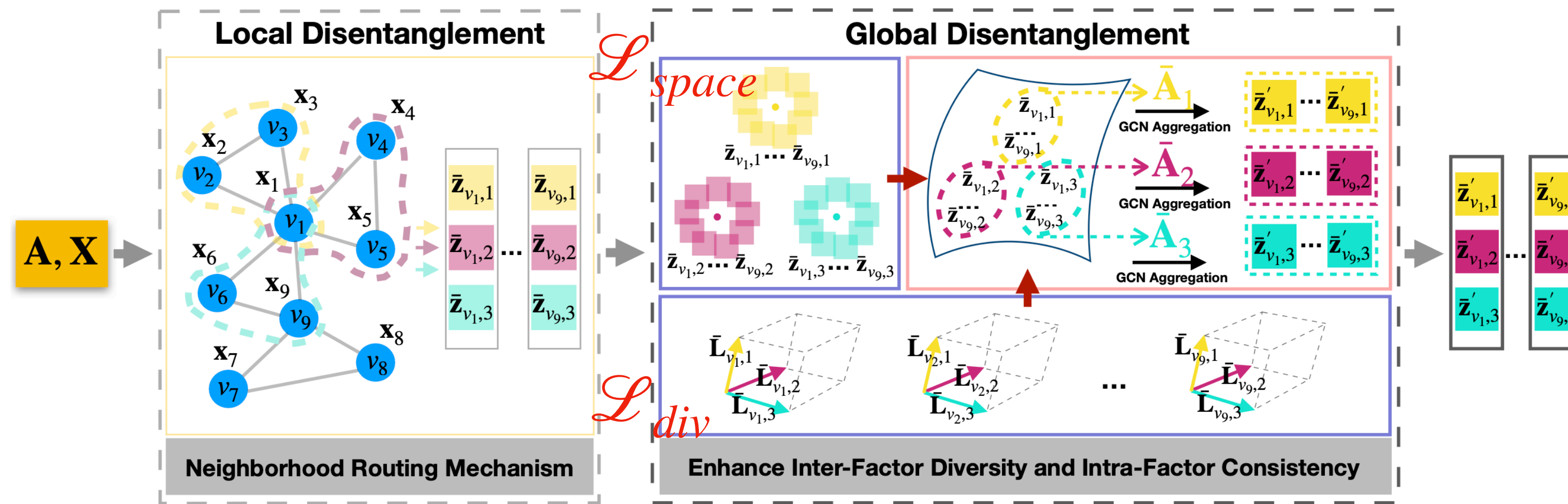
Machine Learning



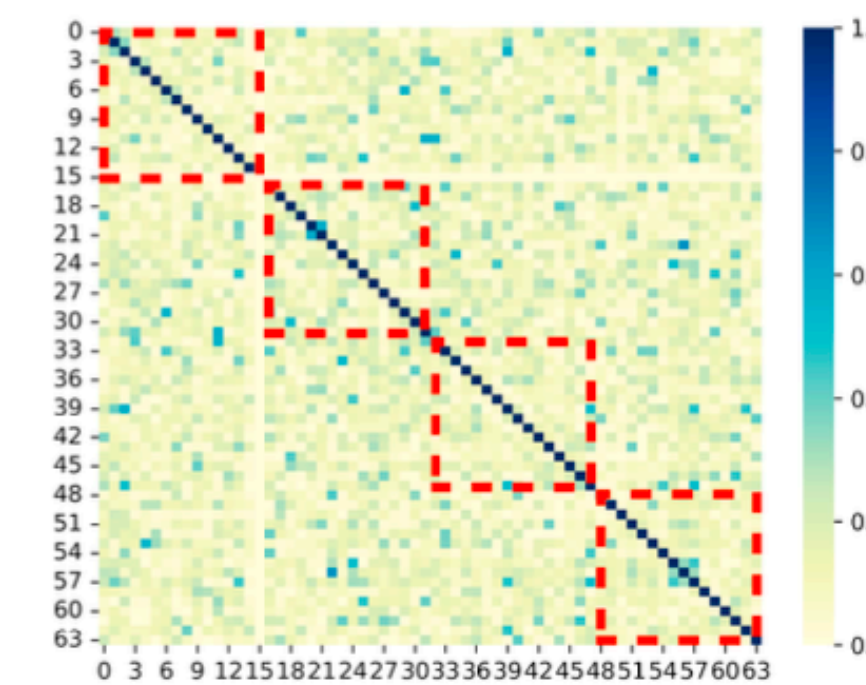


# Research Experience — Solution 1

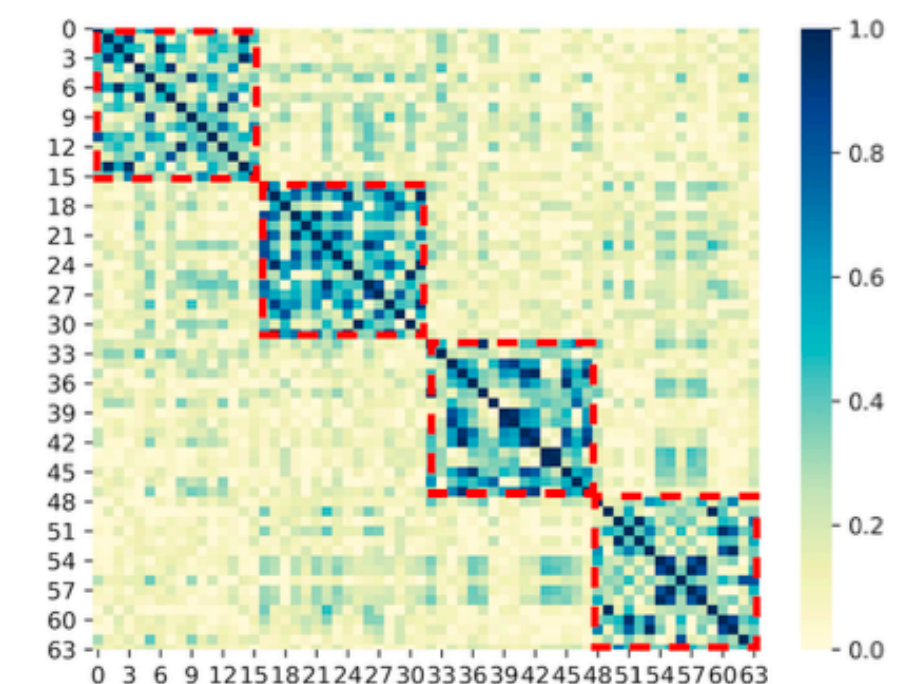
## Local-Global Disentanglement



## Features Correlation



Baseline



Ours

- ▶ latent space regularization with GMM
- ▶ global message passing on latent graphs

## Local-Global Disentanglement

SEMISUPERVISED CLASSIFICATION ACCURACIES (%) ON THE STANDARD SPLIT (LEFT) AND MULTIPLE RANDOM SPLITS (RIGHT)

Methods	Social Network				Citation Network					
	Blogcatalog		Flickr		Cora		Citeseer		Pubmed	
MoNet [69]	74.7±0.4	74.6±0.5	61.7±0.7	61.6±1.0	79.6±1.5	80.5±1.6	70.2±1.3	67.7±1.7	78.0±0.5	75.7±2.0
GCN [6]	73.8±0.3	72.9±0.4	56.6±0.4	57.6±0.3	81.8±1.0	82.3±1.6	71.8±1.3	70.7±1.3	78.7±0.5	78.5±1.6
GraphSAGE [10]	73.7±0.3	73.0±0.4	56.3±0.4	57.0±0.4	81.9±0.9	81.9±1.6	71.3±1.3	69.2±1.4	79.0±0.6	78.4±1.6
GAT [11]	56.7±5.0	57.5±3.2	45.1±1.0	45.1±1.4	81.9±0.8	81.7±1.4	73.1±0.8	70.9±1.3	78.8±0.7	78.4±1.9
SGC [12]	74.5±0.3	73.7±0.4	61.4±0.2	60.6±0.3	82.4±0.5	82.3±1.7	72.4±0.5	66.0±1.3	79.4±0.2	77.2±2.6
JK-Net [13]	76.5±0.3	75.8±0.5	64.6±0.4	64.1±0.4	82.0±0.9	82.5±1.6	73.0±0.9	70.1±1.2	79.1±0.4	78.2±1.8
DisenGCN [17]	86.5±1.3	86.4±1.2	75.8±0.6	76.7±0.6	81.9±0.9	81.8±1.4	72.5±0.8	70.0±1.3	79.7±0.6	79.0±1.9
IPGDN [18]	86.9±0.9	86.1±1.1	75.9±0.5	76.8±0.6	83.0±0.5	82.1±1.7	72.7±1.4	69.9±1.4	80.0±0.5	78.8±2.2
FactorGCN [47]	78.4±1.3	77.6±2.1	47.0±1.7	45.4±2.0	72.9±2.2	69.7±3.1	59.6±1.8	54.7±2.8	74.4±0.8	70.8±3.0
LGD-GCN (ours)	<b>93.7±0.4</b>	<b>93.9±0.4</b>	<b>85.5±0.6</b>	<b>84.0±0.8</b>	<b>85.2±0.6</b>	<b>83.8±1.3</b>	<b>74.4±0.5</b>	<b>72.3±1.5</b>	<b>81.5±0.6</b>	<b>80.6±2.2</b>

Social Network

Citation Network



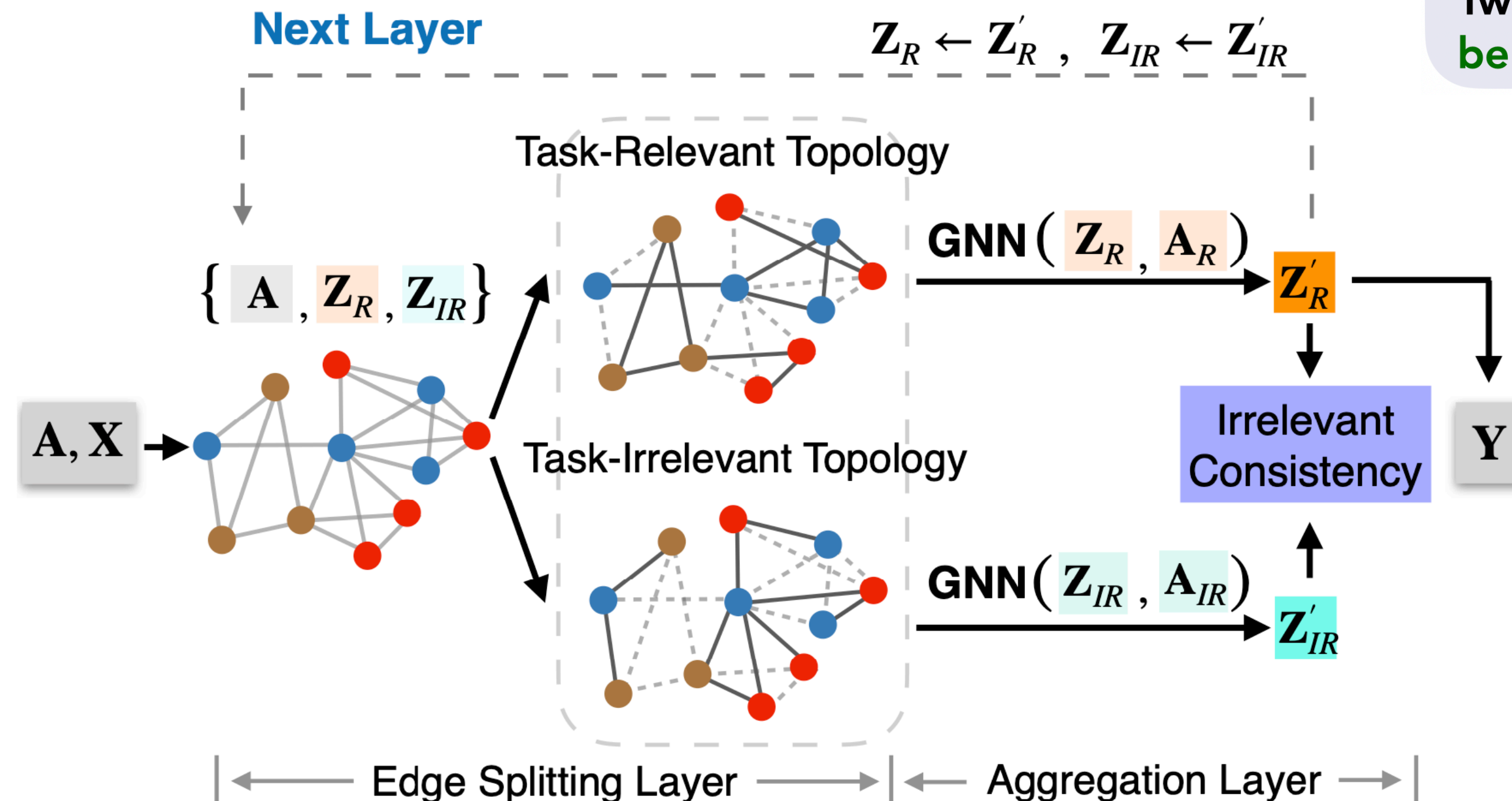
## Edge Splitting GNN

### Conventional Smoothness Assumption

Two connected nodes **mostly share task-beneficial similarity**.

