

SCARLET: Explainable Attention based Graph Neural Network for Fake News spreader prediction

Bhavtosh Rath¹, Xavier Morales², and Jaideep Srivastava¹

¹ University of Minnesota, USA
rathx082@umn.edu, srivasta@umn.edu

² Harvard College
xavier_morales@college.harvard.edu

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211026 Chia-Chun Ho

Outline

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Introduction

False information on social network

- Social network platforms like [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [WhatsApp](#) are used by millions around the world to share information and opinions.
- Often, the [veracity of content](#) shared on these platforms is [not confirmed](#).
- This gives rise to scenarios where [information having conflicting veracity](#), i.e. [false information and its refutation](#), co-exist.
- Refutation can be defined as [true information](#) which fact checks claims made by a false information.

Introduction

False information spreading

- An equally important problem with fake news detection is that of preventing the impact of false information spreading.
- Techniques involve suppression of false information, as well as accelerating the spread of its refutation.
- Being able to predict the likely action of such users before they are exposed to false information is an important aspect of such a strategy.

Introduction

False information spreading

- Node identified as **vulnerable to believing false information** can thus
 - Be **cautioned** about the presence of the false information so that don't propagate it.
 - Be **urged** to propagate its refutation.

Introduction

False information spreading

- While optimization models based on [information diffusion theories](#) have been proposed in the past for [misinformation containment](#).
- Recent advancements in [deep learning on graphs](#) serve as the motivation to explore false information control models.
- These models use components that exist [even before false information starts spreading](#), namely the underlying [network structure](#) and people's [historical behavioral data](#).

Introduction

Trust and Credibility meanings

- Trust and Credibility are important **psychological** and **sociological** concepts respectively, that have subtle differences in their meanings.
- **Trust**
 - represents the **confidence** one person has in another person.
- **Credibility**
 - represents **generalized confidence** in a person based on their perceived performance record.

Introduction

Trust and Credibility in graph representation

- Thus, in a graph representation of a social network.
- Trust
 - Property of a (directed) edge.
- Credibility
 - Property of an individual node.

Introduction

Proposed method

- Metzger et al.* showed that the interpretation of a neighbor's credibility by a node relies on its perception of the neighbor based on their trust dynamics.
- Motivated with this idea, propose a graph neural network model that integrates people's **credibility** and **interpersonal trust features** in a social network to predict whether a node is **likely to spread false information or not**.

Introduction

Contribution

- Propose SCARLET, a novel **user-centric** using **graph neural network with attention mechanism** to predict whether a node will most likely **spread false information**, its **refutation** or be a **non-spreader**.
- Demonstrate that a person's decision to spread a false information is **sensitive to its perception of neighbor's credibility**, and this perception is a function of trust dynamics with the neighbors.
- To best of authors' knowledge, this's the first model being evaluated on real world Twitter datasets of **co-existing false and refutation information**.

Related Work

of false information spreading

- **Credibility perception** to be an important factor for believing false information.
- **Interpersonal trust** also played an important role in rumor transmission.
- Many computational techniques to combat false information spreading have been explored over the past decade, as summarized by Sharma et al.
- Most models rely on **generating relevant features from the information** that help distinguish false information from true.

Related Work

of false information spreading

- Budak et al. proposed an [optimization strategy](#) to identify false information spreaders in a network who, when [convinced by its refutation](#), would minimize the number of people receiving the false information.
- Nguyen et al. proposed [greedy approaches](#) to a similar problem of limiting the spread of false information in social networks.
- More recently, Tong et al. studied the problem as a [multiple cascade diffusion](#) problem.

Preliminaries

Interpersonal Trust-based features: Global Trust T_r^G

- Global trust are trust scores that are computed on the **directed follower-follower network** around information spreaders.
- Individual's trust score is **sensitive to changes in the network structure**.
- Using the **Trust in Social Media (TSM)** algorithm, quantify the likelihood of trusting others and being trusted by others.

Preliminaries

Interpersonal Trust-based features: Global Trust T_r^G

- TSM algorithm uses a **directed graph** $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ as input, together with a specified **convergence criteria**, and computes trustingness and trustworthiness scores:

- **Trustingness:**

$$ti(v) = \sum_{\forall x \in out(v)} \left(\frac{w(v, x)}{1 + (tw(x))^s} \right)$$

- **Trustworthiness:**

$$tw(u) = \sum_{\forall x \in in(u)} \left(\frac{w(x, u)}{1 + (ti(x))^s} \right)$$

- $u, v, x \in \mathcal{V}$: nodes
- $w(v, x)$: weight of edge from v to x
- $out(v)$: set of out-edges of v
- $in(u)$: set of in-edges of u
- s : involvement score of the network

Preliminaries

Interpersonal Trust-based features: Local Trust T_r^L

- Computed based on the retweeting behavior of an individual.
- It's termed local because the trust score depends on node's behavior, and not on the network structure.
- Consider the proxy for trusting others as fraction of tweets of x that are retweets (RT_x) denoted by $\sum_{\forall i \in t} \{1 \text{ if } i = RT_x \text{ else } 0\} / n(t)$.
- Consider the proxy for trusted by others as the average number of times x 's tweets are retweeted ($n(RT)$) denoted by $\sum_{\forall i \in t} i_{n(RT_x)} / n(t)$.

Preliminaries

Credibility-based features: User-based Credibility C_r^U

- Extracted from **user metadata** of nodes in the network.
- **Registration age (U1)**: time that has transpired since a user created their account. **Older** accounts tend to be associated with **more credible** users.
- **Overall activity count (U2)**: Activity or statuses count is the number of tweets issued by a user. **Low credibility** is associated with users **who have less activity** on their timeline.
- **Is verified (U3)**: This label suggests whether a user account is marked as authentic or not by Twitter. **Verified** accounts are more likely to be **credible**.

Preliminaries

Credibility-based features: Content-based Credibility C_r^C

- Obtained by aggregating a user's timeline activity.
- Do not make a distinction between information that is specifically related to news or not, as that process would require manually assessing newsworthiness of the tweets.
- Emotions conveyed by user (M1): represent positive or negative sentiments associated with a tweet. Strong sentiments are usually associated with non-credible users.
- Level of uncertainty (M2): quantified as the fraction of user's tweets that are questioning in nature. Tweet with a high level of uncertainty tend to be less credible.
- External source citation (M3): quantified as the fraction of user's tweets that cite an external URL. Tweets which cite URLs tend to be more credible.

Proposed Approach

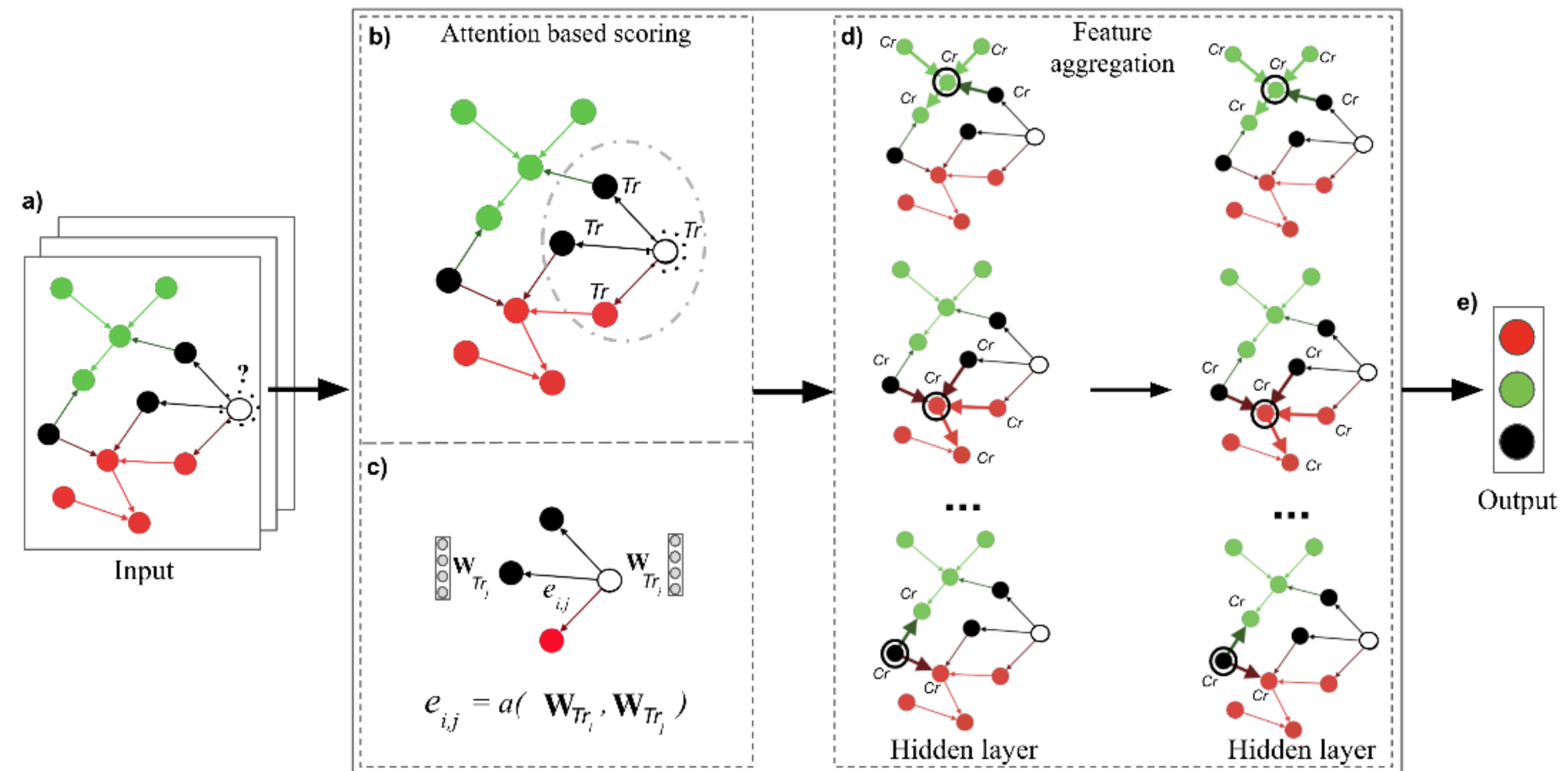
Problem formulation

- Let $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ be a directed social network containing false information spreaders (\mathcal{V}_F), refutation information spreaders (\mathcal{V}_T) and non-spreaders ($\mathcal{V}_{\hat{s}_p}$) at a time instance $t(\{\mathcal{V}_F \cup \mathcal{V}_T \cup \mathcal{V}_{\hat{s}_p}\}) \subset \mathcal{V}$.
- By assigning importance score using global (T_r^G) and local (T_r^L) trust features ($T_r = T_r^G \parallel T_r^L$), and aggregating user-based (C_r^U) and content-based (C_r^C) credibility features ($C_r = C_r^U \parallel C_r^C$) of node i and its neighborhood nodes \mathcal{N}_i^K sampled till depth K .
- Predict whether i is more likely to spread false information, refutation information or be non-spreader at future time $t + \Delta t$.

