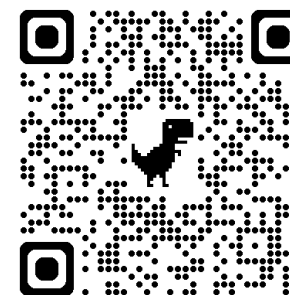


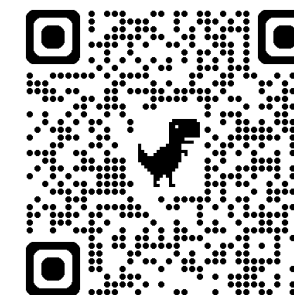
# Geometry-Aware Edge Pooling for Graph Neural Networks

Katharina Limbeck<sup>†</sup>, Lydia Mezrag<sup>†</sup>, Guy Wolf<sup>‡</sup>, Bastian Rieck<sup>‡</sup>

Paper

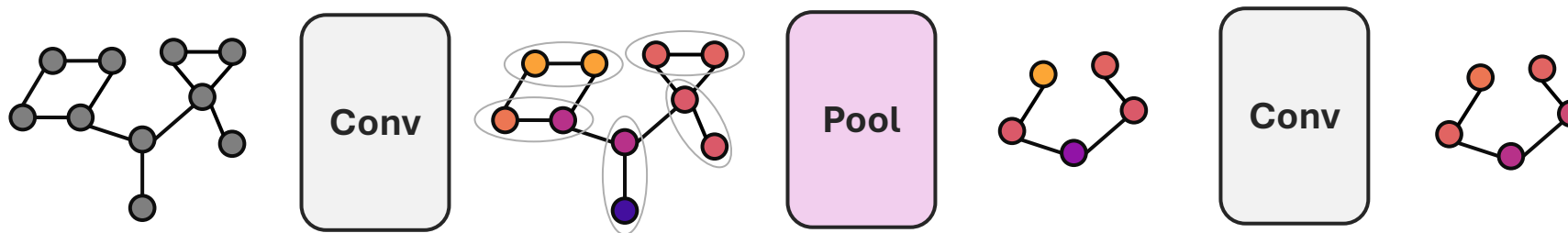


Code



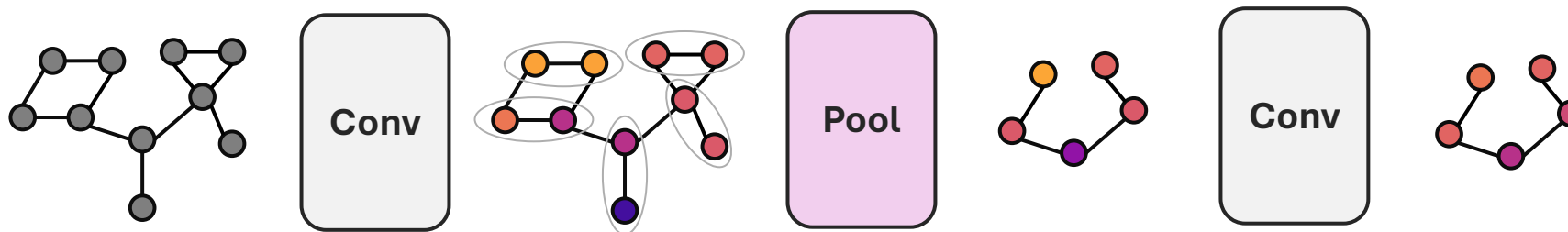
# Why graph pooling?

## Hierarchical Graph Pooling



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## Hierarchical Graph Pooling



Aim to preserve:

Graph structure  
and topology

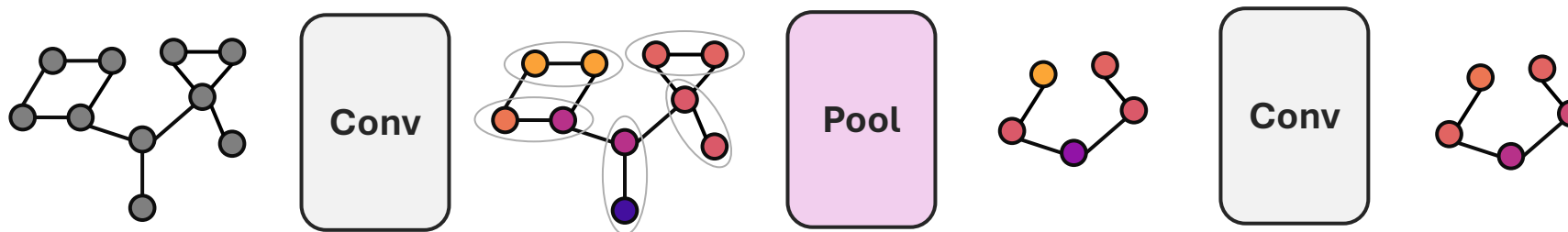
Task performance

Computational  
efficiency

Expressivity

# Why graph pooling?

## Hierarchical Graph Pooling



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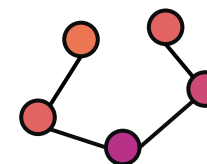
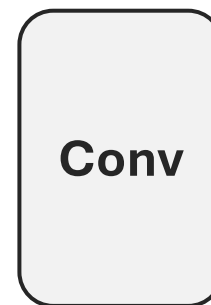
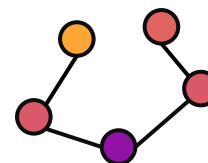
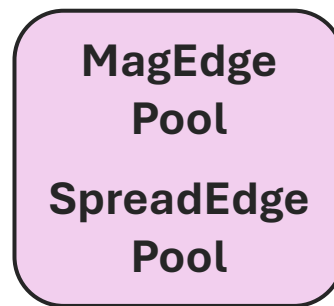
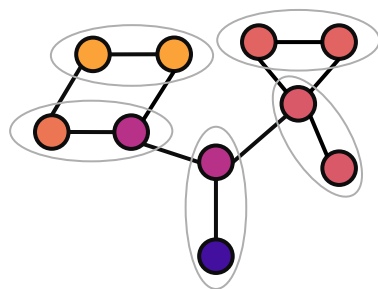
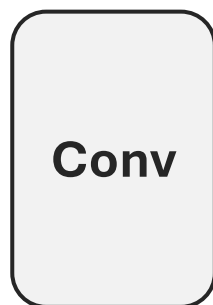
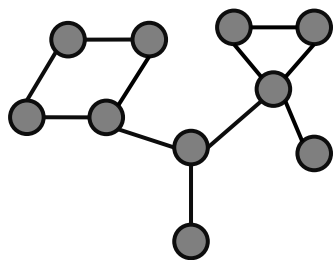
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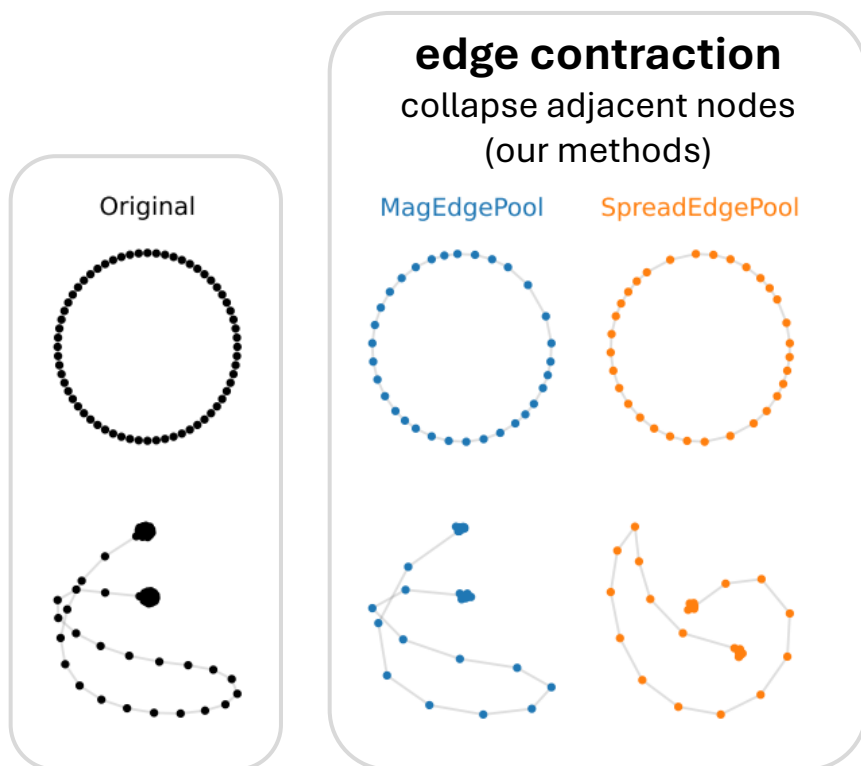
Expressivity

