



# A Provable Framework of Learning Node Embeddings via Graph Summarization

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# Outline

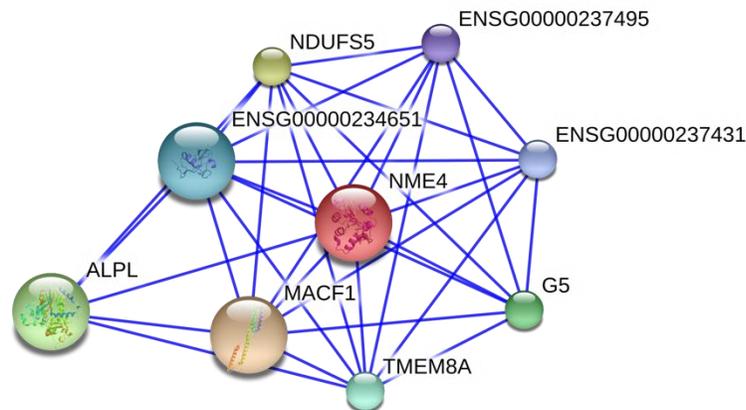
- **Introduction**
- Theory & Framework
- Experiments
- Conclusion



# Graphs are everywhere



Social Network



Protein Interaction Network



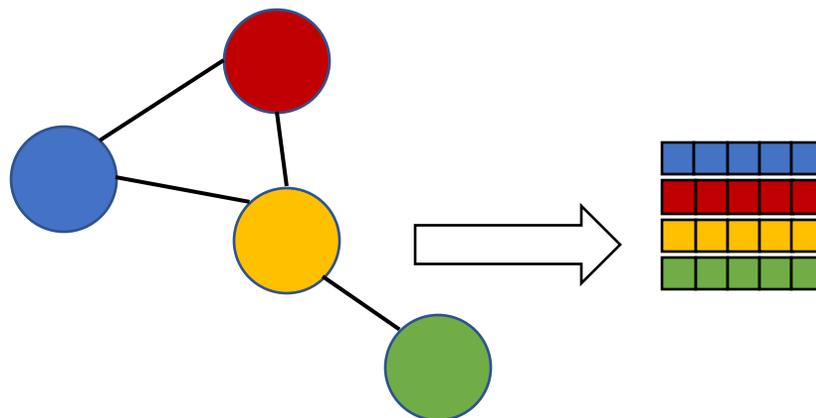
Money Transaction Network

Graphs are widely used to represent relationship between objects in various domains.



# Node Embedding

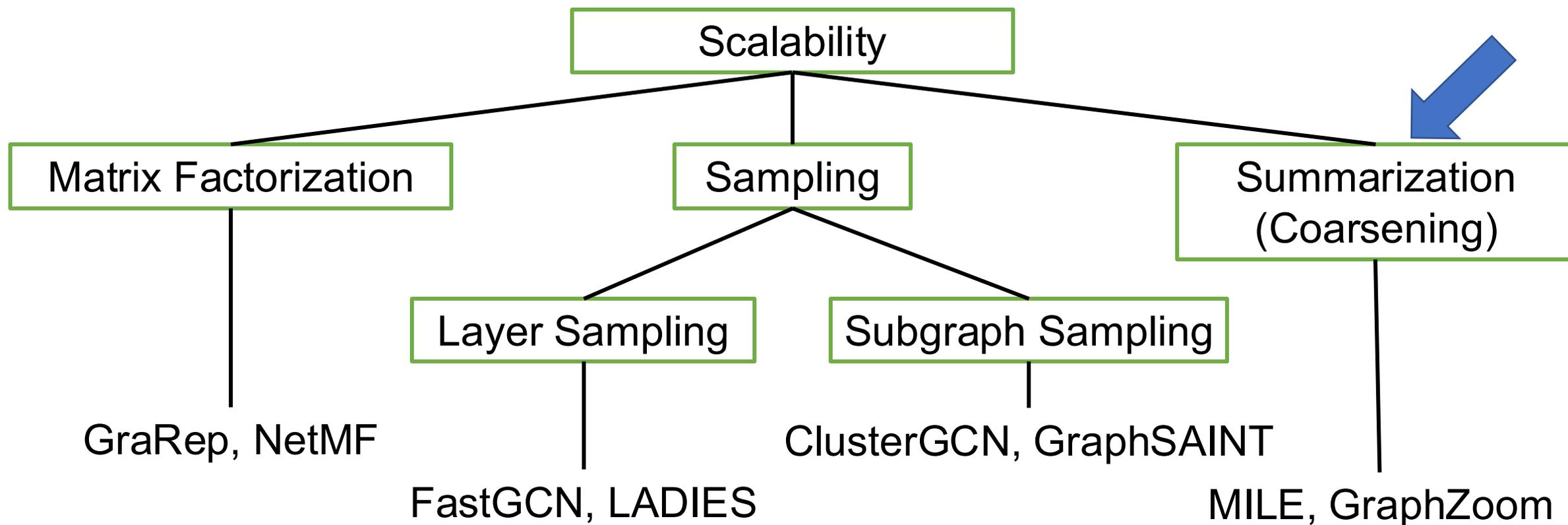
- Node embedding is a fundamental problem in graph mining.
- Node embedding methods map each node in graphs to a low-dimensional vector, called embeddings.
- Embeddings can capture structural information of nodes.
- Embeddings can be used in subsequent tasks, e.g., node classification, link prediction, anomaly detection, etc.