Proposed Approach

Framework Overview

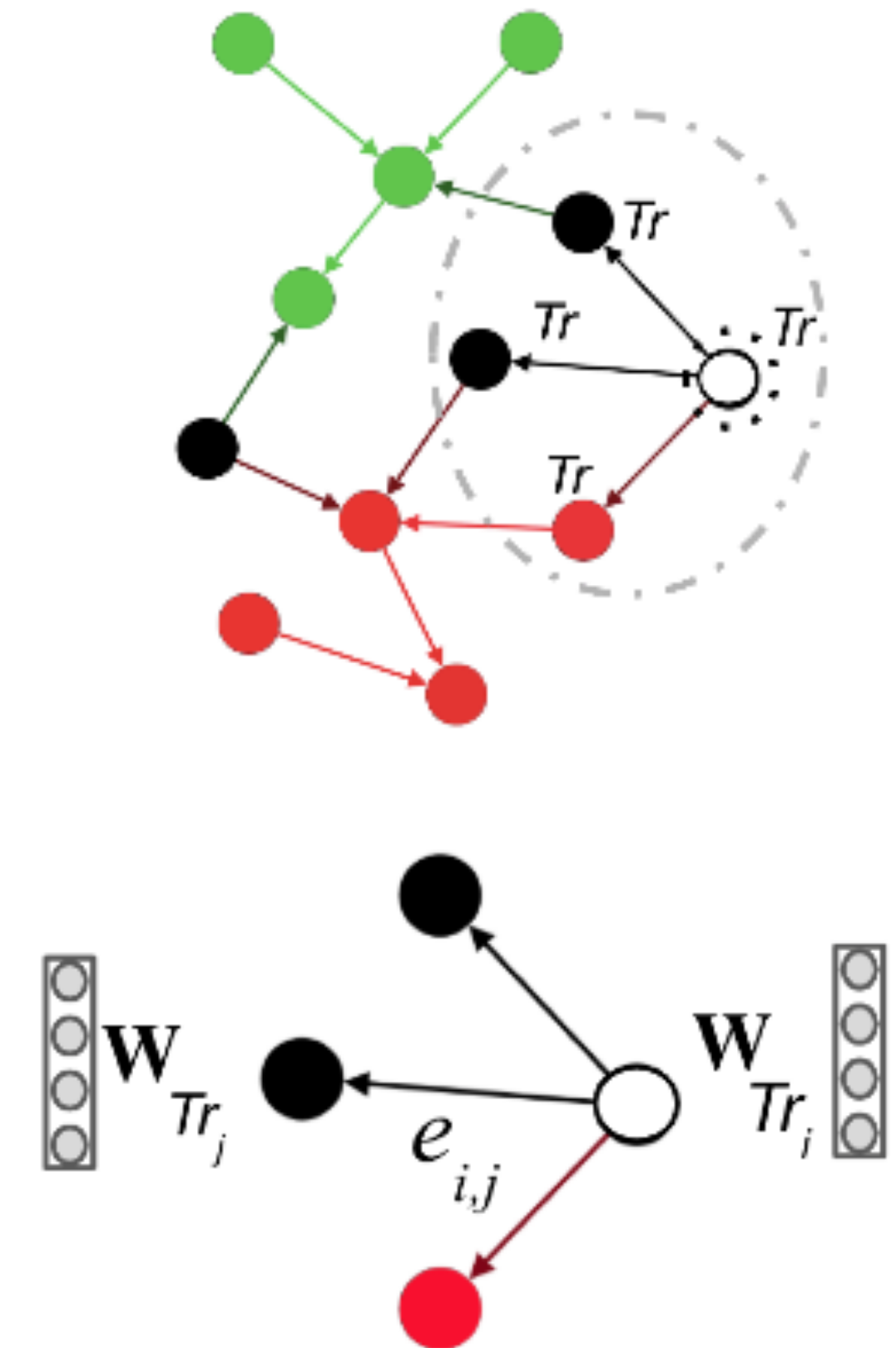
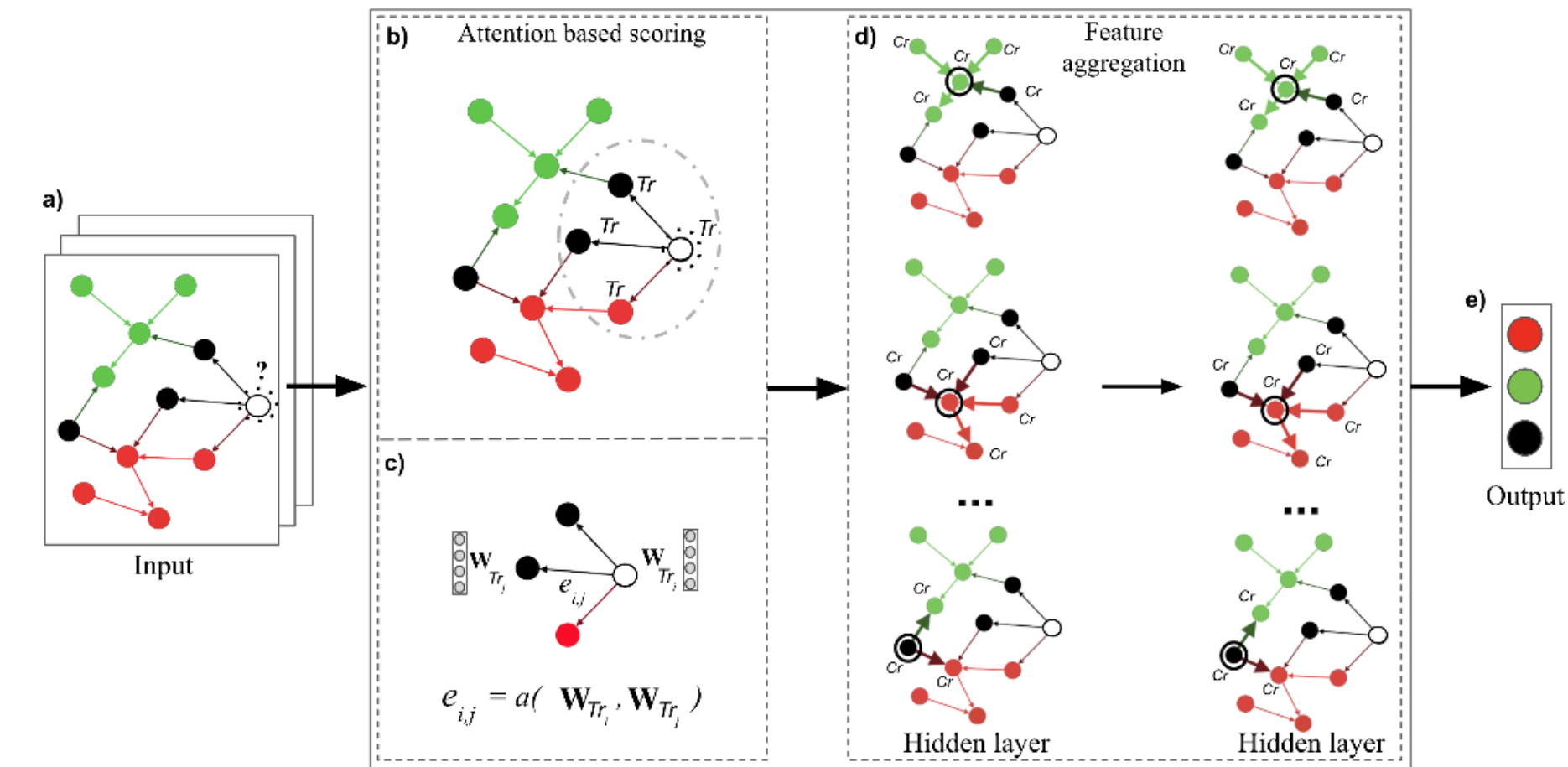
- Assign an **importance score** to **neighborhood nodes** sampled till depth K based on **trust (T_r)** features with **attention** mechanism.
- Learn representation using **GCN** by **aggregating credibility (C_r)** features proportional to importance scores assigned for the neighborhood nodes.
- Classification** its node.



Proposed Approach

Importance score using attention

- Apply a **graph attention mechanism** which attends over the neighborhood of i and, based on their trust features, assigns an **importance score to every j ($j \in \mathcal{N}_i$)**.
- First, every node is assigned a **parameterized weight matrix (\mathbf{W})** to perform **linear transformation**.
- Then self-attention is performed **using a shared attention mechanism a** which computes trust-based importance scores.



