

# Collective Certified Robustness Against Graph Injection Attacks

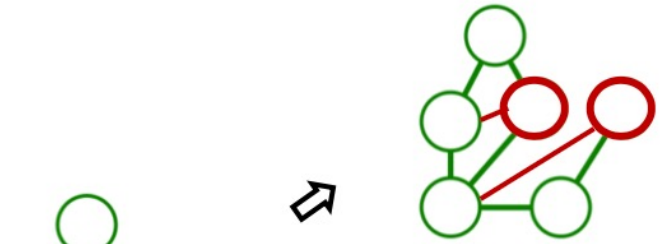
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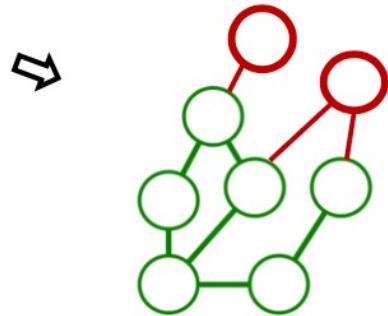
Speaker: Yuni Lai



modification attack (GMA)



The attacker is able to delete and insert edges among the existing nodes.



injection attack (GIA)

The attacker injects new nodes, and insert edges from the injected nodes to connect the existing nodes.

Perturb node classification

*For example, in social network, it could be difficult for the attacker to control all the normal users, but it can be easy for the attacker to create a new account, and then interact with normal users.*

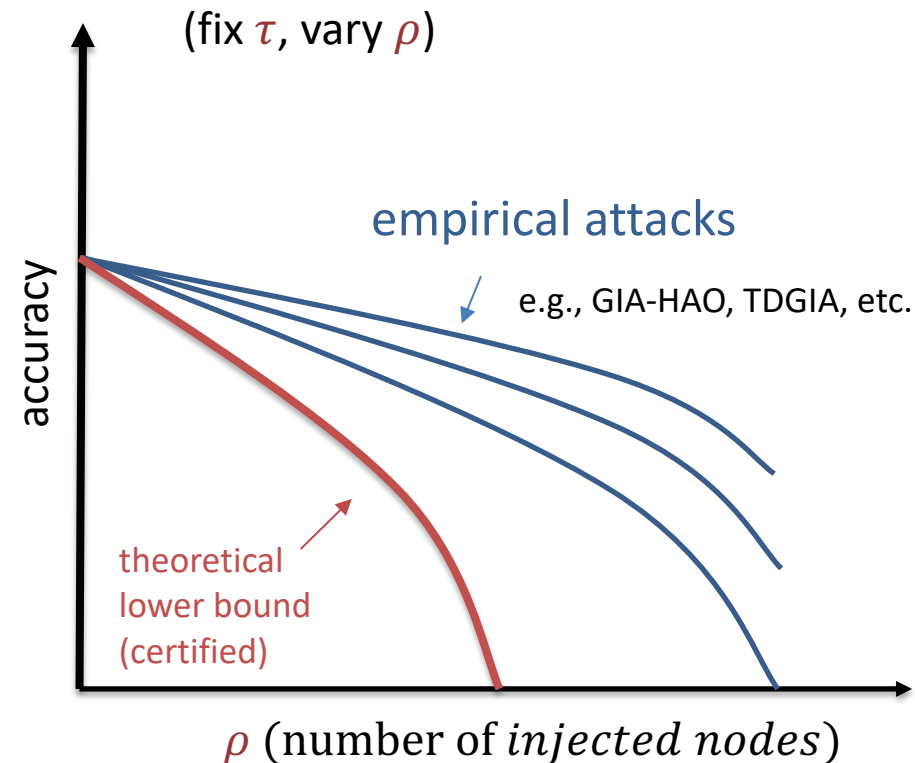
(a) GMA vs. GIA

## Introduction

## Certified Robustness against Graph Injection Attack (GIA)

A node classifier  $f$  is **certifiably robust** for a given input graph  $G$  if : we guarantee that the classifier's prediction is consistent within some attack budget  $B_{\rho, \tau}(G)$ :

$$B_{\rho, \tau}(G) := \{G'(\mathcal{V}', \mathcal{E}', X') \mid \mathcal{V}' = \mathcal{V} \cup \tilde{\mathcal{V}}, \mathcal{E}' = \mathcal{E} \cup \tilde{\mathcal{E}}, \\ X' = X \cup \tilde{X}, |\tilde{\mathcal{V}}| \leq \rho, \delta(\tilde{v}) \leq \tau, \forall \tilde{v} \in \tilde{\mathcal{V}}\}$$

