



VS-Graph: Scalable and Efficient Graph Classification Using Hyperdimensional Computing

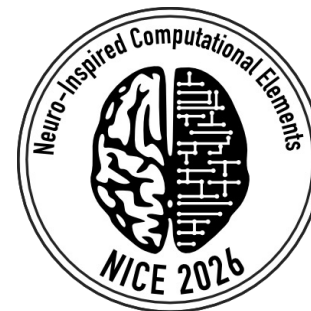
Hamed Poursiami, Shay Snyder, Guojing Cong, Thomas Potok, Maryam Parsa



Neuro-Inspired Computational Elements – NICE 2026

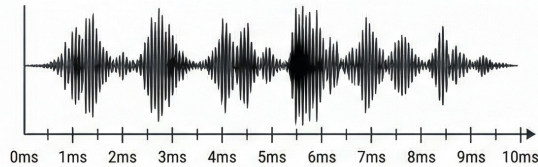
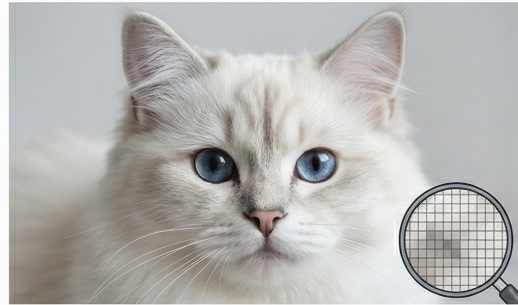


Atlanta, Georgia, USA
March 24-27, 2026



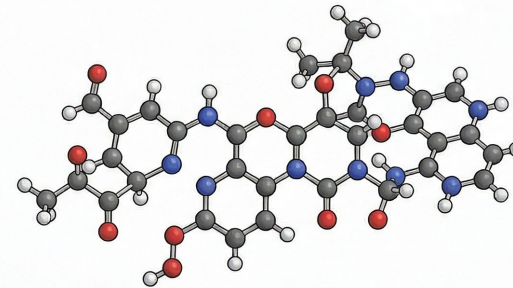
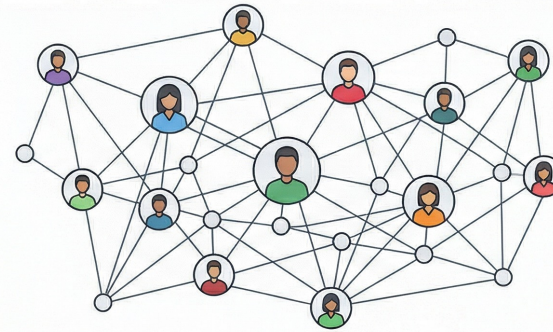
Euclidean vs non-Euclidean Data

Euclidean



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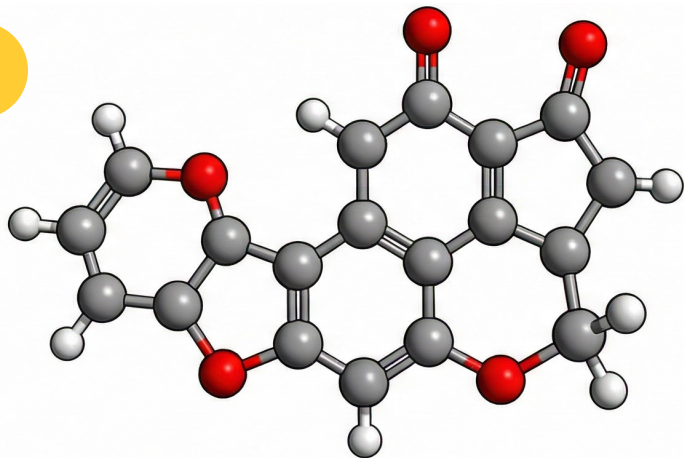
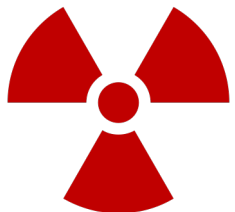
Non-Euclidean



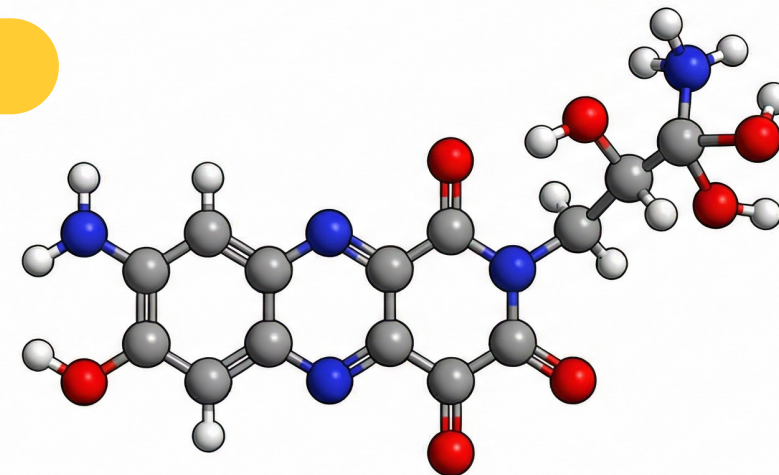
Nature Doesn't Always Live on a Grid!

