

# How to Find Your Friendly Neighborhood: Graph Attention Design with Self-Supervision

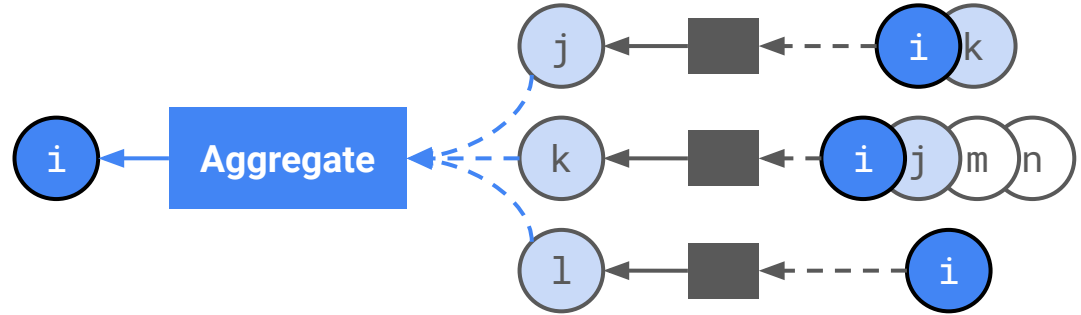
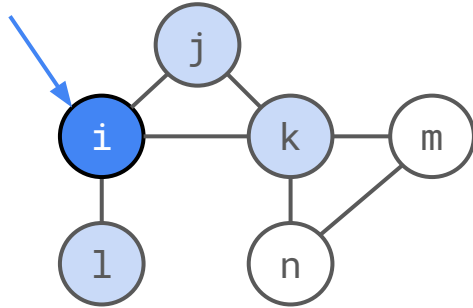
**Dongkwan Kim** and Alice Oh  
KAIST

Learning on Graphs and Geometry Reading Group  
23rd November 2021



# Preliminary: Graph Neural Networks

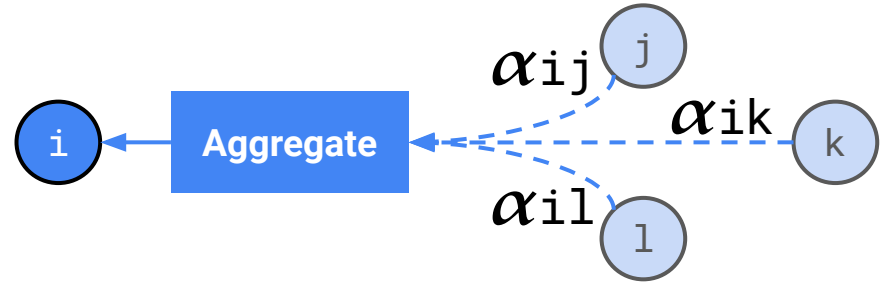
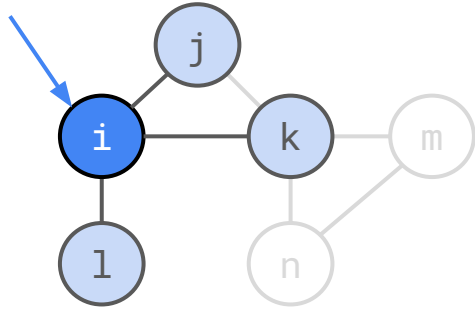
Target Node



**To generate an embedding for node  $i$ , the GNN aggregates embeddings of  $i$ 's local neighborhoods (i.e.,  $j$ ,  $k$ , and  $l$ )**

# Preliminary: Graph Attention Networks

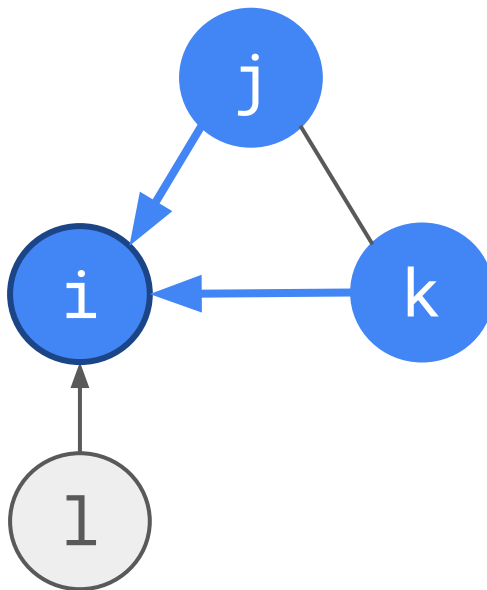
Target Node



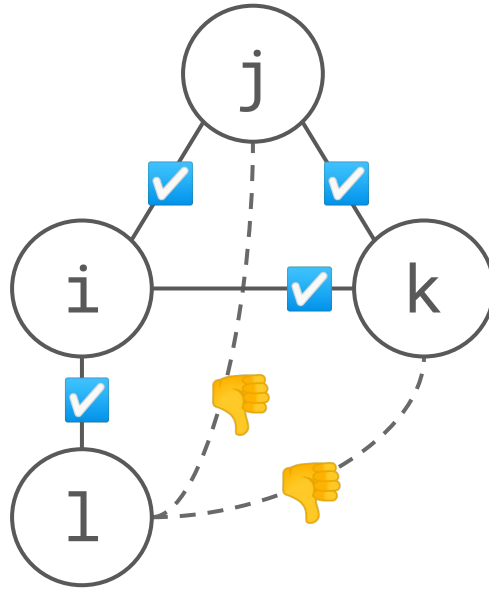
$$\alpha_{ij} = \text{softmax}_{\mathcal{N}_i} \left( f(\vec{h}_i, \vec{h}_j) \right)$$

**Graph Attention Networks (GATs) implicitly assign different importances (by attention) to neighbors in aggregating them**

**Attention over edges** in graph attention networks learns the relational importance between nodes



**Presence & absence of edges** explicitly represent information about the importance of relations



## Self-Supervision

```
graph TD; SS[Self-Supervision] --> PA[Presence & absence of edges]; SS --> AO[Attention over edges]; PA --- PA_T["explicitly represent information about the importance of relations"]; AO --- AO_T["in graph attention networks learns the relational importance between nodes"]; PA_T -.-> PA_B["How nodes make friends with each other"]; AO_T -.-> AO_B["How to find the node's friendly neighborhoods"];
```

### Presence & absence of edges

explicitly represent information about the importance of relations

How nodes make friends with each other

### Attention over edges

in graph attention networks learns the relational importance between nodes

How to find the node's friendly neighborhoods

# Contribution

1

Present models with self-supervised graph attention using edge information: SuperGAT

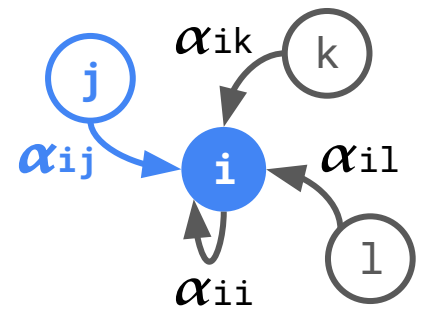
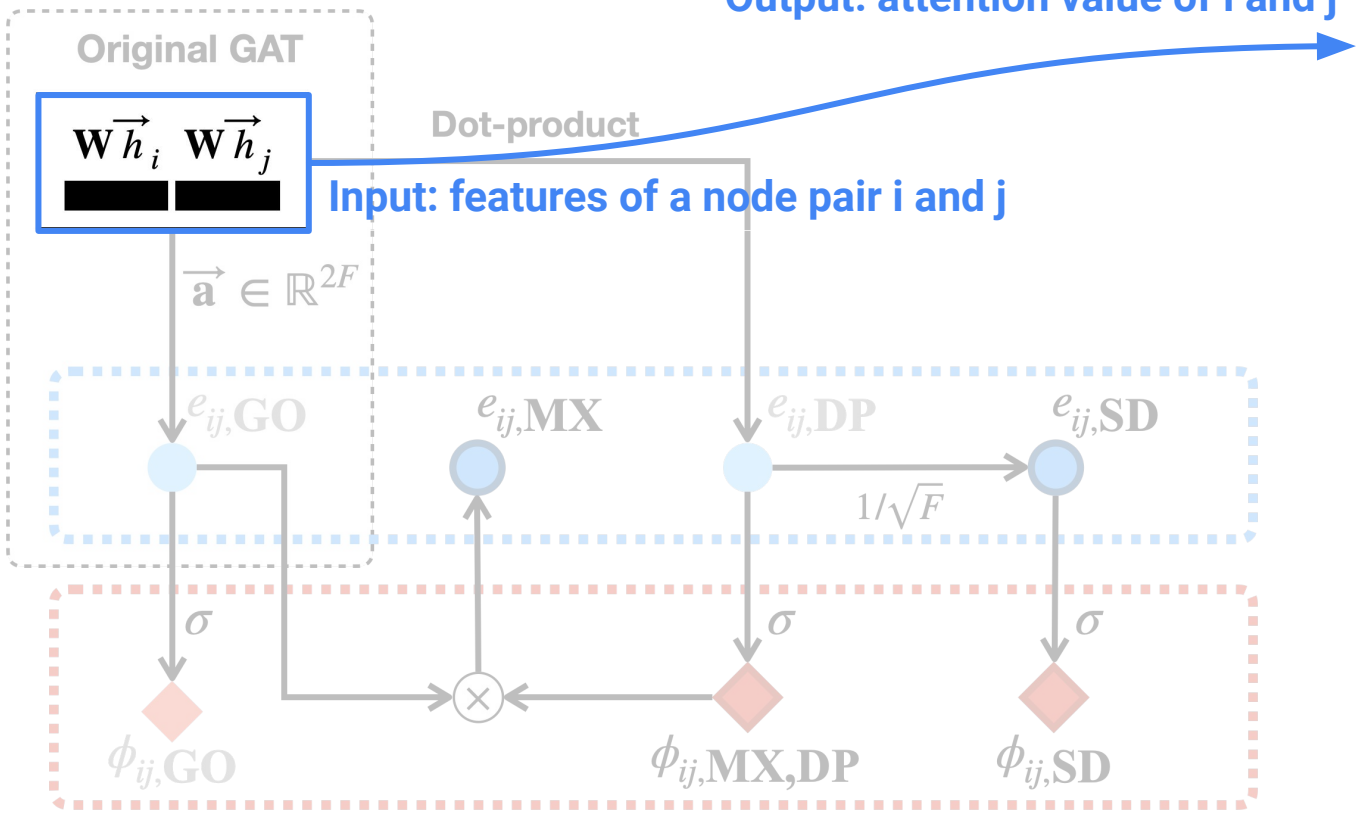
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Analyze GAT's original (GO) and Dot-product (DP) attention: GO is better than DP in label-agreement, but DP is better than GO in link prediction

