

# Unsupervised Episode Generation for Graph Meta-learning

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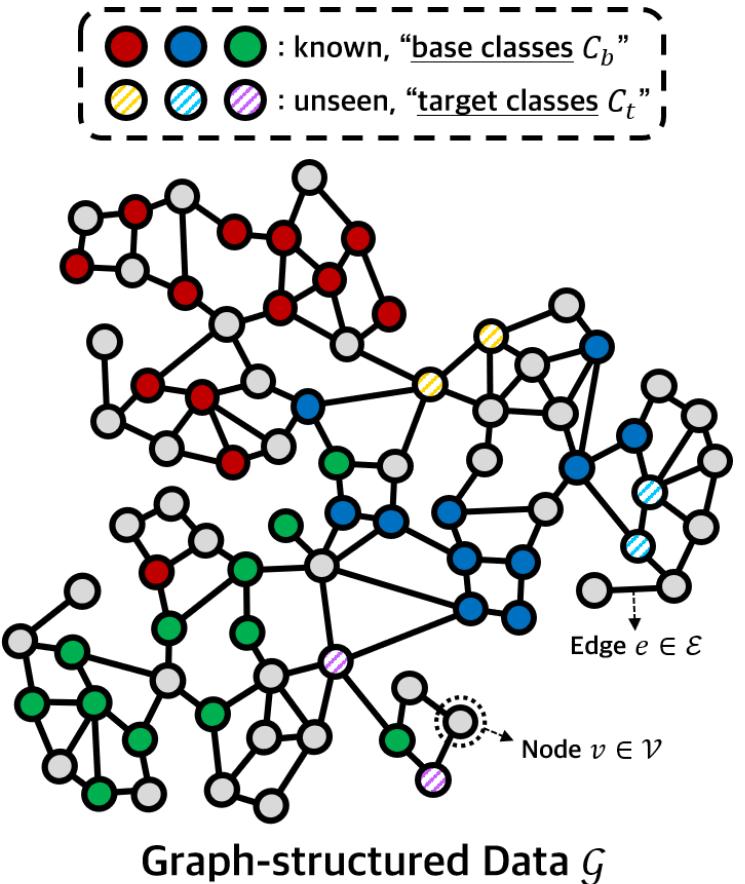
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# Introduction

- Preliminaries: Frequently used Notations



$\mathcal{G}$	$= (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, X)$ ; given graph-structured data
$\mathcal{V}$	a set of nodes
$\mathcal{E}$	$\subset \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}$ ; a set of edges
$X$	a $d$ -dimensional node feature matrix, or a set of node features $\{x_v : v \in \mathcal{V}\}$
$C$	a set of total node classes; $C = C_b \cup C_t$
$C_b$	<i>base classes</i> , a set of node classes that can be utilized during training
$C_t$	<i>target classes</i> , a set of node classes that have to be recognized in downstream FSNC tasks
$\mathcal{T}$	$= (S_{\mathcal{T}}, Q_{\mathcal{T}})$ ; a $N$ -way $K$ -shot $Q$ -query (training or testing) episode (task)
$S_{\mathcal{T}}$	a support set, a set of given a few-labeled samples in $\mathcal{T}$
$Q_{\mathcal{T}}$	a query set, a set of unlabeled samples have to be predicted in $\mathcal{T}$
$N$	a number of <i>way</i> ; i.e., number of distinct classes have to be classify within $\mathcal{T}$
$K$	a number of labeled samples (support set) given for each class (i.e., way) in $\mathcal{T}$
$Q$	a number of queries given for each class in $\mathcal{T}$
$f_{\theta}$	a model have to be trained (i.e., GNN encoder)
$\theta$	a model parameter

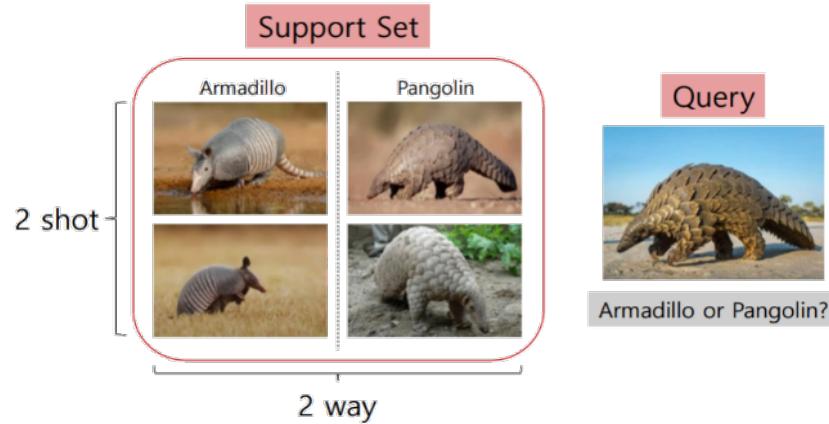
Frequently used, important Notations

# Introduction

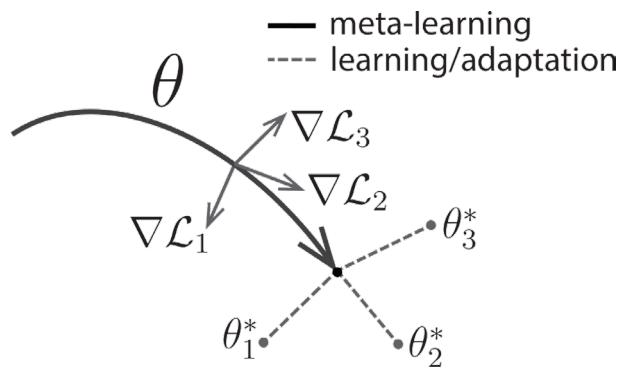
- Preliminaries: Few-shot Learning

- Few-shot Learning (FSL)

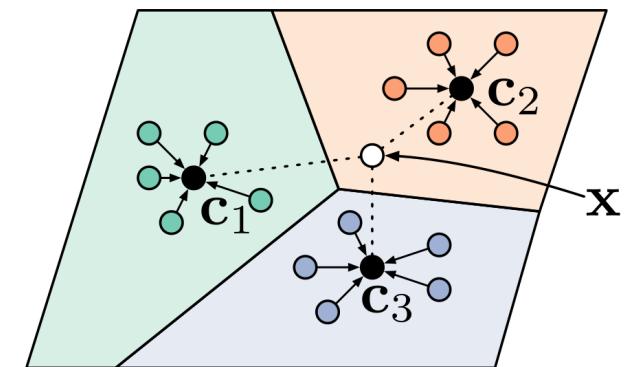
- Challenge: Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) show poor generalizability for unseen classes with only a few-labeled samples
- Objective: Like humans, **machines should be able to learn from a few-labeled samples to recognize unseen classes**
- Dominant paradigm: applying meta-learning methods like MAML [1] and ProtoNet [2] utilizing an **episodic learning framework**



Sample Image: 2-way 2-shot FSL Problem



Description of MAML [1]

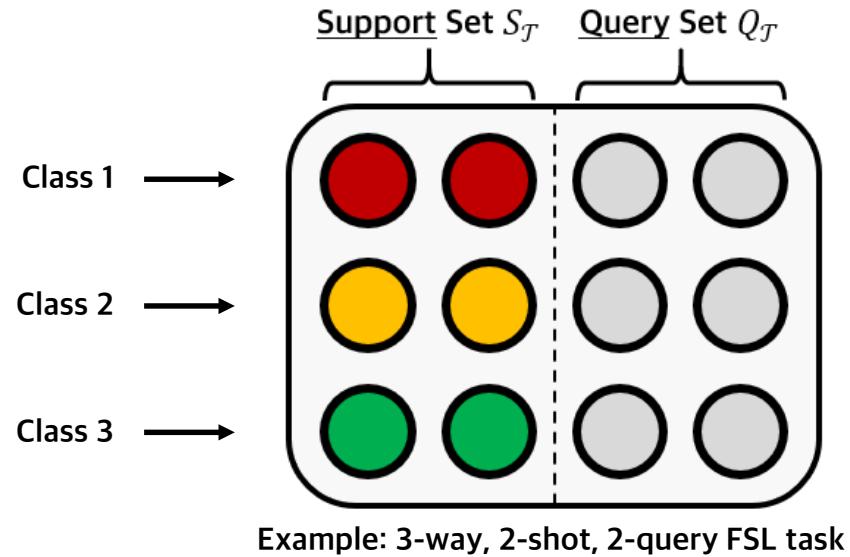


Description of ProtoNet [2]

# Introduction

- Preliminaries: Few-shot Learning Downstream Task settings

- Formal Downstream task setting in previous studies
  - Following Vinyals et al. [1], ***N-way K-shot Few-shot Learning task is common***
  - *N*: number of distinct target classes within the downstream task
  - *K*: number of given a few-labeled samples in each ‘support set’
  - *Q*: number of queries have to be classified



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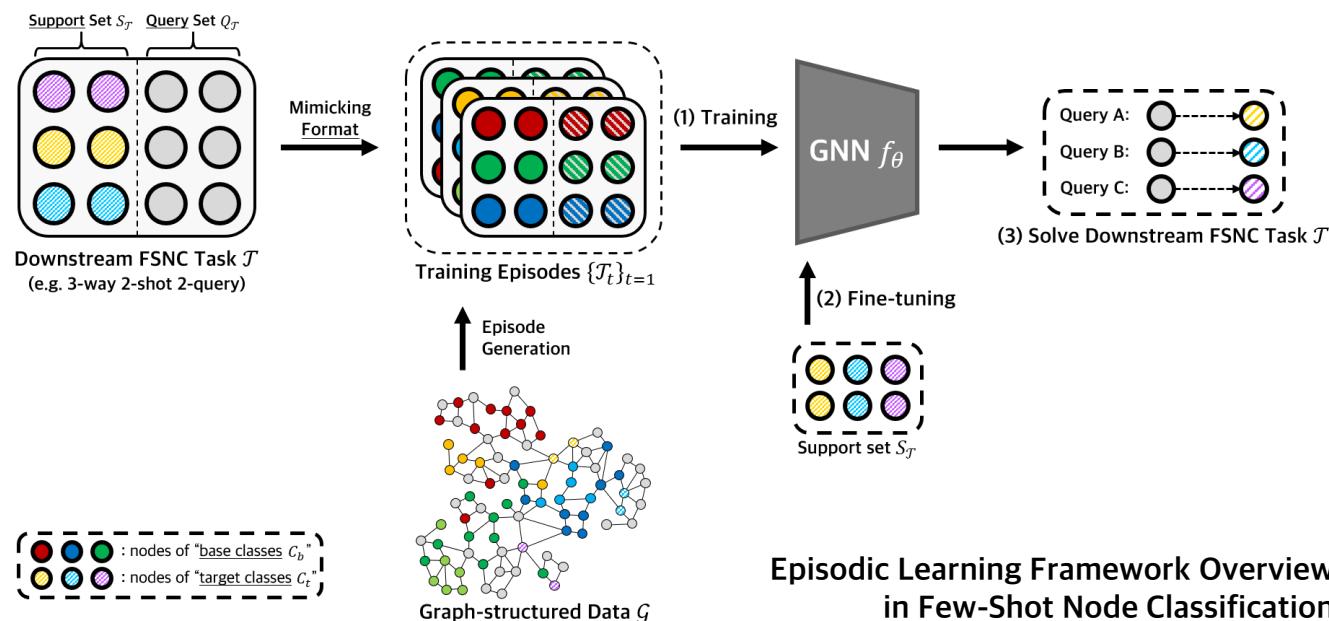
Frequently used, important Notations

# Introduction

- Preliminaries: Episodic Learning Framework

- Description

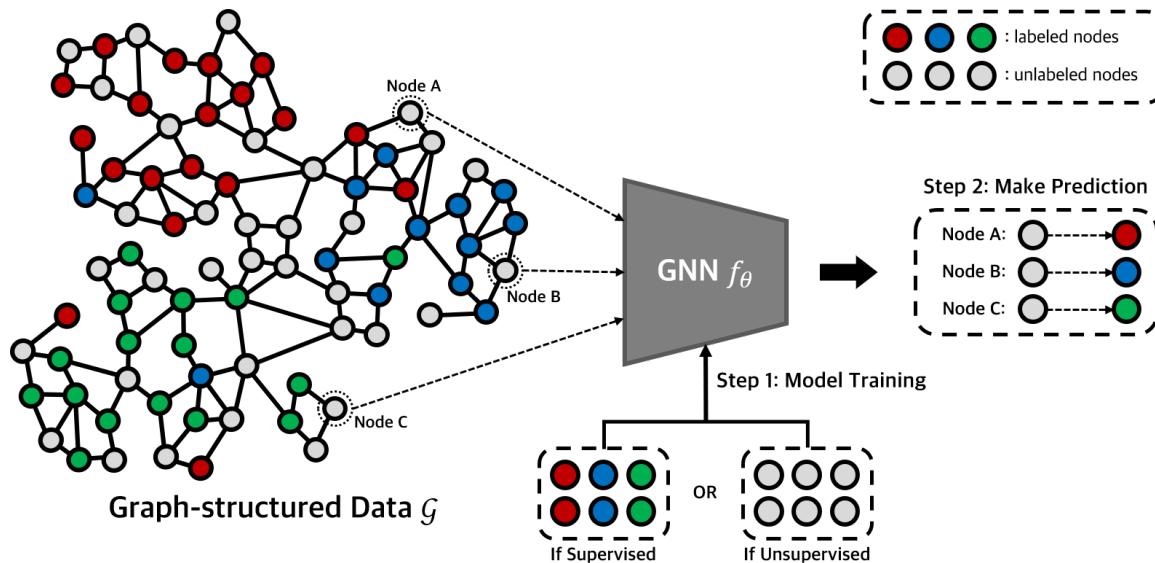
- Instead of using mini-batches, episodic learning trains model by using bundle of tasks  $\{\mathcal{T}_t\}_{t=1}^T$ , where  $S_{\mathcal{T}_t} = \{(x_{t,i}^{spt}, y_{t,i}^{spt})\}_{i=1}^{N \times K}$  are support set and  $Q_{\mathcal{T}_t} = \{(x_{t,i}^{qry}, y_{t,i}^{qry})\}_{i=1}^{N \times Q}$  for the stochastic optimization
- By **mimicking the “format” of the downstream task**, **model  $f_\theta$  is trained to be aware of the task to solve** in the testing phase
- Most of meta-learning methods follow Episodic Learning Framework [1] for the model training