Addressing these goals, we propose novel geometry-aware edge contraction-based pooling methods, **MagEdgePool** and **SpreadEdgePool**.



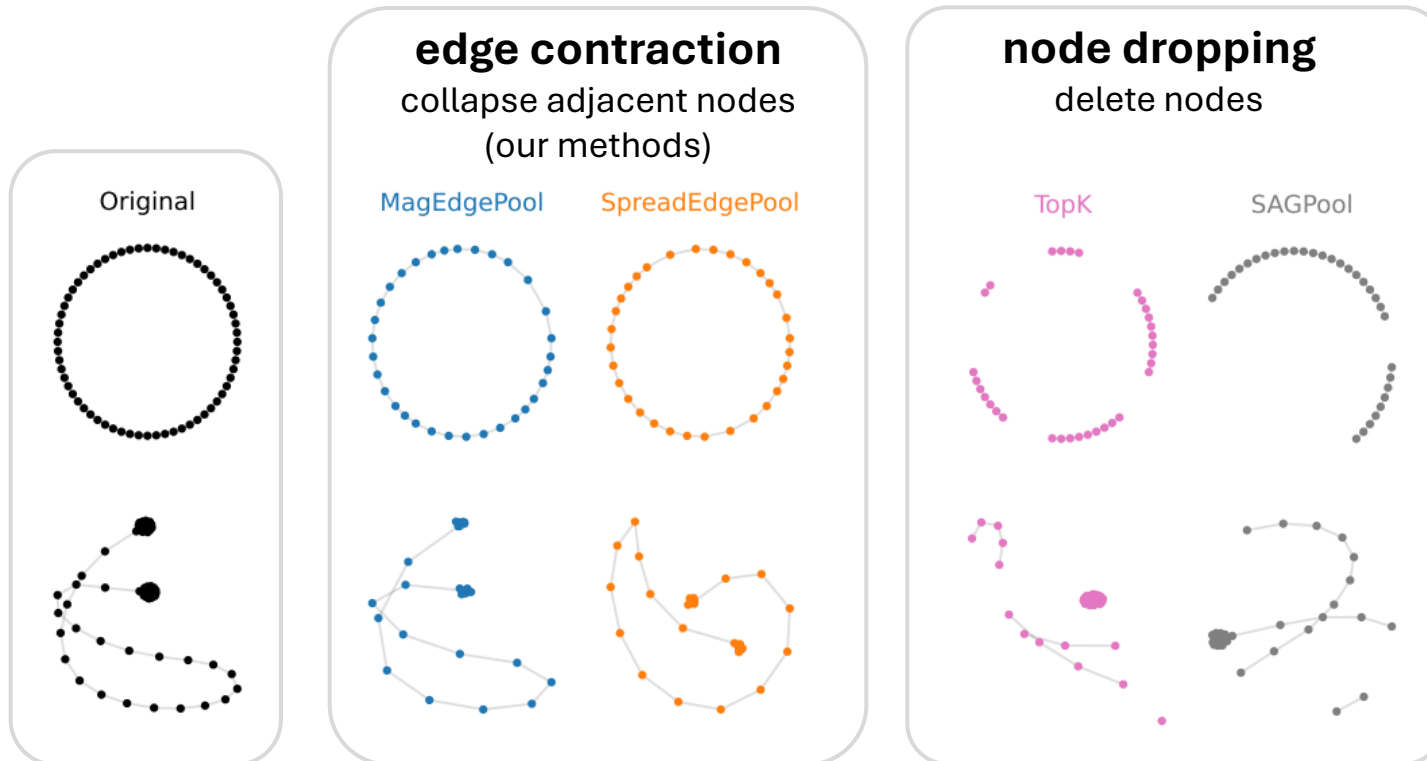
# Why do we need geometry-aware graph pooling?

