

---

# Evaluating Logical Generalization in Graph Neural Networks

---

Koustuv Sinha<sup>1 2 3</sup> Shagun Sodhani<sup>1</sup> Joelle Pineau<sup>1 2 3</sup> William L. Hamilton<sup>2 3</sup>

## 1. Introduction

Graph neural networks (GNNs) have emerged as a dominant computational paradigm within the growing area of relational reasoning (Scarselli et al., 2008; Hamilton et al., 2017a; Gilmer et al., 2017; Schlichtkrull et al., 2018; Du et al., 2019). However, we currently lack an understanding of how *effectively* these models can adapt and generalize across distinct tasks. In this work, we study the task of *logical generalization*, in the context of relational reasoning using GNNs. In particular, we study how GNNs can induce logical rules and generalize by combining these rules in novel ways after training.

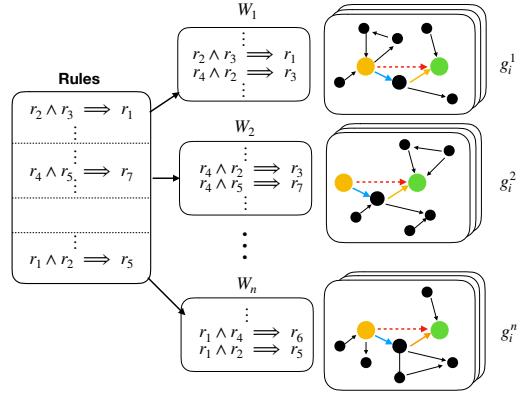
We propose a benchmark suite, **GraphLog**, that is grounded in first-order logic. Figure 1 shows the setup of the benchmark. Given a set of logical rules, we create a diverse set of logical *worlds* with different subset of rules. For each world (say  $W_k$ ), we sample multiple knowledge graphs (say  $g_i^k$ ). The learning agent should learn to induce the logical rules for predicting the missing facts in these knowledge graphs.

GraphLog leverages first-order logic to generate multiple worlds, allowing us to test generalization over Supervised, Multi-task and Continual Learning scenarios in graph modality, with precise diagnostic ability to define task boundaries. We compare related benchmarks for evaluating compositional generalization in Table 1, and we highlight that **GraphLog is the only dataset specifically designed to test logical generalization capabilities on graph data.**

In this work, we also analyze how various GNN architectures perform in the multi-task and the continual learning scenarios of GraphLog where they have to learn over a set of logical worlds with different underlying logics. Our analysis provides following insights about logical generalization capabilities of GNNs:

- Two architecture choices for GNNs have a strong positive impact on generalization: **1)** incorporating multi-relational edge features using attention, and **2)** explicitly

<sup>1</sup>Facebook AI Research, Montreal, Canada <sup>2</sup>School of Computer Science, McGill University, Montreal, Canada <sup>3</sup>Montreal Institute of Learning Algorithms (Mila). Correspondence to: Koustuv Sinha <koustuv.sinha@mail.mcgill.ca>.



**Figure 1:** GraphLog setup: A set of rules (grounded in propositional logic) is partitioned into overlapping subsets, and used to define the unique *worlds*,  $W_k$ . Within each *world*  $W_k$ , several knowledge graphs  $g_i^k$  (governed by the rule set of  $W_k$ ) are generated.

modularising the GNN architecture to include a parametric *representation function*, which learns representations for the relations based on the knowledge graph structure.

- In the multi-task setting, training a model on a more diverse set of logical *worlds* improves generalization and adaptation performance.
- All the evaluated models are unlikely to learn transferable representations and compositions—highlighting the challenge of lifelong learning in the context of logical generalization and GNNs.

## 2. GraphLog

**Background and Terminology.** A *graph*  $G = (V_G, E_G)$  is a collection of a set of nodes  $V_G$  and a set of edges  $E_G$  between the nodes. We assume that each pair of nodes have at most one edge between them. A *relational graph* is a graph where each edge between two nodes (say  $u$  and  $v$ ) is assigned a *label*, denoted  $r$ . The labeled edge (or relation) is denoted as  $r(u, v) \in E_G$ . A *relation set*  $\mathfrak{R}$  is a set of relations  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_K\}$ . A *rule set*  $\mathcal{R}$  is a set of rules in first order logic, restricted to *dyadic definite Datalog clauses* (Muggleton et al., 2015; Evans and Grefenstette, 2017), which can be written as *Horn clauses* (Tärnlund,

Dataset	IR	D	CG	M	S	Me	Mu	CL
CLEVR (Johnson et al., 2017)	✓	✗	✗	Vision	✓	✗	✗	✗
CoGenT (Johnson et al., 2017)	✓	✗	✓	Vision	✓	✗	✗	✗
CLUTRR (Sinha et al., 2019)	✓	✗	✓	Text	✓	✗	✗	✗
SCAN (Lake and Baroni, 2017)	✓	✗	✓	Text	✓	✓	✗	✗
SQoOP (Bahdanau et al., 2018)	✓	✗	✓	Vision	✓	✗	✗	✗
TextWorld (Côté et al., 2018)	✗	✓	✓	Text	✓	✓	✓	✓
GraphLog (Proposed)	✓	✓	✓	Graph	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Table 1:** Features of related datasets that: 1) test compositional generalization and reasoning, and 2) are procedurally generated. We compare the datasets along the following axis: Inspectable Rules (**IR**), Diversity, Compositional Generalization (**CG**), Modality and if the following training setups are supported: Supervised, Meta-learning, Multitask & Continual learning (**CL**).

1977) of the form:

$$\forall Z \in V_G : r_k(u, v) \leftarrow r_i(u, Z), r_j(Z, v) \quad (1)$$

where  $Z$  denotes a variable that can be bound to any entity and  $\leftarrow$  denotes logical implication. The relations  $r_i, r_j$  form the *body* while the relation  $r_k$  forms the *head* of the rule. Path-based Horn clauses of this form represent a limited and well-defined subset of first-order logic. However, they encompass the types of logical rules learned by state-of-the-art rule induction systems for knowledge graph completion (Das et al., 2017; Evans and Grefenstette, 2017; Meilicke et al., 2018; Sadeghian et al., 2019; Teru et al., 2019; Yang et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2019) and are thus a useful synthetic test-bed.

We use  $p_G^{u,v}$  to denote a *path* from node  $u$  to  $v$  in a graph  $G$ . We construct graphs according to rules of the form in Equation 1 so that a path between two nodes will always imply a specific relation between these two nodes. In other words, we will always have that

$$\exists r_i \in \mathfrak{R} : p_G^{u,v} \leftarrow r_i(u, v). \quad (2)$$

By following the path between two nodes, and applying the propositional rules along the edges of the path, we can *resolve* the relationship between the nodes. Hence, we refer to the paths as *resolution paths*. The edges of the resolution path are concatenated together to obtain a *descriptor*. A collection of graphs, along with its rule set, is denoted as a *world*. The rules in rule set  $\mathcal{R}$  used for quantifying the similarity between different *worlds*, with a higher overlap between the rules implying a greater similarity between two *worlds*.

**Problem Setup.** We formulate the task as predicting relations between the nodes in a relational graph. Given a query  $(G, u, v)$  where  $u, v \in V_G$ , the learner has to predict the relation  $r_? \in \mathfrak{R}$  for the edge  $r_?(u, v)$ . Unlike the previous work on knowledge graph completion, we emphasize an *inductive* problem setup, where the graph  $G$  in each query is unique. Rather than reasoning on a single static knowledge

graph during training and testing, we consider the setting where the model must learn to generalize to unseen graphs during evaluation.

## 2.1. Dataset Generation

We want our proposed benchmark to provide four key desiderata: (i) interpretable rules, (ii) diversity, (iii) compositional generalization and (iv) large number of tasks. We describe how our dataset generation process ensures all four aspects.

**Rule generation.** We create a set  $\mathfrak{R}$  of  $K$  relations and use it to sample a rule set  $\mathcal{R}$ . We impose two constraints on  $\mathcal{R}$ : **(i)** No two rules in  $\mathcal{R}$  can have the same body, to ensure consistency between the rules. **(ii)** Rules cannot have common relations among the *head* and *body*, ensuring the absence of cyclic dependencies in rules (Hamilton et al., 2018). Generating the dataset using a consistent and well-defined rule set ensures interpretability in the resulting dataset. The full algorithm for rule generation is given in Appendix (Algorithm 1).

**Graph generation.** The graph generation process has two steps: In the first step, we sample overlapping subsets of  $\mathcal{R}_W \in \mathcal{R}$  to create individual *worlds* (as shown in Figure 1). In each world, we recursively sample and use rules in  $\mathcal{R}_W$  to generate a relational graph called the *WorldGraph*. This sampling procedure creates a diverse set of *WorldGraphs* by considering only certain subsets (of  $\mathcal{R}$ ). By controlling the extent of overlap between the subsets of  $\mathcal{R}$  (in terms of the number of common rules), we can precisely control the similarity between the different worlds. The full algorithm for generating the *WorldGraph* and controlling the similarity between the *worlds* is given in Appendix (Algorithm 3 and Section B.2).

In the second step, the *WorldGraph*  $G_W$  in each world is used to sample a set of graphs  $G_W^S = (g_1, \dots, g_N)$  for that specific world (shown as Step (a) in Figure 6). A graph  $g_i$  is sampled from  $G_W$  by sampling a pair of nodes  $(u, v)$  from  $G_W$  and then by sampling a resolution path  $p_{G_W}^{u,v}$ . The edge  $r_i(u, v)$  between the source and sink node of the path provides the target relation for the learning model to predict. To increase the complexity of the sampled  $g_i$  graphs (beyond being simple paths), we also add nodes to  $g_i$  by sampling neighbors of the nodes on  $p_{G_W}^{u,v}$ , such that no other shortest path exists between  $u$  and  $v$ . Algorithm 4 (in the Appendix) details our graph sampling approach.

