

# Densely Connected Graph Convolutional Networks for Graph-to-Sequence Learning

**Zhijiang Guo**

Joint work with Yan Zhang, Zhiyang Teng, Wei Lu



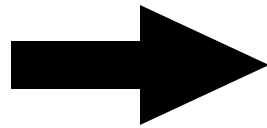
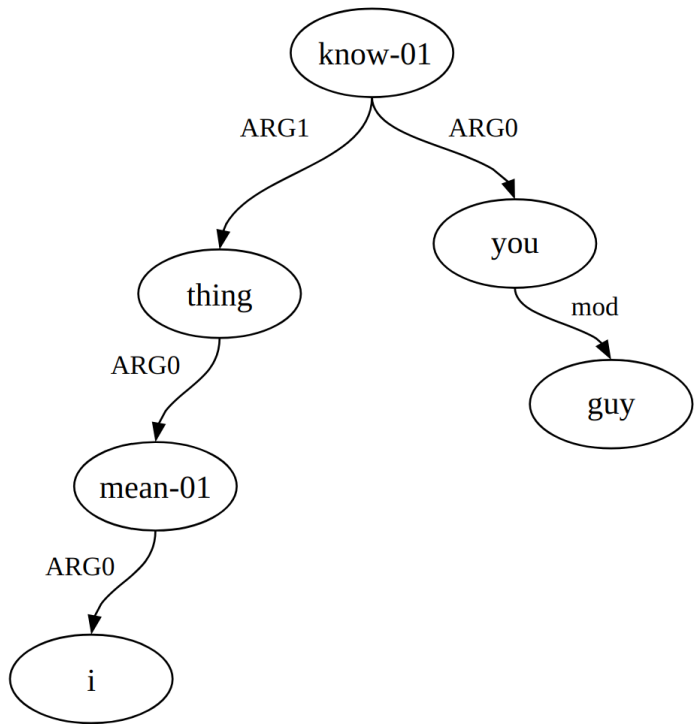
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# Graph-to-Sequence Learning

**AMR-to-Text Generation**

**Syntax-Based Machine Translation**

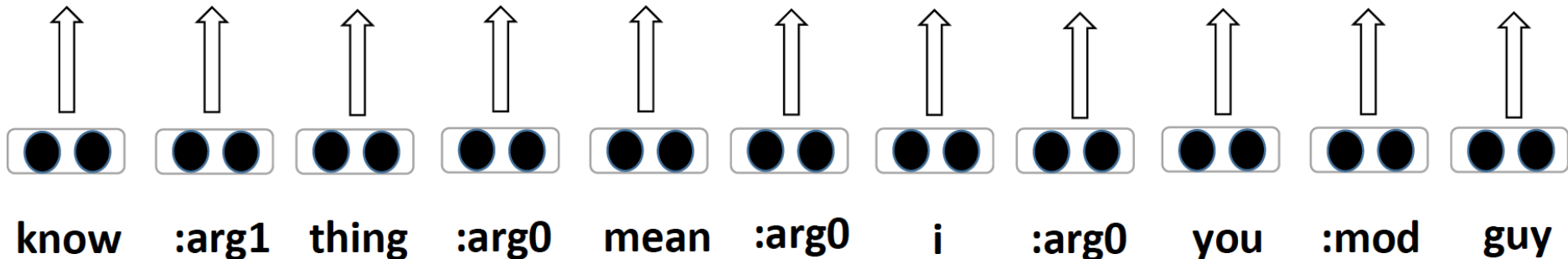
# AMR-to-Text Generation



***You guys know  
what I mean.***

# Sequence Encoder

**BiLSTM**



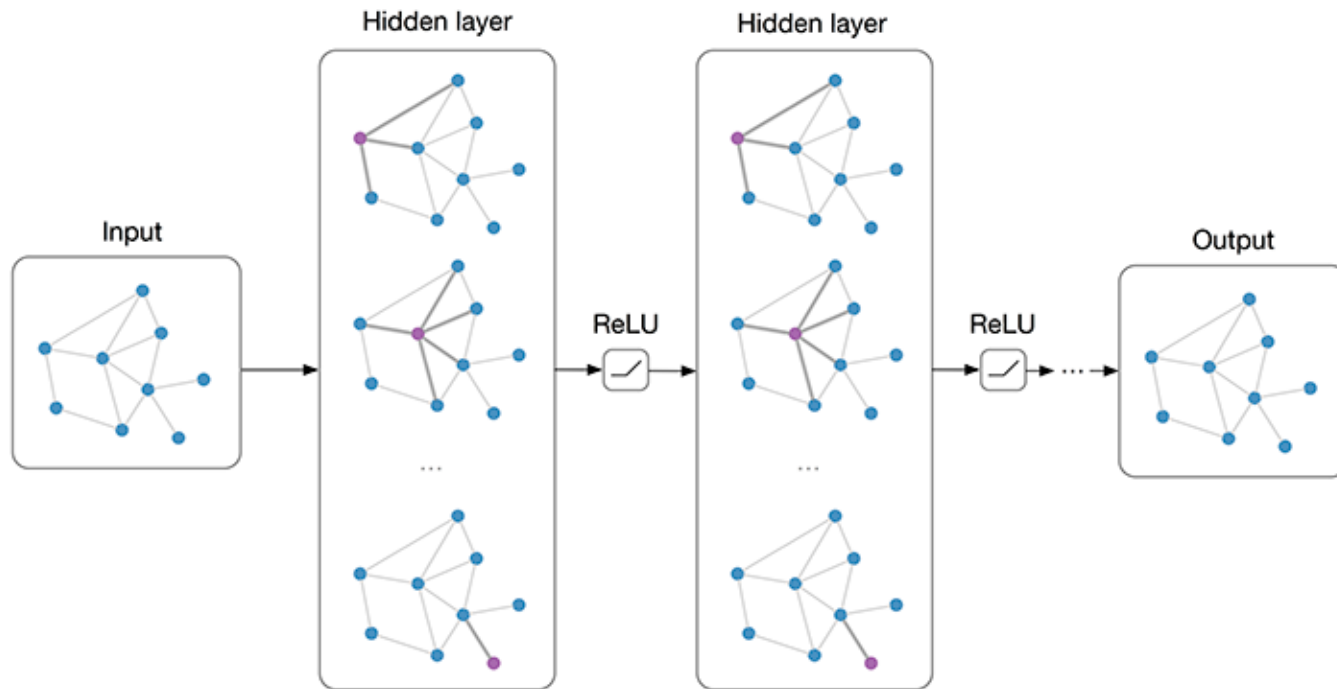
(Konstas et al. 2017)