Graph Classification

Aflatoxin B1



Riboflavin



Drug Discovery



Protein Function



Recommendation Systems



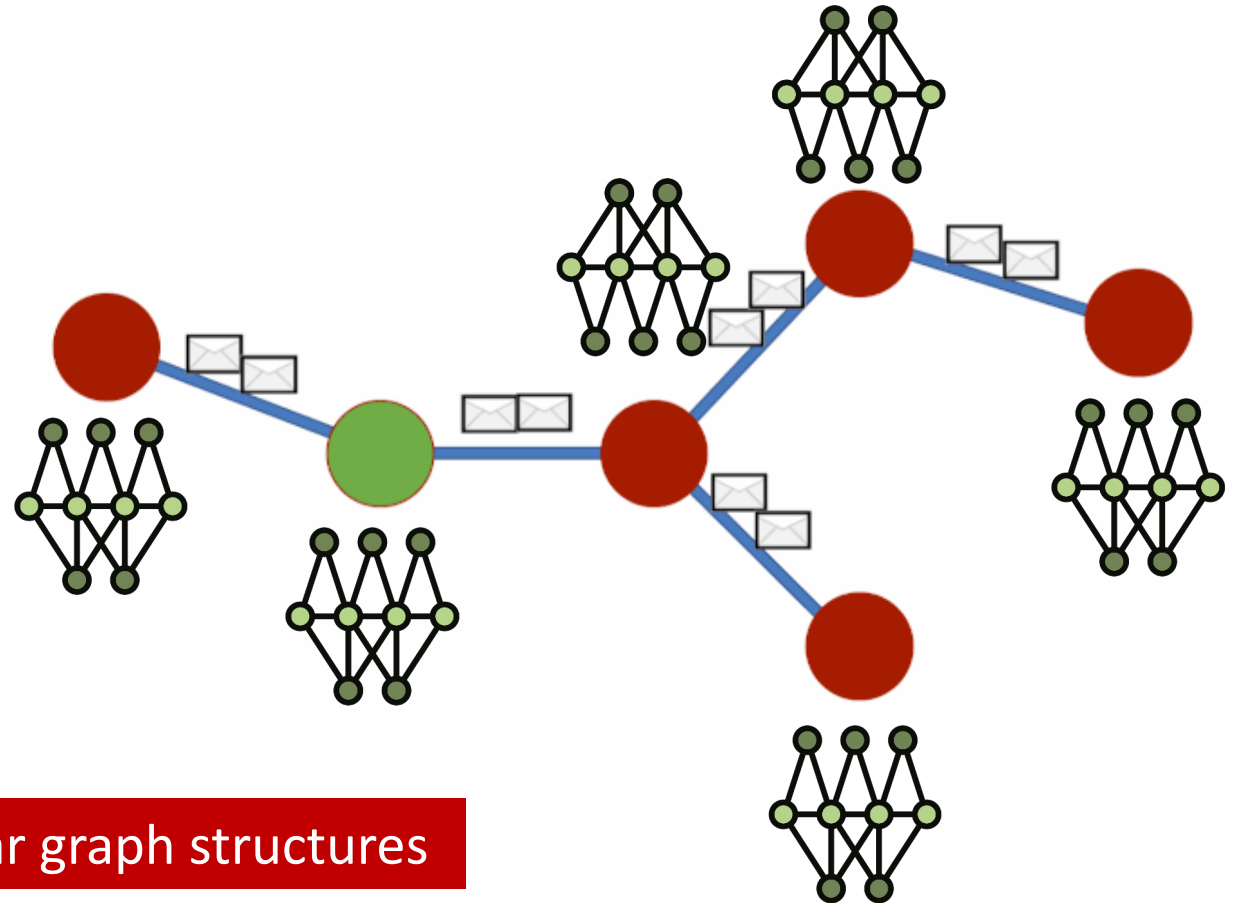
Social Networks



Fraud Detection

Graph Neural Networks (GNN)

- Message Passing
- Neighborhood Aggregation
- Neural Network Transformation
- Multi-Layer Depth



Backpropagation over sparse and irregular graph structures

Not ideal for deployment on resource-constrained devices

Hyperdimensional Computing (Vector Symbolic Architectures)

- **High-Dimensional Representation**

- **Atomic basis** → Randomly Generated Hypervectors → Pseudo Orthogonal

- Simple Algebraic Operations:

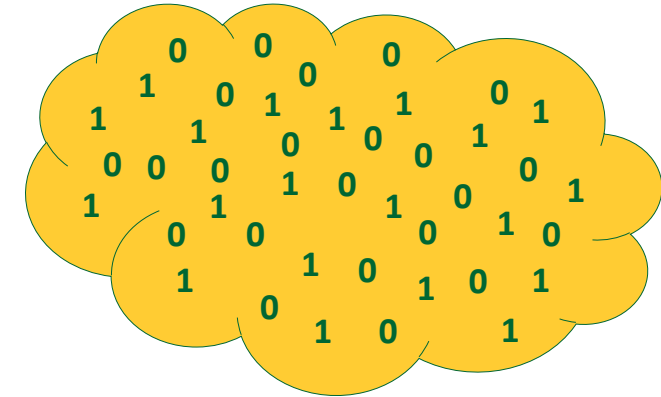
- **Bundling** → Combines multiple vectors → Element-wise addition/majority voting

- **Binding** → Associates two vectors → Element-wise XOR/multiplication

- **Permutation** → Encodes order or structure → Cyclic shifting of elements

- **Prototype Formation:** Accumulate hypervectors of each class → one prototype per class

- **Similarity-Based Inference:** Encode input → compare with prototypes → choose most similar



