



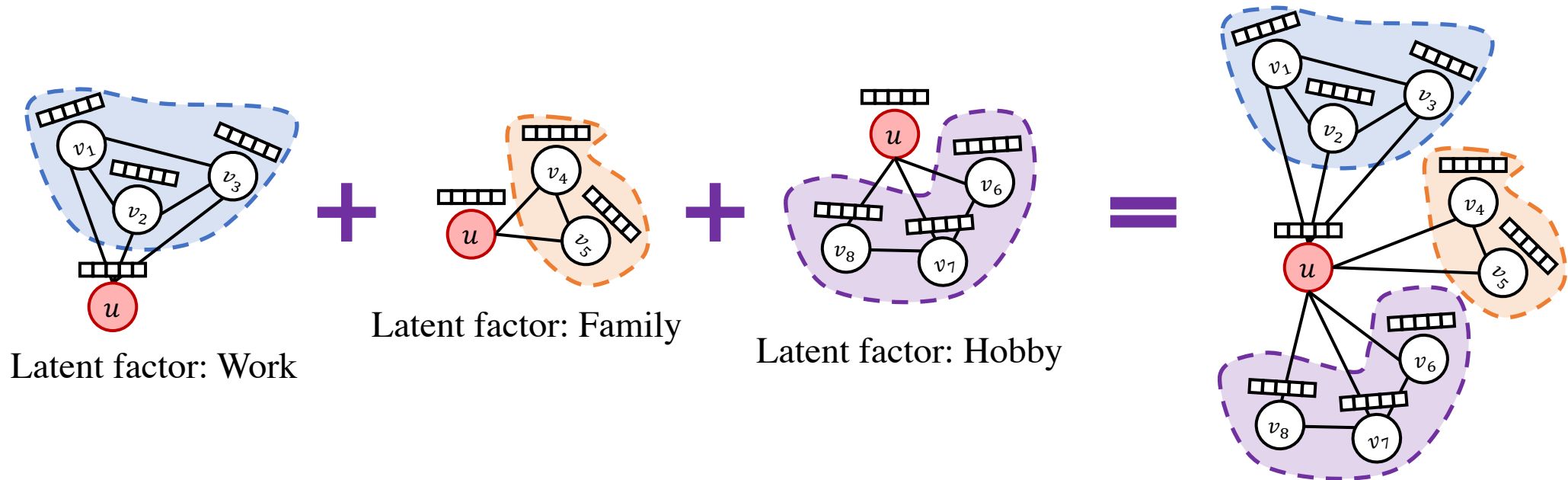
# Disentangled Graph Convolutional Networks

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# Motivation

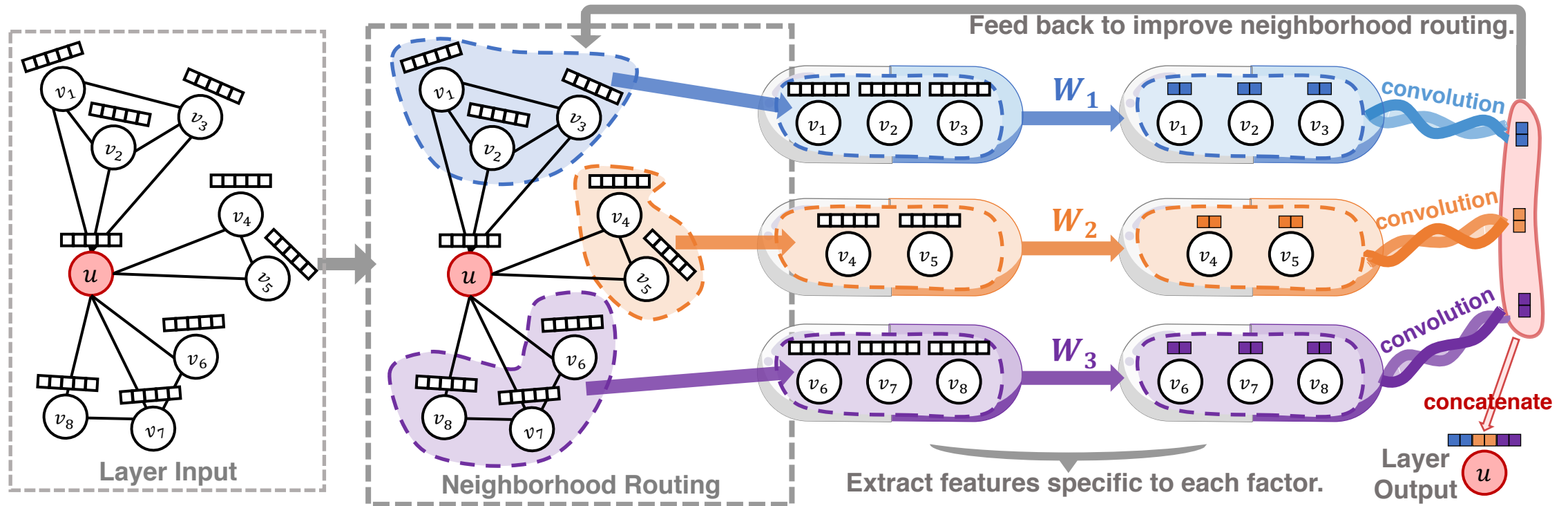
- The neighborhood of a node is formed due to *many latent factors*.