The diagram illustrates a Recurrent Graph Encoder processing the sentence "know :arg1 thing :arg0 mean :arg0 i :arg0 you :mod guy". Each word is associated with a graph node, represented by a box containing two black circles. Arrows point from these nodes to the words above them. Curved arrows connect the words to show dependencies: from "know" to "thing", "mean", and "i"; from "thing" to "mean"; from "mean" to "i"; from "i" to "you"; and from "know" to "guy". The word "i" is highlighted with a blue curved arrow pointing to it from "mean".

# Gated Graph Neural Networks (Beck et al., 2018)

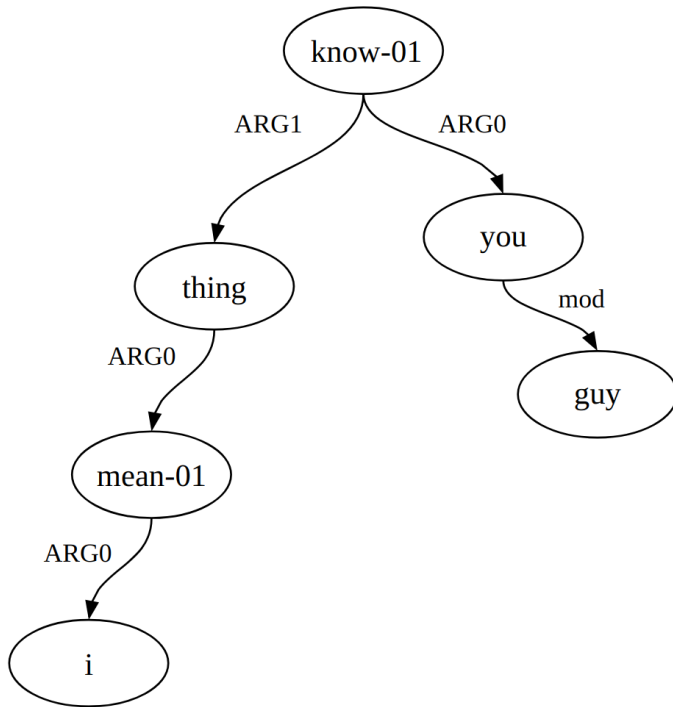
# GCNs

Empirically, the best performance of GCNs is achieved with a **2-layer** model (Li et al., 2018, Xu et al., 2018)

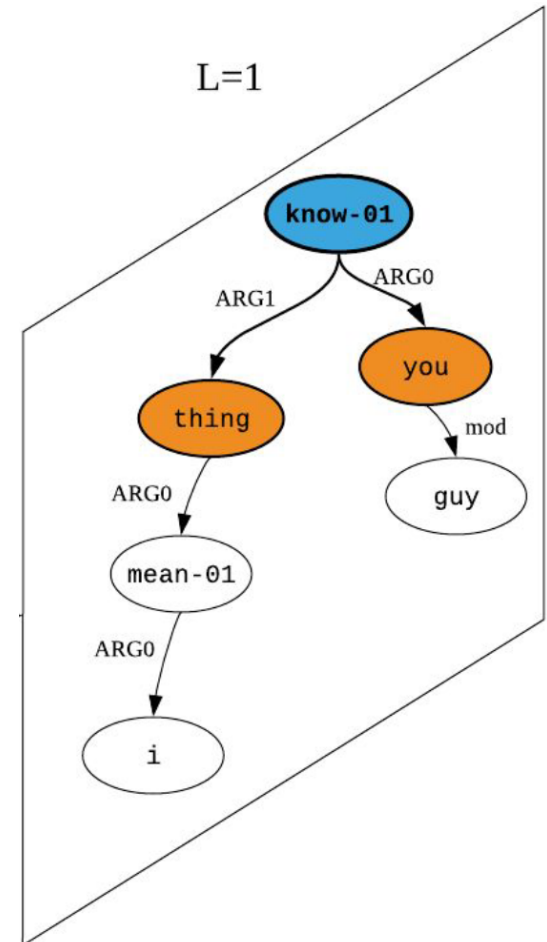
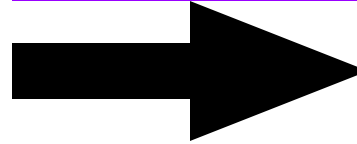