# Scalability

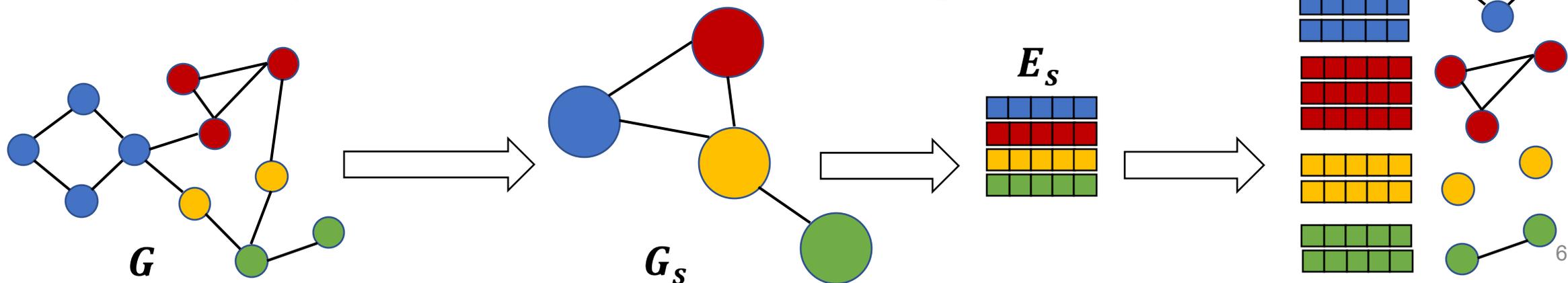
- As the network size goes larger, the scalability of embedding learning methods is a key challenge.





# Framework of learning embeddings via graph summarization

- S1: Summarize original graphs  $G$  to smaller summary graphs  $G_s$  (typically by merging nodes into supernodes)
- S2: Learn embeddings on summary graphs (faster due to the smaller size)
- S3: Restore to original embeddings (typically copy)
- S4: (Optional) Refine the embeddings

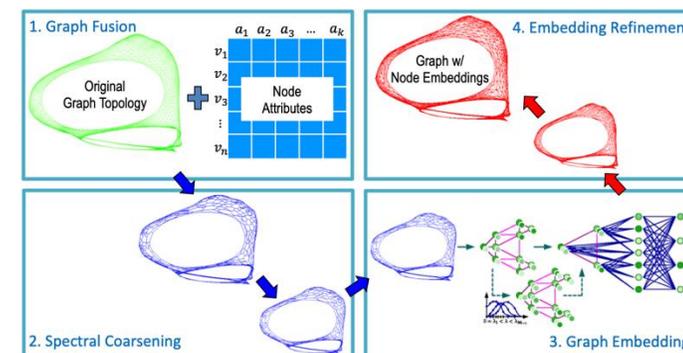
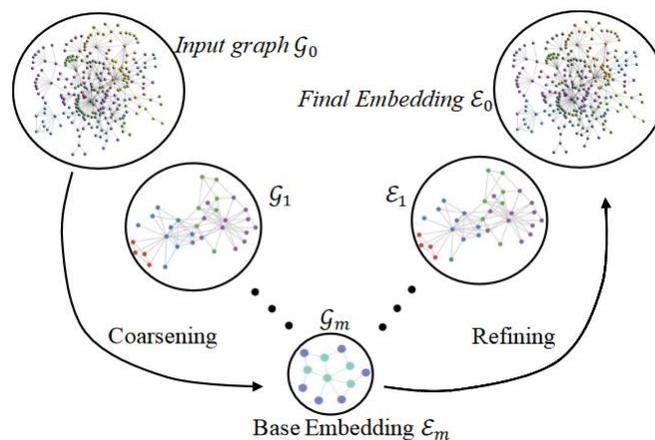
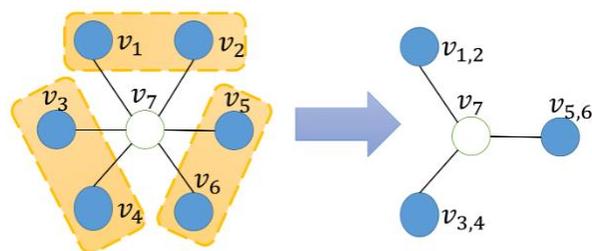