Proposed Approach

Importance score using attention

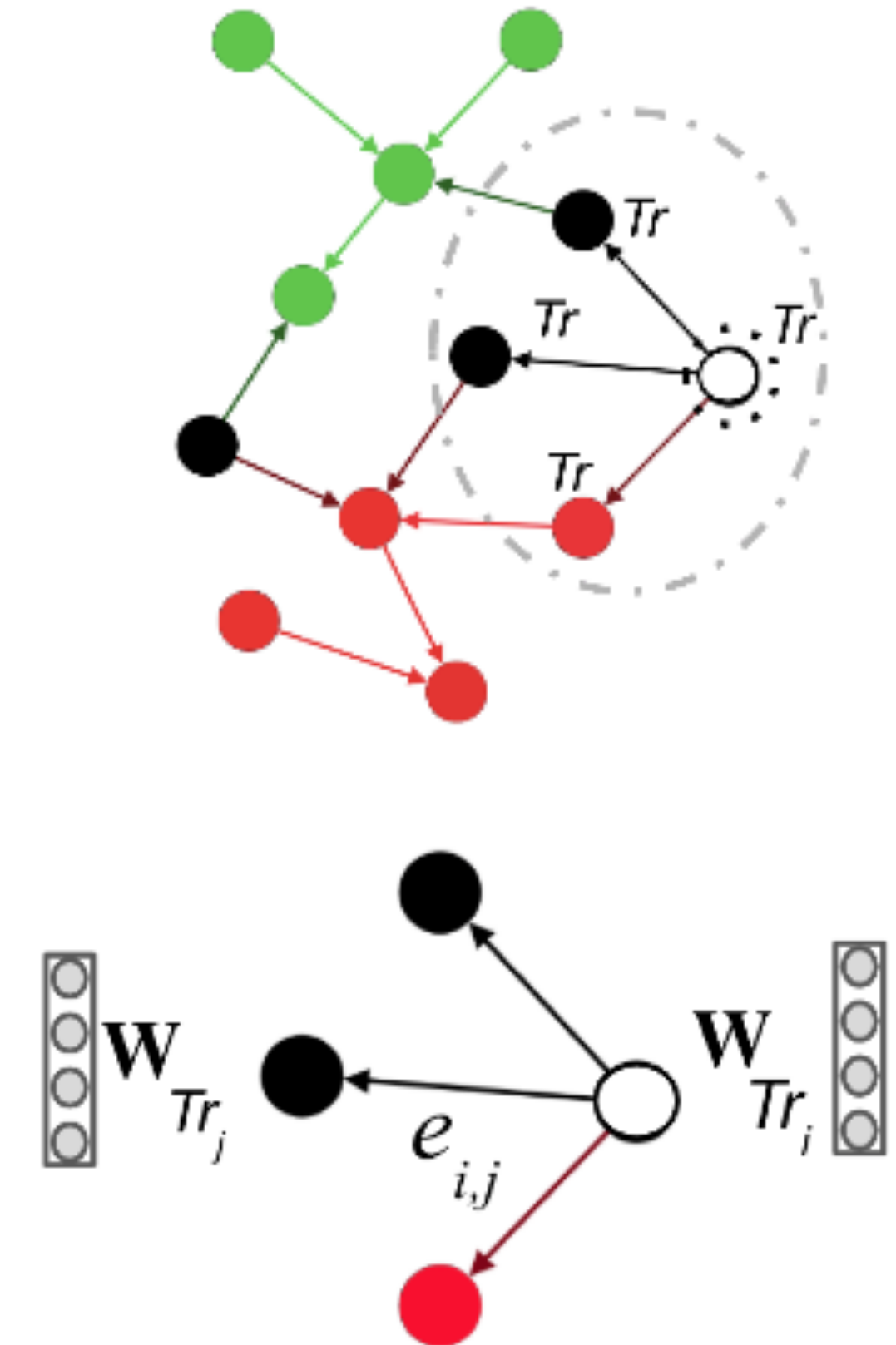
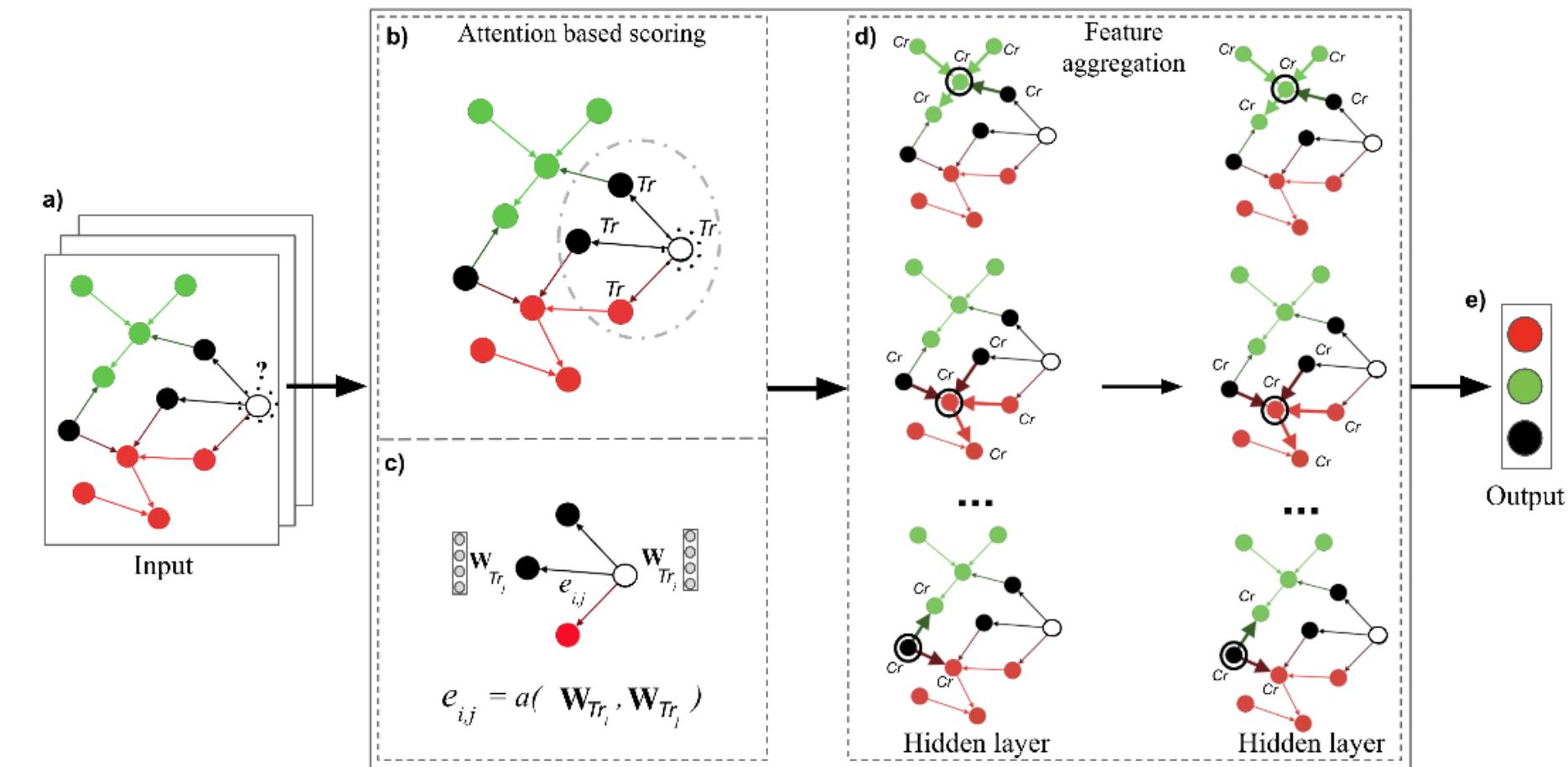
- Unnormalized trust score between i, j is represented as

- $$e_{ij} = a \left(\mathbf{W}_{Tr_i}, \mathbf{W}_{Tr_j} \right)$$

- e_{ij} quantifies j 's importance to i in the context of interpersonal trust.

- Perform masked attention by only considering nodes in \mathcal{N}_i .

- This way aggregate features based only on neighborhood's structure.



Proposed Approach

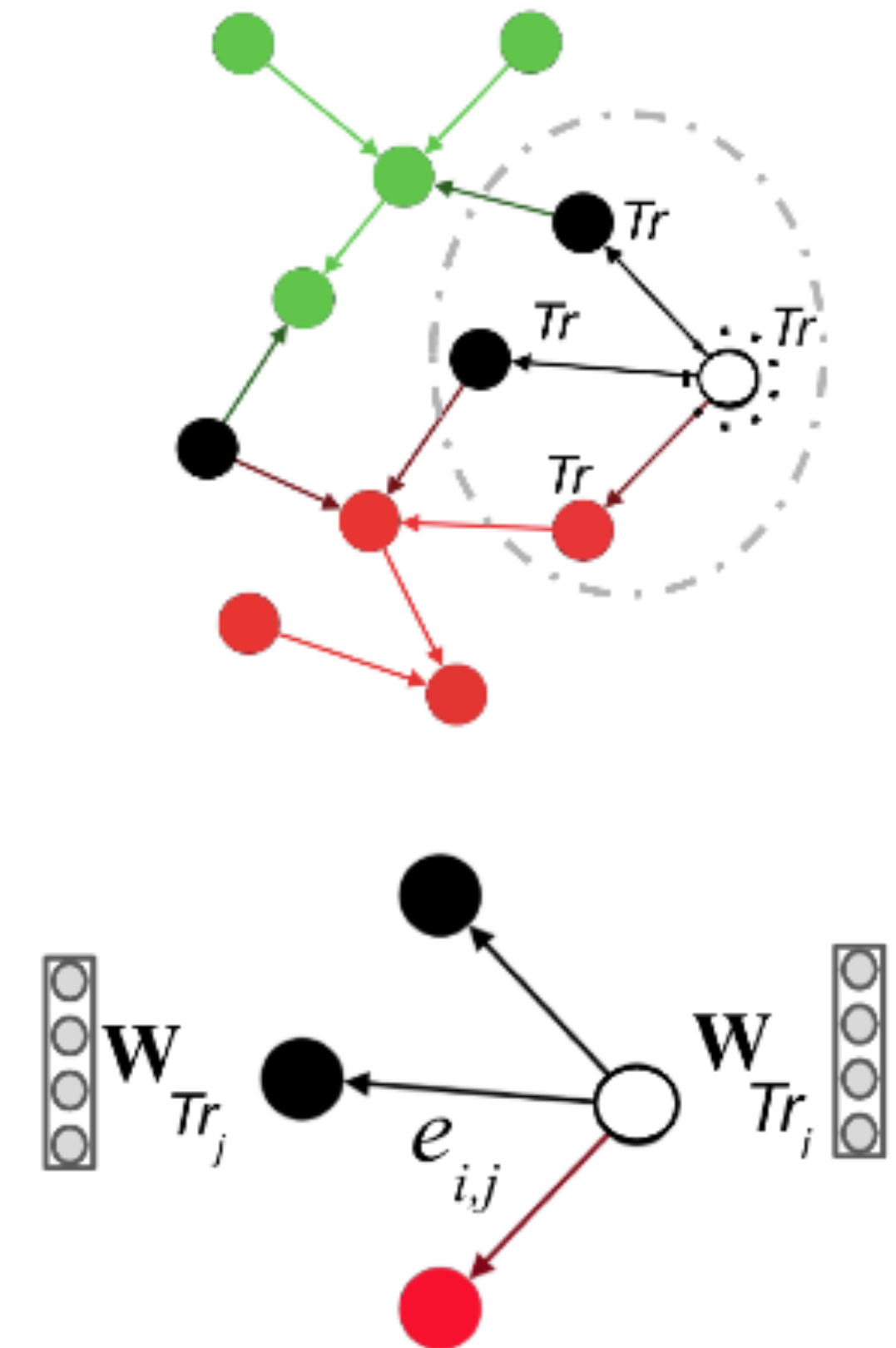
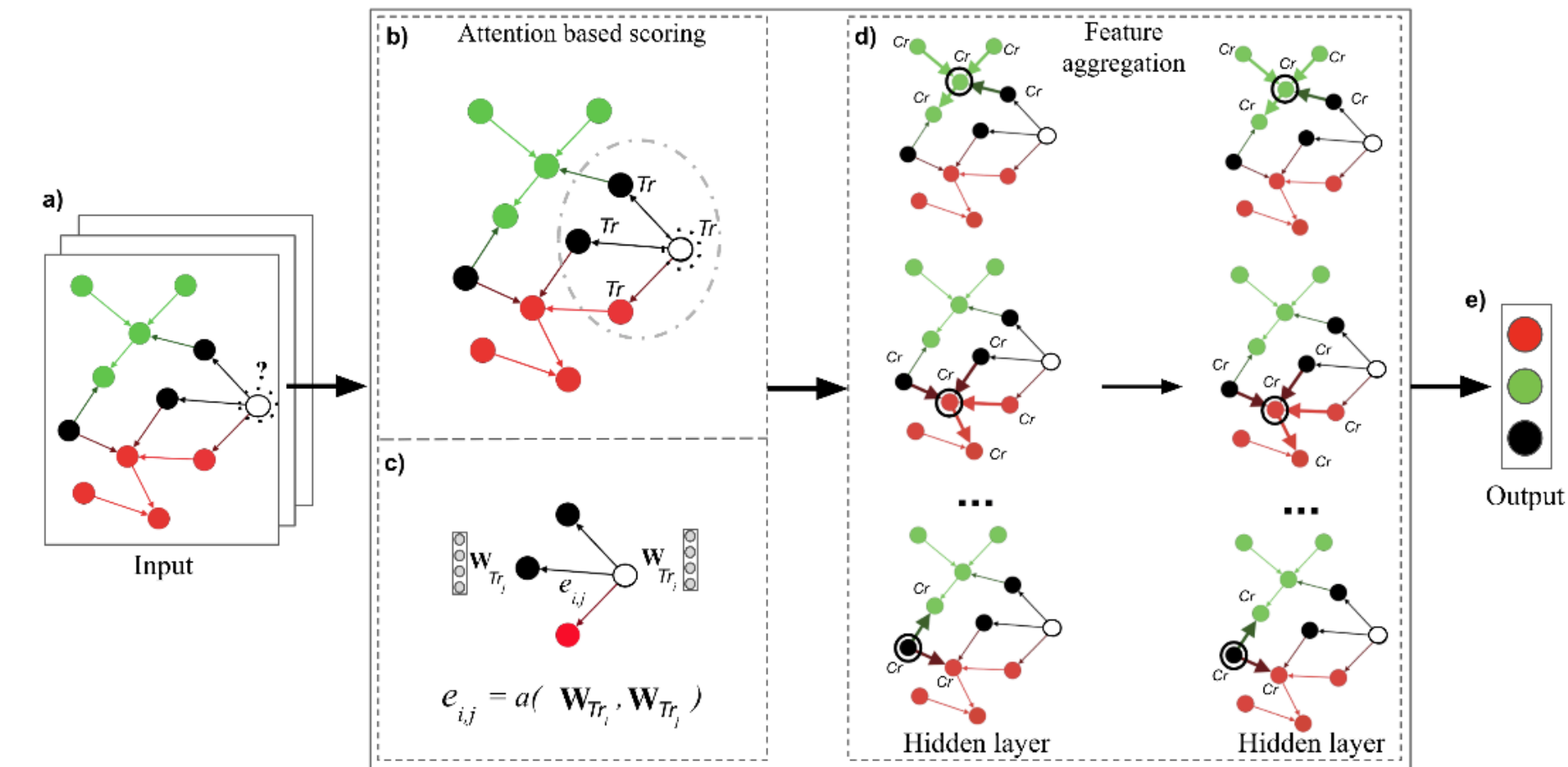
Importance score using attention