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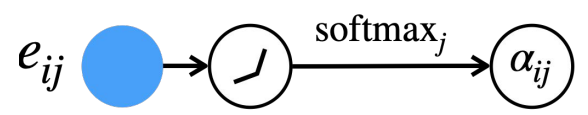
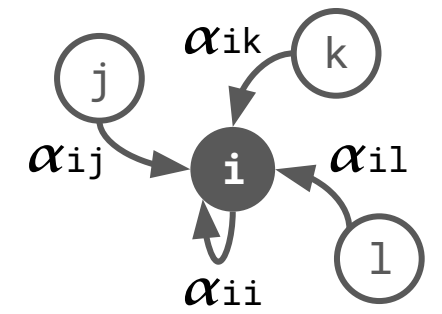
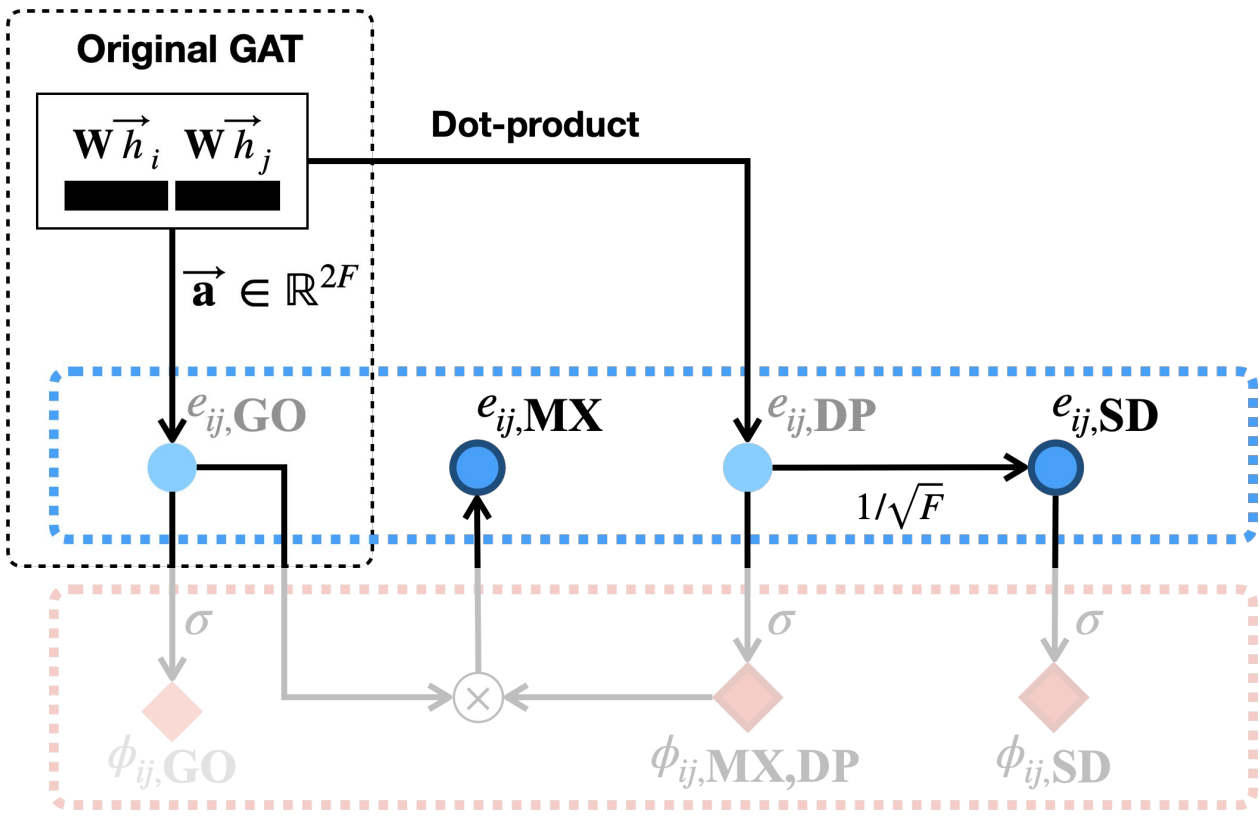
Propose recipes to design graph attention concerning homophily and average degree and confirm its validity

