

# Graph Neural Networks for Adaptive Coarsening of Graphs

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# Problem introduction

- Problem introduction
- Prior art - the HARP method
- The performance-complexity trade-off problem
- Adaptive prolongation
- Alternative approaches to coarsening
- Conclusion
- Direct adaptive coarsening
- Theoretical properties of graph coarsening
- Direct coarsening experiments
- Conclusion II

# Motivation

- Network communication → cybersecurity

# Motivation

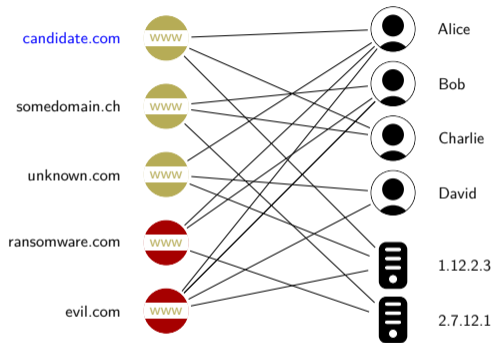
- Network communication → cybersecurity

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$t_1$	alice	candidate.com	1.12.2.3
$t_2$	bob	somedomain.ch	2.7.12.1
$t_3$	bob	ransomware.com	2.7.12.1
$t_4$	david	unknown.com	1.12.2.3
$t_5$	bob	evil.com	1.12.2.3
$t_6$	charlie	candidate.com	1.12.2.3
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$t_8$	david	unknown.com	1.12.2.3
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

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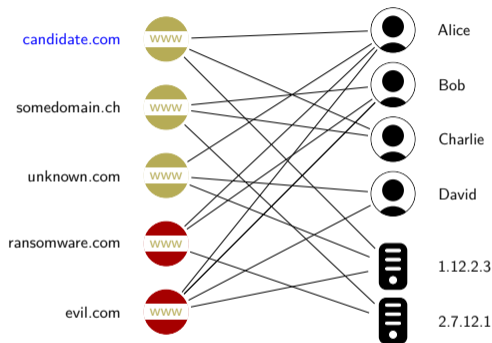
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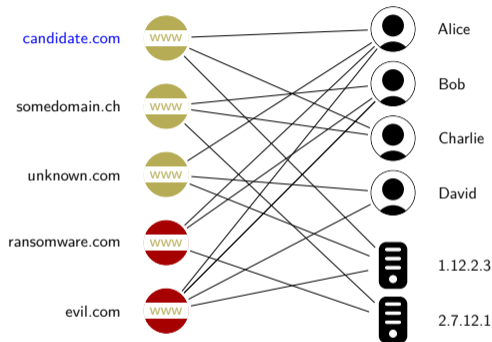


- Goal: identification of malicious domains

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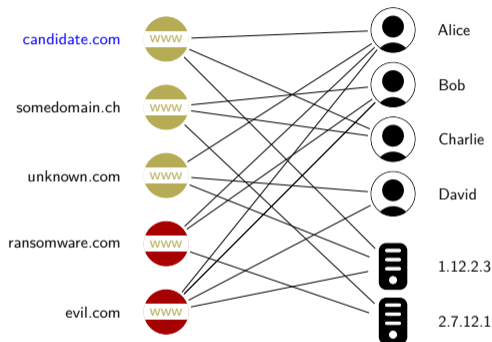


- Goal: identification of malicious domains
- Currently simple, scalable models
- State of the art: GNNs

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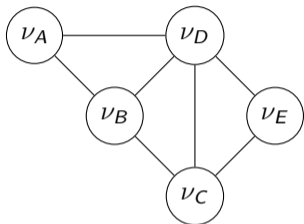
- Goal: identification of malicious domains
- Currently simple, scalable models
- State of the art: GNNs
- Problem – **complexity** required by GNNs on large graphs



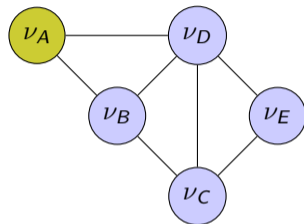
# Problem introduction

- GNNS on big graphs – computationally costly and sometimes even unfeasible.
- Suggested solution: compressing the input graph
- How much can a graph be coarsened?
- Sometimes compressed data  $\implies$  better performance