### Disentangled Smoothness Assumption (Ours)

Two connected nodes share similarity in some features, **which could be either relevant or irrelevant (even harmful) to learning tasks**.



ES-GNN addresses heterophilic graphs by **partitioning network topology & disentangling node features**.

## Edge Splitting GNN

To address this, for edges where  $\mathbf{A}_{(i,j)} = 1$ , we parameterize the difference between  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{R}(i,j)}$  and  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{IR}(i,j)}$ , by solving the linear equation:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{A}_{\text{R}(i,j)} - \mathbf{A}_{\text{IR}(i,j)} = \alpha_{i,j} \\ \mathbf{A}_{\text{R}(i,j)} + \mathbf{A}_{\text{IR}(i,j)} = 1 \end{cases}.$$

This gives us  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{R}(i,j)} = \frac{1+\alpha_{i,j}}{2}$  and  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{IR}(i,j)} = \frac{1-\alpha_{i,j}}{2}$  with  $-1 \leq \alpha_{i,j} \leq 1$ . To effectively quantify the interaction (or relative importance) between the task-relevant and irrelevant aspects of each edge, we propose a residual scoring mechanism:

$$\alpha_{i,j} = \tanh(\mathbf{g} [\mathbf{Z}_{\text{R}[i,:]} \oplus \mathbf{Z}_{\text{IR}[i,:]} \oplus \mathbf{Z}_{\text{R}[j,:]} \oplus \mathbf{Z}_{\text{IR}[j,:]}]^T). \quad (2)$$

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### Algorithm 1 Framework of ES-GNN

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**Input:** nodes set:  $\mathcal{V}$ , edge set:  $\mathcal{E}$ , adjacency matrix:  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ , node feature matrix:  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}| \times F}$ , the number of layers:  $K$ , scaling parameters:  $\{\epsilon_{\text{R}}, \epsilon_{\text{IR}}\}$ , irrelevant consistency coefficient:  $\lambda_{\text{ICR}}$ , and ground truth labels on the training set:  $\{\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^C | \forall v_i \in \mathcal{V}_{\text{tm}}\}$ .

**Param:**  $\mathbf{W}_{\text{R}}, \mathbf{W}_{\text{IR}} \in \mathbb{R}^{f \times d}$ ,  $\mathbf{W}_F \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times C}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}_F \in \mathbb{R}^C$ ,  $\{\mathbf{g}^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 2d} | k = 0, 1, \dots, K-1\}$

- 1: // Project node features into two subspaces.
  - 2: **for**  $s \in \{\text{R}, \text{IR}\}$  **do**
  - 3:    $\mathbf{Z}_s^{(0)} \leftarrow \sigma(\mathbf{W}_s^T \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}_s)$ .
  - 4:    $\mathbf{Z}_s^{(0)} \leftarrow \text{Dropout}(\mathbf{Z}_s^{(0)})$  // Enabled only for training.
  - 5: **end for**
  - 6: // Stack Edge Splitting and Aggregation Layers.
  - 7: **for** layer number  $k = 0, 1, \dots, K-1$  **do**
  - 8:   // Edge Splitting Layer.
  - 9:   Initialize  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{R}}, \mathbf{A}_{\text{IR}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  with zeros.
  - 10:   **for**  $(v_i, v_j) \in \mathcal{E}$  **do**
  - 11:      $\alpha_{i,j} \leftarrow \tanh(\mathbf{g}^{(k)} [\mathbf{Z}_{\text{R}[i,:]}^{(k)} \oplus \mathbf{Z}_{\text{IR}[i,:]}^{(k)} \oplus \mathbf{Z}_{\text{R}[j,:]}^{(k)} \oplus \mathbf{Z}_{\text{IR}[j,:]}^{(k)}]^T)$ .
  - 12:      $\alpha_{i,j} \leftarrow \text{Dropout}(\alpha_{i,j})$  // Enabled only for training.
  - 13:      $\mathbf{A}_{\text{R}(i,j)} \leftarrow \frac{1+\alpha_{i,j}}{2}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{IR}(i,j)} \leftarrow \frac{1-\alpha_{i,j}}{2}$ .
  - 14:   **end for**
  - 15:   // Aggregation Layer.
  - 16:   **for**  $s \in \{\text{R}, \text{IR}\}$  **do**
  - 17:      $\mathbf{Z}_s^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \epsilon_s \mathbf{Z}_s^{(0)} + (1 - \epsilon_s) \mathbf{D}_s^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A}_s \mathbf{D}_s^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{Z}_s^{(k)}$ .
  - 18:   **end for**
  - 19: **end for**
  - 20: // Prediction.
  - 21:  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}_i = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}_F^T \mathbf{Z}_{\text{R}[i,:]}^{(K)} + \mathbf{b}_F)$ ,  $\forall v_i \in \mathcal{V}$ .
  - 22: // Optimization with Irrelevant Consistency Regularization.
  - 23:  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ICR}} = \sum_{(v_i, v_j) \in \mathcal{E}} (1 - \delta(\hat{\mathbf{y}}_i, \hat{\mathbf{y}}_j)) \|\mathbf{Z}_{\text{IR}[i,:]} - \mathbf{Z}_{\text{IR}[j,:]}\|_2^2$ .
  - 24:  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{pred}} = -\frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}_{\text{tm}}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}_{\text{tm}}} \mathbf{y}_i^T \log(\hat{\mathbf{y}}_i)$ .
  - 25: **Minimize**  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{pred}} + \lambda_{\text{ICR}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{ICR}}$ .
-



## Edge Splitting GNN

### ■ Conventional GNNs

#### Graph Denoising Problem

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{Z}} \|\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{X}\|_2^2 + \xi \cdot \text{tr}(\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Z})$$

Our Analysis  $\downarrow$   $L = L_R + L_{IR}$

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{Z}} \|\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{X}\|_2^2 + \xi \cdot \text{tr}(\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L}_R \mathbf{Z}) + \xi \cdot \text{tr}(\mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{L}_{IR} \mathbf{Z})$$

Possible classification-harmful information **could be preserved in  $\mathbf{Z}$**

### ■ Our ES-GNN

#### Disentangled Graph Denoising Problem

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{Z}_R, \mathbf{Z}_{IR}} \|\mathbf{Z}_R - \mathbf{X}_{IR}\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{Z}_{IR} - \mathbf{X}_{IR}\|_2^2 + \xi \cdot \text{tr}(\mathbf{Z}_R^T \mathbf{L}_R \mathbf{Z}_R) + \xi \cdot \text{tr}(\mathbf{Z}_{IR}^T \mathbf{L}_{IR} \mathbf{Z}_{IR})$$

where  $\mathbf{L}_R = \mathbf{D}_R - \mathbf{A}_R$ ,  $\mathbf{L}_{IR} = \mathbf{D}_{IR} - \mathbf{A}_{IR}$

s.t.  $\mathbf{A}_R + \mathbf{A}_{IR} = \mathbf{A}$

$\mathbf{A}_{R(i,j)}, \mathbf{A}_{IR(i,j)} \in [0, 1]$ .

Possible classification-harmful information **can be excluded from  $\mathbf{Z}_R$  & disentangled in  $\mathbf{Z}_{IR}$**

# Research Experience — Solution 2

## Edge Splitting GNN

Node classification accuracies (%) over 100 runs. Error Reduction gives the average improvement of ES-GNN upon baselines w/o Basic GNNs.

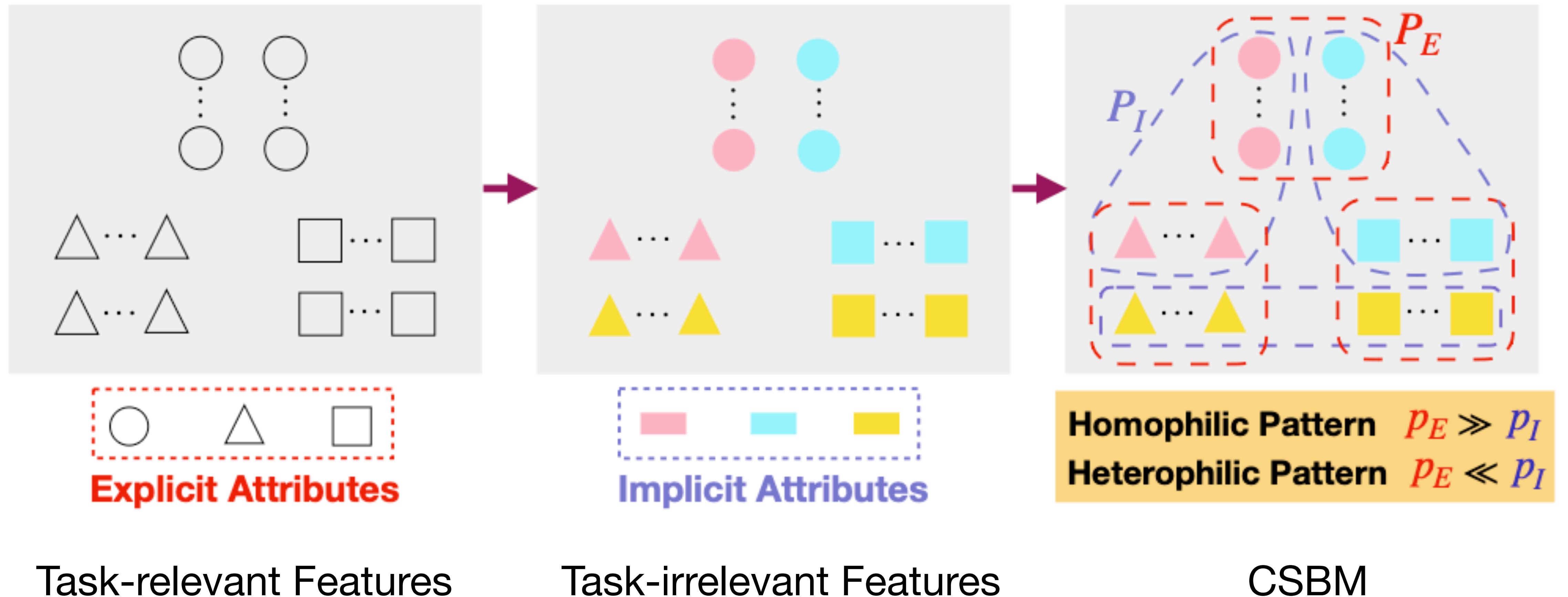
Datasets	Heterophilic Graphs							Homophilic Graphs			
	Squirrel	Chameleon	Wisconsin	Cornell	Texas	Twitch-DE	Actor	Cora	Citeseer	Pubmed	Polblogs
GCN [30]	55.2±1.5	67.6±2.0	59.5±3.6	52.8±6.0	61.7±3.7	74.0±1.2	31.2±1.3	79.7±1.2	69.5±1.7	78.7±1.6	89.4±0.9
SGC [6]	50.7±1.3	61.9±2.6	53.7±3.9	51.2±0.9	51.4±2.2	73.9±1.3	30.9±0.6	79.1±1.0	69.9±2.0	76.6±1.3	89.0±1.5
GAT [26]	54.8±2.2	67.3±2.2	57.9±4.5	50.4±5.9	55.4±5.9	73.7±1.3	30.5±1.2	82.0±1.1	69.9±1.7	78.6±2.0	87.4±1.1
NeuralSparse [48]	40.0±1.6	60.5±2.0	70.8±3.4	64.1±5.5	66.4±5.7	71.3±1.3	35.5±1.1	78.5±1.4	69.7±1.8	79.1±1.2	89.3±0.9
GCN-LPA [49]	54.2±1.1	63.4±1.9	63.3±3.7	65.6±7.3	61.2±7.6	74.0±1.2	37.8±0.9	80.4±1.5	69.7±1.7	79.7±1.3	<b>89.7±0.8</b>
DisenGCN [66]	42.4±1.6	58.4±2.3	78.1±4.0	77.4±4.4	71.3±5.7	73.5±1.7	36.7±1.2	81.5±1.3	69.2±1.7	80.0±1.6	89.5±0.9
FactorGCN [33]	56.6±2.4	69.8±2.0	64.2±4.8	50.6±1.8	69.5±6.5	73.1±1.4	29.0±1.4	75.2±1.6	61.6±2.0	72.9±2.3	87.9±1.7
VEPM [71]	50.3±1.7	67.3±2.1	55.6±4.9	51.2±7.0	55.8±4.3	73.3±1.2	29.3±1.1	82.2±1.2	69.1±1.9	78.8±1.6	89.5±0.9
DisGNN [72]	55.1±4.8	68.2±1.9	54.6±5.4	52.0±5.7	60.6±3.9	69.2±0.8	30.2±1.3	78.2±1.4	66.2±2.2	77.6±1.7	89.6±0.9
GEN [13]	36.0±4.0	57.6±3.1	83.3±3.6	81.0±3.9	78.3±8.0	74.1±1.4	37.3±1.4	79.8±1.3	69.7±1.6	78.9±1.7	89.6±1.4
WRGAT [14]	39.6±1.4	57.7±1.6	82.9±4.5	79.2±3.5	80.5±6.1	70.0±1.3	38.6±1.1	71.7±1.5	64.1±1.9	73.3±2.1	88.2±1.2
H2GCN [10]	45.1±1.9	62.9±1.9	82.6±4.0	79.6±4.9	79.8±7.3	73.1±1.5	38.4±1.0	81.4±1.4	68.7±2.0	78.0±2.0	89.0±1.0
FAGCN [18]	50.4±2.6	68.9±1.8	82.3±4.4	79.4±5.5	80.3±5.5	74.1±1.4	37.9±1.0	82.6±1.3	70.3±1.6	80.0±1.7	89.3±1.1
GPR-GNN [11]	54.1±1.6	69.6±1.7	82.7±4.1	79.9±5.3	81.7±4.9	74.0±1.6	38.0±1.1	81.5±1.5	69.6±1.7	79.8±1.3	89.5±0.8
GloGNN++ [23]	63.3±1.2	71.4±2.0	84.9±4.2	82.0±3.5	81.4±5.6	72.8±1.1	38.2±1.2	80.9±1.4	70.5±1.9	76.8±2.1	89.6±0.8
ACM-GCN [46]	<b>67.0±1.3</b>	<b>75.3±2.2</b>	84.3±4.5	82.1±4.9	82.2±5.9	74.2±0.9	36.6±1.0	81.3±1.0	69.4±1.7	79.5±1.4	89.6±0.9
GOAL [47]	57.9±0.9	71.3±2.0	70.5±5.1	54.9±6.6	72.0±7.4	68.5±1.5	36.3±1.0	80.6±1.4	69.7±2.0	78.7±1.3	88.7±1.6
ES-GNN (ours)	62.4±1.4	72.3±2.1	<b>85.3±4.6</b>	<b>82.2±4.0</b>	<b>82.3±5.7</b>	<b>74.7±1.1</b>	<b>38.9±0.8</b>	<b>83.0±1.1</b>	<b>70.7±1.7</b>	<b>80.7±1.4</b>	<b>89.7±0.9</b>
Error Reduction	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

Jingwei Guo, et.al. ES-GNN: Generalizing Graph Neural Networks Beyond Homophily with Edge Splitting. *TPAMI (Minor Revision)*, 2024.