- To make the importance scores comparable across all neighbors, **normalize them using the softmax function**.

$$\alpha_{ij} = \text{softmax}(e_{ij}) = \frac{\exp(e_{ij})}{\sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_i} \exp(e_{ik})}$$

- Attention layer a is parameterized by weight vector \mathbf{a} and applied using **LeakyReLU nonlinearity**.

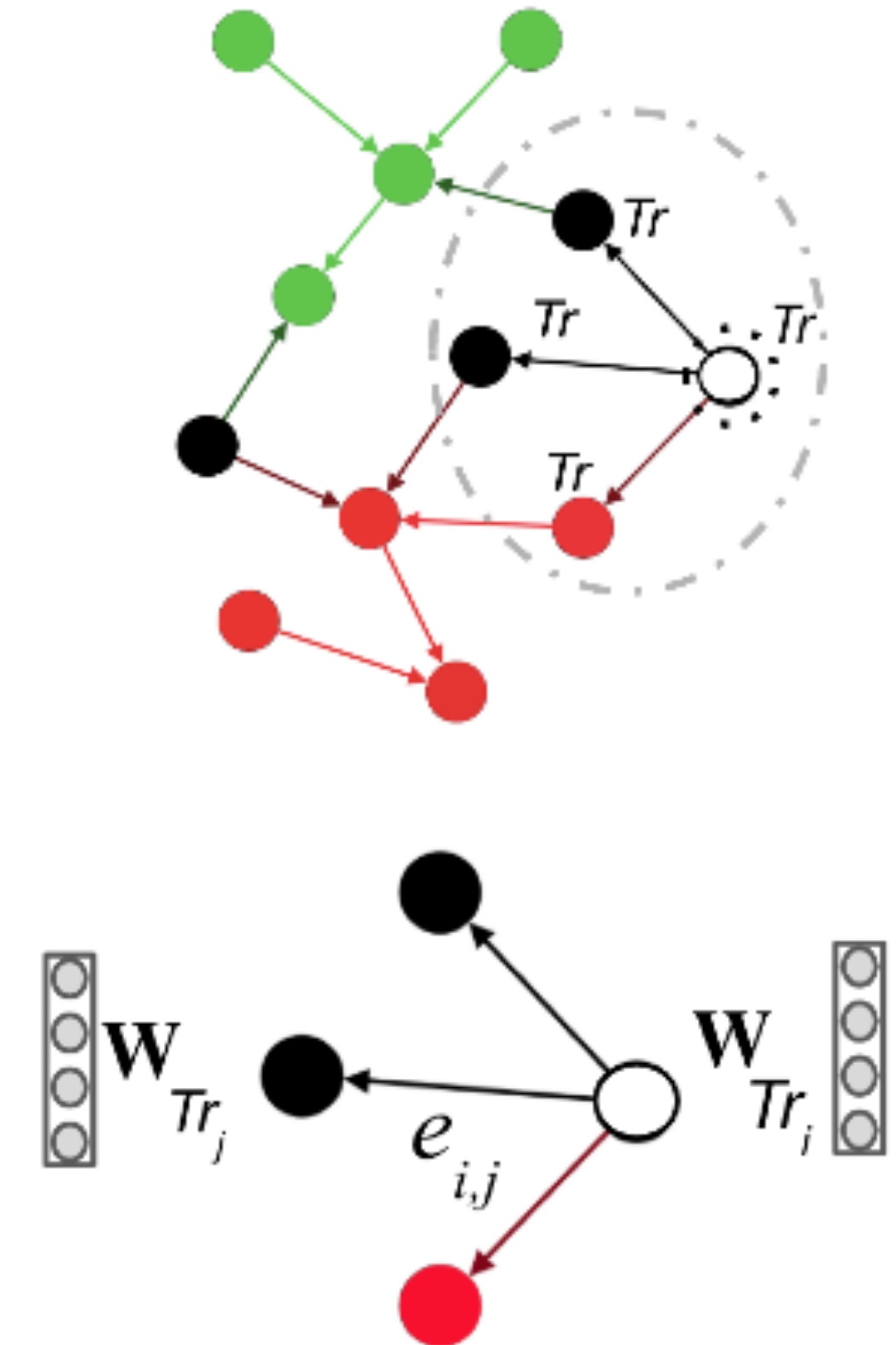
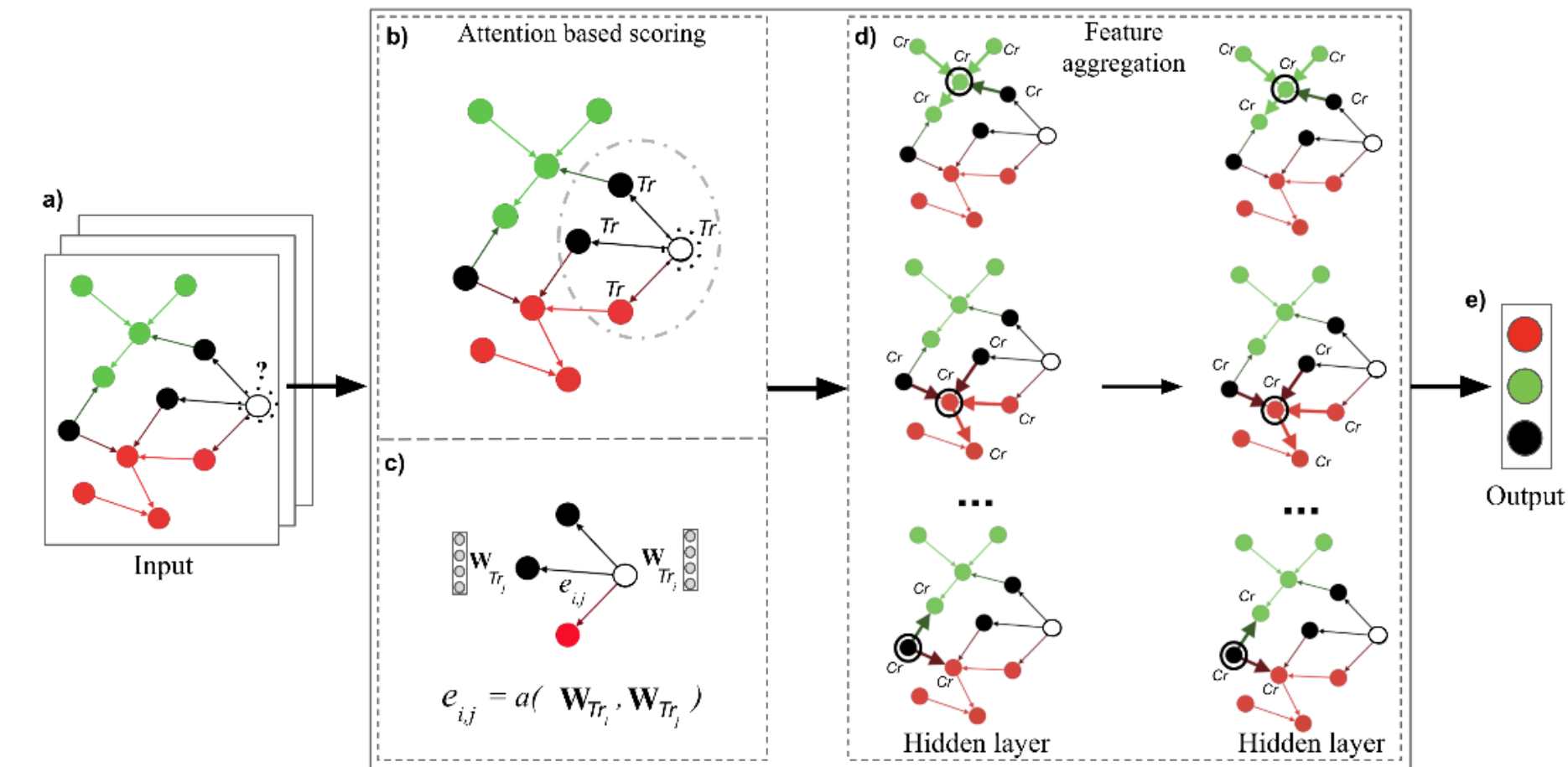
$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{\exp(\text{LeakyReLU}(\mathbf{a}^T [\mathbf{W}_{Tr_i} \| \mathbf{W}_{Tr_j}]))}{\sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_i} \exp(\text{LeakyReLU}(\mathbf{a}^T [\mathbf{W}_{Tr_i} \| \mathbf{W}_{Tr_k}]))}$$