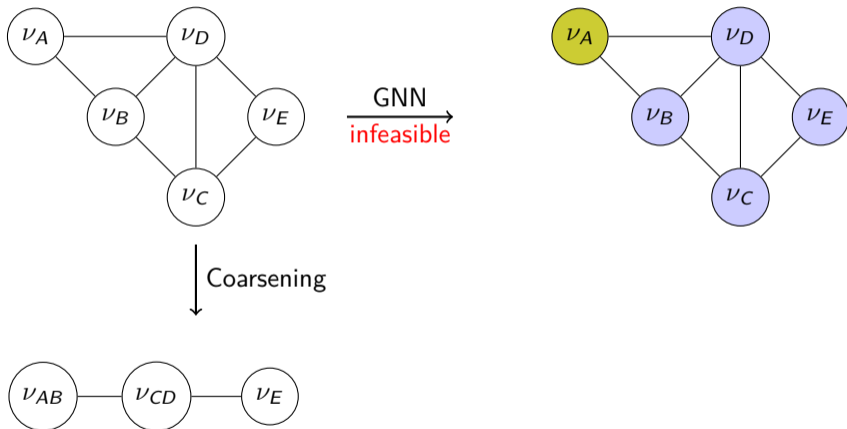
# Main idea



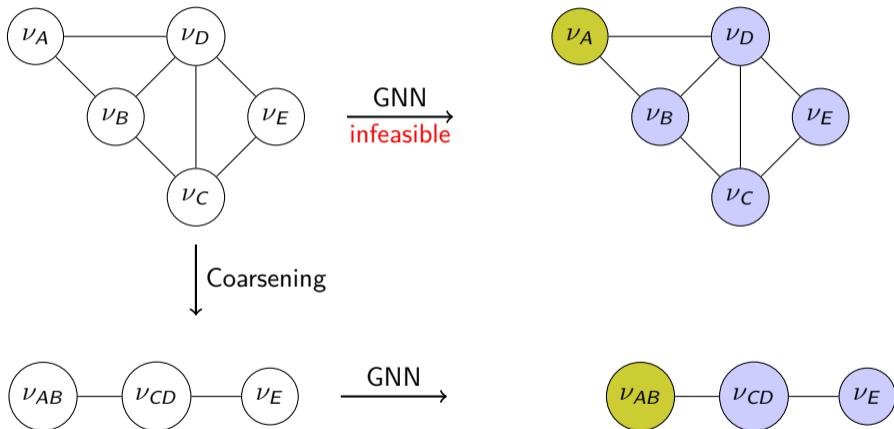
GNN  
infeasible



# Main idea



# Main idea



# Prior art - the HARP method

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- **Prior art - the HARP method**
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# HARP - learning on coarser graphs

- HARP - a method for pretraining on simplified graphs
- Simplified graphs as depicted bellow
- Embedding trained first on the coarser graph

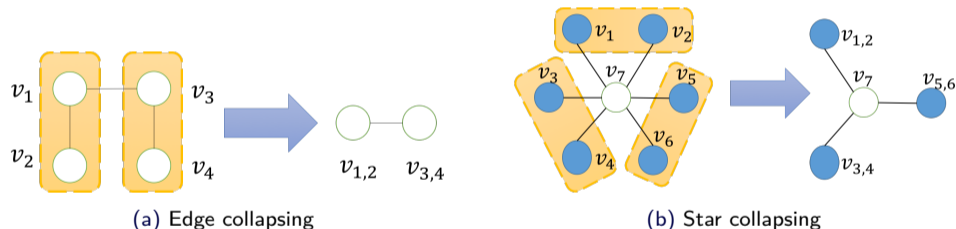
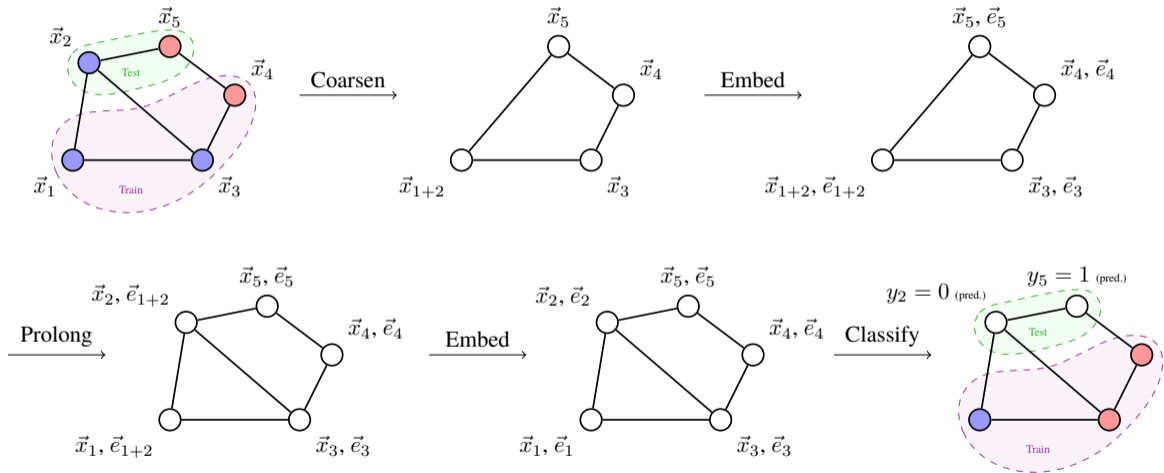
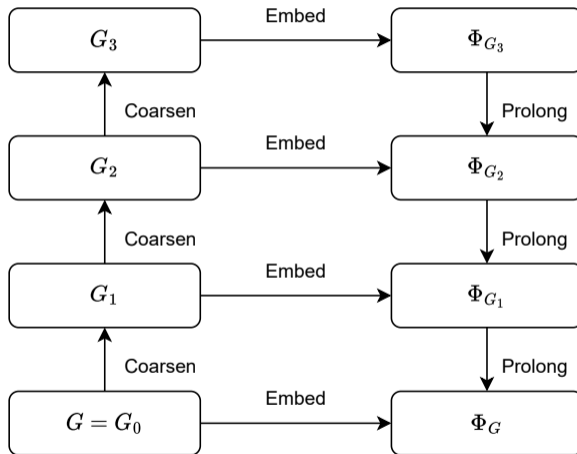


Figure: HARP coarsening algorithm. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Images from Chen et al., 2018.

# HARP pipeline overview



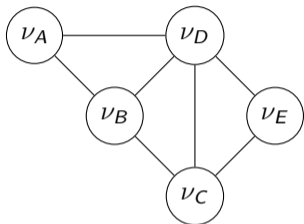




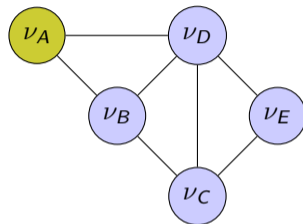
# The performance-complexity trade-off problem