# GCNs

first convolutional layer captures **first-order proximity** (immediate neighbors) information

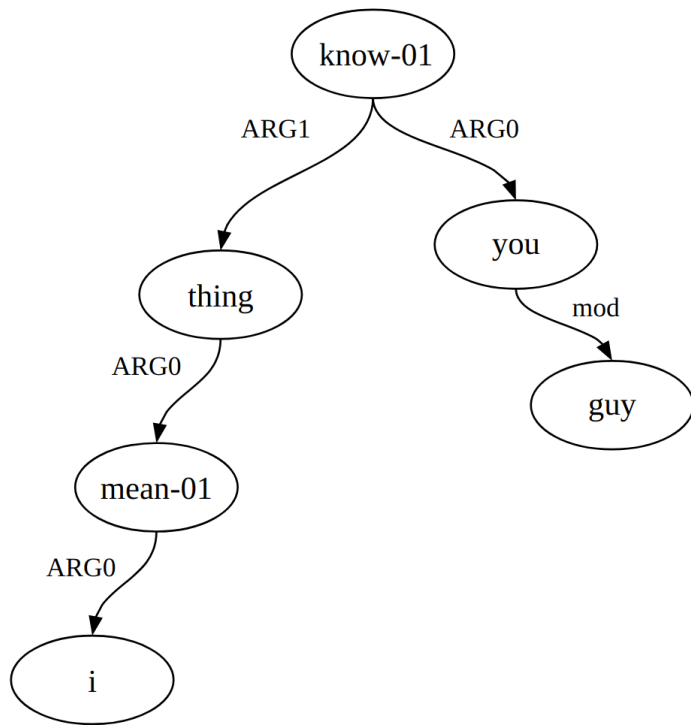


First-Order Proximity

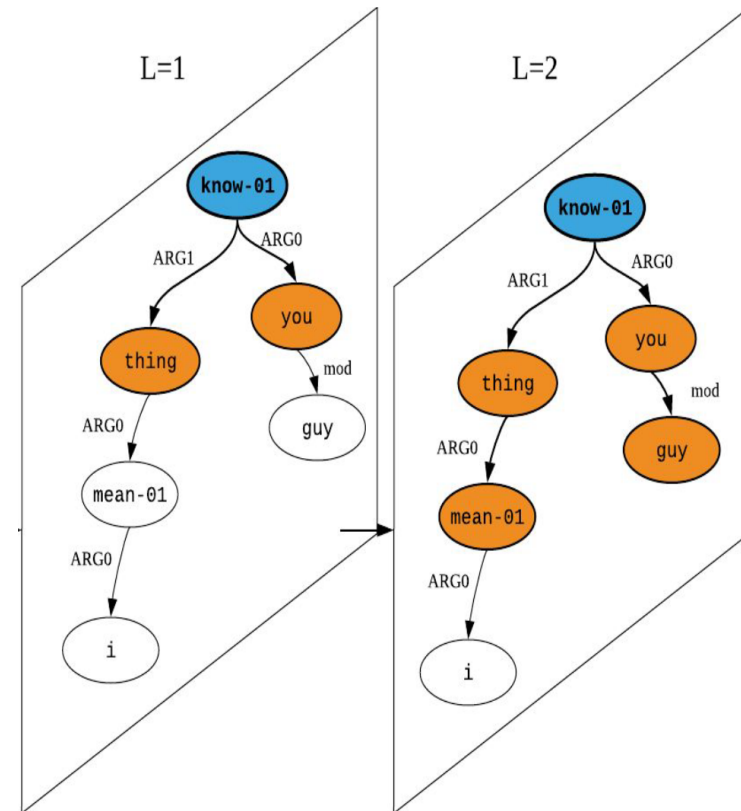
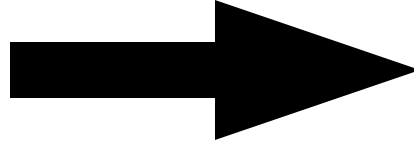