# Introduction

- Preliminaries: Ordinary Node Classification on Graph-structured Data

- Ordinary Node Classification
  - Objective: classifying unlabeled nodes to the one of **known classes**
  - In this setting, **entire classes in the graph are already known**



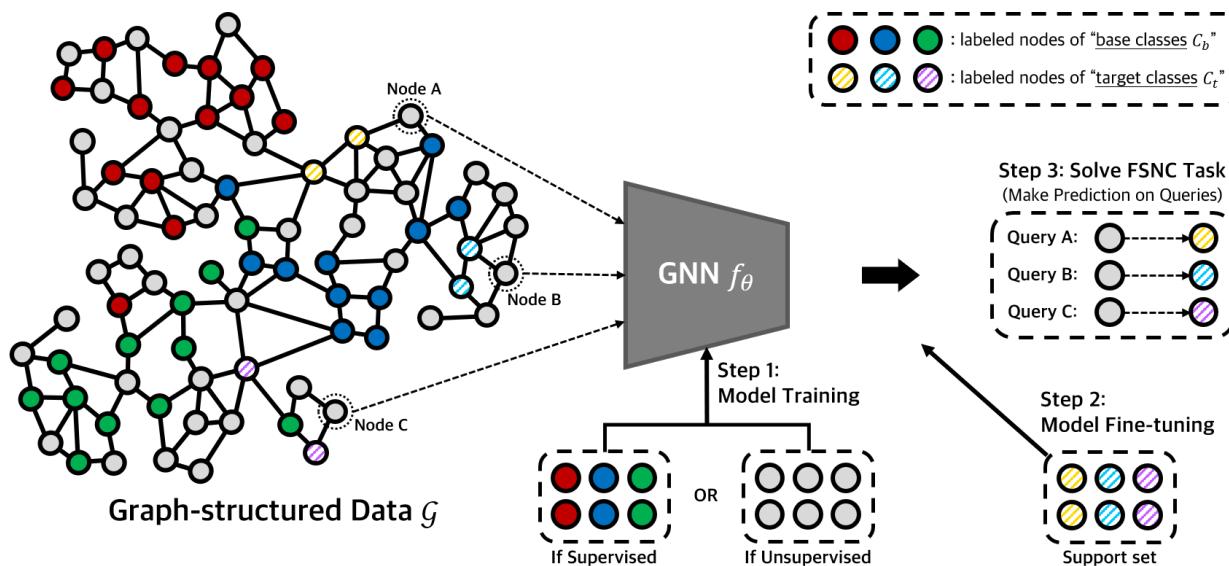
Three-class Example of the Process of the Ordinary Node Classification

# Introduction

- Preliminaries: Few-shot Learning in Graph-structured Data

- Few-Shot Node Classification (FSNC)

- Objective: classifying queries to the one of **unseen classes** (target classes  $C_t$ ) **with a few-labeled nodes** (support set) in the downstream FSNC task
- Only some of classes (base classes  $C_b$ ) are known during training phase in the supervised setting
- Current Solution: 1) **Meta-learning based methods** or 2) **utilizing Graph Contrastive Learning (GCL) + Linear probing**

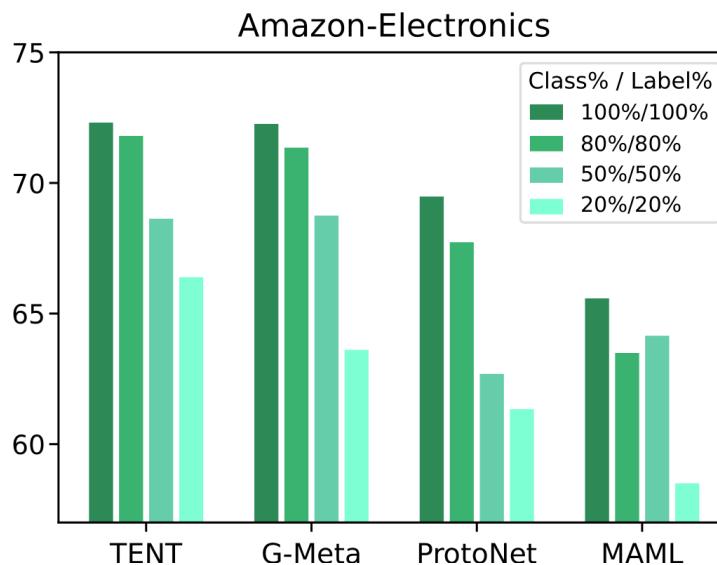


3-way 2-shot Example of the Overall Process of the Few-Shot Node Classification

# Introduction

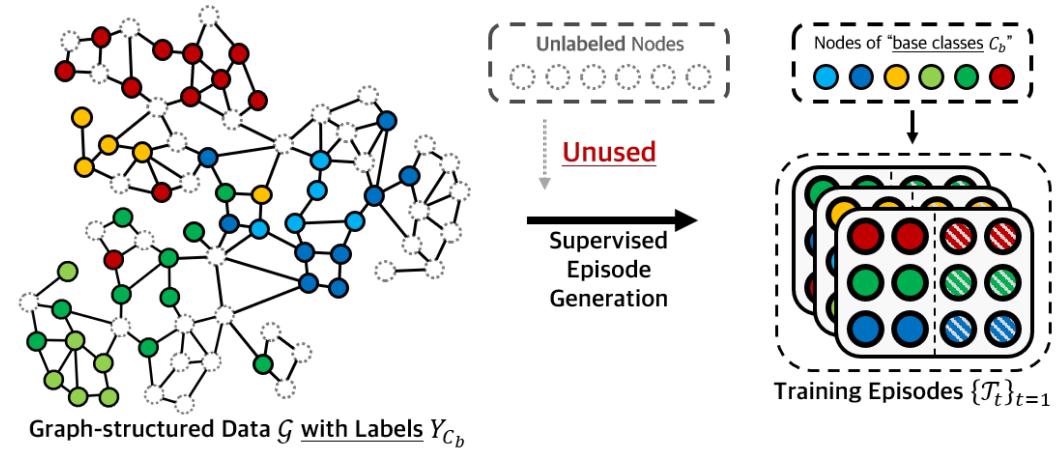
- Challenges in FSNC: Why Supervised Graph Meta-learning methods are Insufficient?

- Label-scarcity Problem
  - Supervised Graph Meta-learning **require enough labeled samples from diverse base classes** for training → **Expensive**
  - Otherwise, their FSNC performances are significantly deteriorated (Kim et al. [1], Wang et al. [2])
  - Moreover, the **Label-scarcity problem hinders the full utilization of the information of all nodes in a graph**



Impact of the **Label-scarcity Problem** on Supervised Graph Meta-learning Methods

Related with



Supervised → **Cannot fully utilize all nodes** in a graph

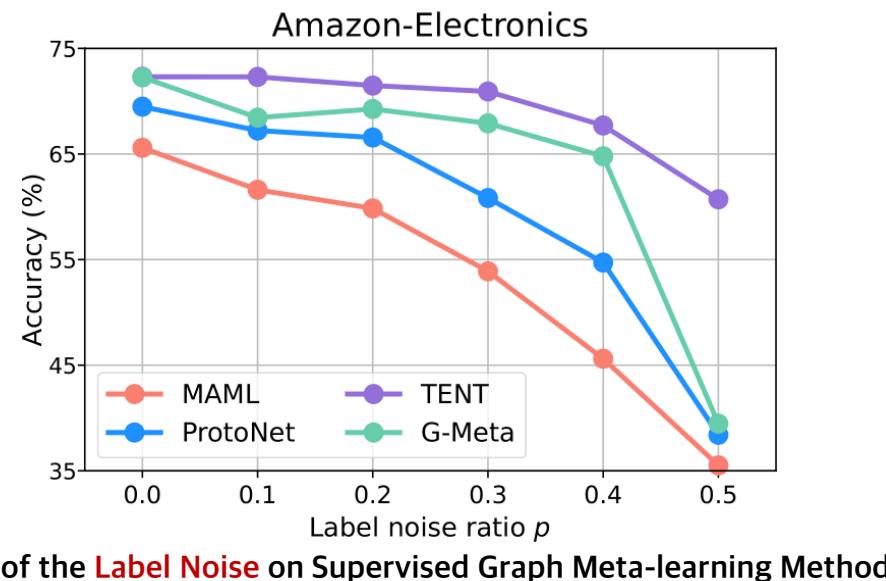
[1] Kim, S., Lee, J., Lee, N., Kim, W., Choi, S., and Park, C. Task-equivariant graph few-shot learning. In *Proceedings of the 29th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining*, 2023.

[2] Wang, S., Dong, Y., Ding, K., Chen, C. and Li, J. Few-shot node classification with extremely weak supervision. In *Proceedings of the 16th International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining*, 2023.

# Introduction

- Challenges in FSNC: Why Supervised Graph Meta-learning methods are Insufficient?

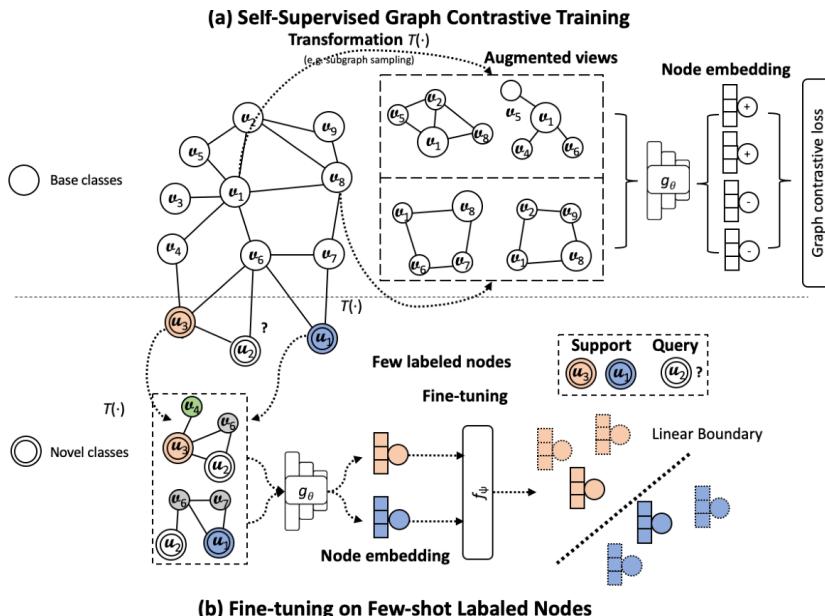
- Vulnerability to the Label Noise
  - **Noisy labels** in base classes also **hurts FSNC performance of existing graph meta-learning methods**
  - It is not always guaranteed that given labels are all clean



# Introduction

- Challenges in FSNC: Why GCL methods are Insufficient?

- Solving FSNC problem with GCL methods
  - Recently, TLP [1] showed that a **simple linear probing on node embeddings produced by GCL methods is better** than existing supervised graph meta-learning methods
  - This is because **GCL methods involve all nodes in a graph for training**, thus TLP can utilize their **effective and generic node embeddings** for solving FSNC

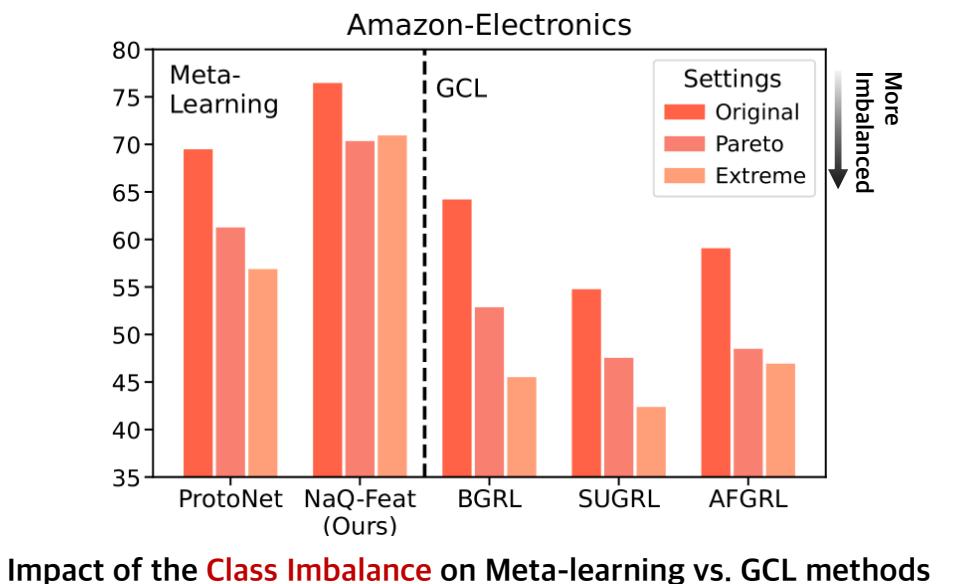


Methodology Overview of Transductive Linear Probing (TLP) [1] with unsupervised GCL methods

# Introduction

- Challenges in FSNC: Why GCL methods are Insufficient?