Proposed Approach

Importance score using attention

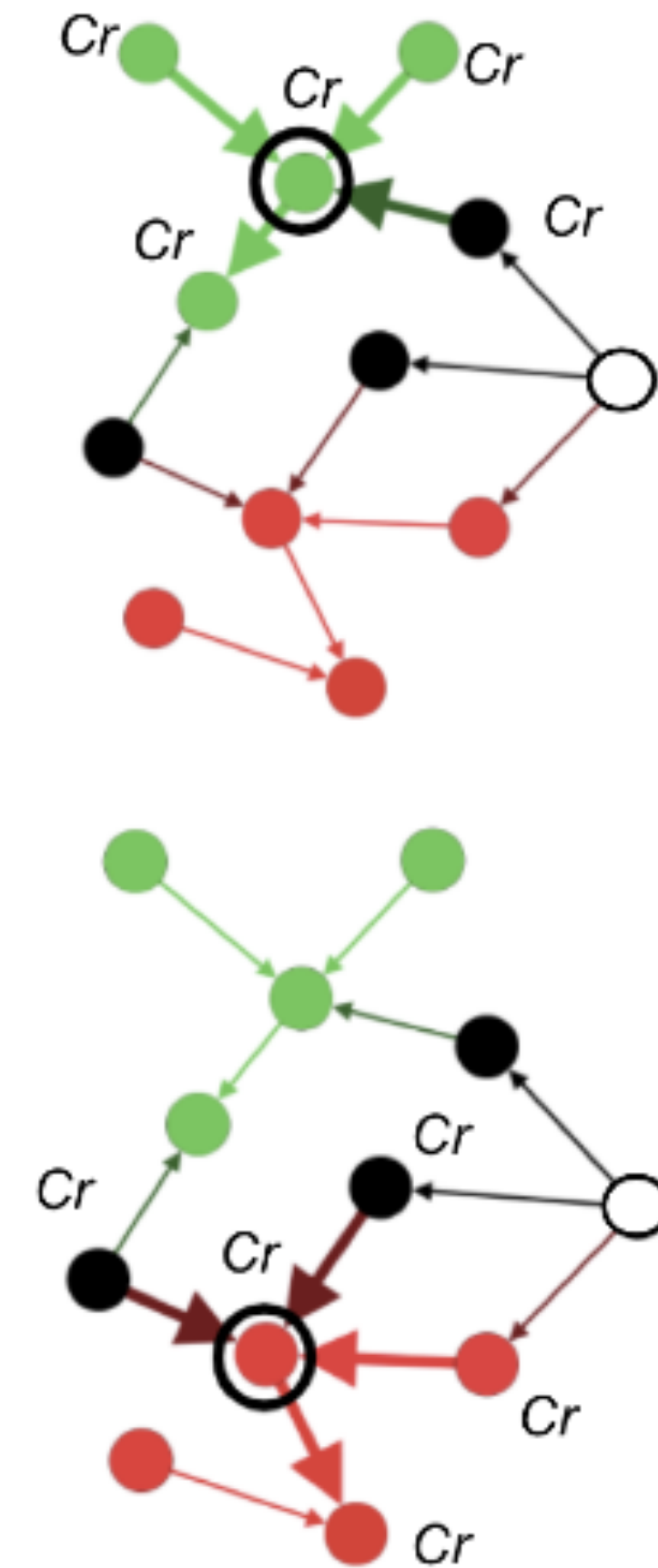
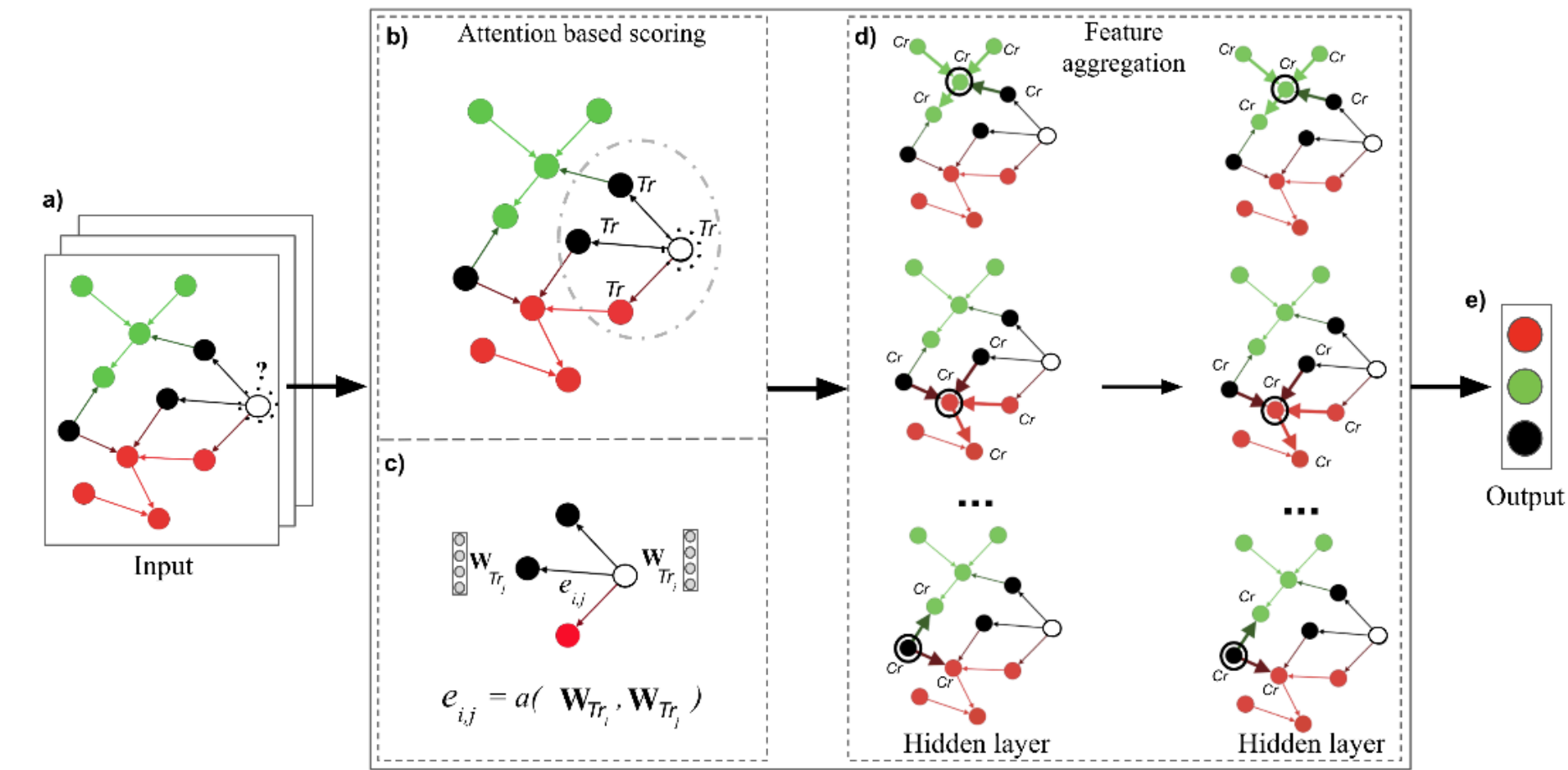
- $$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{\exp(\text{LeakyReLU}(\mathbf{a}^T[\mathbf{W}_{Tr_i} \parallel \mathbf{W}_{Tr_j}]))}{\sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_i} \exp(\text{LeakyReLU}(\mathbf{a}^T[\mathbf{W}_{Tr_i} \parallel \mathbf{W}_{Tr_k}]))}$$
- a_{ij} represents trust between i and j with respect to all nodes in \mathcal{N}_i .
- Each a_{ij} obtained for the edges is used to create an attention-based adjacency matrix $\hat{A}_{atn} = [a_{ij}]_{|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{V}|}$ which is later used to aggregate credibility features.