GNN vs HDC

GNN

😊 Accuracy

☹ Efficiency

HDC

Accuracy ☹

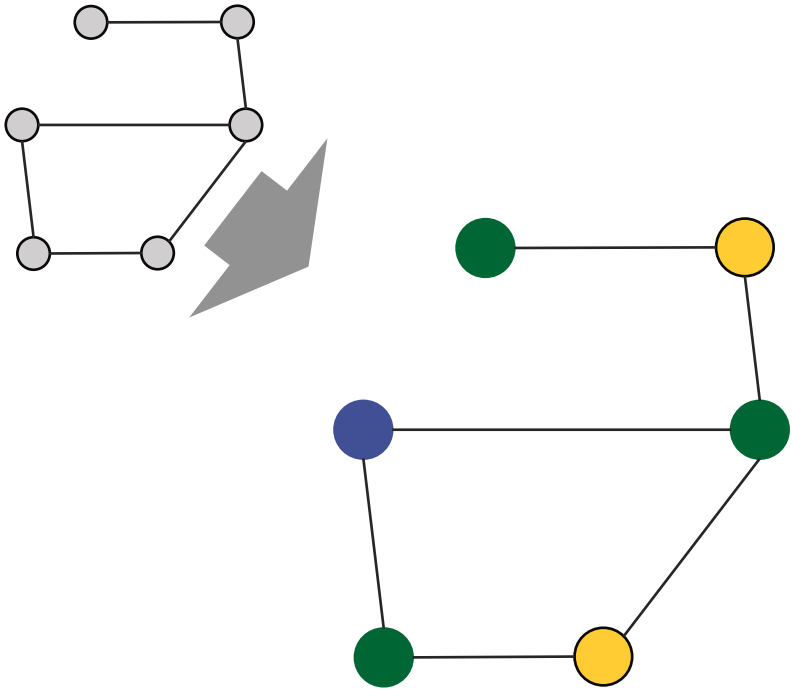
Efficiency 😊



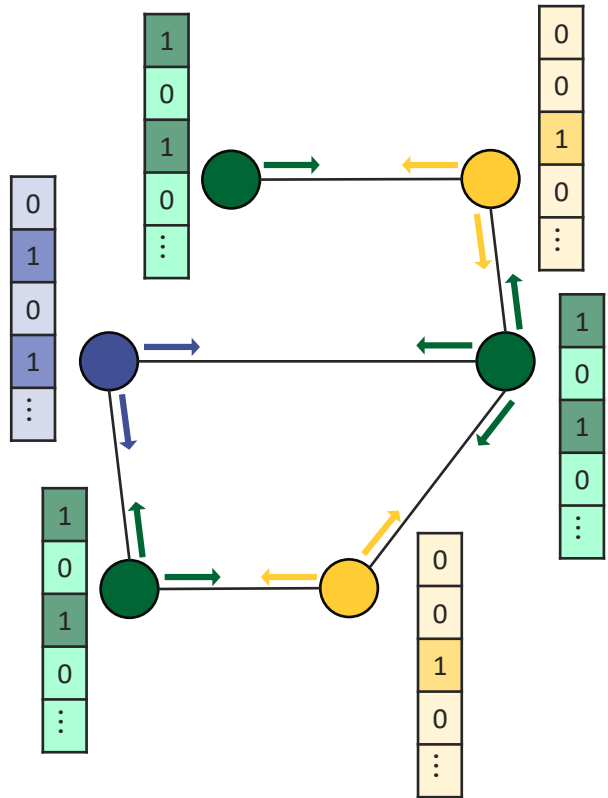
VS-Graph
Vector Symbolic Graph Learning

VS-Graph Overview

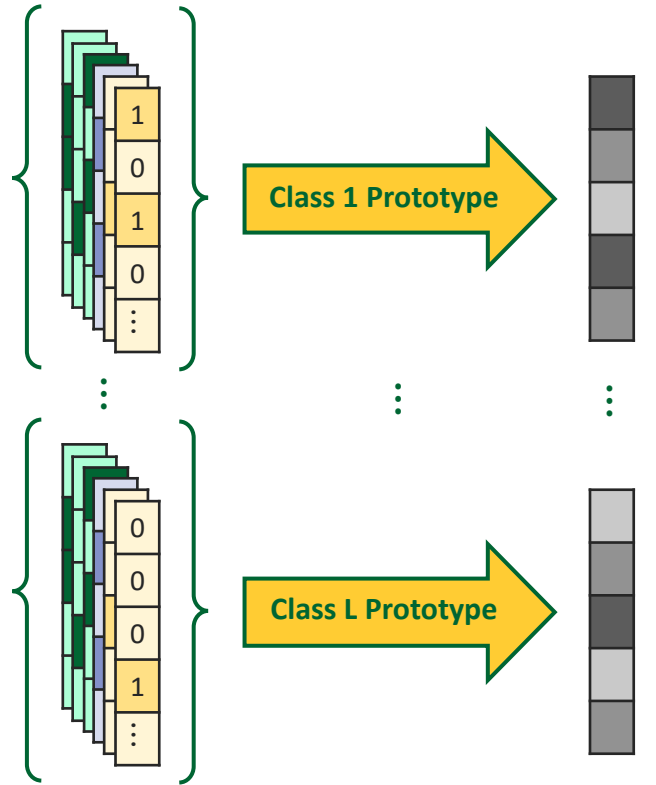
Spike-Diffusion
Node Identification



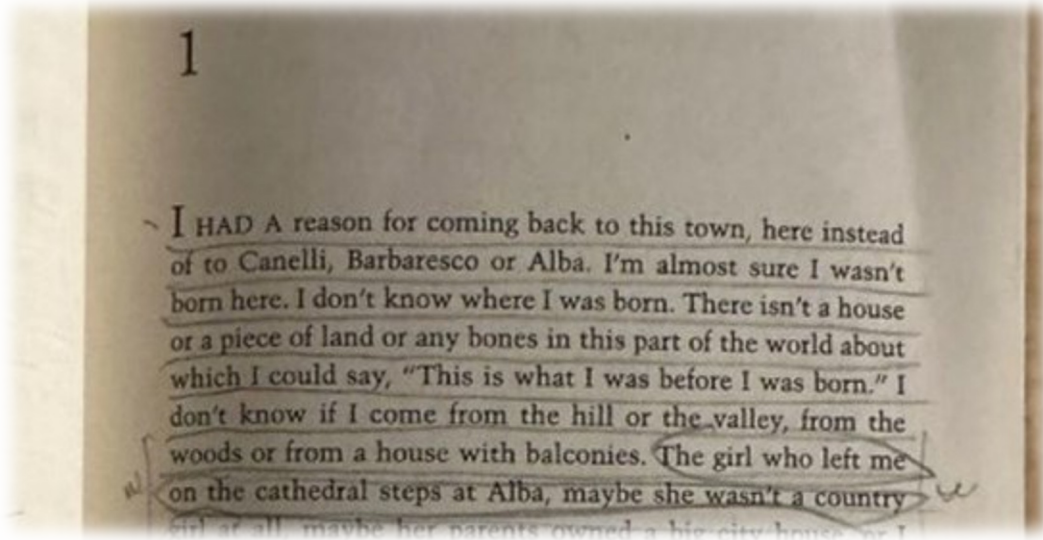
Vector Symbolic Encoding and
Associative Message Passing