# Proposed Works (2nd) — Edge Splitting GNN

## Edge Splitting GNN — Synthetic Graphs



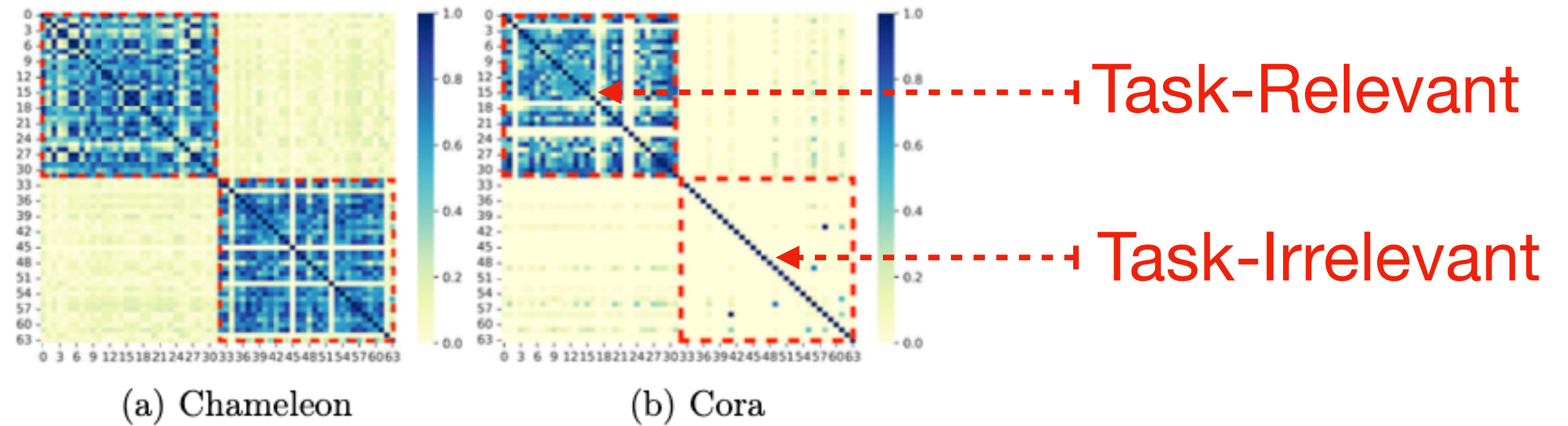


# Proposed Works (2nd) — Edge Splitting GNN

## Edge Splitting GNN — Feature Correlation

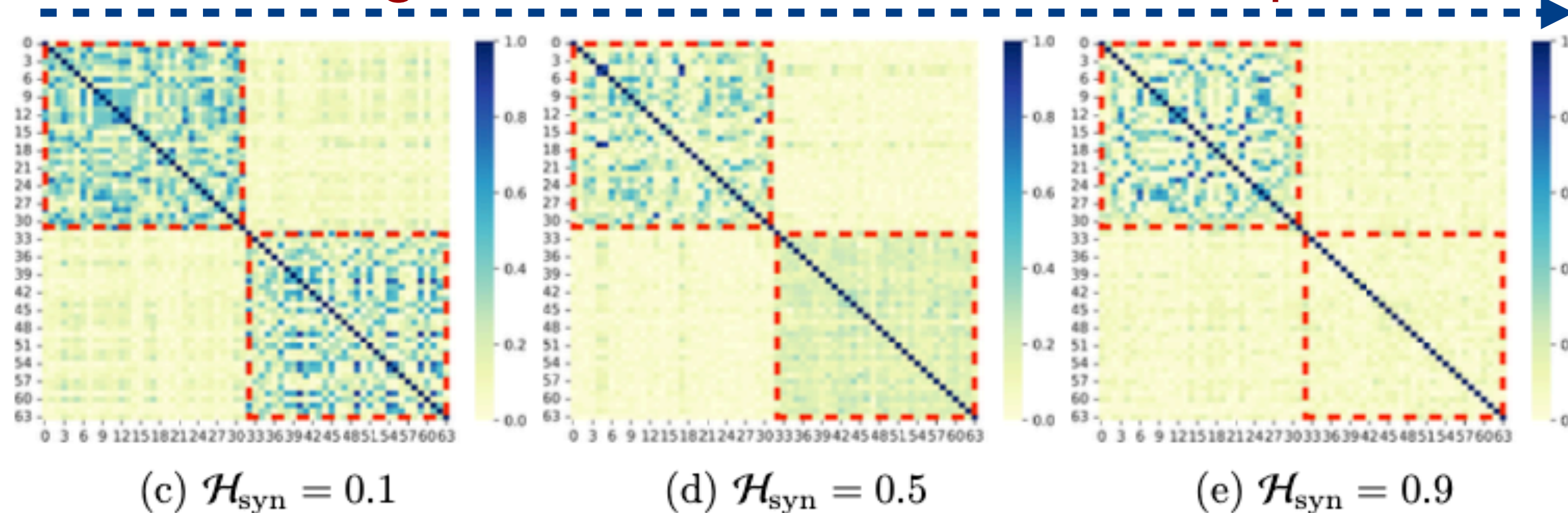
Heterophilic vs. Homophilic

■ Real-world



■ Synthetic

A reducing trend on the 2nd block-wise pattern





# Proposed Works (2nd) — Edge Splitting GNN

## Edge Splitting GNN

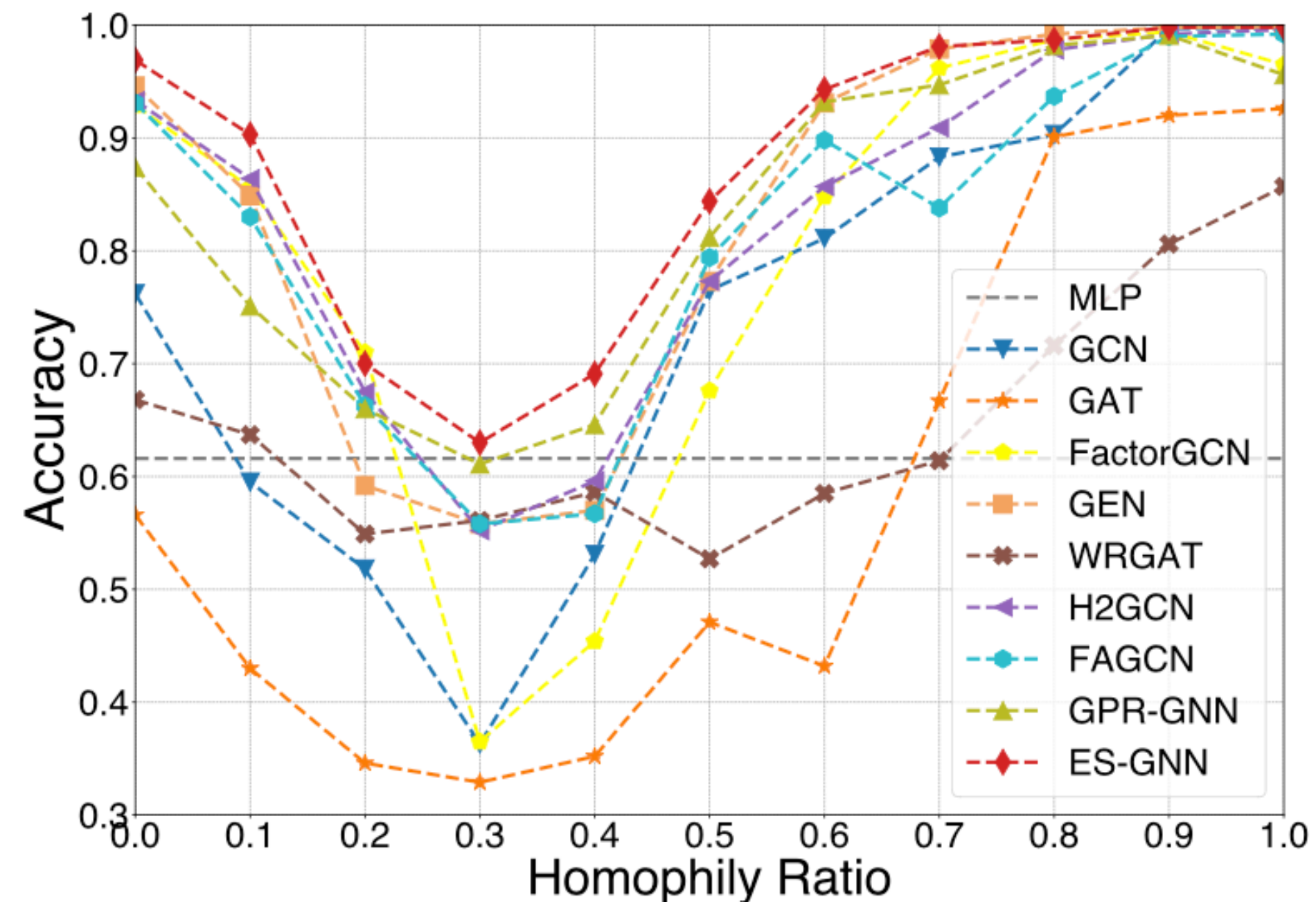


Fig. 5. Results of different models on synthetic graphs with varied homophily ratios, where ES-GNN constantly outperform all the baselines.

TABLE 5

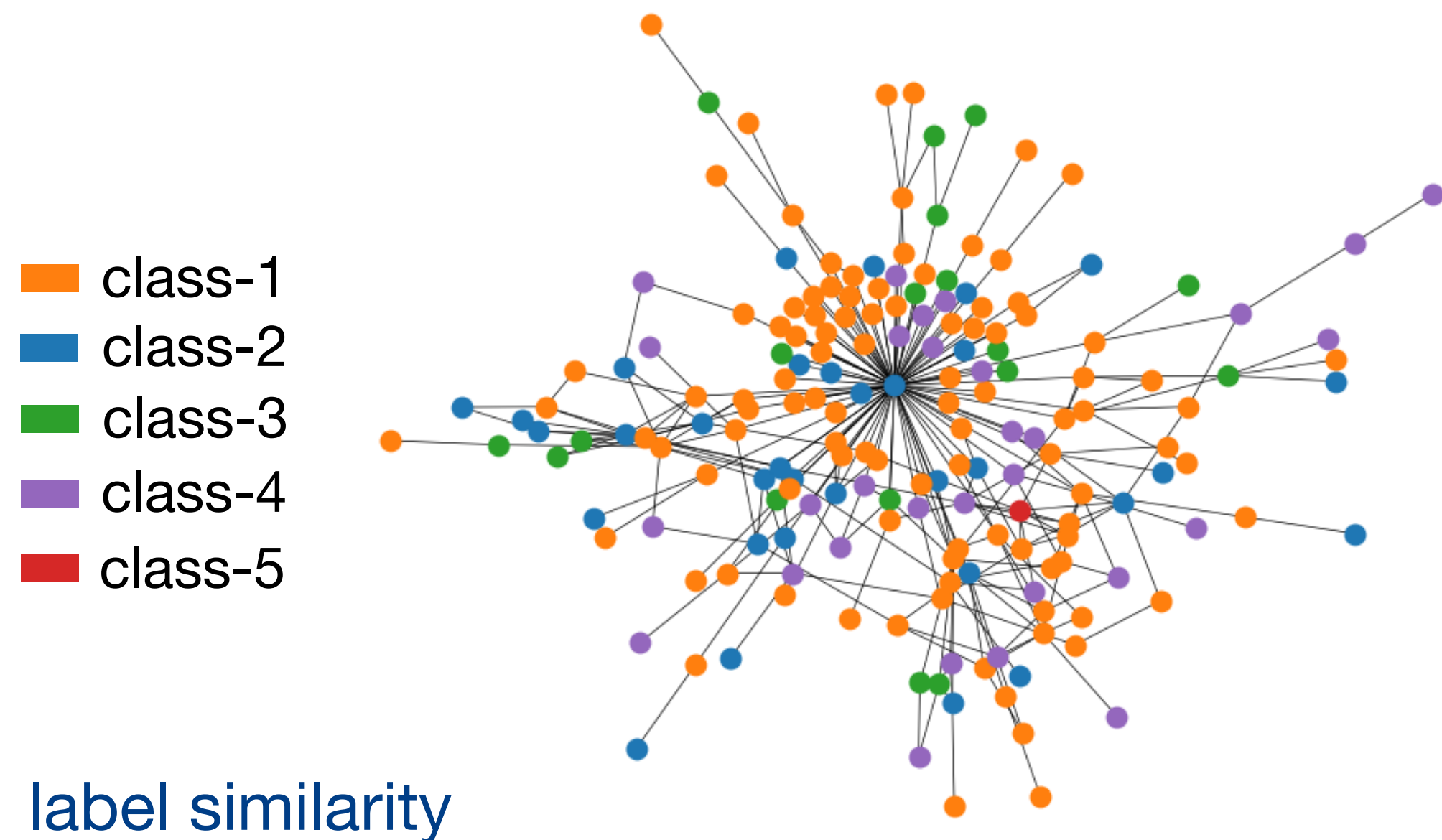
Edge Analysis of our ES-GNN on synthetic graphs with various homophily ratios. “Removed Het.” gives the percentage (%) of heterophilic (inter-class) node connections excluded from the task-relevant topology and disentangled in the task-irrelevant topology. The last two rows list the corresponding node classification accuracies (%) of ES-GNN and its variant while ablating ES-layer.