# Model



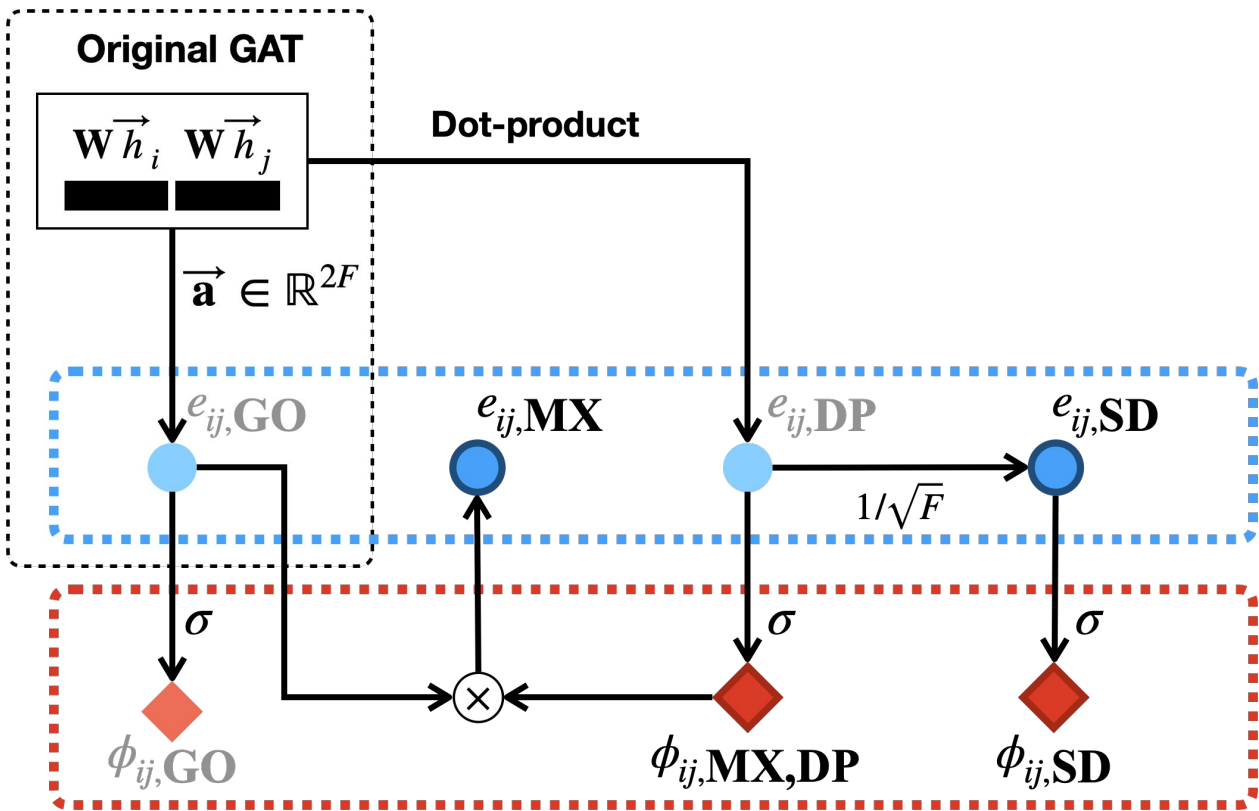


# Model



**Unnormalized attention before softmax**

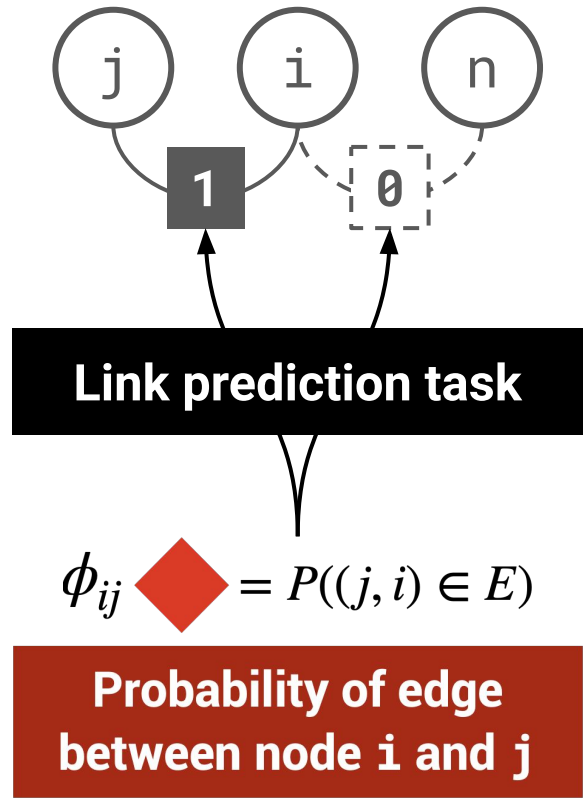
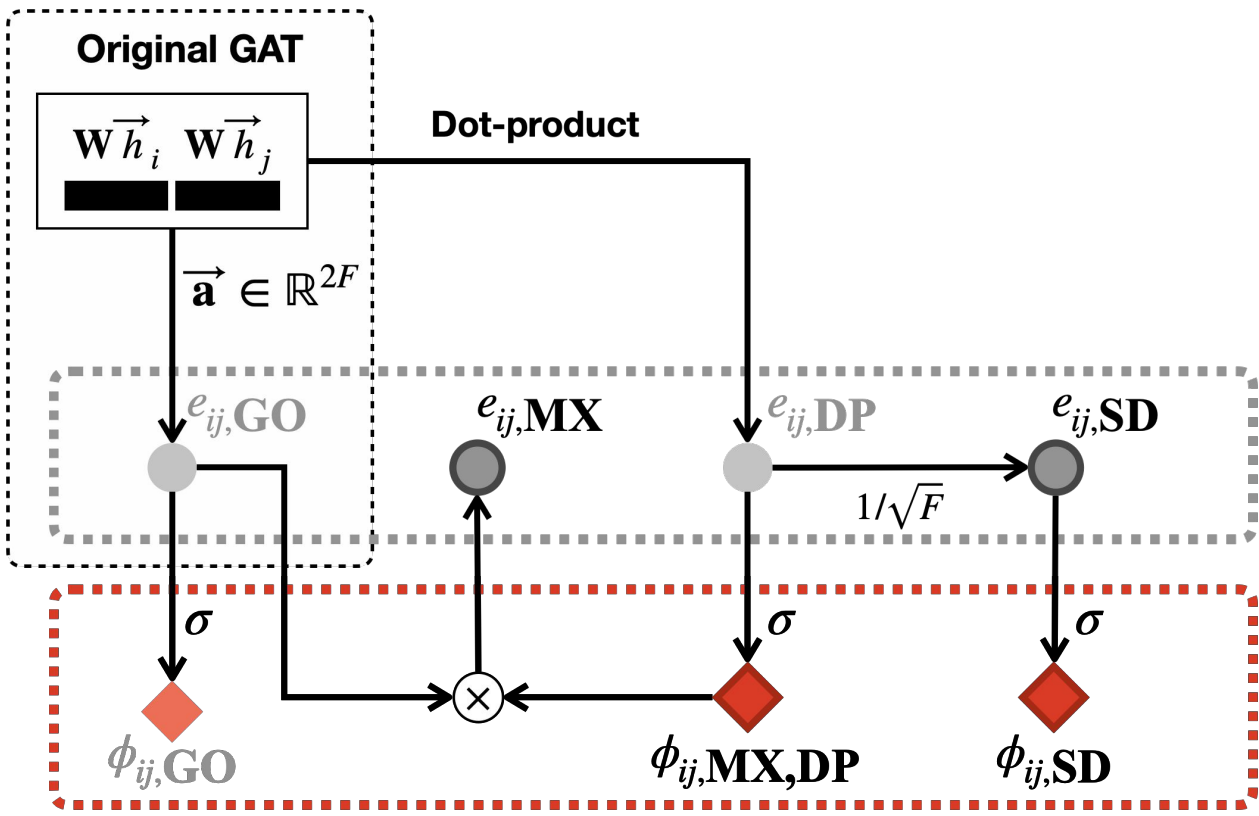
# Model



$$\phi_{ij} \blacklozenge = P((j, i) \in E)$$

**Probability of edge between node i and j**

# Proposed Self-Supervised Task



## Proposed Self-Supervised Task

$$\text{Training Loss: } \mathcal{L}_V + \lambda_E \cdot \sum_{l=1}^L \mathcal{L}_E^l$$

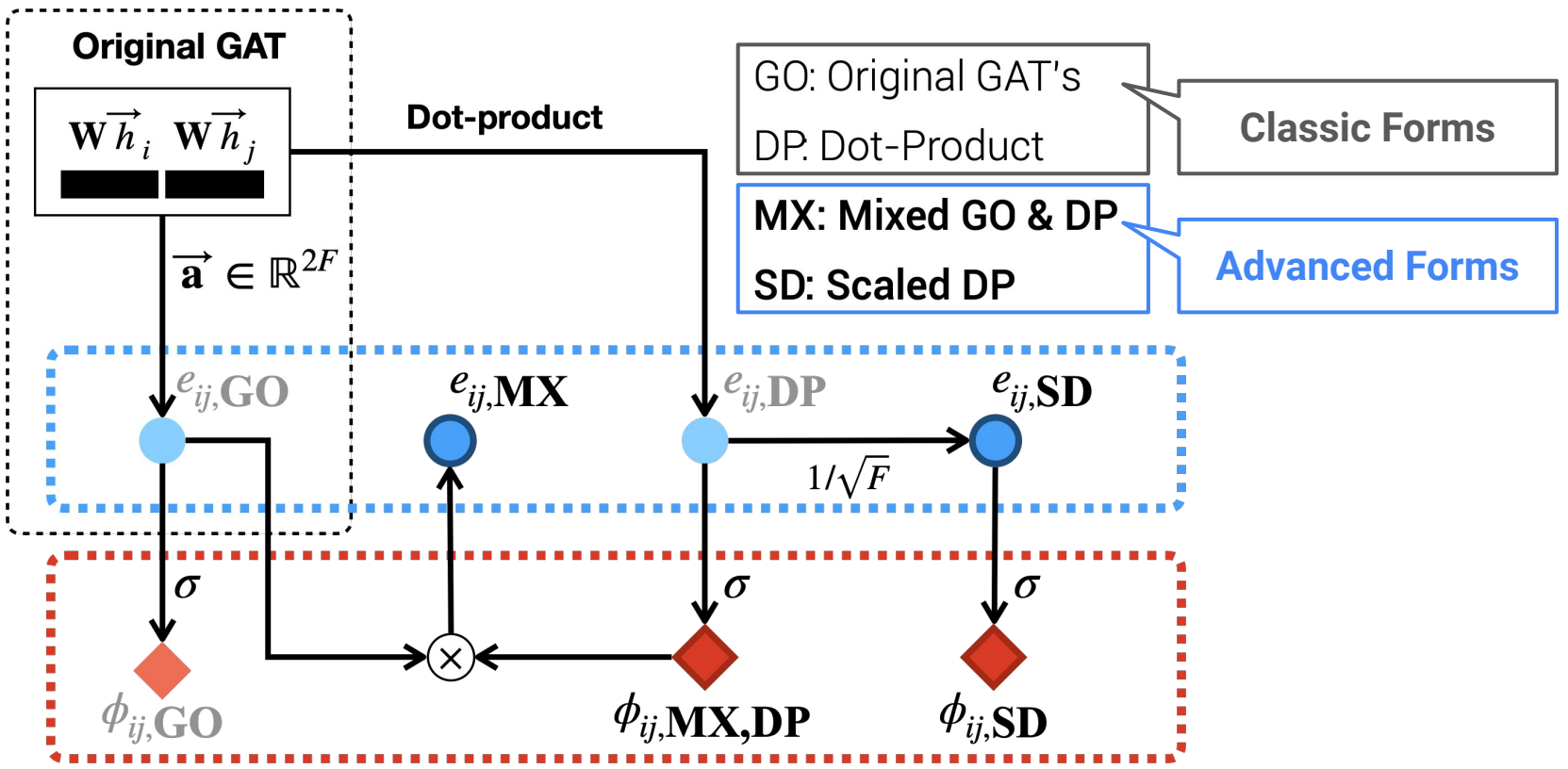
$$\mathcal{L}_V = \text{CrossEntropy}(\forall i : \vec{h}_i^L, \text{label}_i),$$

$$\mathcal{L}_E^l = - \sum_{(j,i) \in E \cup E^-} \mathbf{1}_{(j,i)=0} \cdot \log(1 - \phi_{ij}) + \mathbf{1}_{(j,i)=1} \cdot \log \phi_{ij},$$