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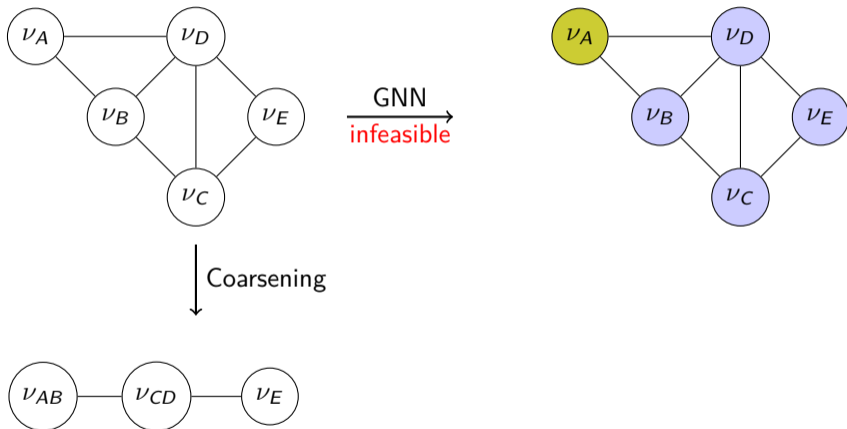
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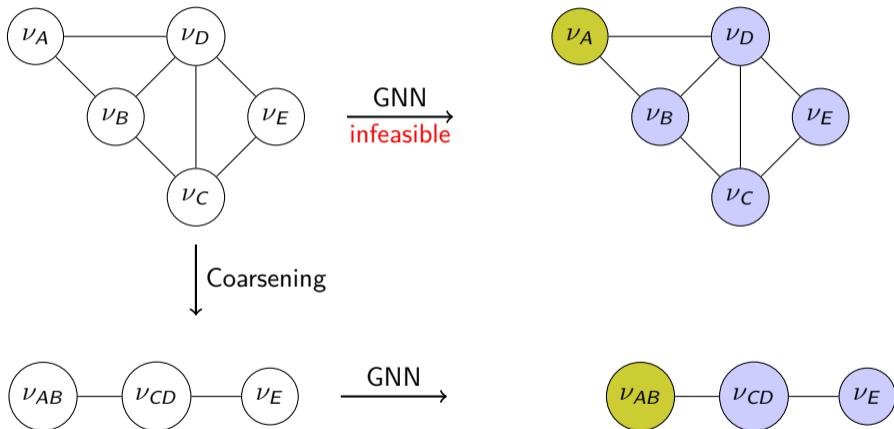
GNN  
infeasible

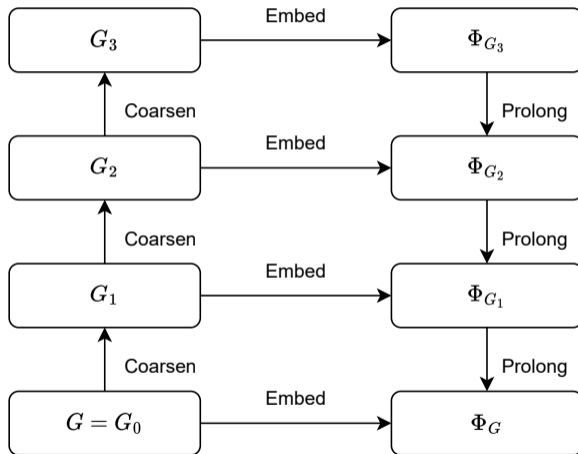


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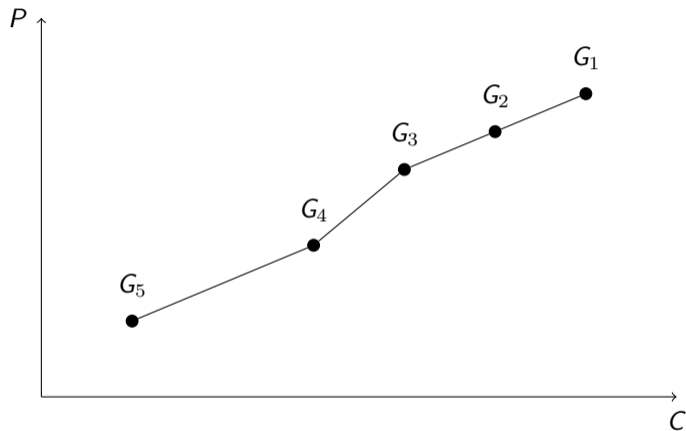


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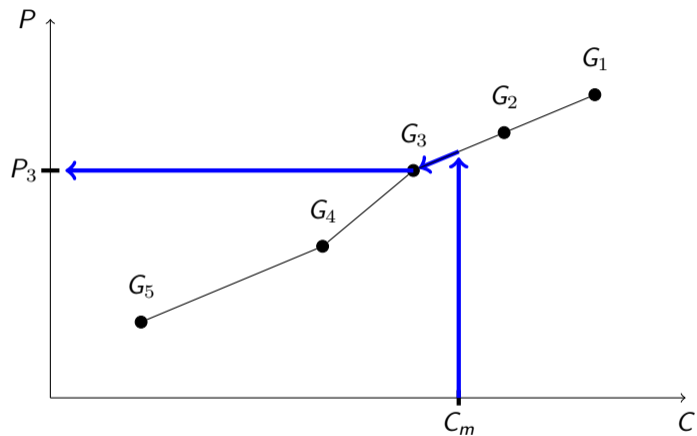




# Complexity performance trade-off

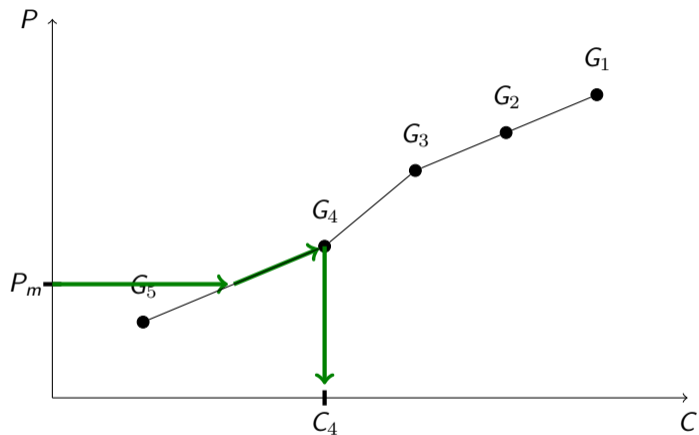


# Complexity performance trade-off



Achieving best performance  $P_3$  for complexity  $C_m$ .

