

# Heterogeneous Graph Transformer with Poly-Tokenization

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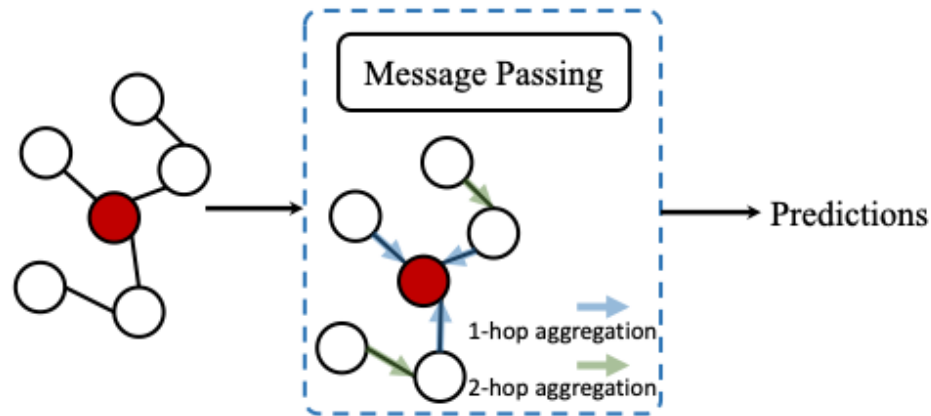
*In the Proceedings of the 33rd International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence.*