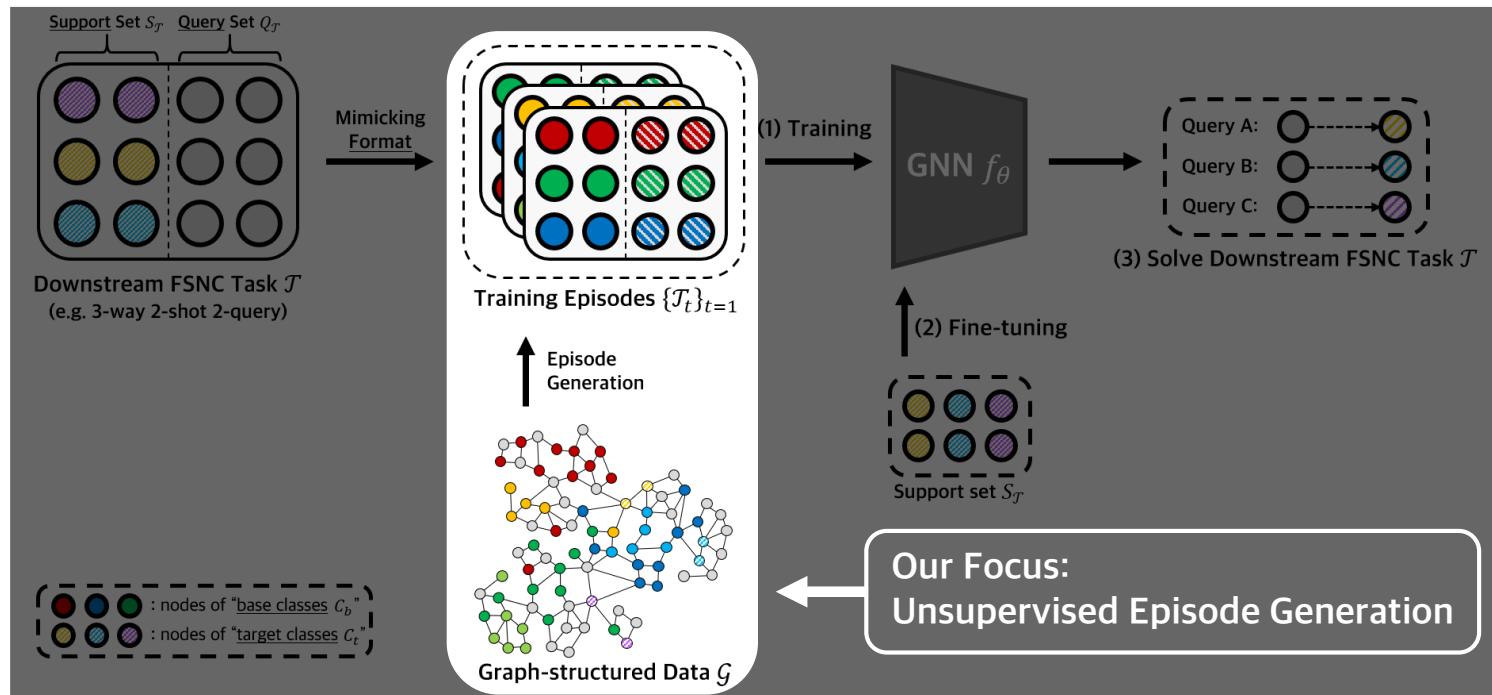
- Class Imbalance Problem
  - However, **GCL methods are vulnerable to the Class Imbalance** in the graph;
  - GCL methods have difficulty in learning about nodes from minority classes
  - **Also, without knowledge of the type of downstream task during training, GCL methods lacks generalizability [1] for FSNC,**
  - As a result, GCL methods shows much more degraded FSNC performance in more imbalanced setting,



# Introduction

- Solution: Unsupervised Graph Meta-learning

- Solution: “Unsupervised Graph Meta-learning”
  - “Unsupervised”: we can **utilize all nodes in a graph during training** of graph meta-learning methods
  - “Meta-learning”: model can **learn downstream task format information** by episodic learning framework
  - Thus, we propose **Unsupervised Episode Generation** methods to achieve above both properties

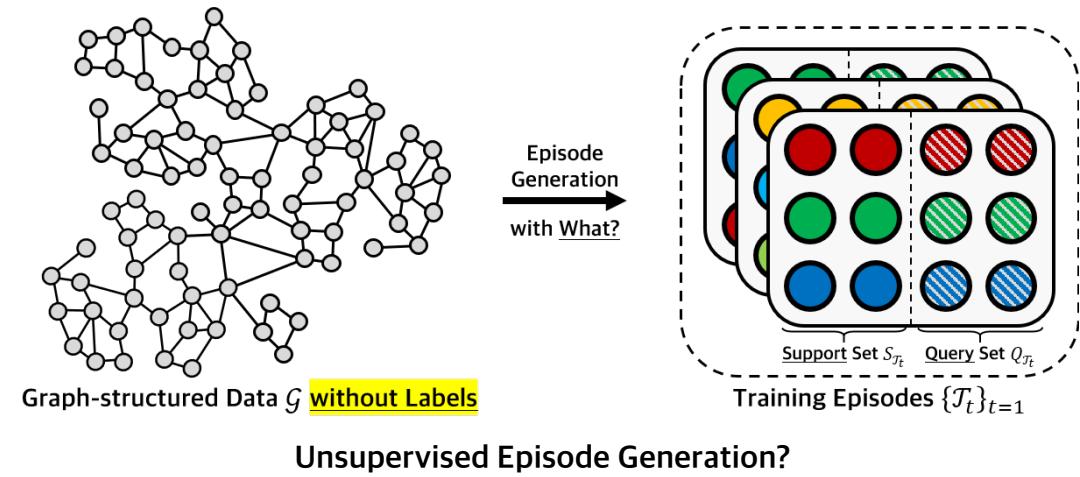
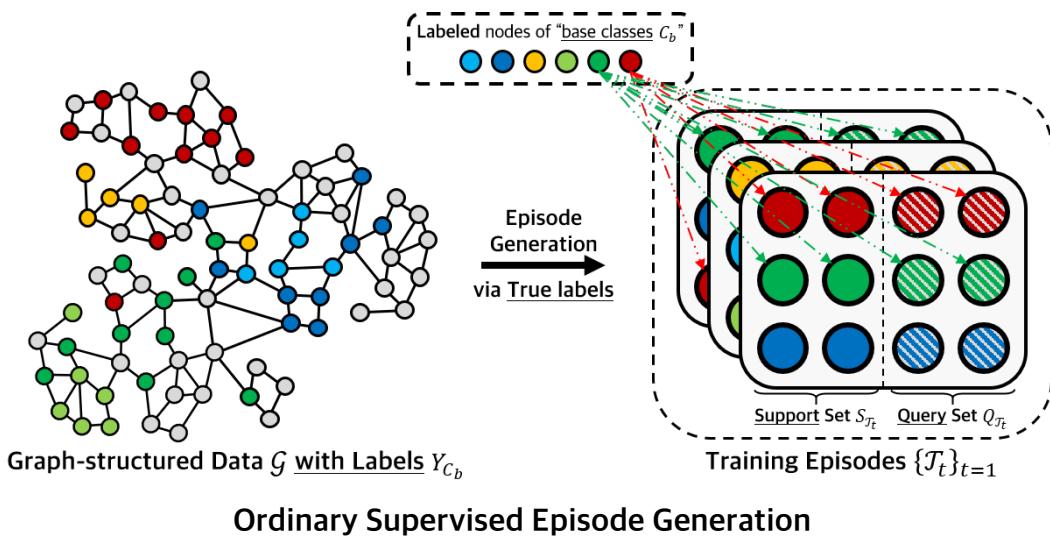


# Introduction

- Solution?: Unsupervised Graph Meta-learning

- Challenge

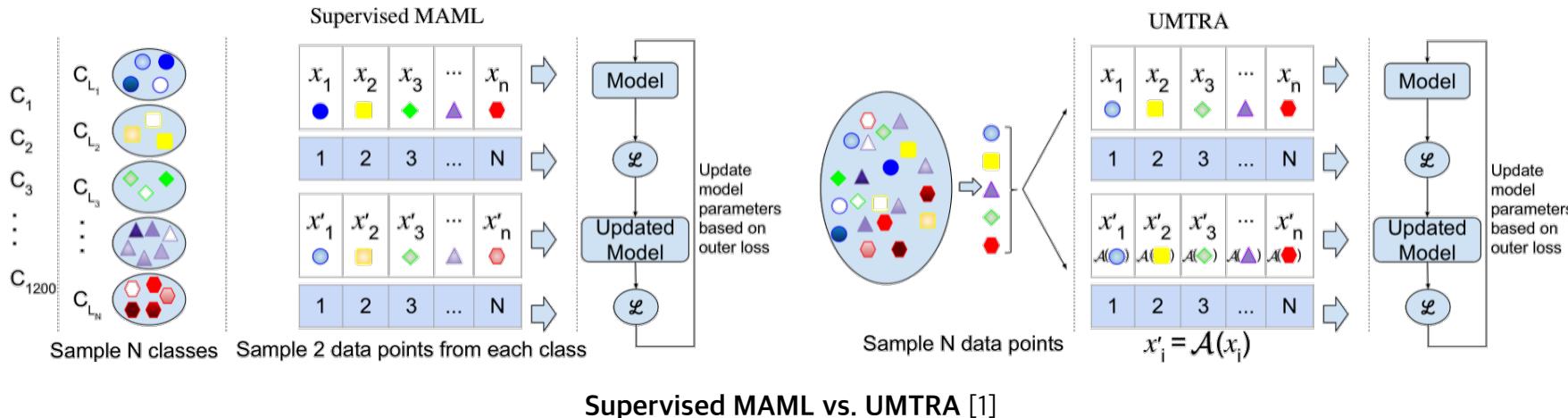
- **Supervised** Episode Generation: can be done easily with labeled data  $(X_{C_b}, Y_{C_b})$  in base classes  $C_b$ 
  - After sampling  $N$  classes, sample  $K + Q$  nodes to make  $K$ -shot support set and  $Q$ -query query set
- **Unsupervised** Episode Generation: only with “**unlabeled**” data  $X$ , how can we generate training episodes?



# Introduction

- Related Works: Unsupervised Meta-learning in Computer Vision

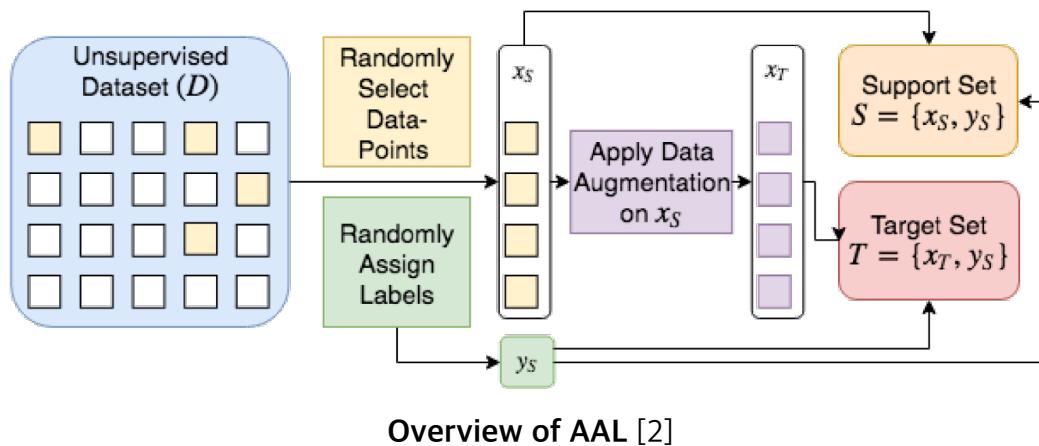
- Unsupervised Meta-learning via Augmentation
  - UMTRA [1] / AAL [2] **utilizes image augmentation to generate queries of randomly sampled  $N$  support set**
  - **UMTRA**: randomly sample  $N$  samples to make support set, and apply image augmentation on them to make query set
    - **Only generates 1-shot support set to assure that randomly sampled images to have different labels**



# Introduction

- Related Works: Unsupervised Meta-learning in Computer Vision

- Unsupervised Meta-learning via Augmentation
  - UMTRA [1] / AAL [2] **utilizes image augmentation to generate queries of randomly sampled  $N$  support set**
  - **AAL:** Randomly sample  $N \times K$  images, then make  $N$ -way  $K$ -shot support set by randomly assigning pseudo-labels



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## Algorithm 2 Unsupervised MAML Sampling Strategy

- 1: **Require:** Dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  with  $I$  number of data-points
  - 2: Sample  $N \times K$  data-points from  $\mathcal{D}$ , where  $N$  is the number of classes per set<sup>1</sup> and  $K$  is the number of samples per class ( $N \times K \leq I$ )
  - 3: Build the support set  $S$  by assigning random labels to the previously  $N \times K$  sampled data-points
  - 4: Build the target (evaluation) set  $E$  by augmenting the support set  $S$  samples and keeping the labels identical
  - 5: **Return**  $S, E$
- 

Unsupervised Episode Generation of AAL [2]

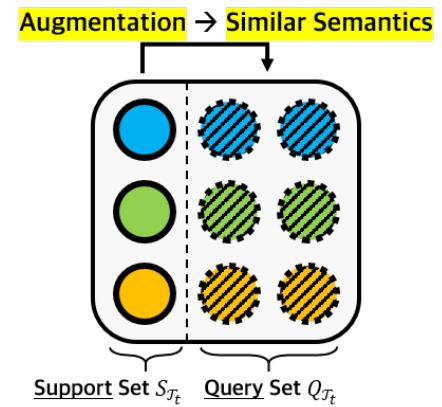
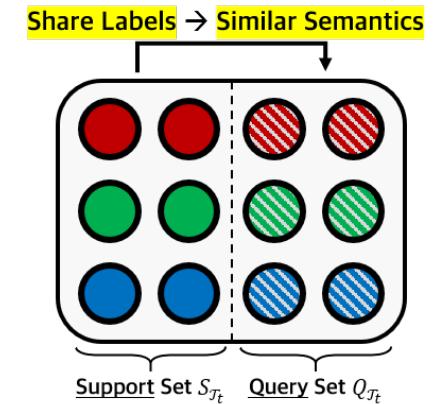
[1] Khodadadeh, S., Böloni, L., and Shah, M. Unsupervised meta-learning for few-shot image classification. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 32, 2019.

[2] Antoniou, A. and Storkey, A. Assume, augment and learn: Unsupervised few-shot meta-learning via random labels and data augmentation. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1902.09884*, 2019.

# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

## - Motivation

- Closer Look at Episodic Learning Framework
  - Support set → provides basic information about the task to be solved
  - Query set → enables the model to understand how to solve the given task by making prediction on queries
- Existing Episode Generation methods
  - Supervised: Queries of support set have same labels → Queries and Support set share similar semantics
  - UMTRA/AAL: By augmentation, make queries having similar semantic with support set

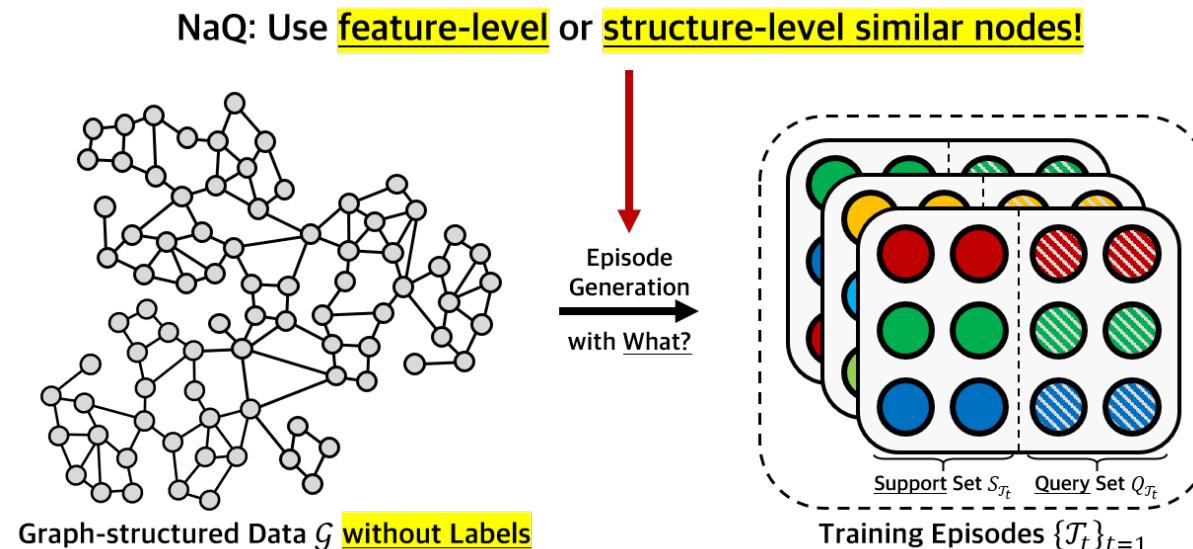


Therefore, **queries should share similar semantics with the support set**  
→ “**Similarity**” Condition on Queries

# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

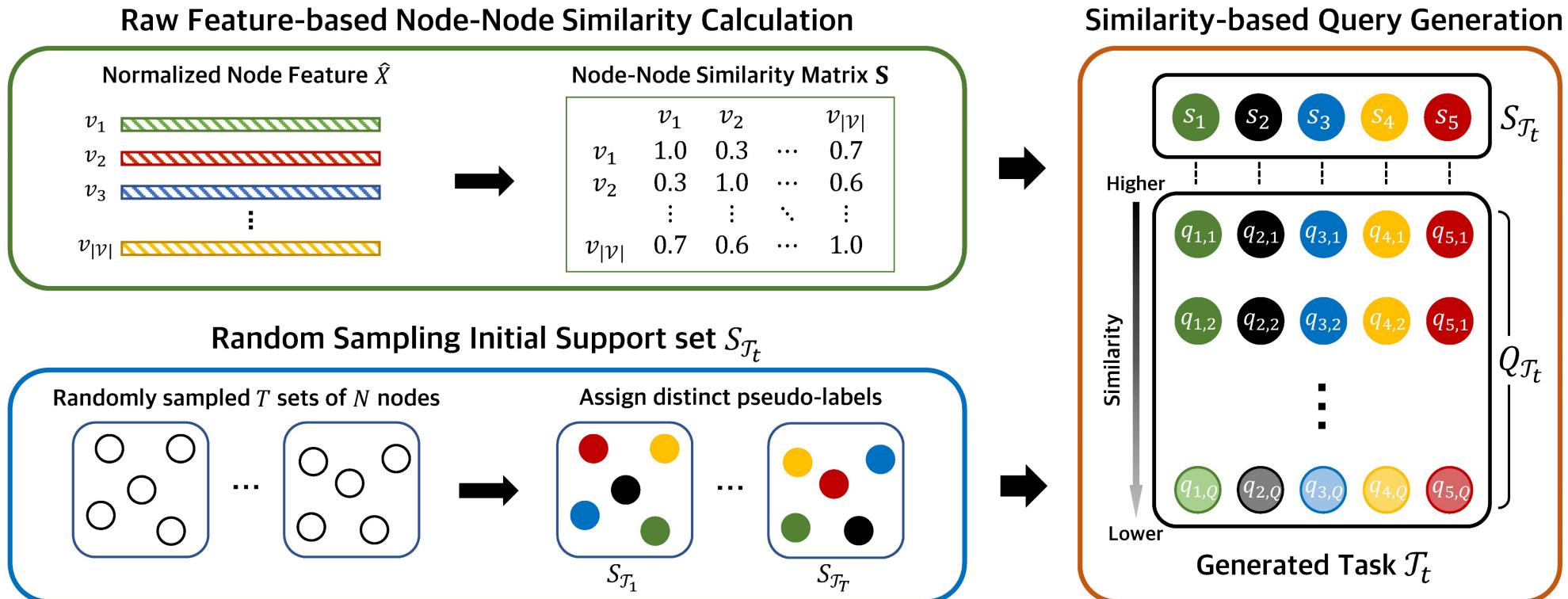
- Motivation

- Claim: Similarity Condition on Query set
  - Unsupervised Episode Generation: **How to sample queries that share similar semantics with support set samples?**
- Proposed Solution: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)
  - **Find similar nodes of each support set node as queries!**
  - **NaQ-Feat**: use **raw feature-level similarity** / **NaQ-Diff**: use **structural-level similarity** measured by graph Diffusion [1]



# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

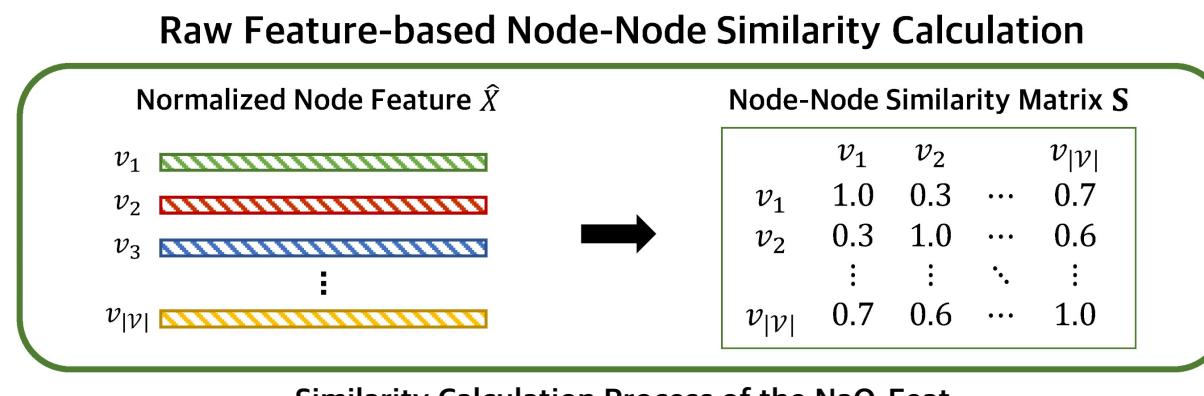
- Methodology Overview: NaQ-Feat



# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

## - Methodology Details

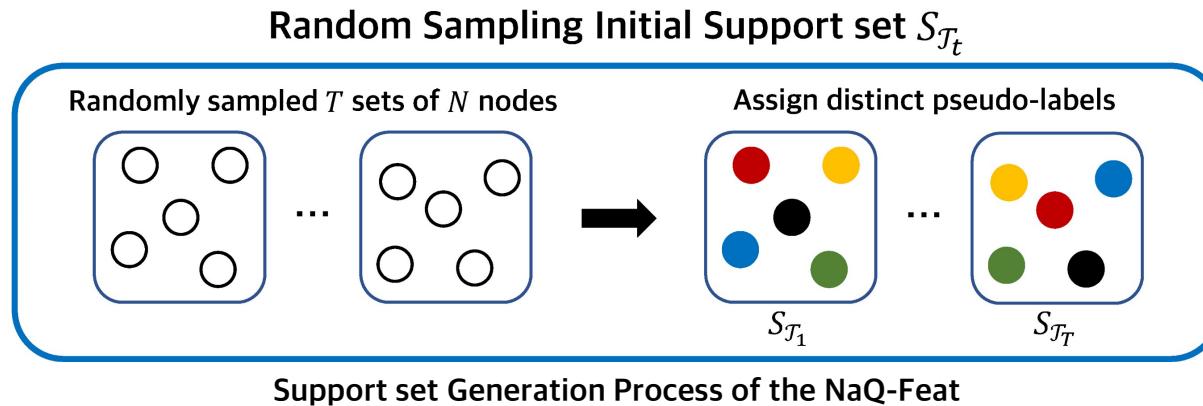
- Node-Node Similarity Calculation
  - **Per dataset**, we calculate node-node similarity matrix with raw node feature for sampling similar node as queries
  - As **it can be done in pre-processing phase, it does not cause large computational cost**
- Similarity Metric Choice
  - For bag-of-words raw node feature, we used cosine similarity
  - For continuous-type raw node feature (e.g. word embeddings), we used Euclidean distance



# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

## - Methodology Details

- Support set Generation
  - Similar to UMTRA, we randomly sample  $N$  nodes from the entire graph, then regard each of them as distinct support set
  - **To assure sampled  $N$  nodes** (corresponding to ‘ $N$ -way’) **are distinguishable as much as possible, only 1-shot support set is generated** regardless of the downstream task setting

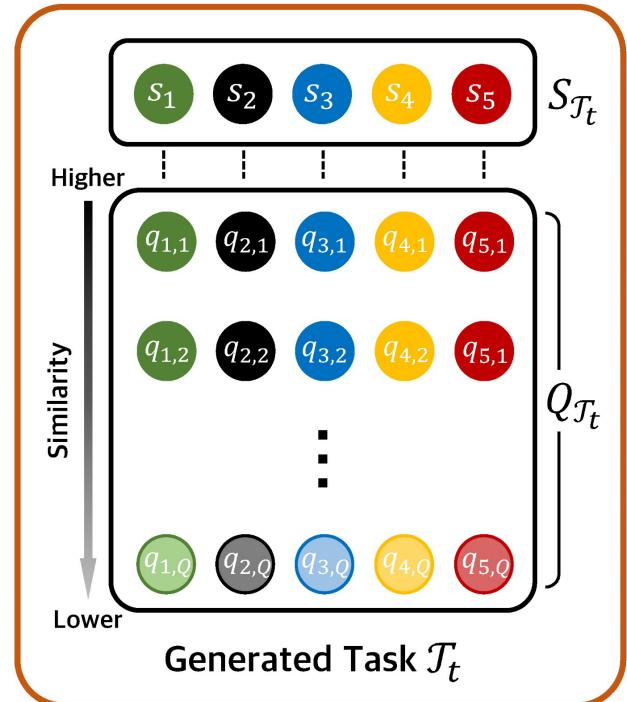


# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

## - Methodology Details

- Query set Generation
  - For each support set node, **we sample Top- $Q$  similar node as queries**
  - Sampled  $Q$  queries are given the same pseudo-label with corresponding support set node
  - Support set node itself is excluded during the query sampling process

## Similarity-based Query Generation



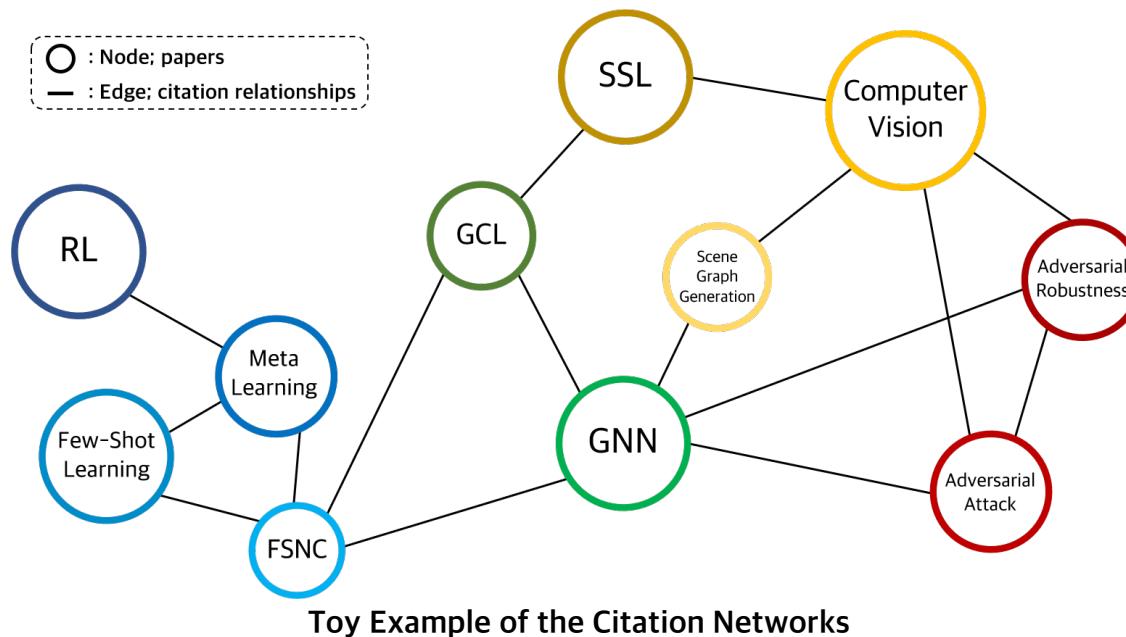
Query set Generation Process  
of the NaQ-Feat

# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

- An Extension to NaQ: NaQ-Diff

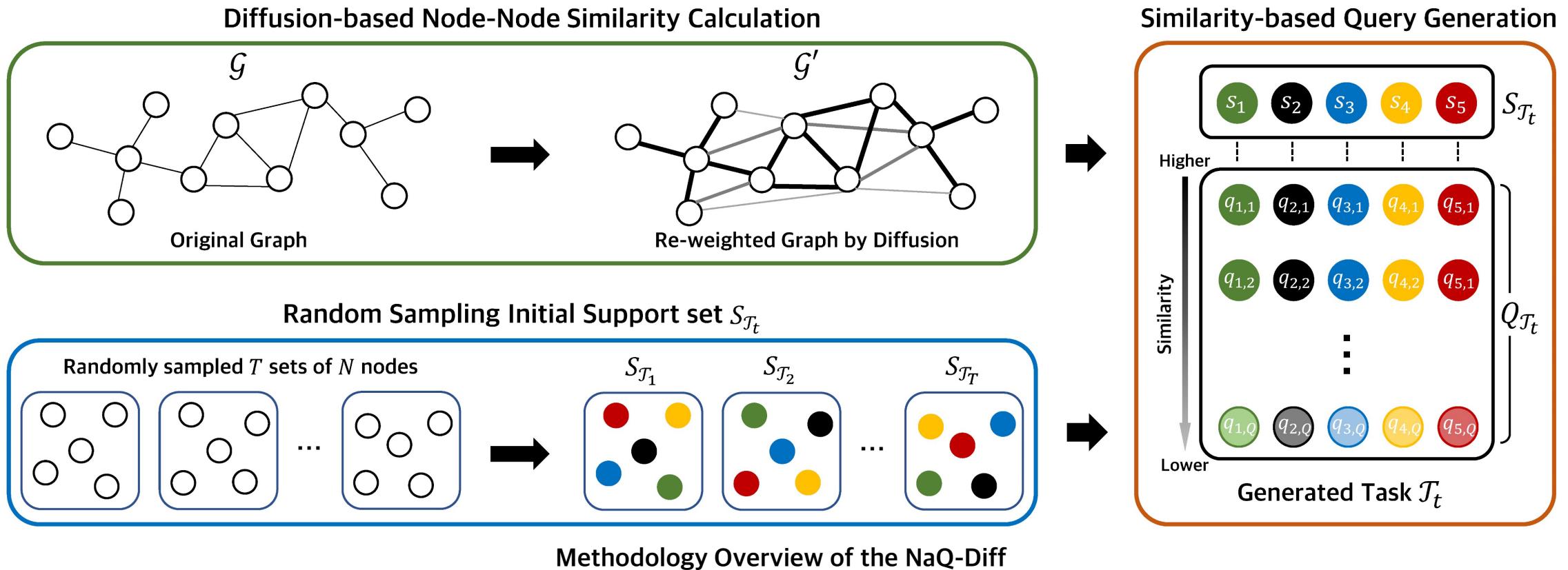
- Motivation

- NaQ-Feat solely relies on raw node feature  $X$ , without considering structural information of the graph
- However, structural information can be crucial depending on the target domain
- In citation networks, **citation relationship between papers implies that they share similar semantics** (related topics)
- Therefore, **considering structurally similar nodes as queries can be more beneficial** in such cases



# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

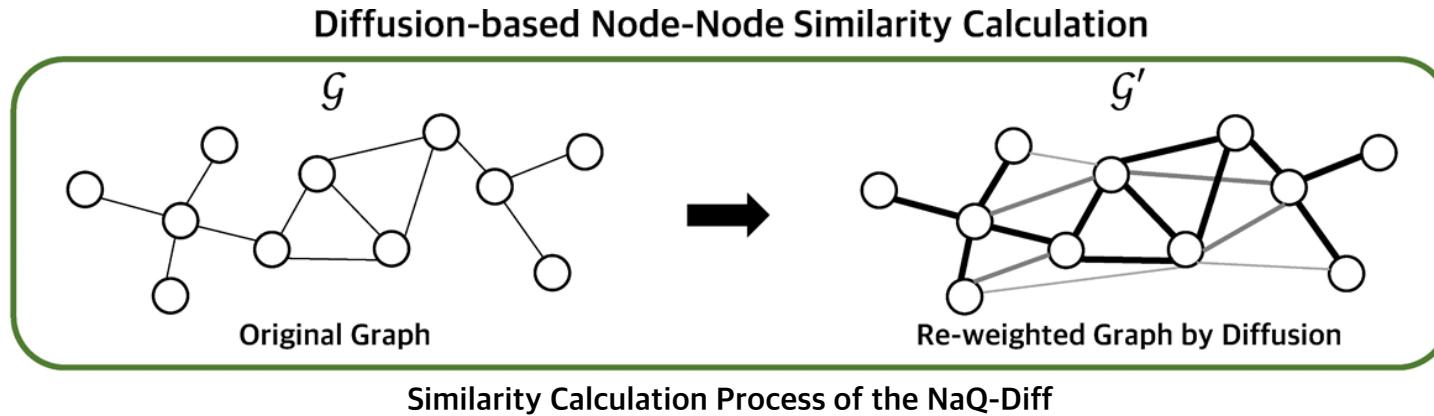
- Methodology Overview: NaQ-Diff



# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

## - Methodology Details

- Node-Node Similarity Calculation
  - NaQ-Diff differs from NaQ-Feat in only the similarity calculation process
  - **Graph Diffusion [1] matrix** defined as  $\mathbf{S} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \theta_k \mathbf{T}^k$  is leveraged for measuring structural similarity between nodes
    - $\theta_k$ : weighting coefficients,  $\mathbf{T}$ : generalized transition matrix calculated with graph adjacency matrix and degree matrix
  - We interpret **edge weights** of diffusion matrix  $\mathbf{S}$  as **structural closeness between nodes**



# Proposed Methodology: Neighbors as Queries (NaQ)

- Model Training with Episodes generated by NaQ
- 

- How to Train existing Graph Meta-learning Methods?
  - Training Episodes generated by NaQ follow the same, common format of the ordinary supervised episode generation
  - Hence, **any** of existing graph meta-learning methods can be trained in unsupervised manner by NaQ
- Notes
  - As NaQ generates training episodes with all nodes in a graph, existing graph meta-learning methods can fully utilize all nodes in a graph

---

**Algorithm 1** Training Graph Meta-learning methods with NaQ

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**Require:** Bundle of training episodes  $\{\mathcal{T}_t\}_{t=1}^T$ , Meta-learning model  $\text{Meta}(\cdot; \theta)$ , learning rate  $\eta$ .

Randomly initialize model parameter  $\theta$

**for**  $t = 1, \dots, T$  **do**

    Step 1: Calculate loss  $\mathcal{L}$  by  $\text{Meta}(\mathcal{T}_t; \theta)$

    Step 2: Update  $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}$

**end for**

**return**  $\text{Meta}(\mathcal{T}_t; \theta)$

---

## Training Process of existing Graph Meta-learning methods with NaQ

# Model Analysis: Why NaQ can work?

- Theoretical Insights: Which similarity condition should NaQ satisfy?

- “Generalization Error” Perspective

- Assumption:  $y = f(x) + \epsilon$  ( $\mathbb{E}[\epsilon] = 0$ ,  $\text{Var}(\epsilon) = \sigma^2 < \infty$ ), error metric  $\mathcal{L}$ : Mean-Squared Error;

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(y', f_S(x'))] = (\mathbb{E}[f_S(x')] - f(x'))^2 + (\mathbb{E}[f_S(x')^2] - \mathbb{E}[f_S(x')]^2) + \sigma^2$$

- $S$ : training set,  $f_S$ : model trained on  $S$ ,  $(x', y')$ : test set point,  $f$ : true, unknown estimation

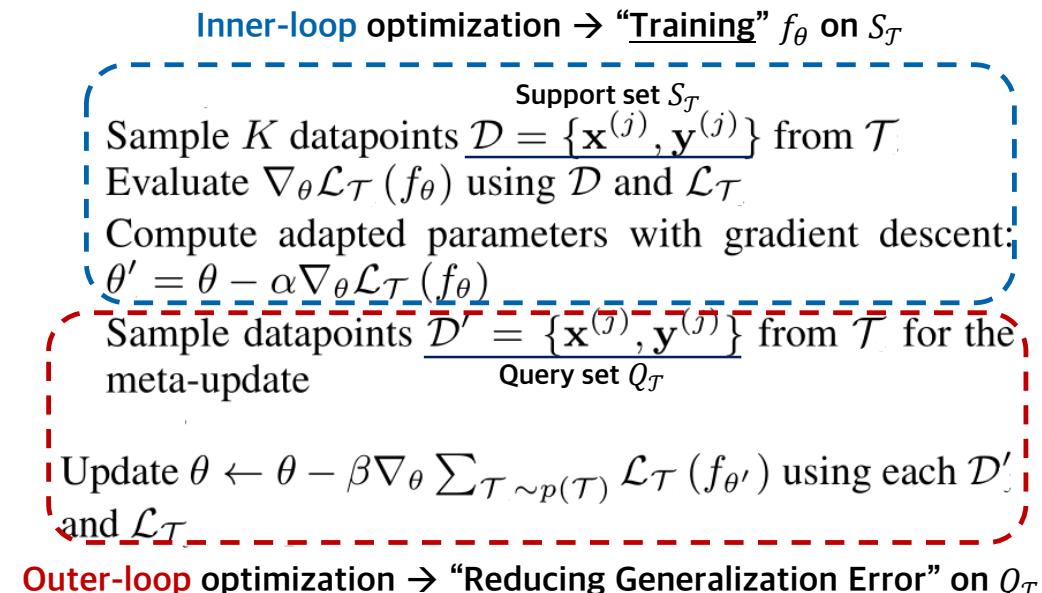
- Closer Look at a Single Update Process of MAML [1]

- Consider a **single** episode  $\mathcal{T} = (S_{\mathcal{T}}, Q_{\mathcal{T}})$  with encoder  $f_{\theta}$
  - If we regard  $S_{\mathcal{T}}$  as training set,  $Q_{\mathcal{T}}$  as test set, We can interpret that MAML’s training process as “**Reducing Generalization Error**” below [2]

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(y^{qry}, f_{\theta'}(x^{qry}))] &= (\mathbb{E}[f_{\theta'}(x^{qry})] - f_{\mathcal{T}}(x^{qry}))^2 \\ &\quad + (\mathbb{E}[f_{\theta'}(x^{qry})^2] - \mathbb{E}[f_{\theta'}(x^{qry})]^2) + \sigma^2\end{aligned}\dots(2)$$

- $(x^{qry}, y^{qry})$ : single query,  $f_{\mathcal{T}}$ : unknown, true estimation on  $\mathcal{T}$

- Hence, accurate calculation of Eq. (2) is crucial for better training, since it is used as Loss function [2]



[1] Finn, C., Abbeel, P., and Levine, S. Model-agnostic meta-learning for fast adaptation of deep networks. In *Proceedings of the 34th International Conference on Machine Learning*. PMLR, 2017.

[2] Khodadadeh, S., Böloni, L., and Shah, M. Unsupervised meta-learning for few-shot image classification. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 32, 2019.

# Model Analysis: Why NaQ can work?

- Theoretical Insights: Which similarity condition should NaQ satisfy?

- Analysis
  - For accurate estimation of Eq. (2), **true** label of query and corresponding support set should be the same
  - Otherwise, unexpected error  $\delta$  s.t.  $y^{qry} = f_{\mathcal{T}}(x^{qry}) + \epsilon + \delta$  can occurs, which lead to “suboptimal solution”
  - Supervised episode generation naturally have  $\delta = 0$
- Our Claim: “Class-level Similarity” Condition on Queries for Unsupervised Episode Generation
  - If we can sample “class-level similar” enough queries for each support set node, undesirable error  $\delta$  will be small enough
  - Then, model  $f_{\theta}$  can be trained successfully with loss function Eq. (2)
  - Therefore, “**Class-level similarity**” condition on queries have to be satisfied by NaQ

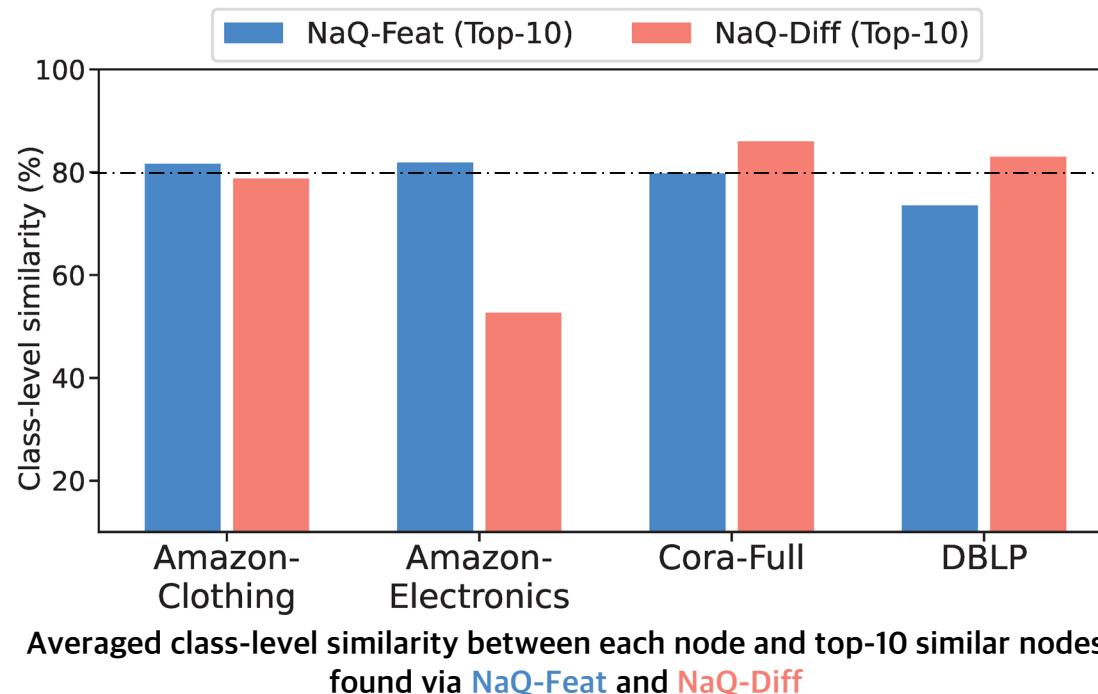
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(y^{qry}, f_{\theta'}(x^{qry}))] &= (\mathbb{E}[f_{\theta'}(x^{qry})] - f_{\mathcal{T}}(x^{qry}))^2 \\ &\quad + (\mathbb{E}[f_{\theta'}(x^{qry})^2] - \mathbb{E}[f_{\theta'}(x^{qry})]^2) + \sigma^2 \quad \dots (2)\end{aligned}$$