Proposed Approach

Feature aggregation

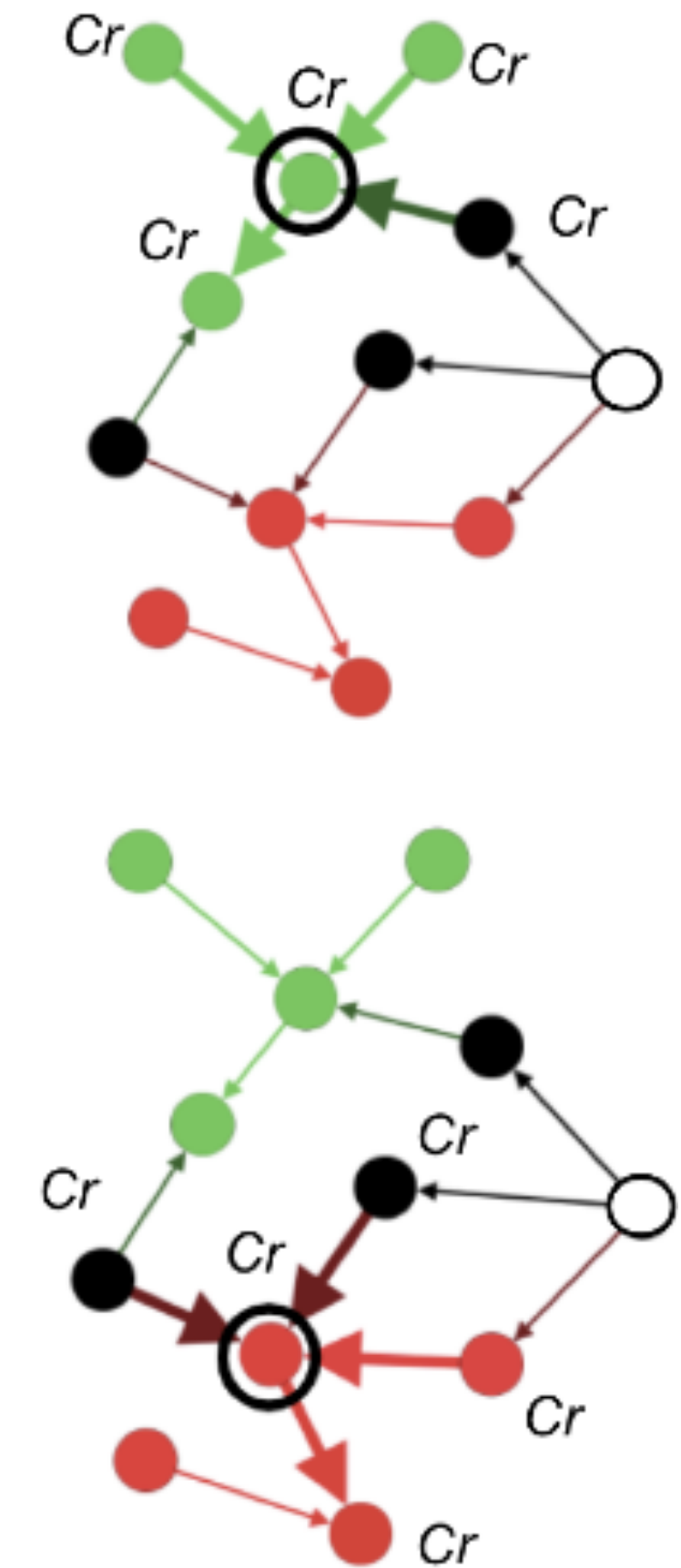
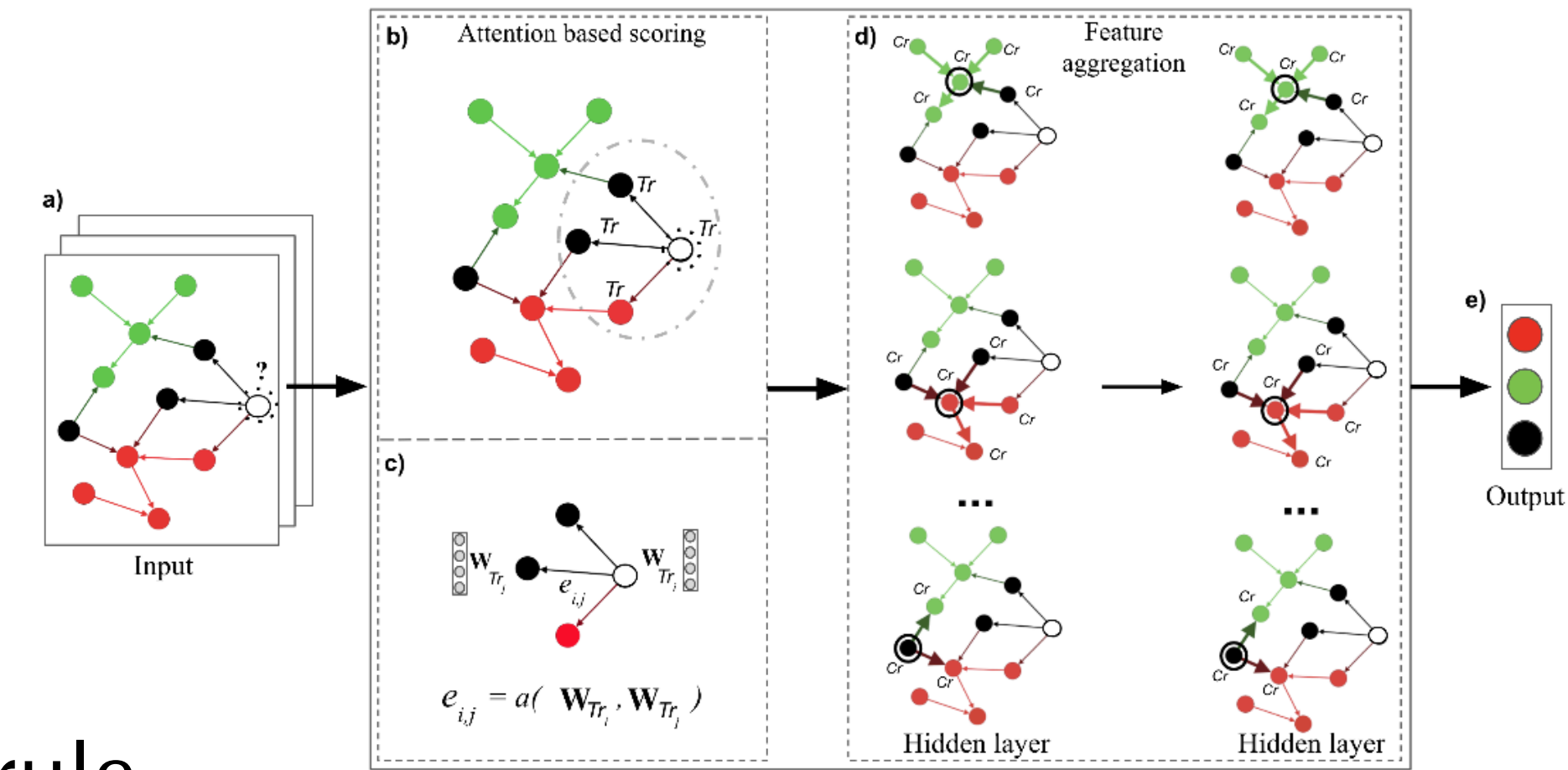
- GCN is a GNN model that **efficiently aggregates features from a node's neighborhood**.
- It consists of multiple NN layers where the information propagation between layers can be generalized by $H^{(l+1)} = f(H^{(l)}, A)$.
- H : hidden layer ($H^{(0)} = C_r, H^{(L)} = Z$)
- A : **adjacency matrix** representation of subgraph.
- Z : **node-level output** during transformation



Proposed Approach

Feature aggregation

- Implement a **GCN with 2 hidden layers** using a propagation rule.
- $H^{(l+1)} = \sigma(\hat{D}^{-1/2} \hat{A} \hat{D}^{-1/2} H^{(l)} W^{(l)})$
- $\hat{A} = A + I$, ensures that include **self-features during aggregation** of neighbor's credibility features.
- \hat{D} is the **diagonal matrix** of node degrees for \hat{A} , where $D_{ij} = \sum_j \hat{A}_{ij}$.
- Symmetric normalization of \hat{D} ensures model is **not sensitive to varying scale of the features** being aggregated.

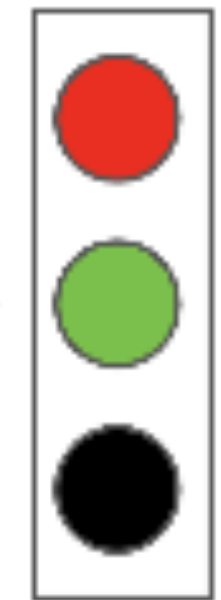
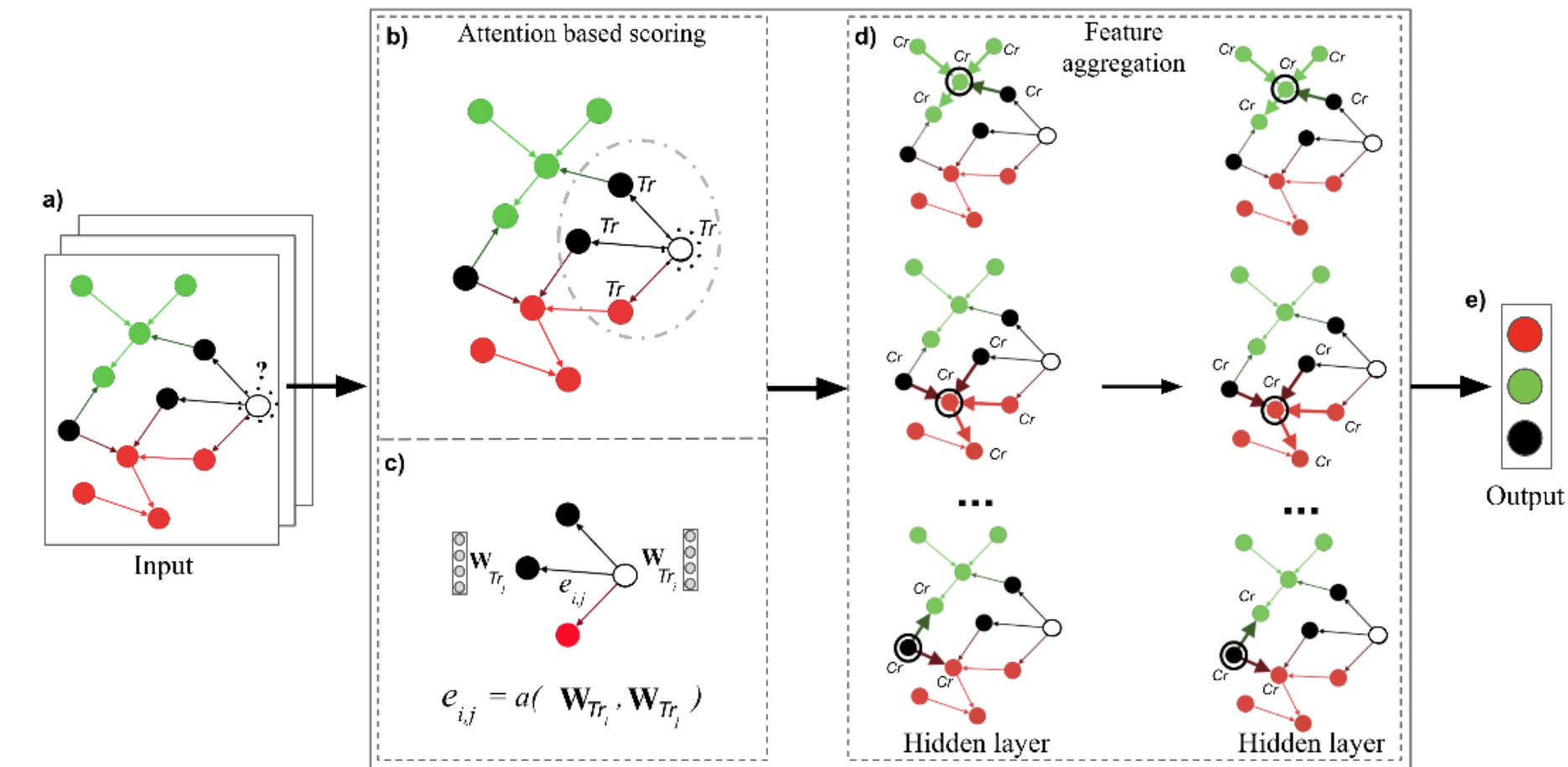


Proposed Approach

Node classification

- Using credibility features and network structure for nodes in i 's neighborhood, node representations are learned from the graph using a **symmetric adjacency matrix** with **attention-based edge weights**.
- Forward propagation model is applied:
 - $Z = f(X, \hat{A}_{atn}') = \text{softmax}(\hat{A} \text{ReLU}(\hat{A}XW^{(0)})W^{(1)})$
- X : credibility features
- Classification is performed using the following **cross entropy loss**:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{l \in \mathcal{Y}_L} \sum_{f \in Cr} Y_{lf} \ln Z_{lf}$$



Experiments

Data collection

- Evaluate proposed model using real world Twitter datasets.
- The ground truth of **false information** and the **refuting true information** was obtained from www.altnews.in, a popular fact checking website based in **India**.
- The source tweet related to the information was obtained directly as a tweet **embedded in the website**.
- From that source tweet, used the Twitter API to determine the **source tweeter** and **retweeters** (proxy for **spreaders**), the **follower-following network** of the spreaders (proxy for **social network**), and **user activity data** (100 most recent tweets) for all nodes in the network.

