

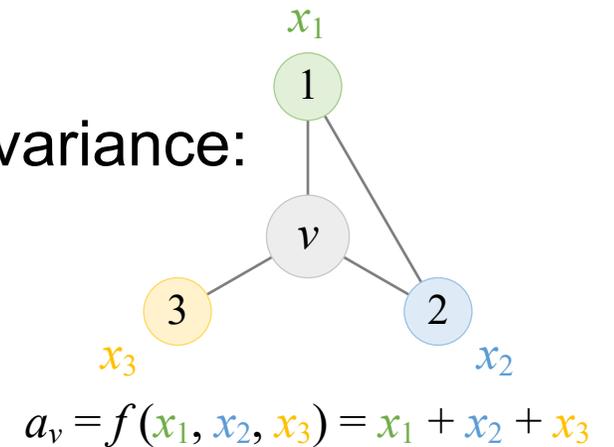
Going Deeper into Permutation-Sensitive Graph Neural Networks

Zhongyu Huang^{1,2}, Yingheng Wang^{3,4}, Chaozhuo Li⁵, Huiguang He^{1,2}

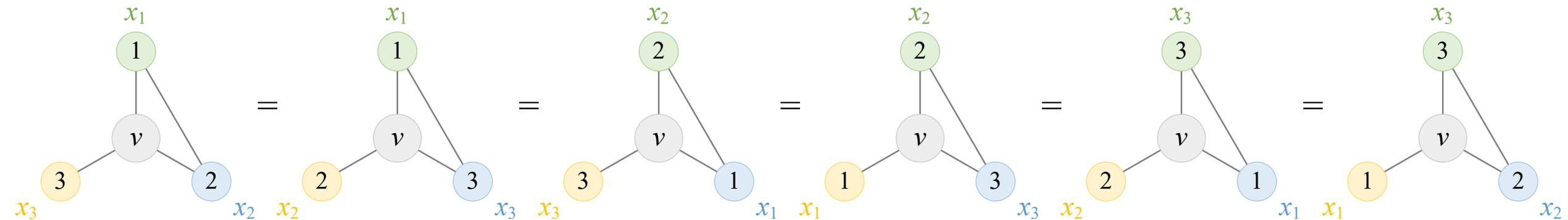
Permutation-invariance: permutation of the nodes of the input graph does not affect the output.

For invariant aggregators such as SUM, we have ordering-invariance:

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = f(x_1, x_3, x_2) = f(x_2, x_1, x_3) = f(x_2, x_3, x_1) = \\ f(x_3, x_1, x_2) = f(x_3, x_2, x_1) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$$

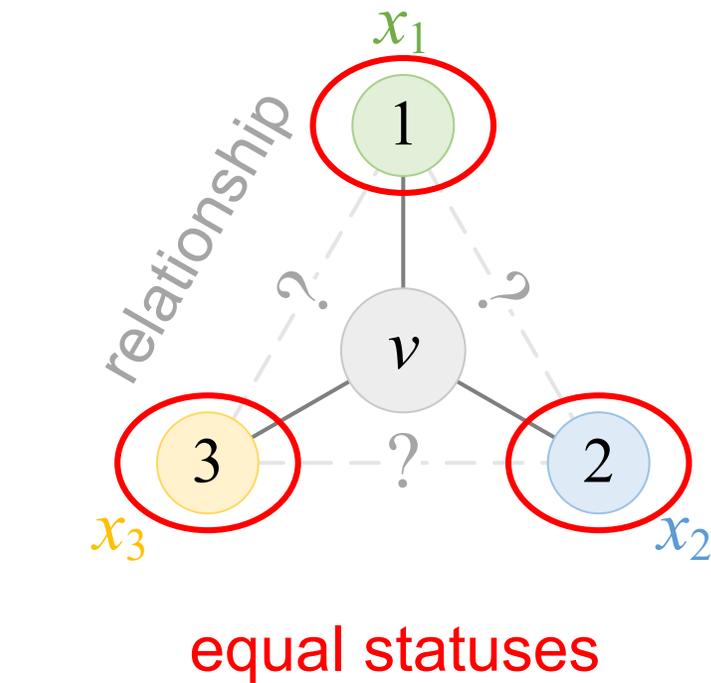
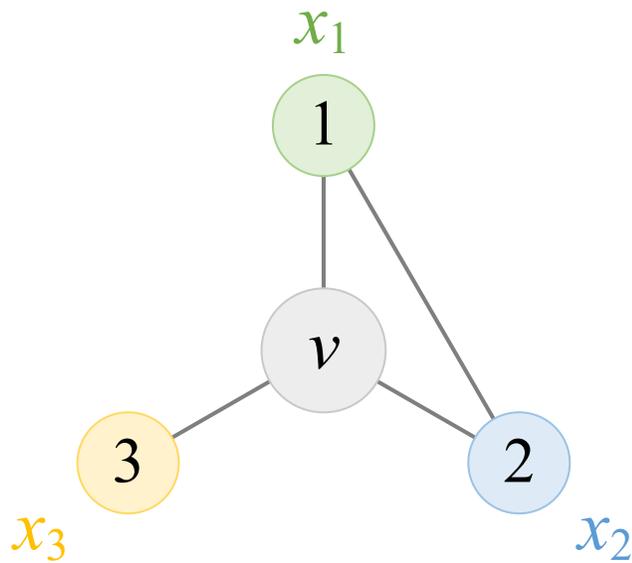


and label-invariance:

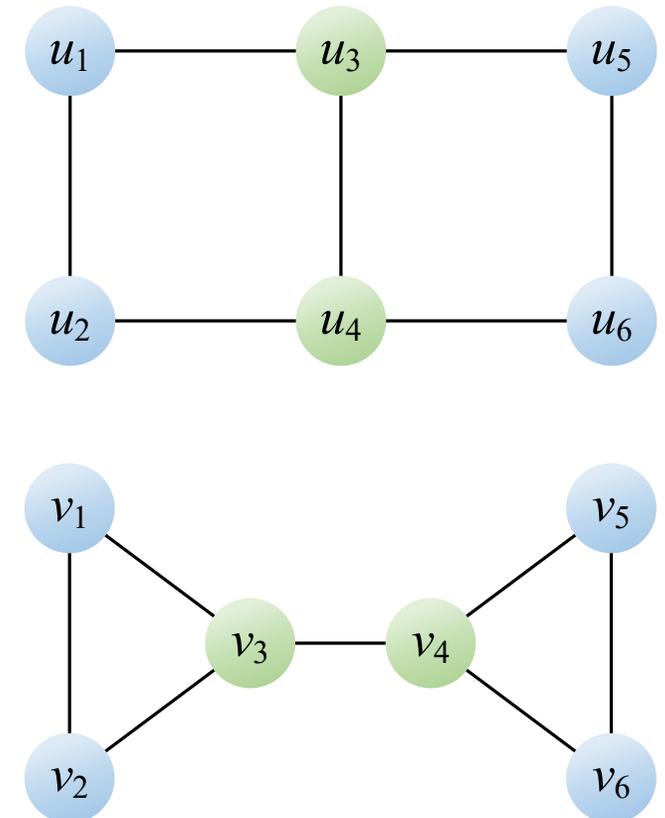


Limitation of Permutation-Invariance

The real graph structure: What permutation-invariant aggregators can see:



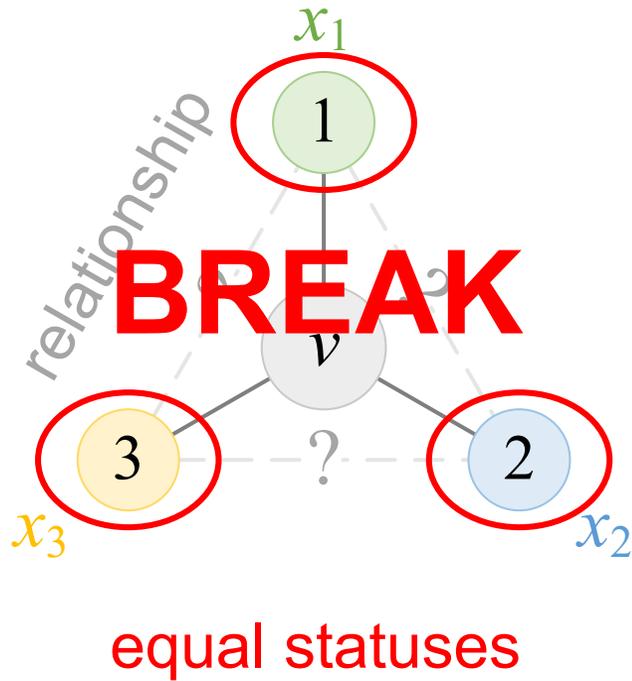
Thus fail to distinguish:



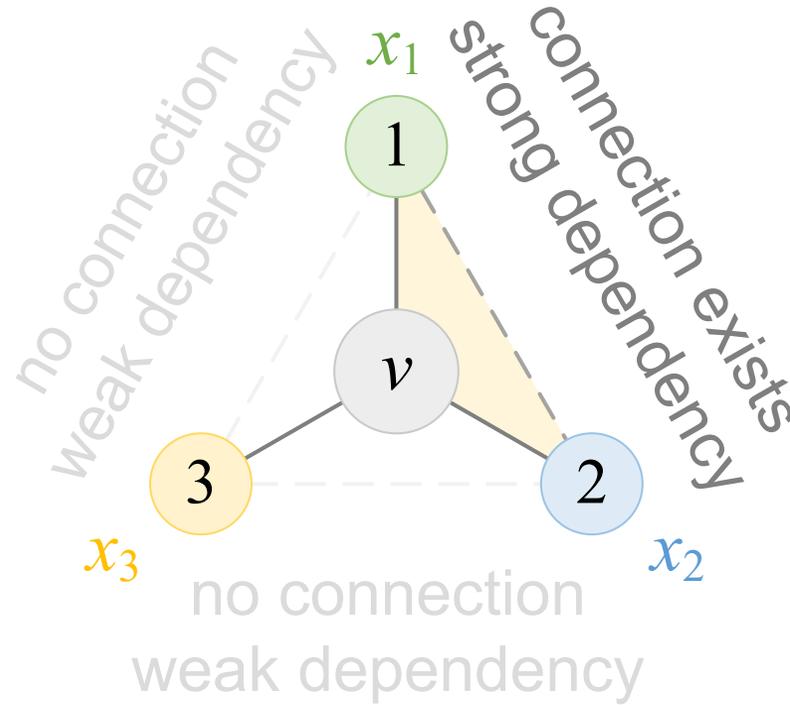
They **ignore** the relationships among neighboring nodes.