**GraphLog Dataset Suite.** We use the above data generation process to instantiate a dataset suite with 57 distinct logical *worlds* and 5000 graphs per *world* (Figure 1). Each *world* consists of 20 rules after the sampling process, which builds up to maximum and minimum lengths of resolution path to be 10 and 2 in the entire dataset. Average number

		S	D
$f_r$	$f_c$	Accuracy	Accuracy
GAT	E-GAT	<b>0.534 ± 0.11</b>	<b>0.534 ± 0.09</b>
GAT	RGCN	0.474 ± 0.11	0.502 ± 0.09
GCN	E-GAT	0.522 ± 0.1	0.533 ± 0.09
GCN	RGCN	0.448 ± 0.09	0.476 ± 0.09
Param	E-GAT	0.507 ± 0.09	0.5 ± 0.09
Param	RGCN	0.416 ± 0.07	0.449 ± 0.07

**Table 2:** Multitask evaluation performance when trained on different data distributions (categorized based on their similarity of rules: Similar (S) containing similar worlds and a mix of similar and dissimilar worlds (D))

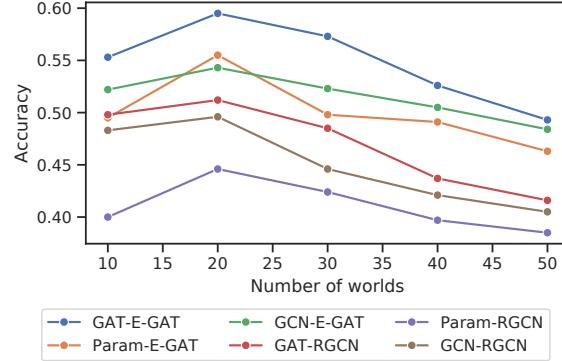
of descriptors end up to 522, with a large variation across worlds based on the procedurally sampled rules. The dataset is divided into the sets of train, validation, and test *worlds*. The graphs within each *world* are also split into train, validation, and test sets having 5k, 1k and 1k graphs. Though we instantiate 57 *worlds*, the GraphLog generator can be used to **stantiate an arbitrary number of worlds**.

### 3. Representation and Composition

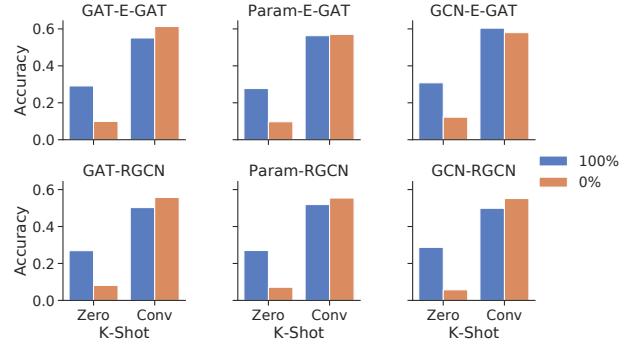
To perform well on GraphLog, a model should learn representations that are useful for tasks in the current *world* while being general enough to transfer to the new *worlds*. To this end, we structure the GNN models around two key modules:

- **Representation module** is represented as a function  $f_r : G_W \times R \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ , that maps logical relations within a particular *world*  $W$  to  $d$ -dimensional vector representations. Intuitively, this function should learn how to encode the *semantics* of the various relations within a logical *world*. We compare among using a (i) single learned parameter for learning relation embeddings, named `Param` module; and (ii) two graph convolution based modules, GCN (Gilmer et al., 2017) and GAT (Veličković et al., 2017) which operate on the world graph  $G_W$  as input.
- **Composition module** is a function  $f_c : G \times V_G \times V_G \times \mathbb{R}^{d \times |R|} \rightarrow R$ , that learns to compose the relation representations learned by  $f_r$  and answer queries over a knowledge graph. These models take as input the query  $(g_i, u, v)$  and the relation embedding  $\mathbf{r}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  to predict the relations. We consider two graph convolution based architectures, RGCN (Schlichtkrull et al., 2018) and a modified version of GAT (Veličković et al., 2017) which attends over edge representations, EGAT.

Detailed discussion of these two modules are in Appendix C. Note that though we break down the process into two steps, in practice, the learner does not have access to the *correct* representations of relations ( $\mathfrak{R}$ ). The learner has



**Figure 2:** We run multitask experiments over an increasing number of worlds to stress the capacity of the models. We report the average of test set performance across the worlds that the model has trained on so far. All the models reach their optimal performance at 20 worlds, beyond which their performance starts to degrade.



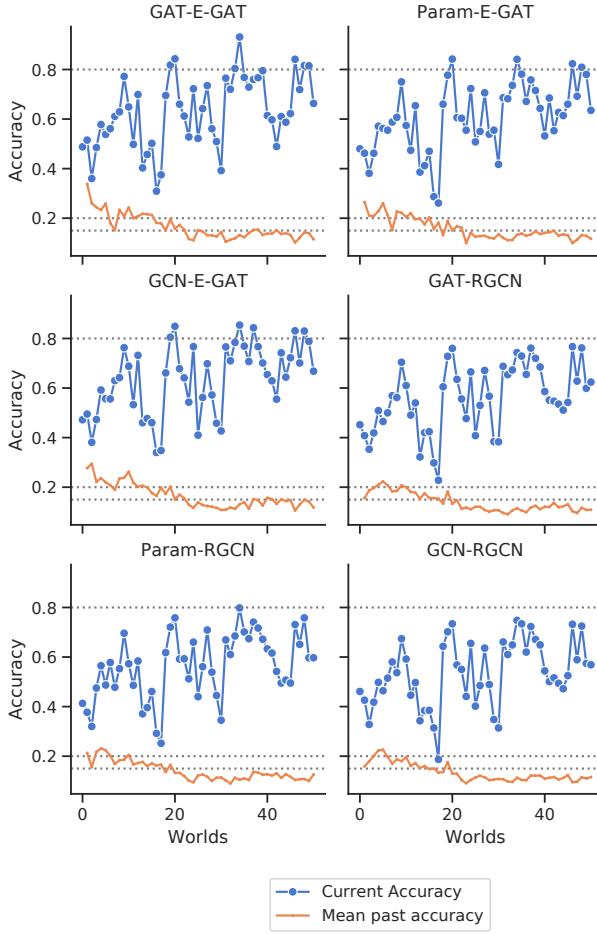
**Figure 3:** We evaluate the effect of changing similarity between training and evaluation datasets. The colors of the bars depicts how similar the two distributions are while the *y-axis* shows the mean accuracy of the model on the test split of the evaluation *world*. We report both the zero-shot adaptation performance and performance after convergence.

to rely only on the target labels to solve the reasoning task. We hypothesize that this *separation of concerns* between a *representation function* and a *composition function* (Dijkstra, 1982) could provide a useful inductive bias for the model.

We predict the relation for query  $(g_i, u, v)$  in Composition module by concatenating the final-layer query node embeddings and applying a feedforward network. The entire model (i.e., representation and composition models) is trained end-to-end. Since we have no node features, we randomly initialize all the node embeddings in the GNNs.

### 4. Experiments

We aim to quantify the performance of the different GNN models on the task of logical relation reasoning, in two contexts (i) Multi-Task Training and (ii) Continual Learning setup. Our experiments use the GraphLog benchmark with distinct 57 *worlds* (Section 2) and 6 different GNN models (Section 3). In the main paper, we highlight the key results



**Figure 4:** Evaluation of models in continual learning setup. The blue curve shows the accuracy on the current *world* and the orange curve shows the mean accuracy on all the *previously seen worlds*. As the model trains on new *worlds*, its performance on the past *worlds* degrades rapidly. (catastrophic forgetting).

and provide the full results in Appendix.

#### 4.1. Multi-Task Training

**Basic multi-task training.** First, we evaluate how changing the similarity among the training *worlds* affects the test performance in the multi-task setup, where a model is trained jointly on eight and tested on three distinct *worlds*. In Table 2, we observe that considering a mix of similar and dissimilar *worlds* improves the generalization capabilities of all the models when evaluated on the test split. Another important observation is that mimicking the supervised learning setup, the GAT-E-GAT model consistently performs either as good as or better than other models. The models using EGAT for the composition function perform better than the ones using the RGCN model. Figure 2 shows how the performance of the various models changes when we perform multi-task training on an increasingly large set of *worlds*. Interestingly, we see that model performance

improves as the number of *worlds* is increased from 10 to 20 but then begins to decline, indicating model capacity saturation in the presence of too many diverse *worlds*.

**Multi-task pre-training.** In this setup, we pre-train the model on multiple *worlds* and adapt on a heldout *world*. We study how the models’ adaption capabilities vary as the similarity between the training and the evaluation distributions changes. Figure 3 considers the case of zero-shot adaptation and adaptation till convergence. As we move along the *x-axis*, the zero-shot performance (shown with solid colors) decreases in all the setups. This is expected as the similarity between the training and the evaluation distributions also decreases. An interesting trend is that the model’s performance, after adaptation, increases as the similarity between the two distributions decreases. This suggests that training over a diverse set of distributions improves adaptation capability. The results for adaptation with 5, 10, ... 30 steps are provided in the Appendix (Figure 7).

#### 4.2. Continual Learning Setup

GraphLog provides access to a large number of *worlds*, enabling us to evaluate the logical generalization capability of models in continual learning setup. We train the models on a sequence of worlds (arranged by similarity). After converging on each *world*, we report the model’s average performance on all previous *worlds*. In Figure 4, as the model is trained on more *worlds*, its performance on the previous *worlds* degrades rapidly. This highlights the limitation of current reasoning models for continual learning. Further experiments on the effect of different modules and curriculum learning setup are provided in Appendix F.

## 5. Discussion & Conclusion

We propose GraphLog, a benchmark suite for evaluating the logical generalization capabilities of GNNs. GraphLog is grounded in first-order logic and provides access to a large number of diverse tasks that require compositional generalization to solve, including single task supervised learning, multi-task learning, and continual learning. Our results highlight the importance of attention mechanisms and modularity to achieve logical generalization, while also highlighting open challenges related to multi-task and continual learning in the context of GNNs. A natural direction for future work is leveraging GraphLog for studies of *fast adaptation* and *meta-learning* in the context of logical reasoning (e.g., via gradient-based meta learning), as well as integrating state-of-the-art methods (e.g., regularization techniques) to combat catastrophic forgetting in the context of GNNs.