# Summarization for learning embeddings

- HARP '18

- MILE '18

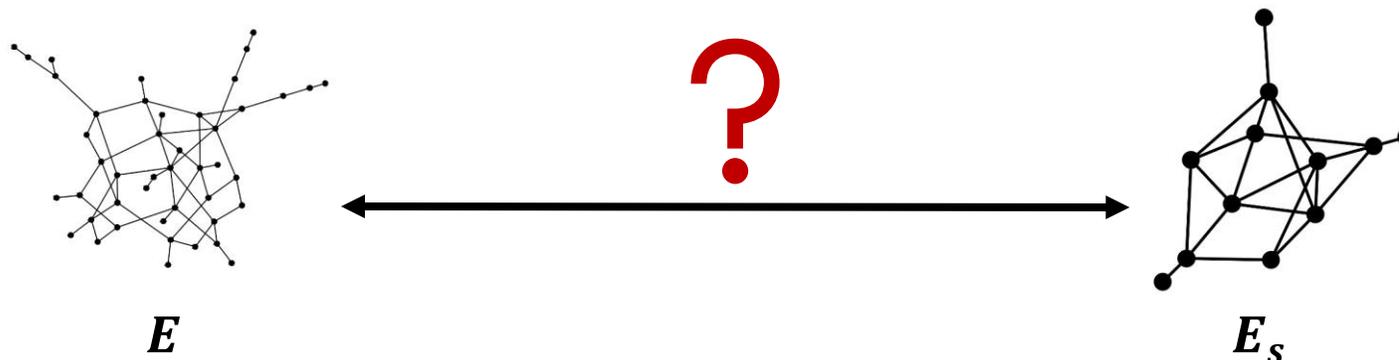
- GraphZoom '20



- They summarize input graphs and restore embeddings **empirically**, and do not investigate **the underlying mechanism**.

# Question

- What is the connection between embeddings learned on original graphs and summary graphs?
- Can we find out the theoretical connection between them?



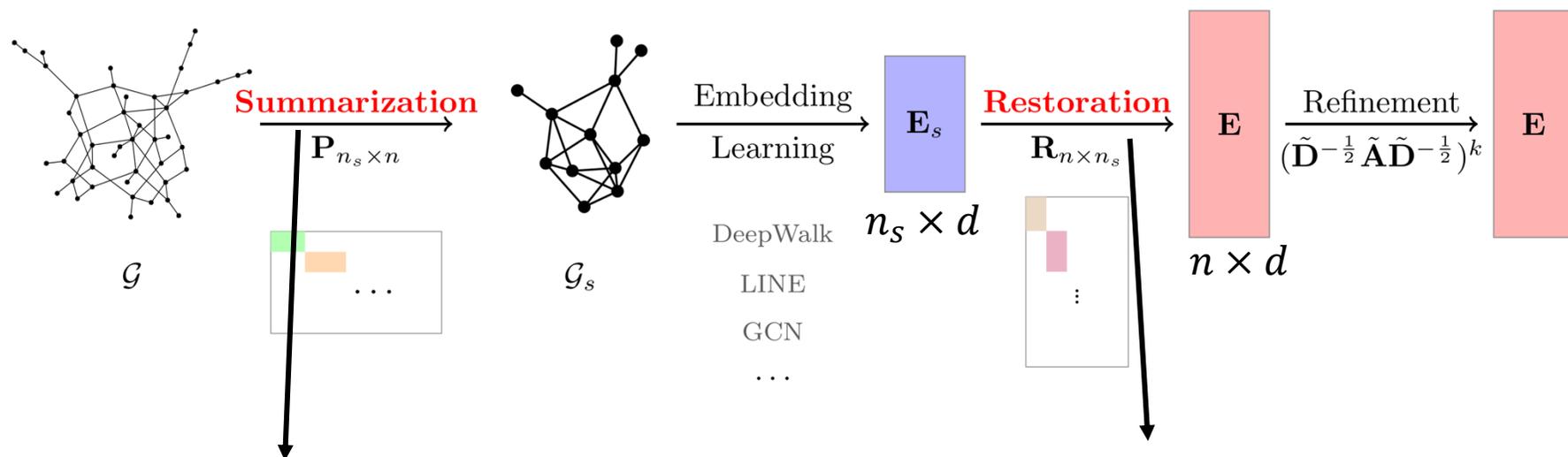


# Main Contributions

- We give theoretical analysis about learning node embeddings via graph summarization.
- Three node embedding methods: DeepWalk, LINE and GCN.
- Answer two questions:
  - How should we summarize the input graph?
  - How should we restore original embeddings from summary embeddings?

# Main Contributions

- We propose a framework, GELSumm, to learn node embeddings via graph summarization.



**Goal: Make  $G$  and  $G_r$  close.**

DeepWalk & LINE: 
$$\mathbf{R}(i, p) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } v_i \in \mathcal{S}_p \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

GCN: 
$$\mathbf{R}(i, p) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{d_i}{d_p^{(s)}}} & \text{if } v_i \in \mathcal{S}_p \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



# Main Contributions

- GELSumm can learn high-quality embeddings with less time.