# Complexity performance trade-off



The least complexity ( $C_4$ ) with performance at least  $P_m$ .



# Performance & Complexity

- Performance = classification accuracy
- Usually time & memory complexity
- In business, time translates to cost
  - ▶ More interpretable
  - ▶ Monthly budget \$100, AWS EKS costs \$0.33/hour
  - ▶ Therefore daily run can take 10 hours → select graph size accordingly
- For simplicity, complexity = node count

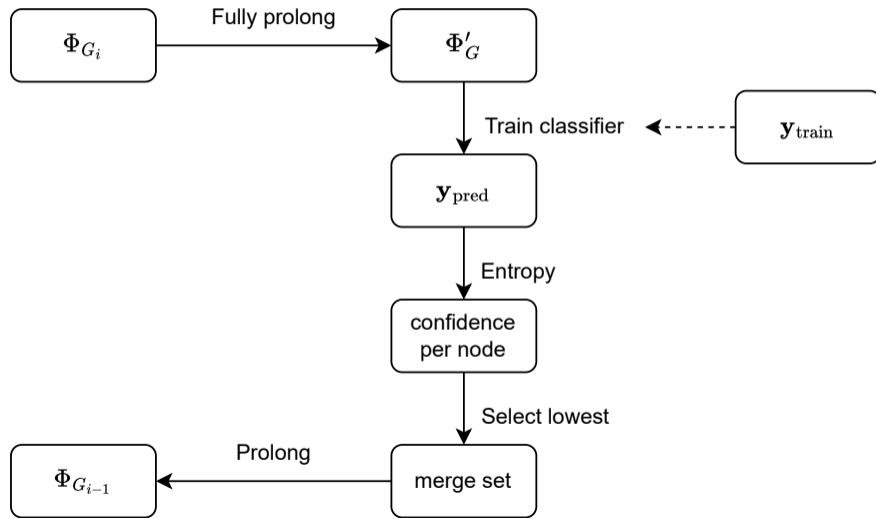
# Adaptive prolongation

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# Adaptive prolongation

- Graph prolongation (de-coarsening) micro-stepping
- Guiding the prolongation based on local properties
- Possibly results in different “model resolution” in different parts of the graph
- Evaluation – Training a classifier in each (micro) step

# Adaptive prolongation



# Adaptive prolongation - experimental verification

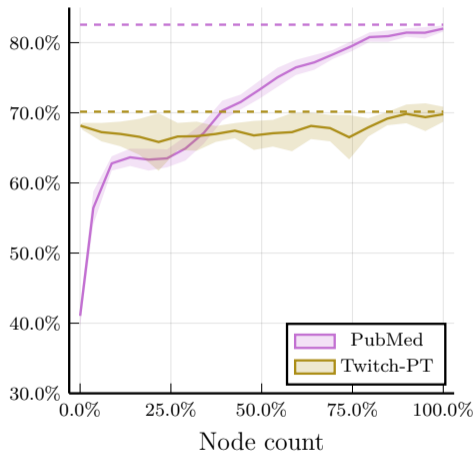
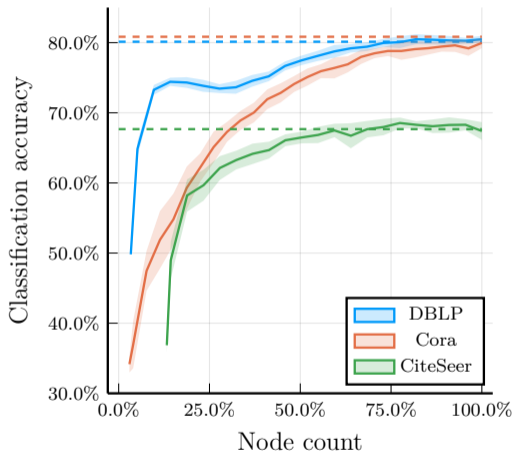


Figure: Prediction accuracy with guided prolongation.

# Alternative approaches to coarsening

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# HARP coarsening

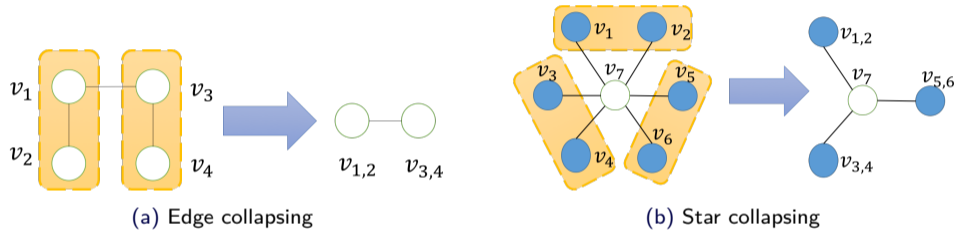


Figure: HARP coarsening algorithm. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Images from Chen et al., 2018.