- Existing GCNs convolute the neighborhood as a whole.
  - They do not distinguish between the latent factors.
  - Their node representations are thus not *robust*, and hardly *interpretable*.

# Disentangled GCNs

- *Disentangled representation learning* aims to identify and separate the underlying explanatory factors behind the observed data (Bengio et al., 2013).



- We identify the latent factors, and segment the neighborhood accordingly.
- Each segment is related with an isolated factor, and is convoluted separately.

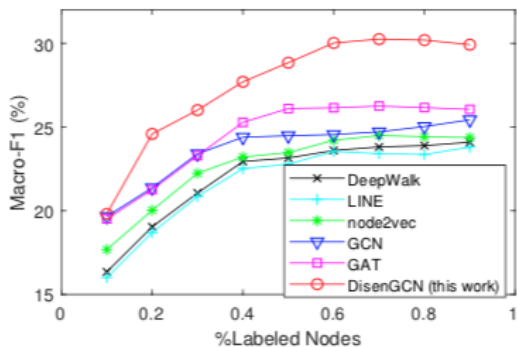
# Neighborhood Routing

- We propose *neighborhood routing*, to segment a neighborhood.
  - Dynamic & differentiable. Similar to capsule networks' dynamic routing.
- Phase I:
  - To extract factor-specific features.
    - For node  $i \in \{u\} \cup \{v: (v, u) \in G\}$ , and factor  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$ ,
    - $$\mathbf{z}_{i,k} = \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{W}_k^\top \mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b}_k)}{\|\sigma(\mathbf{W}_k^\top \mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{b}_k)\|_2}$$
    - which describes node  $i$ 's aspect  $k$ .
- Phase II:
  - To infer the factor that causes the link between node  $u$  and a neighbor  $v$ .
    - Initialize  $\mathbf{c}_k \leftarrow \mathbf{z}_{u,k}$  for each factor  $k$ .
    - Iterate for  $T \approx 5$  times,
    - $$p_{v,k} \leftarrow \frac{\exp(\mathbf{z}_{v,k}^\top \mathbf{c}_k / \tau)}{\sum_{k'} \exp(\mathbf{z}_{v,k'}^\top \mathbf{c}_k / \tau)}$$
    - $$\mathbf{c}_k \leftarrow \frac{\mathbf{z}_{u,k} + \sum_{v: (v,u) \in G} p_{v,k} \mathbf{z}_{v,k}}{\|\mathbf{z}_{u,k} + \sum_{v: (v,u) \in G} p_{v,k} \mathbf{z}_{v,k}\|_2}$$
    - $\mathbf{c}_k$  describes the neighborhood's aspect  $k$ .

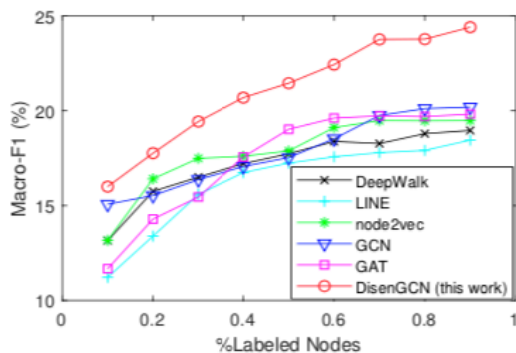
# Intuitions & Theories

- The two intuitions behind neighborhood routing:
  - $p(\text{Factor } k \text{ is the one that causes the links between node } u \text{ and a segment}) \propto$   
The segment contains a large number of nodes that are similar w.r.t. aspect  $k$ .
  - $p(\text{Factor } k \text{ is the one that causes the link between node } u \text{ and a neighbor}) \propto$   
Node  $u$  and the neighbor are similar w.r.t. aspect  $k$ .
- Neighborhood routing is equivalent to an EM algorithm that performs inference under a von Mises-Fisher subspace clustering model.
  - It finds one large cluster in each of the  $K$  subspaces.