## References

- Dzmitry Bahdanau, Shikhar Murty, Michael Noukhovitch, Thien Huu Nguyen, Harm de Vries, and Aaron Courville. Systematic generalization: what is required and can it be learned? *arXiv preprint arXiv:1811.12889*, 2018.
- Pablo Barceló, Egor V Kostylev, Mikael Monet, Jorge Pérez, Juan Reutter, and Juan Pablo Silva. The logical expressiveness of graph neural networks. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2019.
- Yoshua Bengio, Jérôme Louradour, Ronan Collobert, and Jason Weston. Curriculum learning. In *Proceedings of the 26th annual international conference on machine learning*, pages 41–48, 2009.
- Antoine Bordes, Nicolas Usunier, Alberto Garcia-Duran, Jason Weston, and Oksana Yakhnenko. Translating embeddings for modeling multi-relational data. In *Advances in neural information processing systems*, pages 2787–2795, 2013.
- Ting Chen, Song Bian, and Yizhou Sun. Are powerful graph neural nets necessary? a dissection on graph classification. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1905.04579*, 2019.
- Marc-Alexandre Côté, Ákos Kádár, Xingdi Yuan, Ben Kybartas, Tavian Barnes, Emery Fine, James Moore, Matthew Hausknecht, Layla El Asri, Mahmoud Adada, et al. Textworld: A learning environment for text-based games. In *Workshop on Computer Games*, pages 41–75. Springer, 2018.
- Rajarshi Das, Shehzaad Dhuliawala, Manzil Zaheer, Luke Vilnis, Ishan Durugkar, Akshay Krishnamurthy, Alex Smola, and Andrew McCallum. Go for a walk and arrive at the answer: Reasoning over paths in knowledge bases with reinforcement learning. In *NIPS-17 Workshop on Automatic Knowledge-Base Construction*, 2017.
- Matthias De Lange, Rahaf Aljundi, Marc Masana, Sarah Parisot, Xu Jia, Ales Leonardis, Gregory Slabaugh, and Tinne Tuytelaars. Continual learning: A comparative study on how to defy forgetting in classification tasks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1909.08383*, 2019.
- Michaël Defferrard, Xavier Bresson, and Pierre Vandergheynst. Convolutional neural networks on graphs with fast localized spectral filtering. In *Advances in neural information processing systems*, pages 3844–3852, 2016.
- Edsger W Dijkstra. On the role of scientific thought. In *Selected writings on computing: a personal perspective*, pages 60–66. Springer, 1982.
- Simon S Du, Kangcheng Hou, Russ R Salakhutdinov, Barnabas Poczos, Ruosong Wang, and Keyulu Xu. Graph neural tangent kernel: Fusing graph neural networks with graph kernels. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 5724–5734, 2019.
- David K Duvenaud, Dougal Maclaurin, Jorge Iparraguirre, Rafael Bombarell, Timothy Hirzel, Alán Aspuru-Guzik, and Ryan P Adams. Convolutional networks on graphs for learning molecular fingerprints. In *Advances in neural information processing systems*, pages 2224–2232, 2015.
- Richard Evans and Edward Grefenstette. Learning Explanatory Rules from Noisy Data. November 2017.
- Justin Gilmer, Samuel S Schoenholz, Patrick F Riley, Oriol Vinyals, and George E Dahl. Neural message passing for quantum chemistry. In *Proceedings of the 34th International Conference on Machine Learning-Volume 70*, pages 1263–1272. JMLR.org, 2017.
- Michelle Guo, Albert Haque, De-An Huang, Serena Yeung, and Li Fei-Fei. Dynamic task prioritization for multitask learning. In *Proceedings of the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)*, pages 270–287, 2018.
- Shu Guo, Quan Wang, Lihong Wang, Bin Wang, and Li Guo. Jointly embedding knowledge graphs and logical rules. In *Proceedings of the 2016 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, pages 192–202, 2016.
- W. Hamilton, R. Ying, and J. Leskovec. Representation learning on graphs: Methods and applications. *IEEE Data Engineering Bulletin*, 2017a.
- Will Hamilton, Zhitao Ying, and Jure Leskovec. Inductive representation learning on large graphs. In *Advances in neural information processing systems*, pages 1024–1034, 2017b.
- Will Hamilton, Payal Bajaj, Marinka Zitnik, Dan Jurafsky, and Jure Leskovec. Embedding logical queries on knowledge graphs. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 31*, pages 2026–2037. 2018.
- Sepp Hochreiter and Jürgen Schmidhuber. Long short-term memory. *Neural computation*, 9(8):1735–1780, 1997.
- Johannes Hoffart, Fabian M Suchanek, Klaus Berberich, Edwin Lewis-Kelham, Gerard De Melo, and Gerhard Weikum. Yago2: exploring and querying world knowledge in time, space, context, and many languages. In *Proceedings of the 20th international conference companion on World wide web*, pages 229–232, 2011.
- Justin Johnson, Bharath Hariharan, Laurens van der Maaten, Li Fei-Fei, C Lawrence Zitnick, and Ross Girshick. Clevr:

- A diagnostic dataset for compositional language and elementary visual reasoning. In *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, pages 2901–2910, 2017.
- Thomas N Kipf and Max Welling. Semi-supervised classification with graph convolutional networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1609.02907*, 2016.
- Brenden M Lake and Marco Baroni. Generalization without systematicity: On the compositional skills of sequence-to-sequence recurrent networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1711.00350*, 2017.
- Farzaneh Mahdisoltani, Joanna Biega, and Fabian M Suchanek. Yago3: A knowledge base from multilingual wikipedias. 2013.
- Christian Meilicke, Manuel Fink, Yanjie Wang, Daniel Ruffinelli, Rainer Gemulla, and Heiner Stuckenschmidt. Fine-grained evaluation of rule-and embedding-based systems for knowledge graph completion. In *International Semantic Web Conference*, pages 3–20. Springer, 2018.
- George A Miller. Wordnet: a lexical database for english. *Communications of the ACM*, 38(11):39–41, 1995.
- Tom Mitchell and E Fredkin. Never ending language learning. In *Big Data (Big Data), 2014 IEEE International Conference on*, pages 1–1, 2014.
- C. Morris, M. Ritzert, M. Fey, W.L. Hamilton, J. Lenssen, G. Rattan, and M. Grohe. Weisfeiler and Leman go neural: Higher-order graph neural networks. In *AAAI*, 2019.
- Stephen H Muggleton, Dianhuan Lin, and Alireza Tamaddoni-Nezhad. Meta-interpretive learning of higher-order dyadic datalog: Predicate invention revisited. *Machine Learning*, 100(1):49–73, 2015.
- German I Parisi, Ronald Kemker, Jose L Part, Christopher Kanan, and Stefan Wermter. Continual lifelong learning with neural networks: A review. *Neural Networks*, 2019.
- Heiko Paulheim. Knowledge graph refinement: A survey of approaches and evaluation methods. *Semantic web*, 8(3): 489–508, 2017.
- Ali Sadeghian, Mohammadreza Armandpour, Patrick Ding, and Daisy Zhe Wang. Drum: End-to-end differentiable rule mining on knowledge graphs. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 15321–15331, 2019.
- Adam Santoro, Ryan Faulkner, David Raposo, Jack Rae, Mike Chrzanowski, Theophane Weber, Daan Wierstra, Oriol Vinyals, Razvan Pascanu, and Timothy Lillicrap. Relational recurrent neural networks. In *Advances in neural information processing systems*, pages 7299–7310, 2018.
- Franco Scarselli, Marco Gori, Ah Chung Tsoi, Markus Hagenbuchner, and Gabriele Monfardini. The graph neural network model. *IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks*, 20(1):61–80, 2008.
- Imanol Schlag, Paul Smolensky, Roland Fernandez, Nebojsa Jojic, Jürgen Schmidhuber, and Jianfeng Gao. Enhancing the transformer with explicit relational encoding for math problem solving. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1910.06611*, 2019.
- Michael Schlichtkrull, Thomas N Kipf, Peter Bloem, Ri-anne Van Den Berg, Ivan Titov, and Max Welling. Modeling relational data with graph convolutional networks. In *European Semantic Web Conference*, pages 593–607. Springer, 2018.
- Koustuv Sinha, Shagun Sodhani, Jin Dong, Joelle Pineau, and William L Hamilton. Clutrr: A diagnostic benchmark for inductive reasoning from text. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1908.06177*, 2019.
- Shagun Sodhani, Sarah Chandar, and Yoshua Bengio. On training recurrent neural networks for lifelong learning. 2019.
- Fabian M Suchanek, Gjergji Kasneci, and Gerhard Weikum. Yago: a core of semantic knowledge. In *Proceedings of the 16th international conference on World Wide Web*, pages 697–706, 2007.
- Sten-Åke Tärnlund. Horn clause computability. *BIT Numerical Mathematics*, 17(2):215–226, 1977.
- Komal K Teru, Etienne Denis, and William L Hamilton. Inductive relation prediction by subgraph reasoning. *arXiv*, pages arXiv–1911, 2019.
- Sebastian Thrun and Lorien Pratt. *Learning to learn*. Springer Science & Business Media, 2012.
- Ashish Vaswani, Noam Shazeer, Niki Parmar, Jakob Uszkoreit, Llion Jones, Aidan N Gomez, Łukasz Kaiser, and Illia Polosukhin. Attention is all you need. In *Advances in neural information processing systems*, pages 5998–6008, 2017.
- Petar Veličković, Guillem Cucurull, Arantxa Casanova, Adriana Romero, Pietro Lio, and Yoshua Bengio. Graph attention networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1710.10903*, 2017.
- Robert West, Evgeniy Gabrilovich, Kevin Murphy, Shaohua Sun, Rahul Gupta, and Dekang Lin. Knowledge base completion via search-based question answering. In *Proceedings of the 23rd international conference on World wide web*, pages 515–526, 2014.

Keyulu Xu, Weihua Hu, Jure Leskovec, and Stefanie Jegelka.

How powerful are graph neural networks? *arXiv preprint arXiv:1810.00826*, 2018.

Fan Yang, Zhilin Yang, and William W Cohen. Differentiable learning of logical rules for knowledge base reasoning. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 2319–2328, 2017.

Zhitao Ying, Dylan Bourgeois, Jiaxuan You, Marinka Zitnik, and Jure Leskovec. Gnnexplainer: Generating explanations for graph neural networks. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, pages 9240–9251, 2019.

Wen Zhang, Bibek Paudel, Liang Wang, Jiaoyan Chen, Hai Zhu, Wei Zhang, Abraham Bernstein, and Huajun Chen. Iteratively learning embeddings and rules for knowledge graph reasoning. In *The World Wide Web Conference*, pages 2366–2377, 2019.