Up to 8.78x faster with 2.34% performance gain.

Table 3: Node classification results(DeepWalk & LINE). Average running times and accuracy scores over 10 runs are reported. “orig” represents the results on original graphs.  $r$  stands for the relative node size. The running time includes the summarization time, the embedding learning time and the refinement time. It can be observed that GELSUMM-DeepWalk and GELSUMM-LINE obtain better results than original DeepWalk and LINE using much less time.

		DeepWalk				LINE			
		orig	r=0.6	r=0.4	r=0.2	orig	r=0.6	r=0.4	r=0.2
Cora	acc (%)	72.11	73.29	73.87	<b>74.67</b>	68.27	66.37	65.63	<b>68.79</b>
	time (secs)	107.274	59.452	39.334	<b>17.255</b>	14.246	9.313	6.233	<b>3.172</b>
Citeseer	acc (%)	46.24	48.87	48.61	<b>49.08</b>	41.36	44.81	45.15	<b>46.13</b>
	time (secs)	111.022	67.802	42.414	<b>12.641</b>	16.991	7.885	5.305	<b>3.376</b>
Pubmed	acc (%)	72.35	73.31	73.93	<b>74.05</b>	68.51	69.74	<b>71.40</b>	69.86
	time (secs)	875.838	523.848	359.602	<b>175.897</b>	112.067	65.563	50.331	<b>31.578</b>
Flickr	acc (%)	53.19	<b>53.36</b>	53.02	52.87	51.47	<b>52.42</b>	52.26	50.72
	time (secs)	6142.00	3203.27	2095.68	<b>1439.87</b>	528.04	270.05	168.74	<b>92.12</b>



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# Kernel matrix

- Analyzed methods: DeepWalk, LINE, and GCN
- To analyze them simultaneously, we first unify them with the following kernel matrix form:

$$\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}) := (D^{-c} A D^{-1+c})^\tau D^{1-2c}$$

	<b>Method</b> $\mathcal{M}$	<b>Kernel matrix</b> $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G})$	
$c = 1: (D^{-1} A)^\tau D^{-1}$	DeepWalk LINE	$(\mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{A})^\tau \mathbf{D}^{-1}$ $\mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-1}$	} [Qiu2018]
$c = \frac{1}{2}: (D^{-\frac{1}{2}} A D^{-\frac{1}{2}})^\tau$			



# Main conclusion: Kernel matrix approximation

- Learning embeddings on original graphs:  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G})$
- Learning embeddings on summary graphs:  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}_s)$
- We prove the following relationship between them:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}) &:= (\mathbf{D}^{-c} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-1+c})^\top \mathbf{D}^{1-2c} \\ &\approx (\mathbf{D}^{-c} \mathbf{A}_r \mathbf{D}^{-1+c})^\top \mathbf{D}^{1-2c} = \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}_r) = \mathbf{R} \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}_s) \mathbf{R}^\top \end{aligned}$$

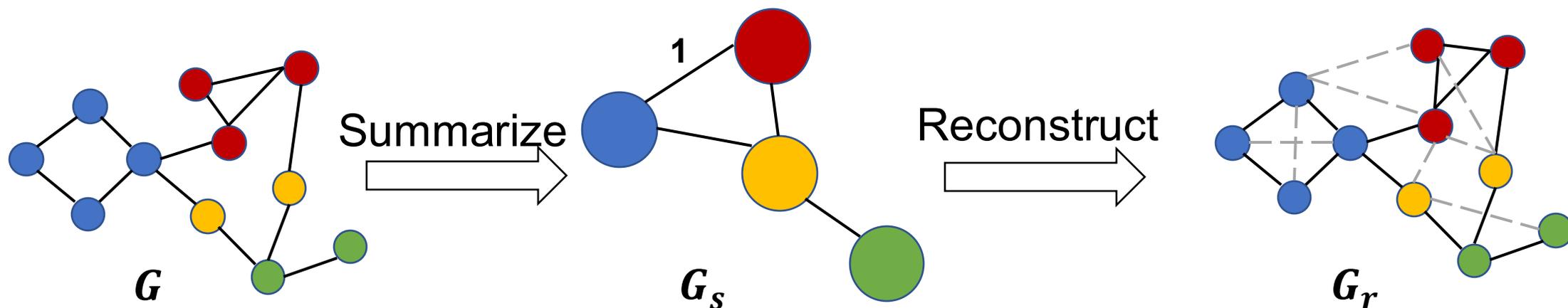
Reconstructed graph

$$\mathbf{R}(i, p) = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{d_i}{d_p^{(s)}} \right)^{1-c} & \text{if } v_i \in \mathcal{S}_p \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

- Detailed proof can be found in the paper.

# Proof: Reconstructed graph

- Detailed connection between supernodes are lost.
- Reconstruct edges according to a predefined scheme.
- Use the configuration-based reconstruction in our analysis.





