



# Challenger 2: Brain Network Transformer

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# Strengths

## ❑ **Data: The insight of brain net data**

1. Fully connected graph.
2. Each row in connection profile implies edge information.

## ❑ **Models: simpler transformer, but better performance**

1. Cut position encoding
2. Cut edge weight.

## ❑ **Theoretical support**

Beyond previous works, the authors firstly try to theoretically prove the superior of orthonormal initialization of cluster centers.

# Further discussions

## ❑ Experimental results

1. The MHSA contributes more but it is discussed less than OCRead.

Remark: 1) connection as initial node feature, no position embeddings. 2) no edge weight attention.

Table 2: Performance comparison AUROC (%) with different readout functions.

Readout	Dataset: ABIDE			Dataset: ABCD		
	SAN	Graphormer	VanillaTF	SAN	Graphormer	VanillaTF
MEAN	63.7±2.4	50.1±1.1	73.4±1.4	88.5±0.9	87.6±1.3	91.3±0.7
MAX	61.9±2.5	54.5±3.6	75.6±1.4	87.4±1.1	81.6±0.8	94.4±0.6
SUM	62.0±2.3	54.1±1.3	70.3±1.6	84.2±0.8	71.5±0.9	91.6±0.6
SortPooling	68.7±2.3	51.3±2.2	72.4±1.3	84.6±1.1	86.7±1.0	89.9±0.6
DiffPool	57.4±5.2	50.5±4.7	62.9±7.3	78.1±1.5	70.0±1.9	83.9±1.3
CONCAT	<b>71.3±2.1</b>	63.5±3.7	76.4±1.2	90.1±1.2	89.0±1.4	94.3±0.7
OCREAD	70.6±2.4	<b>64.9±2.7</b>	<b>80.2±1.0</b>	<b>91.2±0.7</b>	<b>90.2±0.7</b>	<b>96.2±0.4</b>

# Further discussions

## ❑ Experimental results

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## ❑ Fully connected X & Attention Mechanism

2. Input X is a fully connected graph where each entry denotes the relation/similarity between a pair of nodes, which can be seen as a kind of attention. BrainNet, which conducts transformer on such X, is partly essentially an  $l+1$ -hop attention aggregation process. From this view, there could be **a discussion about 1-hop and  $l+1$ -hop aggregation.**

$$Z^l = (\|_{m=1}^M h^{l,m}) W_O^l, h^{l,m} = \text{Softmax} \left( \frac{W_Q^{l,m} Z^{l-1} (W_K^{l,m} Z^{l-1})^\top}{\sqrt{d_K^{l,m}}} \right) W_V^{l,m} Z^{l-1}, \quad (1)$$

Multi-hop attention

Original (1-hop) attention

where  $Z^0 = \boxed{X}$ ,  $\|$  is the concatenation operator,  $M$  is the number of heads,  $l$  is the layer index,  $W_O^l, W_Q^{l,m}, W_K^{l,m}, W_V^{l,m}$  are learnable model parameters, and  $d_K^{l,m}$  is the first dimension of  $W_K^{l,m}$ .

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## ❑ Selected Tasks

3. The selected binary classification tasks are relatively simple. More complex tasks can better demonstrate the effectiveness.





# Thanks!

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