More Powerful Permutation-Sensitive Aggregators

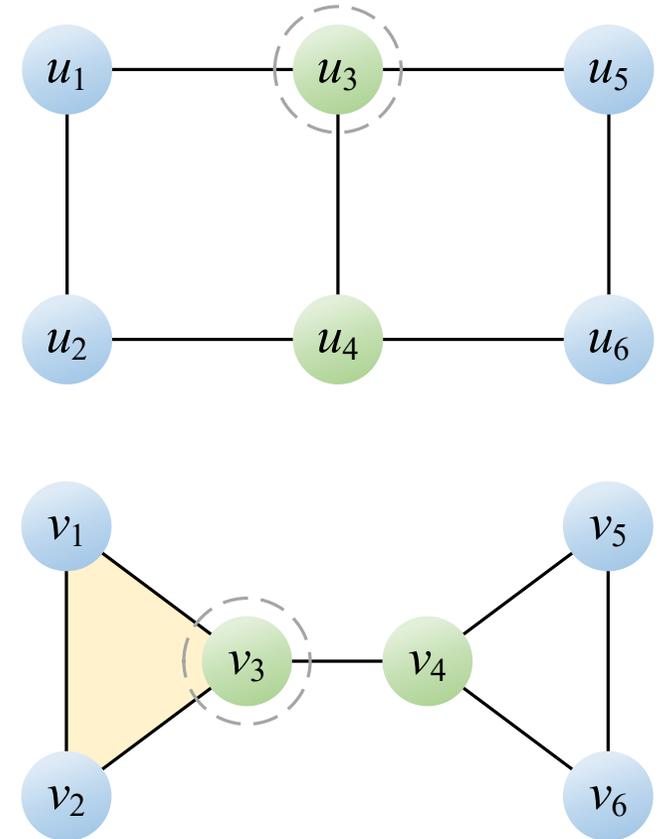
Breaking the symmetry of invariant aggregators:



What permutation-sensitive aggregators can see:



Thus can distinguish:

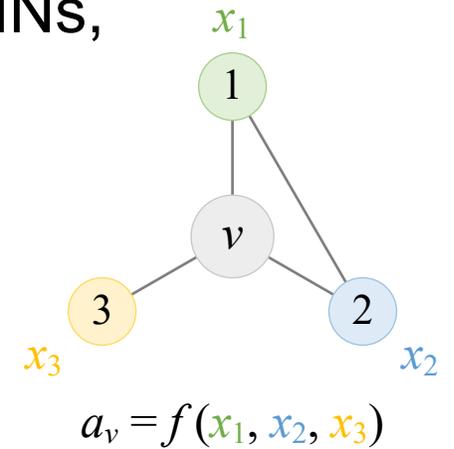


They **can count** the graph substructures such as triangles.

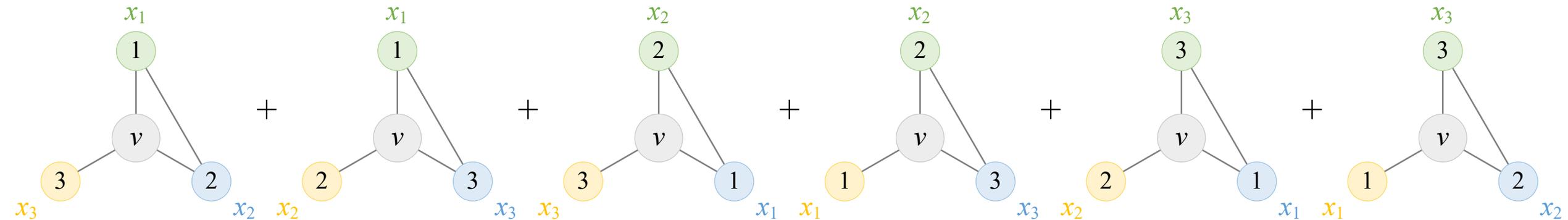
Limitation of Permutation-Sensitivity

For sensitive aggregators, they need to cover all $n!$ possible permutations (node orderings) to guarantee the permutation-invariance of GNNs, such as ordering-invariance:

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) + f(x_1, x_3, x_2) + f(x_2, x_1, x_3) + f(x_2, x_3, x_1) + f(x_3, x_1, x_2) + f(x_3, x_2, x_1) \rightarrow \text{overall invariant to } \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$$



and label-invariance:



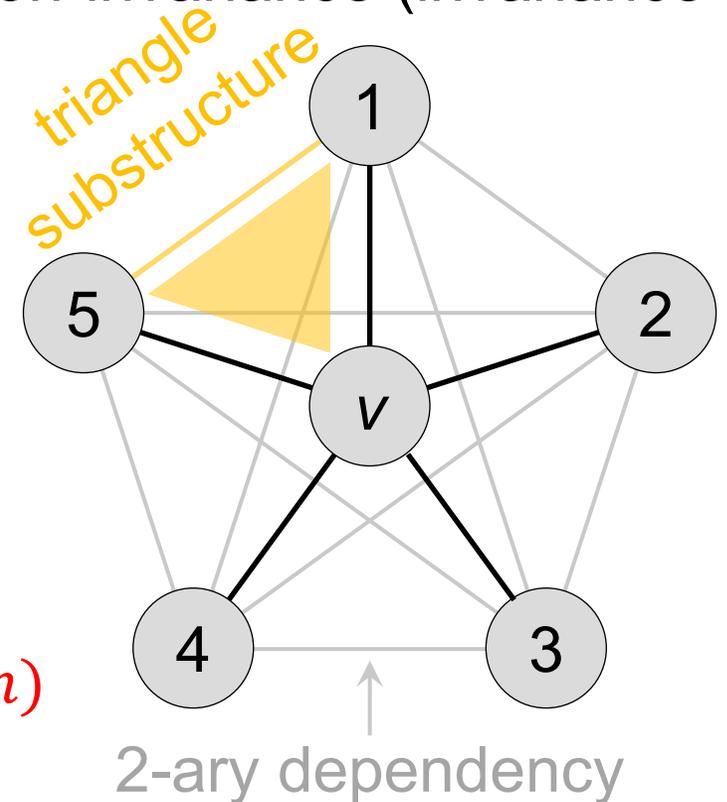
Core Ideas of Reducing Complexity

Approximate the permutation-invariance: **Avoid $\mathcal{O}(n!)$**

Model all 2-ary dependencies (pairwise correlations) to ensure the invariance to 2-ary dependencies and thus approximate the permutation-invariance (invariance to n -ary dependencies): **From $\mathcal{O}(n!)$ to $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$**

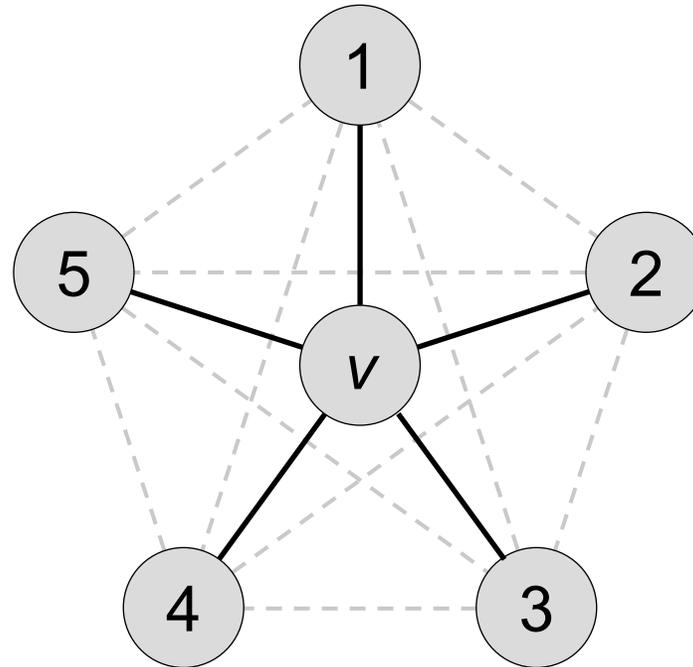
- Full 2-ary dependencies can also capture whether any two neighbors are **connected**, helping count **substructures** and improve the expressive power.

Devise a permutation sampling strategy to minimize the complexity of covering all 2-ary deps: **From $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ to $\mathcal{O}(n)$**



06 / Permutation Sampling Strategy

Graph topology:



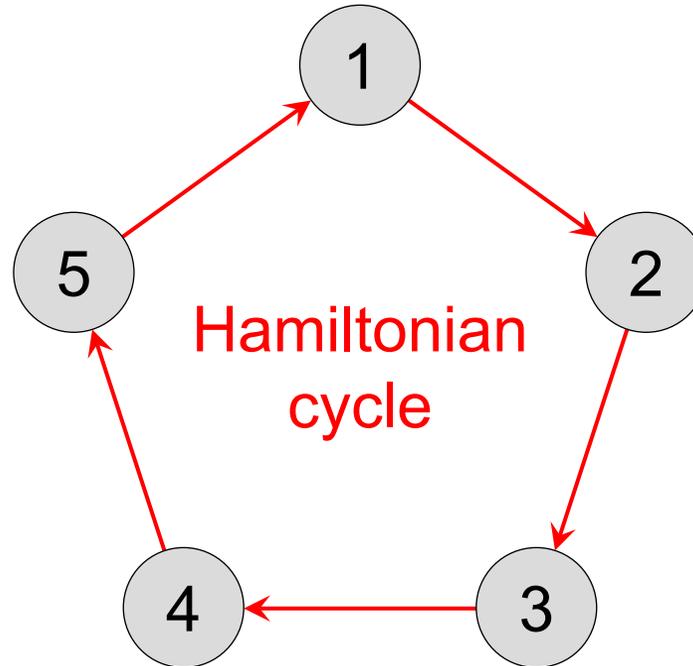
unknown relationships
(to be modeled)



