# Permutation Equivariant Graph Framelets for Heterophilous Graph Learning

Jianfei Li<sup>†</sup>, Ruigang Zheng<sup>†</sup>, Han Feng, Ming Li, Member, IEEE, Xiaosheng Zhuang

Abstract—The nature of heterophilous graphs is significantly different from that of homophilous graphs, which causes difficulties in early graph neural network models and suggests aggregations beyond the 1-hop neighborhood. In this paper, we develop a new way to implement multi-scale extraction via constructing Haar-type graph framelets with desired properties of permutation equivariance, efficiency, and sparsity, for deep learning tasks on graphs. We further design a graph framelet neural network model PEGFAN (Permutation Equivariant Graph Framelet Augmented Network) based on our constructed graph framelets. The experiments are conducted on a synthetic dataset and 9 benchmark datasets to compare performance with other state-of-the-art models. The result shows that our model can achieve the best performance on certain datasets of heterophilous graphs (including the majority of heterophilous datasets with relatively larger sizes and denser connections) and competitive performance on the remaining.

Index Terms—Graph neural networks (GNNs), Graph framelets/wavelets, Permutation equivariance, Heterophily.

### I. Introduction

RAPHS are ubiquitous data structures for a variety of real-life entities, such as traffic networks, social networks, citation networks, chemo- and bio-informatics networks, etc. With the abstraction via graphs, many real-world problems that are related to networks and communities can be cast into a unified framework and solved by exploiting its underlying rich and deep mathematical theory as well as tremendously efficient computational techniques. In recent years, graph neural networks (GNNs) for graph learning such as node classification [1], link prediction [2], and graph classification [3], have demonstrated their powerful learning ability and achieved remarkable performance [4]–[8]. In the particular field of node classification, many GNN models follow the *homophily* assumption, that is, the majority of edges connect nodes from

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J. Li, R. Zheng, H. Feng, and X. Zhuang are with the Department of Mathematics, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China. (email: jianfeili2-c@my.cityu.edu.hk, ruigzheng2-c@my.cityu.edu.hk, hanfeng@cityu.edu.hk, xzhuang7@cityu.edu.hk)

M. Li is with the Key Laboratory of Intelligent Education Technology and Application of Zhejiang Province, Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua, China. (email: mingli@zjnu.edu.cn)

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the same classes (e.g., researchers in a citation network tend to cite each other from the same area), yet graphs with *heterophily*, that is, the majority of edges connect nodes from different classes [9], do exist in many real-world scenarios. A typical example is in a cyber network where a phishing attacker usually sends fraudulent messages to a large population of normal users (victims) in order to obtain sensitive information. We refer to [10], [11] for the limitations of early GNNs on homophilous graphs and a recent survey paper [9] on GNNs for heterophilous graphs.

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Heterophilous graphs differ from homophilous graphs not only spatially in terms of distribution beyond the 1-hop neighborhood but also spectrally with larger oscillation in terms of the frequency distribution of graph signals under the graph Laplacian. Such properties bring challenges to learning on heterophilous graphs and demand new GNNs the ability to extract intrinsic information in order to achieve high performance. To enhance the influence of nodes from the same classes that are outside of 1-hop neighborhoods, one common approach is based on the *multi-hop aggregation* to leverage information of k-hop neighborhoods,  $k \geq 2$ . Its effectiveness for heterophilous graphs is emphasized and theoretically verified in [12]. A common way to perform multihop aggregation is to utilize the powers of the adjacency matrix. Repeatedly applying Laplacian smoothing many times, prompted by using higher powers of adjacency matrix, can result in a convergence of vertex features within each connected component of the graph towards uninformative or identical values, a phenomenon referred to as over-smoothing [10], [13]. Moreover, they may lead to dense matrices and cause computation and storage burdens. To seek further improvement, it is thus desirable to consider an alternative spatial resolution of graphs other than k-hop neighborhood. To answer this question, we work on the theory of wavelet/framelet systems on graphs which brings a notion of scale on graphs and wavelets/framelets corresponding to such scales. In this paper, we introduce and integrate a dedicated graph framelet system so as to perform multi-scale extraction on graphs.

Actually, classical wavelets/framelets in the Euclidean domains, e.g., see [14], [15], are well-known examples of multiscale representation, which have been extended to irregular domains such as graphs and manifolds under similar principles in recent years, e.g., see [16]–[19]. Some graph wavelets/framelets systems are also proposed and applied in GNNs for node and graph classifications [20]–[22]. When the graph is reordered, it is natural to expect the produced wavelets/framelets to be reordered in the same way for robust learning. However, most of the graph wavelets/framelets do not possess such a property

<sup>†</sup> Equal contribution

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of permutation equivariance. That is, up to certain permutations, the constructed graph wavelet/framelet systems should be the "same" regardless of the underlying node orderings. The work on Haar-type graph wavelets/framelets [17], [20], [23]–[25] are "piecewise-constant" functions on graphs that depend on a given tree with certain underlying node ordering. If new orderings are given, though the underlying graph and graph data are the same, the newly resulting graph wavelets/framelets are no longer the same. Without the property of permutation equivariance, the network outputs could vary with respect to graph reordering and thus lead to instability of the GNNs.

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In this paper, we provide a novel and general method to construct Haar-type graph framelets having the permutation equivariance property, which further implies the permutation equivariance of our graph framelet neural network model PEGFAN (Permutation Equivariant Graph Framelet Augmented Network). Our Haar-type graph framelets are constructed spatially with respect to a hierarchical structure on the underlying graph. Scales in such systems correspond to the levels in the hierarchical structure in which higher levels are associated with larger groups of nodes. Multi-scale extractions via such graph framelets are regarded as alternatives and supplements for the usual multi-hop aggregations. Moreover, we show that our graph framelets possess sparse representation property, which leads to the sparsity property of the orthogonal projection matrix (framelet matrix) formed by stacking those framelet vectors at certain scales. This is in contrast to the high powers of adjacency matrices and their non-sparse nature. Furthermore, we apply our graph framelets in the neural network architecture design by using the framelet matrices at different scales as well as the adjacency matrices to form multi-channel input and perform multi-scale extraction through attention and concatenation. The state-of-the-art node classification accuracies on several benchmark datasets validate the effectiveness of our model.

In summary, the contribution of this paper is as follows:

1) We propose a novel and general method to construct Haar-type graph framelets that have properties of permutation equivariance, sparse representation, efficient computation, and so on. 2) We apply our Haar-type graph framelet system to extract multi-scale information and integrate it into a graph neural network architecture. 3) We demonstrate the effectiveness of our model for node classification on synthetic and benchmark datasets via extensive comparisons with several state-of-the-art GNN models.