Examples of pooled graphs. Our methods **respect the original graphs' geometry**.



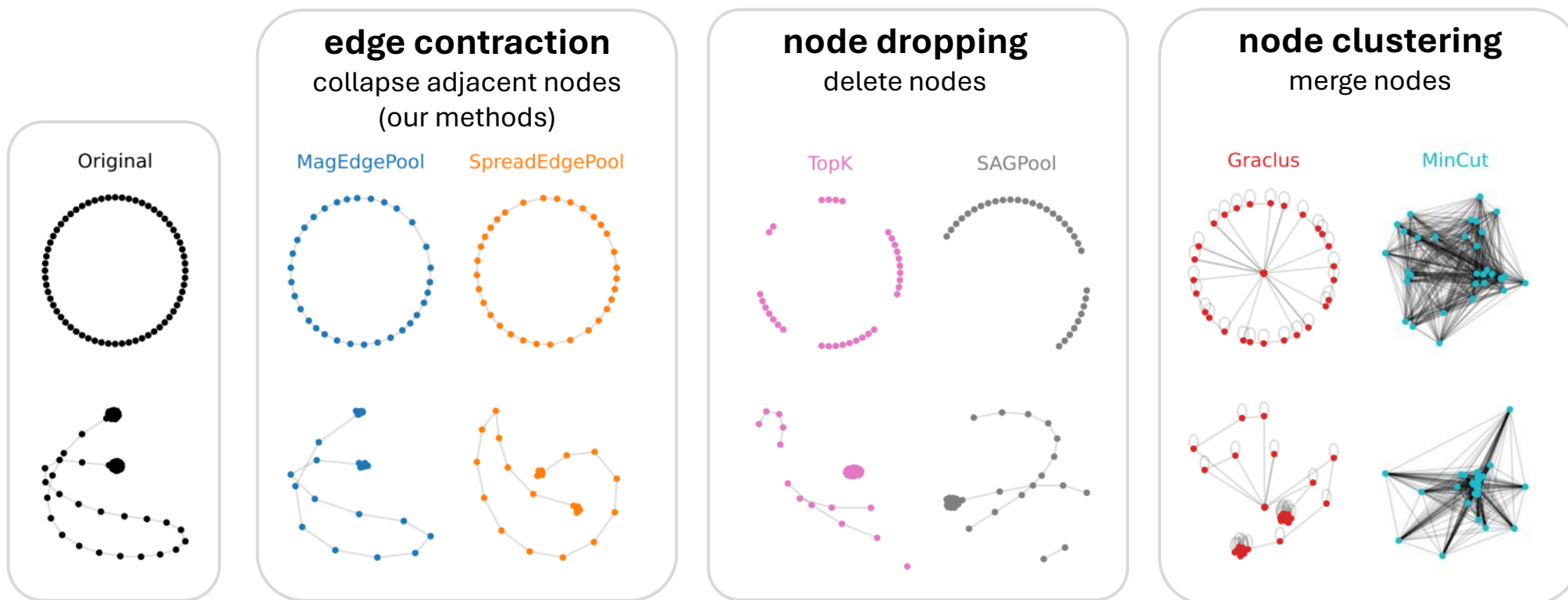
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# Why do we need geometry-aware graph pooling?