Graph-level Readout and
Prototype Classification



Node Identification



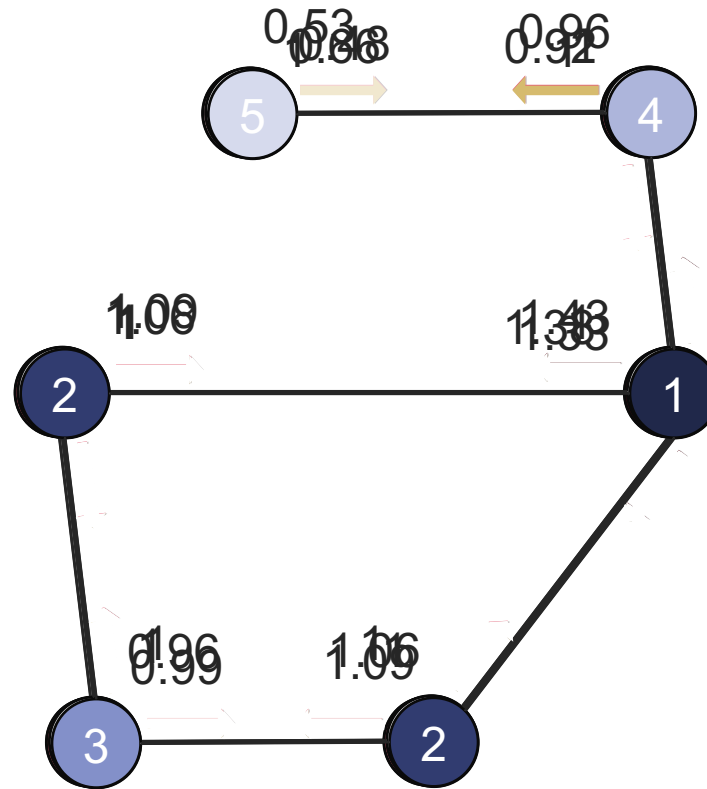
What is the first word?



Which one is the first node?

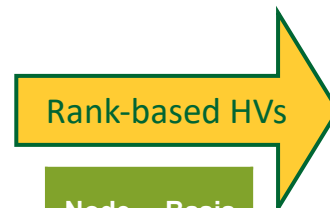
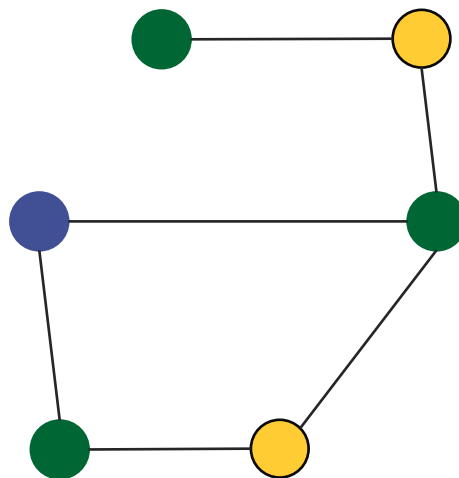
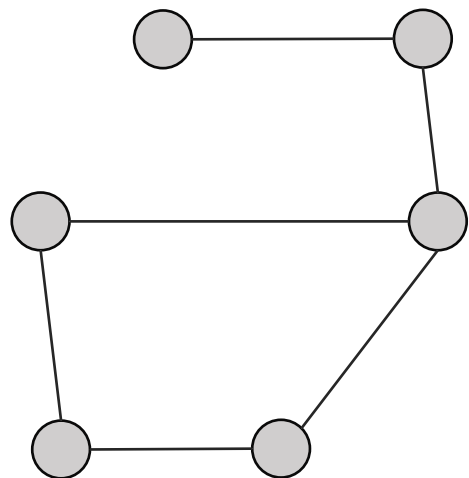
We need a way to consistently identify nodes across different graphs