### II. RELATED WORK

Node Classification on Heterophilous Graphs. Early work on node classification includes [1], [26], [27], which are some of the earliest examples of spectral and spatial GNNs. GEOM-GCN [28] is the first work that aims at heterophilous graphs. Topology augmentation graph convolutional network (TA-GCN) [29] is proposed under the guidance of an NCC (neighborhood class consistency) metric. To enhance the performance of GNNs on the heterophily datasets, conv-agnostic GNN (CAGNN) [30] is developed by learning the neighbor effect for each node. From relation-based frequency point of view, relation-based

frequency adaptive GNN (RFA-GNN) [31] aims to adaptively pick up signals of different frequencies in each corresponding relation space in the message-passing process. In [12], a set of key designs is discussed, which can boost learning under heterophily. So as to counter the limit imposed by node-level assortativity (homophily), in [32], a computation graph with proximity and structural information is proposed, which is converted from the input graph. A new generalized PageRank [33], which is jointly optimized with node features and topological information extraction, works for graphs regardless of homophily or heterophily. Two novel fully differentiable and inductive rewiring layers are introduced in [34] to mitigate the problems of over-smoothing, over-squashing, and underreaching on both homophilous and heterophilous graphs. Adopting a homophily-oriented deep heterogeneous graph rewiring method to increase the meta-paths subgraph homophily ratio, heterogeneous graph neural network (HGNN) [35] improves the performance of on heterophilous graphs. In [36], a randomedge dropping mechanism for increasing heterophily of graphs is proposed, aiming at enhancing fairness in GNNs' predictions. We refer to [9] for a comprehensive review of graph neural networks for graphs with heterophily.

Multi-hop Aggregation in GNNs. Papers of [12], [37]–[39] are GNNs that adopt hidden layer concatenation and multihop aggregation and involve the powers of adjacency matrices. Thus, they resemble each other in terms of neural network architecture. The difference is that [37], [38] mainly deal with homophilous datasets. On the other hand, with emphasis on the heterophilous setting, the work [12] theoretically shows the importance of concatenation of aggregation beyond the 1-hop neighborhood, with an addition on the importance of ego- and neighbor-embedding separation. Such a non-local neighborhood aggregation is also emphasized in [27], [37]. The current stateof-the-art model FSGNN, i.e., Feature Selection GNN [39], is different from the previous ones by, in our interpretation, viewing the semi-supervised setting as a supervised setting in which multi-hop aggregation is regarded as input of different feature channels from different hops and were not applied in the following layers. As a result, its network architecture basically consists of a mix-hop [38] layer and fully-connected layers with attention weights for different channels being applied before the concatenation. It is worth mentioning that a recent work [40] on large-scale heterophilous node classification is very similar to [39], in which input channels were limited to the 0-hop and the 1-hop.

**Graph Wavelets/Framelets.** Papers of [16]–[18], [20], [23]–[25], [41] are work of graph wavelets/framelets in which [16], [18] are spectral-type and the rest are Haar-type. A framelet system differs from the classical (orthogonal) wavelet system by being a frame in a Hilbert space and offering redundant representation. The Haar-type wavelet system in [41] is defined for different nodes as centers. In [17], [20], [23]–[25], graph wavelets/framelets are defined under a given tree and they differ in the interpretation and generation of the tree. In [23], it is applied to trees from graphs. In [17], the tree is represented as a filtration on [0, 1], and the wavelet system is equivalent to an orthogonal basis of tree polynomials. Similar to [17], the trees are further generalized to hierarchical partitions of

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[0, 1]<sup>2</sup> in [24] and apply to directed graphs, and a Haar-type wavelet system for directed graphs is thus constructed. To further generalizes [24], [42], the constructions of Haar-type framelet systems on any compact set in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is considered under a given hierarchical partition and adapt the construction of directed graph framelets to such cases [25].

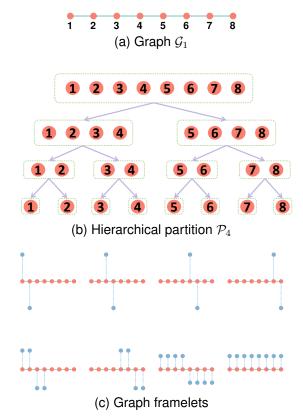


Fig. 1. Graph framelets (bottom) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{G}_1$  (top) and the hierarchical partition  $\mathcal{P}_4$  (middle). The blue points in (c) are the values of graph framelets on each node. The height of blue points represents the value of graph framelets  $\psi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$  (8 sub-figures in (c)). The blue points are above the corresponding nodes if values are positive, and below otherwise.

### III. PERMUTATION EQUIVARIANT GRAPH FRAMELETS

In this section, we develop Haar-type graph framelet systems, the binary Haar graph framelets, with properties of tightness, sparsity, efficiency, and permutation equivariance, which yield robustness and effective algorithms for the model PEGFAN to be introduced in Section IV. All proofs of the main results in this paper are postponed to Appendix A.

# A. Preliminaries

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Let  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  be a graph, where  $\mathcal{V} = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$  is the vertex set containing n vertices (or equivalently, we simply identify  $\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$ ), and  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}$  is the edge set of ordered pairs (i, j). The adjacency matrix  $A: \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V} \to \mathbb{R}$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  is a matrix of size  $n \times n$  such that its (i, j)-entry  $a_{ij}$  is the weight on edge (i, j) and  $a_{ij} = 0$  if  $(i, j) \notin \mathcal{E}$ . We consider only undirected graphs in this paper, i.e.,  $A^{\top} = A$ . We denote  $A := D^{-1/2}AD^{-1/2}$  with D being the diagonal degree matrix of  $\mathcal{G}$ , whose diagonal elements defined as  $d_{ii} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij}$ . A signal  $f = [f_1, \ldots, f_n]^{\top}$  on the graph is defined

as  $f: \mathcal{V} \to \mathbb{R}$  with  $\ell_2$  norm  $\|f\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |f_i|^2 < \infty$ . All such  $\ell_2$  signals on  $\mathcal{G}$  form a Hilbert space  $L_2(\mathcal{G})$  under the usual inner product. A collection  $\{e_m: m \in [M]\} \subset L_2(\mathcal{G})$  is a *tight frame* of  $L_2(\mathcal{G})$  if  $f = \sum_{m=1}^M \langle f, e_m \rangle e_m$  for all  $f \in L_2(\mathcal{G})$ , where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is the inner product and we denote  $[M] := \{1, \ldots, M\}$ . We denote the *i*-th column vector and row vector of a matrix M, by  $M_{ii}$  and  $M_{ii}$ , respectively.

For  $K \geq 2$ , we call a sequence  $\mathcal{P}_K := \{\mathcal{V}_j : j = 1, \dots, K\}$ of sets as a K-hierarchical clustering of V if each  $V_i :=$  $\{s_{\Lambda} \subset \mathcal{V} : \dim(\Lambda) = j\}$  is a partition of  $\mathcal{V}$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{V} = \cup_{\Lambda} s_{\Lambda}$ , and  $V_i$  is a refinement of  $V_{j-1}$ , where we use the index vector  $\mathbf{\Lambda} = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_j) \in \mathbb{N}^j$  to encode position, level j, and parent-children relationship, of the clusters  $s_{\Lambda}$ . Fig. 1 gives an example of a K-hierarchical clustering. Let us denote  $V_1 = \{s_{(1)} = V = \{1, 2, \dots, 8\}\}$ . Then according to parentchildren relationship in Fig. 1, we have  $V_2 = \{s_{(1,1)}, s_{(1,2)}\}$ where  $s_{(1,1)} = \{1, \ldots, 4\}$  and  $s_{(1,2)} = \{5, \ldots, 8\}$ . Similarly, we have  $V_3 = \{s_{(1,1,1)}, s_{(1,1,2)}, s_{(1,2,1)}, s_{(1,2,2)}\}$  where  $s_{(1,1,1)} = \{1,2\}, \ s_{(1,1,2)} = \{3,4\}, \ s_{(1,2,1)} = \{5,6\}$  and  $s_{(1,2,2)} = \{7,8\}$ , and thus  $s_{(1,1,1,1)} = \{1\}$  and  $s_{(1,1,1,2)} = \{2\}$ . Here  $\dim(\Lambda)$  denotes the length of the index vector. If  $s_{\Lambda} \in \mathcal{V}_j$ is a parent, then the index vectors of its children are appended with an integer, i.e.  $(\Lambda, i)$ , indicating its i-th child, and thus the child is denoted by  $s_{(\Lambda,i)} \in \mathcal{V}_{j+1}$ . Then we have the parent-children relationship  $s_{(\Lambda,i)} \subset s_{\Lambda}$ . We denote the number of children of  $s_{\Lambda}$  by  $L_{\Lambda}$ . Unless specified, we consider Khierarchical clustering  $\mathcal{P}_K$  with  $\mathcal{V}_K = \{\{1\}, \dots, \{n\}\}$  and  $\mathcal{V}_1 = \{[n]\}$  being a singleton, i.e.,  $\mathcal{P}_K$  is a tree.