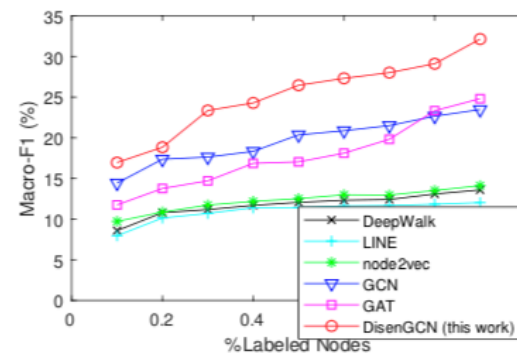
# Results: Multi-label Node Classification



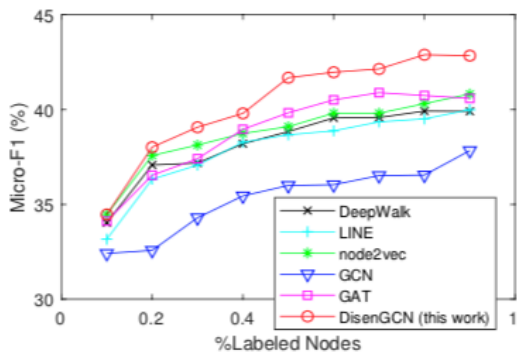
(a) Macro-F1(%), BlogCatalog.



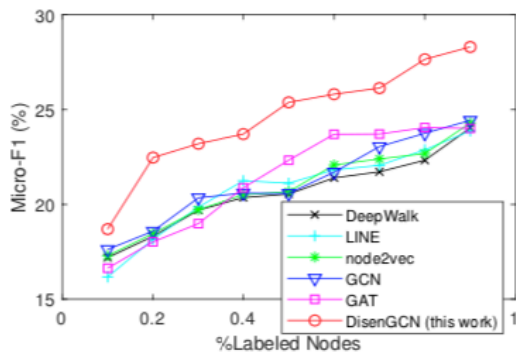
(c) Macro-F1(%), PPI.



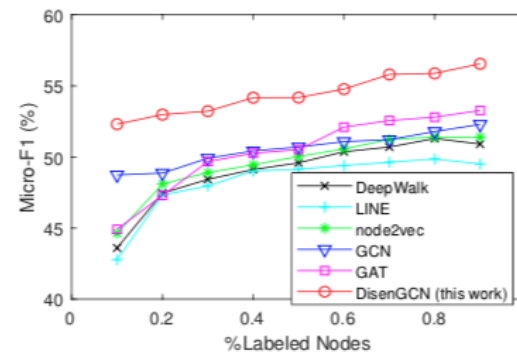
(e) Macro-F1(%), POS.



(b) Micro-F1(%), BlogCatalog.



(d) Micro-F1(%), PPI.