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06 Permutation Sampling Strategy

Initial permutation:

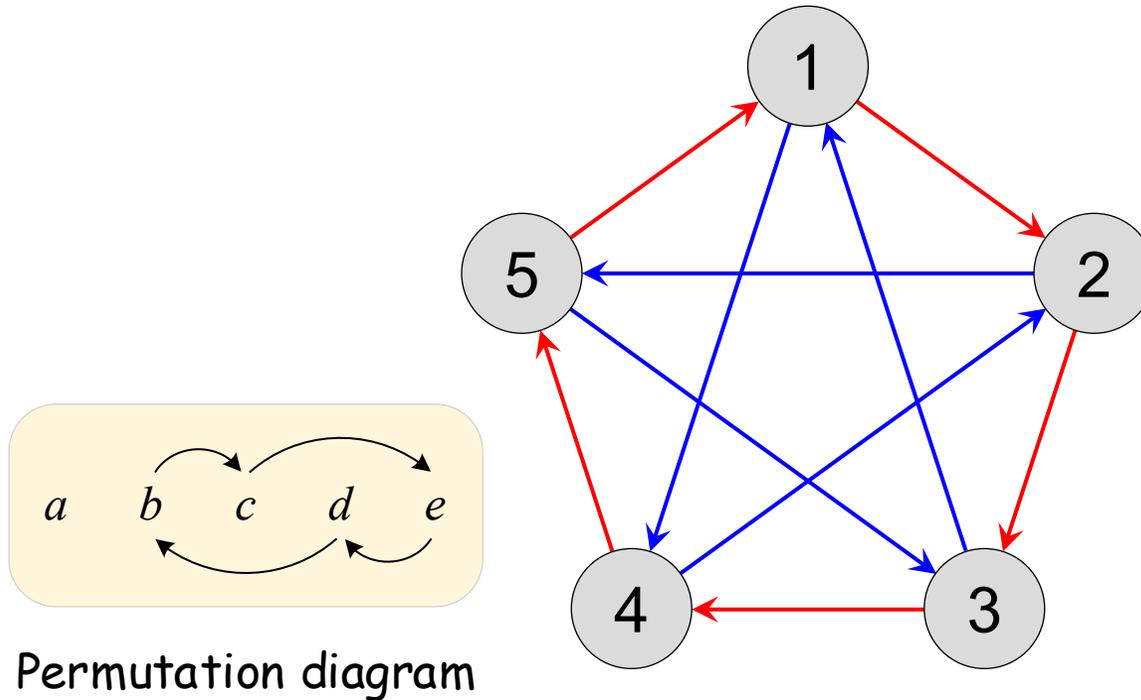


RNN (u_1 — u_2 — u_3 — u_4 — u_5 — u_1)
2-ary dependency



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Generate a new permutation:

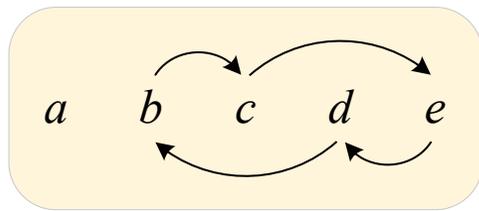


$$\begin{aligned} & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_1) \\ + & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_1) \end{aligned}$$

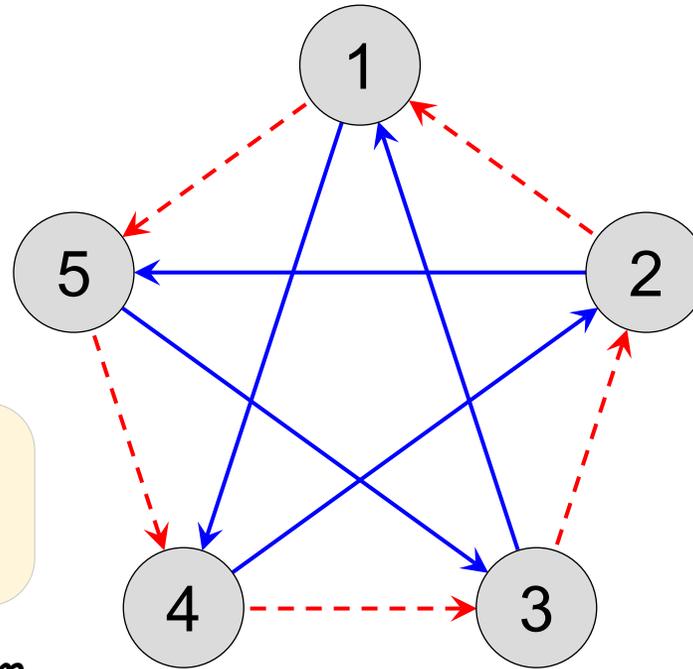


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Reverse the permutation:



Permutation diagram

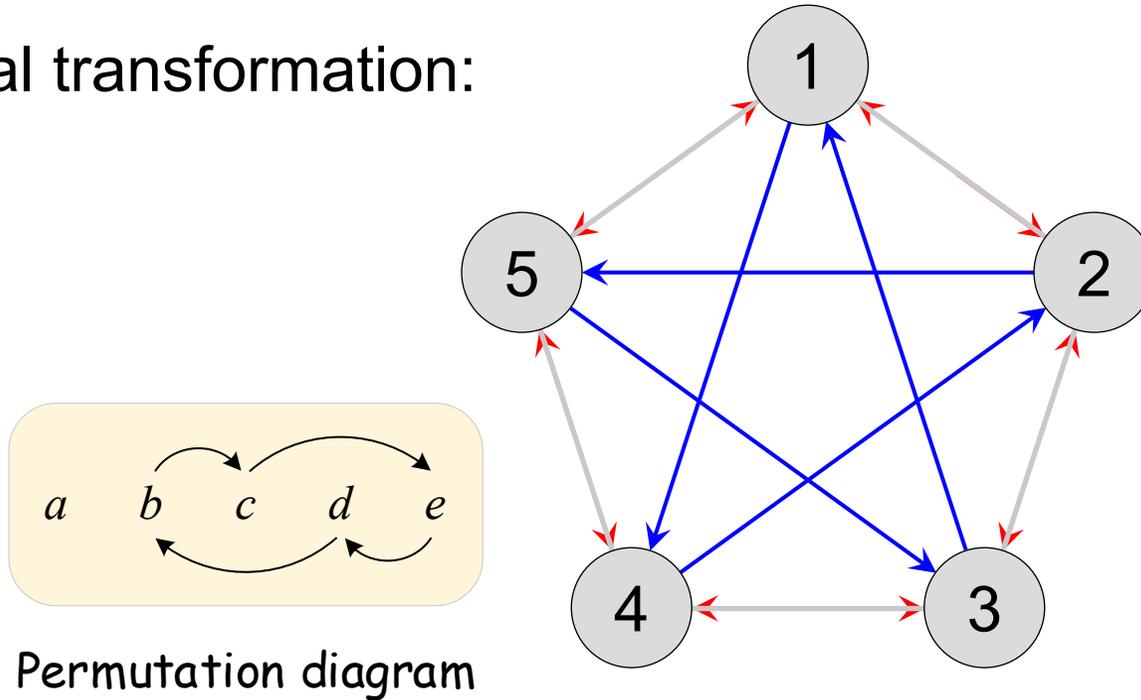


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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_1) \\
 + & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_1) \\
 + & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Permutation Sampling Strategy

Bi-directional transformation:



RNN (u_1 — u_2 — u_3 — u_4 — u_5 — u_1)

+ RNN (u_1 — u_4 — u_2 — u_5 — u_3 — u_1)

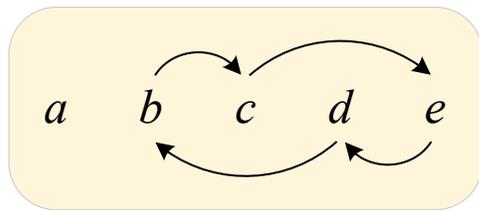
+ RNN (u_1 - - u_5 - - u_4 - - u_3 - - u_2 - - u_1)



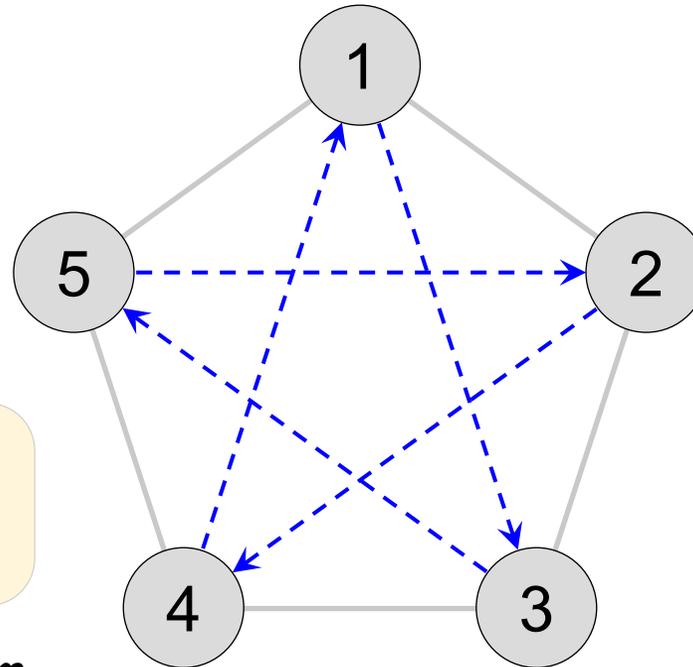
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Permutation Sampling Strategy

