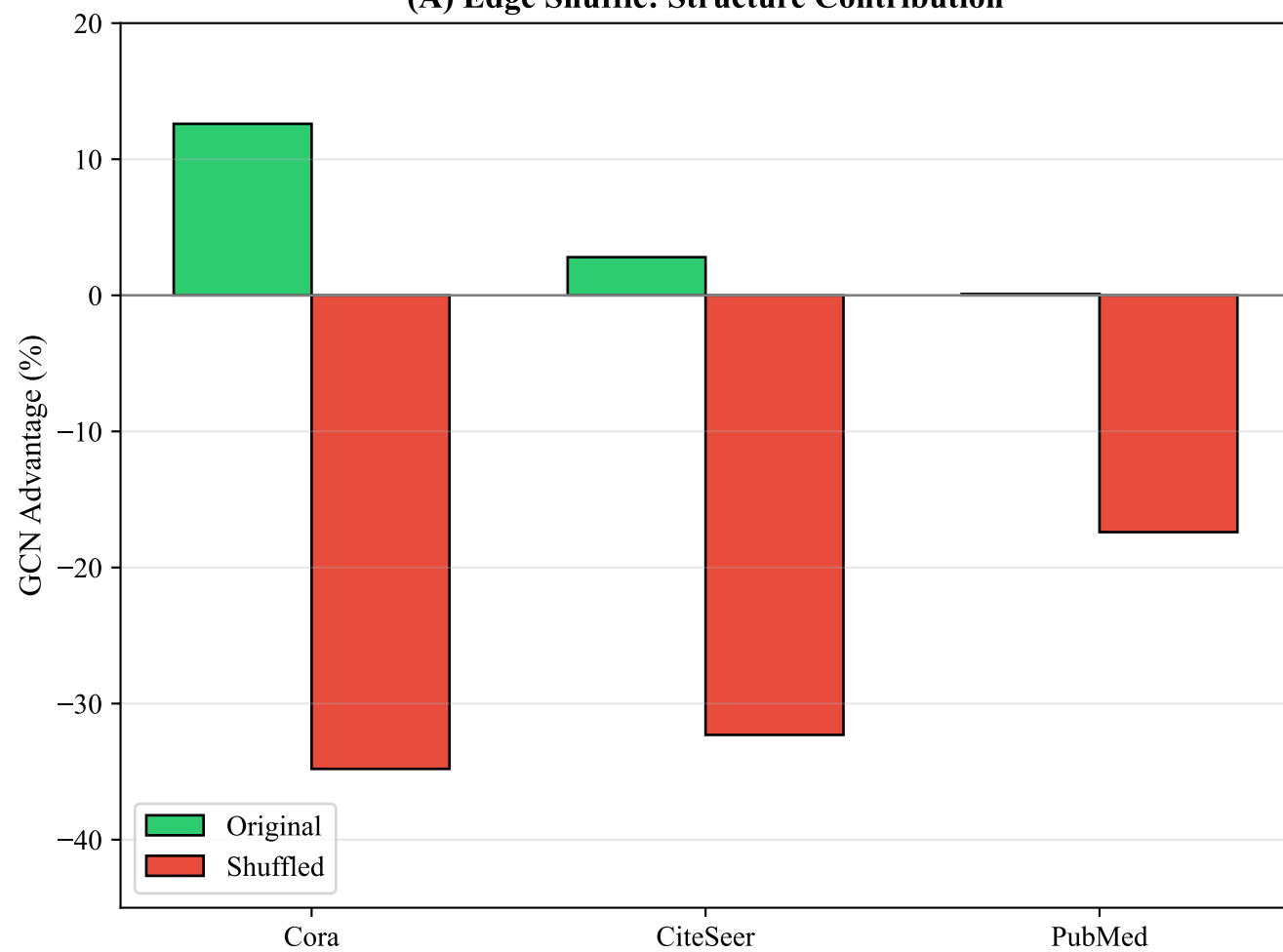
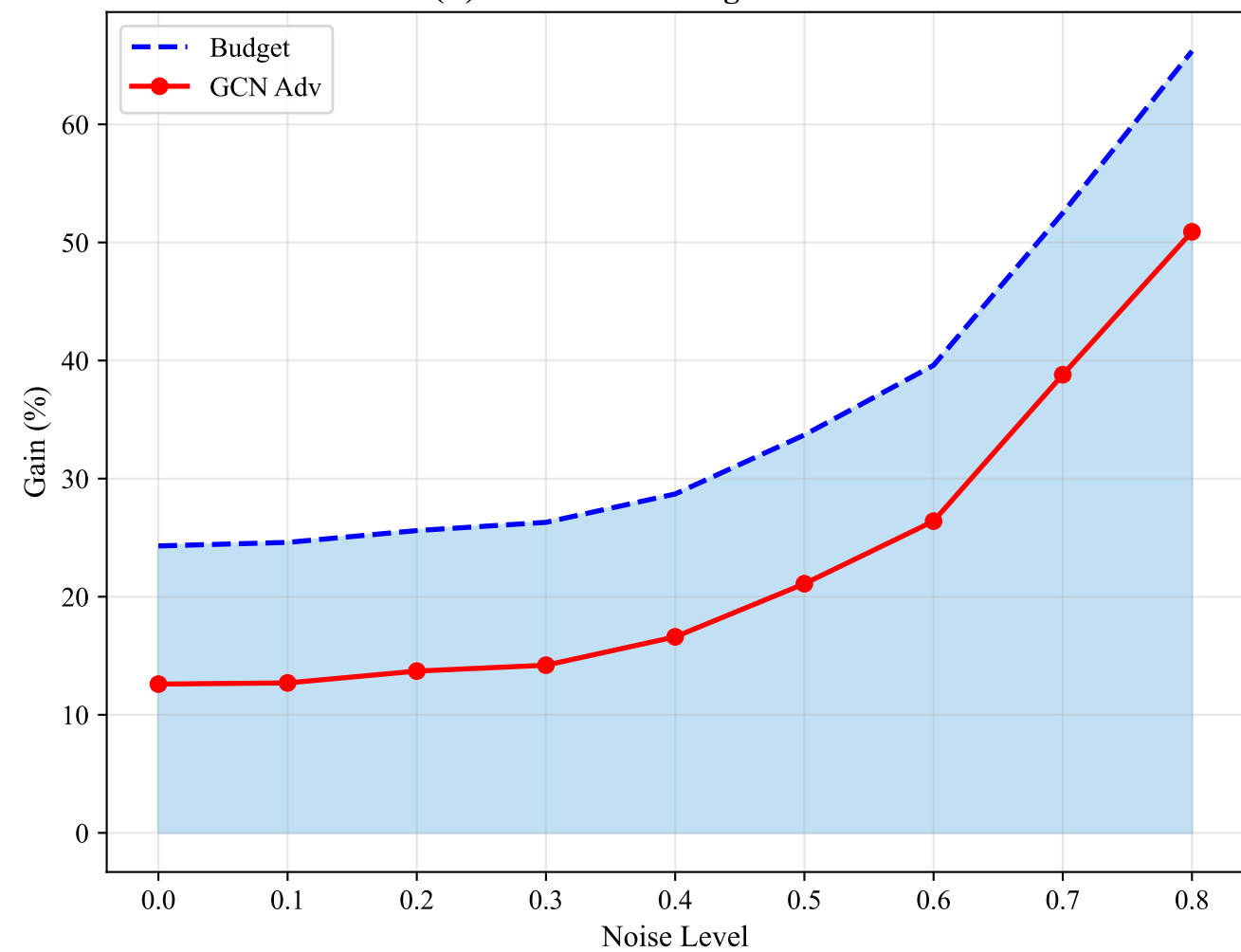
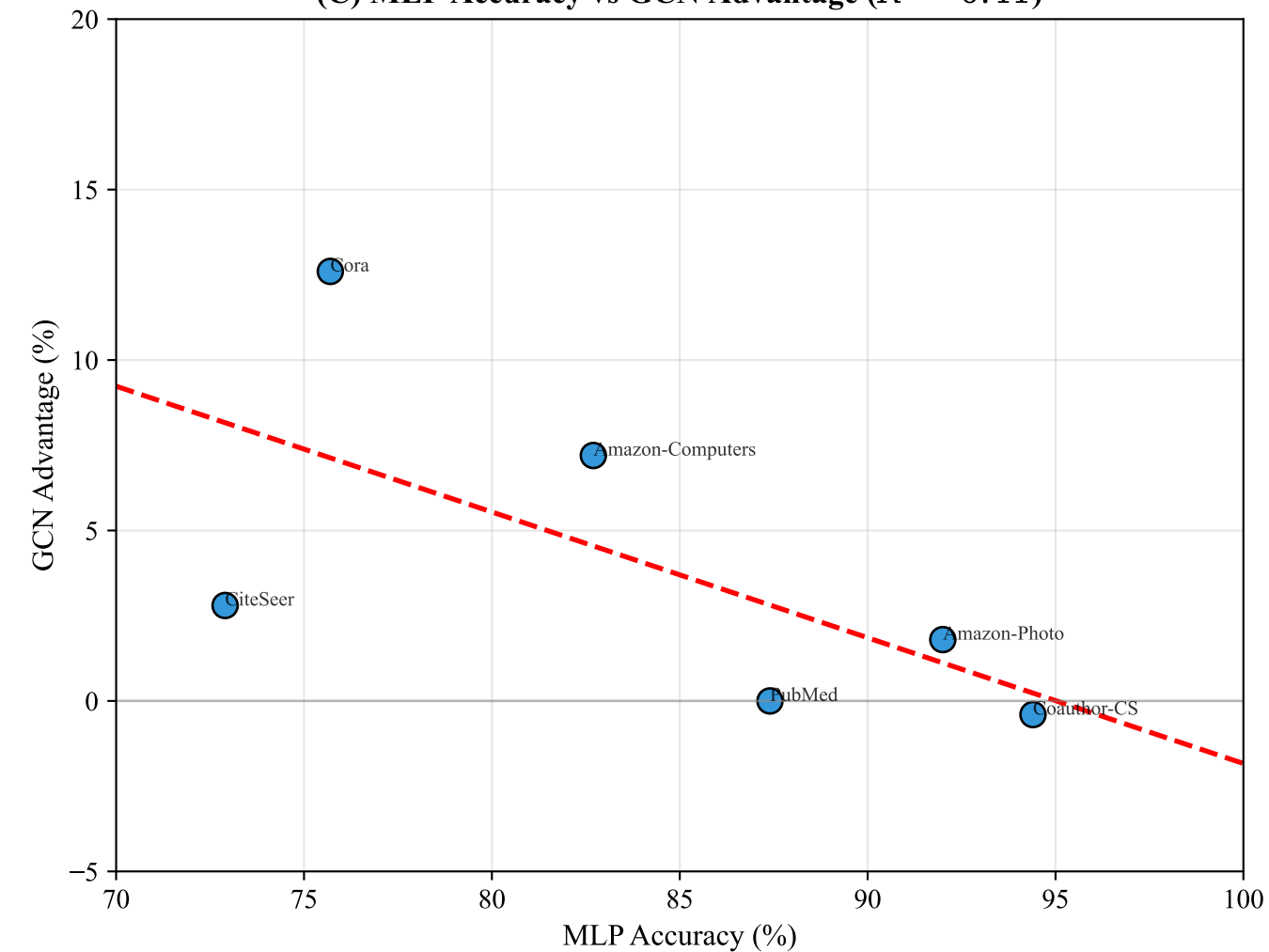


(A) Edge Shuffle: Structure Contribution



(B) Information Budget Validation

(C) MLP Accuracy vs GCN Advantage ($R^2 = 0.41$)

INFORMATION BUDGET THEORY

Core Principle:

$$\text{GNN_max_gain} \leq (1 - \text{MLP_accuracy})$$

Key Evidence:

- EDGE SHUFFLE (Panel A)**
 - Shuffling edges destroys GNN advantage
 - Cora: +12.6% \rightarrow -34.8%
 - Proves: Structure is essential
- BUDGET VALIDATION (Panel B)**
 - All 9 noise levels within budget
 - Violations: 0/9 (100% compliance)
 - Proves: GNN gain is bounded
- SAME-h DIFFERENT-MLP (Panel C)**
 - Cora vs Coauthor-CS: $h \approx 0.81$
 - MLP: 75.7% vs 94.4%
 - GCN_adv: +12.6% vs -0.4%
 - Proves: MLP (not h) determines utility

Conclusion:

GNN can only improve upon what MLP cannot explain. High feature quality leaves little room for structural gain.