## A. Related Work

**GNNs.** Several GNN architectures have been proposed to learn representations of the graph inputs (Scarselli et al., 2008; Duvenaud et al., 2015; Defferrard et al., 2016; Kipf and Welling, 2016; Gilmer et al., 2017; Veličković et al., 2017; Hamilton et al., 2017b; Schlichtkrull et al., 2018). Previous works have focused on evaluating GNNs in terms of their expressive power (Barceló et al., 2019; Morris et al., 2019; Xu et al., 2018), usefulness of features (Chen et al., 2019), and explaining their predictions (Ying et al., 2019). Complementing these works, we evaluate GNN models on the task of logical generalization.

**Knowledge graph completion.** Many knowledge graph datasets are available for relation prediction task (also known as knowledge base completion). Prominent examples include Freebase15K (Bordes et al., 2013), WordNet (Miller, 1995), NELL (Mitchell and Fredkin, 2014), and YAGO (Suchanek et al., 2007; Hoffart et al., 2011; Mahdoltani et al., 2013). Since these datasets are derived from real-world knowledge graphs, they are generally noisy and incomplete, and many facts are not available in the underlying knowledge bases (West et al., 2014; Paulheim, 2017). Moreover, the underlying logical rules are often opaque and implicit (Guo et al., 2016), thus reducing the utility of these datasets for understanding the logical generalization capability of neural networks.

Our GraphLog benchmark serves as a synthetic complement to the real-world datasets. Instead of sampling from a real-world knowledge base, we create synthetic knowledge graphs that are governed by a known and inspectable set of logical rules. Moreover, the relations do not require any common-sense knowledge, thus making the tasks self-contained.

**Procedurally generated datasets for reasoning.** We posit that a benchmark for evaluating compositional generalization should support **human interpretable** rules for generating a **large number of diverse** datasets. Several procedurally generated benchmarks have been proposed to study the relational reasoning and compositional generalization properties of neural networks. Some recent and prominent examples are listed in Table 1. These datasets provide a controlled testbed for evaluating the compositional reasoning capabilities of neural networks in isolation. Based on these works (and their insightful observations), we enumerate the four key desiderata that, we believe, such a benchmark should provide:

1. Human **interpretable rules** should be used to generate the dataset.
2. The datasets should be **diverse**, and the compositional rules used to solve different tasks should be distinct, so that adaptation on a new task is not trivial. The degree

of similarity across the tasks should be configurable to evaluate the role of diversity in generalization.

3. The benchmark should test for **compositional generalization**
4. The benchmark should support creating a **large number of tasks** and enable a more fine-grained inspection of the generalization capabilities of the model in different setups, e.g., supervised learning, multitask learning, and continual learning.

As shown in Table 1, GraphLog is unique in satisfying all of these desiderata. We highlight that GraphLog is the only dataset specifically designed to test logical generalization capabilities on graph data, whereas previous works have largely focused on the image and text modalities.

## B. GraphLog

### B.1. Extended Terminology

In this section, we extend the terminology introduced in Section 2. A set of relations is said to be *Invertible* if

$$\forall r_i \in R, \exists r_j \in R \mid \{\forall u, v \in V_G : r_i(u, v) \leftarrow r_j(v, u)\}. \quad (3)$$

i.e. for all relations in  $R$ , there exists a relation in  $R$  such that for all node pairs  $(u, v)$  in the graph, if there exists an edge  $r_i(u, v)$  then there exists another edge  $r_j(v, u)$ . Invertible relations are useful in determining the *inverse* of a clause, where the directionality of the clause is flipped along with the ordering of the elements in the conjunctive clause. For example, the *inverse* of Equation 1 will be of the form:

$$\exists z \in V_G : \hat{r}_k(v, u) \leftarrow \hat{r}_j(v, z), \hat{r}_i(z, u) \quad (4)$$

Inverse rules are not considered as cyclic rules in our setup, as we treat them separately. In preliminary studies we found that adding the inverse rules and complex cycles makes the supervised learning task extremely hard. In a followup work we will explore more about the effects of cyclic resolution paths.

### B.2. Dataset Generation

This section follows up on the discussion in Section 2.1. We describe all the steps involved in the dataset generation process.

**Rule Generation.** In Algorithm 1, we describe the complete process of generating rules in GraphLog. We require the set of  $K$  relations, which we use to sample the rule set  $\mathcal{R}$ . We mark some rules as being Invertible Rules (Section B.1). Then, we iterate through all possible combinations of relations in DataLog format to sample possible candidate

Number of relations	20
Total number of <i>WorldGraphs</i>	57
Total number of unique rules	76
Training Graphs per <i>WorldGraph</i>	5000
Validation Graphs per <i>WorldGraph</i>	1000
Testing Graphs per <i>WorldGraph</i>	1000
Number of rules per <i>WorldGraph</i>	20
Average number of <i>descriptors</i>	522
Maximum length of resolution path	10
Minimum length of resolution path	2

**Table 3:** Aggregate statistics of the worlds used in GraphLog. Statistics for each individual world are in the Appendix.

rules. We impose two constraints on the candidate rule: **(i)** No two rules in  $\mathcal{R}$  can have the same body. This ensures consistency between the rules. **(ii)** Candidate rules cannot have common relations among the *head* and *body*. This ensures absence of cycles. We also add the inverse rule of our sampled candidate rule and check the same consistencies again. We employ two types of unary Horn clauses to perform the closure of the available rules and to check the consistency of the different rules in  $\mathcal{R}$ . Using this process, we ensure that all generated rules are sound and consistent with respect to  $\mathcal{R}$ .

**World Sampling.** From the set of rules in  $\mathcal{R}$ , we partition rules into buckets for different worlds (Algorithm 2). We use a simple policy of bucketing via a sliding window of width  $w$  with stride  $s$ , to classify rules pertaining to each world. For example, two such consecutive worlds can be generated as  $\mathcal{R}^t = [\mathcal{R}_i \dots \mathcal{R}_{i+w}]$  and  $\mathcal{R}^{t+1} = [\mathcal{R}_{i+s} \dots \mathcal{R}_{i+w+s}]$ . (Algorithm 2) We randomly permute  $\mathcal{R}$  before bucketing in-order.

**Graph Generation.** This is a two-step process where first we sample a *world graph* (Algorithm 3) and then we sample individual graphs from the *world graph* (Algorithm 4). Given a set of rules  $\mathcal{R}_S$ , in the first step, we recursively sample and apply rules in  $\mathcal{R}_S$  to generate a *relation graph* called *world graph*. This sampling procedure enables us to create a diverse set of *world graphs* by considering only certain subsets (of  $\mathcal{R}$ ) during sampling. By controlling the extent of overlap between the subsets of  $\mathcal{R}$  (in terms of the number of rules that are common across the subsets), we can precisely control the *similarity* between the different *world graphs*. By selecting subsets which have higher dissimilarity between each other, we introduce more diversity in terms of logical rules.

In the second step (Algorithm 4), the *world graph* is used to sample a set of graphs  $G_W^S = \{g_1, \dots, g_N\}$ . A graph  $g_i$  is sampled from  $G_W$  by sampling a pair of nodes  $(u, v)$  from  $G_W$  and then by sampling a *resolution path*  $p_{G_W}^{u,v}$ . The edge  $r_i(u, v)$  provides the target relation that the learning model has to predict. Since the *relation* for the edge  $r_i(u, v)$  can be *resolved* by composing the relations along the *resolution*

---

**Algorithm 1** Rule Generator

---

```

Input: Set of  $K$  relations  $\{r_i\}_K, K > 0$ 
Define an empty rule set  $\mathcal{R}$ 
Populate Invertible Rules,  $r_i \implies \hat{r}_i$ , add to  $\mathcal{R}$ 
for all  $r_i \in \{r_i\}_K$  do
    for all  $r_j \in \{r_i\}_K$  do
        for all  $r_k \in \{r_i\}_K$  do
            Define candidate rule  $t : [r_i, r_j] \implies r_k$ 
            if Cyclical rule, i.e.  $r_i == r_k$  OR  $r_j == r_k$ 
            then
                Reject rule
            end if
            if  $t[body] \notin \mathcal{R}$  then
                Add  $t$  to  $\mathcal{R}$ 
                Define inverse rule  $t_{inv} : [\hat{r}_j, \hat{r}_i] \implies \hat{r}_k$ 
                if  $t_{inv}[body] \notin \mathcal{R}$  then
                    Add  $t_{inv}$  to  $\mathcal{R}$ 
                else
                    Remove rule having body  $t_{inv}[body]$  from
                     $\mathcal{R}$ 
                end if
            end if
        end for
    end for
end for
Check and remove any further cyclical rules.

```

---

path, the relation prediction task tests for the compositional generalization abilities of the models. We first sample all possible resolution paths and get their individual descriptors  $D_i$ , which we split in training, validation and test splits. We then construct the training, validation and testing graphs by first adding all edges of an individual  $D_i$  to the corresponding graph  $g_i$ , and then sampling neighbors of  $p_{g_i}$ . Concretely, we use Breadth First Search (BFS) to sample the neighboring subgraph of each node  $u \in p_{g_i}$  with a decaying selection probability  $\gamma$ . This allows us to create diverse input graphs while having precise control over its resolution by its descriptor  $D_i$ . Splitting dataset over these descriptor paths ensures inductive generalization.