Reverse the permutation:



Permutation diagram

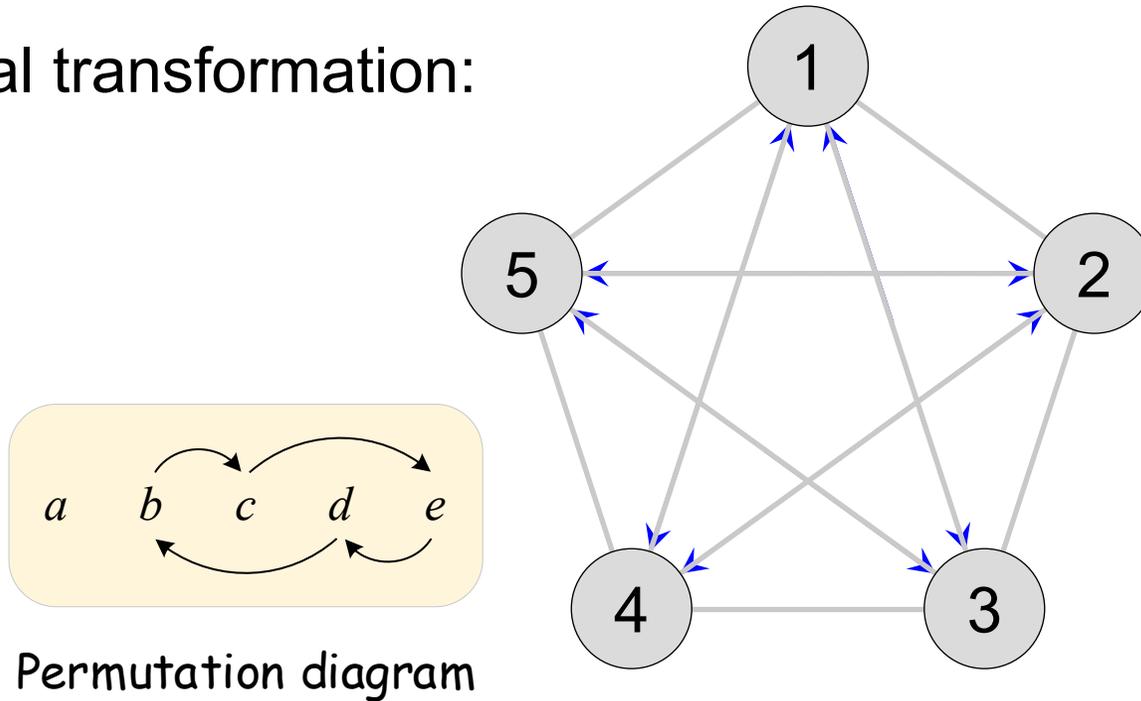


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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_1) \\
 + & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_1) \\
 + & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_1) \\
 + & \text{RNN } (u_1 \text{---} u_3 \text{---} u_5 \text{---} u_2 \text{---} u_4 \text{---} u_1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Permutation Sampling Strategy

Bi-directional transformation:



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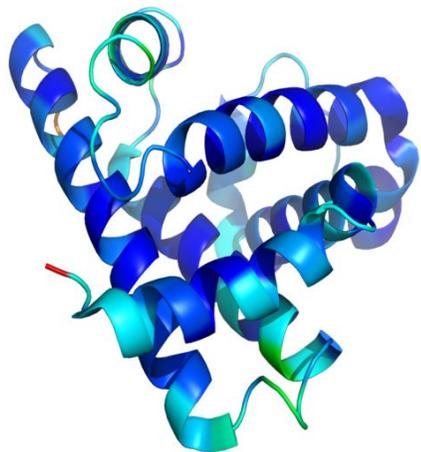
RNN (u_1 — u_2 — u_3 — u_4 — u_5 — u_1)

+ RNN (u_1 — u_4 — u_2 — u_5 — u_3 — u_1)

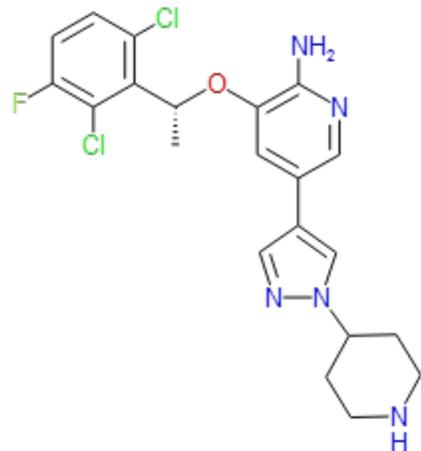
+ RNN (u_1 - - u_5 - - u_4 - - u_3 - - u_2 - - u_1)