# Background

## Graph Neural Networks

$$h_v^l = M(h_v^{l-1}, \{h_i^{l-1} : i \in N_v\}; \theta^l)$$

Message passing function

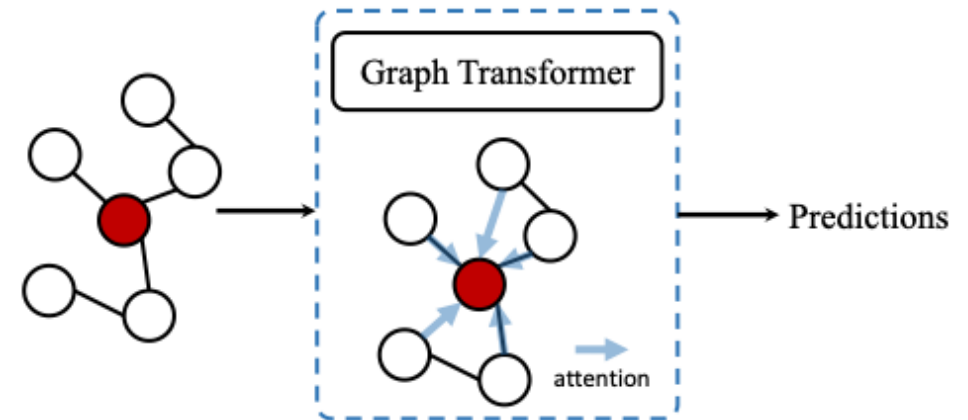


- Limited expressive power
- Over-smoothing problem

## Graph Transformers

$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right)V$$

Fully-connected self-attention

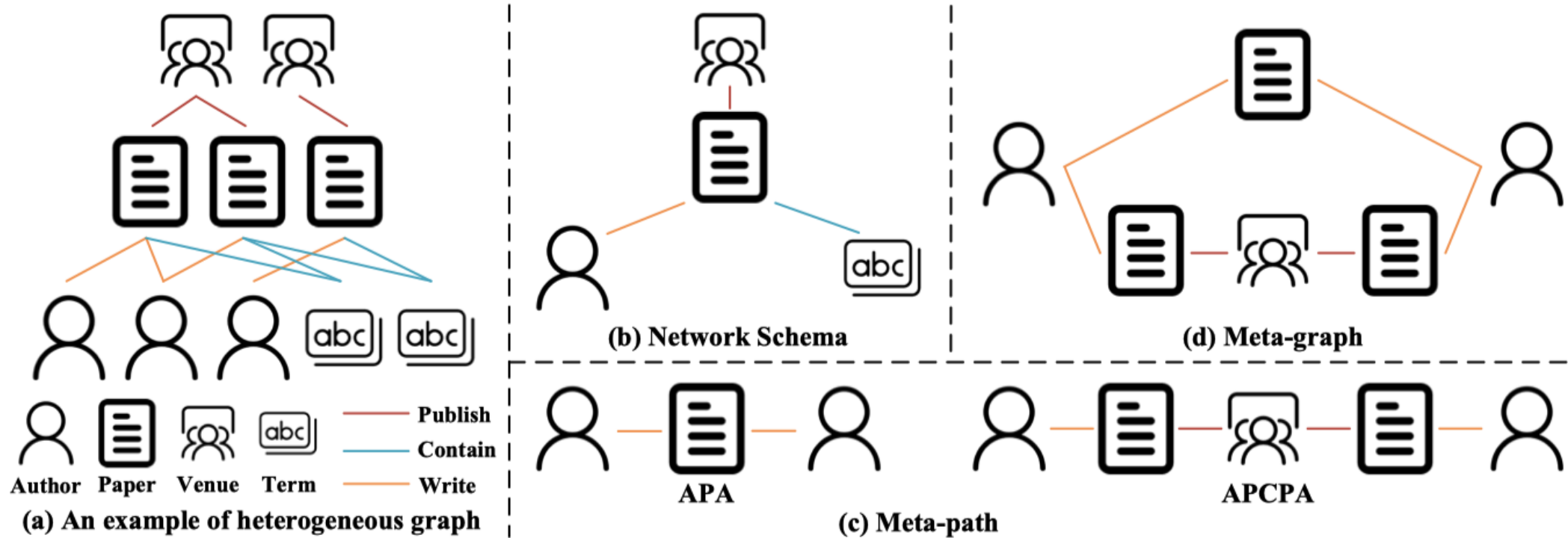


- Stronger expressive power
- Alleviate over-smoothing

# Background

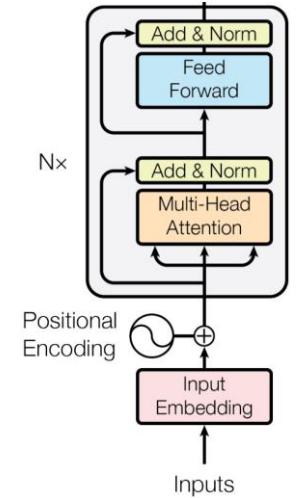