---

**Algorithm 2** Partition rules into overlapping sets

---

```

Require: Rule Set  $\mathcal{R}_S$ 
Require: Number of worlds  $n_w > 0$ 
Require: Number of rules per world  $w > 0$ 
Require: Overlapping increment stride  $s > 0$ 
for  $i = 0; i < |\mathcal{R}_S| - w; \text{do}$ 
     $\mathcal{R}_i = \mathcal{R}_S[i; i + w]$ 
     $i = i + s$ 
end for

```

---

**Algorithm 3** World Graph Generator

---

**Require:** Set of relations  $\{r_i\}_K, K > 0$   
**Require:** Set of rules derived from  $\{r_i\}_K, |\mathcal{R}| > 0$   
**Require:** Set rule selection probability gamma  $\gamma = 0.8$   
 Set rule selection probability  $P[\mathcal{R}[i]] = 1, \forall i \in |\mathcal{R}|$   
**Require:** Maximum number of expansions  $s \geq 2$   
**Require:** Set of available nodes  $N$ , s.t.  $|N| \geq 0$   
**Require:** Number of cycles of generation  $c \geq 0$   
 Set *WorldGraph* set of edges  $G_m = \emptyset$   
**while**  $|N| > 0$  or  $c > 0$  **do**  
 Randomly choose an expansion number for this cycle:  
 steps = `rand(2, s)`  
 Set added edges for this cycle  $E_c = \emptyset$   
**for all** step in steps **do**  
**if** step = 0 **then**  
 With uniform probability, either:  
 Sample  $r_t$  from  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{S}}[\text{head}]$  and sample  $u, v \in N$   
 without replacement, OR  
 Sample an edge  $(u, r_t, v)$  from  $G_m$   
 Add  $(u, r_t, v)$  to  $E_c$  and  $G_m$   
**else**  
 Sample an edge  $(u, r_t, v)$  from  $E_c$   
**end if**  
 Sample a rule  $\mathcal{R}[i]$  from  $\mathcal{R}$  following  $P$  s.t.  
 $[r_i, r_j] \implies r_t$   
 $P[\mathcal{R}[i]] = P[\mathcal{R}[i]] * \gamma$   
 Sample a new node  $y \in N$  without replacement  
 Add edge  $(u, r_i, y)$  to  $E_c$  and  $G_m$   
 Add edge  $(y, r_j, v)$  to  $E_c$  and  $G_m$   
**end for**  
**if** All rules in  $\mathcal{R}$  is used atleast once **then**  
 Increment  $c$  by 1  
 Reset rule selection probability  $P[\mathcal{R}[i]] = 1, \forall i \in |\mathcal{R}|$   
**end if**  
**end while**


---

### B.3. Computing Similarity

GraphLog provides precise control for categorizing the similarity between different worlds by computing the overlap of the underlying rules. Concretely, the similarity between two worlds  $W^i$  and  $W^j$  is defined as  $\text{Sim}(W^i, W^j) = |\mathcal{R}^i \cap \mathcal{R}^j|$ , where  $W_i$  and  $W_j$  are the graph worlds and  $\mathcal{R}^i$  and  $\mathcal{R}^j$  are the set of rules associated with them. Thus GraphLog enables various training scenarios - training on highly similar worlds or training on a mix of similar and dissimilar worlds. This fine grained control allows GraphLog to mimic both in-distribution and out-of-distribution scenarios - during training and testing. It also enables us to precisely categorize the effect of multi-task pre-training when the model needs to adapt to novel worlds.

**Algorithm 4** Graph Sampler

---

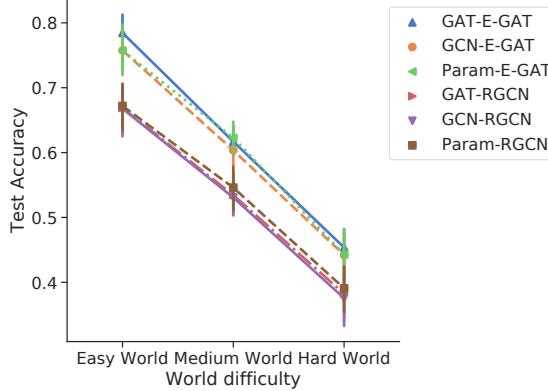
**Require:** Rule Set  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{S}}$   
**Require:** World Graph  $G_m = (V_m, E_m)$   
**Require:** Maximum Expansion length  $e > 2$   
 Set Descriptor set  $S = \emptyset$   
**for all**  $u, v \in E_m$  **do**  
 Get all walks  $Y_{(u,v)} \in G_m$  such that  $|Y_{(u,v)}| \leq e$   
 Get all descriptors  $D_{Y_{(u,v)}}$  for all walks  $Y_{(u,v)}$   
 Add  $D_{Y_{(u,v)}}$  to  $S$   
**end for**  
 Set train graph set  $G_{train} = \emptyset$   
 Set test graph set  $G_{test} = \emptyset$   
 Split descriptors in train and test split,  $S_{train}$  and  $S_{test}$   
**for all**  $D_i \in S_{train}$  or  $S_{test}$  **do**  
 Set source node  $u_s = D_i[0]$  and sink node  $v_s = D_i[-1]$   
 Set prediction target  $t = E_m[u_s][v_s]$   
 Set graph edges  $g_i = \emptyset$   
 Add all edges from  $D_i$  to  $g_i$   
**for all**  $u, v \in D_i$  **do**  
 Sample Breadth First Search connected nodes from  $u$  and  $v$  with decaying probability  $\gamma$   
 Add the sampled edges to  $g_i$   
**end for**  
 Remove edges in  $g_i$  which create shorter paths between  $u_s$  and  $v_s$   
 Add  $(g_i, u_s, v_s, t)$  to either  $G_{train}$  or  $G_{test}$   
**end for**


---

### B.4. Computing difficulty

Recent research in multitask learning has shown evidence that models prioritize selection of difficult tasks over easy tasks while learning to boost the overall performance (Guo et al., 2018). Thus, GraphLog also provides a method to examine how pretraining on tasks of different difficulty level affects the adaptation performance. Due to the stochastic effect of partitioning of the rules, GraphLog consists of datasets with varying range of difficulty. We use the supervised learning scores (Table 6) as a proxy to determine the relative difficulty of different datasets. We cluster the datasets such that tasks with prediction accuracy greater than or above 70% are labeled as *easy* difficulty, 50-70% are labeled as *medium* difficulty and below 50% are labeled as *hard* difficulty dataset. We find that the labels obtained by this criteria are consistent across the different models (Figure 5).

**Graph properties affecting difficulty.** While we compute difficulty based on the proxy of supervised learning scores, we observe that the relative difficulty of the tasks are highly correlated with the number of descriptors (Section B.1) available for each task. This is due to the fact that will less available descriptors with respect to the budget of data



**Figure 5:** We categorize the datasets in terms of their relative *difficulty*. We observe that the models using E-GAT as the composition function consistently work well.

samples, our generation module samples the same set of descriptors while adding variable noise. Thus, datasets with low descriptor count ends up with more relative noise. This shows that for a learner, a dataset with enough variety among the resolution paths of the graphs with less noise is relatively easier to learn compared to the datasets which has less variation and more noise.

### B.5. Setups supported in GraphLog

**Supervised learning.** A model is trained (and evaluated) on the train (and test split) of a *world*. The number of rules grows exponentially with the number of relations  $K$ , making it impossible to train on all possible combinations of the relations. We expect that a *perfectly* systematic model inductively generalizes to unseen combinations of relations by training only on a subset of combinations.

**Multi-task learning.** GraphLog provides multiple logical *worlds*, with their training and evaluation splits. The model is trained on (and evaluated on) the train (and test) splits of several *worlds* ( $W_1, \dots, W_M$ ). GraphLog enables us to control the complexity of each world and similarity between the worlds to evaluate how model performance varies when the model is trained on similar vs. dissimilar *worlds*. GraphLog is designed to study the effect of pre-training on adaptation. In this setup, the model is first pre-trained on the train split of multiple *worlds* ( $W_1, \dots, W_M$ ) and then fine-tuned on the train split of the unseen heldout *worlds* ( $W_{M+1}, \dots, W_N$ ). The model is evaluated on the *test* split of the novel *worlds*. GraphLog enables mimicking in-distribution and out-of-distribution training and testing scenarios and quantify the effect of multi-task pre-training for adaptation performance.

**Continual learning.** The model is trained on a sequence of *worlds*. Before training on a new *world*, the model is evaluated on all the *worlds* that the model has trained on so far.

Given the several challenges involved in continual learning (Thrun and Pratt, 2012; Parisi et al., 2019; De Lange et al., 2019; Sodhani et al., 2019), we do not expect the models to perform well on all the tasks. Nonetheless, given that we are evaluating the models for relational reasoning and that our datasets share *relations*, we would expect the models to retain some knowledge of how to solve the previous tasks. We use the performance on the previous tasks to infer if the models learn to solve the relational reasoning tasks or just *fit* to the current dataset distribution.

## C. Representation and Composition Functions

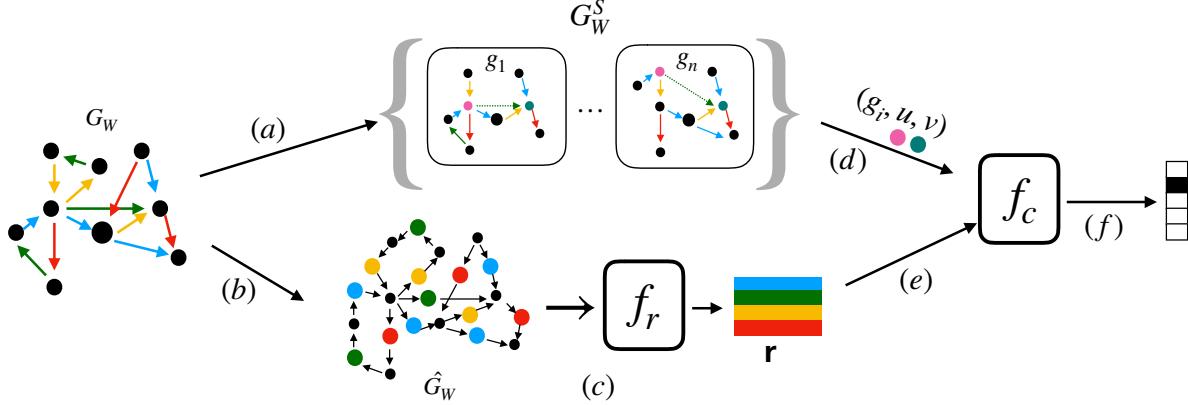
In this section, we dive deeper into the specifics of Representation and Composition modules used in experiments on GraphLog defined in Section 3.

### C.1. Representation modules

First, we describe the different approaches for learning the representation  $\mathbf{r}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  for the relations. These representations will be provided as input to the *composition function*.

**Direct parameterization.** The simplest approach to learn the representation module is to train unique embeddings for each relation  $r_i$ . This approach is predominantly used in the previous work on GNNs (Gilmer et al., 2017; Veličković et al., 2017), and we term this approach as the Param representation module. A major limitation of this approach is that the relation representations are optimized specifically for each logical world, and there is no inductive bias towards learning representations that can generalize.