# Proof: Reconstructed graph

- Configuration-based reconstruction is based on the configuration random graph model used in modularity [Newman 2010]

$$\mathbf{A}_r(i, j) = \frac{d_i}{d_p^{(s)}} \mathbf{A}_s(p, q) \frac{d_j}{d_q^{(s)}}$$

Connection weight between supernode  $S_p$  and  $S_q$

Node  $j$ 's degree proportion in supernode  $S_q$

$$v_i \in S_p, v_j \in S_q$$

Node  $i$ 's degree proportion in supernode  $S_p$

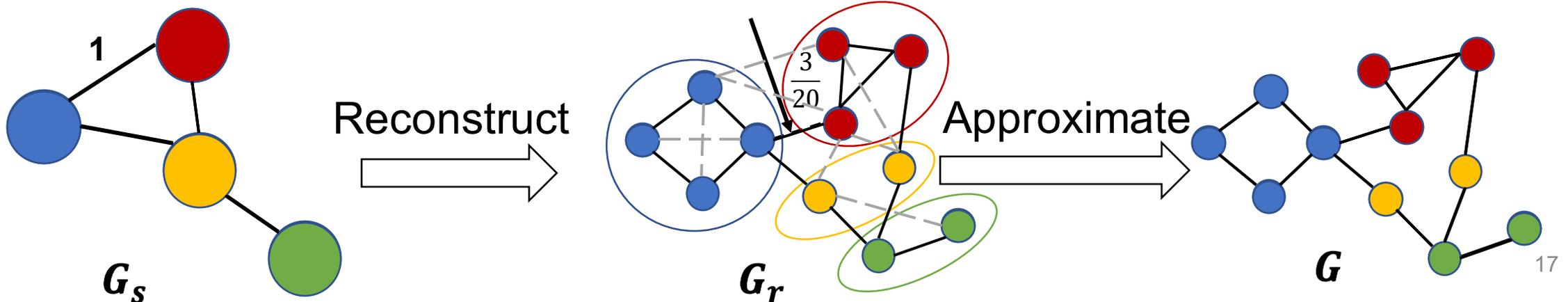
node  $i$  in supernode  $S_p$ ,  
node  $j$  in supernode  $S_q$



# Proof: Reconstructed graph

$$\mathbf{A}_r(i, j) = \frac{d_i}{d_p^{(s)}} \mathbf{A}_s(p, q) \frac{d_j}{d_q^{(s)}} \quad v_i \in \mathcal{S}_p, v_j \in \mathcal{S}_q$$

$$\frac{3}{20} = \frac{4}{10} \times \frac{1}{1} \times \frac{3}{8}$$

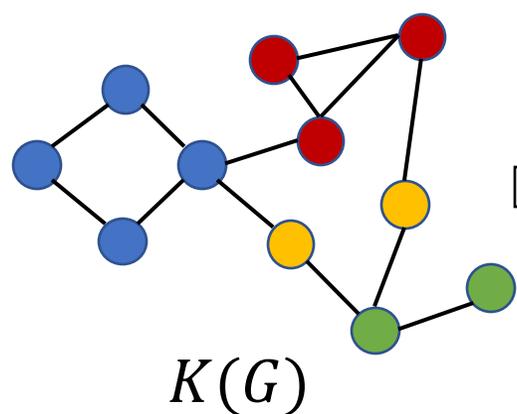




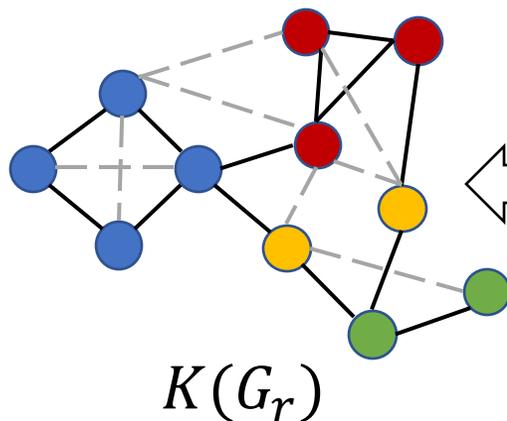
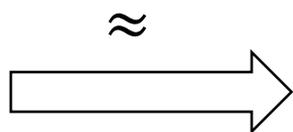
# Proof: Kernel matrix approximation

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}) &:= (\mathbf{D}^{-c} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-1+c})^\top \mathbf{D}^{1-2c} \\ &\approx (\mathbf{D}^{-c} \mathbf{A}_r \mathbf{D}^{-1+c})^\top \mathbf{D}^{1-2c} = \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}_r) = \mathbf{R} \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}_s) \mathbf{R}^\top \end{aligned}$$

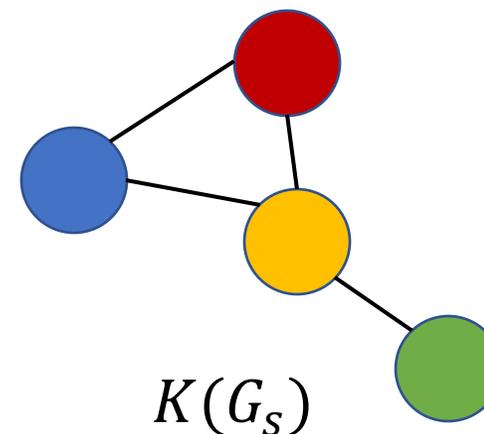
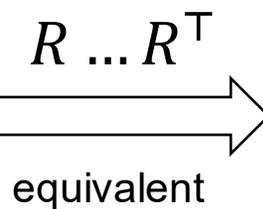
Make  $A$  and  $A_r$  close.