Experiments

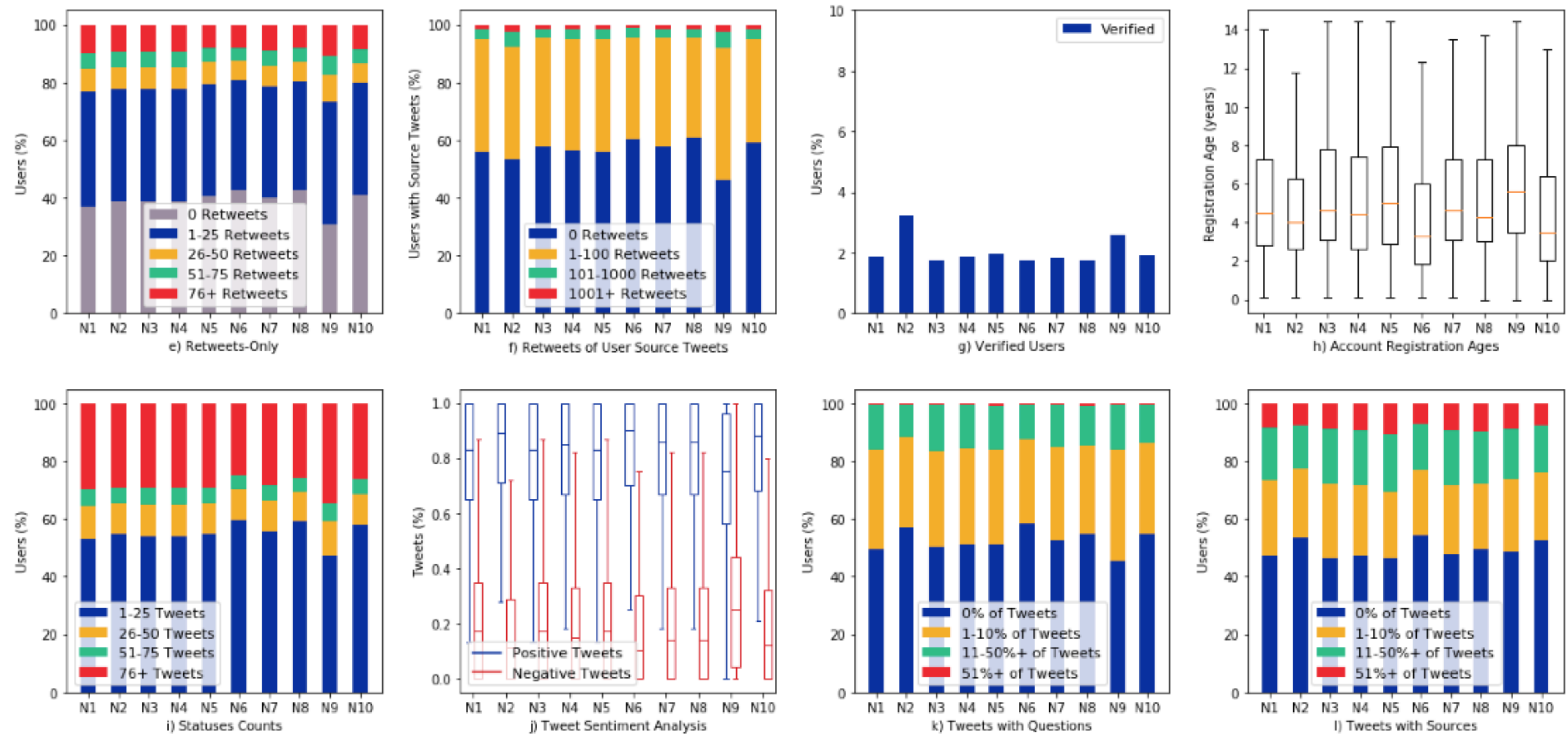
Data collection

- Besides evaluating our model on the **false information** (F) and **true information** (T) spreading networks separately.
- Also evaluated proposed model on the **combined information** spreading networks ($F \cup T$).
- Details regarding the number of nodes, edges, spreaders for the networks of 10 different news events.

	N1			N2			N3			N4			N5		
	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $
F	1,797,059	5,316,114	2,584	885,598	1,824,585	943	1,228,479	2,477,986	1,313	2,607,629	7,146,454	4,552	2,150,820	5,215,120	3,344
T	1,164,162	2,283,160	437	453,537	879,854	403	1,169,681	1,988,576	425	433,616	773,778	467	1,168,820	1,543,513	305
F \cup T	2,677,924	7,562,503	3,017	1,230,559	2,641,513	1,337	2,198,524	4,458,228	1,738	2,900,925	7,882,019	5,015	3,019,066	6,631,032	3,627
F \cap T	283,297	8,956	4	108,576	59,912	9	199,636	376	0	140,320	3,273	5	300,574	112,098	22
	N6			N7			N8			N9			N10		
	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $	$ \mathcal{V} $	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ Sp $
F	2,387,610	5,356,288	3,498	627,147	1,071,120	696	2,036,162	2,876,783	894	1,197,935	2,139,912	2,317	2,174,023	4,280,962	2,323
T	1,297,371	1,727,503	481	1,166,528	2,524,907	847	1,058,482	1,513,404	489	2,999,865	6,317,032	1,833	704,006	1,314,996	741
F \cup T	2,449,434	5,691,728	3,769	1,606,924	3,577,449	1,534	2,663,392	4,082,373	1,365	4,064,545	8,443,888	4,151	2,729,312	5,584,915	3,063
F \cap T	1,235,547	1,379,510	212	186,751	11,131	9	431,252	305,358	20	133,255	722	1	148,717	699	1

Experiments

Data collection



Trust and credibility feature analysis from networks N1-N10

Experiments

Models and metrics: Node feature-based models

- SVM_{T_r} : applies **Support Vector Machines (SVM)** on node's **trust based features** T_r to find an optimal classification threshold.
- SVM_{C_r} : applies SVM on node's **credibility based features** C_r .
- SVM_{T_r, C_r} : applies SVM by combining node's **trust based and credibility based features**.

Experiments

Models and metrics: Network structure-based models

- LINE: applies the [Large-scale Information Network Embedding](#) as a transduction representation learning baseline.
 - Node embeddings are generated after optimization is performed on the entire graph structure.

Experiments

Models and metrics: Network structure + Node feature-based models

- SAGE_{T_r} : GraphSAGE serves as the inductive learning baseline where node embeddings are generated by aggregating T_r features from neighborhoods.
- SAGE_{C_r} : GraphSAGE to aggregating C_r features from neighborhoods.
- SAGE_{T_r, C_r} : GraphSAGE to aggregating both T_r and C_r features from neighborhoods.
- GCN_{T_r} : applies GCN to aggregating T_r features from neighborhoods.
- GCN_{C_r} : applies GCN to aggregating C_r features from neighborhoods.
- GCN_{T_r, C_r} : applies GCN to aggregating both T_r and C_r features from neighborhoods.

Experiments

Models and metrics

- SCARLET is the proposed model in this paper, which aggregates a node neighborhood's C_r features based on attention based importance scores assigned using T_r .
- For evaluation, did an 80-10-10 train-validation-test split of the dataset.
- Use 5-fold cross validation and common metric:
 - Accuracy, Precision, Recall, and F1 score.

Experiments

Performance evaluation

	$F (\mathcal{V}_F)$				$T (\mathcal{V}_T)$				$F \cup T (\mathcal{V}_F)$			
	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1
SVM_{Tr}	0.497	0.512	0.468	0.478	0.473	0.472	0.452	0.445	0.398	0.19	0.465	0.229
SVM_{Cr}	0.508	0.517	0.517	0.509	0.501	0.477	0.565	0.509	0.408	0.196	0.542	0.272
$SVM_{Tr,Cr}$	0.516	0.514	0.579	0.53	0.52	0.513	0.598	0.545	0.444	0.193	0.489	0.267
$LINE$	0.686	0.626	0.896	0.733	0.635	0.608	0.881	0.717	0.688	0.71	0.896	0.786
$SAGE_{Tr}$	0.734	0.762	0.691	0.722	0.680	0.698	0.719	0.705	0.752	0.743	0.859	0.793
$SAGE_{Cr}$	0.747	0.772	0.710	0.736	0.714	0.692	0.764	0.725	0.764	0.747	0.881	0.805
$SAGE_{Tr,Cr}$	0.779	0.831	0.720	0.763	0.755	0.787	0.732	0.755	0.785	0.764	0.878	0.814
GCN_{Tr}	0.784	0.726	0.947	0.821	0.718	0.675	0.916	0.767	0.753	0.783	0.930	0.845
GCN_{Cr}	0.800	0.742	0.953	0.834	0.731	0.697	0.906	0.773	0.762	0.786	0.940	0.851
$GCN_{Tr,Cr}$	0.824	0.774	0.942	0.848	0.743	0.702	0.916	0.783	0.776	0.788	0.954	0.861
$SCARLET$	0.876	0.834	0.966	0.893	0.734	0.674	0.981	0.794	0.789	0.785	0.972	0.866

- Due to **class imbalance**, **under-sample** the majority class to obtain balanced class distribution.
- Observe that **structure only** baseline performs better than **feature only** baselines.
 - Models that **combine both node features and network structure** show further improvement in performance.

Experiments

Performance evaluation

	F (\mathcal{V}_F)				T (\mathcal{V}_T)				F \cup T (\mathcal{V}_F)			
	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1
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<i>GCN_{Tr,Cr}</i>	0.824	0.774	0.942	0.848	0.743	0.702	0.916	0.783	0.776	0.788	0.954	0.861
<i>SCARLET</i>	0.876	0.834	0.966	0.893	0.734	0.674	0.981	0.794	0.789	0.785	0.972	0.866

- Observe that C_r features perform better than T_r features.
 - Because there are more number of C_r features than T_r features.
- Model performance increases when use T_r & C_r features together.