$\mathcal{H}_{\text{syn}}$	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	Avg.
Removed Het.	41.9	53.2	60.8	70.4	74.2	80.7	86.7	87.8	89.9	71.7
ES-GNN	90.0	69.6	62.1	69.6	85.4	93.8	98.3	99.2	100.0	85.3
ES-GNN w/o ES	84.6	57.9	53.3	53.8	74.2	81.7	86.3	90.4	96.7	75.4

# Research Experience — Solution 3

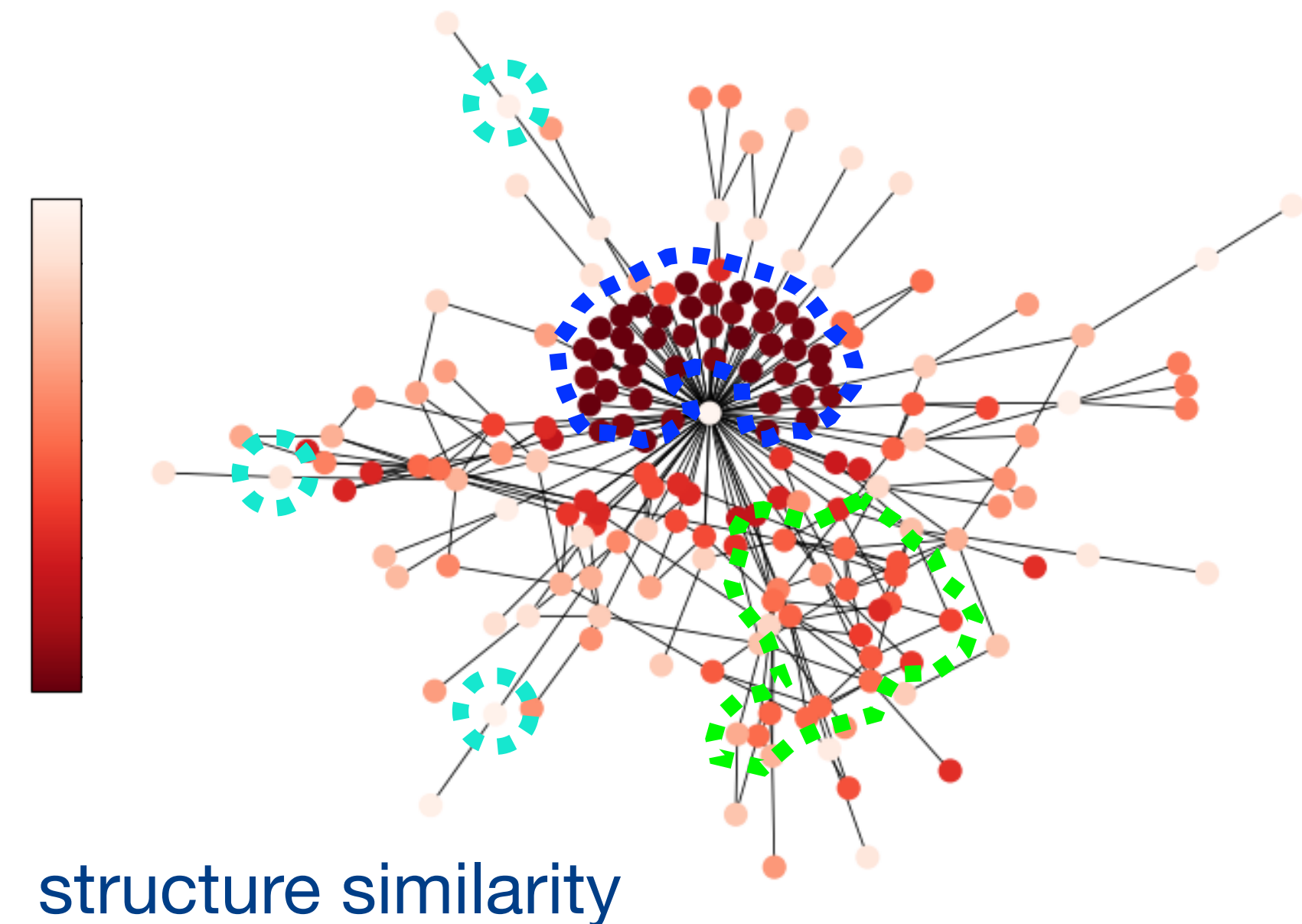
## Address Graph Regional Disparity

### ■ Edge-level (Previous)



Pairwise Distinction

### ■ Subgraph-level (Ours)



Regional Disparity



## Diverse Spectral Filtering

$$\mathbf{Z} = g_{\psi}(\hat{\mathbf{L}})\mathbf{X} = \sum_{k=0}^K \psi_k P_k(\hat{\mathbf{L}})\mathbf{X}$$

Polynomial Approx. with Shared Parameters

Most spectral GNNs assumes homogenous distributions between different graph regions. 😞

$$\mathbf{Z} = \sum_{k=0}^K \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{k,1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \beta_{k,2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \beta_{k,N} \end{pmatrix} P_k(\hat{\mathbf{L}})\mathbf{X}$$

We augment the original parameters into node-specific filter weights to model diverse regional patterns. 😊

## Diverse Spectral Filtering

**Definition 1** (Local Label Homophily). We define the Local Label Homophily as a measure of the local homophily level surrounding each node  $v_i$ :

$$h_i = \frac{|\{(v_p, v_q) | y_p = y_q \wedge (v_p, v_q) \in \mathcal{E}_{i,k}\}|}{|\mathcal{E}_{i,k}|}$$

Here,  $h_i$  directly computes the edge homophily ratio [50] on the subgraph made up of the  $k$ -hop neighbors, and  $\mathcal{E}_{i,k} = \{(v_p, v_q) | v_p, v_q \in \mathcal{N}_{i,k} \wedge (v_p, v_q) \in \mathcal{E}\}$  denotes its edge set.

**Definition 2** (Local Graph Frequency). The Local Graph Frequency is defined by measuring the local smoothness level of the decomposed Laplacian eigenbases, and for each node  $v_i$  we have:

$$\lambda_{n,i} = \sum_{(v_p, v_q) \in \mathcal{E}_{i,k}} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\deg_p}} \mathbf{u}_{n,p} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\deg_q}} \mathbf{u}_{n,q} \right)^2$$

where  $\lambda_{n,i}$  denotes the frequency or smoothness level of each Laplacian eigenbasis  $\mathbf{u}_n$  upon the subgraph induced by the  $k$ -hop neighbors. Since all summed elements in Eq. 1 are positive and  $\mathcal{E}_{i,k} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ , we can always have a  $\xi_i \in (0, 1)$  such that  $\lambda_{n,i} = \xi_i \lambda_n$ .

### Label Homophily

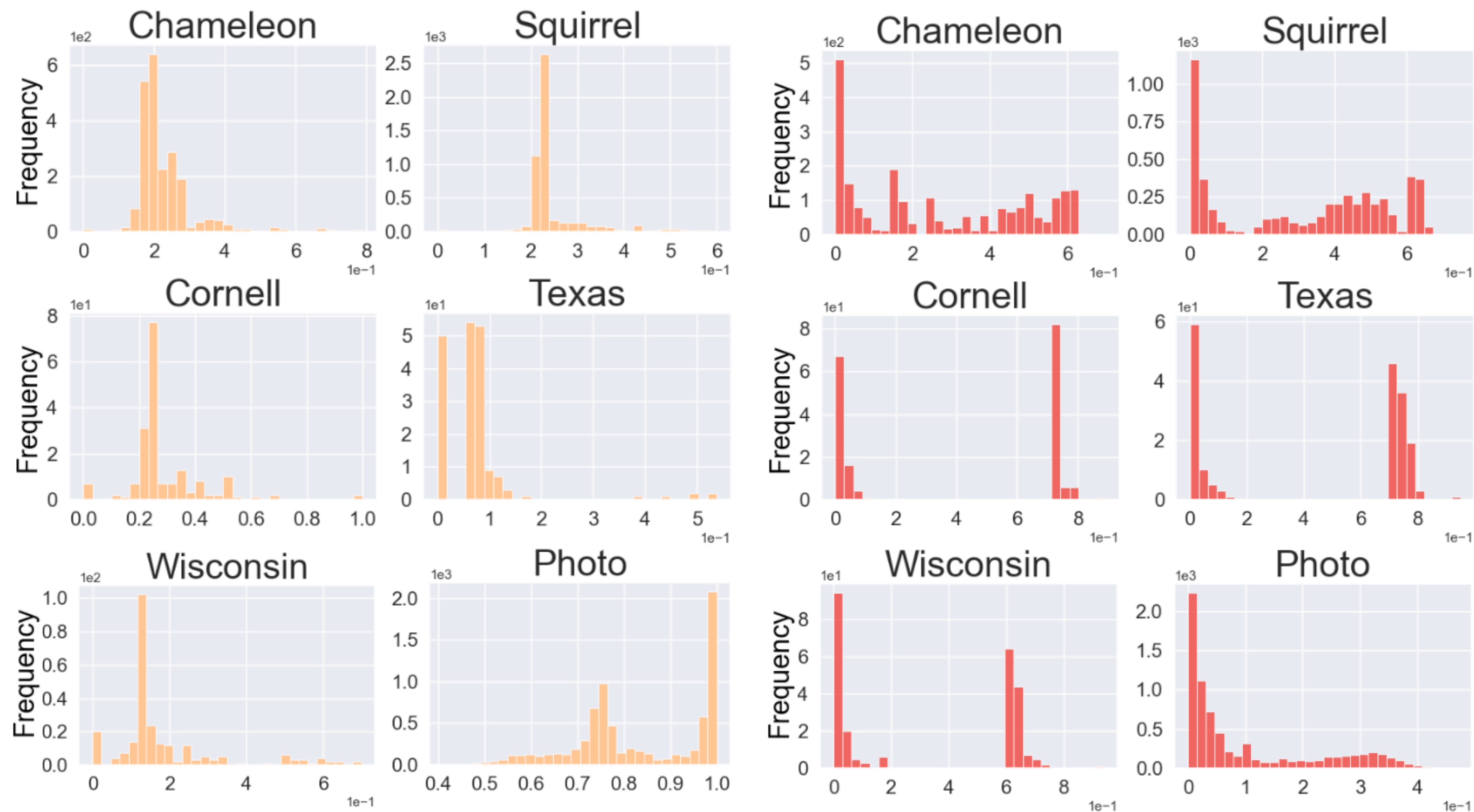
$$h = \frac{|\{(v_i, v_j) | y_i = y_j \wedge (v_i, v_j) \in \mathcal{E}\}|}{|\mathcal{E}|}$$

### Graph Frequency (Eigenvalue)

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_n &= \mathbf{u}_n^T \hat{\mathbf{L}} \mathbf{u}_n \\ &= \sum_{(v_p, v_q) \in \mathcal{E}} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\deg_p}} \mathbf{u}_{n,p} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\deg_q}} \mathbf{u}_{n,q} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Research Experience — Solution 3

## Diverse Spectral Filtering



**(a) Local Label Homophily**

**(b) Local Graph Frequency**

Evident Regional Heterogeneity



## Homogenous Spectral Filtering

$$\mathbf{Z} = \sum_{n=1}^N \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_n \cdot \mathbf{U}_n$$