# Model Analysis: Why NaQ can work?

- Empirical Analysis: NaQ satisfies Class-level Similarity Condition

- Empirical Analysis

- We measured averaged class-level similarity between each node and top-10 similar nodes found by NaQ
    - Class-level similarity between two nodes: similarity between their **class centroids**
  - In most of cases, **NaQ-Feat and NaQ-Diff can discover high enough** (~80%) **class-level similar queries** in real-world datasets



# Model Analysis: Why NaQ can work?

- Empirical Analysis: NaQ satisfies Class-level Similarity Condition

- Empirical Analysis

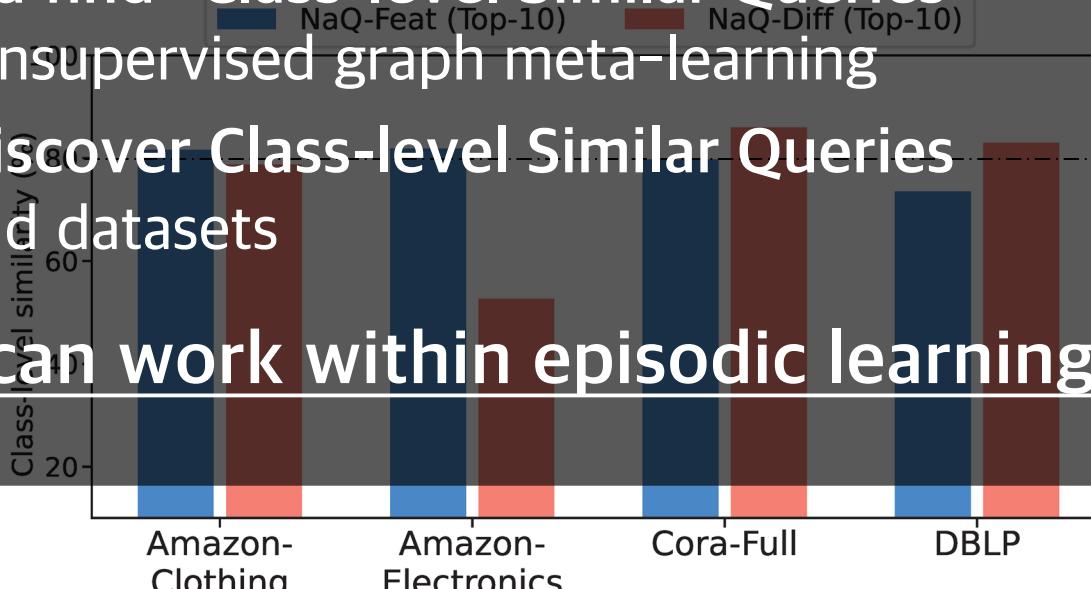
- We measured averaged class-level similarity between each node and top-10 similar nodes found by NaQ
    - Class-level similarity between two nodes: similarity between their class centroids

- **Summary** (in previous slide, NaQ-Feat and NaQ-Diff **can discover high enough** (~80%) **class-level similar queries** in real-world datasets)

1) NaQ should find “**Class-level Similar Queries**”  
to enable unsupervised graph meta-learning

2) NaQ can discover Class-level Similar Queries  
in real-world datasets

Thus, NaQ can work within episodic learning framework!



Averaged class-level similarity between each node and top-10 similar nodes  
found via NaQ-Feat and NaQ-Diff

# Experiments

## - Experimental Settings: Evaluation Datasets

- Evaluation Datasets
  - Total five benchmark datasets were used in evaluation
  - Two product networks (Amazon-Clothing/Electronics) and Three citation networks (Cora-Full, DBLP, ogbn-arxiv) were used
  - ‘Class split’ means the number of distinct classes used to make episodes in training (supervised only), validation, and testing phase
- Details
  - Amazon-Clothing: edges are ‘also-viewed’ relationships between products; node class is product category
  - Amazon-Electronics: edges are ‘bought-together’ relationships between products; node class is product category
  - Node class of Cora-Full: paper topic / DBLP: venue where the paper is published / ogbn-arxiv: subject area in CS papers

Dataset	# Nodes	# Edges	# Features	# Labels	Class split	Hom. ratio
Amazon-Clothing	24,919	91,680	9,034	77	40/17/20	0.62
Amazon-Electronics	42,318	43,556	8,669	167	90/37/40	0.38
Cora-Full	19,793	65,311	8,710	70	25/20/25	0.59
DBLP	40,672	288,270	7,202	137	80/27/30	0.29
ogbn-arxiv	169,343	1,166,243	128	40	15/10/15	0.43

Dataset Statistics

# Experiments

## - Experimental Settings: Baselines and their Settings

- Compared Baselines
  - Total ten baseline methods were used in evaluation
  - Used six graph meta-learning baselines: MAML, ProtoNet, G-Meta, TENT, GLITTER, and COSMIC
    - MAML, ProtoNet: Representative meta-learning methods
    - G-Meta: Representative Graph meta-learning method
    - TENT, GLITTER, COSMIC: Recent (2022~) Baselines
  - Used three recent (2022~) GCL baselines: BGRL, SUGRL, and AFGRL for the comparison with TLP
  - Lastly, graph transformer-based, unsupervised baseline VNT was used

# Experiments

- Results: Overall Performance Analysis

Results in Product Networks

Dataset	Amazon-Clothing								Amazon- Electronics							
	5 way		10 way		Avg.	5 way		10 way		20 way		Avg.				
Setting	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot		1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot					
Baselines	Rank					Rank						Rank				
MAML (Sup.)	76.13 $\pm$ 1.17	84.28 $\pm$ 0.87	63.77 $\pm$ 0.83	76.95 $\pm$ 0.65	10.25	65.58 $\pm$ 1.26	78.55 $\pm$ 0.96	57.31 $\pm$ 0.87	67.56 $\pm$ 0.73	46.37 $\pm$ 0.61	60.04 $\pm$ 0.52	9.33				
ProtoNet (Sup.)	75.52 $\pm$ 1.12	89.76 $\pm$ 0.70	65.50 $\pm$ 0.82	82.23 $\pm$ 0.62	7.25	69.48 $\pm$ 1.22	84.81 $\pm$ 0.82	57.67 $\pm$ 0.85	75.79 $\pm$ 0.67	48.41 $\pm$ 0.57	67.31 $\pm$ 0.47	5.83				
TENT (Sup.)	79.46 $\pm$ 1.10	89.61 $\pm$ 0.70	69.72 $\pm$ 0.80	84.74 $\pm$ 0.59	5.25	72.31 $\pm$ 1.14	85.25 $\pm$ 0.81	62.13 $\pm$ 0.83	77.32 $\pm$ 0.67	52.45 $\pm$ 0.60	69.39 $\pm$ 0.50	4.00				
G-Meta (Sup.)	78.67 $\pm$ 1.05	88.79 $\pm$ 0.76	65.30 $\pm$ 0.79	80.97 $\pm$ 0.59	7.75	72.26 $\pm$ 1.16	84.44 $\pm$ 0.83	61.32 $\pm$ 0.86	74.92 $\pm$ 0.71	50.39 $\pm$ 0.59	65.73 $\pm$ 0.48	5.67				
GLITTER (Sup.)	75.73 $\pm$ 1.10	89.18 $\pm$ 0.74	64.30 $\pm$ 0.79	77.73 $\pm$ 0.68	9.00	66.91 $\pm$ 1.22	82.59 $\pm$ 0.83	57.12 $\pm$ 0.88	76.26 $\pm$ 0.67	49.23 $\pm$ 0.57	61.77 $\pm$ 0.52	7.00				
COSMIC (Sup.)	82.24 $\pm$ 0.99	91.22 $\pm$ 0.73	74.44 $\pm$ 0.75	81.58 $\pm$ 0.63	3.75	72.61 $\pm$ 1.05	86.92 $\pm$ 0.76	65.24 $\pm$ 0.82	78.00 $\pm$ 0.64	58.71 $\pm$ 0.57	70.29 $\pm$ 0.44	3.00				
TLP-BGRL	81.42 $\pm$ 1.05	90.53 $\pm$ 0.71	72.05 $\pm$ 0.86	83.64 $\pm$ 0.63	4.25	64.20 $\pm$ 1.10	81.72 $\pm$ 0.85	53.16 $\pm$ 0.82	73.70 $\pm$ 0.66	44.57 $\pm$ 0.54	65.13 $\pm$ 0.47	8.67				
TLP-SUGRL	63.32 $\pm$ 1.19	86.35 $\pm$ 0.78	54.81 $\pm$ 0.77	73.10 $\pm$ 0.63	11.50	54.76 $\pm$ 1.06	78.12 $\pm$ 0.92	46.51 $\pm$ 0.80	68.41 $\pm$ 0.71	36.08 $\pm$ 0.52	57.78 $\pm$ 0.49	11.67				
TLP-AFGRL	78.12 $\pm$ 1.13	89.82 $\pm$ 0.73	71.12 $\pm$ 0.81	83.88 $\pm$ 0.63	5.25	59.07 $\pm$ 1.07	81.15 $\pm$ 0.85	50.71 $\pm$ 0.85	73.87 $\pm$ 0.66	43.10 $\pm$ 0.56	65.44 $\pm$ 0.48	9.00				
VNT	65.09 $\pm$ 1.23	85.86 $\pm$ 0.76	62.43 $\pm$ 0.81	80.87 $\pm$ 0.63	10.50	56.69 $\pm$ 1.22	78.02 $\pm$ 0.97	49.98 $\pm$ 0.83	70.51 $\pm$ 0.73	42.10 $\pm$ 0.53	60.99 $\pm$ 0.50	10.83				
<b>NAQ-FEAT-Best (Ours)</b>	<b>86.58<math>\pm</math>0.96</b>	<b>92.27<math>\pm</math>0.67</b>	<b>79.55<math>\pm</math>0.78</b>	<b>86.10<math>\pm</math>0.60</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>76.46<math>\pm</math>1.11</b>	<b>88.72<math>\pm</math>0.73</b>	<b>69.59<math>\pm</math>0.86</b>	<b>81.44<math>\pm</math>0.61</b>	<b>61.05<math>\pm</math>0.59</b>	<b>74.60<math>\pm</math>0.47</b>	<b>1.00</b>				
<b>NAQ-DIFF-Best (Ours)</b>	84.40 $\pm$ 1.01	91.72 $\pm$ 0.69	73.39 $\pm$ 0.79	84.82 $\pm$ 0.58	2.25	74.16 $\pm$ 1.08	87.09 $\pm$ 0.75	65.95 $\pm$ 0.81	79.13 $\pm$ 0.60	60.40 $\pm$ 0.59	73.75 $\pm$ 0.42	2.00				

Results in Large-scale dataset ogbn-arxiv

Dataset	ogbn-arxiv							
	5 way		10 way		20 way		OOM	
Setting	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot
Baselines								
MAML (Sup.)	40.61 $\pm$ 0.89	58.75 $\pm$ 0.89	27.32 $\pm$ 0.55	43.87 $\pm$ 0.56				
ProtoNet (Sup.)	43.34 $\pm$ 1.01	58.30 $\pm$ 0.95	28.17 $\pm$ 0.60	46.11 $\pm$ 0.60				
TENT (Sup.)	48.06 $\pm$ 0.97	63.45 $\pm$ 0.88	33.85 $\pm$ 0.65	48.14 $\pm$ 0.59				
G-Meta (Sup.)	41.06 $\pm$ 0.87	59.43 $\pm$ 0.87	27.20 $\pm$ 0.53	45.04 $\pm$ 0.53				
GLITTER (Sup.)	35.64 $\pm$ 0.97	34.51 $\pm$ 0.85	20.95 $\pm$ 0.50	21.84 $\pm$ 0.47				
COSMIC (Sup.)	50.32 $\pm$ 0.95	63.54 $\pm$ 0.80	38.41 $\pm$ 0.62	49.31 $\pm$ 0.51				
TLP-BGRL	49.88 $\pm$ 1.01	69.10 $\pm$ 0.82	36.40 $\pm$ 0.62	56.15 $\pm$ 0.54				
TLP-SUGRL	49.25 $\pm$ 0.97	62.15 $\pm$ 0.92	32.87 $\pm$ 0.61	45.76 $\pm$ 0.60				
TLP-AFGRL	OOM	OOM	OOM	OOM				
VNT	OOM	OOM	OOM	OOM				
<b>NAQ-FEAT (Ours)</b>	<b>54.09<math>\pm</math>1.03</b>	<b>69.94<math>\pm</math>0.84</b>	<b>41.61<math>\pm</math>0.68</b>	<b>58.18<math>\pm</math>0.59</b>				
<b>NAQ-DIFF (Ours)</b>	51.45 $\pm$ 1.04	66.73 $\pm$ 0.89	39.27 $\pm$ 0.67	55.93 $\pm$ 0.56				