**Learning representations from the graph structure.** In order to define a more powerful and expressive representation function, we consider an approach that learns relation representations as a function of the *WorldGraph* underlying a logical world. To do so, we consider an “extended” form of the *WorldGraph*,  $\hat{G}_W$ , which introduces new nodes (called *edge-nodes*) corresponding to each edge in the original *WorldGraph*  $G_W$ . For an edge  $r(u, v) \in E_G$ , the corresponding edge-node  $(u - r - v)$  is connected to only those nodes that were incident to it in the original graph (i.e. nodes  $u$  and  $v$ ; see Figure 6, Step (b)). This new graph  $\hat{G}_W$  only has one type of edge and comprises of nodes from both the original graph and from the set of edge-nodes. We learn the relation representations by training a GNN model on the expanded *WorldGraph* and by averaging the edge-node embeddings corresponding to each relation type  $r_i \in \mathfrak{R}$ . (Step (c) in Figure 6). For the GNN model, we consider the Graph Convolutional Network (GCN) (Kipf and Welling, 2016) and the Graph Attention Network (GAT) architectures. Since the nodes do not have any features or attributes, we randomly initialize the embeddings in these GNN message



**Figure 6:** Overview of the training process: **(a)**: Sampling multiple graphs from  $G_W$ . **(b)**: Converting the relational graph into extended graph  $\hat{G}_W$ . Note that edges of different color (denoting different types of relations) are replaced by a node of same type in  $\hat{G}_W$ . **(c)**: Learning representations of the relations ( $r$ ) using  $f_r$  with the extended graph as the input. In case of Param models, the relation representations are parameterized via an embedding layer and the extended graph is not created. **(d, e)**: The composition function takes as input the query  $(g_i, u, v)$  and the relational representation  $r$ . **(f)**: The composition function predicts the relation between the nodes  $u$  and  $v$ .

passing layers. The intuition behind creating the extended-graph is that the representation GNN function can learn the relation embeddings based on the structure of the complete relational graph  $G_W$ . We expect this to provide an inductive bias that can generalize more effectively than the simple Param approach.

## C.2. Composition modules

We now describe the GNNs used for the composition modules. These models take as input the query  $(g_i, u, v)$  and the relation embedding  $r_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  (Step (d) and (e) in Figure 6).

**Relational Graph Convolutional Network (RGCN).** Given that the input to the composition module is a relational graph, the RGCN model (Schlichtkrull et al., 2018) is a natural choice for a baseline architecture. In this approach, we iterate a series of message passing operations:

$$\mathbf{h}_u^{(t)} = \text{ReLU} \left( \sum_{r_i \in R} \sum_{v \in \mathcal{N}_{r_i}(u)} \mathbf{r}_i \times_1 \mathcal{T} \times_3 \mathbf{h}_v^{(t-1)} \right),$$

where  $\mathbf{h}_u^{(t)} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  denotes representation of a node  $u$  at the  $t^{th}$  layer of the model,  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_r \times d \times d}$  is a learnable tensor,  $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  is relation representation, and  $\mathcal{N}_{r_i}(u)$  denotes the neighbors of  $u$  (related by  $r_i$ ).  $\times_i$  denotes multiplication across one mode of the tensor. RGCN model learns a relation-specific propagation matrix, specified by the interaction between relation embedding  $\mathbf{r}_i$  and shared tensor  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**Edge-based Graph Attention Network (Edge-GAT).** In addition to the RGCN model, we also explore an extension of the Graph Attention Network (GAT) model (Veličković et al., 2017) to handle edge types. Many recent works have highlighted the importance of the attention mechanism, especially in the context of relational reasoning (Vaswani et al.,

2017; Santoro et al., 2018; Schlag et al., 2019). Motivated by this observation, we investigate an extended version of the GAT, where we incorporate gating via an LSTM (Hochreiter and Schmidhuber, 1997) and where the attention is conditioned on both the incoming message (from the other nodes) and the relation embedding (of the other nodes):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{N}(u)} &= \sum_{r_i \in R} \sum_{v \in \mathcal{N}_{r_i}(u)} \alpha \left( \mathbf{h}_u^{(t-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(t-1)}, \mathbf{r} \right), \\ \mathbf{h}_u^{(t)} &= \text{LSTM}(\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{N}(u)}, \mathbf{h}_u^{(t-1)}) \end{aligned}$$

Following the original GAT model, the attention function  $\alpha$  is defined using a dense neural network on the concatenation of the input vectors. We refer to this model as the Edge GAT (E-GAT) model.

**Query and node representations.** We predict the relation for query  $(g_i, u, v)$  by concatenating  $\mathbf{h}_u^{(K)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(K)}$  (final-layer query node embeddings) and applying a feedforward network (Step (f) in Figure 6). The entire model (i.e., representation and composition models) is trained end-to-end. Since we have no node features, we randomly initialize all the node embeddings in the GNNs.

## D. Supervised learning on GraphLog

We train and evaluate all of the models on all the 57 *worlds*, one *model-world* pair at a time. Previous works considered only a handful of datasets when evaluating the different models and it is possible that the model exploits dataset-specific biases. With GraphLog it is difficult for one model to outperform the other models on all the 57 datasets by exploiting some dataset-specific bias, thereby making the conclusions more robust. In Figure 5, we present the results for the different models. We categorize the *worlds* in

three categories of *difficulty*—*easy*, *moderate* and *difficult*—based on the relative test performance of the models on each *world*. (A complimentary formulation of difficulty is explained in Section B.4). Table 6 contains the results for the different models on all individual worlds. We observe that the models using E-GAT as the composition functions always outperform their counterparts using the RGCN models. This confirms our hypothesis about leveraging attention to improve the performance on relational reasoning tasks. Interestingly, the relative ordering among the *worlds*, in terms of the test accuracy of the different models, is consistent irrespective of the model we use, highlighting the intrinsic difficulty of the different *worlds* in GraphLog.

## E. Multitask Learning

### E.1. Multitask Learning on different data splits by difficulty

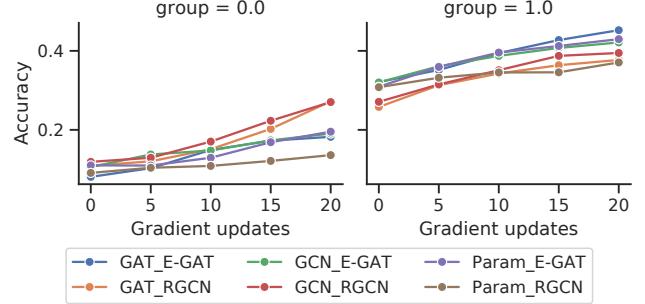
		Easy	Medium	Difficult
$f_r$	$f_c$	Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy
GAT	E-GAT	<b>0.729</b> $\pm 0.05$	<b>0.586</b> $\pm 0.05$	0.414 $\pm 0.07$
Param	E-GAT	0.728 $\pm 0.05$	0.574 $\pm 0.06$	0.379 $\pm 0.06$
GCN	E-GAT	0.713 $\pm 0.05$	0.55 $\pm 0.06$	0.396 $\pm 0.05$
GAT	RGCN	0.695 $\pm 0.04$	0.53 $\pm 0.03$	<b>0.421</b> $\pm 0.06$
Param	RGCN	0.551 $\pm 0.08$	0.457 $\pm 0.05$	0.362 $\pm 0.05$
GCN	RGCN	0.673 $\pm 0.05$	0.514 $\pm 0.04$	0.396 $\pm 0.06$

**Table 4:** Inductive performance on data splits marked by difficulty

In Section B.4 we introduced the notion of *difficulty* among the tasks available in GraphLog . Here, we consider a set of experiments where we perform multitask training and inductive testing on the worlds bucketized by their relative difficulty (Table 4). We sample equal number of worlds from each difficulty bucket, and separately perform multitask training and testing. We evaluate the average prediction accuracy on the datasets within each bucket. We observe that the average multitask performance *also* mimics the relative task difficulty distribution. We find GAT-E-GAT model outperforms other baselines in *Easy* and *Medium* setup, but is outperformed by GAT-RGCN model in the *Difficult* setup. For each model, we used the same architecture and hyperparameter settings across the buckets. Optimizing individually for each bucket may improve the relative performance.

### E.2. Multitask Pre-training by task similarity

In the main paper (Section 4.1) we introduce the setup of performing multitask pre-training on GraphLog datasets and adaptation on the datasets based on relative similarity. Here, we perform fine-grained analysis of *few-shot* adaptation capabilities of the models. We analyze the adaptation performance in two settings - when the adaptation dataset has complete overlap of rules with the training datasets



**Figure 7:** We perform fine-grained analysis of *few shot* adaptation capabilities in Multitask setting. Group 0.0 and 1.0 corresponds to 0% and 100% similarity respectively.