Dot product

$$\tilde{\mathbf{S}}_n = \sum_{k=0}^K \alpha_k P_k(\lambda_n) \mathbf{U}_n^T \mathbf{X}$$

Scalar coefficient      Graph frequency

## Diverse Spectral Filtering

$$\mathbf{Z} = \sum_{n=1}^N \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_n \odot \mathbf{U}_n$$

Hadamard product

$$\tilde{\mathbf{S}}_n(i) = \sum_{k=0}^K \alpha_k P_k(\lambda_{n,i}) \mathbf{U}_n^T \mathbf{X}$$

The  $i$ -th element of vector coefficients

Vector      Local graph frequency

$\mathbf{X}$  is taken as one-dimension as an example

## Diverse Spectral Filtering

Substitution using  $\lambda_{n,i} = \xi_i \lambda_n$  s.t.  $0 < \xi_i < 1$

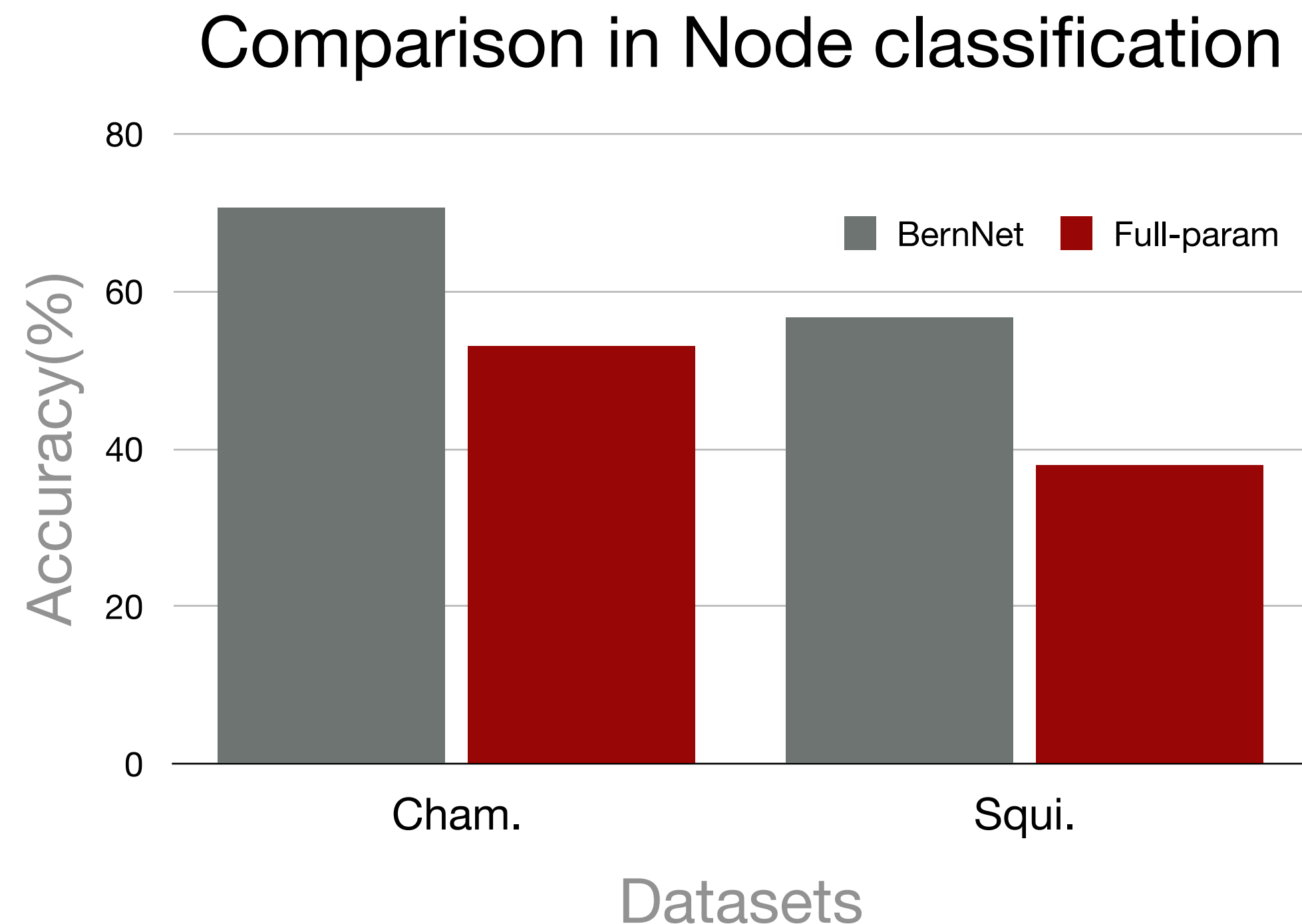
**Proposition 1.** Suppose a  $K$ -order polynomial function  $f : [0, 2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with polynomial basis  $P_k(\cdot)$  and coefficients  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=0}^K$  in real number. For any pair of variables  $x, \hat{x} \in [0, 2]$  satisfying  $x = \xi \hat{x}$  where  $\xi$  is a constant real number, we always have a function  $g : [0, 2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with the same polynomial basis but a different set of coefficients  $\{\beta_k\}_{k=0}^K$  such that  $f(x) = g(\hat{x})$ .

$$\text{It allows } \mathbf{S}'_n(i) = \sum_{k=0}^K \alpha_k P_k(\lambda_{n,i}) \mathbf{U}_n^T \mathbf{X} = \sum_{k=0}^K \beta_{k,i} P_k(\lambda_i) \mathbf{U}_n^T \mathbf{X}$$

$$\mathbf{Z} = \sum_{k=0}^K \mathbf{diag}(\beta_{k,1}, \beta_{k,2}, \dots, \beta_{k,N}) P_k(\hat{\mathbf{L}}) \mathbf{X}$$

## Full Parameterization Challenges

- Parameterizing a large number of filter weights ( $\propto$  # nodes) would **increase model complexity and cause severe overfitting to local noise.**



*“A reasonable design should be built upon a shared global model whilst locally adapted to each node with awareness of its graph position.”*



## Diverse Spectral Filtering

- Local and Global Weight Decomposition

$$\beta_{k,i} \leftarrow \gamma_i \cdot \alpha_{k,i}$$

global invariant graph properties

local diverse node contexts

- Position-aware Filter Weights

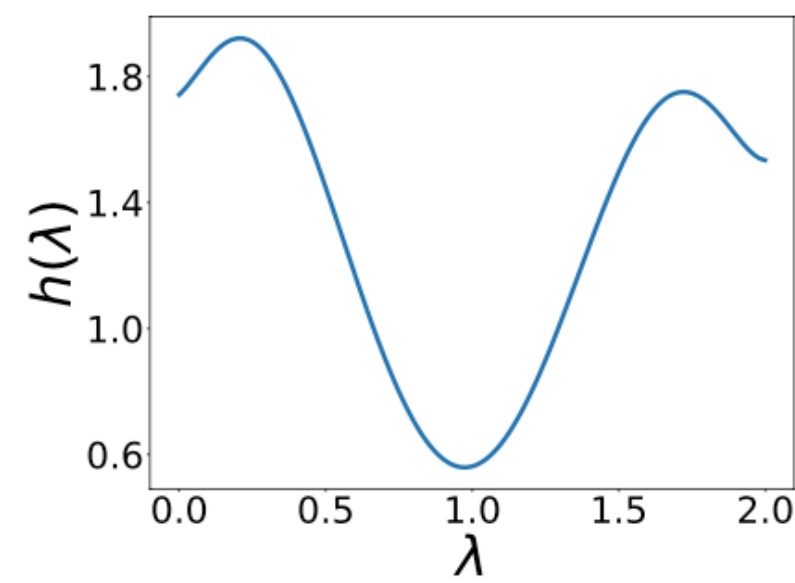
$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{P}} \|\mathbf{P}^{(0)} - \mathbf{P}\|_2^2 + \kappa_1 \text{tr}(\mathbf{P}^T \hat{\mathbf{L}} \mathbf{P}) + \kappa_2 \|\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{I}\|_2^2$$

$\mathbf{P}$  denotes node positional embeddings

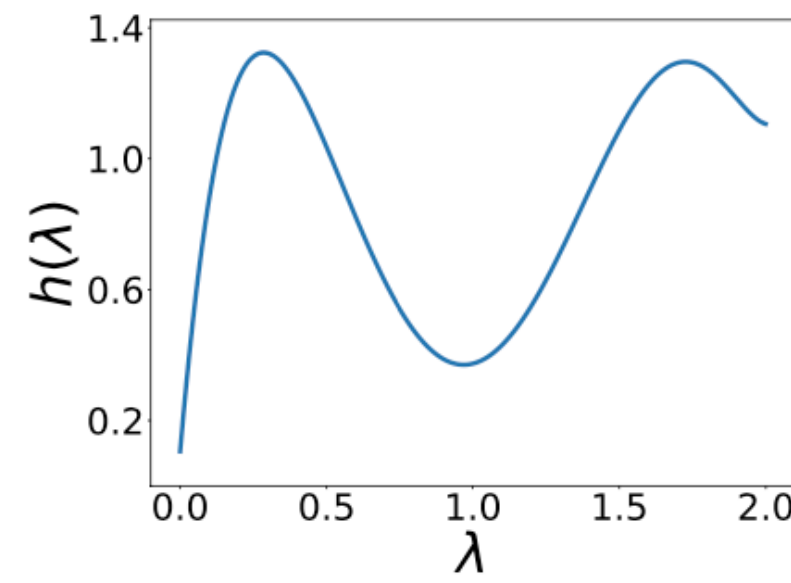
$$\alpha_{k,i} = \sigma_p(\mathbf{W}^{(k)} \mathbf{P}_i^{(k)} + \mathbf{b}^{(k)}) \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K$$

## Diverse Spectral Filtering

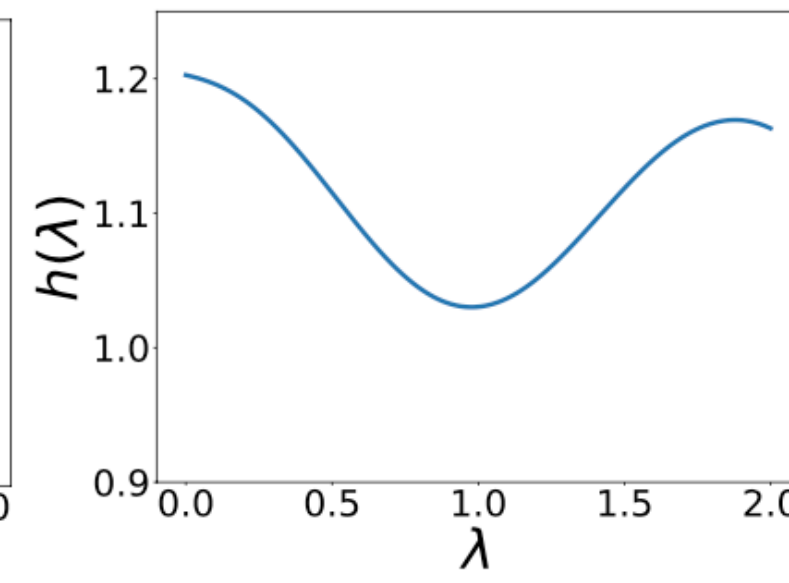
### ■ Conventional Spectral GNN: BernNet