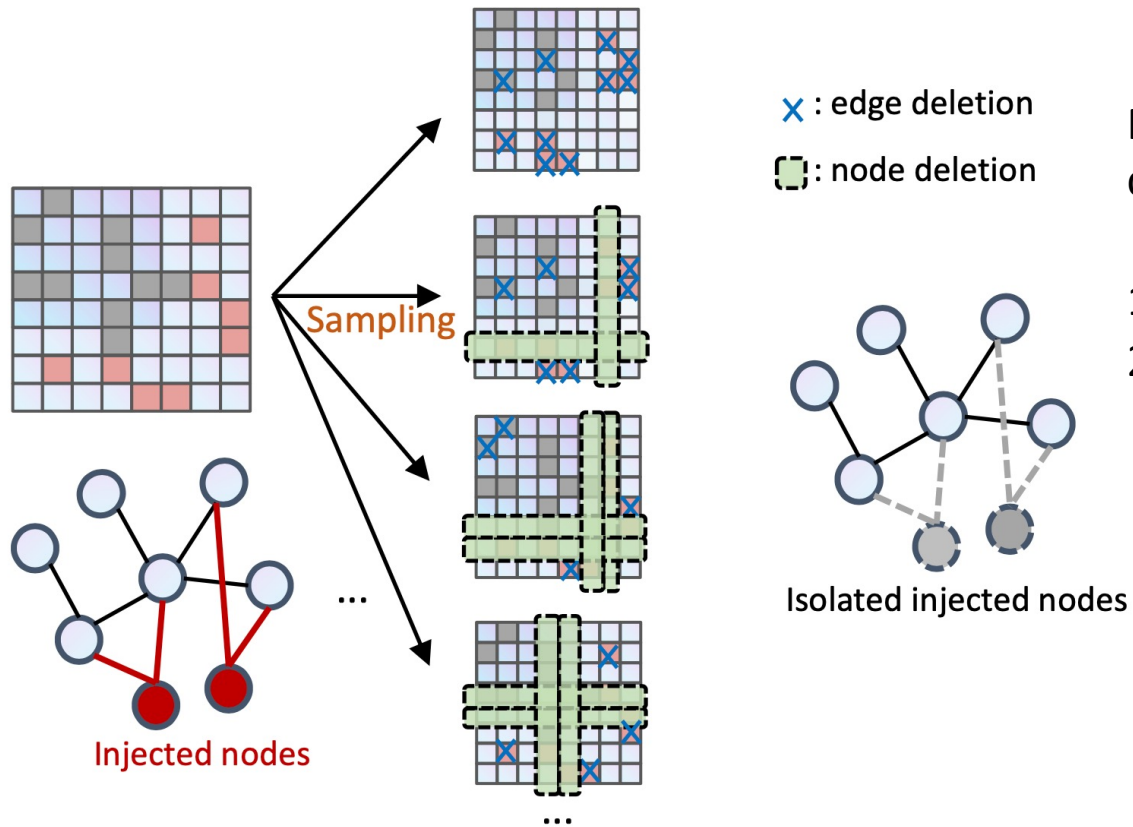


*The attacker can inject:*

$\rho$  malicious nodes, with  $\tau$  malicious edges per node.

Robustness Certification: lower bound of the model accuracy under a given attack power  $\rho$  and  $\tau$ .

# Node-aware Bi-Smoothing (Y. Lai. et al., S&P 2024)



For any node classifier  $f(\cdot)$ , its smoothed classifier  $g(\cdot)$  can be created by:

1. Node and edge randomization:  $\phi(G) = (\phi_e(G), \phi_n(G))$ ;
2. Majority vote:

$$g_v(G) := \arg \max_{y \in \{1, \dots, K\}} p_{v,y}(G),$$

$$p_{v,y}(G) := P(f_v(\phi(G)) = y).$$

The goal of certified robustness is to verify :

$$g_v(G) = g_v(G'), \forall G' \in B_{\rho, \tau}(G).$$

Figure: Node-aware Bi-smoothing (Y. Lai. et al., S&P 2024).