In classical wavelet/framelet theory, an important concept is the multiresolution analysis (MRA). One of the most important ideas is to find a sequence of subspaces  $\{V_i\} \subset L_2(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $V_j \subset V_{j+1}$  and  $\bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} V_j = L_2(\mathbb{R})$ . If there exists  $\phi(t) \in V_0$ such that  $\{\phi(t-b)\}_{b\in\mathbb{Z}}$  forms an orthonormal basis of  $V_0$ and  $f(t) \in V_j$  if and only if  $f(2t) \in V_{j+1}$ , then we can find a mother wavelet  $\psi(t)$  such that  $\{2^{j/2}\psi(2^jt-b)\}_{i,b\in\mathbb{Z}}$ forms an orthonormal basis for  $L_2(\mathbb{R})$ . For example, let  $\phi(t) = \chi_{[0,1)}(t)$  and  $\psi(t) = \phi(2t) - \phi(2t-1)$ , then the resulting wavelet is the so-called Haar wavelet. However, the translation and dilation operators are not naturally defined for graph signals. Fortunately, if we look at the support of Haar wavelets, we can find that the union of the support of elements in  $\mathfrak{W}_i := \{2^{j/2}\psi(2^jt-b)\}_{b\in\mathbb{N}}$  is equal to  $\mathbb{R}$  for a fixed jand the collection of the support of elements in  $\mathfrak{W}_{i+1}$  is a refinement of that of  $\mathfrak{W}_{i+1}$ . Hence, these supports actually form a hierarchical partition. Based on this observation, a natural way to define translations on the graph is to generalize hierarchical partitions to the graph, see [19], [25]. For example, when mapping each node in a graph to an interval on [0, 1], then based on the hierarchical partition on [0, 1], graph framelets can be constructed similarly as classical Haar wavelet [25]. Below, we provide general conditions in Theorem 1 for constructing Haar graph framelets based on a K-hierarchical clustering.

### B. Main Construction

Given  $\mathcal{P}_K$ , we define the unit scaling vectors  $\phi_{\Lambda}$  (similar to scaling functions for  $V_j$ 's on a MRA) iteratively from  $\dim(\Lambda) = K$  to  $\dim(\Lambda) = 1$ . When  $\dim(\Lambda) = K$ , each

cluster (node)  $s_{\Lambda}$  contains only one vertex in graph  $\mathcal{G}$  (see Fig. 1), thus we define  $\phi_{\Lambda} = I_{:i}$ , where  $i \in s_{\Lambda} \subset \mathcal{V}$  and  $I_{:i}$  is the *i*-th column of the identity matrix  $I \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . When  $\dim(\Lambda) < K$ , we define

$$\phi_{\Lambda} := \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\Lambda}]} p_{(\Lambda,\ell)} \phi_{(\Lambda,\ell)}, \tag{1}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda} = [p_{(\Lambda,1)}, \dots, p_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}]^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{L_{\Lambda}}$  and  $\|\boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda}\| = 1$ . Obviously,  $\boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda}$  is with support  $\operatorname{supp} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda} = s_{\Lambda}$  and  $\|\boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda}\| = 1$ . For framelet vectors on the graph, we define  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$ ,  $m \in [M_{\Lambda}]$  for some  $M_{\Lambda} \in \mathbb{N}$  by

$$\psi_{(\Lambda,m)} := \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\Lambda}]} (B_{\Lambda})_{m,\ell} \, \phi_{(\Lambda,\ell)}, \tag{2}$$

from some matrices  $B_{\Lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\Lambda} \times L_{\Lambda}}$ . Theorem 1 characterizes when  $\phi_{\Lambda}$  and  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  form a tight frame of  $L_2(\mathcal{G})$ .

**Theorem 1** (General characterization). Let  $\mathcal{P}_K$  be a K-hierarchical clustering on a graph  $\mathcal{G}$ . Then the matrices  $B_{\Lambda}$  and vectors  $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda}$  satisfy  $B_{\Lambda}B_{\Lambda}^{\top}B_{\Lambda}=B_{\Lambda}$ ,  $B_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}=0$ , and  $\operatorname{Rank}(B_{\Lambda})=L_{\Lambda}-1$  for all  $\Lambda$  with  $\dim(\Lambda)=j_0,\ldots,K$  if and only if for any  $j_0 \in [K]$ , the collection  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K):=\{\phi_{\Lambda}:\dim(\Lambda)=j_0\}\cup\{\psi_{\Lambda}:\dim(\Lambda)=j\}_{j=j_0+1}^K$  defined by Equations (1) and (2) is a tight frame of  $L_2(\mathcal{G})$ .

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We remark that Theorem 1 provides a more general sufficient and necessary condition than that in [19], for all graph framelets having the form (1) and (2) to be a tight frame. When we use the Haar graph framelets to extract frequency features of graph signals, general graph wavelets/framelets ((1) and (2)) can be viewed as multi-scale representation systems in which the notion of 'scale' is different from the usual k-hop neighborhood in graphs and serve as an alternative to capture long-range information.

Besides, the given  $\mathcal{P}_K$  in the proposed construction is not specified. The advantage of the generality of this definition is that there is no constraint on how the  $\mathcal{P}_K$  is generated: one can use solely the edges or combine the edges and node features to generate  $\mathcal{P}_K$ , etc. Thus this provides great potential in theories and applications. As well shown in experiments, clustering graph nodes based only on adjacency matrices is capable of providing nice graph framelets that help improve the learning abilities of neural networks on node classification tasks.

The following example shows a close relationship between our framelet systems and the traditional Haar graph basis.

**Example 1** (Path graph and Haar basis). Given a path graph  $\mathcal{G}_1$  with 8 nodes  $\mathcal{V} = \{1, 2, \dots, 8\}$ . If we choose hierarchical clustering  $\mathcal{P}_4 = \{\mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{V}_2, \mathcal{V}_3, \mathcal{V}_4\}$  with  $\mathcal{V}_1 = \{s_{(1)}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_2 = \{s_{(1,1)}, s_{(1,2)}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_3 = \{s_{(1,1,1)}, s_{(1,1,2)}, s_{(1,2,1)}, s_{(1,2,2)}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_4 = \{s_{(1,1,1,1)}, s_{(1,1,1,2)}, s_{(1,1,2,1)}, s_{(1,1,2,2)}, s_{(1,2,1,1)}, s_{(1,2,1,2)}, s_{(1,2,2,1)}, s_{(1,2,2,2)}\}$ , and  $\mathbf{p}_{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  and  $\mathbf{B}_{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$  for all  $\Lambda$  (note that each parent has exactly two children  $L_{\Lambda} = 2$ ), then the graph framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  with K = 4 as in Theorem 1 is a Haar basis for any  $j_0 \in [K]$ . See Fig. 1 for illustration.