# GCNs

second convolutional layer captures  
**second-order proximity** information

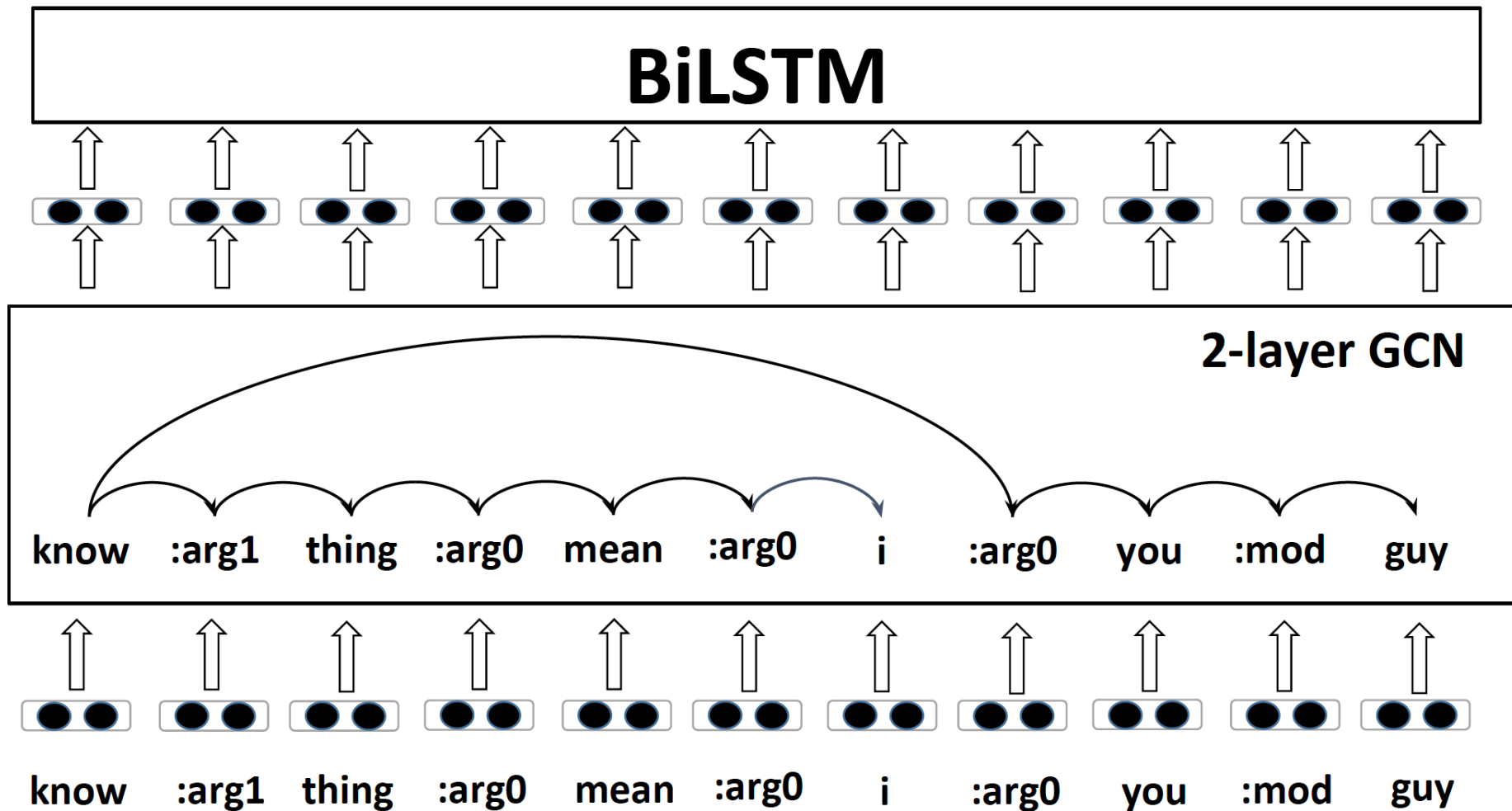


**Second-Order Proximity**





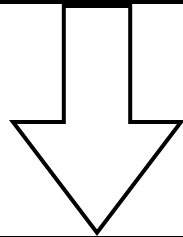
# Convolutional Graph Encoder



(Bastings et al., 2017) (Damonte and Cohen , 2019 )

# Motivation

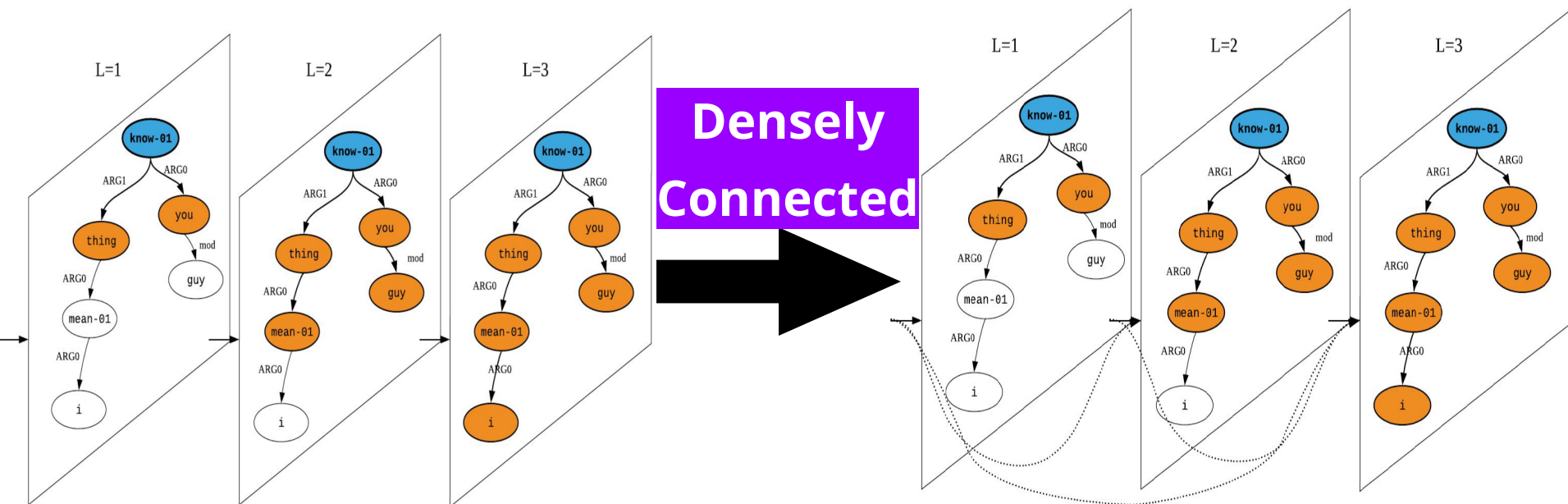
Is it possible to build a more expressive GCN model to learn a better graph representation without relying on additional LSTM?