Spike-Diffusion

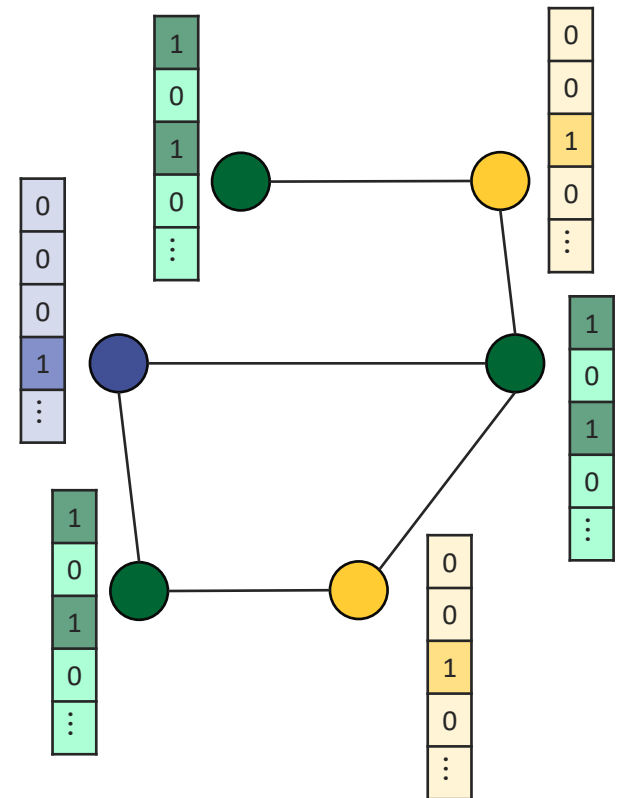


Identifier Assignment

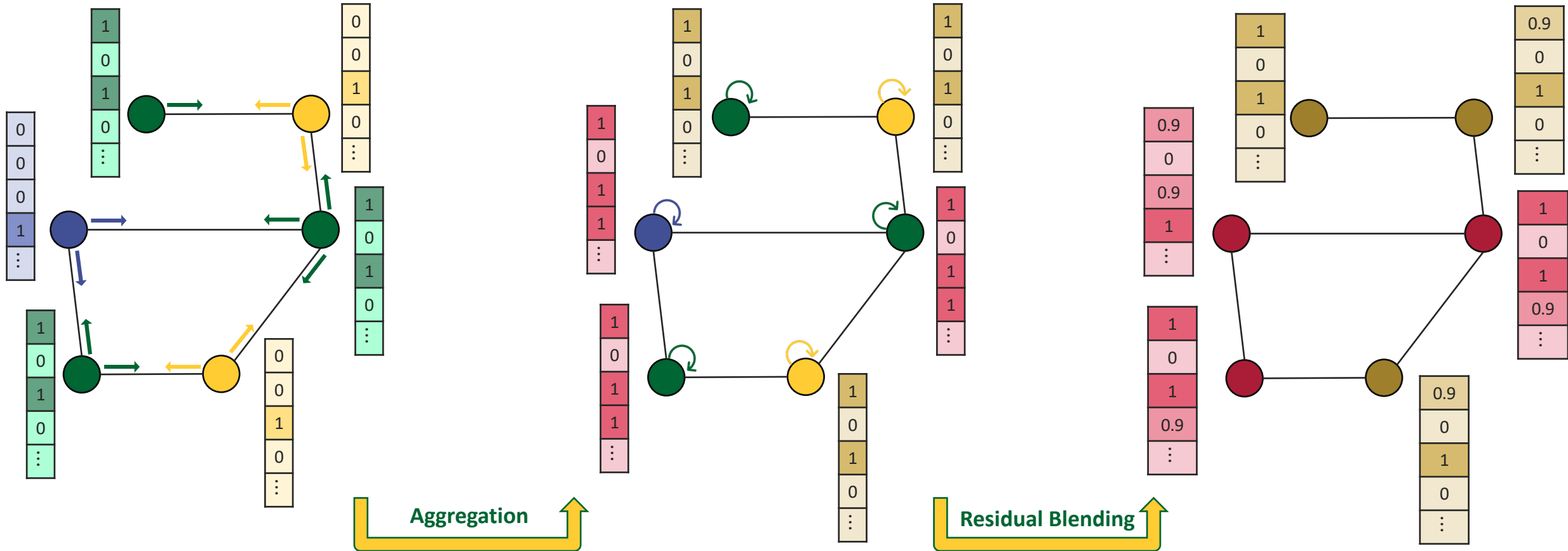
Vector Symbolic Encoding



| Node | Basis |
|------|-------------------------|
| 1 | \overrightarrow{HV}_1 |
| 2 | \overrightarrow{HV}_2 |
| 3 | \overrightarrow{HV}_3 |
| ... | ... |



Associative Message Passing

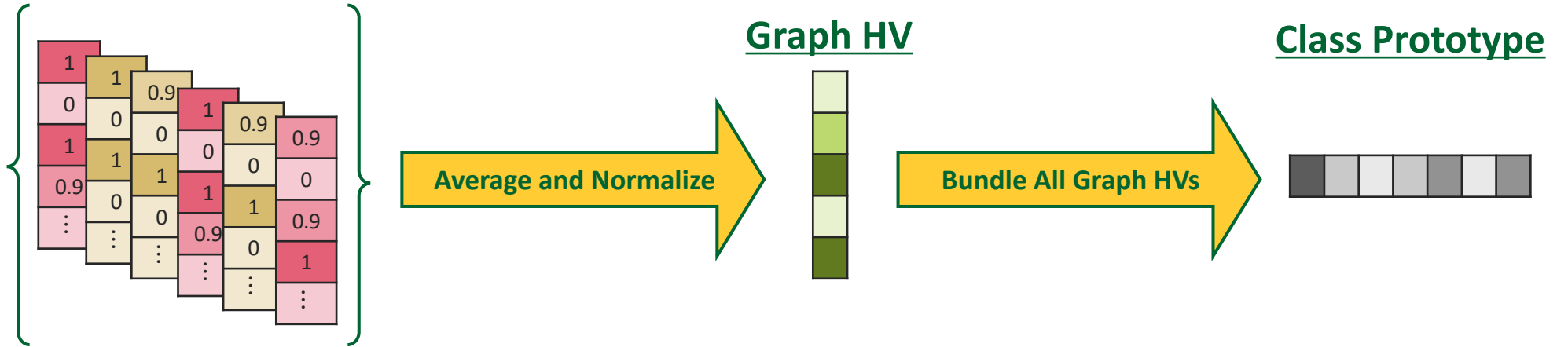


$$m_i^{(l)} = \bigvee_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} h_j^{(l)}$$

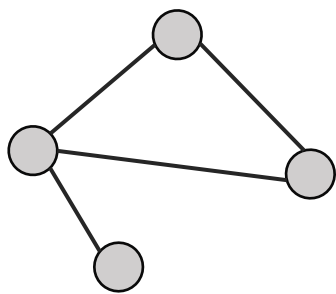
$$h_i^{(l+1)} = \alpha h_i^{(l)} + (1 - \alpha) m_i^{(l)}$$