# Diffusion-based coarsening

- Creating a new edge matrix  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$
- Contracting edges  $E(G_{\hat{\mathbf{S}}}) \cap E(G)$
- $\hat{\mathbf{S}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \theta_k \mathbf{T}^k$



# Diffusion-based coarsening

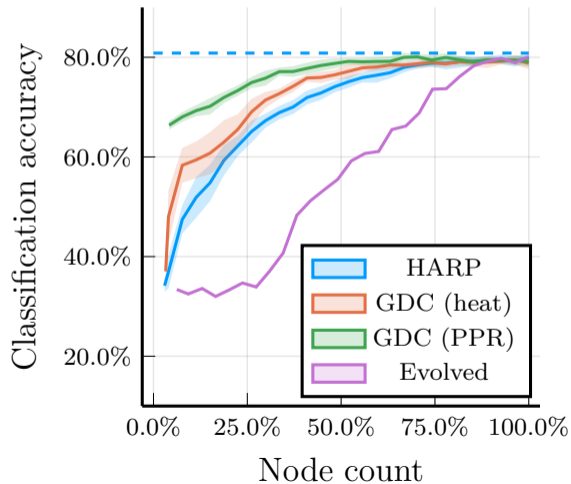
- $\hat{\mathbf{S}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \theta_k \mathbf{T}^k$
- Personalized PageRank
  - ▶  $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^{-1}$
  - ▶  $\theta_k = \alpha(1 - \alpha)^k$
- Heat kernel
  - ▶  $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^{-1}$
  - ▶  $\theta_k = e^{-t} \frac{t^k}{k!}$

# Evolved coarsening

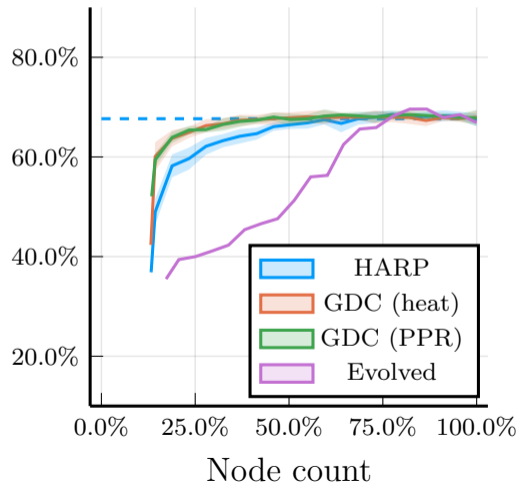
- A set of atomic coarsenings
- A coarsening candidate = sequence of atomic coarsenings
- Evolved using a simple genetic algorithm

# Experimental comparison of coarsening approaches

## Cora



## CiteSeer



# Conclusion

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- Studying GNN behaviour while coarsening a graph
- The adaptive prolongation approach – a way of studying such behaviour in detail.
- 3 alternative coarsening strategies
- A new re-formalization of HARP, allowing for a more general approach to graph coarsening
- HARP as a framework for graph reduction

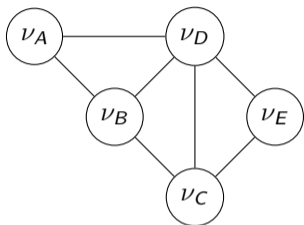
# Future work

- Investigate more datasets
- Surrogate metric for adaptive prolongation
- More thorough exploration of evolved coarsenings

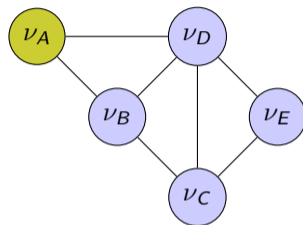
# Direct adaptive coarsening

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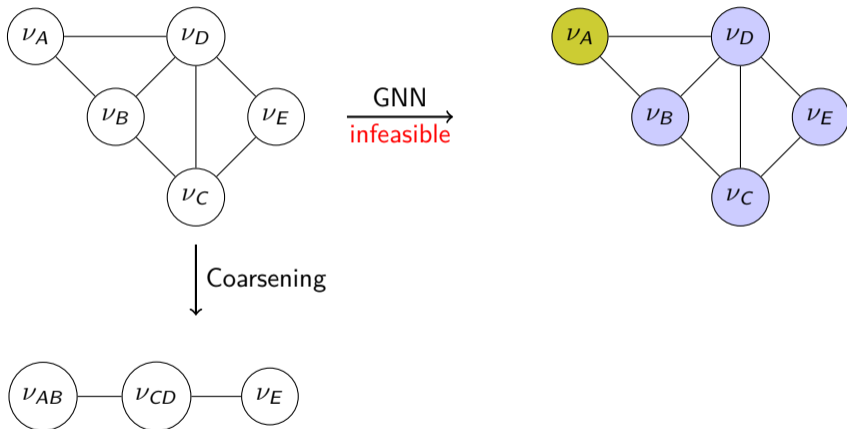