		Easy	Medium	Difficult
$f_r$	$f_c$	Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy
GAT	E-GAT	$0.531 \pm 0.03$	<b><math>0.569 \pm 0.01</math></b>	<b><math>0.555 \pm 0.04</math></b>
Param	E-GAT	$0.520 \pm 0.02$	$0.548 \pm 0.01$	$0.540 \pm 0.01$
GCN	E-GAT	<b><math>0.555 \pm 0.01</math></b>	$0.561 \pm 0.02$	$0.558 \pm 0.01$
GAT	RGCN	$0.502 \pm 0.02$	$0.532 \pm 0.01$	$0.532 \pm 0.01$
Param	RGCN	$0.535 \pm 0.01$	$0.506 \pm 0.04$	$0.539 \pm 0.04$
GCN	RGCN	$0.481 \pm 0.02$	$0.516 \pm 0.02$	$0.520 \pm 0.01$
Mean		0.521	<b>0.540</b>	0.539

**Table 5:** Convergence performance on 3 held out datasets when pre-trained on easy, medium and hard training datasets

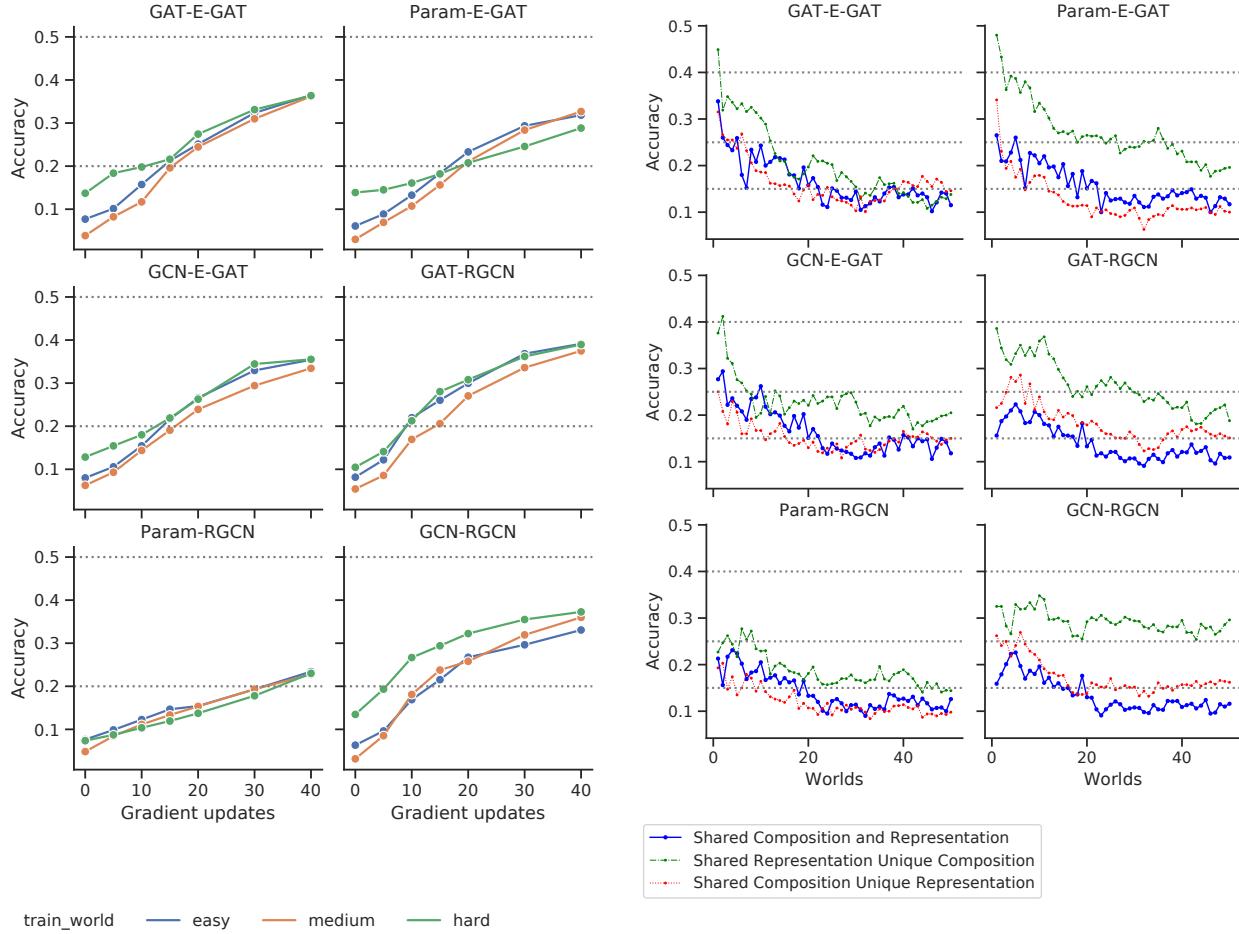
( $group=1.0$ ) and when the adaptation dataset has zero overlap with the training datasets ( $group=0.0$ ). We find RGCN family of models with a graph based representation function has faster adaptation on the dissimilar dataset, with GCN-RGCN showing the fastest improvement. However on the similar dataset the models follow the ranking of the supervised learning experiments, with GAT-EGAT model adapting comparatively better.

### E.3. Multitask Pre-training by task difficulty

Using the notion of *difficulty* introduced in Section B.4, we perform the suite of experiments to evaluate the effect of pre-training on *Easy*, *Medium* and *Difficult* datasets. Interestingly, we find the performance on convergence is better on Medium and Hard datasets on pre-training, compared to the Easy dataset (Table 5). This behaviour is also mirrored in k-shot adaptation performance (Figure 8), where pre-training on Hard dataset provides faster adaptation performance on 4/6 models.

## F. Continual Learning

**Curriculum Learning.** A natural question arises following our continual learning experiments in Section 4.2 : does the *order* of difficulty of the worlds matter? Thus, we perform an experiment following Curriculum Learning (Bengio et al.,



**Figure 8:** We evaluate the effect of  $k$ -shot adaptation on held out datasets when pre-trained on *easy*, *medium* and *hard* training datasets, among the different model architectures. Here,  $k$  ranges from 0 to 40.

2009) setup, where the order of the worlds being trained is determined by their relative difficulty (which is determined by the performance of models in supervised learning setup, Table 6, i.e., we order the worlds from easier worlds to harder worlds). We observe that while the current task accuracy follows the trend of the difficulty of the worlds (Figure 10), the mean of past accuracy is significantly worse. This suggests that a curriculum learning strategy might not be optimal to learn graph representations in a continual learning setting.

**The role of the representation function.** We also investigate the model’s performance in a continual learning setup where the model learns only a *world*-specific representation function or a *world*-specific composition function, and where the other module is shared across the worlds. In Figure 9, we observe that sharing the representation function reduces the effect of catastrophic forgetting, but sharing the composition function does not have the same effect. This

**Figure 9:** Evaluation of models in continual learning setup, where we investigate the role of representation and composition modules. Here, we observe that sharing the representation function reduces the effect of catastrophic forgetting as compared to sharing only the composition function (or sharing both).

suggests that the representation function learns representations that are useful across the *worlds*. We also performed the same experiment with sharing only the composition and representation functions (Figure 11), and observe similar trends where sharing the representation function reduces the effect of catastrophic forgetting.

## G. Hyperparameters and Experimental Setup

In this section, we provide detailed hyperparameter settings for both models and dataset generation for the purposes of reproducibility. The codebase and dataset used in the experiments are attached with the Supplementary materials, and will be made public on acceptance.

### G.1. Dataset Hyperparams

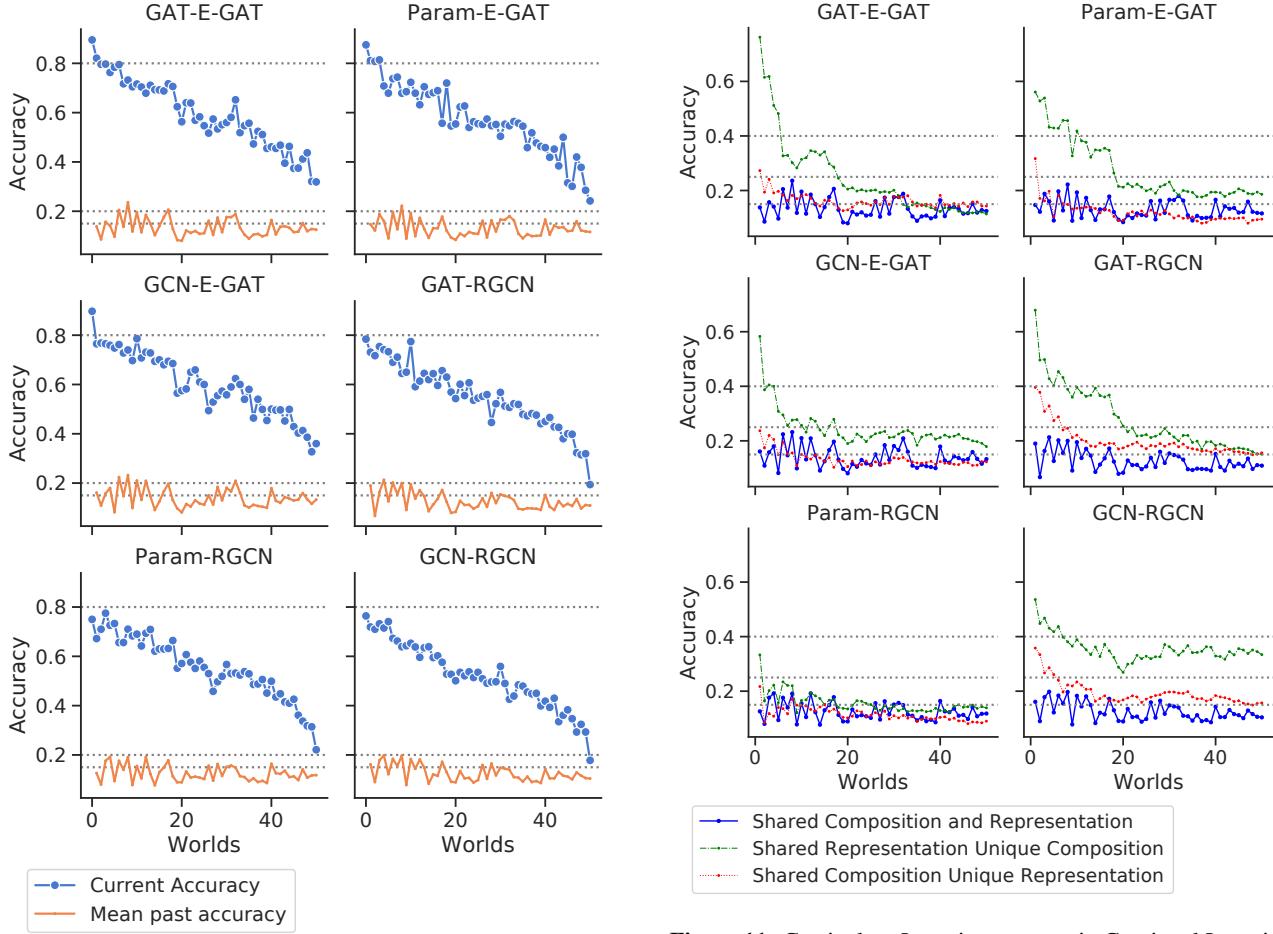
We generate GraphLog with 20 relations or classes ( $K$ ), which results in 76 rules in  $\mathcal{R}_S$  after consistency checks. For