Densely Connected Graph  
Convolutional Networks (DCGCNs)

# Dense Connectivity

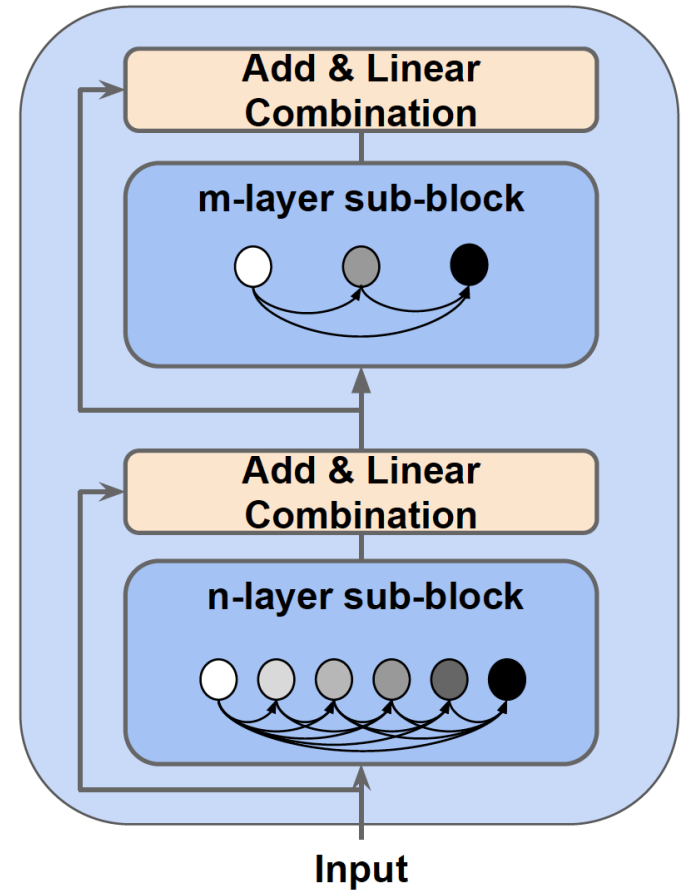
one layer takes inputs from **all preceding layers** rather than the previous layer only (Huang et al., 2017)