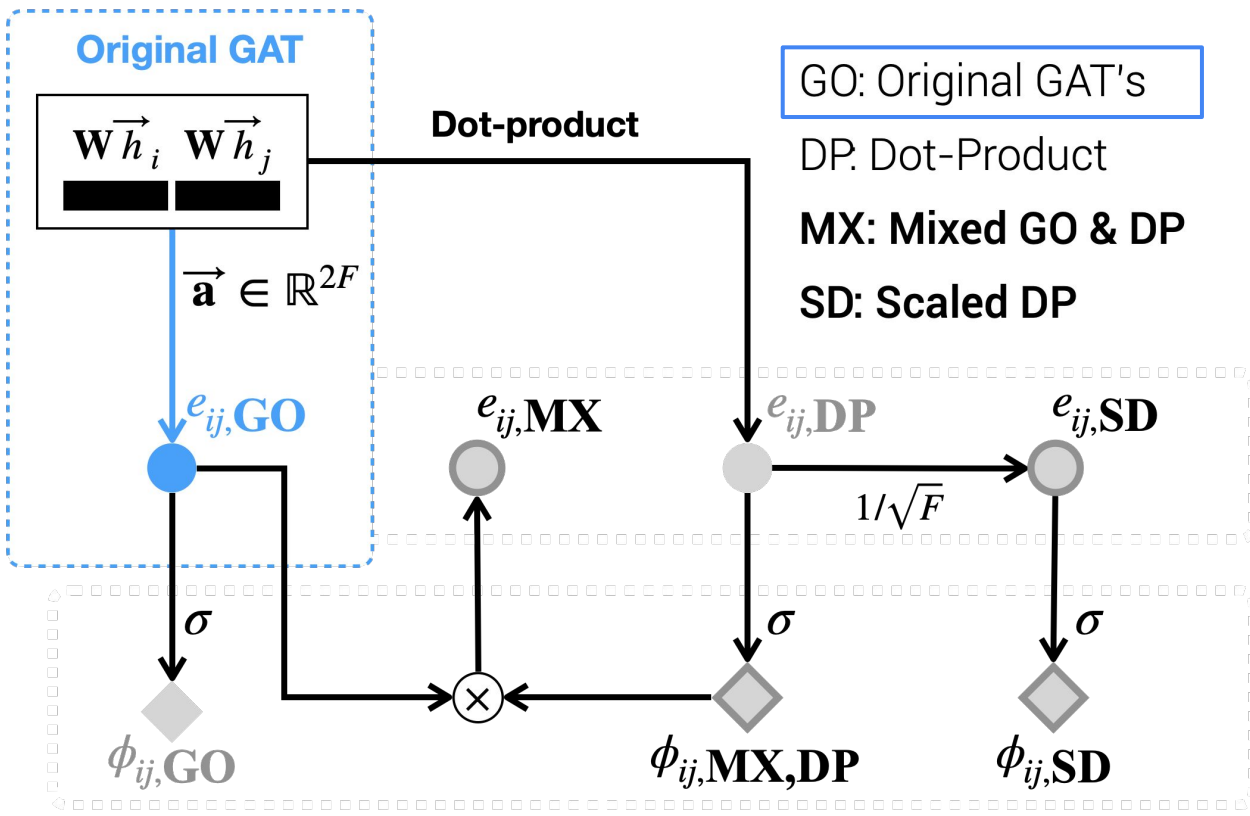
where  $E^-$  are negative samples drawn from  $(V \times V) \setminus E$

**Our proposed self-supervised task is the link prediction with attention, and can be optimized with the binary cross-entropy on edge labels**