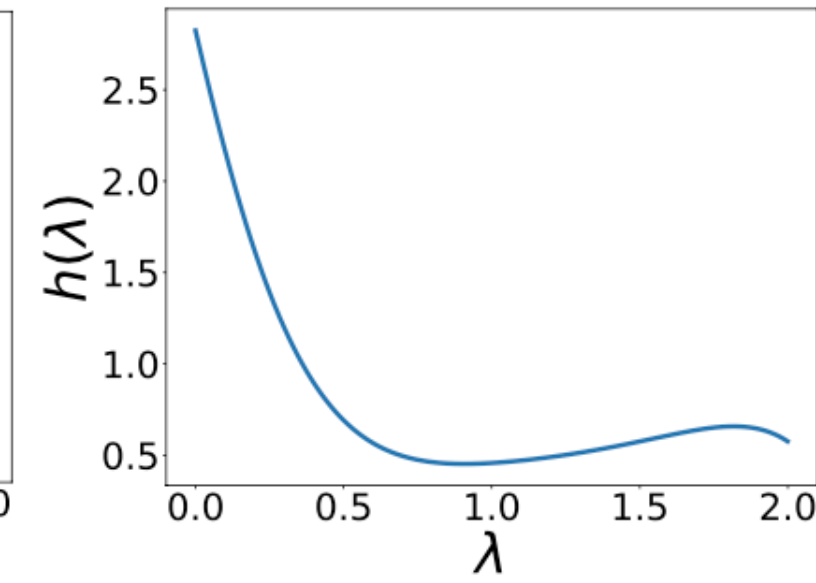
(f) Chameleon



(h) Squirrel

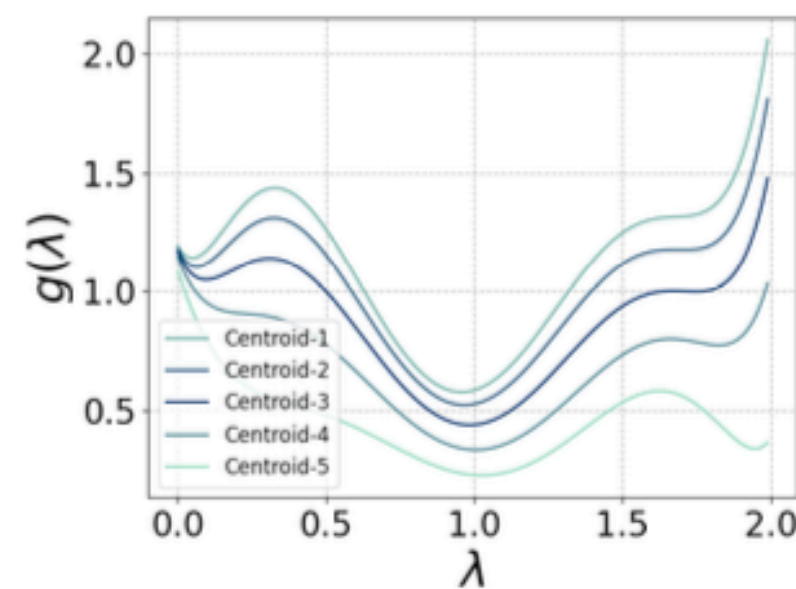


(j) Cornell

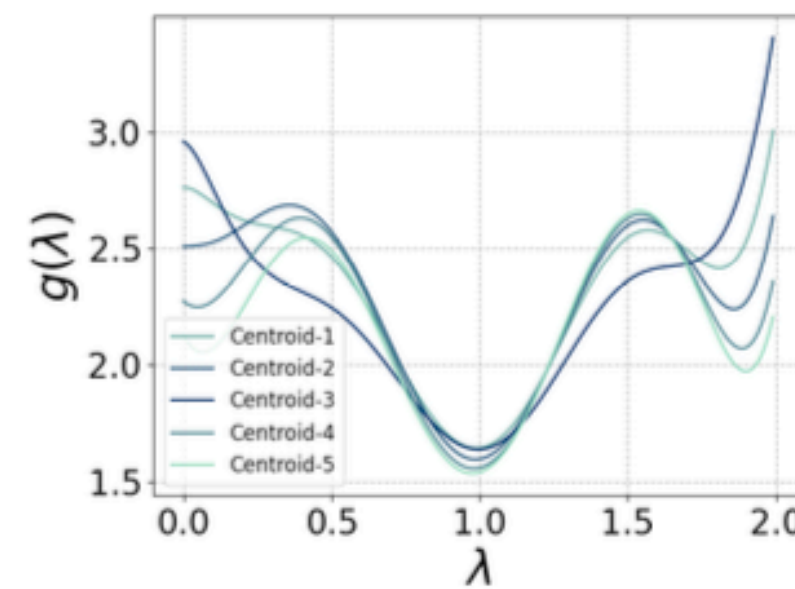


(b) CiteSeer

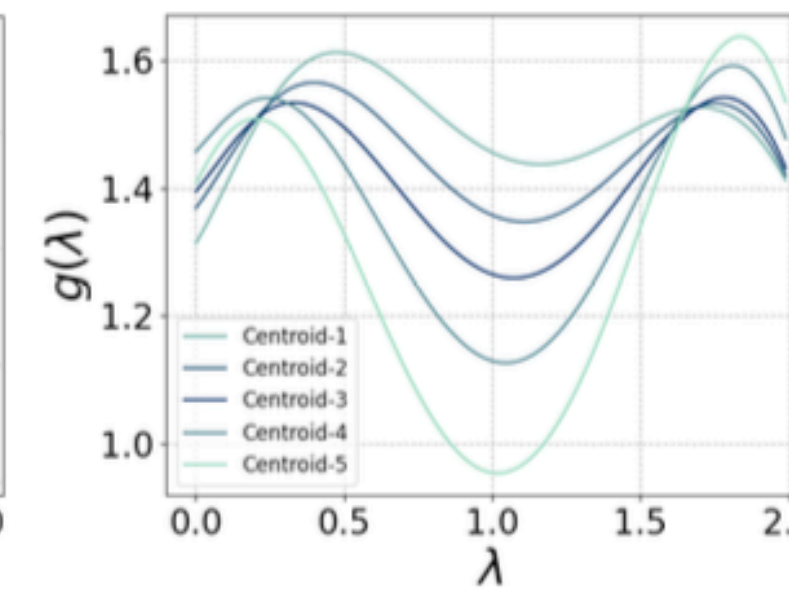
### ■ Ours: DSF-BernNet



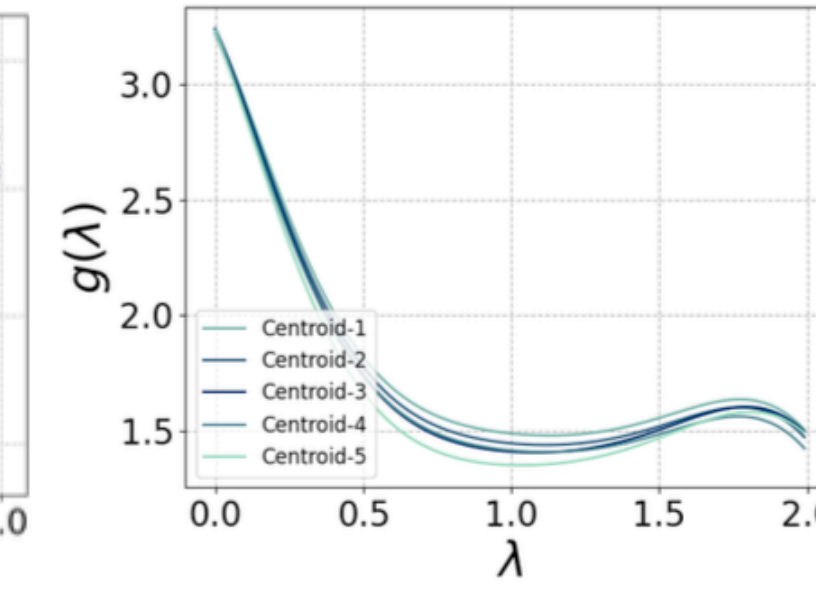
(a) Chameleon



(b) Squirrel



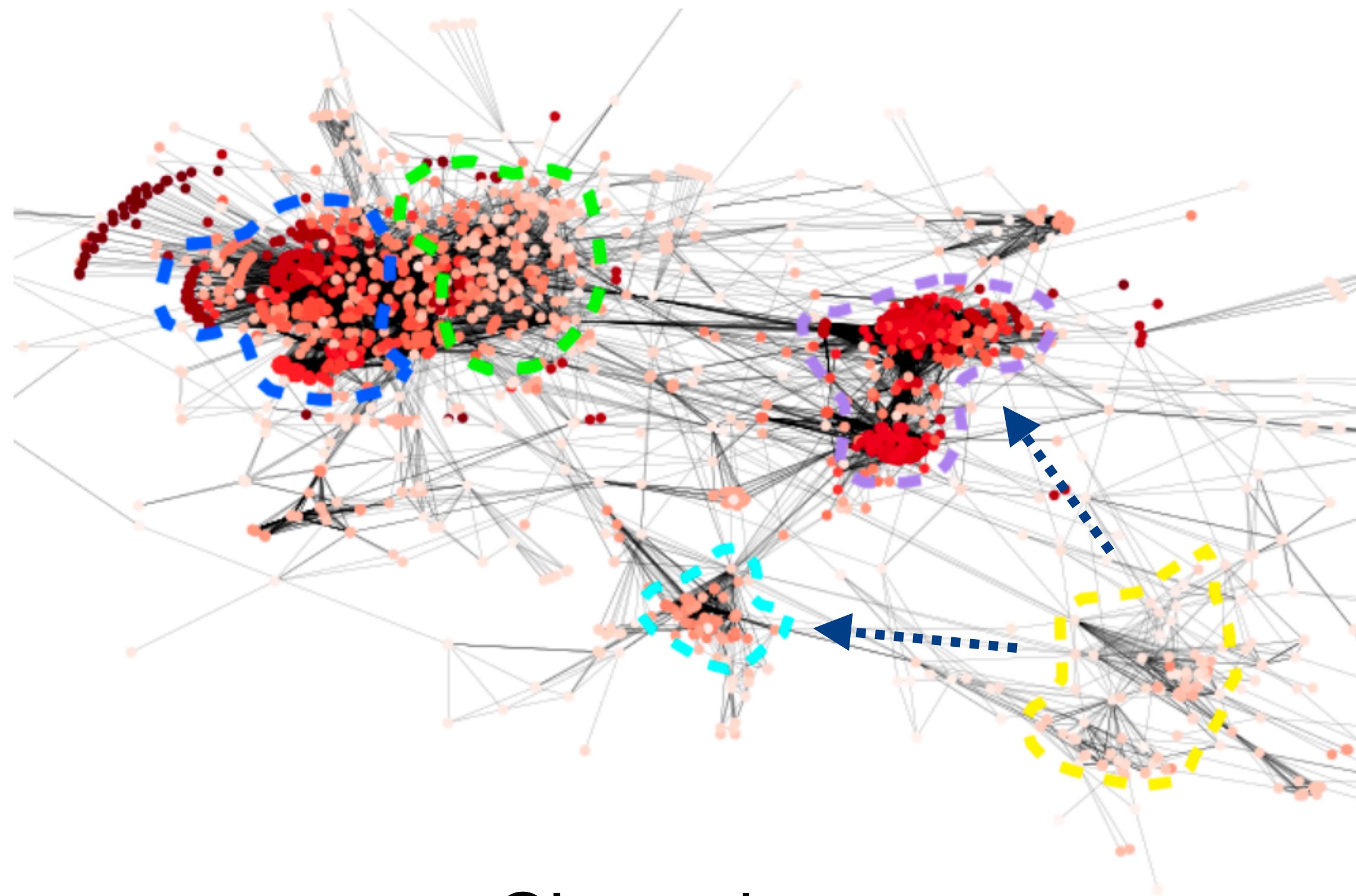
(c) Cornell



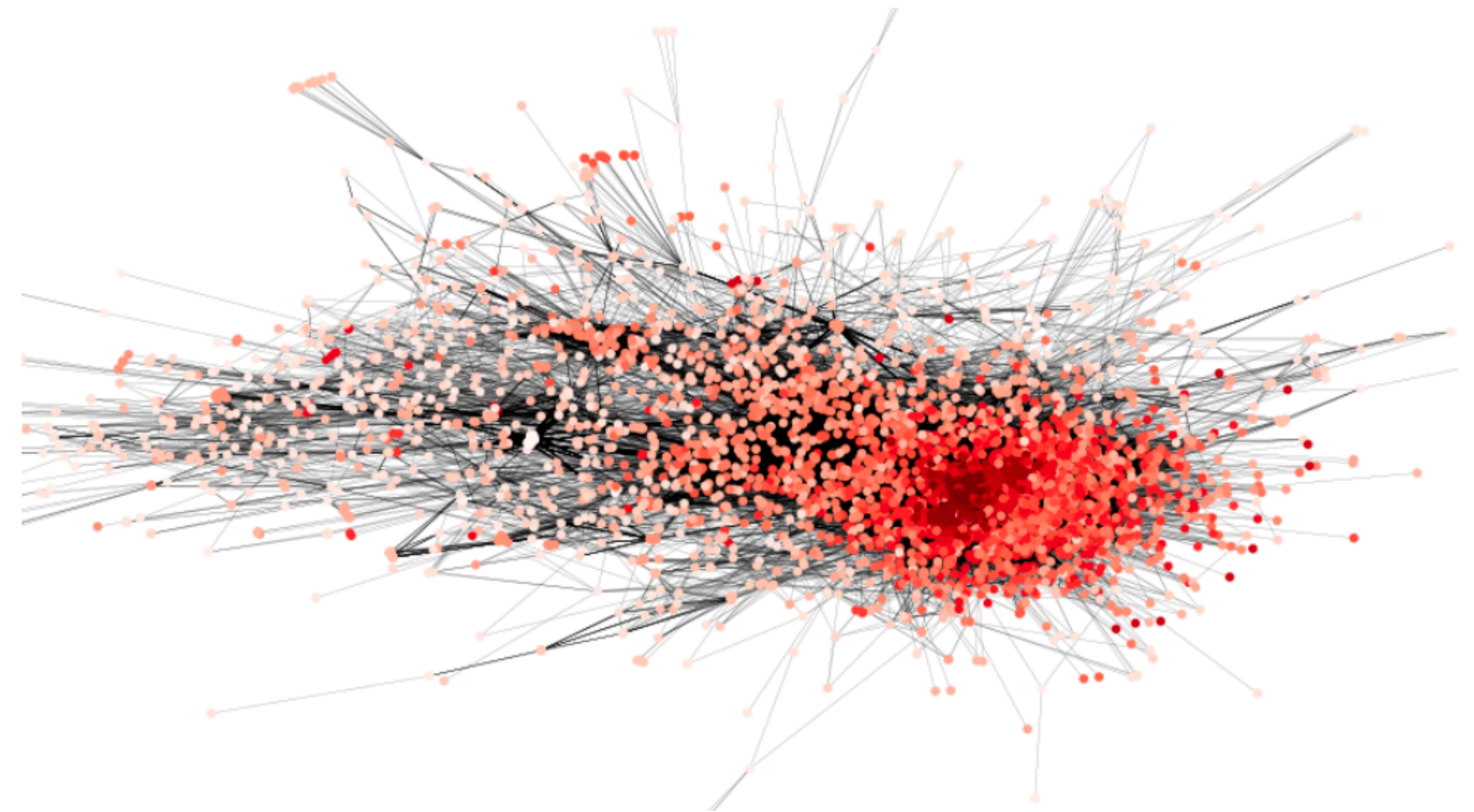
(d) Citeseer



## Diverse Spectral Filtering



Chameleon



Squirrel

DSF captures **regional disparity** with node-specific filter weights.