Based on the general conditions in Theorem 1, we further investigate the specific structure of  $B_{\Lambda}$ . We give the following

proposition that completely characterizes the structure of matrices  $B_{\Lambda}$  in Theorem 1.

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**Proposition 1.** Let p be a unit vector of length  $L \ge 1$ , that is,  $\|p\| = 1$ . Assume that  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times L}$  with  $M \ge L - 1$  is a matrix such that Bp = 0 and  $\operatorname{Rank}(B) = L - 1$ . Then  $BB^{\top}B = cB$  for some constant c if and only if  $B^{\top}B = c(I - pp^{\top})$ . In particular, if  $c \ne 0$ , then  $P := [p, \frac{1}{\sqrt{c}}B^{\top}]$  satisfies  $PP^{\top} = I$ .

Proposition 1 shows that  $B_{\Lambda}$  is from the (matrix) splitting of a rank L-1 matrix  $I-p_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}^{\top}$ . Notice that the role of elements in  $p_{\Lambda}$  in Equation (1) is to give weights to each cluster  $s_{(\Lambda,\ell)}$ . One typical scenario is that each child cluster is of equal importance, which means that the vector  $p_{\Lambda}$  is a vector with all equal elements. On the other hand, it could be too involved to use matrix splitting techniques [43]–[46] for obtaining the matrix  $B_{\Lambda}$ . We next show that we can obtain matrices  $B_{\Lambda}$ by simply permuting a fixed vector w such that each of its elements appears with equal chance. Under this hypothesis of equal importance and equal chance, in the following result, we introduce a binary Haar graph framelet system by a careful design of the matrices  $B_{\Lambda}$  and  $p_{\Lambda}$ . The word binary here is chosen since each nonzero coefficient of high-frequency framelets in Equation (2) only takes from  $\{1, -1\}$  (without normalization). We show that such graph framelet systems  $\mathcal{F}_{i_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  have many desirable properties including permutation equivariance.

For each pair  $(\ell_1, \ell_2)$  with  $1 \le \ell_1 < \ell_2 \le L_{\Lambda}$ , define a vector  $\boldsymbol{w}_{\Lambda}^m$  of size  $L_{\Lambda} \times 1$  by

$$(\boldsymbol{w}_{\Lambda}^{m})_{\tau} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_{\Lambda}}} & \tau = \ell_{1}; \\ \frac{-1}{\sqrt{L_{\Lambda}}} & \tau = \ell_{2}; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$
 (3)

where  $m:=m(\ell_1,\ell_2,L_{\Lambda}):=\frac{(2L_{\Lambda}-\ell_1)(\ell_1-1)}{2}+\ell_2-\ell_1$  is ranging from 1 to  $M_{\Lambda}:=\frac{L_{\Lambda}(L_{\Lambda}-1)}{2}$  for all possible pairs  $(\ell_1,\ell_2)$  with  $1\leq \ell_1<\ell_2\leq L_{\Lambda}$ . Note that  $w_{\Lambda}^m$  has only two non-zero entries locating at the  $\ell_1$ -th and  $\ell_2$ -th position, respectively. Such a  $w_{\Lambda}^m$  will be used as the m-th row of the matrix  $B_{\Lambda}$ .

**Corollary 1** (Binary Haar graph framelets). Let  $\mathcal{P}_K$  be a K-hierarchical clustering on a graph  $\mathcal{G}$ . Let  $\mathbf{p_{\Lambda}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_{\Lambda}}} \mathbf{1}$  be a constant vector of size  $L_{\Lambda} \times 1$  and  $\mathbf{B_{\Lambda}} := [\mathbf{w_{\Lambda}^{I}}, \dots, \mathbf{w_{\Lambda}^{M_{\Lambda}}}]^{\top}$  with  $\mathbf{w_{\Lambda}^{m}}$  being given as in Equation (3). Define  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  as in Theorem 1. Then  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  is a tight frame for  $L_2(\mathcal{G})$  for any  $j_0 \in [K]$ .

**Remark 1.** In fact, the framelets obtained in Examples 1 belongs to binary Haar graph framelets (See Fig. 1 for illustration). The matrix  $\mathbf{B}_{\Lambda}$  is formed by permuting 1, -1 of the specific type of vectors  $\mathbf{w} = [1, -1, 0, \dots, 0]$  to all possible positions. In fact, more general types of vectors  $\mathbf{w}$  can be served to form the matrix  $\mathbf{B}_{\Lambda}$  through permutations.

We next focus on the sparsity, efficiency, and permutation equivariance of the binary Haar graph framelets constructed in Corollary 1.

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### C. Sparsity

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Notice that if each row of the matrix  $B_{\Lambda}$  is sparse, then the produced  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  is also sparse. For the binary Haar graph framelets, each row of  $B_{\Lambda}$  only contains two nonzero values. Let  $L_j := \max_{\dim(\Lambda)=j} L_{\Lambda}$ , then it is easy to see that the number  $\|\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}\|_0$  of non-zero entries of  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  satisfies  $\|\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}\|_0 \leq 2L_{j+1}$ , for all  $\dim(\Lambda) = j$ . When the hierarchical clustering is balanced and  $\dim(\Lambda)$  is large, high-level framelets  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  are well-localized and thus sparse.

Besides the sparsity of the framelets, we also want to know when the framelet coefficients of a signal are sparse, which is the desired property of sparse representation of framelets. Different coefficients represent different scales. The sparse representation property plays an important role in feature extraction and representation for classification tasks. In node classification, piecewise constant signals, e.g., one-hot label encoding, are of great importance in practice due to its simplicity [47]. Hence, it is valuable to study the framelet coefficients of the piecewise constant signals. Let  $\mathcal{F}_{i_0}(\mathcal{P}_K) :=$  $\{\phi_{\Lambda}, \dim(\Lambda) = j_0\} \cup \{\psi_{\Lambda}, \dim(\Lambda) = j\}_{j=j_0+1}^K =: \{u_i\}_{i=1}^{M_{\mathcal{G}}}$  be a binary Haar graph framelet system with  $M_{\mathcal{G}}$  elements and define  $\hat{f} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\mathcal{G}}}$  to be the framelet coefficient vector with its *i*-th element  $(\hat{f})_i := \langle f, u_i \rangle$  for a signal f. In what follows, we denote  $F:=[oldsymbol{u}_1,\ldots,oldsymbol{u}_{M_{\mathcal{G}}}]$  to be the matrix representation of the graph framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$ . Then,  $\hat{f} = \mathbf{F}^{\top} \mathbf{f}$ . We have the following result regarding the sparsity of  $\hat{f}$ .

**Theorem 2** (Binary Haar graph framelet transform preserving sparsity). Let  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  be a binary Haar graph framelet system defined as in Corollary 1. Assume that  $\max_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})>0} L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \leq h$ . Then for a signal  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the framelet coefficient vector  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$  satisfies  $\|\hat{\mathbf{f}}\|_0 \leq (K-1)(h-1)\|\mathbf{f}\|_0$ .