Learning on the original graph.



Learning on the reconstructed graph.



Learning on the summary graph.



# GELSumm for DeepWalk & LINE

- $c = 1$ : DeepWalk and LINE.
- Original embeddings  $E$  can be approximated by  $RE_s$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}) &= (\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{A})^\top \mathbf{D}^{-1} \approx (\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{A}_r)^\top \mathbf{D}^{-1} \\ &= \mathbf{R} (\mathbf{D}_s^{-1}\mathbf{A}_s)^\top \mathbf{D}_s^{-1}\mathbf{R}^\top,\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{R}(i, p) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } v_i \in \mathcal{S}_p \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 1.** *Embeddings learned by DeepWalk on the original graph  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\mathbf{E}$ , can be approximated by embeddings learned by DeepWalk on the summary graph  $\mathcal{G}_s$ ,  $\mathbf{E}_s$ , using the restoration matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  in (10), i.e.,*

$$\mathbf{E} \approx \mathbf{R} \mathbf{E}_s \quad (13)$$

Interpretation: Supernode embeddings copied to node embeddings.



# GELSumm for GCN

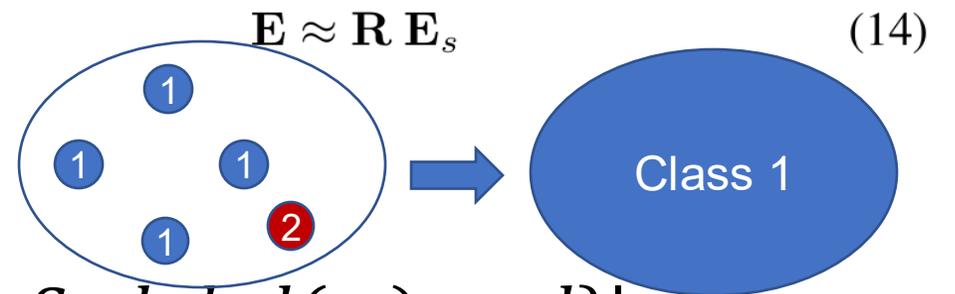
- $c = \frac{1}{2}$ : GCN.
- Original embeddings  $E$  can be approximated by  $RE_s$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{G}) &= \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \approx \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A}_r \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \mathbf{R} \left( \mathbf{D}_s^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{A}_s \mathbf{D}_s^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \mathbf{R}^T, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{R}(i, p) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{d_i}{d_p^{(s)}}} & \text{if } v_i \in \mathcal{S}_p \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 2.** Embeddings learned by GCN on the original graph  $\mathcal{G}$  can be approximated by embeddings learned by GCN on the summary graph  $\mathcal{G}_s$  with initial features  $\mathbf{X}_s := \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{X}$ , using the restoration matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  defined in (12), in a *least-square approximation* perspective:



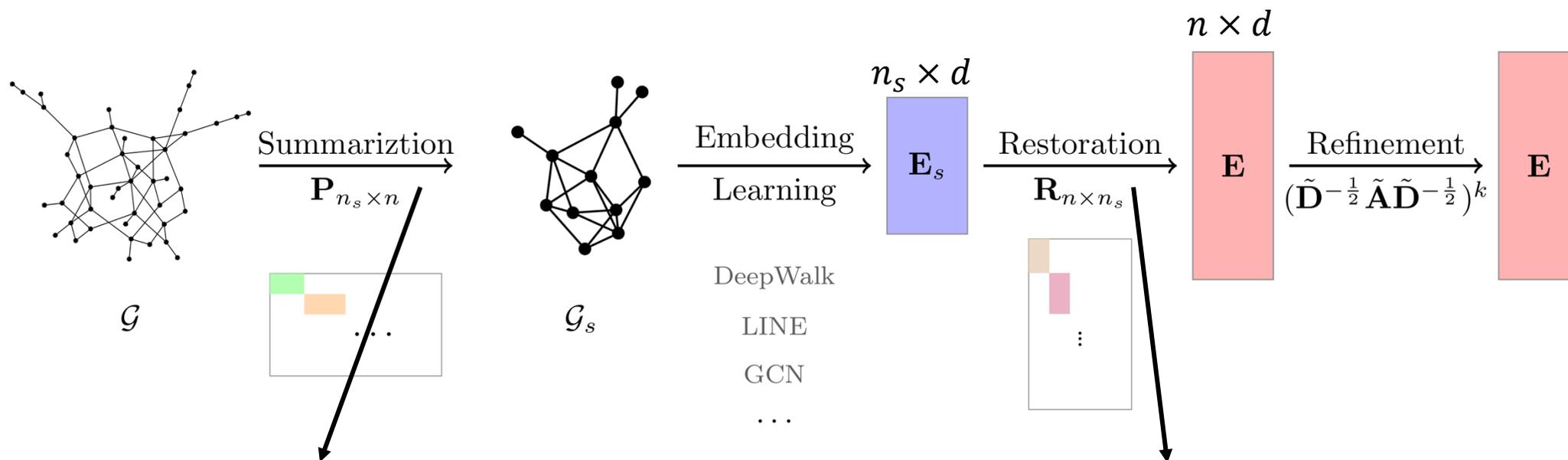
- Label of supernodes: majority vote.