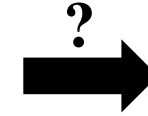
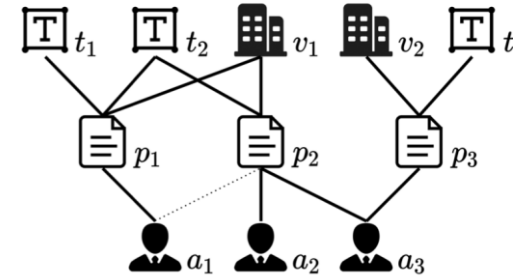
## Heterogeneous Graph

HGs are powerful for representing complex real-world networks (e.g., academic networks, social networks).

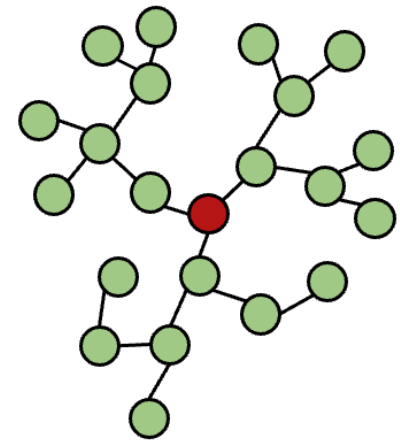
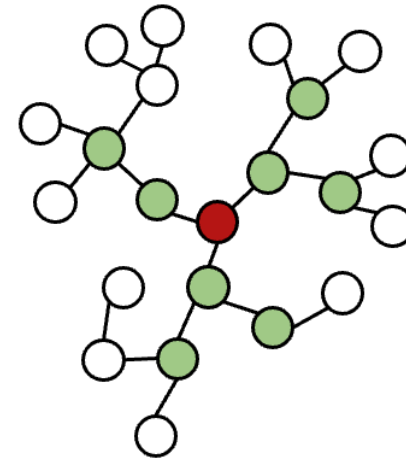


# Motivation

1. Current graph transformer models struggle to integrate the rich and **complex semantics** inherent in **heterogeneous graphs**.