# Densely Connected GCNs

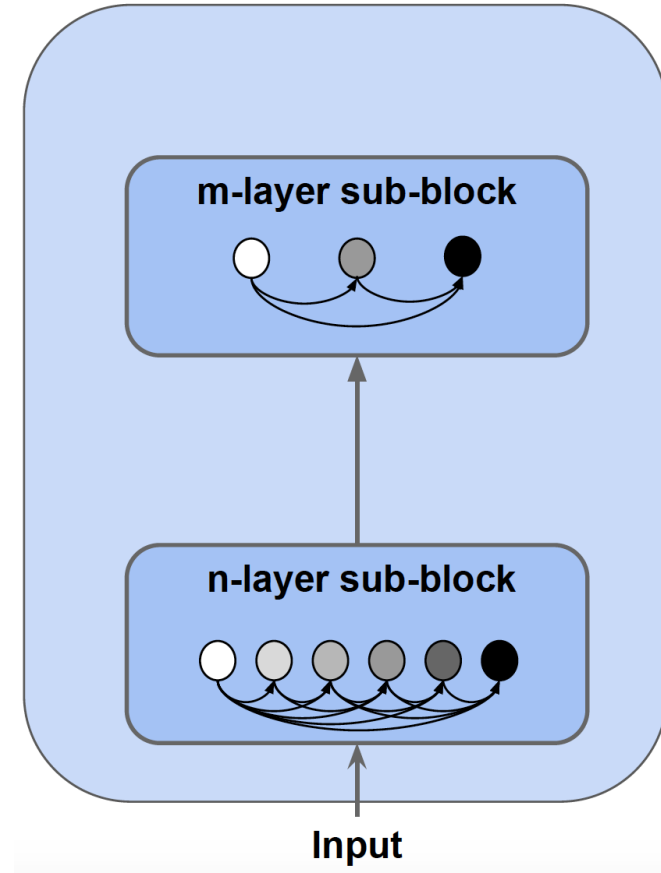
## Stack Identical Blocks

- Densely Connected Sub-Block
- Linear Combination Layer



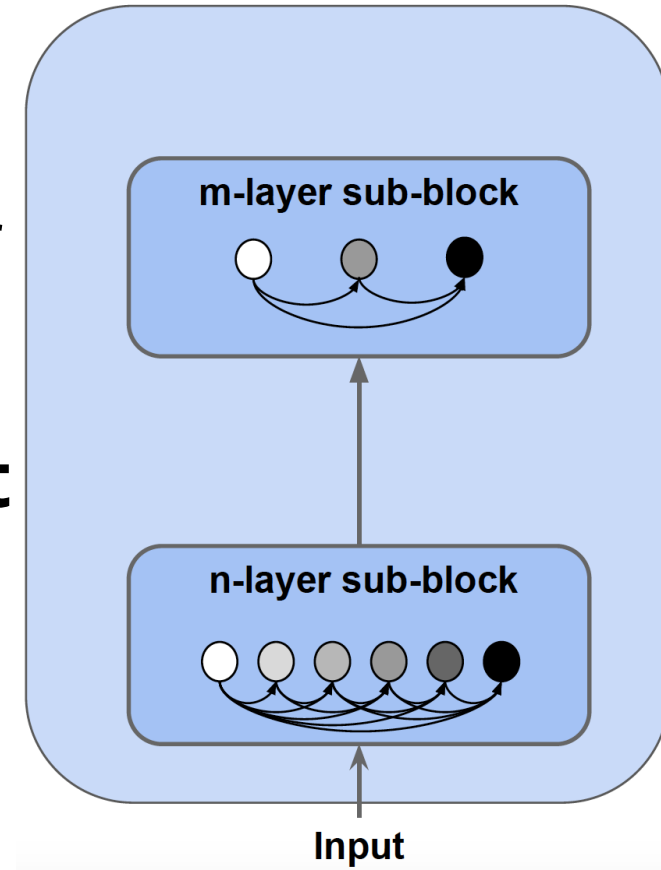
# Densely Connected Sub-Block

Both sub-blocks are densely connected graph convolutional layers with different numbers (**m** and **n**) of layers.



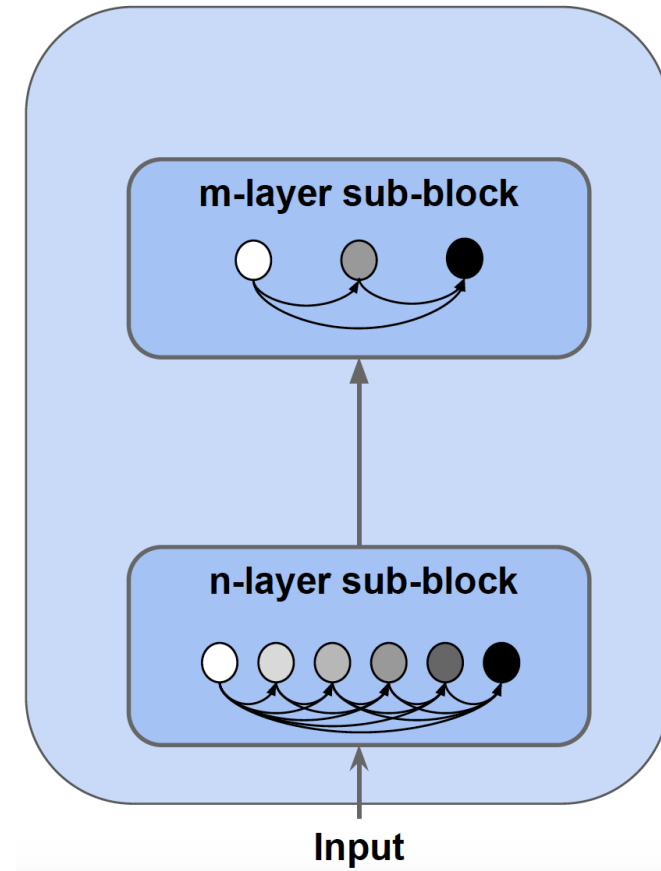
# Densely Connected Sub-Block

Sub-blocks with different number of layers capture structural information at **different abstract levels**, similar to different filters.



# Densely Connected Sub-Block

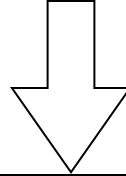
For **parameter efficiency**,  
the output dimension of each  
layer in the sub-block is  
designed to be **small**.