$$\text{label}(S_p) = \text{argmax}_l |\{v_i | v_i \in S_p, \text{label}(v_i) = l\}|$$

Detailed proof can be found in the paper.



# GELSumm Framework



Q: How to summarize?

A: Make  $G$  and  $G_r$  close.

Q: How to restore?

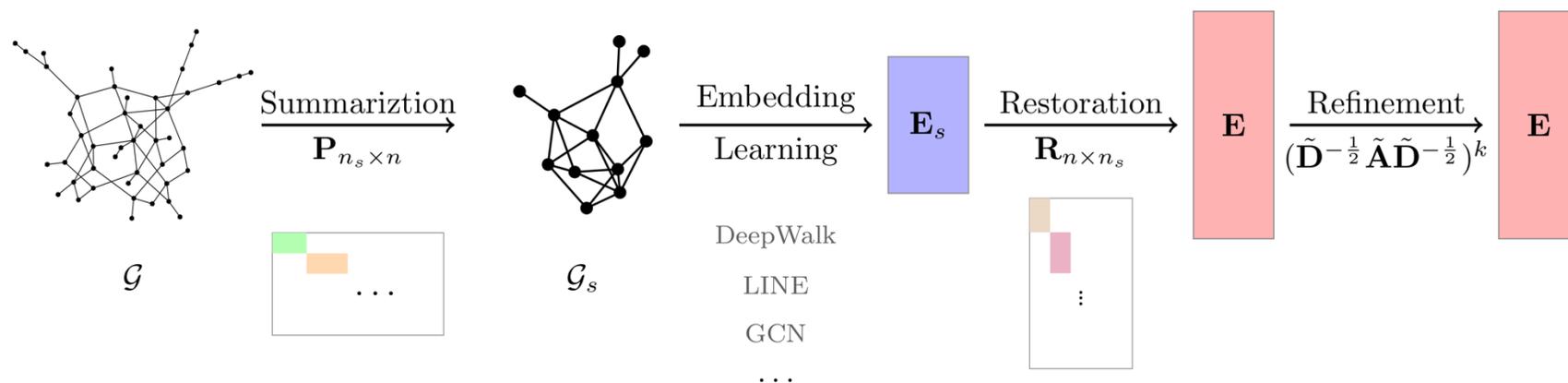
DeepWalk & LINE: 
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Reconstructed from  $G_s$  according to the configuration model.

# Four steps

- S1: Summarization. Using DPGS<sub>[Zhou2021]</sub>, a configuration-based summarization method.
- S2: Learn embeddings.
- S3: Restore the embeddings using  $R$  matrix.
- S4: Refinement using a low-pass filter  $(\tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}A\tilde{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}})^k$  [Deng2020].





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# Settings

- Datasets
  - Citation networks: cora, citeseer, pubmed
  - Social networks: flickr, reddit
  - Co-purchase network: amazon2M
- Baselines:
  - HARP
  - MILE
  - GraphZoom
- Summarization ratios: [0.6, 0.4, 0.2]



# GELSumm for DeepWalk & LINE

- GELSumm can learn high-quality embeddings with less time (up to 8.78x).

Table 3: Node classification results(DeepWalk & LINE). Average running times and accuracy scores over 10 runs are reported. “orig” represents the results on original graphs.  $r$  stands for the relative node size. The running time includes the summarization time, the embedding learning time and the refinement time. It can be observed that GELSUMM-DeepWalk and GELSUMM-LINE obtain better results than original DeepWalk and LINE using much less time.