# Overview

## Sample-wise v.s. Collective Certificate

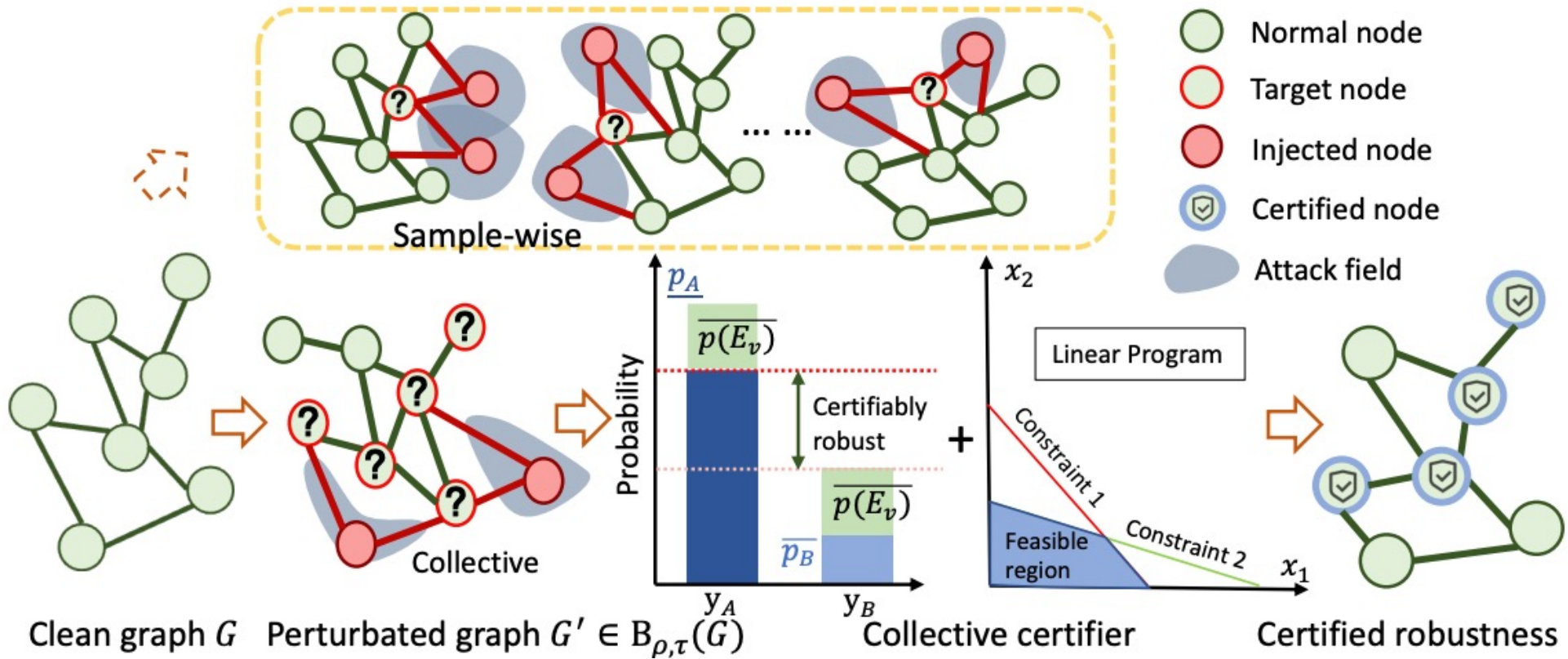
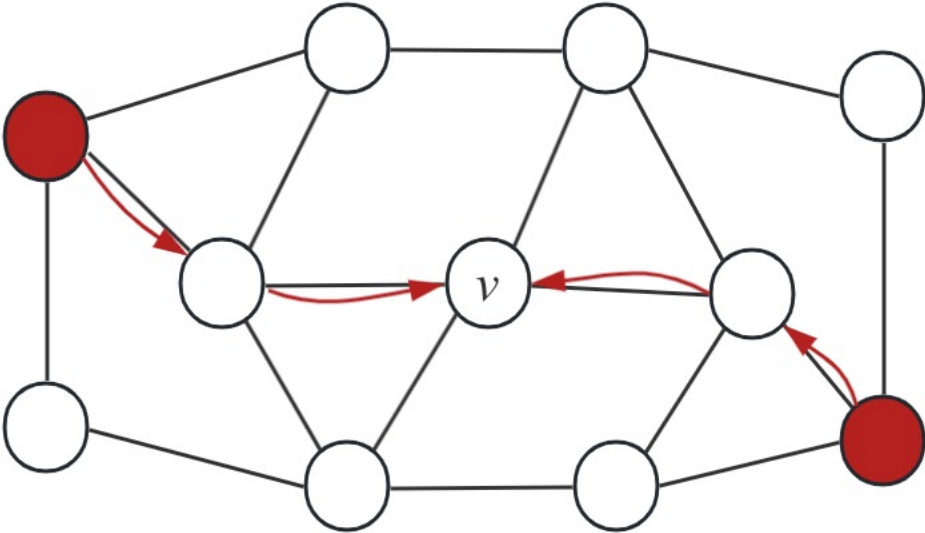


Figure 1: While the sample-wise certificate verifies target nodes one by one, our collective certificate verifies a set of target nodes simultaneously by linear programming.