# Model



# Model

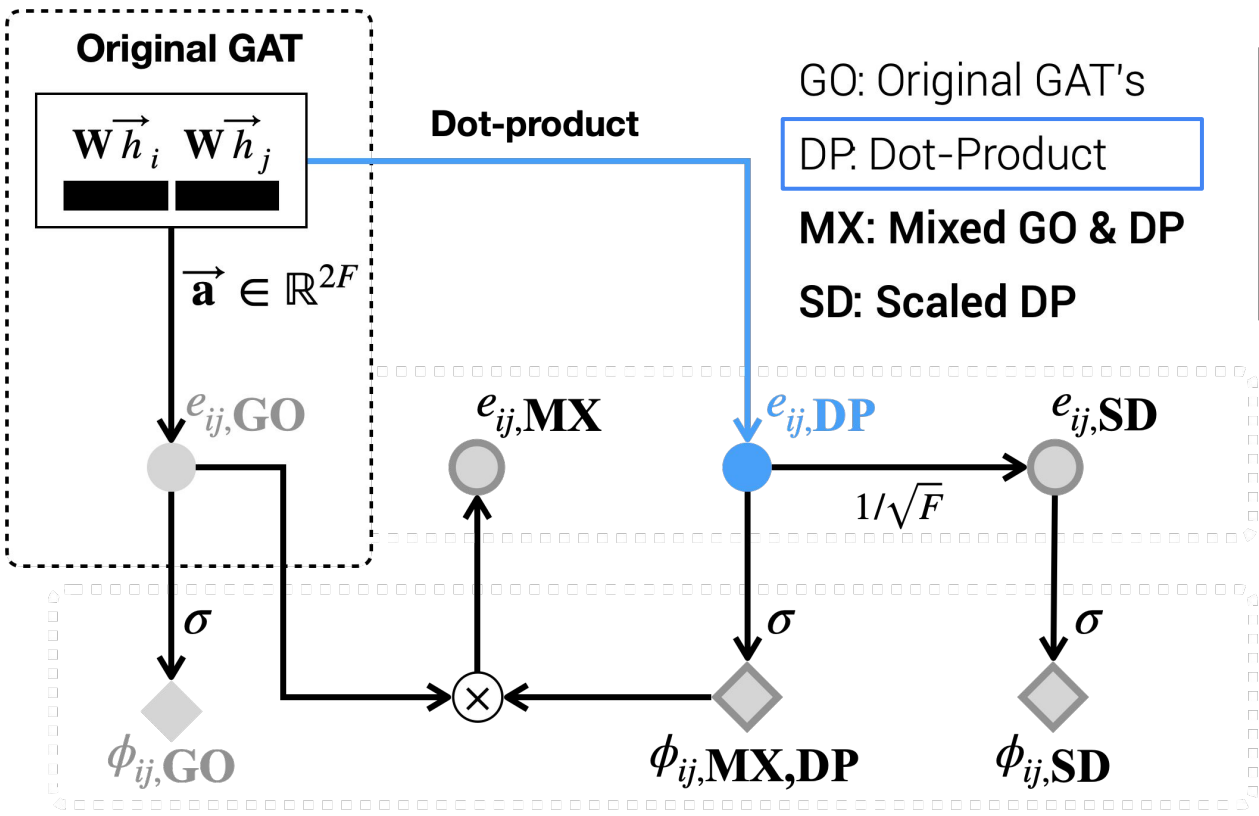


Veličković et al., ICLR 2018

**The original GAT (GO) computes the coefficients by a single-layer feed-forward network**

$$e_{ij,GO}^{l+1} = (a^{l+1})^T [W^{l+1}h_i^l || W^{l+1}h_j^l]$$

# Model

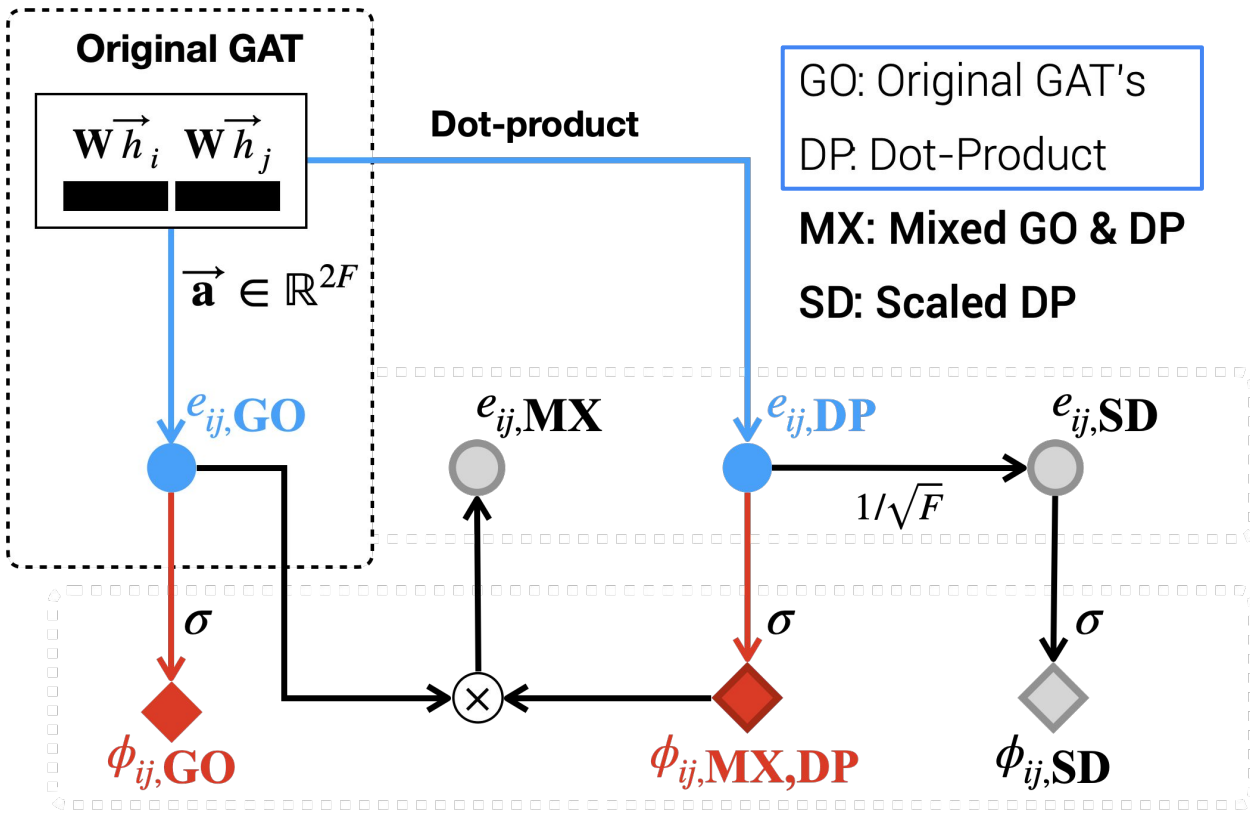


Similar to DeepWalk, LINE, Node2Vec

**The dot-product (DP) computes the coefficients by dot-product of two node vectors**

$$e_{ij,DP}^{l+1} = (W^{l+1}h_i^l)^\top \cdot W^{l+1}h_j^l$$

# Model



GO: Original GAT's  
 DP: Dot-Product  
 MX: Mixed GO & DP  
 SD: Scaled DP

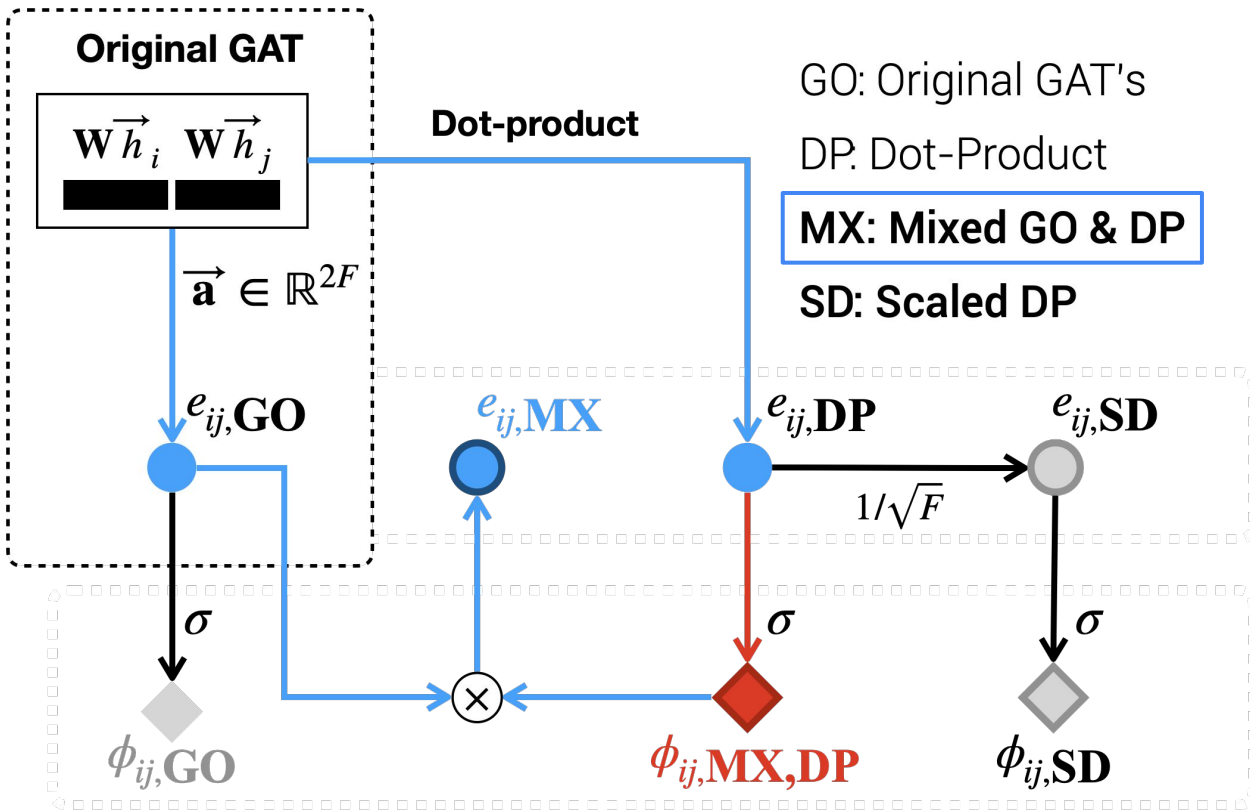
**Probability of edges is defined by the sigmoid of the unnormalized attention of GO and DP**

$$\phi_{ij,GO} = \sigma(e_{ij,GO})$$

$$\phi_{ij,DP} = \sigma(e_{ij,DP})$$



# Model



Motivated by GRU (Cho et al., 2014)

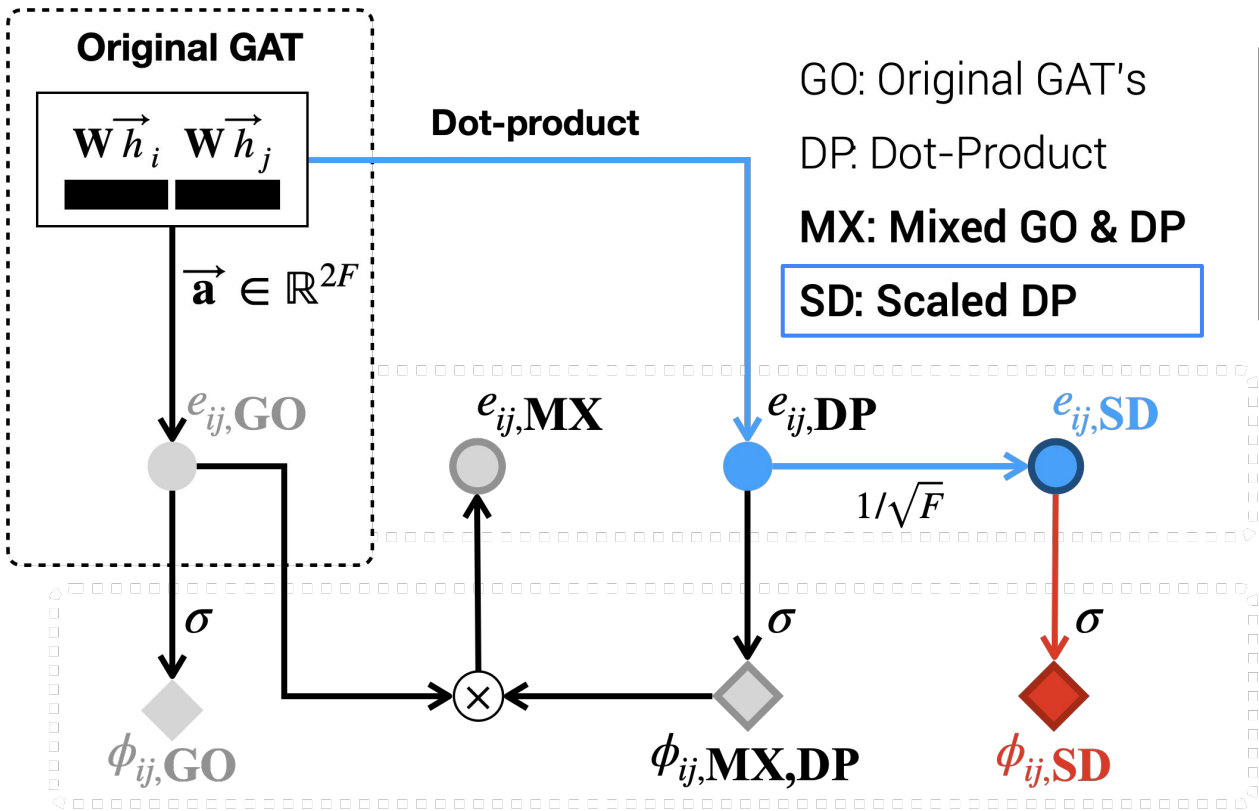
**MX attention e is the multiplication of  $e_{ij,GO}$  and  $\phi_{ij,DP}$**

**$\phi_{ij,MX}$  equals to  $\phi_{ij,DP}$**

$$e_{ij,MX} = e_{ij,GO} \cdot \sigma(e_{ij,DP})$$

$$\phi_{ij,MX} = \sigma(e_{ij,DP})$$

# Model



GO: Original GAT's  
 DP: Dot-Product  
 MX: Mixed GO & DP  
 SD: Scaled DP

Similar to Transformer  
 (Vaswani et al., NeurIPS 2017)

**SD attention is the dot-product scaled by the number of features**

$$e_{ij,SD} = e_{ij,DP} / \sqrt{F}$$

$$\phi_{ij,SD} = \sigma(e_{ij,SD})$$

# Contribution

1

Present models with self-supervised attention using edge information:  
SuperGAT

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Propose recipes to design graph attention concerning homophily and average degree and confirm its validity

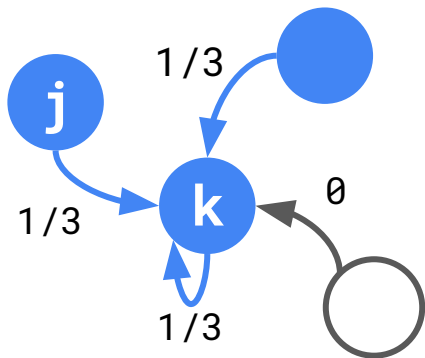
## RQ 1. Does Graph Attention Learn Label-Agreement?