**Remark 2.** If for all  $\Lambda$ , we have  $L_{\Lambda} = h$  for some integer  $h \ge 2$ , then  $K = O(\log_h n)$  and hence  $\|\hat{\mathbf{f}}\|_0 = \|\mathbf{f}\|_0 \cdot O(h \log_h n)$ , which shows that our binary Haar graph transform preserves sparsity for sparse signals. In fact, the total number  $M_{\mathcal{G}}$  of elements in  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  in this case is of order O(nh). When  $\|\mathbf{f}\|_0 \ll n$ , we see that  $\|\hat{\mathbf{f}}\|_0 \ll O(nh) = M_{\mathcal{G}}$ . Theorem 2 can be extended to other type of matrices  $\mathbf{B}_{\Lambda}$  that is row-wise sparse.

### D. Efficiency

Graph Fourier basis based on graph Laplacian is of great importance in graph neural networks. However, the computational complexity and space complexity of generating graph Fourier basis could be as large as  $O(n^3)$  and  $O(n^2)$ , respectively. Hence, these reasons prevent it from being more flexible in practice when n is large and the graph Laplacian is not sparse. On the other hand, when using our binary Haar graph framelets, we have an efficient way to compute our framelets as well as the framelet coefficient vector via sparse computation. For the rest of this paper, when we discuss computational complexity, we assume that all matrix/vector operations are done by using sparse operations, i.e., the operations are evaluated only on non-zero entries.

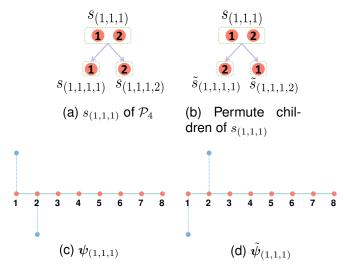


Fig. 2. Partition permutation. Consider the graph  $\mathcal{G}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_4$  in Fig. 1. Let us permute the order of children of  $s_{(1,1,1)}=\{1,2\}$  in  $\mathcal{P}_4$  only while keeping other part of  $\mathcal{P}_4$  and  $\boldsymbol{p_\Lambda}$  and  $\boldsymbol{B_\Lambda}$ . The original framelet is given by  $\psi_{(1,1,1)}$  (w.r.t.  $s_{(1,1,1)}$ ) and the new framelet is given by  $\tilde{\psi}_{(1,1,1)}$  (w.r.t.  $\tilde{s}_{(1,1,1)}$ ).

**Theorem 3.** Let h > 1 be a positive integer. Assume that the K-hierarchical clustering  $\mathcal{P}_K$  satisfies  $n = O(h^{K-1})$  with  $h := \max_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) > 0} L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$ . For  $j_0 \in [K]$ , let  $\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{M_{\mathcal{G}}}]$  be the framelet matrix with respect to the binary Haar graph framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  as given in Corollary 1. Then, for all  $j_0 \in [K]$ , the number  $M_{\mathcal{G}}$  of framelet vectors in  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  is of order O(nh), the computational complexity of generating all  $\mathbf{u}_m$ ,  $m = 1, \dots, M_{\mathcal{G}}$ , in  $\mathbf{F}$  is of order  $O(nh \log_h n)$ , and the total number  $\max(\mathbf{F})$  of nonzero entries in  $\mathbf{F}$  is of order  $O(nh \log_h n)$ .

**Remark 3.** In practice, h is usually small (e.g., 2, 4, or 8), and hence  $\mathbf{F}$  is a sparse matrix. Theorem 3 shows that our binary Haar graph framelet systems are efficient in processing datasets with large graphs. Moreover, the framelet coefficient vector  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$  can be computed with the computational complexity of order O(nh) as well. See Theorem 5 in Appendix B for the fast decomposition and reconstruction algorithms using our graph framelet systems.

### E. Permutation Equivariance

Fix  $\mathcal{G}=(\mathcal{V},\mathcal{E})$  and  $\mathcal{P}_K$ . Denote our construction of graph framelets in Theorem 1 by  $\mathcal{A}$  where it is provided a graph  $\mathcal{G}$  and a corresponding hierarchical partition  $\mathcal{P}_K$  and then builds the graph framelet  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G},\mathcal{P}_K)=\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$ . Let  $\pi:\mathcal{V}\to\mathcal{V}$  be a reordering (relabelling, bijection) of  $\mathcal{V}=\{1,2,\ldots,n\}$ , i.e.,  $\pi$  is w.r.t. a node permutation on [n] with  $\pi(\mathcal{V})=\{\pi(1),\ldots,\pi(n)\}$ . We denote  $\pi(\mathcal{G})=(\pi(\mathcal{V}),\pi(\mathcal{E}))$  with  $\pi(\mathcal{E}):=\{(\pi(i),\pi(j)):(i,j)\in\mathcal{E}\}$ . The corresponding signal f on the graph  $\mathcal{G}$  is reordered to be  $\pi(f)$  under the newly ordered graph  $\pi(\mathcal{G})$ . In other words, given a  $\pi$ , there exists a permutation matrix  $P_{\pi}$  of size  $n\times n$  such that  $\pi(f)=P_{\pi}f$ . For each node permutation  $\pi$ , the construction  $\mathcal{A}$  is called (node) permutation equivariant if  $\mathcal{A}(\pi(\mathcal{G}),\mathcal{P}_K)=\pi(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G},\mathcal{P}_K))$ , where  $\pi(u_m)=P_{\pi}u_m$  for  $u_m\in\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$ .

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Note that  $\mathcal{P}_K$  is a *tree* and that the children nodes in a parent-children subtree are ordered according to the last integer in the index vectors  $\Lambda$ . The order of nodes in such subtrees and the order of nodes in V are separately defined. This means a reordering of nodes in  $\mathcal V$  does not affect the order in subtrees in  $\mathcal{P}_K$  and vice versa. On the other hand, the reordering of tree nodes  $\Lambda$  may result in different graph framelets. Fig. 2 shows a simple example. Thus it is necessary to analyze the relationship of the graph framelets under such types of permutations. We say that  $\pi_p$  is a partition permutation on  $\mathcal{P}_K$  if the permutation 10 is on the children of each tree node  $\Lambda$  only. For each partition permutation  $\pi_p$ , the construction  $\mathcal{A}$  is called *partition* 12 permutation equivariant if  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \pi_p(\mathcal{P}_K)) = \pi_p(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K)),$ that is, there exists a permutation  $\pi^*$  on  $[M_G]$  associated with 14  $\pi_p$  such that for each  $u_m \in \mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$ ,  $\pi_p(u_m) = c_m u_{\pi^*(m)}$ for some  $c_m \in \{-1, +1\}$ . We have the following theorem regarding the permutation equivariance on both node and 17 partition permutations.

Theorem 4. Let  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K)$  be the construction of the binary Haar graph framelet systems in Corollary 1 for  $j_0 \in [K]$ . Then, the following three statements hold:

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- (i) For any node permutation  $\pi$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}(\pi(\mathcal{G}), \mathcal{P}_K) = \pi(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K))$ .
- (ii) For any partition permutation  $\pi_p$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \pi_p(\mathcal{P}_K)) = \pi_p(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K))$ .
- (iii) For any node permutation  $\pi$  and partition permutation  $\pi_p$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}(\pi(\mathcal{G}), \pi_p(\mathcal{P}_K)) = \pi_p(\pi(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K))) = \pi(\pi_p(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K)))$ .