Our model is inspired by the idea of **Randomized Message-Interception Smoothing** (Y. Scholten. et. al. NeurIPS 2022).

● Injected node ← Malicious message

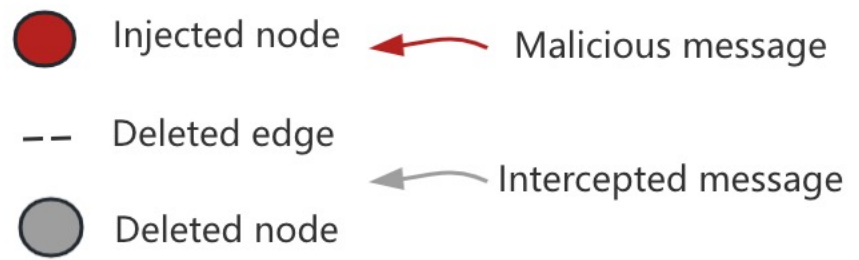
2-layer message passing GNNs



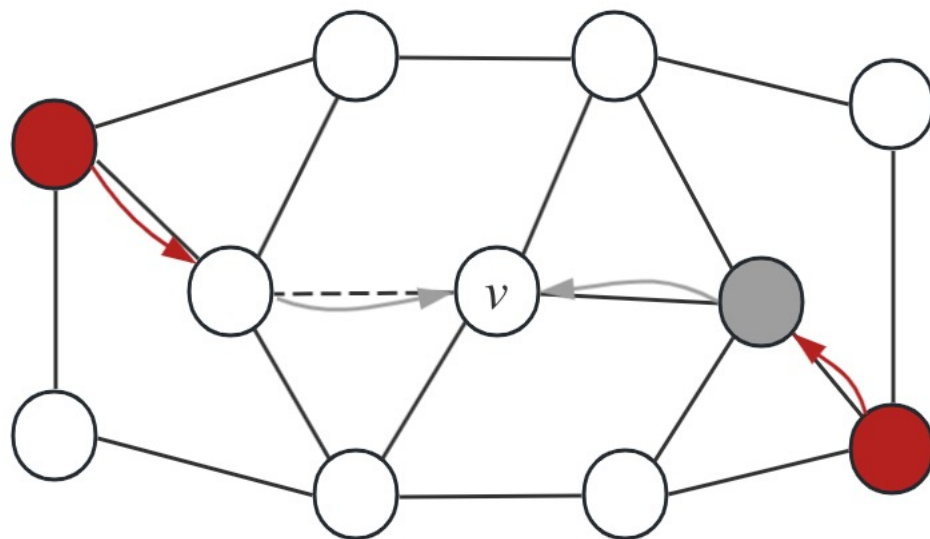
Class A -> Class B

(Figure adapted from Y. Scholten. et. al. NeurIPS 2022)

# Malicious message has probability to be intercepted in the Node-aware Bi-smoothing.



2-layer message passing GNNs



Class A -> Class A

(Figure adapted from Y. Scholten. et. al. NeurIPS 2022)

Let  $p(E_v)$  denotes the probability that the malicious messages is **NOT** intercepted, then we have that the absolute change of prediction probability is bounded by  $p(E_v)$ .

(Because in the other cases, the attacker can not affect the predictions of  $f$ .)

**Theorem 1.** *Given a base GNN classifier  $f$  trained on a graph  $G$  and its smoothed classifier  $g$  defined in (2), a testing node  $v \in G$  and a perturbation range  $B_{\rho, \tau}(G)$ , let  $E_v$  be the event defined in Eq. (4). The absolute change in predicted probability  $|p_{v,y}(G) - p_{v,y}(G')|$  for all perturbed graphs  $G' \in B_{\rho, \tau}(G)$  is bounded by the probability of the event  $E_v$ :  $|p_{v,y}(G) - p_{v,y}(G')| \leq p(E_v)$ .*



Then, we know that the prediction is consistent if:  
the upper bound of  $p(E_v)$  is smaller than half of the probability gap.