***DP* learns label-agreement worse than *GO***

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**Label-agreement** is an ideal attention where weights are only given to neighbor nodes with the **same label** of the center node

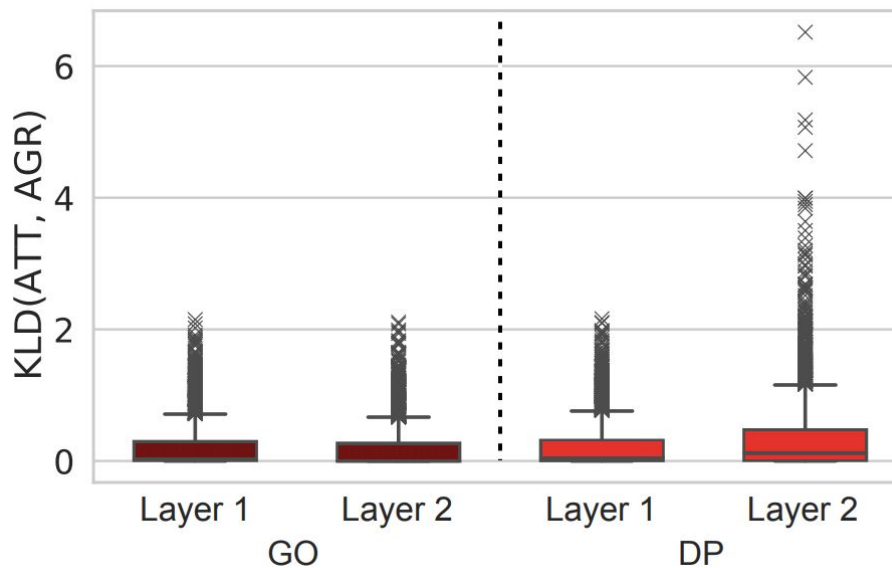


$$l_{kj} = \hat{l}_{kj} / \sum_s \hat{l}_{ks},$$

$$\hat{l}_{kj} = 1 \text{ (if } k \text{ and } j \text{ have the same label) or } 0 \text{ (otherwise)}$$

# RQ 1. Does Graph Attention Learn Label-Agreement?

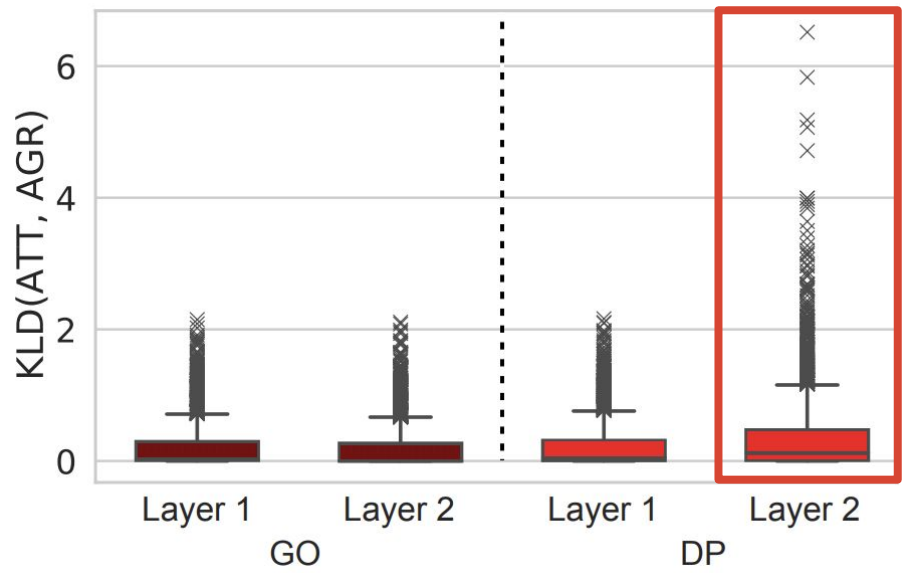
***DP* learns label-agreement worse than *GO***



$$\begin{aligned} \text{KLD}(\alpha_k, \ell_k) \\ = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}_k \cup \{k\}} \alpha_{kj} \log(\alpha_{kj} / \ell_{kj}) \end{aligned}$$

# RQ 1. Does Graph Attention Learn Label-Agreement?

***DP* learns label-agreement worse than *GO***



**DP attention** has a larger KL divergence between label-agreement and the learned attention distribution

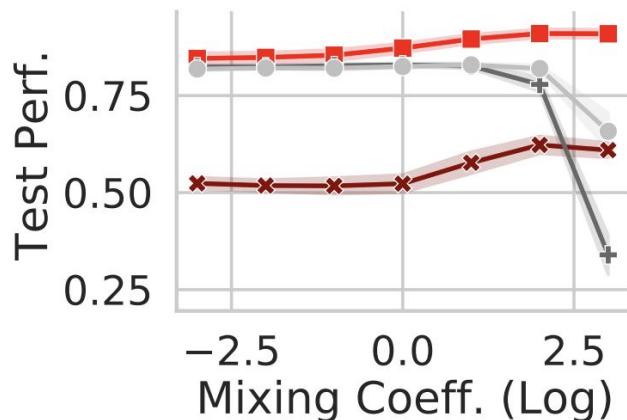
## RQ 2. Is Graph Attention Predictive for Edge Presence?

***GO* predicts edge presence worse than *DP***

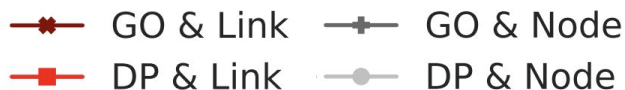


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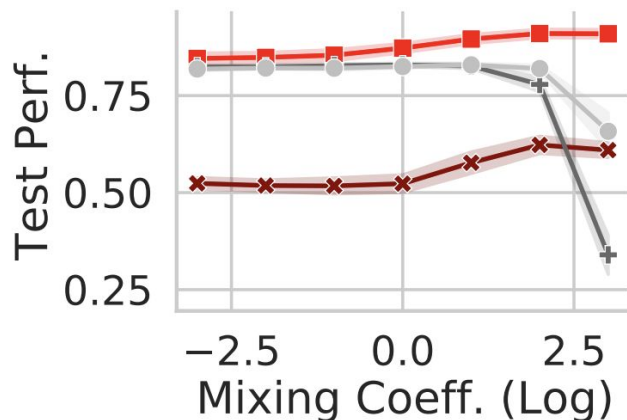


**GO attention** underperforms **DP attention** for the link prediction task



## RQ 2. Is Graph Attention Predictive for Edge Presence?

**GO predicts edge presence worse than DP**



**GO attention** underperforms **DP attention** for the link prediction task

Node classification performance decreases when we give too much self-supervision to **GO** and **DP** attention



## RQ 1&2. How Proper Are Classic Attentions for Self-Supervision?

***GO & DP* are not proper for encoding self-supervision,  
we need more advanced versions: *MX & SD***

# Contribution

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Present models with self-supervised attention using edge information:  
SuperGAT

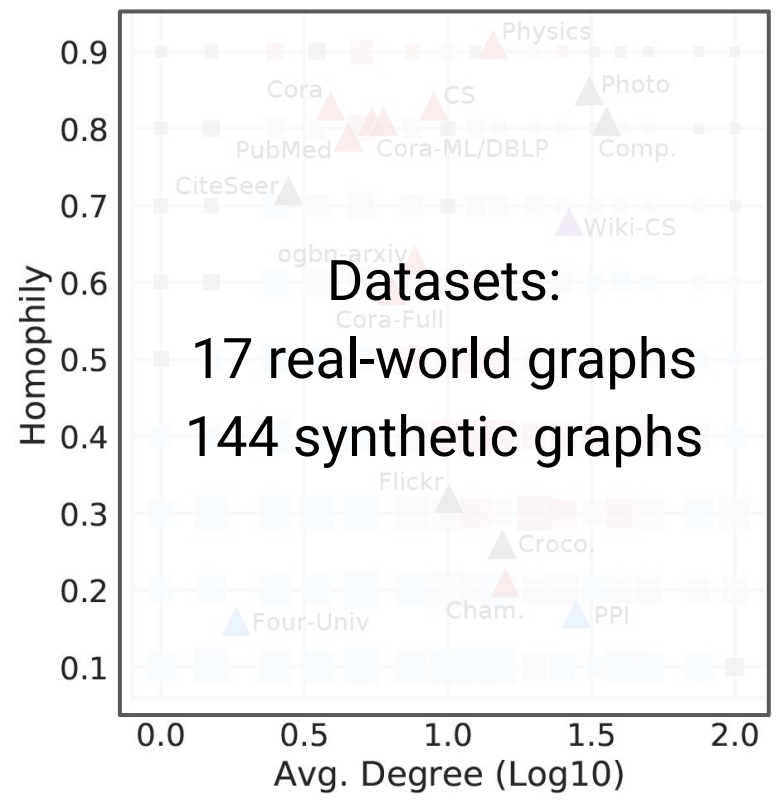
2

Analyze GAT's original (GO) and Dot-product (DP) attention: GO is better than DP in label-agreement, but DP is better than GO in link prediction

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Propose recipes to design graph attention concerning homophily and average degree and confirm its validity

# RQ 3&4. What graph attention design should we use?



	Synthetic	Real-world
MX is the best	■	▲
SD is the best	■	▲
No significant difference* between MX and SD	■	▲
No significant difference* between all models	■	▲