**Remark 4.** Theorem 4 shows that our binary framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  is permutation equivariant when reordering node or the tree indices. By applying Theorem 4, we show that our proposed graph framelet neural network model PEGFAN has the property of permutation equivariance. See Proposition 2 in the next section.

Permutation equivariance is a subtle property that most of the GNNs in the literature possess since they generally employ operation that only involves the adjacency matrices, the graph Laplacians, summation, and concatenation. Nonetheless, there are works [48], [49] that theoretically investigate the permutation equivariance of general and specific GNNs, which is highly related to the graph classification and the importance of the topic of the expressiveness of GNNs [50], [51] as permutation is one of the most basic type of isomorphism on graphs. In this paper, we confine ourselves to the output consistency that permutation equivariance derives as this is coherent to our context of node classification. On the contrary, graph wavelets/framelets, especially Haar-type graph wavelets/framelets are more complicatedly generated mathematical tools and the discussion of such property is missing in both the mathematical literature and the recent works of GNNs that apply graph wavelets/framelets. In some of the works of Haar-type graph wavelets/framelets ([20], [23], [24]), it is obvious that the permutation equivariance is violated if there are no further constraints.

### IV. GRAPH FRAMELET NEURAL NETWORKS

We introduce the graph framelet neural network model that integrates our constructed binary Haar graph framelets, which we call **Permutation Equivariant Graph Framelet Augmented Network (PEGFAN)**, see Fig. 3.

Semi-supervised learning is characterized by involving both unlabeled and labeled data to infer a discriminative function f. In contrast, in supervised learning, only labeled data is utilized in obtaining f. In a (semi-supervised) node classification task, we assume that the first l nodes are labeled. Each node  $i \in \mathcal{V}$  is associated with a feature vector  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_f}$  and a one-hot  $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_c}$  indicating the ground truth of labels, where  $n_f$  and  $n_c$  are the numbers of features and classes. Stacking these vectors gives a feature matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n_f}$  and a label matrix  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n_c}$  (the first l elements are given labels and the rest part has no label and need to predict). Suppose there are  $n_C$  channels, associating a series of matrices  $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_{n_C}$  for each channel, and  $\mathbf{X}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d_i}, 1 \leq i \leq n_C$ . Our model is a two-layer network, which is defined as

$$H_1 = \prod_{i=1}^{n_C} \alpha_i \cdot \mathfrak{N}(X_i W_i), \tag{4}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = \operatorname{softmax}(\operatorname{ReLU}(\mathbf{H}_1)\mathbf{W}),\tag{5}$$

where  $\parallel$  denotes the concatenation operation,  $\alpha_i$  are trainable attention weights satisfying  $\alpha_i \in (0,1)$  and  $\sum_i \alpha_i = 1$ ,  $\mathfrak{N}(\cdot)$  is the row normalization operation, and  $\boldsymbol{W}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_i \times n_h}$  and  $\boldsymbol{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_C n_h \times n_c}$  are trainable parameters. Our model comprises several input channels at the beginning and subsequently several fully connected layers. Therefore, it is easy to be extended with more layers. As usual, we minimize the cross entropy of the labeled nodes using the first l columns of  $\hat{\boldsymbol{Y}}$  and  $\boldsymbol{Y}$ .

Given the binary Haar graph framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$ , We also use  $\Phi_j = (\phi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_j \times n}$  and  $\Psi_j = (\psi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)})_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j,m\in[M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_j \times n}$  to be the matrix representations of the scaling vectors and framelet vectors at scale j, respectively. We denote  $F_0(M) := \Phi_1^\top \Phi_1 M$ ,  $F_j(M) := \Psi_j^\top \Psi_j M$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq K-1$ . For our model PEGFAN, we select 3 options for  $\{X_1,\ldots,X_{n_C}\}$  of feature matrices for graphs with homophily and heterophily, respectively.

For homophilous graphs, we have 3 types:

- a)  $n_C = 1 + K, \{X, F_0(X), F_1(X), \dots, F_{K-1}(X)\}.$
- b)  $n_C = 1 + r + K, \{\boldsymbol{X}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}\boldsymbol{X}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^2\boldsymbol{X}, \dots, \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^r\boldsymbol{X}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{F}}_0(\boldsymbol{X}), \boldsymbol{F}_1(\boldsymbol{X}), \dots, \boldsymbol{F}_{K-1}(\boldsymbol{X})\}.$
- c)  $n_C = 1 + r + K$ ,  $\{\boldsymbol{X}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}\boldsymbol{X}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^2\boldsymbol{X}, \dots, \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^r\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{F}_0(\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}\boldsymbol{X}), \boldsymbol{F}_1(\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}\boldsymbol{X}), \dots, \boldsymbol{F}_{K-1}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}\boldsymbol{X})\}$ .

For heterophilous graphs, we have 3 types:

- a)  $n_C = 1 + K, \{X, F_0(X), F_1(X), \dots, F_{K-1}(X)\}.$
- b)  $n_C = 1 + r + K, \{X, AX, A^2X, \dots, A^rX, F_0(X), F_1(X), \dots, F_{K-1}(X)\}.$
- c)  $n_C = 1 + r + K$ ,  $\{X, AX, A^2X, \dots, A^rX, F_0(AX), F_1(AX), \dots, F_{K-1}(AX)\}.$

With the permutation equivariance of our graph Haar framelets, now we can formally state the permutation equivariance of our graph framelet neural network model PEGFAN.

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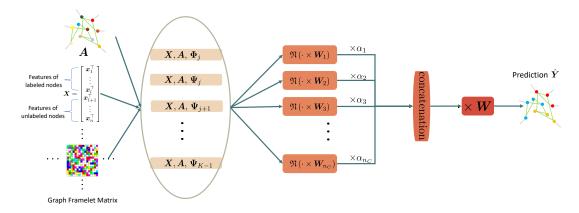


Fig. 3. Neural network architecture. The input is the feature matrix X. The network operations are determined by the underlying adjacency matrix A and the constructed binary Haar graph framelet system  $\{F_0, \dots, F_{K-1}\}$ . The operator  $\mathfrak{N}(\cdot)$  is defined as normalizing each row of any given matrix.

Proposition 2. Let  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  be a graph with feature matrix X, adjacency matrix A, and a K-hierarchical partition  $\mathcal{P}_K$ . Let P be a permutation matrix w.r.t. to a node permutation  $\pi$  on  $\mathcal{V}$ . If the permuted feature matrix PX, adjacency matrix  $PAP^{\top}$ , and binary Haar graph framelet system  $\pi(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K))$  are used in forming the type a), b) and c) channels for PEGFAN, then the new output  $\hat{Y}_P$  differs from the original one by a permutation matrix, i.e.  $\hat{Y}_P = P\hat{Y}$ .

**Remark 5.** In contrast to our PEGFAN, the model FSGNN [39] adopts the 2-layer network model with the following 3 options of input channels: 1) Homophily:  $n_C = 1 + r$ ,  $\{X, \tilde{A}X, \tilde{A}^2X, \dots, \tilde{A}^rX\}$ . 2) Heterophily:  $n_C = 1 + r$ ,  $\{X, AX, A^2X, \dots, A^rX\}$ . 3) All:  $n_C = 1 + 2r$ ,  $\{X, AX, \tilde{A}X, A^2X, \tilde{A}^2X, \dots, A^rX, \tilde{A}^rX\}$ .