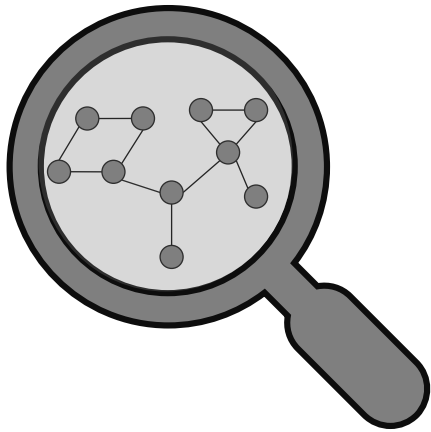
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# Geometry-aware edge pooling

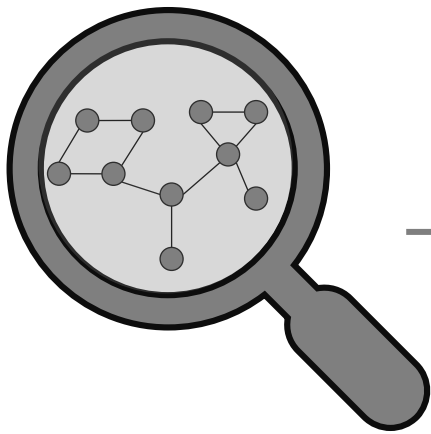
Contract the edges least relevant for the graph's structural diversity.



structural diversity  $\approx$   
magnitude  $\approx$  spread

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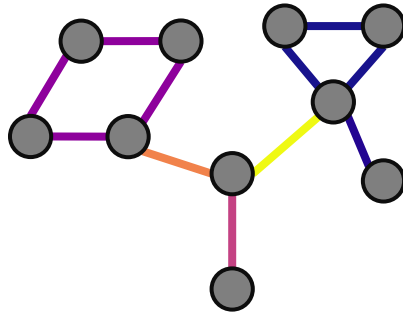
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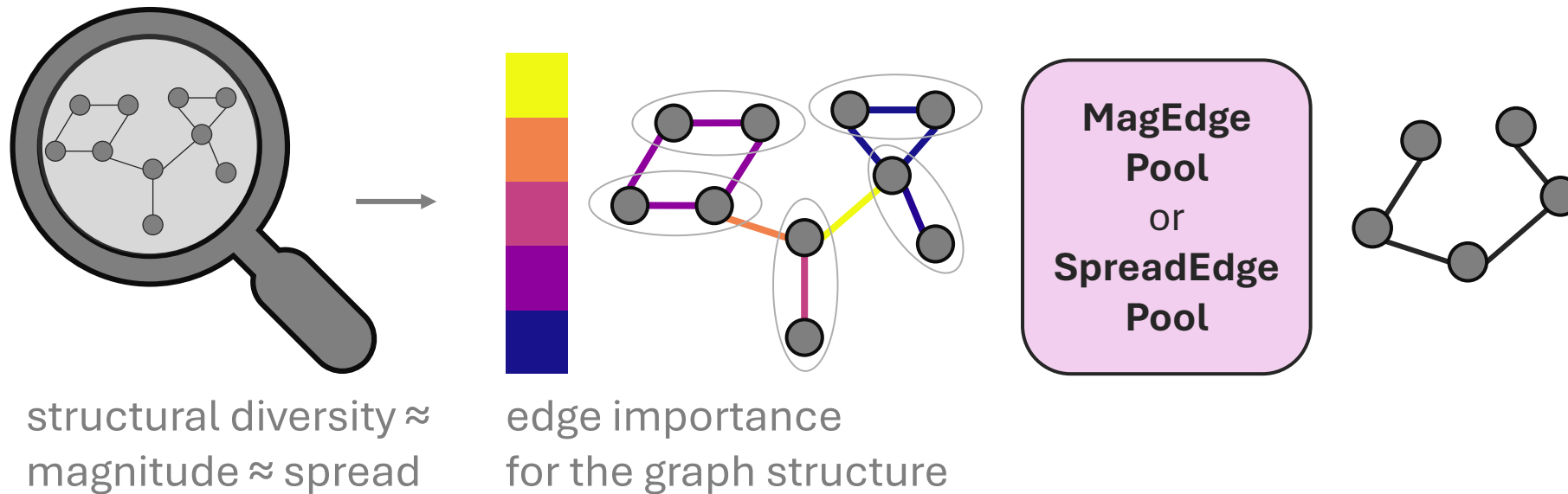