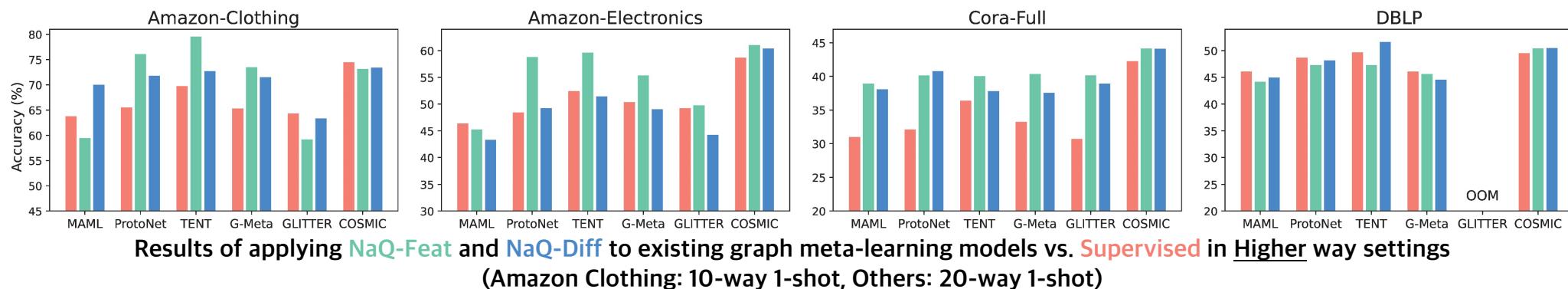
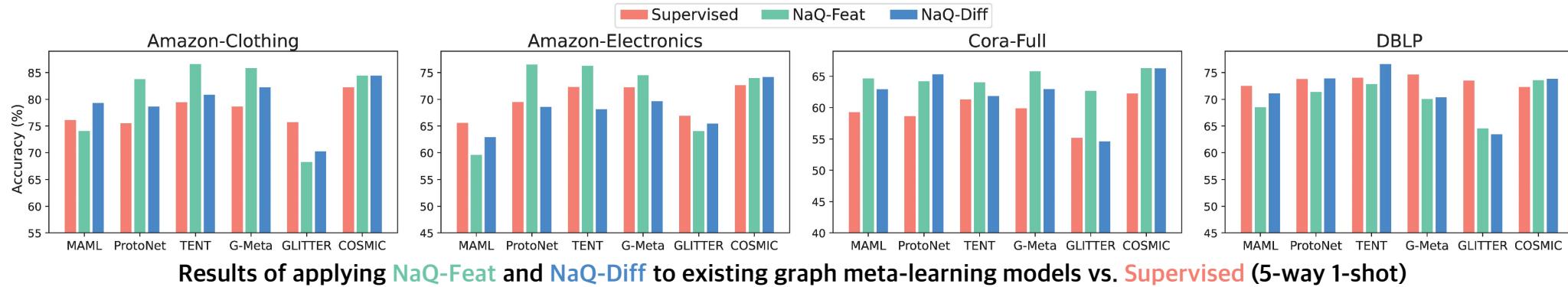
Results in Citation Networks

Dataset	Cora-full								DBLP							
	5 way		10 way		20 way		Avg.	5 way		10 way		20 way		Avg.		
Setting	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot		1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot	1 shot	5 shot	Rank		
Baselines	Rank							Rank								
MAML (Sup.)	59.28 $\pm$ 1.21	70.30 $\pm$ 0.99	44.15 $\pm$ 0.81	57.59 $\pm$ 0.66	30.99 $\pm$ 0.43	46.80 $\pm$ 0.38	9.67	72.48 $\pm$ 1.22	80.30 $\pm$ 1.03	60.08 $\pm$ 0.90	69.85 $\pm$ 0.76	46.12 $\pm$ 0.53	57.30 $\pm$ 0.48	8.50		
ProtoNet (Sup.)	58.61 $\pm$ 1.21	73.91 $\pm$ 0.93	44.54 $\pm$ 0.79	62.15 $\pm$ 0.64	32.10 $\pm$ 0.42	50.87 $\pm$ 0.40	7.67	73.80 $\pm$ 1.20	81.33 $\pm$ 1.00	61.88 $\pm$ 0.86	73.02 $\pm$ 0.74	48.70 $\pm$ 0.52	62.42 $\pm$ 0.45	4.33		
TENT (Sup.)	61.30 $\pm$ 1.18	77.32 $\pm$ 0.81	47.30 $\pm$ 0.80	66.40 $\pm$ 0.62	36.40 $\pm$ 0.45	55.77 $\pm$ 0.39	4.50	74.01 $\pm$ 1.20	82.54 $\pm$ 1.00	62.95 $\pm$ 0.85	73.26 $\pm$ 0.77	49.67 $\pm$ 0.53	61.87 $\pm$ 0.47	2.67		
G-Meta (Sup.)	59.88 $\pm$ 1.26	75.36 $\pm$ 0.86	44.34 $\pm$ 0.80	59.59 $\pm$ 0.66	33.25 $\pm$ 0.42	49.00 $\pm$ 0.39	7.50	74.64 $\pm$ 1.20	79.96 $\pm$ 1.08	61.50 $\pm$ 0.88	70.33 $\pm$ 0.77	46.07 $\pm$ 0.52	58.38 $\pm$ 0.47	7.00		
GLITTER (Sup.)	55.17 $\pm$ 1.18	69.33 $\pm$ 0.96	42.81 $\pm$ 0.81	52.76 $\pm$ 0.68	30.70 $\pm$ 0.41	40.82 $\pm$ 0.41	11.50	73.50 $\pm$ 1.25	75.90 $\pm$ 1.19	OOT	OOT	OOT	OOT	9.50		
COSMIC (Sup.)	62.24 $\pm$ 1.15	73.85 $\pm$ 0.83	47.85 $\pm$ 0.77	59.11 $\pm$ 0.60	42.25 $\pm$ 0.43	47.28 $\pm$ 0.38	6.33	72.34 $\pm$ 1.18	80.83 $\pm$ 1.03	59.21 $\pm$ 0.80	70.67 $\pm$ 0.71	49.52 $\pm$ 0.51	59.01 $\pm$ 0.42	7.50		
TLP-BGRL	62.59 $\pm$ 1.13	78.80 $\pm$ 0.80	49.43 $\pm$ 0.79	67.18 $\pm$ 0.61	37.63 $\pm$ 0.44	56.26 $\pm$ 0.39	3.17	73.92 $\pm$ 1.19	82.42 $\pm$ 0.95	60.16 $\pm$ 0.87	72.13 $\pm$ 0.74	47.00 $\pm$ 0.53	60.57 $\pm$ 0.45	4.83		
TLP-SUGRL	55.42 $\pm$ 1.08	76.01 $\pm$ 0.84	44.66 $\pm$ 0.74	63.69 $\pm$ 0.62	34.23 $\pm$ 0.41	52.76 $\pm$ 0.40	6.33	71.27 $\pm$ 1.15	81.36 $\pm$ 1.02	58.85 $\pm$ 0.81	71.02 $\pm$ 0.78	45.71 $\pm$ 0.49	59.77 $\pm$ 0.45	8.17		
TLP-AFGRL	55.24 $\pm$ 1.02	75.92 $\pm$ 0.83	44.08 $\pm$ 0.70	64.42 $\pm$ 0.62	33.88 $\pm$ 0.41	53.83 $\pm$ 0.39	7.17	71.18 $\pm$ 1.17	82.03 $\pm$ 0.94	58.70 $\pm$ 0.86	71.14 $\pm$ 0.75	45.99 $\pm$ 0.53	60.31 $\pm$ 0.45	7.83		
VNT	47.53 $\pm$ 1.14	69.94 $\pm$ 0.89	37.79 $\pm$ 0.69	57.71 $\pm$ 0.65	28.78 $\pm$ 0.40	46.86 $\pm$ 0.40	11.17	58.21 $\pm$ 1.16	76.25 $\pm$ 1.05	48.75 $\pm$ 0.81	66.37 $\pm$ 0.77	40.10 $\pm$ 0.49	55.15 $\pm$ 0.46	11.17		
<b>NAQ-FEAT-Best (Ours)</b>	<b>66.30<math>\pm</math>1.15</b>	<b>80.09<math>\pm</math>0.79</b>	<b>52.23<math>\pm</math>0.73</b>	<b>68.87<math>\pm</math>0.60</b>	<b>44.13<math>\pm</math>0.47</b>	<b>60.94<math>\pm</math>0.36</b>	<b>1.33</b>	73.55 $\pm$ 1.16	82.36 $\pm$ 0.94	60.70 $\pm$ 0.87	72.36 $\pm$ 0.73	50.42 $\pm$ 0.52	<b>64.90<math>\pm</math>0.43</b>	3.67		
<b>NAQ-DIFF-Best (Ours)</b>	66.26 $\pm$ 1.15	80.07 $\pm$ 0.79	52.17 $\pm$ 0.74	<b>69.34<math>\pm</math>0.63</b>	44.12 $\pm$ 0.47	<b>60.97<math>\pm</math>0.37</b>	1.67	<b>76.58<math>\pm</math>1.18</b>	<b>82.86<math>\pm</math>0.95</b>	<b>64.31<math>\pm</math>0.87</b>	<b>74.06<math>\pm</math>0.75</b>	<b>51.62<math>\pm</math>0.54</b>	64.78 $\pm$ 0.44	<b>1.17</b>		

Across all of the settings, proposed NaQ can outperform all the baselines

# Experiments

- Results: Model-agnostic Property of NaQ

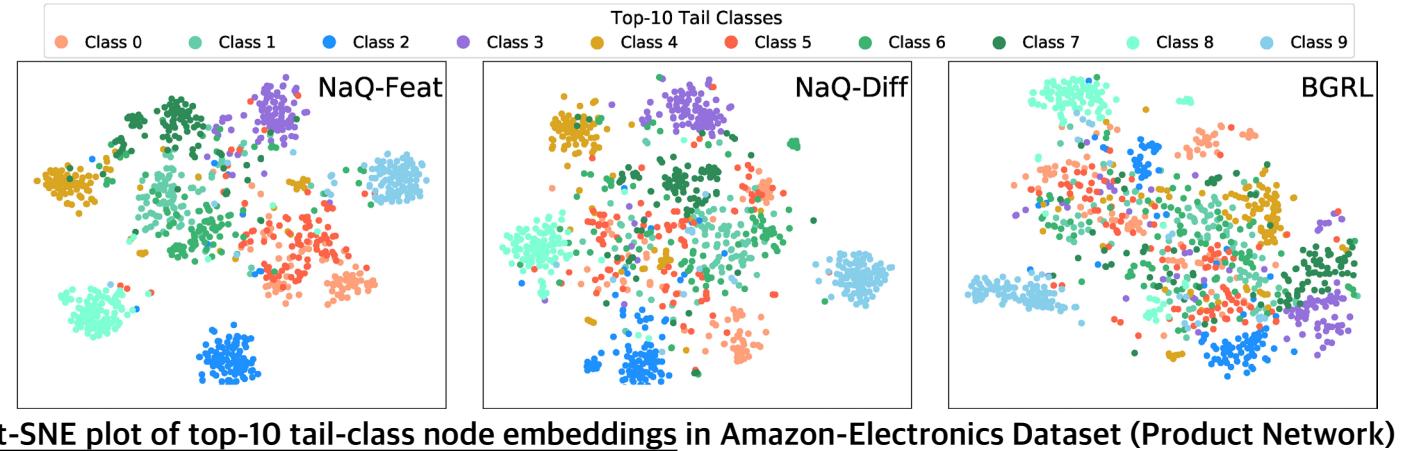


Generally, proposed NaQ can retain or even improve the performance of graph meta-learning methods

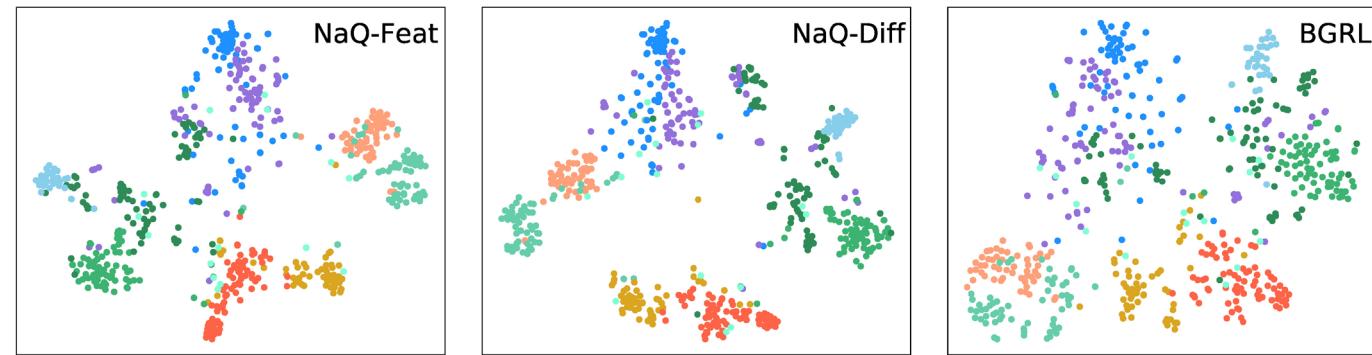
(Note: Supervised methods had access to all, clean labeled samples of entire base classes)

# Experiments

- Results: t-SNE Plot of tail-class node embeddings



t-SNE plot of top-10 tail-class node embeddings in Amazon-Electronics Dataset (Product Network)



t-SNE plot of top-10 tail-class node embeddings in Cora-Full Dataset (Citation Network)

**NaQ can be more robust to the Class Imbalance in the graph than GCL methods**

# Experiments

- Additional Empirical Results & Analysis

- Robustness against the Class Imbalance of Graph Meta-learning methods (pp. 40 and 41 in Appendix)
  - NaQ can be robust to the class imbalance since class-level similar queries of tail-class nodes can provide helpful information for learning tail-class node embeddings
  - Downstream task format information obtained by episodic learning is beneficial for attaining robustness
- Impact of Similarity Metric Choice on NaQ-Feat (pp. 42 in Appendix)
  - In summary, proper metric choice is essential for NaQ-Feat
- Impact of the number of queries  $Q$  (pp. 43 in Appendix)
  - In summary, when NaQ can find highly class-level similar queries, increasing  $Q$  can lead to the better performance
- Regarding Query-overlap Problem of NaQ (pp. 44 in Appendix)
  - Generally, query overlap among distinct query set is negligible for NaQ
  - For some exceptional cases, dropping such overlaps can be a promising solution