As shown in Fig. 3, our network model differs from existing GNNs using graph wavelets/framelets in the sense that we fully utilize the multi-scale property of our Haar graph framelets as well as the powers of the adjacency matrix as **the multi-channel inputs**. In such a way, short- and long-range information of the graph are fully exploited for the training of the network model. On the contrary, neural network architectures of other existing GNNs using graph wavelets/framelets are similar to classical spectral graph neural networks, which are essentially different from ours in exploiting multi-scale information.

### V. Experiments

# A. Experiment on Synthetic Dataset

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In [52], it has been theoretically shown that for a linear classifier, using  $A_{rw} := D^{-1}A$  to aggregate features has a lower probability to misclassify under the condition that the "neighborhood class distributions" are distinguishable. To elaborate, it assumes that for each node i of class  $y_i = c$ , the neighbors of i are sampled from a distribution  $\mathcal{D}_{y_i}$ , and the distributions  $\mathcal{D}_c$ 's are different. For heterophilous graphs, it is possible to fit the aforementioned condition as long as for each node of some class, the connection pattern with nodes from each class is different from the patterns of nodes of a different class. In other words, using simple neighborhood aggregation such as  $A_{rw}X$  in GNNs still has the chance to achieve good

performance for heterophilous graphs and the experiments in [52] has empirically validated this statement.

Following their observation, we are interested in how the neighborhood distribution  $\mathcal{D}_c$  affects the performance of FSGNN and PEGFAN. We follow the way in [52] and generate 4-class heterophilous graphs with 3,000 nodes, fixed Gaussian features, and different neighborhood class distributions. The proportion of training, validation, and test set was set to 48%, 32%, and 20%, respectively. We compare the performance of PEGFAN with FSGNN to demonstrate the ability of multi-scale extraction when our binary Haar graph framelet system is added. To emphasize the difference between graph framelets and K-hop aggregation, we **excluded** the feature matrix channel X in the overall channels. A hyperparameter  $\gamma \in [0,1]$  indicates the tendency to sample edges from uniform neighborhood class distribution. Consequently, larger  $\gamma$  results in more indistinguishable neighborhood class distributions. Implementation details are the same as shown in the subsection for the benchmark datasets except that the hyperparameter search range is reduced and h is set to 4, 8, and 12 (cf. Theorem 3). More details of the synthetic dataset experiment are given in Appendix C.

Table I collects results from the experiment following the procedure defined in Appendix C. Table II contains results of replacing features sampled Gaussian distributions with closer means, which are more similar for different classes and more difficult to classify.

TABLE I CLASSIFICATION ACCURACY ON SYNTHETIC DATASET WITH FEATURES SAMPLED FROM  $6(-0.75+0.5c)+\xi$ , where  $\xi\sim N(0,1),c\in\{0,1,2,3\}$ .

$\gamma$	0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1
Ours(Type a, $h = 12$ )	68.3	68.5	63.8	59.7	63.3	65.3
Ours(Type a, $h = 8$ ) Ours(Type a, $h = 4$ )	67.3 63	63.2 56.3	61.2 43.5	63 37.7	61 31.8	59.2 27.7
Ours(Type b, $h = 4$ )	95.7	92.3	86	74.3	61	54
Ours(Type c, $h = 4$ )	91.8	83.8	74.2	63.5	52.3	47.2
FSGNN(r = 3)	91.7	82.3	74.2	61.5	51.8	46.8
FSGNN(r = 3, all)	92	83.5	74.8	63	51.7	48
FSGNN(r = 8)	92.5	85.5	73.8	62.5	51.2	47.3
FSGNN(r = 8, all)	92.3	84.3	74.7	63	52.5	47.2

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TABLE II CLASSIFICATION ACCURACY ON SYNTHETIC DATASET WITH FEATURES SAMPLED FROM  $(-0.75+0.5c)+\xi$ , where  $\xi\sim N(0,1)$ ,  $c\in\{0,1,2,3\}$ .

γ	0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1
Ours(Type a, $h = 12$ )	63.5	60	55.7	59.3	54.8	57.3
Ours(Type a, $h = 8$ )	61.7	57.5	57	55.8	55.3	55.8
Ours(Type a, $h = 4$ )	58.8	50.7	42	36	28.7	23.2
Ours(Type b, $h = 4$ )	91.3	88.5	77.5	62.7	53.7	42
Ours(Type c, $h = 4$ )	81.8	76.3	68.3	59.5	47.3	39.2
FSGNN(r = 3)	91.8	80.8	70.7	64.5	50.5	44.2
FSGNN(r = 3, all)	92	83.8	73.5	63.3	52.3	44.2
FSGNN(r = 8)	93.8	84	67.8	59.8	48.5	40.8
FSGNN(r = 8, all)	92.7	81.7	69.7	59.7	51.2	42.7

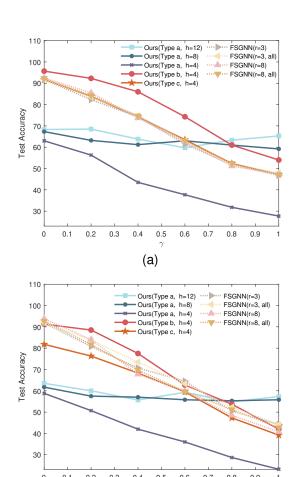


Fig. 4. Demonstration of statistical performance comparison: (a) results in Table I; (b): results in Table II.

(b)

### B. Comments on the Synthetic Dataset Experiment

For the synthetic dataset, it can be seen from Table I and Table I that in most of the cases, the performance decreases with respect to  $\gamma$  in all cases (if  $\gamma \to 1$  then, the graph is close to the case of being generated by uniform neighborhood class distribution). However, in Table I, *Type b channels* input, in which graph framelets project the original feature matrix X, show a large improvement compared with FSGNN. In some cases, the increment can reach over 10%. This

evidently shows the effectiveness of multi-scale extractions via graph framelets when combined with adjacency matrix aggregations. There are also drawbacks, which can be seen from the results of type a channels input in both tables. It shows that the results are sensitive to hyperparameter h and that using graph framelets alone is not enough. Indeed, we chose a rather simple and unsupervised way to generate hierarchical clustering. This process altered the representation of the connectivity among nodes and caused a loss of information. Therefore, it is better to combine fine-scale information using 1 to 3-hop aggregation and coarse scale projection via graph framelets. However, the performance of Type a channels has less variation across different  $\gamma$  and is better when  $\gamma$  is closed to 1. It is also obvious that the neighborhood distributions affect our model performance for Type b and Type c given the theory in [52], in which the model accuracy decreased as the neighborhood distributions approached the same and indistinguishable uniform distribution. As for Type c channels in both tables, the channels are affected by the adjacency matrix before multi-scale extraction and thus they perform similarly compared with FSGNN. In Table II, since it is more difficult to correctly classify nodes, Type b channels gain less improvement as compared to Table I.