## Diverse Spectral Filtering

Table 2: Node classification accuracies (%)  $\pm$  95% confidence interval over 100 runs.

Datasets	Heterophilic Graphs						Homophilic Graphs				
	Chameleon	Squirrel	Wisconsin	Cornell	Texas	Twitch-DE	Cora	Citeseer	Pubmed	Computers	Photo
GPR-GNN [9]	69.01 $\pm$ 0.50	55.39 $\pm$ 0.33	82.72 $\pm$ 0.85	80.81 $\pm$ 0.78	81.66 $\pm$ 1.02	74.07 $\pm$ 0.18	89.03 $\pm$ 0.20	77.63 $\pm$ 0.28	90.10 $\pm$ 0.44	92.34 $\pm$ 0.13	95.34 $\pm$ 0.09
DSF-GPR-I	71.18 $\pm$ 0.52	57.08 $\pm$ 0.29	<b>87.64</b> $\pm$ 0.79	84.76 $\pm$ 0.90	85.44 $\pm$ 1.05	74.58 $\pm$ 0.16	<b>89.64</b> $\pm$ 0.20	78.03 $\pm$ 0.26	90.26 $\pm$ 0.08	92.49 $\pm$ 0.12	95.64 $\pm$ 0.07
DSF-GPR-R	<b>71.64</b> $\pm$ 0.55	<b>58.44</b> $\pm$ 0.30	87.43 $\pm$ 0.74	<b>84.93</b> $\pm$ 0.90	<b>85.56</b> $\pm$ 0.93	<b>74.81</b> $\pm$ 0.14	89.63 $\pm$ 0.17	<b>78.22</b> $\pm$ 0.29	<b>90.51</b> $\pm$ 0.07	<b>92.80</b> $\pm$ 0.12	<b>95.73</b> $\pm$ 0.08
Our Improv.	2.63%	3.05%	4.92%	4.12%	3.9%	0.74%	0.61%	0.59%	0.41%	0.46%	0.39%
BernNet [20]	70.59 $\pm$ 0.42	56.63 $\pm$ 0.32	85.00 $\pm$ 0.94	82.10 $\pm$ 0.95	82.20 $\pm$ 0.98	74.45 $\pm$ 0.15	88.72 $\pm$ 0.23	77.52 $\pm$ 0.29	90.21 $\pm$ 0.46	92.57 $\pm$ 0.10	95.42 $\pm$ 0.08
DSF-Bern-I	72.95 $\pm$ 0.53	59.45 $\pm$ 0.32	<b>88.23</b> $\pm$ 0.81	<b>85.07</b> $\pm$ 0.93	<b>84.59</b> $\pm$ 1.07	74.96 $\pm$ 0.15	89.05 $\pm$ 0.22	<b>78.32</b> $\pm$ 0.27	90.40 $\pm$ 0.10	92.76 $\pm$ 0.10	95.73 $\pm$ 0.07
DSF-Bern-R	<b>73.60</b> $\pm$ 0.53	<b>59.99</b> $\pm$ 0.30	88.02 $\pm$ 0.91	84.29 $\pm$ 0.93	84.42 $\pm$ 1.00	<b>75.00</b> $\pm$ 0.15	<b>89.10</b> $\pm$ 0.22	78.27 $\pm$ 0.26	<b>90.52</b> $\pm$ 0.10	<b>92.84</b> $\pm$ 0.10	<b>95.79</b> $\pm$ 0.06
Our Improv.	3.01%	3.36%	3.23%	2.97%	2.39%	0.55%	0.38%	0.80%	0.31%	0.27%	0.37%
JacobiConv [42]	73.71 $\pm$ 0.42	57.22 $\pm$ 0.24	83.21 $\pm$ 0.68	82.34 $\pm$ 0.88	82.42 $\pm$ 0.90	74.34 $\pm$ 0.12	89.24 $\pm$ 0.19	77.81 $\pm$ 0.29	89.50 $\pm$ 0.47	92.26 $\pm$ 0.10	95.62 $\pm$ 0.06
DSF-Jacobi-I	74.88 $\pm$ 0.39	58.26 $\pm$ 0.26	85.34 $\pm$ 0.74	<b>84.54</b> $\pm$ 0.81	83.68 $\pm$ 1.12	74.65 $\pm$ 0.13	89.54 $\pm$ 0.19	78.18 $\pm$ 0.26	89.78 $\pm$ 0.09	92.38 $\pm$ 0.11	<b>95.76</b> $\pm$ 0.07
DSF-Jacobi-R	<b>75.00</b> $\pm$ 0.38	<b>59.23</b> $\pm$ 0.27	<b>86.13</b> $\pm$ 0.70	84.39 $\pm$ 0.88	<b>84.46</b> $\pm$ 0.81	<b>74.75</b> $\pm$ 0.15	<b>89.66</b> $\pm$ 0.19	<b>78.23</b> $\pm$ 0.25	<b>90.07</b> $\pm$ 0.10	<b>92.44</b> $\pm$ 0.11	95.75 $\pm$ 0.08
Our Improv.	1.29%	2.01%	2.92%	2.20%	2.04%	0.41%	0.42%	0.42%	0.41%	0.18%	0.14%

DSF can be readily **plug-and-play** in multiple spectral GNNs and **consistently improve** their performance.

## Deep Delve into Spectral GNNs

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}g_{\psi}(\Lambda)\mathbf{U}^T\mathbf{X} \quad \dashrightarrow \quad \text{theoretically rooted in spectral domain}$$

$$= g_{\psi}(\hat{\mathbf{L}})\mathbf{X} = \sum_{k=1}^K \psi_k P_k(\hat{\mathbf{L}})\mathbf{X} \quad \dashrightarrow \quad \text{practically relying on spatial approximation}$$

### ■ Spatial Interpretability?

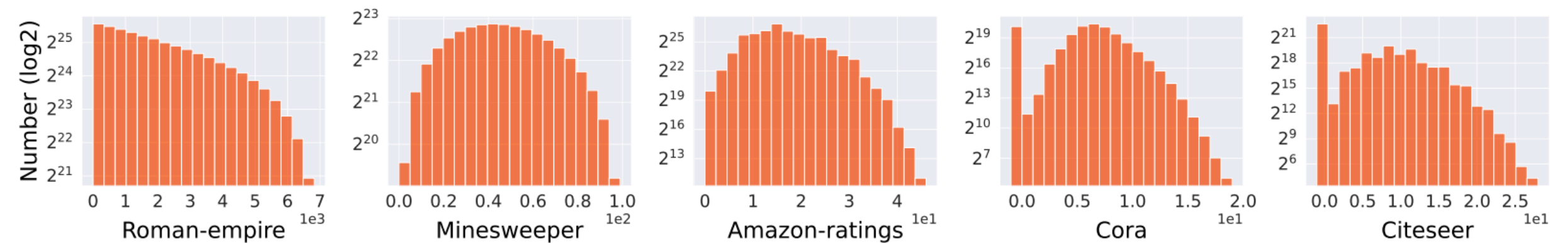


Figure 1: Distributions of connected nodes in the new graph based on their geodesic/shortest-path distance (as  $\Delta_{i,j}$ ) in the original graph. Nodes, distant in the original graph ( $\Delta_{i,j} > 1$  in x-axis), can be linked in the new graph (Number  $> 0$  in y-axis).

$$\hat{\mathbf{A}}^{new} = \mathbf{I} - \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} (g_{\psi}(\hat{\mathbf{L}})^{-1} - \mathbf{I})$$

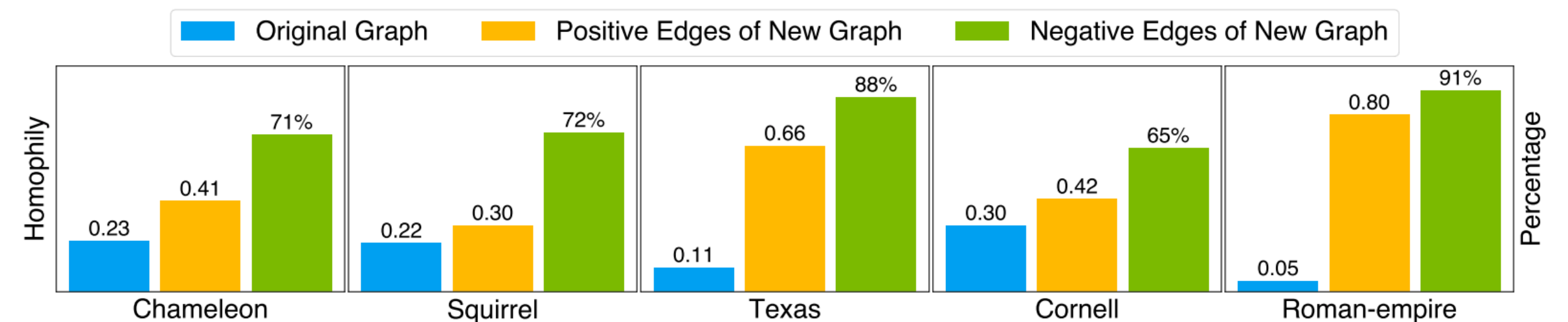


Figure 2: Left y-axis: Homophily comparison between original and new graphs, considering only positive edges (blue and yellow bars). Right y-axis: Percentage of edges connecting nodes from different classes, identified by negative edges (green bar).

## Non-locality & Signed Edges



## Deep Delve into Spectral GNNs

Cross-Domain Interplay via the Lens of Graph Optimization

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathcal{L} = \alpha \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}\|_2^2 + (1 - \alpha) \text{tr}(\mathbf{Z}^T \gamma_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{L}}) \mathbf{Z})$$

- $\mathbf{Z}$  refer to node representations
- $\alpha$  is a trade-off coefficient

- $\gamma_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{L}}) = \mathbf{U} \gamma_{\theta}(\mathbf{\Lambda}) \mathbf{U}^T$  determines propagation rate where  $\gamma_{\theta}(\lambda) \geq 0$

Arbitrary Linking Patterns

Positive Semi-definite Constraint for Convexity Optimization



## Deep Dive into Spectral GNNs

- ▶ Closed-form Solution  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{Z}} = 0$

Spectral Filtering

$$\mathbf{Z}^* = (\mathbf{I} + \frac{1 - \alpha}{\alpha} \gamma_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{L}}))^{-1} \mathbf{X} = g_{\psi}(\hat{\mathbf{L}}) \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U} g_{\psi}(\mathbf{\Lambda}) \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{X}$$

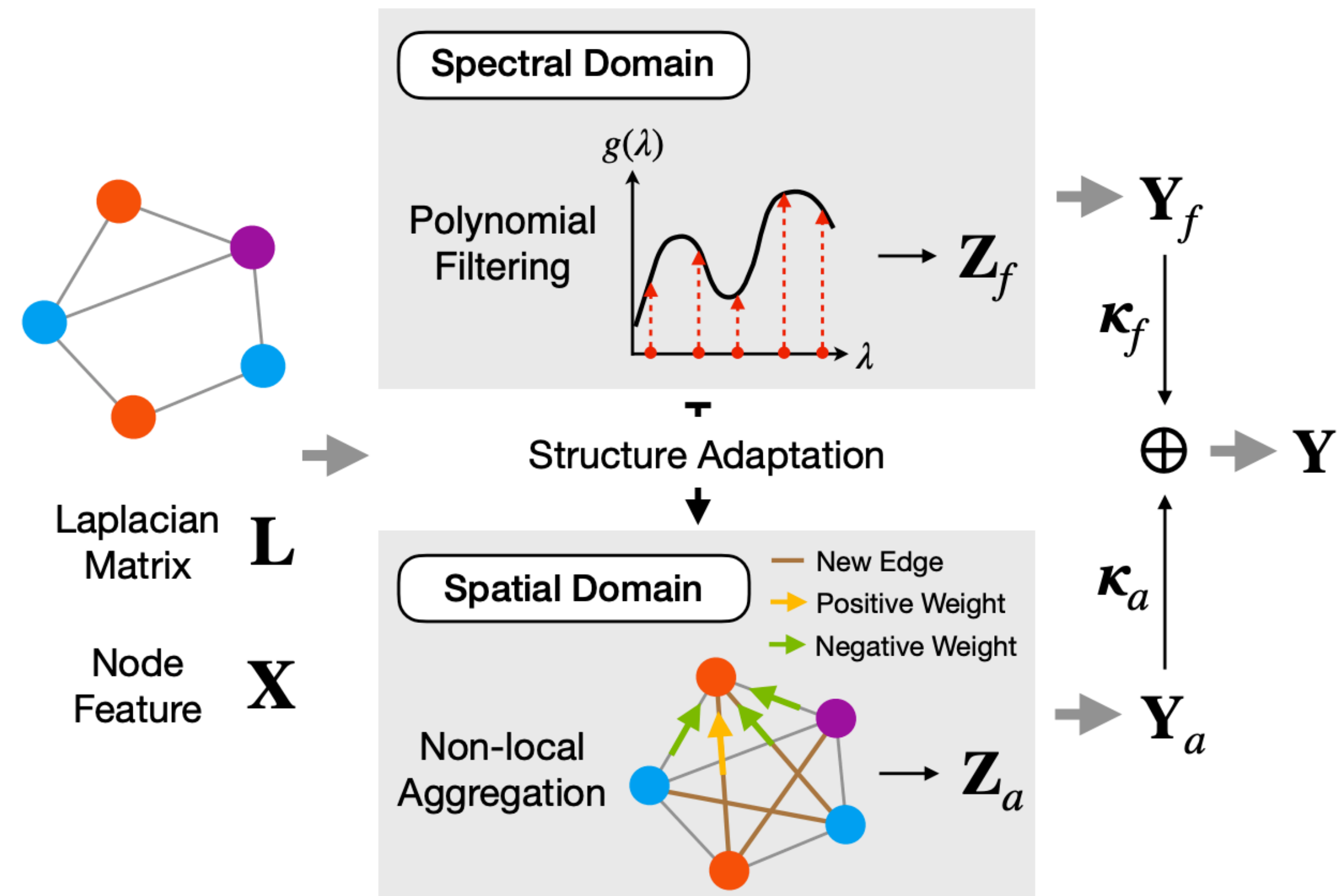
Spectral Filter as a function of  $\gamma_{\theta}(\cdot)$ :  $g_{\psi}(\lambda) = (1 + \frac{1 - \alpha}{\alpha} \gamma_{\theta}(\lambda))^{-1}$