2. Existing methods often have **limited receptive fields** due to the quadratic complexity of transformer models.



# The Overall Framework

## The poly-tokenization mechanism

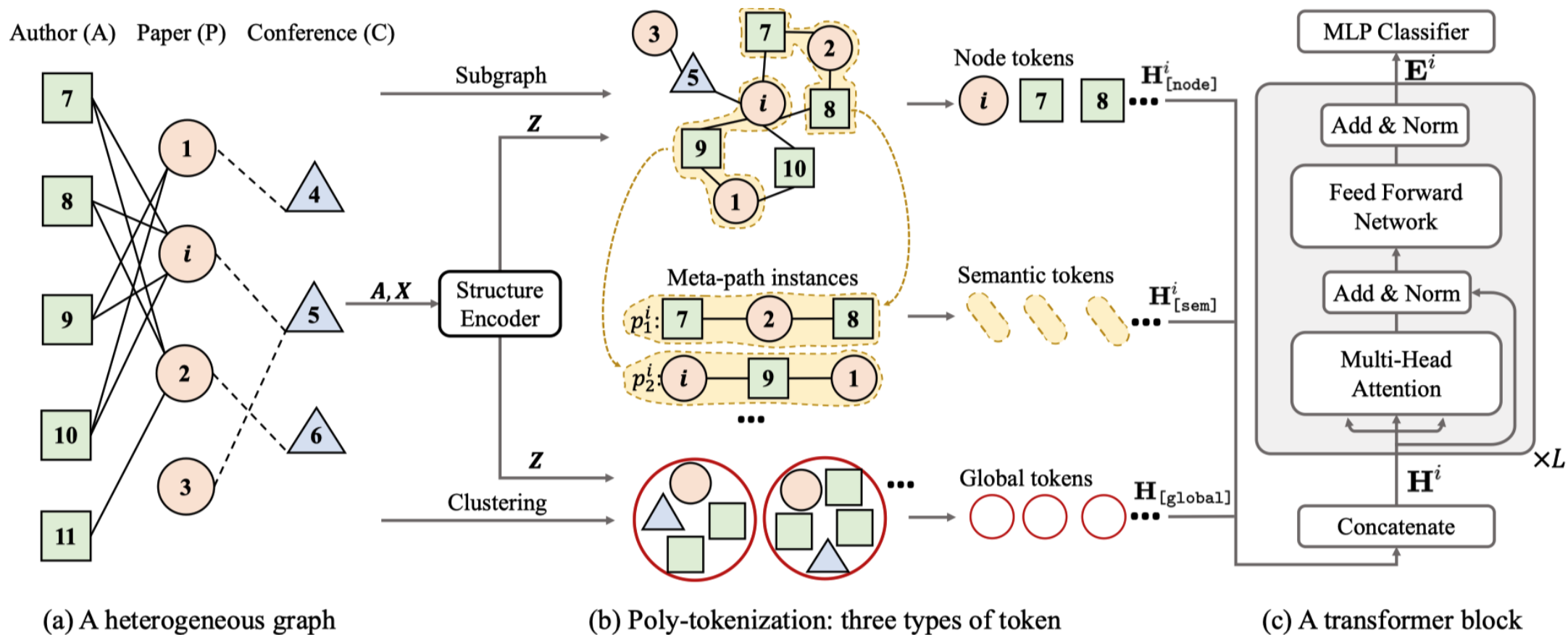
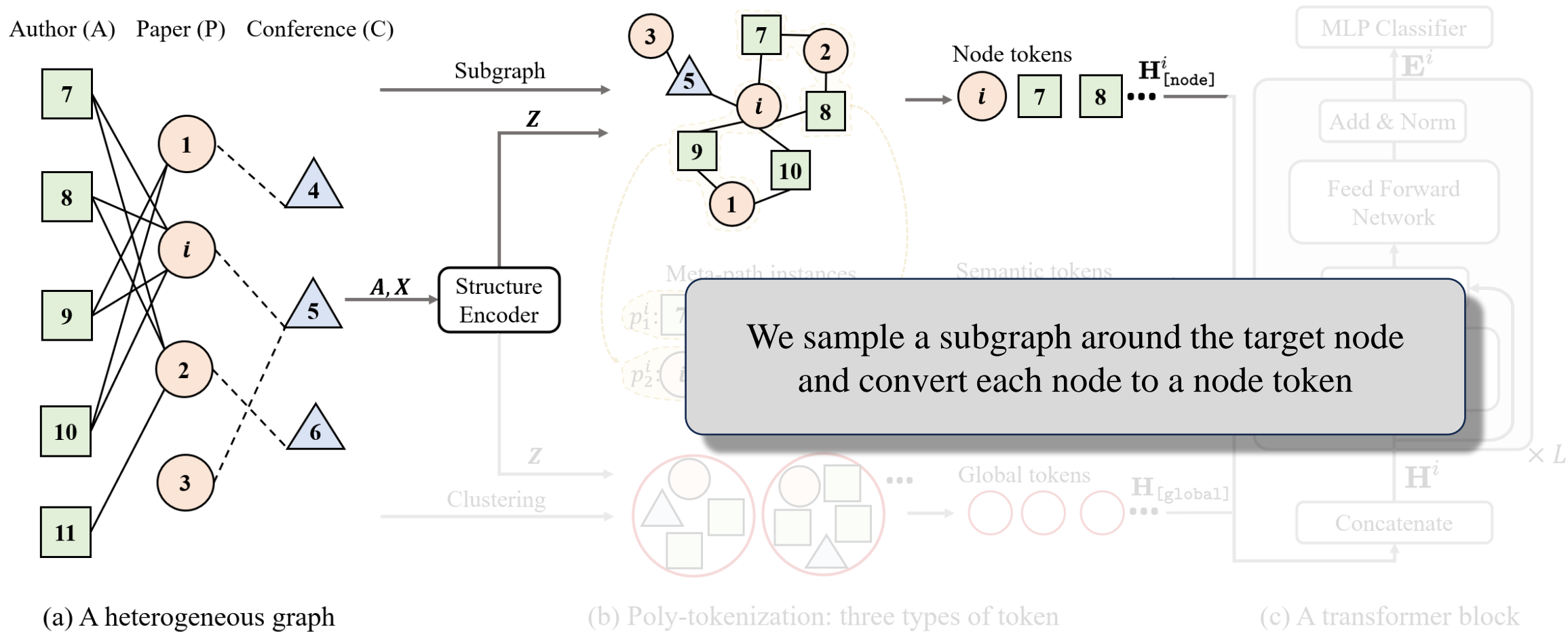
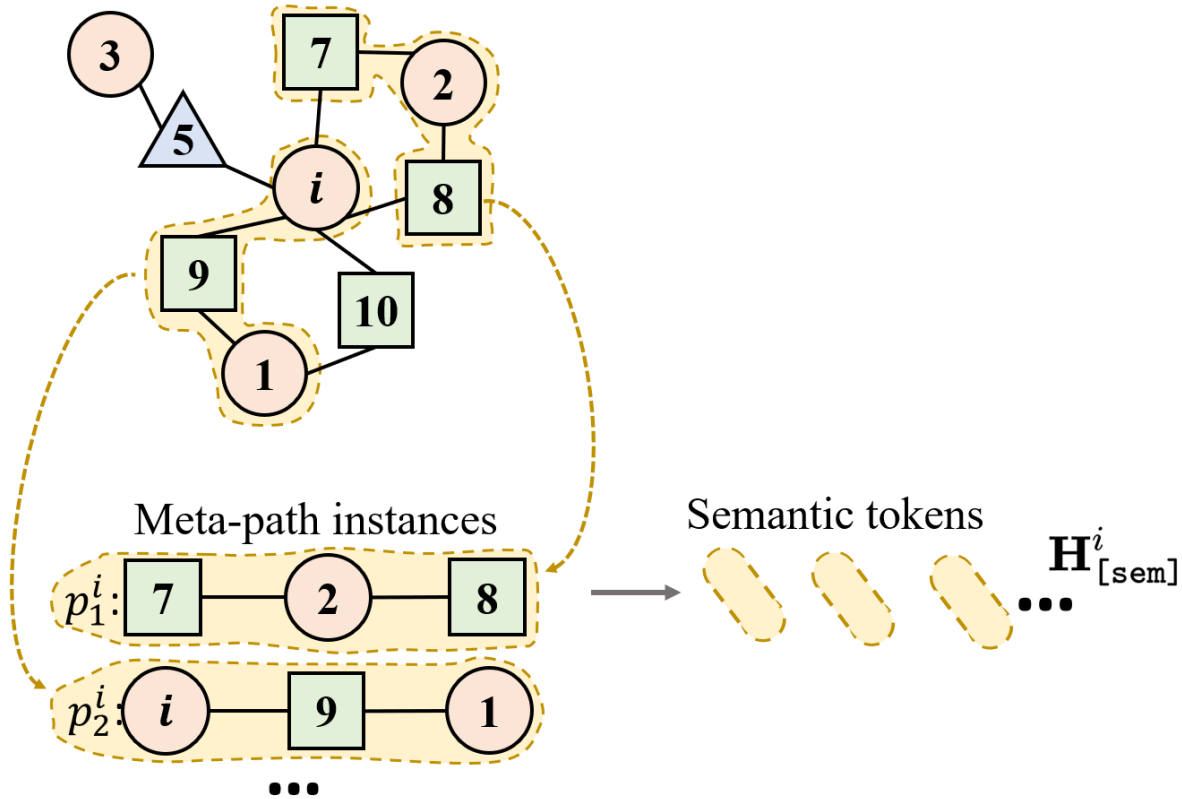