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# GELSumm for GCN

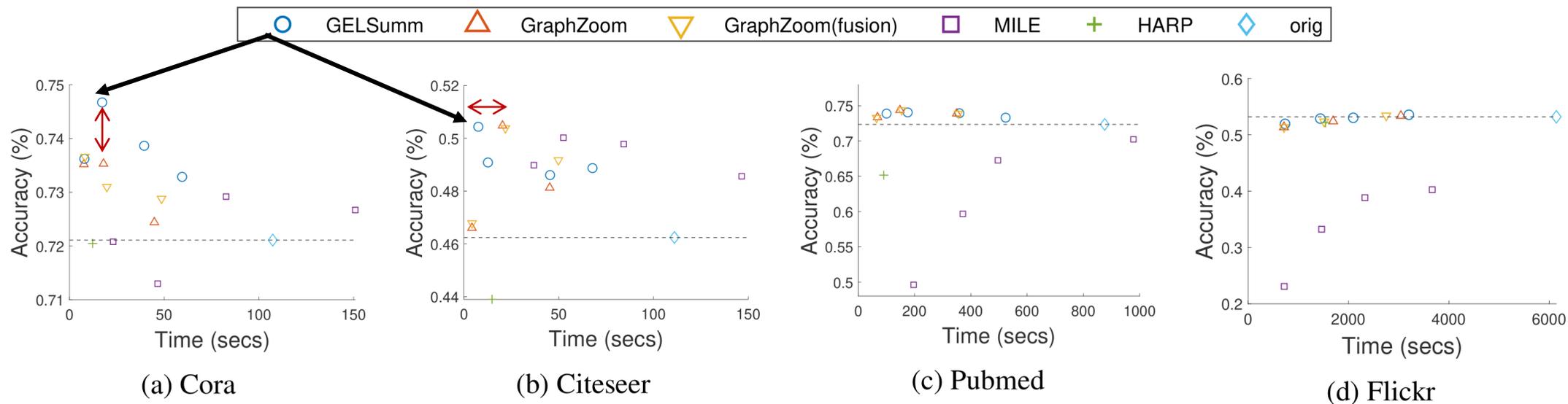
- For GCN, the performance drops slightly.

Table 5: Node classification results (GCN) on five datasets. “orig” represents the results on original graphs. Using proposed GELSUMM restoration method yields consistently better results than empirically restoration method.

		Cora	Citeseer	Pubmed	Flickr	Reddit
orig	acc(%)	80.20	69.70	78.02	52.89	94.55
	time(secs)	1.92	2.49	5.22	30.77	476.31
$r = 0.6$	GELSumm acc(%)	80.90	70.46	77.38	50.15	93.62
	Empirical acc(%)	80.64	69.94	76.88	48.75	92.55
	time(secs)	1.232	1.4	1.91	22.42	345.72
$r = 0.4$	GELSumm acc(%)	77.76	67.62	76.98	49.80	93.11
	Empirical acc(%)	77.40	66.18	76.6	48.76	87.91
	time(secs)	1.14	1.28	1.65	87.91	292.44
$r = 0.2$	GELSumm acc(%)	75.22	67.64	73.92	49.51	91.90
	Empirical acc(%)	75.24	67.64	73.72	46.15	87.97
	time(secs)	<b>1.01</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>13.16</b>	<b>253.26</b>

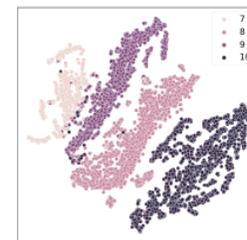
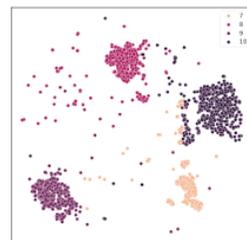
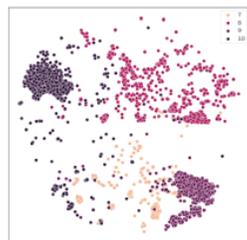
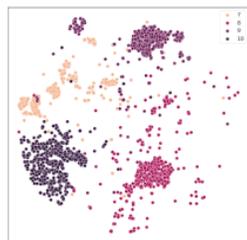
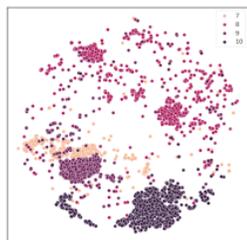


# Comparison to baselines



- Better or comparable performance with similar or less time.

# Large dataset: amazon2M



(a) Deepwalk-0.2 accuracy: 0.7441

(b) DeepWalk-0.1 accuracy: 0.7757

(c) LINE-0.2 accuracy: 0.7597

(d) LINE-0.1 accuracy: 0.7586

(e) GCN-0.2 accuracy: 0.8389

(f) GCN-0.1 accuracy: 0.8321

- Plot some node embeddings using t-sne.
- Nodes from different class are well-separated  $\Rightarrow$  high-quality embeddings.



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# Summary

- Study the problem of learning node embeddings via graph summarization and propose a framework GELSumm.
- Properties
  - Theoretical-grounded
  - Flexible
  - Effective
- Future work
  - More graph mining problems
  - More general kernel form



# Thank You!

- Email: [zhouhouquan18z@ict.ac.cn](mailto:zhouhouquan18z@ict.ac.cn)
- Code: <https://github.com/BGT-M/GELSumm>



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