# Densely Connected Sub-Block

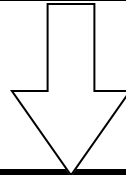
Input dimension: 300

Sub-block layers: 3



Hidden dimension of each layer:

$100 = 300 / 3$  (proportional to #layers)



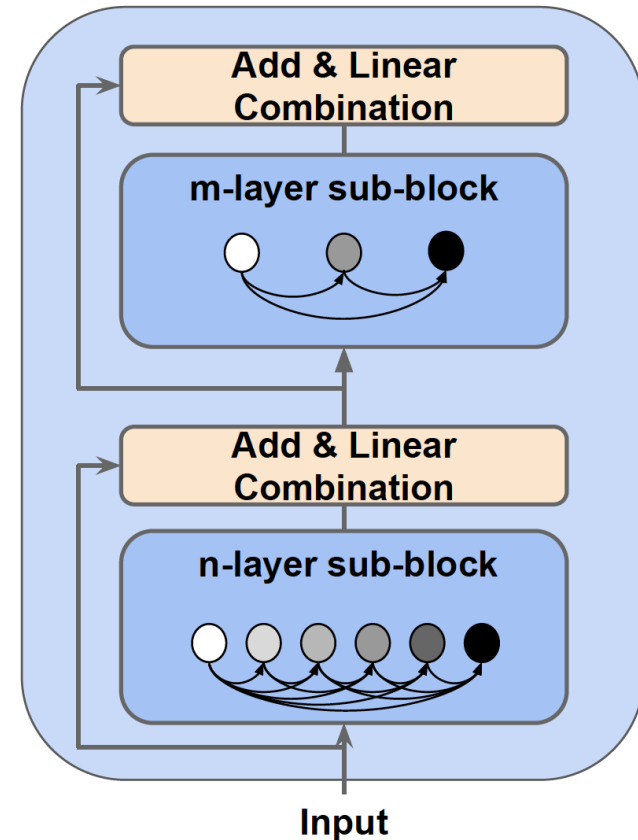
Output dimension: 300

(concatenate output from all 3 layers)

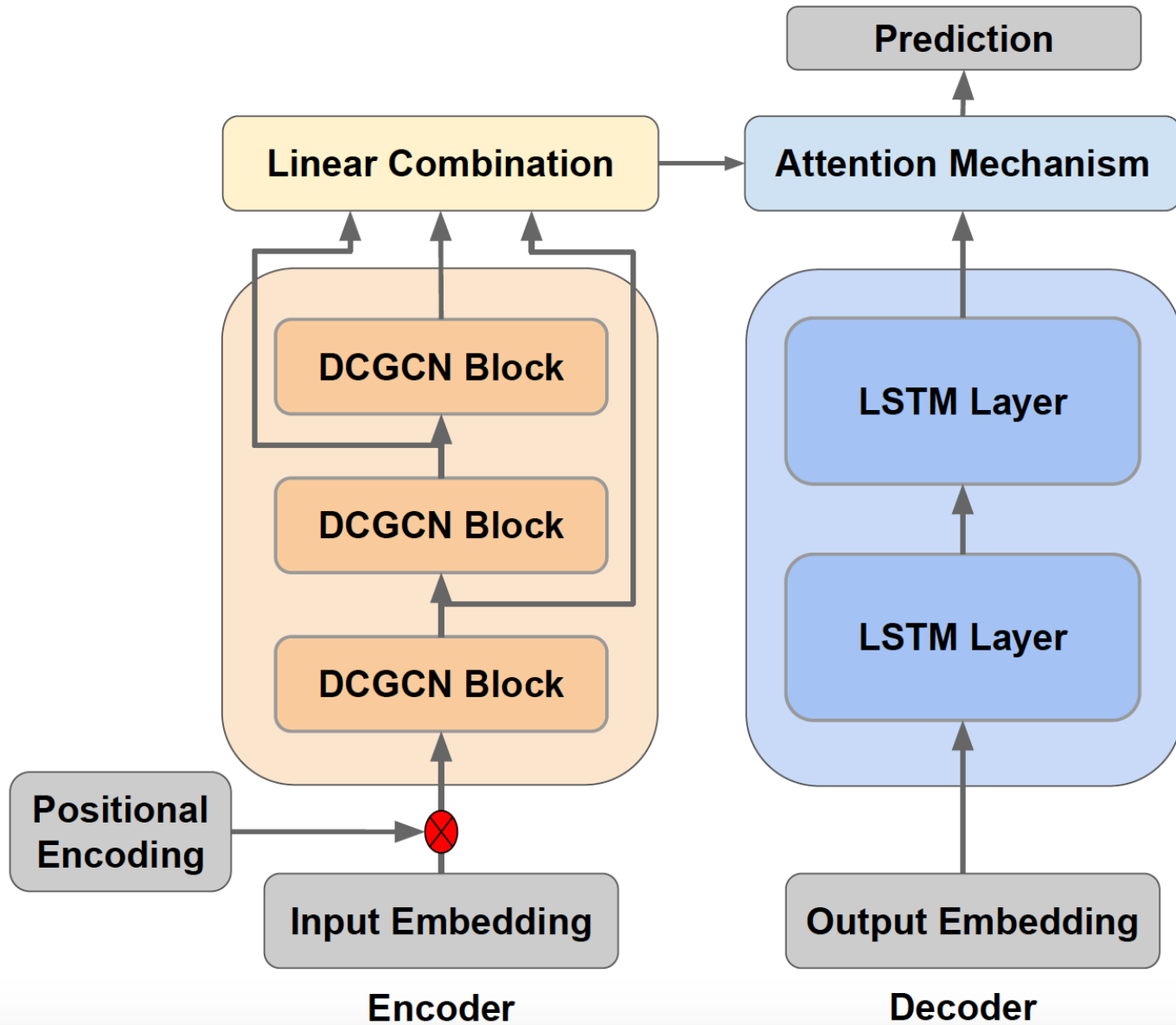


# Linear Combination Layer

This layer assigns **different weights** to outputs of different layers. Initial inputs of the sub-block are also incorporate by the residual connection.