# Conclusion

- Summary of the dissertation

- Problems of Current Approaches

- Existing **graph meta-learning methods cannot fully utilize all nodes in the graph**, as they solely rely on the given label information
  - **Naïve application of unsupervised GCL methods on FSNC is vulnerable to Class Imbalance** since there is no information on downstream task format, which also leads to the low generalizability [1] of the trained model when solving downstream tasks

- Solution

- Proposed NaQ enables the unsupervised graph meta-learning, thus **downstream task format-aware training with all nodes in the graph is allowed**
  - By sampling queries based on pre-calculated node-node similarity, **NaQ can successfully generate training episode that can be applied to existing graph meta-learning methods for their unsupervised training**
  - Extensive experiments and analyses demonstrate effectiveness of our NaQ

# Conclusion

## - Limitation & Future Work

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- Computational Issue of NaQ-Diff
  - Current technical issue on sparse matrix multiplication, even truncated approximation of graph Diffusion cannot be computed for datasets having a large number of edges
  - This problem hinders the applicability of NaQ-Diff to large real-world datasets
  - Therefore, **devising an unsupervised episode generation method that can fully leverage the structural information while reducing computational costs will be promising future work**
- Naïve Support set Generation - False-negative Problem
  - NaQ depends on naïve random sampling for support set generation
  - For this reason, there is a possibility that nodes having the same label can be assigned to a distinct support set ( False-negative Problem), although NaQ tries to avoid such problem by generating only 1-shot support set
  - Hence, **developing a more sophisticated algorithm that can alleviate the false-negative problem while generate a  $K$ -shot ( $K \gg 1$ ) support set will be valuable future work**

# Thank you!

## Reference

- Full Paper: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2306.15217.pdf> / Official Source Code: <https://github.com/JhngJng/NaQ-PyTorch>
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# Appendix

- Analysis: Why NaQ can attain robustness against the Class Imbalance?

- Supervised Graph Meta-learning
  - **In a single episode, all classes in base classes are treated equally** regardless of Imbalance
  - With an aid of task format information provided by episodic learning, supervised graph meta-learning can attain robustness
- Unsupervised Graph Meta-learning with NaQ
  - **NaQ still can sample “class-level similar” queries to the support set nodes from tail classes**
    - NaQ-Feat can still find high enough similar queries in product networks, while NaQ-Diff find high enough similar queries in citation networks
  - Such **class-level similar queries can provide useful information for learning tail-class embeddings**
  - Also, with task format information provided by episodic learning, **NaQ can attain robustness against Class Imbalance**

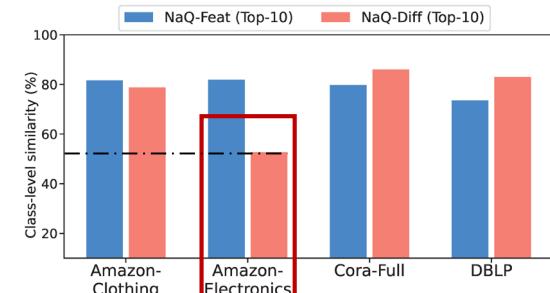
Datasets	Amazon-Clothing		Amazon-Electronics		Cora-Full		DBLP	
top- $p\%$ tail classes	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF
10%	~78.7%	~75.2%	~72.3%	~48.2%	~69.7%	~77.9%	~66.6%	~75.1%
20%	~81.3%	~78.2%	~74.1%	~51.6%	~70.7%	~77.6%	~68.3%	~78.0%
50%	~81.7%	~80.7%	~77.8%	~53.0%	~74.6%	~81.8%	~70.4%	~80.9%
80%	~80.8%	~79.0%	~78.9%	~52.5%	~77.8%	~84.6%	~71.9%	~82.1%
100%	~81.6%	~78.8%	~81.9%	~52.7%	~79.8%	~86.0%	~73.5%	~83.0%

Averaged class-level similarity between each node from top- $p\%$  tail classes  
and top-10 similar nodes found by NaQ-Feat and NaQ-Diff

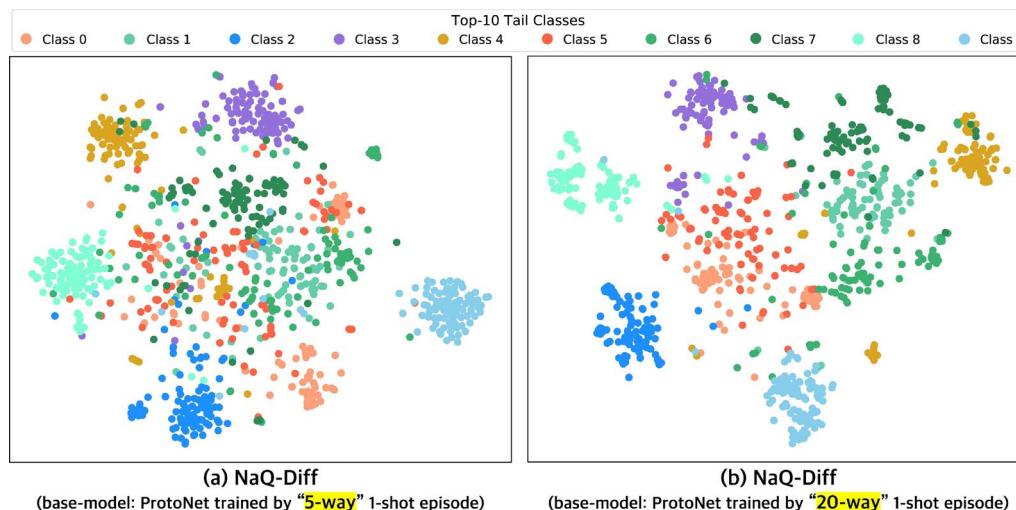
# Appendix

- Analysis: Role of the Episodic Learning Framework for attaining robustness against the Class Imbalance

- Is Episodic Learning really beneficial for the Class Imbalance?
  - To demonstrate the effectiveness of downstream task ‘format’ information provided by episodic learning, we observed the change in tail-class node embedding quality when  $N$ -way becomes larger
  - In Amazon-Electronics, NaQ-Diff have difficulty in finding class-level similar queries
  - Surprisingly, training with more challenging episodes ( 20-way training episodes) lead much better tail-class node embedding quality for NaQ-Diff
  - Therefore, we can conclude that **Episodic Learning does attribute to attain robustness against the Class Imbalance**



Averaged class-level similarity between each node and top-10 similar nodes found via NaQ



Impact of higher-way training on tail-class node embedding quality of NaQ-Diff in Amazon-Electronics

# Appendix

## - Ablation Study: Impact of Similarity Metric Choice on NaQ-Feat

- Similarity Metric Choice of NaQ-Feat

- Similarity metric is an important factor for NaQ-Feat, as inappropriate choice can lead to wrong selection of queries
- For datasets having bag-of-words features, Euclidean distance is **inappropriate so that both class-level similarity of queries and FSNC performance are degraded**
- In case of **Jaccard similarity, as it is similar to cosine similarity** when measuring similarities in bag-of-words data, **NaQ-Feat with both similarity metric shows similar FSNC performance**
  - However, Jaccard similarity is cannot be computed with continuous features → cosine similarity is more general
- In summary, **choosing appropriate similarity metric is important for NaQ-Feat**

Datasets (Feature type: bag-of-words)	Avg. Class-level sim. (Cosine sim.)	Avg. Class-level sim. (Neg. Euclidean dist.)
Amazon-Clothing	~ 81.6%	~ 61.0%
Amazon-Electronics	~ 81.9%	~ 64.6%
Cora-Full	~ 79.8%	~ 40.4%
DBLP	~ 73.5%	~ 19.1%

**Impact of Similarity Metric Choice on class-level similarity of top-10 similar nodes found by NaQ-Feat**

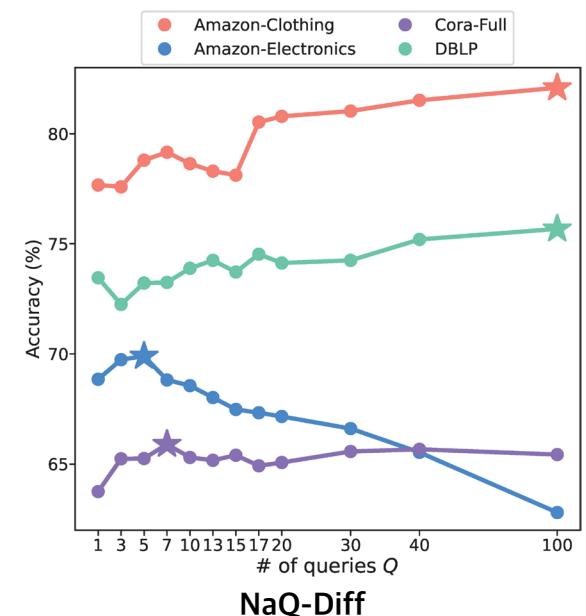
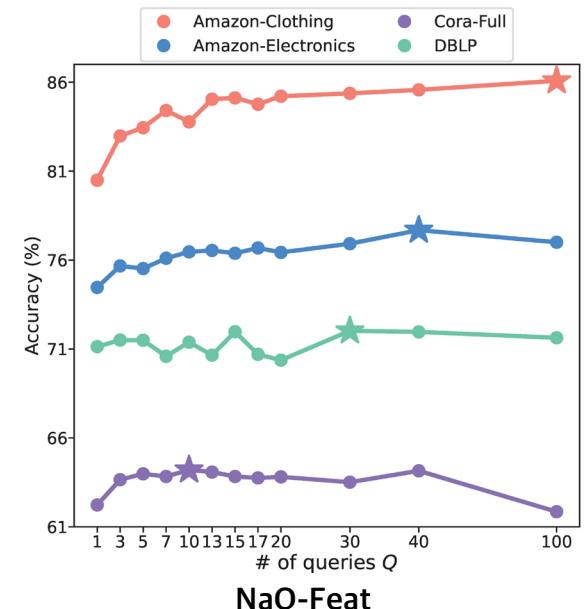
Datasets (Feature type: bag-of-words)	FSNC Accuracy (Cosine sim.)	FSNC Accuracy (Jaccard sim.)	FSNC Accuracy (Neg. Euclidean dist.)
Amazon-Clothing	83.77%	83.35%	80.83%
Amazon-Electronics	76.46%	76.63%	70.68%
Cora-Full	64.20%	63.53%	45.60%
DBLP	71.38%	72.68%	67.53%

**Impact of Similarity Metric Choice on FSNC performance of NaQ-Feat (5-way 1-shot, base-model: ProtoNet)**

# Appendix

- Hyperparameter Sensitivity Analysis: Impact of number of queries  $Q$

- Amazon-Clothing
  - Both NaQ-Feat and NaQ-Diff can discover highly class-level similar queries  
→ both show increasing tendency as  $Q$  increases
- Amazon-Electronics
  - NaQ-Feat shows increasing tendency as in Amazon-Clothing, due to the same reason
  - NaQ-Feat shows decreasing performance after  $Q = 5$ , due to relatively low class-level similarity of discovered queries
- DBLP
  - NaQ-Diff shows increasing tendency as  $Q$  increases, while NaQ-Feat shows consistent performance by number of queries
- Summary
  - Like the case of NaQ-Diff in Amazon-Electronics, proper choice of  $Q$  is essential
    - Otherwise, label noise that can hinder model training can be introduced
  - As NaQ-Diff can find more class-level similar queries than NaQ-Feat in DBLP,  
**motivation of utilizing structural neighbors as queries in such datasets is validated**



# Appendix

- Analysis: Regarding the Query-overlap Problem of NaQ

Datasets <i>N</i> -way	Amazon-Clothing		Amazon-Electronics		Cora-Full		DBLP	
	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF	NAQ-FEAT	NAQ-DIFF
5	0.1573%	0.9978%	0.0871%	11.1715%	0.2206%	0.4743%	0.1826%	0.0605%
10	0.3855%	2.0769%	0.2118%	16.9618%	0.5101%	1.0138%	0.4108%	0.1389%
20	0.7834%	4.0358%	0.4457%	21.4706%	1.0221%	2.0151%	0.8559%	0.3054%

Averaged query overlap ratio within 16,000 training episodes generated by NaQ

- Query-overlap Problem
  - Situation where sampled query sets corresponding to each distinct support set have intersection can happen for NaQ, which might be problematic during the model training
  - **In real-world datasets, query overlap is generally rare**, as shown in the table above
- Impact of Dropping Query Overlaps
  - When query overlap is significant (NaQ-Diff in Amazon-Electronics), dropping query overlaps have shown remarkable effect
  - However, when query overlap is negligible, dropping queries shows no dramatic improvements on the performance
  - In summary, **query overlap is generally negligible in real-world datasets**, and **dropping query overlaps can be a promising solution for some exceptional cases**

Amazon-Electronics		
Setting	NAQ-DIFF (Original ver.)	NAQ-DIFF (Overlap drop ver.)
5-way 1-shot	68.56±1.18%	<b>69.77±1.17%</b>
10-way 1-shot	59.46±0.86%	<b>61.98±0.86%</b>
20-way 1-shot	49.24±0.59%	<b>52.15±0.60%</b>

Impact of dropping overlapping queries on NaQ-Diff  
(When query overlap is significant)

Cora-Full		
Setting	NAQ-FEAT (Original ver.)	NAQ-FEAT (Overlap drop ver.)
5-way 1-shot	64.20±1.11%	63.37±1.08%
10-way 1-shot	51.78±0.75%	52.32±0.75%
20-way 1-shot	40.11±0.45%	40.27±0.48%

Impact of dropping overlapping queries on NaQ-Feat  
(When query overlap is negligible)