Experiments

Performance evaluation

	F (\mathcal{V}_F)				T (\mathcal{V}_T)				F \cup T (\mathcal{V}_F)			
	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1
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<i>SVM_{Cr}</i>	0.508	0.517	0.517	0.509	0.501	0.477	0.565	0.509	0.408	0.196	0.542	0.272
<i>SVM_{Tr,Cr}</i>	0.516	0.514	0.579	0.53	0.52	0.513	0.598	0.545	0.444	0.193	0.489	0.267
<i>LINE</i>	0.686	0.626	0.896	0.733	0.635	0.608	0.881	0.717	0.688	0.71	0.896	0.786
<i>SAGE_{Tr}</i>	0.734	0.762	0.691	0.722	0.680	0.698	0.719	0.705	0.752	0.743	0.859	0.793
<i>SAGE_{Cr}</i>	0.747	0.772	0.710	0.736	0.714	0.692	0.764	0.725	0.764	0.747	0.881	0.805
<i>SAGE_{Tr,Cr}</i>	0.779	0.831	0.720	0.763	0.755	0.787	0.732	0.755	0.785	0.764	0.878	0.814
<i>GCN_{Tr}</i>	0.784	0.726	0.947	0.821	0.718	0.675	0.916	0.767	0.753	0.783	0.930	0.845
<i>GCN_{Cr}</i>	0.800	0.742	0.953	0.834	0.731	0.697	0.906	0.773	0.762	0.786	0.940	0.851
<i>GCN_{Tr,Cr}</i>	0.824	0.774	0.942	0.848	0.743	0.702	0.916	0.783	0.776	0.788	0.954	0.861
<i>SCARLET</i>	0.876	0.834	0.966	0.893	0.734	0.674	0.981	0.794	0.789	0.785	0.972	0.866

- **LINE (structure only)** performs better than feature only baselines by a substantial margin.
- Suggests that **network structure plays an important role** in identifying false information spreaders. (Increase 32.9% (F) / 22.1% (T) / 54.9% (F \cup T))

Experiments

Performance evaluation

	F (\mathcal{V}_F)				T (\mathcal{V}_T)				F \cup T (\mathcal{V}_F)			
	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1
<i>SVM_{Tr}</i>	0.497	0.512	0.468	0.478	0.473	0.472	0.452	0.445	0.398	0.19	0.465	0.229
<i>SVM_{Cr}</i>	0.508	0.517	0.517	0.509	0.501	0.477	0.565	0.509	0.408	0.196	0.542	0.272
<i>SVM_{Tr,Cr}</i>	0.516	0.514	0.579	0.53	0.52	0.513	0.598	0.545	0.444	0.193	0.489	0.267
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- GNN baselines that combine both network structure and node features show a **significant improvement** in performance.
- **GCN models perform better than GraphSAGE models** on all metric for F network, while that's not the case for T and F \cup T networks.
 - This's because T_r & C_r features for neighborhood of refutation information spreaders and non-spreaders don't **differ much from each other**.

Experiments

Performance evaluation

	F (\mathcal{V}_F)				T (\mathcal{V}_T)				F \cup T (\mathcal{V}_F)			
	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1
<i>SVM</i> _{<i>Tr</i>}	0.497	0.512	0.468	0.478	0.473	0.472	0.452	0.445	0.398	0.19	0.465	0.229
<i>SVM</i> _{<i>Cr</i>}	0.508	0.517	0.517	0.509	0.501	0.477	0.565	0.509	0.408	0.196	0.542	0.272
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<i>SCARLET</i>	0.876	0.834	0.966	0.893	0.734	0.674	0.981	0.794	0.789	0.785	0.972	0.866

- SCARLET shows an **increase in performance** for all three networks.
- *SAGE*_{*Tr,Cr*} shows better accuracy and precision on T networks, because the specific news events on which it **performed better involved religious tones**, and so decision to refute them is more sensitive to neighborhood's *C_r* than *T_r*.
- Precision on F \cup T networks is highest for *GCN*_{*Tr,Cr*}, though it is **still comparable** to the proposed model's performance.

Experiments

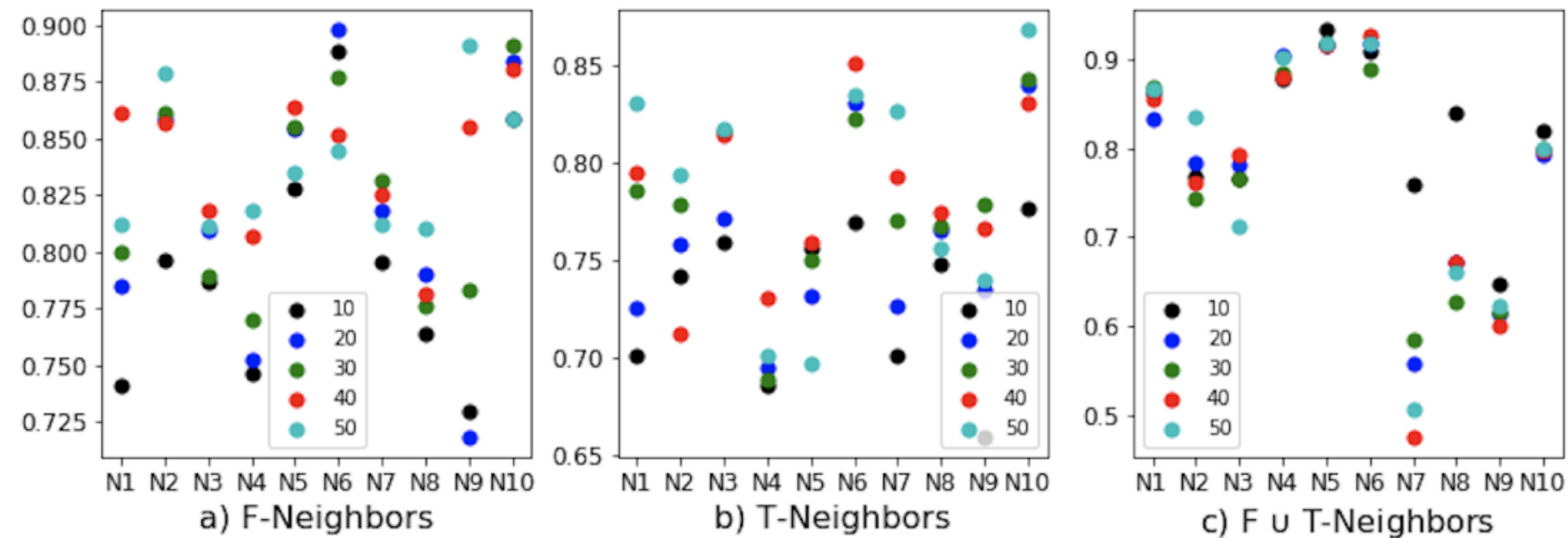
Performance evaluation

	F (\mathcal{V}_F)				T (\mathcal{V}_T)				F \cup T (\mathcal{V}_F)			
	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1	Accu.	Prec.	Rec.	F1
<i>SV M_{Tr}</i>	0.497	0.512	0.468	0.478	0.473	0.472	0.452	0.445	0.398	0.19	0.465	0.229
<i>SV M_{Cr}</i>	0.508	0.517	0.517	0.509	0.501	0.477	0.565	0.509	0.408	0.196	0.542	0.272
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<i>GCN_{Tr,Cr}</i>	0.824	0.774	0.942	0.848	0.743	0.702	0.916	0.783	0.776	0.788	0.954	0.861
SCARLET	0.876	0.834	0.966	0.893	0.734	0.674	0.981	0.794	0.789	0.785	0.972	0.866

- More importantly, SCARLET in the F \cup T network observe **highest accuracy and F1** scores of 78.9% and 86.6%.
- Thus supporting proposed hypothesis that **false information spreading is very sensitive to trust and credibility.**

Experiments

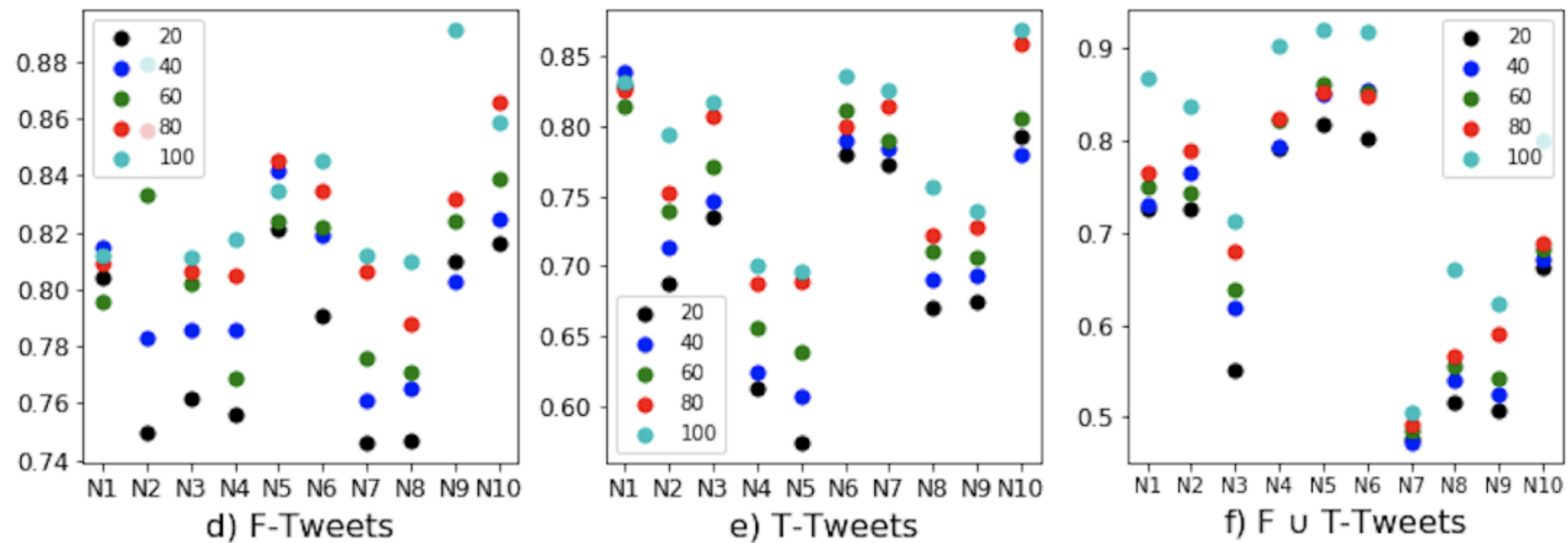
Sensitivity analysis: Neighbors



- Evaluated proposed model on n-neighbors, where $n = 10, 20, 30, 40, 50$.
- Observe that model performance is **not very sensitive to varying neighborhood size**.
 - Have only the **immediate** follower-following network (**sampling depth=1**).
 - Unable to entirely capture meaningful dynamics (i.e. the decision to retweet might **depend less on the immediate neighbors**, and more on the source tweeter).

Experiments

Sensitivity analysis: Neighbors



- Evaluated proposed model on the n -most recent timeline tweets, where $n = 20, 40, 60, 80$.
- Observe that for all three networks, prediction **performance tends to increase as the number of timeline tweets used to aggregate features increases.**
- Using more behavioral data helps model to estimate trust and credibility features better.

Conclusion and Future work

- Proposed SCARLET, an attention-based explainable GNN model to predict whether a node is likely to spread false information or not.
- Model learns node embeddings by first assigning trust-based importance scores and then aggregating its neighborhood's credibility features proportionally.
 - Makes this model different from most existing research is that it doesn't rely on features extracted from the information itself.
 - Thus it can be used to predict spreaders even before information spreading begins.
- Would like to analyze model on more news events comprising larger networks in order to sample and aggregate features at greater sampling depths.

Comments of SCARLET

- Propose concept with trust and credibility in social network.
- Using attention mechanism to compute importance score that aggregate neighborhood features proportionally.
- Without content-based information.
- In experiment, unclearly to explain F , T , $F \cup T$ network.