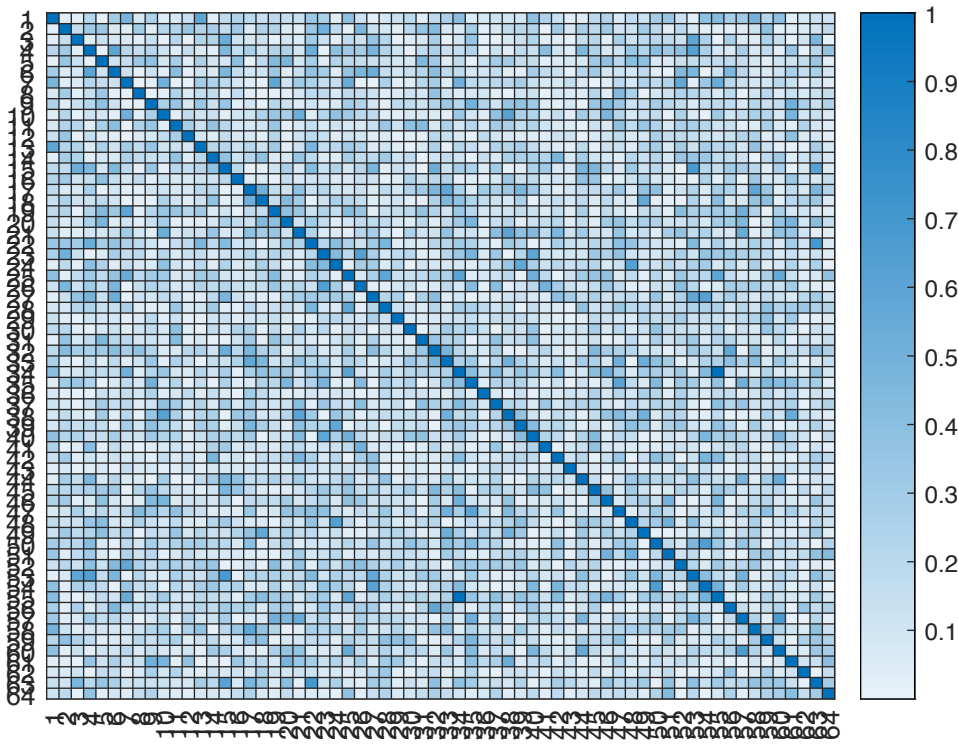


(f) Micro-F1(%), POS.

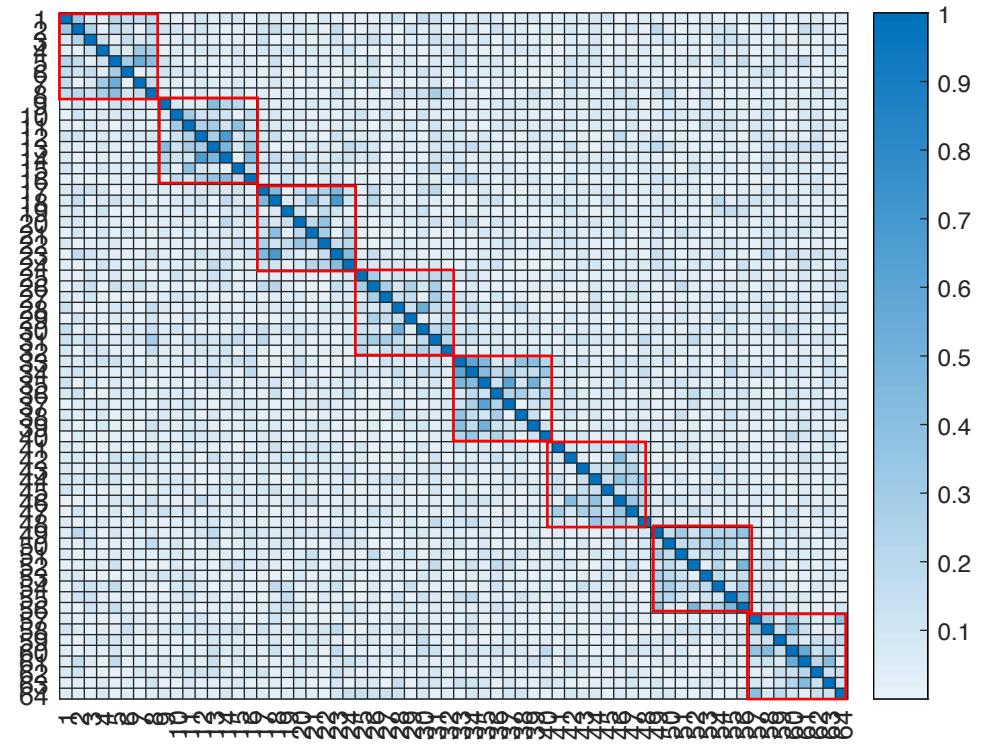
Figure 2. Macro-F1 and Micro-F1 scores on the multi-label classification tasks. Our approach consistently outperforms the best performing baselines by a large margin, reaching 10% to 20% relative improvement in most cases.

# Results: Disentangled Node Representations

- Correlations between the 64 dimensions, on a graph with eight factors.



(a) GCN.



(b) DisenGCN (this work).