Evaluating Logical Generalization in Graph Neural Networks

World ID	NC	ND	Split	ARL	AN	AE	D	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6
rule_0	17	286	train	4.49	15.487	19.295	Hard	0.481	0.500	0.494	0.486	0.462	0.462
rule_1	15	239	train	4.10	11.565	13.615	Hard	0.432	0.411	0.428	0.406	0.400	0.408
rule_2	17	157	train	3.21	9.809	11.165	Hard	0.412	0.357	0.373	0.347	0.347	0.319
rule_3	16	189	train	3.63	11.137	13.273	Hard	0.429	0.404	0.473	0.373	0.401	0.451
rule_4	16	189	train	3.94	12.622	15.501	Medium	0.624	0.606	0.619	0.475	0.481	0.595
rule_5	14	275	train	4.41	14.545	18.872	Hard	0.526	0.539	0.548	0.429	0.461	0.455
rule_6	16	249	train	5.06	16.257	20.164	Hard	0.528	0.514	0.536	0.498	0.495	0.476
rule_7	17	288	train	4.47	13.161	16.333	Medium	0.613	0.558	0.598	0.487	0.486	0.537
rule_8	15	404	train	5.43	15.997	19.134	Medium	0.627	0.643	0.629	0.523	0.563	0.569
rule_9	19	1011	train	7.22	24.151	32.668	Easy	0.758	0.744	0.739	0.683	0.651	0.623
rule_10	18	524	train	5.87	18.011	22.202	Medium	0.656	0.654	0.663	0.596	0.563	0.605
rule_11	17	194	train	4.29	11.459	13.037	Medium	0.552	0.525	0.533	0.445	0.456	0.419
rule_12	15	306	train	4.14	11.238	12.919	Easy	0.771	0.726	0.603	0.511	0.561	0.523
rule_13	16	149	train	3.58	11.238	13.549	Hard	0.453	0.402	0.419	0.347	0.298	0.344
rule_14	16	224	train	4.14	11.371	13.403	Hard	0.448	0.457	0.401	0.314	0.318	0.332
rule_15	14	224	train	3.82	12.661	15.105	Hard	0.494	0.423	0.501	0.402	0.397	0.435
rule_16	16	205	train	3.59	11.345	13.293	Hard	0.318	0.332	0.292	0.328	0.306	0.291
rule_17	17	147	train	3.16	8.163	8.894	Hard	0.347	0.308	0.274	0.164	0.161	0.181
rule_18	18	923	train	6.63	25.035	33.080	Easy	0.700	0.680	0.713	0.650	0.641	0.618
rule_19	16	416	train	6.10	17.180	20.818	Easy	0.790	0.774	0.777	0.731	0.729	0.702
rule_20	20	2024	train	8.63	34.059	45.985	Easy	0.830	0.799	0.854	0.756	0.741	0.750
rule_21	13	272	train	4.58	10.559	11.754	Medium	0.621	0.610	0.632	0.531	0.516	0.580
rule_22	17	422	train	5.21	16.540	20.681	Medium	0.586	0.593	0.628	0.530	0.506	0.573
rule_23	15	383	train	4.97	17.067	21.111	Hard	0.508	0.522	0.493	0.455	0.473	0.476
rule_24	18	879	train	6.33	21.402	26.152	Easy	0.706	0.704	0.743	0.656	0.641	0.638
rule_25	15	278	train	3.84	11.093	12.775	Hard	0.424	0.419	0.382	0.358	0.345	0.412
rule_26	15	352	train	4.71	14.157	17.115	Medium	0.565	0.534	0.532	0.466	0.461	0.499
rule_27	16	393	train	4.98	14.296	16.499	Easy	0.713	0.714	0.722	0.632	0.604	0.647
rule_28	16	391	train	4.82	17.551	21.897	Medium	0.575	0.564	0.571	0.503	0.499	0.552
rule_29	16	144	train	3.87	10.193	11.774	Hard	0.468	0.445	0.475	0.325	0.336	0.389
rule_30	17	177	train	3.51	10.270	11.764	Hard	0.381	0.426	0.382	0.357	0.316	0.336
rule_31	19	916	train	5.90	20.147	26.562	Easy	0.788	0.789	0.770	0.669	0.674	0.641
rule_32	16	287	train	4.66	16.270	20.929	Medium	0.674	0.671	0.700	0.621	0.594	0.615
rule_33	18	312	train	4.50	14.738	18.266	Medium	0.695	0.660	0.709	0.710	0.679	0.668
rule_34	18	504	train	5.00	15.345	18.614	Easy	0.908	0.888	0.906	0.768	0.762	0.811
rule_35	19	979	train	6.23	21.867	28.266	Easy	0.831	0.750	0.782	0.680	0.700	0.662
rule_36	19	252	train	4.66	13.900	16.613	Easy	0.742	0.698	0.698	0.659	0.627	0.651
rule_37	17	260	train	4.00	11.956	14.010	Easy	0.843	0.826	0.826	0.673	0.698	0.716
rule_38	17	568	train	5.21	15.305	20.075	Easy	0.748	0.762	0.733	0.644	0.630	0.719
rule_39	15	182	train	3.98	12.552	14.800	Easy	0.737	0.642	0.635	0.592	0.603	0.587
rule_40	17	181	train	3.69	11.556	14.437	Medium	0.552	0.584	0.575	0.525	0.472	0.479
rule_41	15	113	train	3.58	10.162	11.553	Medium	0.619	0.601	0.626	0.490	0.468	0.470
rule_42	14	95	train	2.96	8.939	9.751	Hard	0.511	0.472	0.483	0.386	0.393	0.395
rule_43	16	162	train	3.36	11.077	13.337	Medium	0.622	0.567	0.579	0.473	0.482	0.437
rule_44	18	705	train	4.75	15.310	18.172	Hard	0.538	0.561	0.603	0.498	0.519	0.450
rule_45	15	151	train	3.39	9.127	10.001	Medium	0.569	0.580	0.592	0.535	0.524	0.524
rule_46	19	2704	train	7.94	31.458	43.489	Easy	0.850	0.820	0.828	0.773	0.762	0.749
rule_47	18	647	train	6.66	22.139	27.789	Easy	0.723	0.667	0.708	0.620	0.649	0.611
rule_48	16	978	train	6.15	17.802	21.674	Easy	0.812	0.798	0.812	0.772	0.763	0.753
rule_49	14	169	train	3.41	9.983	11.177	Easy	0.714	0.734	0.700	0.511	0.491	0.615
rule_50	16	286	train	3.99	12.274	16.117	Medium	0.651	0.653	0.656	0.555	0.583	0.570
rule_51	16	332	valid	4.44	16.384	21.817	Easy	0.746	0.742	0.738	0.667	0.657	0.689
rule_52	17	351	valid	4.81	16.231	20.613	Medium	0.697	0.716	0.754	0.653	0.655	0.670
rule_53	15	165	valid	3.65	10.838	12.378	Hard	0.458	0.464	0.525	0.334	0.364	0.373
rule_54	13	303	test	5.25	13.503	15.567	Medium	0.638	0.623	0.603	0.587	0.586	0.555
rule_55	16	293	test	4.83	16.444	20.944	Medium	0.625	0.582	0.578	0.561	0.528	0.571
rule_56	15	241	test	4.40	14.010	16.702	Medium	0.653	0.681	0.692	0.522	0.513	0.550
AGG	16.33	428.94		4.70	14.89	18.37		<b>0.618 / 26</b>	0.603 / 10	0.611 / 20	0.530 / 1	0.526 / 0	0.539 / 0

**Table 6:** Results on Single-task supervised setup for all datasets in GraphLog. Abbreviations: **NC**: Number of Classes, **ND**: Number of Descriptors, **ARL**: Average Resolution Length, **AN**: Average number of nodes, **AE**: Average number of edges

, **D**: Difficulty, **AGG**: Aggregate Statistics. List of models considered : **M1**: GAT-EGAT, **M2**: GCN-E-GAT, **M3**: Param-E-GAT, **M4**: GAT-RGCN, **M5**: GCN-RGCN and **M6**: Param-RGCN. Difficulty is calculated by taking the scores of the model (M1) and partitioning the worlds according to their accuracy ( $\geq 0.7$  = Easy,  $\geq 0.54$  and  $< 0.7$  = Medium, and  $< 0.54$  = Hard). We provide both the mean of the raw accuracy scores for all models, as well as the number of times the model is ranked first in all the tasks.



**Figure 10:** Curriculum Learning strategy in Continual Learning setup of GraphLog. The current task accuracy (blue) and mean of all previous task accuracy (orange).

unary rules, we specify half of the relations to be symmetric and other half to have their invertible relations. To split the rules for individual worlds, we choose the number of rules for each world  $w = 20$  and stride  $s = 1$ , and end up with 57 worlds  $\mathcal{R}_0 \dots \mathcal{R}_{56}$ . For each world  $\mathcal{R}_i$ , we generate 5000 training, 1000 testing and 1000 validation graphs.

## G.2. Model Hyperparams

For all models, we perform hyper-parameter sweep (grid search) to find the optimal values based on the validation accuracy. For all models, we use the relation embedding and node embedding to be 200 dimensions. We train all models with Adam optimizer with learning rate 0.001 and weight decay of 0.0001. For supervised setting, we train all models for 500 epochs, and we add a scheduler for learning rate to decay it by 0.8 whenever the validation loss is stagnant for 10 epochs. In multitask setting, we sample a new task every epoch from the list of available tasks. Here, we run

**Figure 11:** Curriculum Learning strategy in Continual Learning setup of GraphLog, where we investigate the role of representation and composition modules. We observe the mean of previous task accuracy when either the composition function or the representation function is shared for all worlds.

all models for 2000 epochs when we have the number of tasks  $\leq 10$ . For larger number of tasks (Figure 2), we train by proportionally increasing the number of epochs compared to the number of tasks. (2k epochs for 10 tasks, 4k epochs for 20 tasks, 6k epochs for 30 tasks, 8k epochs for 40 tasks and 10k epochs for 50 tasks). For continual learning experiment, we train each task for 100 epochs for all models. No learning rate scheduling is used for either multitask or continual learning experiments. Individual model hyper-parameters are as follows:

- Representation functions :
  - GAT : Number of layers = 2, Number of attention heads = 2, Dropout = 0.4
  - GCN : Number of layers = 2, with symmetric normalization and bias, no dropout
- Composition functions :

- E-GAT: Number of layers = 6, Number of attention heads = 2, Dropout = 0.4
- RGCN: Number of layers = 2, no dropout, with bias.