**Four models:**  
 GCN, GAT, SuperGAT MX & SD

\*significance:  $p\text{-value} \leq .05$

# RQ 3&4. What graph attention design should we use?

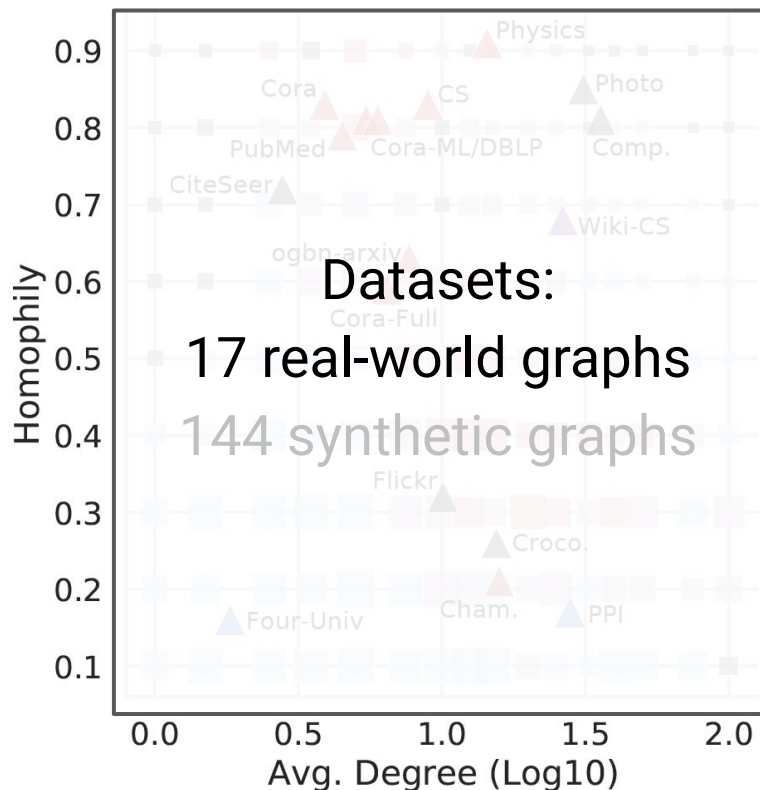
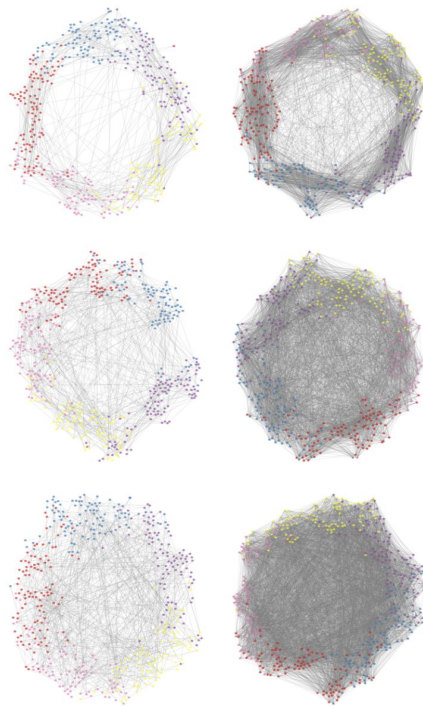
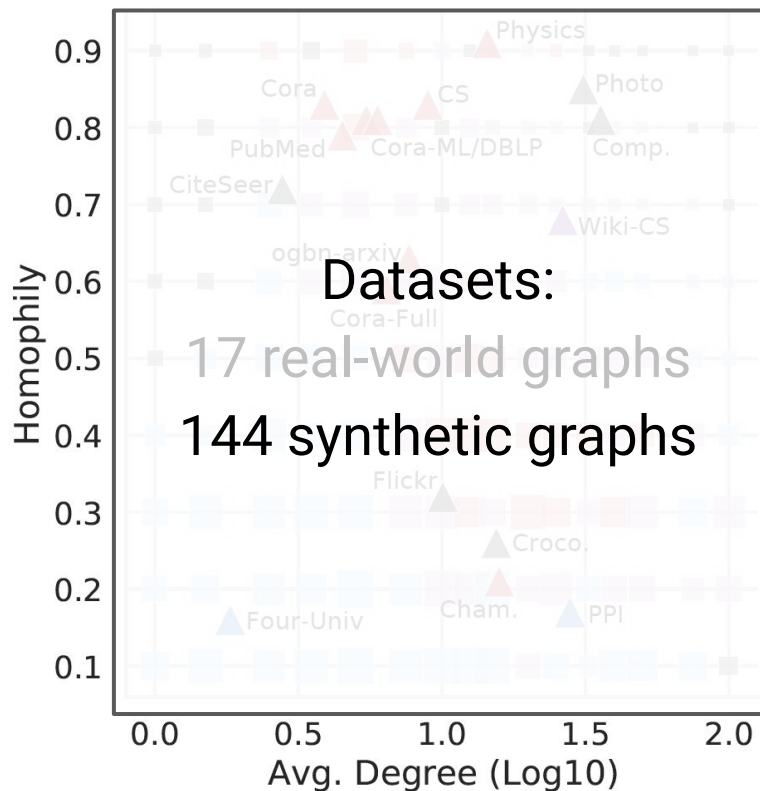


Table 4: Average degree and homophily of real-world graphs.

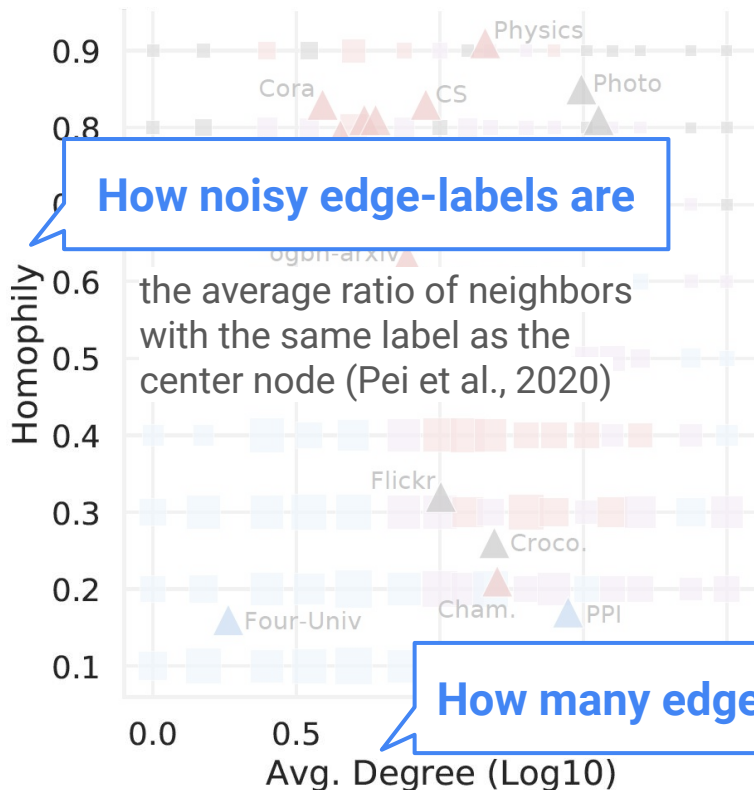
Dataset	Degree	Homophily
Four-Univ	$1.83 \pm 1.71$	0.16
PPI	$28.0 \pm 39.26$	0.17
Chameleon	$15.85 \pm 18.20$	0.21
Crocodile	$15.48 \pm 15.97$	0.26
Flickr	$10.08 \pm 31.75$	0.32
Cora-Full	$6.41 \pm 8.79$	0.59
ogbn-arxiv	$7.68 \pm 9.05$	0.63
Wiki-CS	$26.40 \pm 36.04$	0.68
CiteSeer	$2.78 \pm 3.39$	0.72
PubMed	$4.50 \pm 7.43$	0.79
Cora-ML	$5.45 \pm 8.24$	0.81
DBLP	$5.97 \pm 9.35$	0.81
Computers	$35.76 \pm 70.31$	0.81
Cora	$3.90 \pm 5.23$	0.83
CS	$8.93 \pm 9.11$	0.83
Photo	$31.13 \pm 47.27$	0.85
Physics	$14.38 \pm 15.57$	0.91

# RQ 3&4. What graph attention design should we use?



Random Partition Graphs:  
 If the nodes have the same class labels, they are connected with  $p_{in}$ , and otherwise, they are connected with  $p_{out}$

# RQ 3&4. What graph attention design should we use?



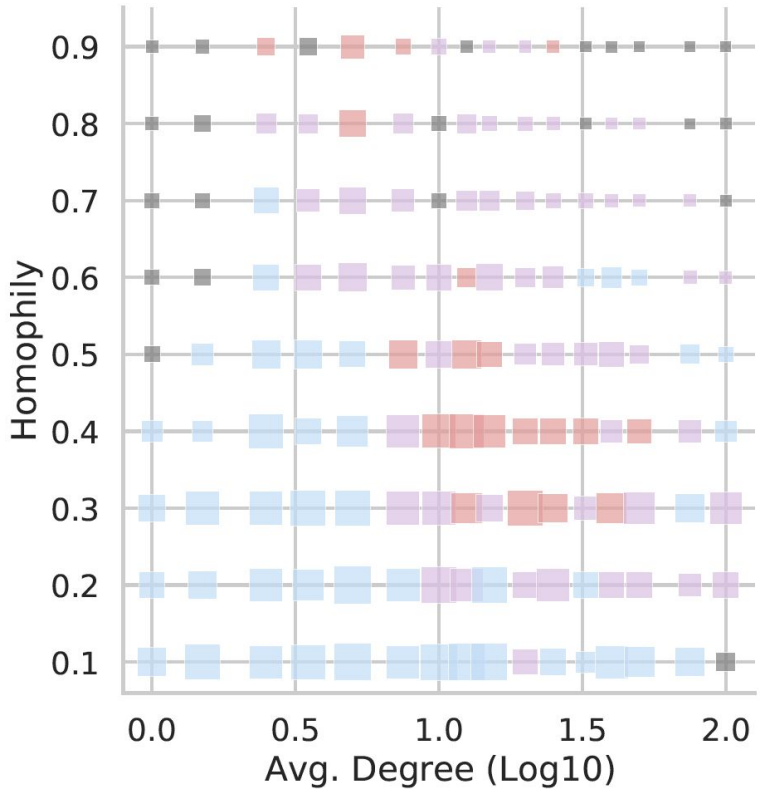
**Best-performed attention depends on homophily & average degree**