Graph-level Readout and Prototype Classification

Training



Inference



Spike Diffusion Identification
Vector Symbolic Encoding
Associative Message Passing
Graph-level Readout

Graph HV



Similarity Check

Similarity Check

Similarity Check

Class Prototypes

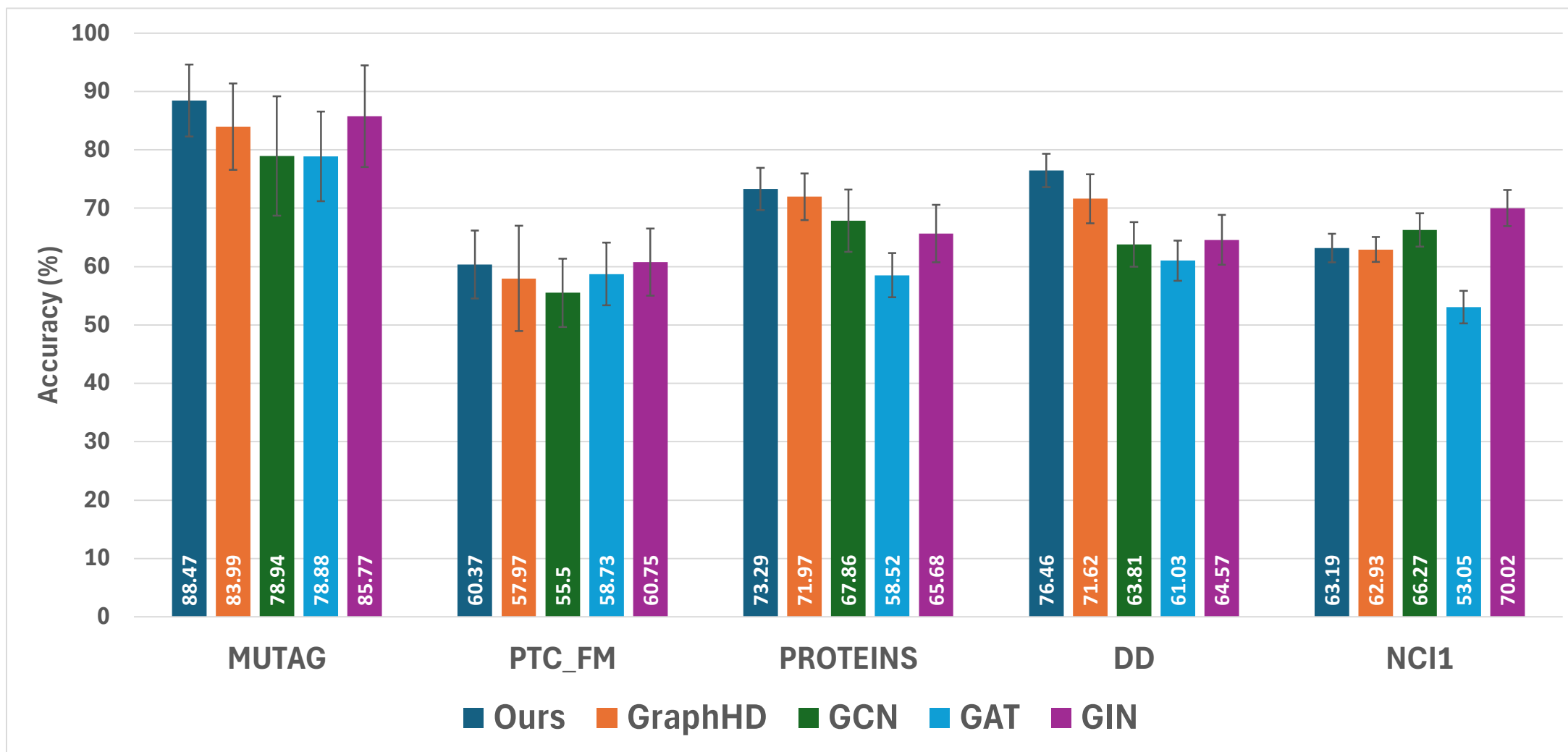


Experimental Setup

| Datasets | Dataset | Graphs | Classes | Avg. vertices | Avg. edges |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | MUTAG | 188 | 2 | 17.93 | 19.79 |
| | PTC_FM | 349 | 2 | 14.11 | 14.48 |
| | PROTEINS | 1113 | 2 | 39.06 | 72.82 |
| | DD | 1178 | 2 | 284.32 | 715.66 |
| | NCI1 | 4110 | 2 | 29.87 | 32.30 |

| Baselines | GNN | HDC |
|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| | GCN GAT GIN | GraphHD |

Results



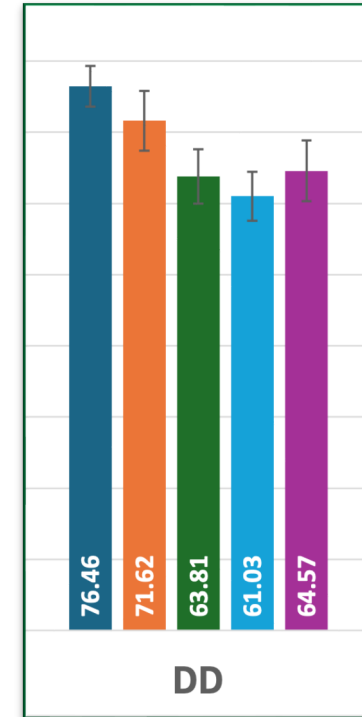
Results

Training Time Per Graph (ms)

| | Ours | GraphHD | GCN | GAT | GIN |
|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| MUTAG | 0.142 | 0.801 | 61.21 | 41.77 | 47.20 |
| PTC_FM | 0.153 | 0.929 | 36.71 | 33.93 | 37.39 |
| PROTEINS | 0.230 | 0.904 | 37.76 | 27.47 | 49.24 |
| DD | 2.120 | 1.892 | 41.36 | 28.85 | 72.92 |
| NCI1 | 0.192 | 0.768 | 56.40 | 20.40 | 85.84 |