edge importance  
for the graph structure



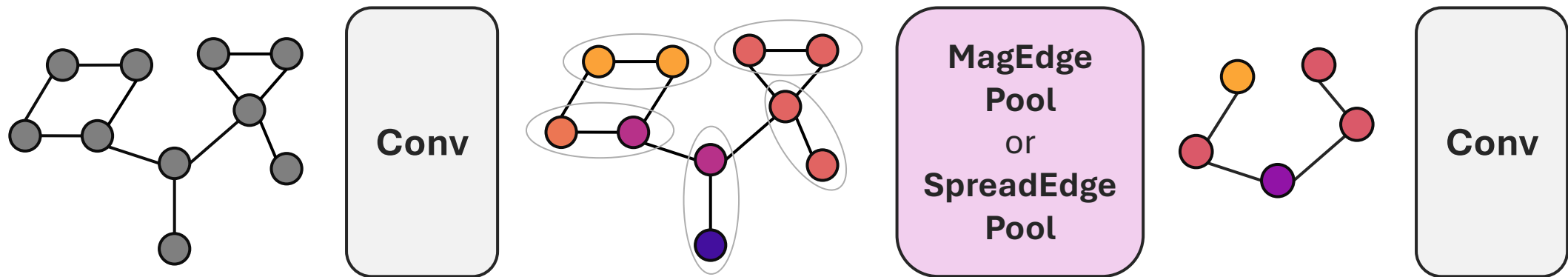
# Geometry-aware edge pooling

Contract the edges least relevant for the graph's structural diversity.



# Geometry-aware edge pooling

During GNN training, use the edge selection and average the node features.



# Evaluation

It works! Our pooling methods perform well across tasks.

**Top** graph classification and regression **performance**

Method	Mean Rank
MagEdge	2.4
SpreadEdge	3.0
NDP	3.6
Graclus	5.6
NMF	6.0
TopK	4.9
SAGPool	4.7
DiffPool	7.6
MinCut	7.4

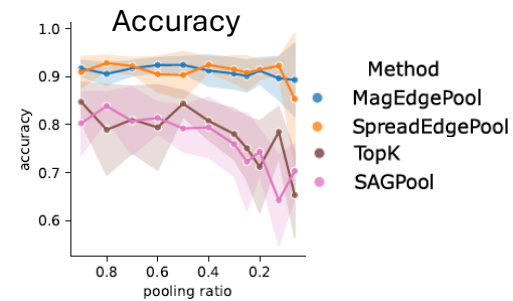
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## Robust performance across pooling ratios



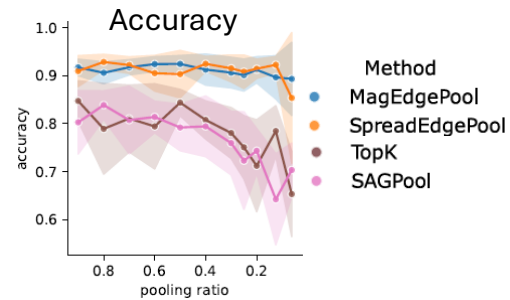
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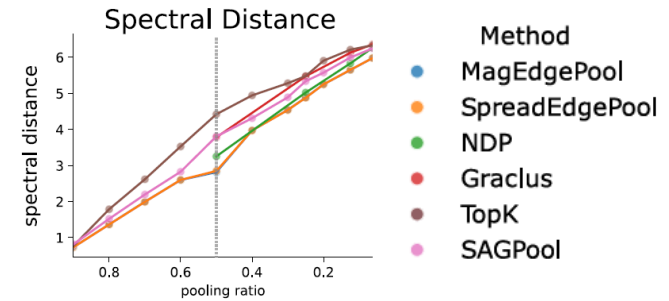
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## Robust performance across pooling ratios