Figure 1: The overall framework of PHGT.

# Node Token



# Semantic Token



- ❖ Sample meta-path instances according to a pre-defined meta-path set.
- ❖ Each meta-path instance is converted to a semantic token

The embedding of path instance  $p_k^i$

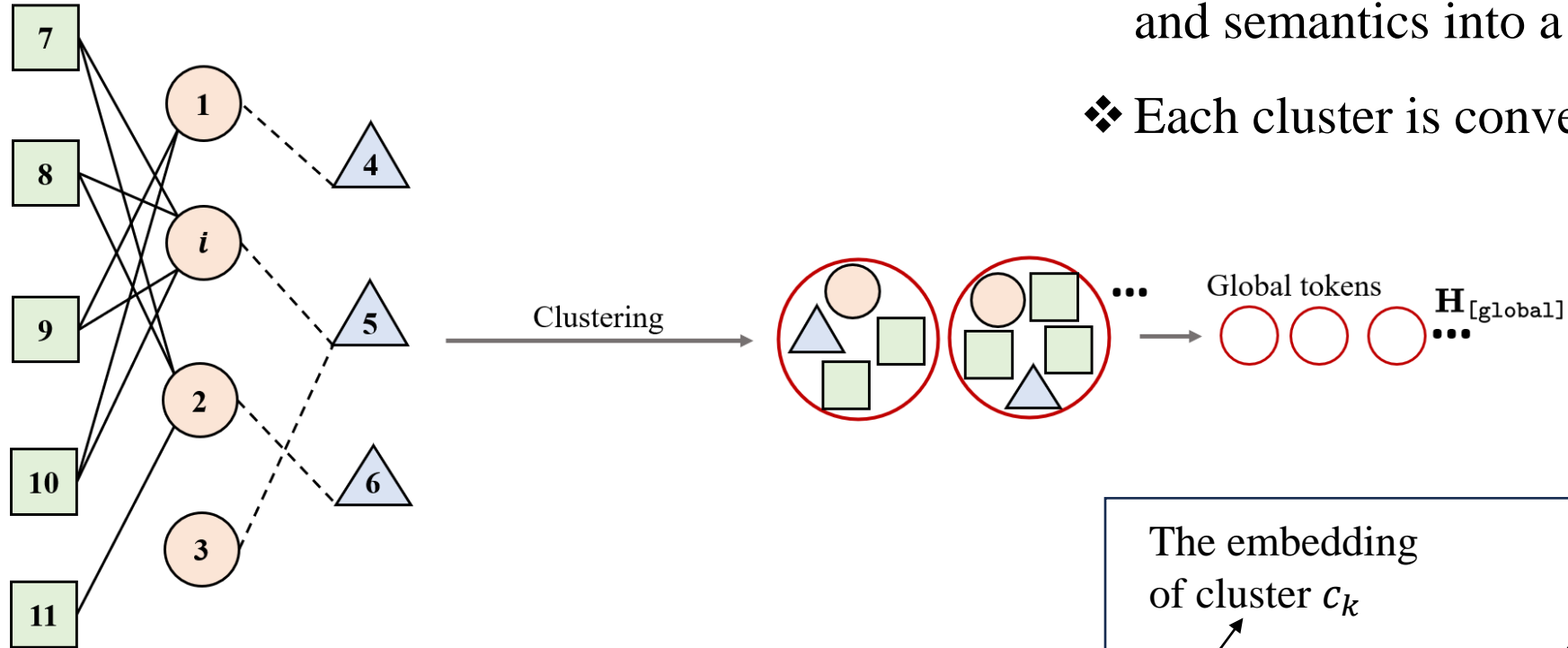
An instance of meta-path  $p_k$

$$\mathbf{z}_{p_k}^i = \text{ReadOut}(\{\mathbf{z}_u \mid u \in p_k^i\})$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{[sem]}^i = [\mathbf{z}_{p_1}^i, \mathbf{z}_{p_2}^i, \dots, \mathbf{z}_{p_N}^i]^\top$$

# Global Token

Author (A) Paper (P) Conference (C)



- ❖ Summarize nodes with similar structure and semantics into a cluster.
- ❖ Each cluster is converted to a global token.

The embedding of cluster  $c_k$

The embedding of node  $u$  in cluster  $c_k$

$$\mathbf{z}_{c_k} = \text{ReadOut}(\{\mathbf{z}_u \mid u \in c_k\})$$
$$\mathbf{H}_{[\text{global}]} = [\mathbf{z}_{c_1}, \mathbf{z}_{c_2}, \dots, \mathbf{z}_{c_M}]^T$$



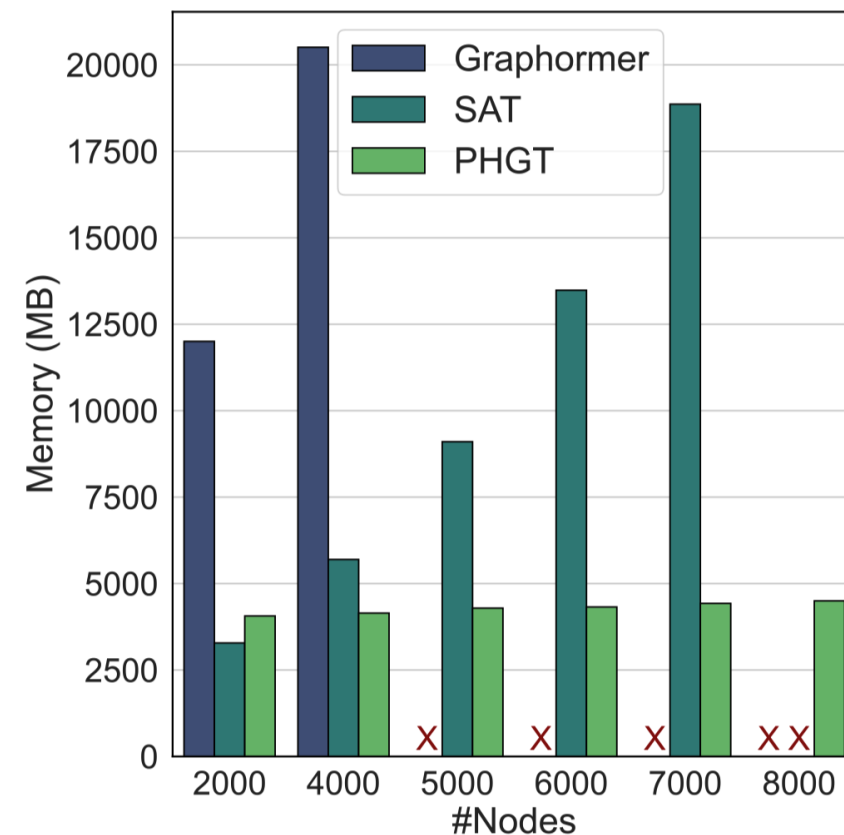
# Heterogeneous Node Classification Experiments