# Graph-to-Sequence Model



# Experiments

## AMR-to-Text Generation

- AMR 2015
- AMR 2017

## Syntax-Based Machine Translation

- English-Czech (WMT 16)
- English-German (WMT 16)

# Data Statistics

<b>Dataset</b>	<b>Train</b>	<b>Dev</b>	<b>Test</b>
AMR 2015	16,833	1,368	1,371
AMR 2017	36,521	1,368	1,371
En-Cs	181,112	2,656	2,999
En-De	226,822	2,169	2,999

# AMR 2015

**Sequential Encoder:** LSTM (Konstas et al., 2017)

**Graph Encoder:** GS LSTM (Song et al., 2018)

GCN + LSTM (Damonte and Cohen , 2019 )

Model	External Data	BLEU
LSTM	No	22.0
GS LSTM	No	23.3
GCN + LSTM	No	24.4
<b>DCGCN</b>	No	<b>25.7</b>

# AMR 2015

## Using External Training Data (0.2M)

Model	External Data	BLEU
LSTM	0.2M	27.4
GS LSTM	0.2M	28.2
DCGCN	0.1M	29.0
<b>DCGCN</b>	0.2M	<b>31.6</b>

# AMR 2015

## Using External Training Data (0.3M)

Model	External Data	BLEU
LSTM	2M	32.3
LSTM	20M	33.8
GS LSTM	2M	33.6
DCGCN (Single)	0.3M	33.2
<b>DCGCN (Ensemble)</b>	<b>0.3M</b>	<b>35.3</b>

# AMR 2017 (Single)

**Sequential Encoder:** LSTM (Beck et al., 2017)

**Graph Encoder:** GGNNs (Beck et al., 2018)

GCN + LSTM (Damonte and Cohen , 2019 )

<b>Model</b>	<b>#Parameters</b>	<b>BLEU</b>	<b>CHRF++</b>
LSTM	28.4M	21.7	49.1
GGNNs	28.3M	23.3	50.4
GCN + LSTM	N/A	24.5	N/A
<b>DCGCN</b>	<b>18.5M</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>57.3</b>



# AMR 2017 (Ensemble)

**Sequential Encoder:** LSTM (Beck et al., 2017)

**Graph Encoder:** GGNNs (Beck et al., 2018)

<b>Model</b>	<b>#Parameters</b>	<b>BLEU</b>	<b>CHRF++</b>
LSTM	142.0M	26.6	52.5
GGNNs	141.0M	27.5	53.5
<b>DCGCN</b>	92.5M	<b>30.4</b>	<b>59.6</b>

# English-German

**Sequential Encoder:** LSTM (Konstas et al., 2017)

**Graph Encoder:** GGNNs(Beck et al., 2018)

BoW/CNN/RNN + GCN (Bastings et al., 2017)

Model	Type	#Param	BLEU	CHRF++
BoW + GCN	Single	N/A	12.2	N/A
CNN + GCN	Single	N/A	13.7	N/A
BiRNN + GCN	Single	N/A	16.1	N/A
Seq2Seq	Single	41.4M	15.5	40.8
GGNNs	Single	41.2M	16.7	42.4
Our DCGCN	Single	<b>29.7M</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>44.1</b>

# English-Gzech

**Sequential Encoder:** LSTM (Konstas et al., 2017)

**Graph Encoder:** GGNNs(Beck et al., 2018)

BoW/CNN/RNN + GCN (Bastings et al., 2017)

Model	Type	#Param	BLEU	CHRF++
BoW + GCN	Single	N/A	7.5	N/A
CNN + GCN	Single	N/A	8.7	N/A
BiRNN + GCN	Single	N/A	9.6	N/A
Seq2Seq	Single	41.4M	8.9	33.8
GGNNs	Single	41.2M	9.8	33.3
Our DCGCN	Single	<b>29.7M</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>37.1</b>

# Density of Connection

Model	BLEU
DCGCN	25.5
- {4} dense block	24.8
- {3, 4} dense block	23.8
- {2, 3, 4} dense blocks	23.2

# Ablation Test

<b>Model</b>	<b>BLEU</b>
DCGCN	25.5
- Global Node (GN)	24.2
- Linear Combination (LC)	23.7
- GN, LC	22.9

# Conclusion

- DCGCNs allow the encoder to better capture the **rich structural** information of a graph, especially when it is large.
- Future: investigate how other NLP applications can potentially benefit from our proposed approach.

# Thank You

Code available:

<http://www.statnlp.org/research/machine-learning>