## Superior preservation of graph structure



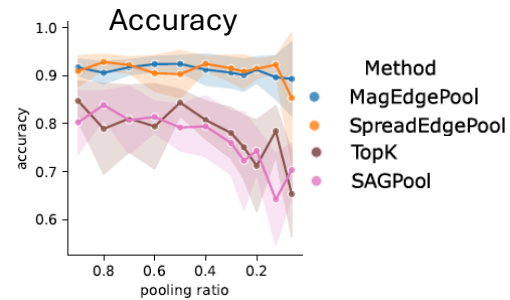
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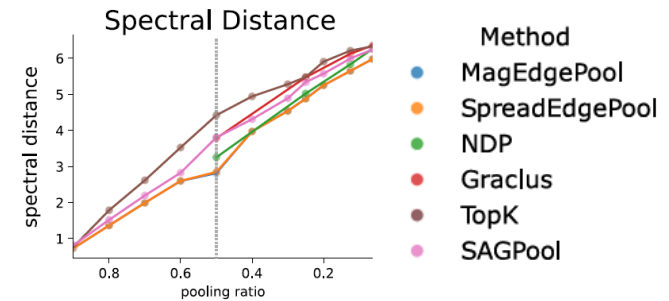
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## Superior preservation of graph structure



More **efficient GNN training** compared to trainable methods



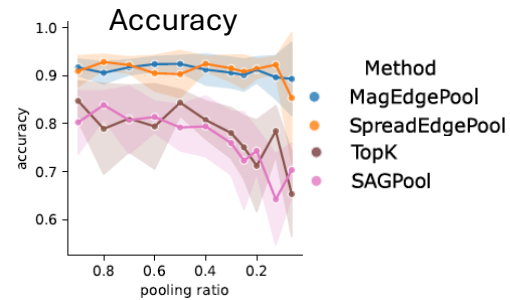
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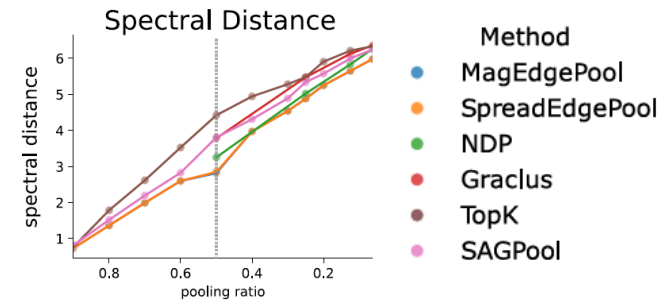
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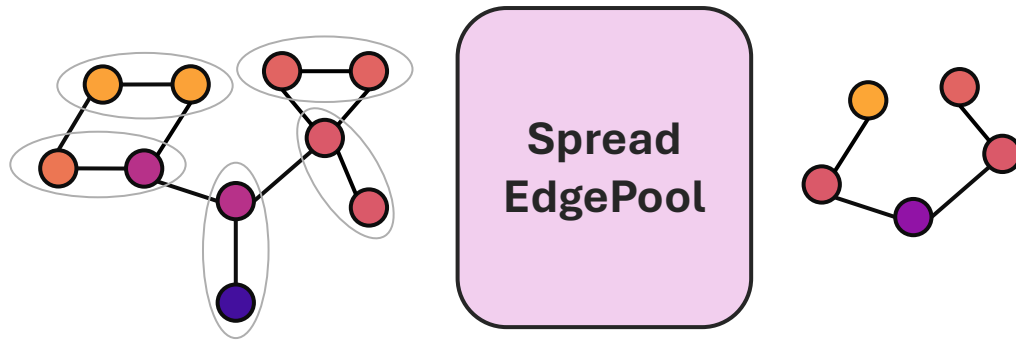


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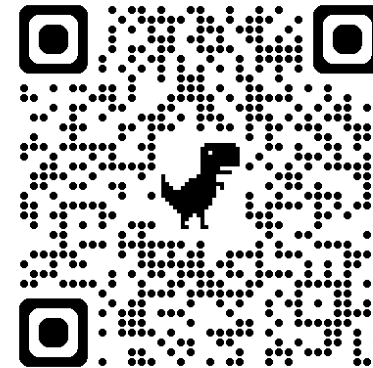
**Theoretical guarantees:**  
Expressivity, isometry-invariance, etc.

# Geometry-aware edge pooling

We propose **novel edge contraction based pooling methods** that preserve graphs' structural diversity and geometry.



Paper



Code