**Corollary 1.** *Given a base GNN classifier  $f$  trained on a graph  $G$  and its smoothed classifier  $g$ , a testing node  $v \in G$  and a perturbation range  $B_{\rho,\tau}(G)$ , let  $E_v$  be the event defined in Eq. (4). We have  $g_v(G') = g_v(G)$  for all perturbed graphs  $G' \in B_{\rho,\tau}(G)$  if:*

$$\overline{p(E_v)} < [p_{v,y^*}(G) - \max_{y \neq y^*} p_{v,y}(G)]/2, \quad (7)$$

where  $y^* \in \mathcal{Y}$  is the predicted class of  $g_v(G)$ .

*Proof.* With Theorem 1, we have  $g_v(G') = g_v(G)$  if  $p_{v,y^*}(G) - \overline{p(E_v)} > \max_{y \neq y^*} p_{v,y}(G) + \overline{p(E_v)}$ , which is equivalent to  $\overline{p(E_v)} < [p_{v,y^*}(G) - \max_{y \neq y^*} p_{v,y}(G)]/2$ .

□

## Collective Certificate Original Problem

$B_{\rho, \tau}(G)$  : the attacker can inject  $\rho$  malicious nodes, with  $\tau$  malicious edges per node.

$\mathbb{T}$  : A set of target nodes.

$$\min_{G' \in B_{\rho, \tau}(G)} \quad |\mathbb{T}| - \sum_{v \in \mathbb{T}} \mathbb{I}\{g_v(G') \neq g_v(G)\},$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad |\tilde{\mathcal{V}}| \leq \rho, \delta(\tilde{v}) \leq \tau, \forall \tilde{v} \in \tilde{\mathcal{V}}.$$

(NP-hard)

## Upper-bounding the number of non-robust nodes

### Collective Certificate Relaxation

$p(E_v)$  : the probability that the malicious messages is not intercepted.

$c_v := p_{v,y^*}(G) - \max_{y \neq y^*} p_{v,y}(G)$ .

$$\max_{G' \in B_{\rho, \tau}(G)} M = \sum_{v \in \mathbb{T}} \mathbb{I}\{\overline{p(E_v)} \geq c_v/2\},$$

$$\text{s.t. } |\tilde{\mathcal{V}}| \leq \rho, \delta(\tilde{v}) \leq \tau, \forall \tilde{v} \in \tilde{\mathcal{V}},$$

The remaining  $|\mathbb{T}| - M^*$  nodes are certified robust.

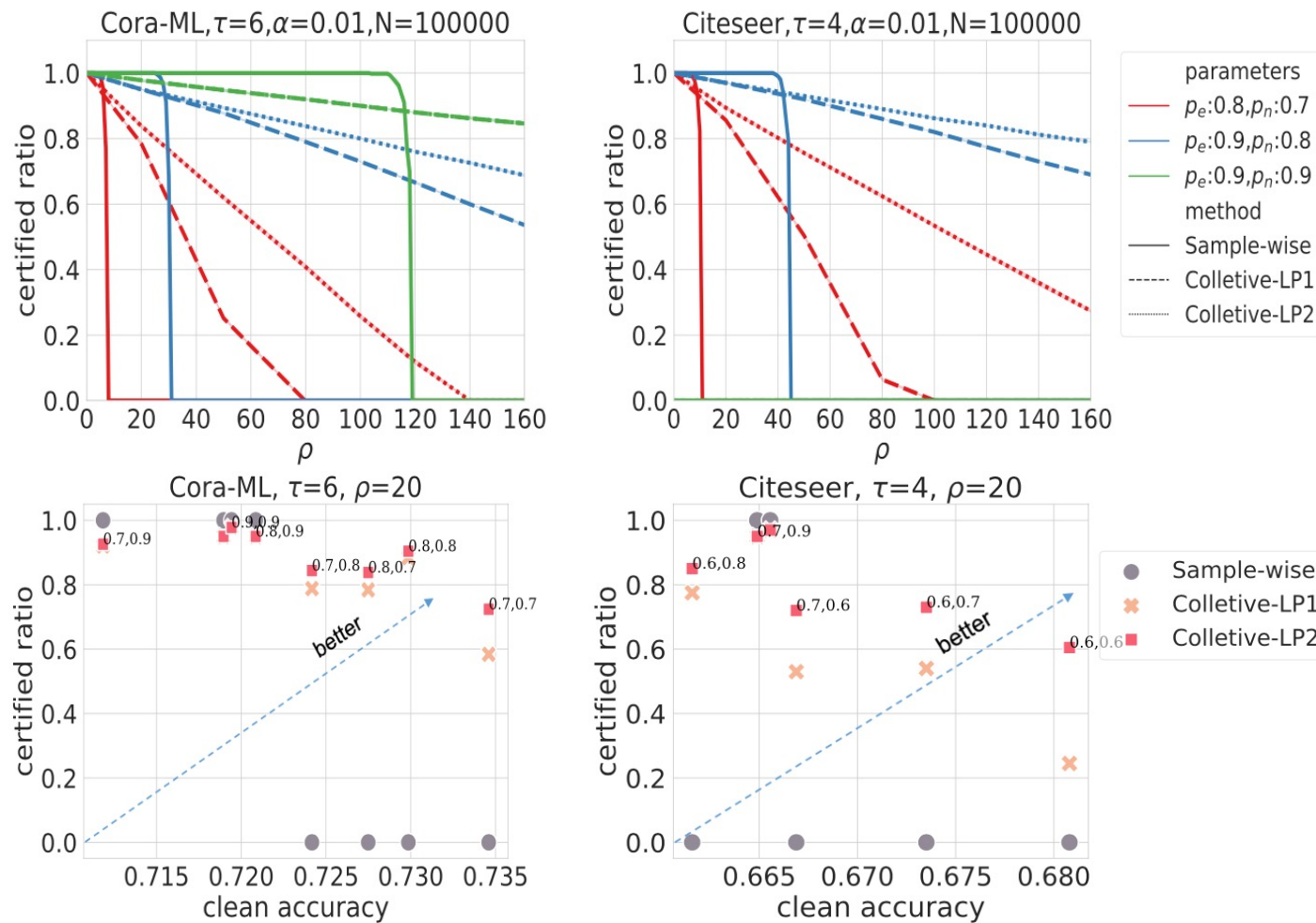
(NP-hard)