GNN  
→  
infeasible

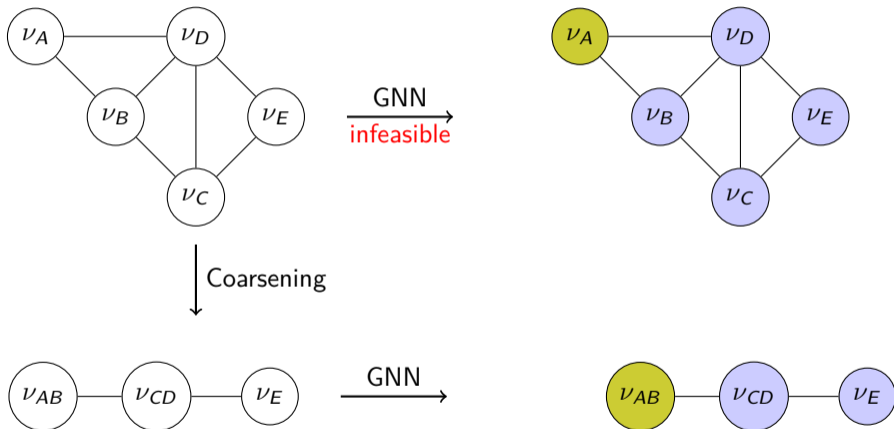




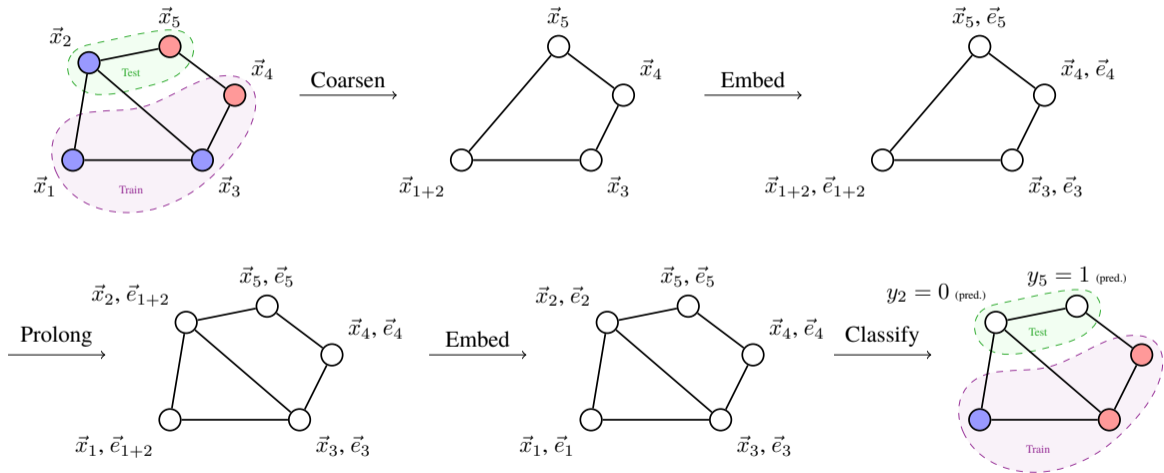
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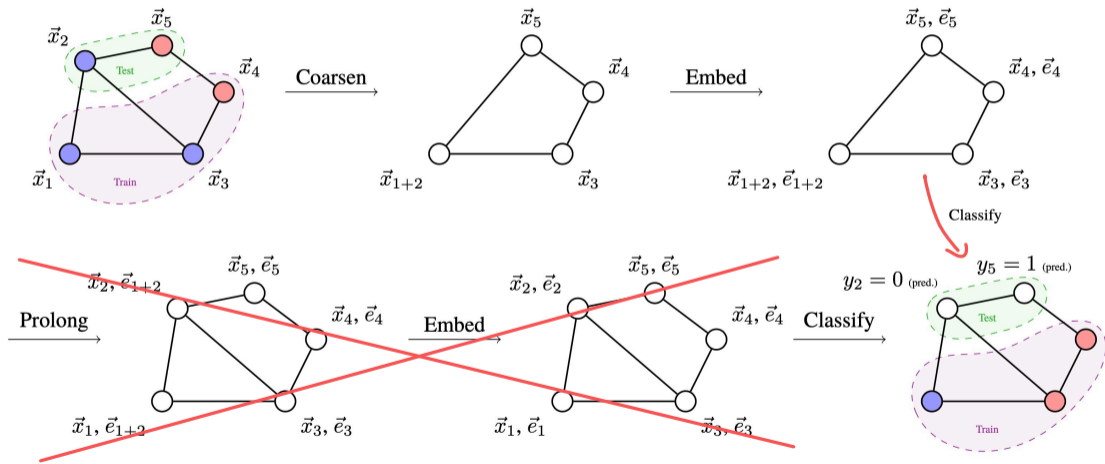
# Main idea



# HARP pipeline overview

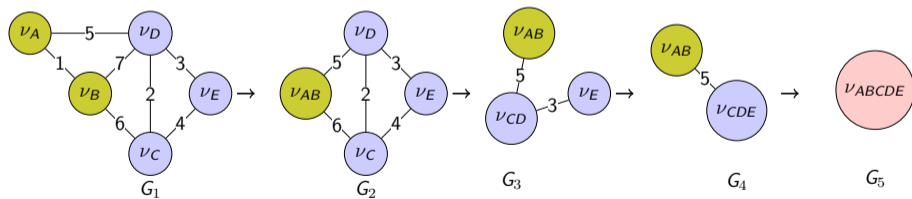


# Direct pipeline



# Details

- Base model  $\rightarrow$  posterior for all nodes
- Similarity measure
- Edge contraction  $\rightarrow$  graph sequence
- GNN on each graph with label propagation



# Theoretical properties of graph coarsening

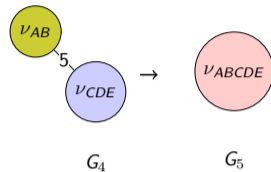
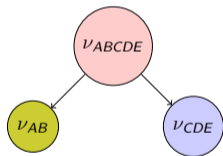
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# Edge contraction induced hierarchical tree



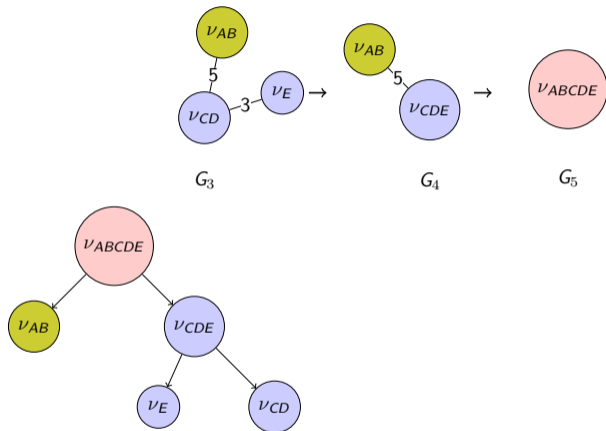
$G_5$

# Edge contraction induced hierarchical tree

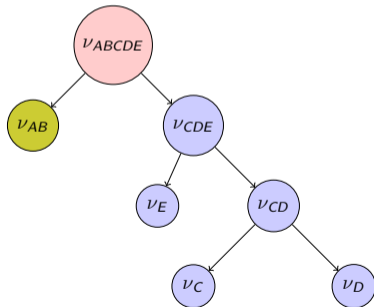
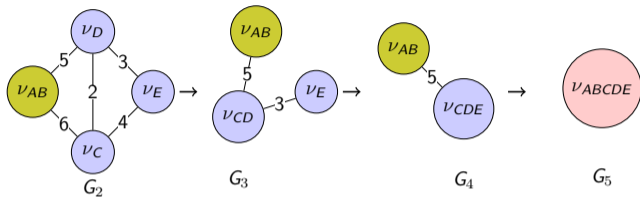