Inference Latency Per Graph (ms)

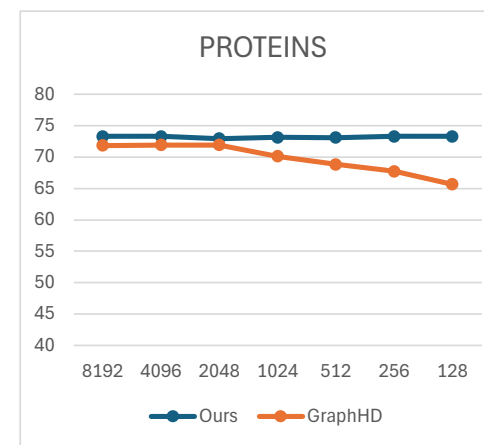
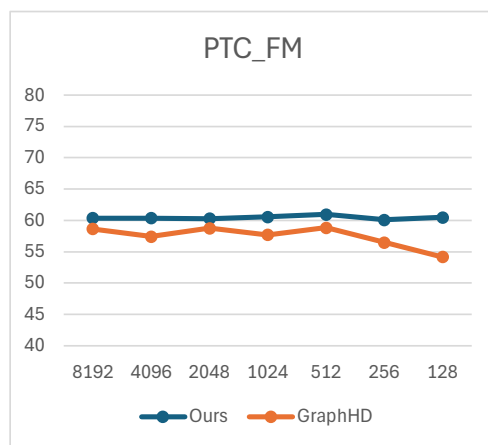
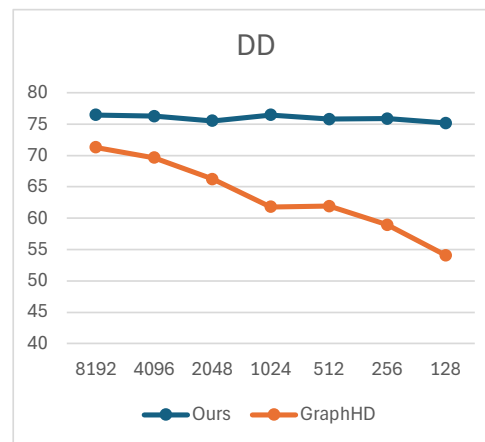
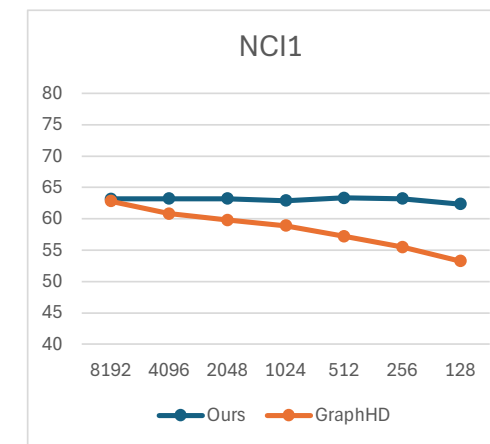
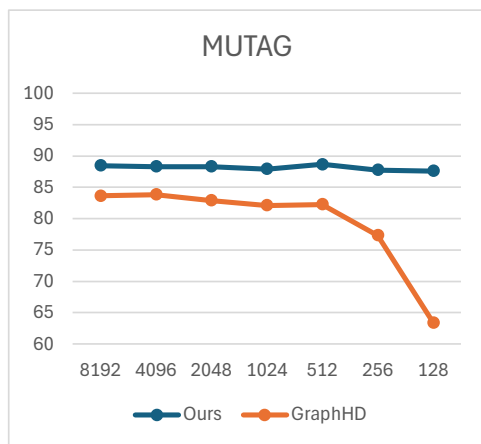
| | Ours | GraphHD | GCN | GAT | GIN |
|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| MUTAG | 0.366 | 0.980 | 0.948 | 0.727 | 0.641 |
| PTC_FM | 0.368 | 1.143 | 0.572 | 0.492 | 0.552 |
| PROTEINS | 0.418 | 1.050 | 0.281 | 0.368 | 0.405 |
| DD | 2.288 | 2.028 | 0.332 | 0.431 | 0.521 |
| NCI1 | 0.328 | 0.923 | 0.286 | 0.394 | 0.374 |



| | Avg. vertices | Avg. edges |
|----|---------------|------------|
| DD | 284.32 | 715.66 |