Methods	DBLP		IMDB		ACM		Freebase	
	Micro-F1	Macro-F1	Micro-F1	Macro-F1	Micro-F1	Macro-F1	Micro-F1	Macro-F1
RGCN	92.07±0.50	91.52±0.50	62.05±0.15	58.85±0.26	91.41±0.75	91.55±0.74	60.82±1.23	59.08±1.44
HAN	92.05±0.62	91.67±0.49	64.63±0.58	57.74±0.96	90.79±0.43	90.89±0.43	61.42±3.56	57.05±2.06
GTN	93.97±0.54	93.52±0.55	65.14±0.45	60.47±0.98	91.20±0.71	91.31±0.70	-	-
HetGNN	92.33±0.41	91.76±0.43	51.16±0.65	48.25±0.67	86.05±0.25	85.91±0.25	62.99±2.31	58.44±1.99
MAGNN	93.76±0.45	93.28±0.51	64.67±1.67	56.49±3.20	90.77±0.65	90.88±0.64	64.43±0.73	58.18±3.87
HGT	93.49±0.25	93.01±0.23	67.20±0.57	63.00±1.19	91.00±0.76	91.12±0.76	66.43±1.88	60.03±2.21
Simple-HGN	94.46±0.22	94.01±0.24	67.36±0.57	63.53±1.36	93.35±0.45	93.42±0.44	67.49±0.97	62.49±1.69
ANS-GT	93.15±0.51	92.75±0.43	66.65±0.35	62.52±0.61	92.55±0.54	93.67±0.62	67.33±0.61	61.24±0.57
NodeFormer	93.68±0.42	93.05±0.38	65.86±0.42	62.15±0.77	91.89±0.31	92.72±0.84	67.01±0.52	60.83±1.41
HINormer	94.94±0.21	94.57±0.23	67.83±0.34	64.65±0.53	93.15±0.36	93.28±0.43	67.78±0.39	<b>62.76±1.10</b>
PHGT	<b>95.33±0.18</b>	<b>94.96±0.17</b>	<b>68.81±0.08</b>	<b>65.91±0.30</b>	<b>93.72±0.40</b>	<b>93.79±0.39</b>	<b>68.74±1.42</b>	61.73±1.86

# Ablation and Efficiency Studies

	DBLP	IMDB	ACM	Freebase
w/o both	94.80	68.35	93.34	67.58
w/o semantic token	94.94	68.58	93.41	67.73
w/o global token	94.91	68.54	93.55	68.06
PHGT	<b>95.33</b>	<b>68.81</b>	<b>93.72</b>	<b>68.89</b>

Ablation studies (micro-f1 score)



Memory usage as graph size increases

# Conclusion

- PHGT addressed the two limitations of existing graph transformer models:
  - (1) the inability to capture heterogeneous semantics;
  - (2) the incapacity to model intricate long-range dependencies.
- Through comprehensive experiments on four benchmark datasets, we demonstrate the efficacy of our PHGT approach.

**Thanks !**

[OpenHGNN](#)



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