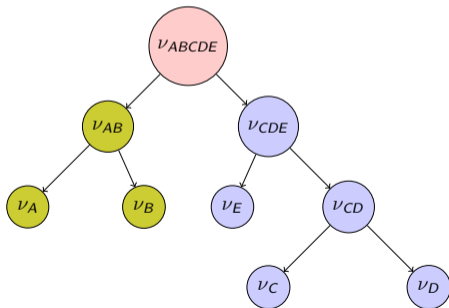
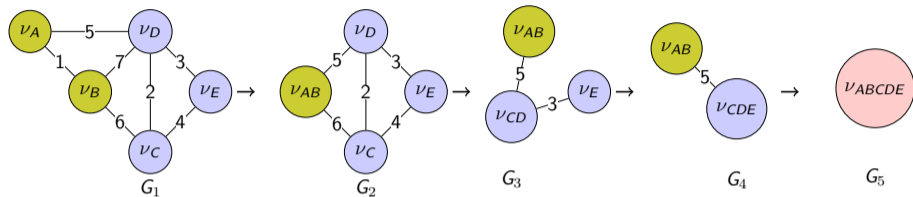
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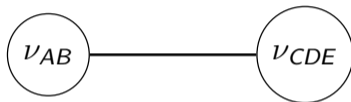


# Edge contraction induced hierarchical tree



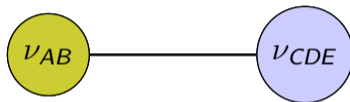
# Shared prediction induced performance upper bound

Graph  $G_4$  – the fourth step of the coarsening procedure



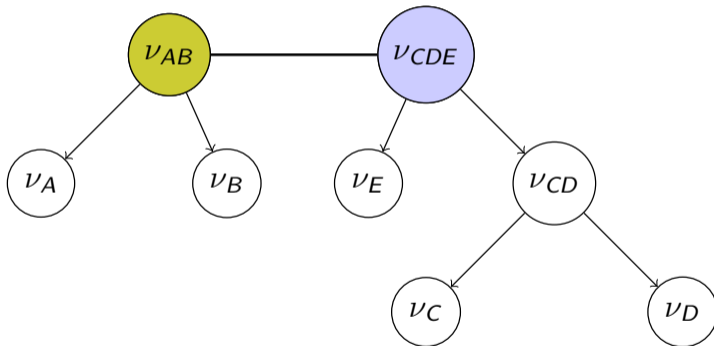
# Shared prediction induced performance upper bound

A model prediction for nodes in  $G_4$



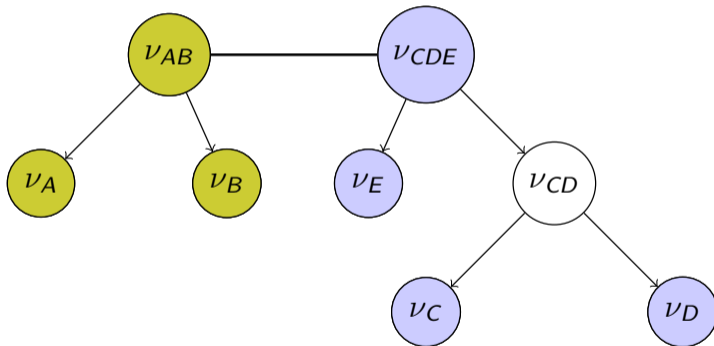
# Shared prediction induced performance upper bound

Hierarchical tree corresponding to nodes in  $G_4$



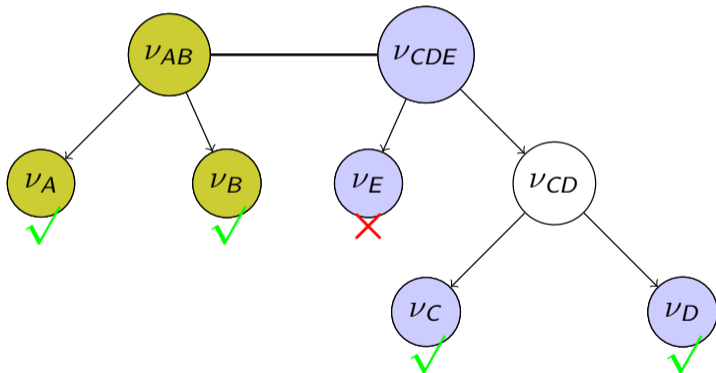
# Shared prediction induced performance upper bound

Label refinement into nodes from the original graph  $G_1$



# Shared prediction induced performance upper bound

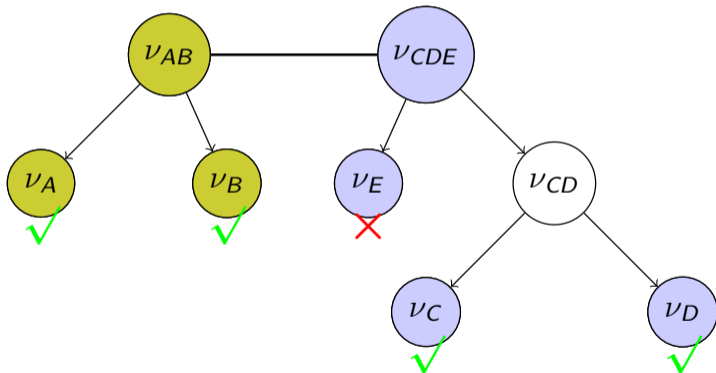
Comparing refined prediction with true labels on  $G_1 \rightarrow Acc = 0.8$ .