- ▶ Iterative Solution  $\mathbf{Z}^{(k)} = \mathbf{Z}^{(k-1)} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{Z}} \Big|_{\mathbf{Z}=\mathbf{Z}^{(k-1)}}$  Spatial Aggregation

$$\mathbf{Z}^{(k)} = \alpha \mathbf{X} + (1 - \alpha) \hat{\mathbf{A}}^{new} \mathbf{Z}^{(k-1)}$$

New Computation Graph:  $\hat{\mathbf{A}}^{new} = \mathbf{I} - \gamma_{\theta}(\hat{\mathbf{L}}) = \mathbf{I} - \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} (g_{\psi}(\hat{\mathbf{L}})^{-1} - \mathbf{I})$

## Spatially Adaptive Filtering



SAF leverages the adapted new graph by spectral filtering for **non-local aggregation with signed weights.**

Address:

- Long-range Dependency
- Heterophilic Linking Patterns

## Spatially Adaptive Filtering

Table 1: Semi-supervised node classification accuracy (%)  $\pm$  95% confidence interval.

Method	Cham.	Squi.	Texas	Corn.	Actor	Cora	Cite.	Pubm.
BernNet	27.32 $\pm$ 4.04	22.37 $\pm$ 0.98	43.01 $\pm$ 7.45	39.42 $\pm$ 9.59	29.87 $\pm$ 0.78	82.17 $\pm$ 0.86	69.44 $\pm$ 0.97	79.48 $\pm$ 1.47
SAF	41.82 $\pm$ 1.74	31.77 $\pm$ 0.69	58.04 $\pm$ 3.76	52.49 $\pm$ 8.56	33.50 $\pm$ 0.55	83.57 $\pm$ 0.66	71.07 $\pm$ 1.08	79.51 $\pm$ 1.12
SAF- $\epsilon$	<u>41.88<math>\pm</math>2.04</u>	<u>32.05<math>\pm</math>0.40</u>	<b>58.38<math>\pm</math>3.47</b>	<b>53.41<math>\pm</math>5.55</b>	<b>33.84<math>\pm</math>0.58</b>	<b>83.79<math>\pm</math>0.71</b>	<b>71.30<math>\pm</math>0.93</b>	<b>80.16<math>\pm</math>1.25</b>
Improv.	14.56%	9.68%	15.37%	13.99%	3.97%	1.62%	1.86%	0.68%

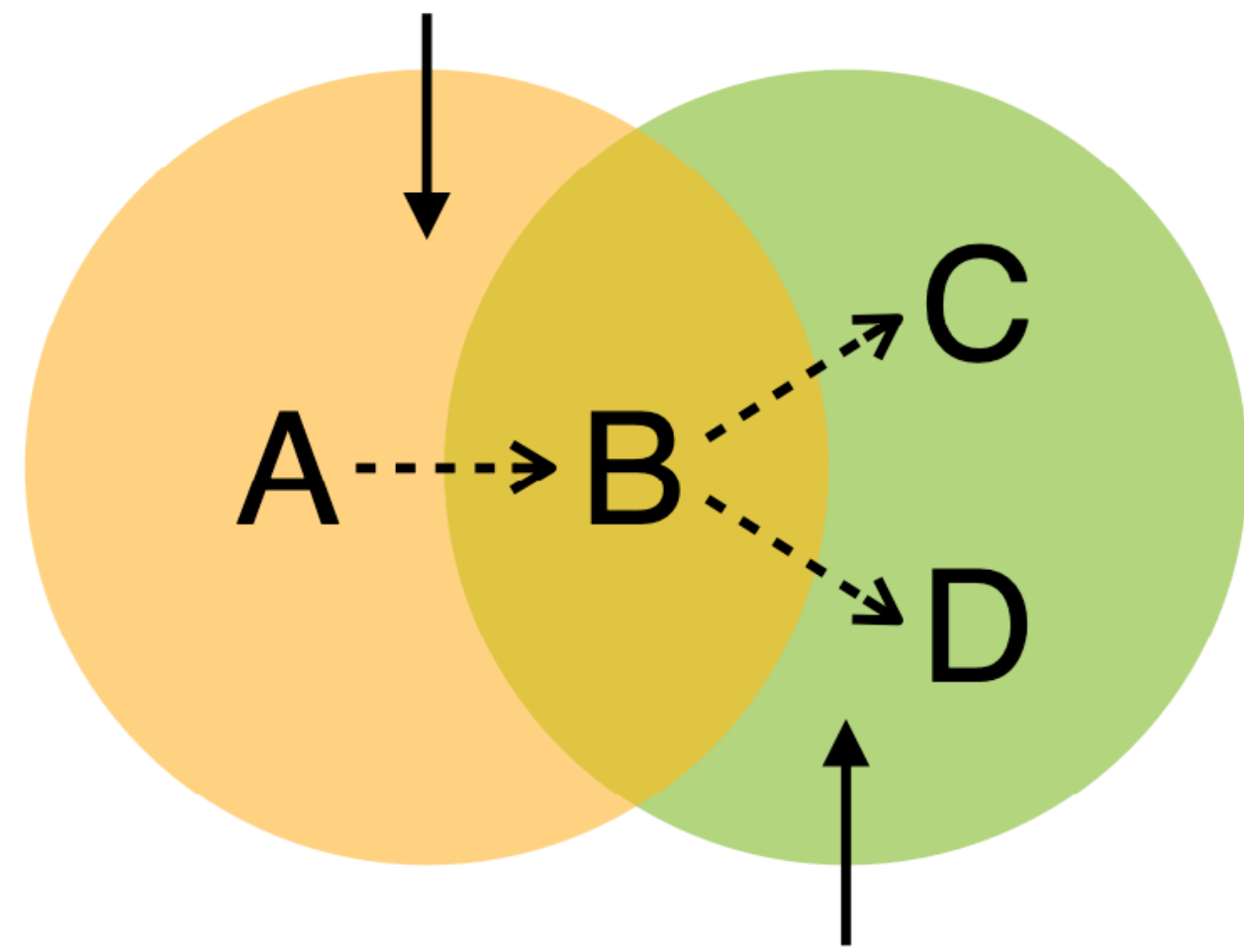
Table 2: Full-supervised node classification accuracy (%)  $\pm$  95% confidence interval.

Method	Cham.	Squi.	Texas	Corn.	Actor	Cora	Cite.	Pubm.
BernNet	68.53 $\pm$ 1.68	51.39 $\pm$ 0.92	92.62 $\pm$ 1.37	92.13 $\pm$ 1.64	41.71 $\pm$ 1.12	88.51 $\pm$ 0.92	80.08 $\pm$ 0.75	88.51 $\pm$ 0.39
SAF	<b>75.30<math>\pm</math>0.96</b>	63.63 $\pm$ 0.81	94.10 $\pm$ 1.48	92.95 $\pm$ 1.97	42.93 $\pm$ 0.79	89.80 $\pm$ 0.69	80.61 $\pm$ 0.81	91.49 $\pm$ 0.29
SAF- $\epsilon$	74.84 $\pm$ 0.99	<u>64.00<math>\pm</math>0.83</u>	<b>94.75<math>\pm</math>1.64</b>	<b>93.28<math>\pm</math>1.80</b>	<b>42.98<math>\pm</math>0.61</b>	<b>89.87<math>\pm</math>0.51</b>	<b>81.45<math>\pm</math>0.59</b>	<b>91.52<math>\pm</math>0.30</b>
Improv.	6.77%	12.61%	2.13%	1.15%	1.27%	1.36%	1.37%	3.01%



## Relations Among the Developed Models

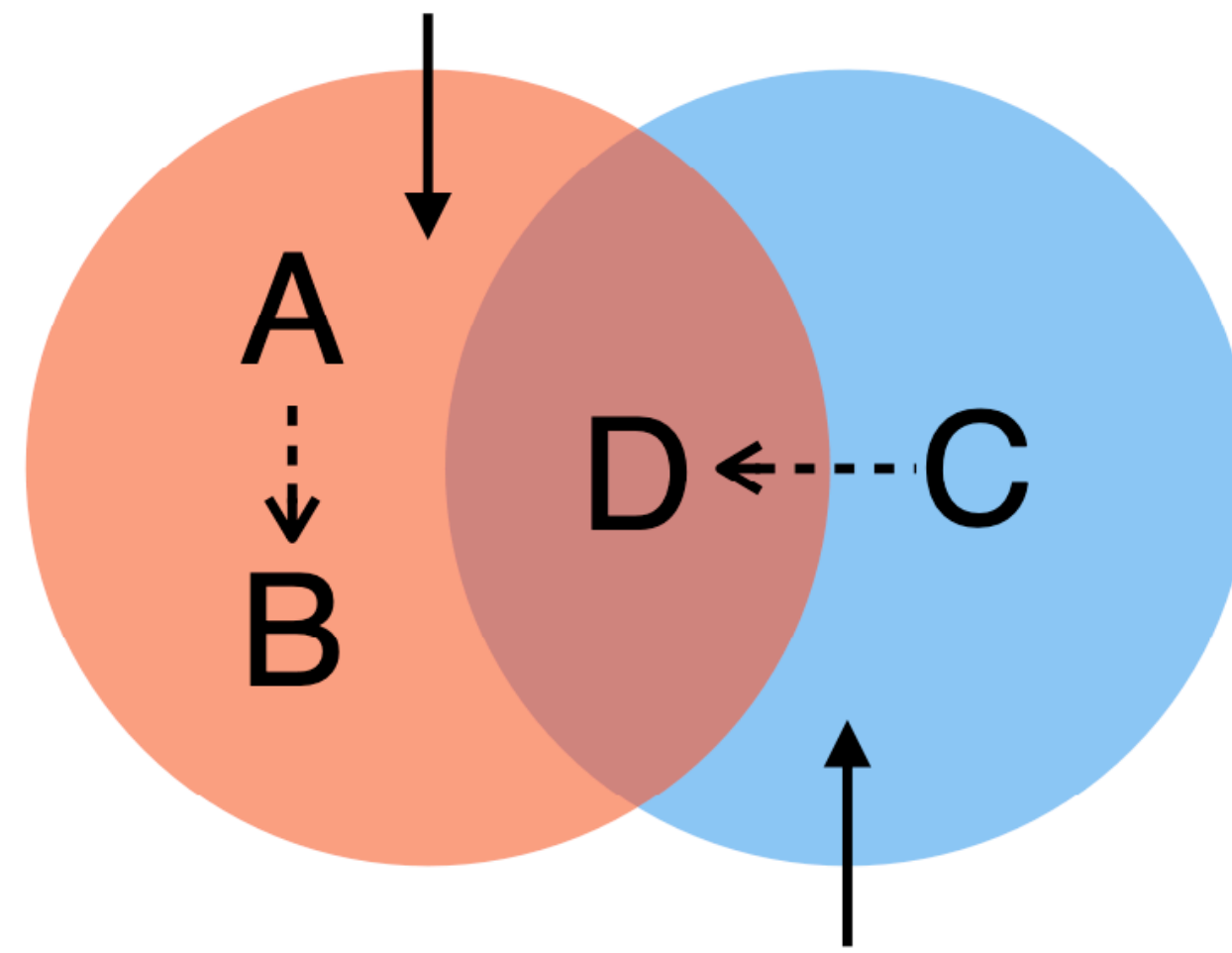
Entangled Node Relationships



Heterophilic Linking Patterns

Problem-Centric

Spatial Domain



Spectral Domain

Model-Centric

A: LGD (1st)  
B: ES-GNN (2nd)  
C: DSF (3rd)  
D: SAF (4th)

# Thanks!