+ RNN (u_1 - - u_3 - - u_5 - - u_2 - - u_4 - - u_1)

Experimental Datasets



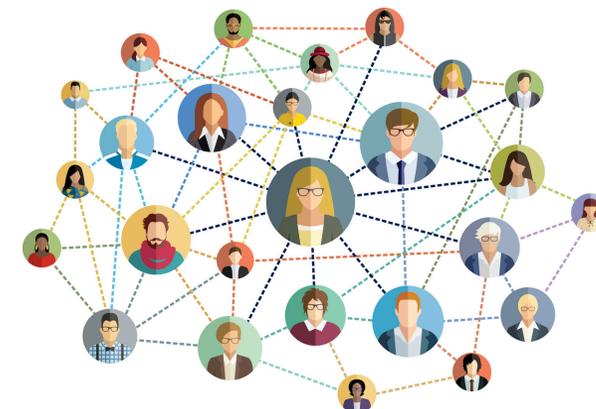
PROTEINS



NCI1



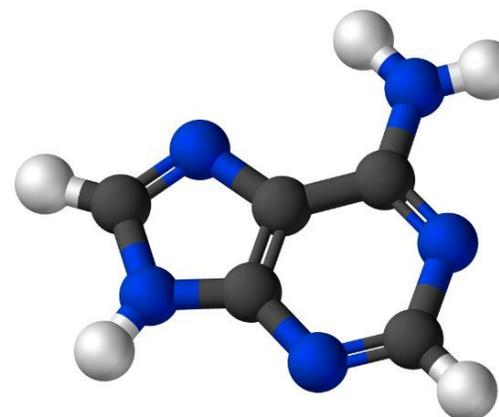
IMDB



COLLAB



MNIST



ZINC

Model	PROTEINS	NCI1	IMDB-B	IMDB-M	COLLAB
WL	75.0 ± 3.1	86.0 ± 1.8	73.8 ± 3.9	50.9 ± 3.8	78.9 ± 1.9
DGCNN	75.5 ± 0.9	74.4 ± 0.5	70.0 ± 0.9	47.8 ± 0.9	73.8 ± 0.5
IGN	76.6 ± 5.5	74.3 ± 2.7	72.0 ± 5.5	48.7 ± 3.4	78.4 ± 2.5
GIN	76.2 ± 2.8	82.7 ± 1.7	75.1 ± 5.1	52.3 ± 2.8	80.2 ± 1.9
PPGN	77.2 ± 4.7	83.2 ± 1.1	73.0 ± 5.8	50.5 ± 3.6	80.7 ± 1.7
CLIP	77.1 ± 4.4	N/A	76.0 ± 2.7	52.5 ± 3.0	N/A
WEGL	76.5 ± 4.2	N/A	75.4 ± 5.0	52.3 ± 2.9	80.6 ± 2.0
SIN	76.5 ± 3.4	82.8 ± 2.2	75.6 ± 3.2	52.5 ± 3.0	N/A
CIN	77.0 ± 4.3	83.6 ± 1.4	75.6 ± 3.7	52.7 ± 3.1	N/A
PG-GNN (Ours)	76.8 ± 3.8	82.8 ± 1.3	76.8 ± 2.6	53.2 ± 3.6	80.9 ± 0.8

Model	MNIST		ZINC	
	Accuracy \uparrow	Time / Epoch	MAE \downarrow	Time / Epoch
GraphSAGE	97.31 \pm 0.10	113.12s	0.468 \pm 0.003	3.74s
GatedGCN	97.34 \pm 0.14	128.79s	0.435 \pm 0.011	5.76s
GIN	96.49 \pm 0.25	39.22s	0.387 \pm 0.015	2.29s
3-WL-GNN	95.08 \pm 0.96	1523.20s	0.407 \pm 0.028	286.23s
Ring-GNN	91.86 \pm 0.45	2575.99s	0.512 \pm 0.023	327.65s
PPGN	N/A	N/A	0.256 \pm 0.054	334.69s
Deep-LRP	N/A	N/A	0.223 \pm 0.008	72s
PNA	97.41 \pm 0.16	N/A	0.320 \pm 0.032	N/A
PG-GNN (Ours)	97.51 \pm 0.07	82.60s	0.282 \pm 0.011	6.92s

- Permutation-sensitive GNNs are ***more powerful*** than permutation-invariant ones since they are capable of modeling the relationships among neighboring nodes and thus counting graph substructures.
- A good ***approximation of the permutation-invariance*** (e.g., the invariance to 2-ary dependencies) can significantly reduce the computational complexity with a minimal loss of generalization capability.
- The proposed permutation sampling strategy achieves ***linear permutation sampling complexity*** and is promising to be incorporated into broader design.

Going Deeper into Permutation-Sensitive Graph Neural Networks



Contact: huangzhongyu2020@ia.ac.cn (Zhongyu Huang)
huiguang.he@ia.ac.cn (Huiguang He)



Preprint link: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.14368>



Code link: <https://github.com/zhongyu1998/PG-GNN>