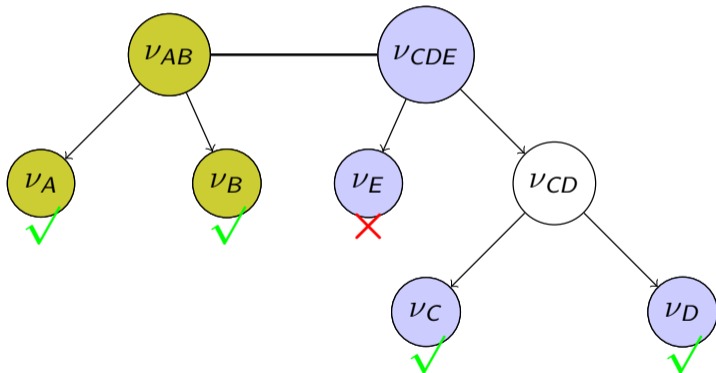
# Shared prediction induced performance upper bound

Accuracy upper-bound for  $G_4 \rightarrow \text{Acc}=0.8$



# Shared prediction induced performance upper bound

UB=1 until merging nodes with **the same label**



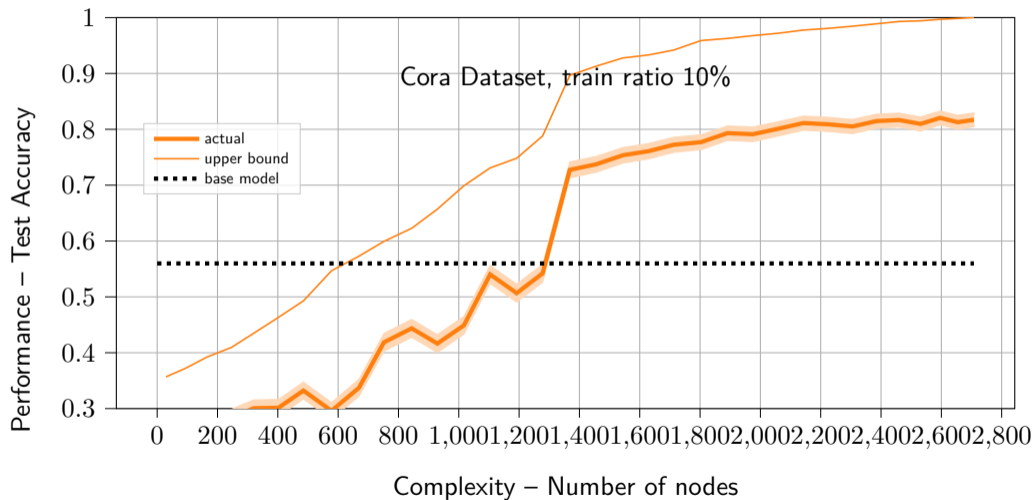
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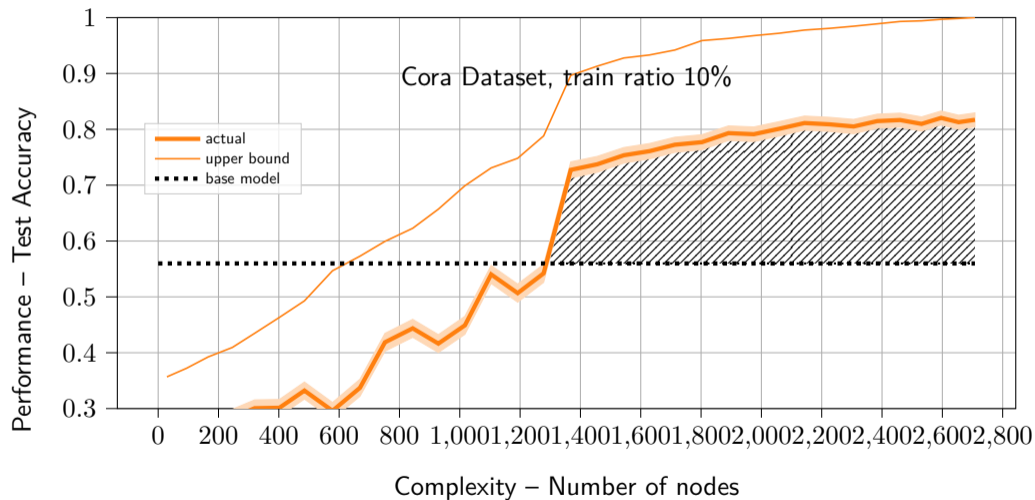
# Experiment Setup

- Base model: logistic regression
- Similarity measure: KL divergence
- GNN: 2-layer GCN
- Dataset: Cora

# Comparison of Performance Given by Probability Similarities



# Comparison of Performance Given by Probability Similarities



# Conclusion II

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# Conclusion & Future work

- Conclusions

- ▶ Hierarchical tree as a byproduct
- ▶ Computationally cheap upper bound

- Future Work

- ▶ Run on more datasets
- ▶ Run on Cisco datasets
- ▶ Investigate the validity of many ad-hoc choices in the algorithm



# Graph Neural Networks for Adaptive Coarsening of Graphs

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Machine learning seminar 2022, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2022