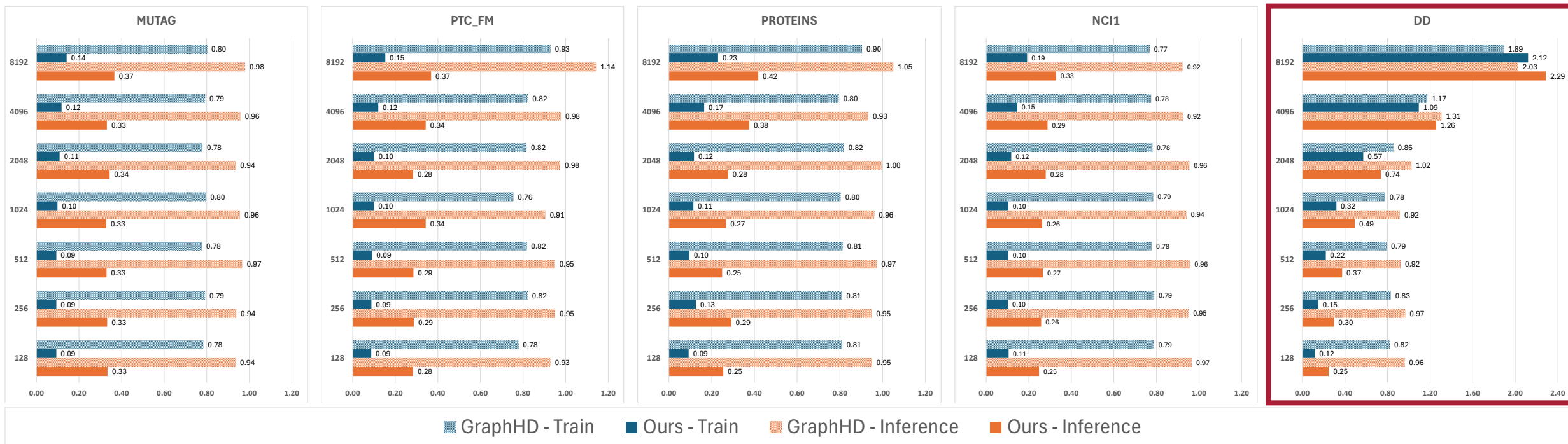
Results

Accuracy vs Dimensionality

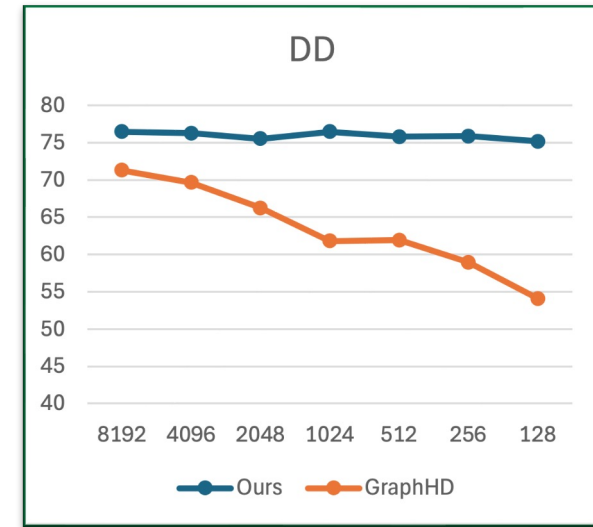
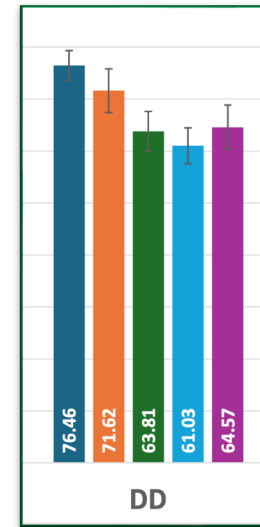
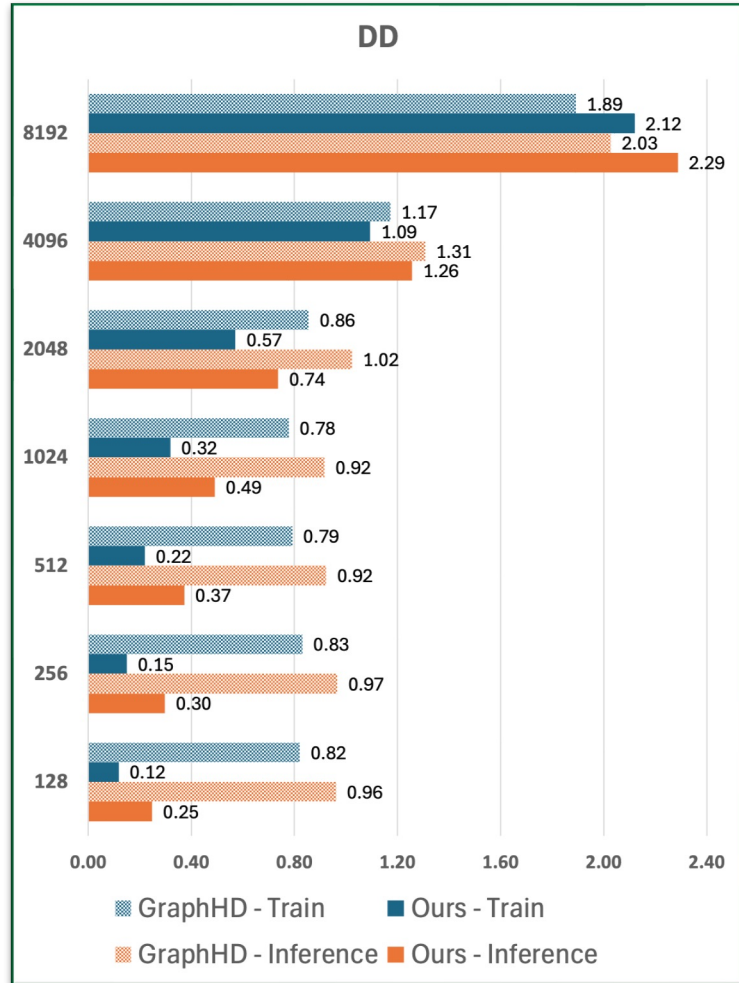


Results

Latency vs Dimensionality



Results



| | | Ours | GraphHD | GCN | GAT | GIN |
|------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| 8192 | Accuracy | 76.46 | 71.62 | 63.81 | 61.03 | 64.57 |
| | Training Time | 2.120 | 1.892 | 41.36 | 28.85 | 72.92 |
| | Inference Latency | 2.288 | 2.028 | 0.332 | 0.431 | 0.521 |
| 128 | Accuracy | 75.18 | 53.65 | 63.81 | 61.03 | 64.57 |
| | Training Time | 0.118 | 0.820 | 41.36 | 28.85 | 72.92 |
| | Inference Latency | 0.248 | 0.961 | 0.332 | 0.431 | 0.521 |

Thanks For Your Attention!