	Synthetic	Real-world
MX is the best	■	▲
SD is the best	■	▲
No significant difference* between MX and SD	■	▲
No significant difference* when all models	■	▲

\*Significance:  $p\text{-value} \leq .05$



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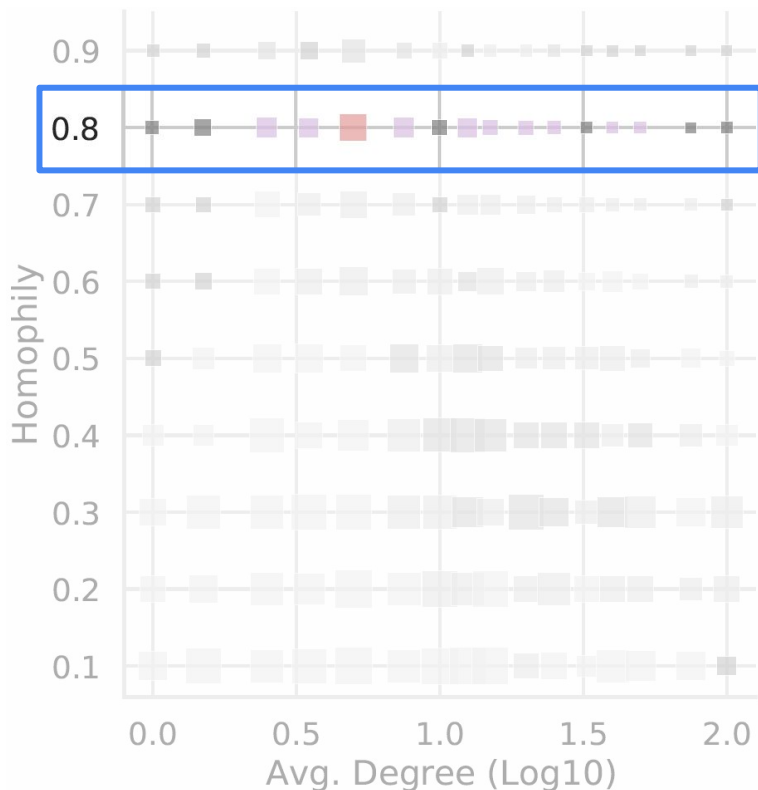


**Best-performed attention depends on *homophily & average degree***

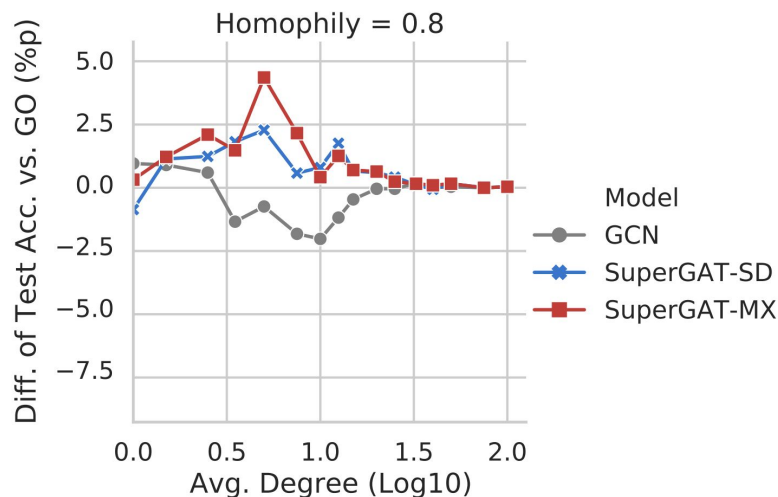
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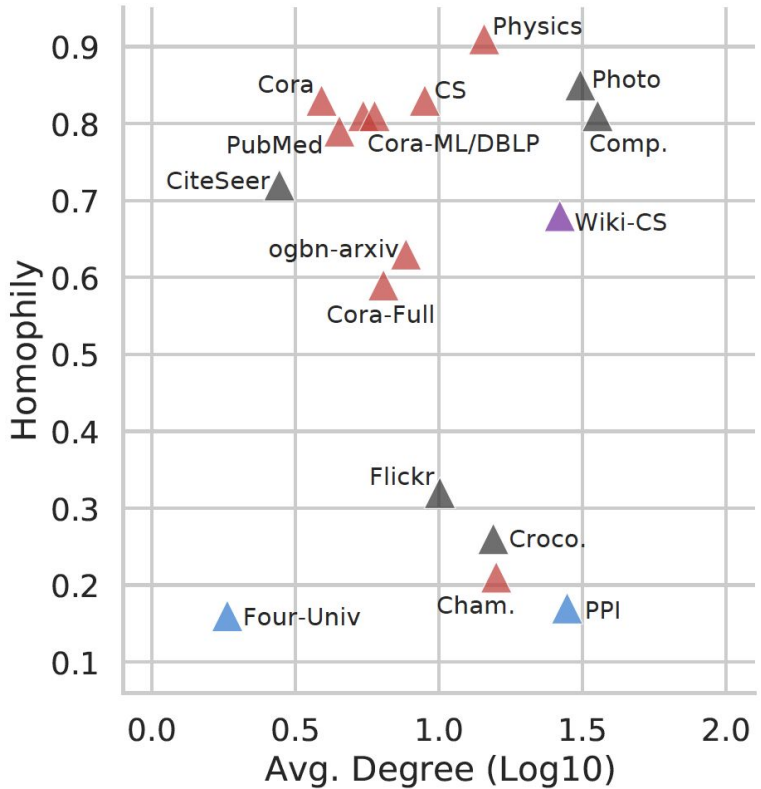
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**Best-performed attention depends on *homophily & average degree***



# RQ 3&4. What graph attention design should we use?

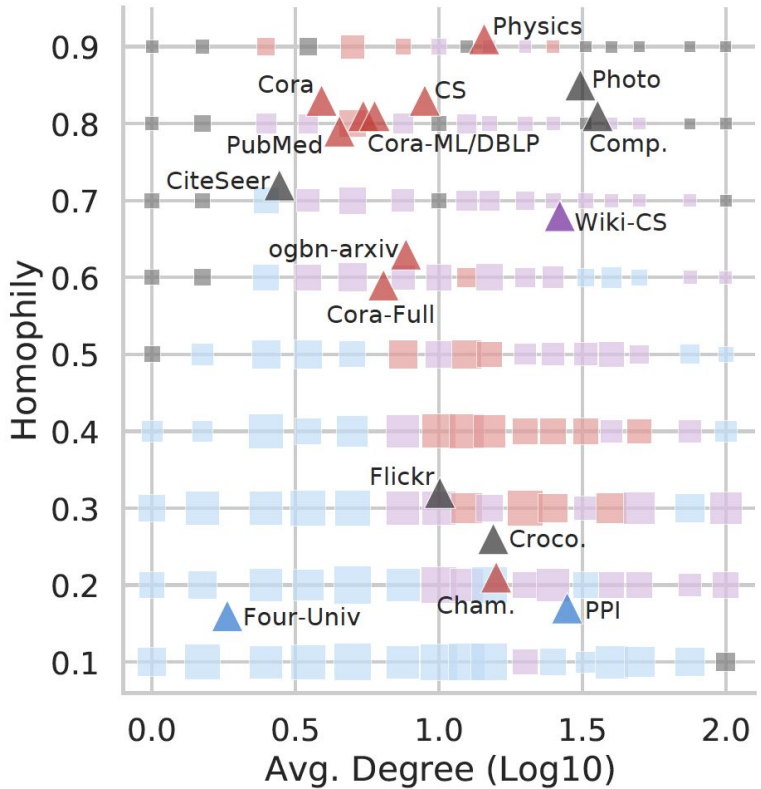


**Best-performed attention depends on homophily & average degree**

	Synthetic	Real-world
MX is the best	□	▲
SD is the best	□	▲
No significant difference* between MX and SD	□	▲
No significant difference* between all models	□	▲

\*significance:  $p\text{-value} \leq .05$

# RQ 3&4. What graph attention design should we use?



**Best-performed attention depends on homophily & average degree**

	Synthetic	Real-world
MX is the best	Red square	Red triangle
SD is the best	Blue square	Blue triangle
No significant difference* between MX and SD	Purple square	Purple triangle
No significant difference* between all models	Grey square	Grey triangle

\*significance:  $p\text{-value} \leq .05$

# Summary

- 1 Present models with self-supervised graph attention using edge information: SuperGAT
- 2 Analyze GAT's original (GO) and Dot-product (DP) attention: GO is better than DP in label-agreement, but DP is better than GO in link prediction
- 3 Propose recipes to design graph attention concerning homophily and average degree and confirm its validity

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 `https://openreview.net/forum?id=Wi5KUN1qWty`

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