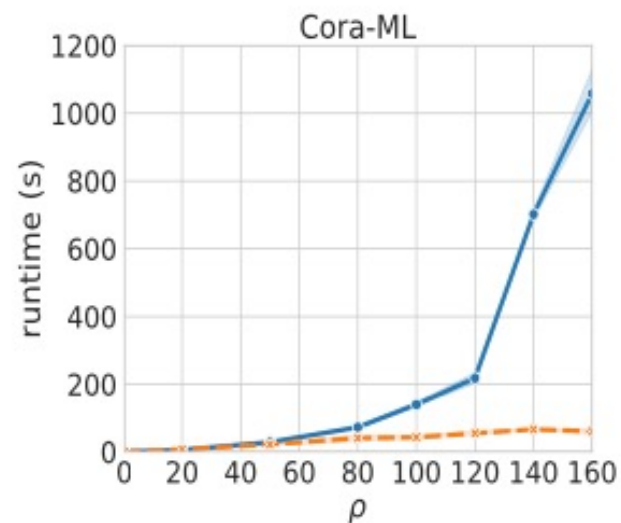
To solve the problem, we relax the optimization problem into linear programming.

In our paper, we propose two relaxation scheme: Collective-LP1 and Collective-LP2.

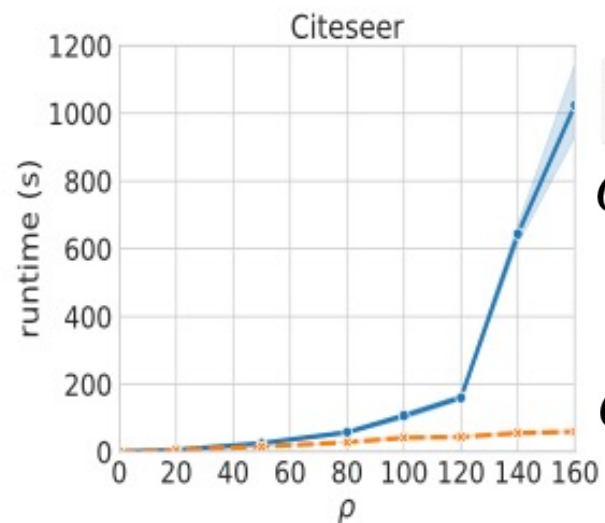
# Evaluation

## Certified ratio and clean accuracy





(a) Runtime



(b) Runtime

$$O(3\rho^2|\mathbb{T}| + \rho^2 + \rho + |\mathbb{T}|)$$

$$O(3\rho|\mathbb{T}| + \rho + |\mathbb{T}|)$$

Figure 4: Runtime comparison of LP collective models.

Thank you for your attention!

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