### C. Experiments on Benchmark Datasets

We conducted experiments on 9 datasets including 3 homophilous citation networks and 6 heterophilous datasets and followed the public data splits provided in [28]. We define the density of a graph as  $||A||_0/n^2$ , which is the proportion between the number of non-zero terms in A and the numbers of terms of A. The statistics is summarized in the top rows of Table III. To generate a series of partitions for each dataset, we applied *sknetwork.hierarchy.Ward* and *sknetwork.hierarchy.cut\_balanced* from python package *scikit-network*<sup>1</sup> to form intermediate clusters and control the hyperparameter h in Theorem 3. h is set to 4 and 8 and the values are indicated in Table III. Once new partition  $\mathcal{V}''$  of clusters is formed from a graph  $G' = (\mathcal{V}', A')$ , we define as follows the new adjacency matrix A'' to form the graph  $G'' = (\mathcal{V}'', A'')$  for next level clustering:

$$\boldsymbol{A}_{ij}^{\prime\prime} = \sum_{p=1}^{n^\prime} \sum_{q=p+1}^{n^\prime} \boldsymbol{A}_{pq}^\prime \delta(ID(p), i) \delta(ID(q), j),$$

where  $\#\mathcal{V}'=n', \ \#\mathcal{V}''=m', \ ID(p), ID(q)$  are the indices of clusters that nodes p and q belong to and  $\delta(a,b)$  takes 1 when a=b. For heterophilous graphs, we iterate for a few steps until the final graph has less than h=4 or h=8 nodes. For Pubmed, when h=4 we constrained the number of steps of generating hierarchical clustering to be 6 so as to reduce input channels.

As for the implementation of the neural network<sup>2</sup>, we adopted the publicly released code of FSGNN<sup>3</sup> for integrating the graph framelet projections as detailed in our PEGFAN

<sup>1</sup>https://scikit-network.readthedocs.io/en/v0.26.0/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://github.com/zrgcityu/PEGFAN

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>https://github.com/sunilkmaurya/FSGNN/

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Citeseer Wisconsin Cora Pubmed Cornell Chameleon Squirrel Avg. Rank 2,708 3,327 19,717 183 251 183 2,277 5,201 Node 7,600 325  $\|\boldsymbol{A}\|_0$ 10,556 9,228 88,651 515 298 30.019 36,101 217.073 1,433 1,703 1,703 1,703 Feature 3,703 500 931 2,325 2,089  $1.44\cdot 10^{-3}$  $8.90\cdot 10^{-3}$  $8.02 \cdot 10^{-3}$ Density  $8.34 \cdot 10$  $2.28 \cdot 10^{-3}$  $9.70 \cdot 10$  $8.17 \cdot 10$  $5.20 \cdot 10$  $6.96 \cdot 10$ 7 3 5 5 5 5 5 5 6 Class Homophily Heterophily Heterophily Heterophily Heterophily Homophily Homophily Heterophily Heterophily Type Mixhop  $87.61 \pm 0.85$  $76.26 \pm 1.33$ 85.31±0.61  $77.84 \pm 7.73$  $75.88 \pm 4.90$  $73.51 \pm 6.34$  $32.22\pm2.34$  $60.50 \pm 2.53$  $43.80 \pm 1.48$ 68.10 14 GEOM-GCN 77.99 90.05 85.27 67.57 64.12 60.81 31.63 60.90 38.14 64.05 15  $88.01 \pm 1.33$  $77.13 \pm 1.38$ 90.30±0.37  $77.84 \pm 5.64$ 81.57±4.98  $76.49 \pm 4.37$ **GCNII**  $62.48 \pm 2.74$  $86.67 \pm 4.69$  $35.86 \pm 1.03$  $36.42 \pm 1.89$ 70.72 H2GCN-1  $86.92 \pm 1.37$  $77.07 \pm 1.64$  $89.40 \pm 0.34$  $84.86 \pm 6.77$  $82.16 \pm 4.80$  $57.11 \pm 1.58$ 13  $86.98 \pm 3.78$  $36.53 \pm 0.77$ WRGAT  $76.81 \pm 1.89$  $88.52 \pm 0.92$  $83.62 \pm 5.50$  $81.62 \pm 3.90$  $65.24 \pm 0.87$  $48.85 \pm 0.78$ 72.93 11 **GPRGNN**  $88.49 \pm 0.95$  $77.08 \pm 1.63$ 73.37  $88.99 \pm 0.40$  $86.49 \pm 4.83$  $85.88 \pm 3.70$  $81.89 \pm 6.17$  $36.04\pm0.96$  $66.47 \pm 2.47$  $49.03 \pm 1.28$ 10 FSGNN(r = 3) $86.92 \pm 1.66$  $77.18 \pm 1.27$  $89.71 \pm 0.45$  $84.51 \pm 4.71$ 87.84+3.37 84.86+4.56  $35.26 \pm 1.01$  $78.60 \pm 0.71$  $73.93 \pm 2.00$ 77.65 5 2nd 85.95±5.10 FSGNN(r = 8) $88.15 \pm 1.15$  $77.23 \pm 1.41$  $89.67 \pm 0.45$ 86.76±3.72  $87.65 \pm 3.51$  $35.22 \pm 0.96$  $79.01 \pm 1.23$  $73.78 \pm 1.58$ 78.16 FSGNN(r = 3, all) $87.59 \pm 1.03$  $76.91 \pm 1.60$  $89.68 \pm 0.37$  $84.60 \pm 5.41$  $86.67 \pm 2.75$  $86.22 \pm 6.78$  $35.51 \pm 0.89$  $77.68 \pm 1.10$  $73.79 \pm 2.32$ 77.63 6 FSGNN(r = 8, all)87.53±1.37  $85.88 \pm 5.02$  $74.04 \pm 1.51$  $76.86 \pm 1.49$  $89.73 \pm 0.40$  $82.70\pm5.01$ 85.13±7.57  $35.28 \pm 0.79$  $77.94 \pm 1.17$ 77.23 Ours(h = 4, Type a) $79.48 \pm 2.68$  $71.29 \pm 2.01$  $88.46 \pm 0.35$ 83.78±5.54  $86.08 \pm 4.34$  $85.95 \pm 5.51$  $34.96 \pm 1.24$  $65.83 \pm 2.05$  $51.98 \pm 1.98$ 71.97 12 Ours(h = 4, Type b) $87.12 \pm 0.91$  $77.39 \pm 1.28$  $89.62 \pm 0.25$ 86.47±5.54  $86.67 \pm 3.59$  $85.14 \pm 5.57$  $35.07 \pm 1.03$  $79.63 \pm 1.23$  $73.89 \pm 1.89$ 77.88  $3^{\rm rd}$ Ours(h = 4, Type c)85 14+4 05  $87.36 \pm 1.09$  $76.78 \pm 1.51$  $89.55 \pm 0.32$  $87.65 \pm 4.02$ 86.76±5.33  $35.41 \pm 0.82$  $79.65 \pm 1.33$  $74.58 \pm 2.07$ 78 10 Ours(h = 8, Type a) $83.16 \pm 1.86$  $73.51 \pm 1.67$  $88.85 \pm 0.30$  $84.32 \pm 3.78$  $86.67 \pm 3.80$  $84.05 \pm 6.10$  $35.15 \pm 0.77$  $77.48 \pm 1.71$  $71.10 \pm 1.75$ 76.03 9 Ours(h = 8, Type b) $87.22 \pm 1.21$  $76.76 \pm 1.40$  $8973 \pm 040$ 8487 + 570 $85.69 \pm 3.29$  $84.60 \pm 5.41$  $3534 \pm 0.81$  $79.21 \pm 1.09$  $73.09 \pm 1.66$ 77 39

 $86.67 \pm 4.28$ 

 $86.22 \pm 4.75$ 

TABLE III
DATASET STATISTICS, CLASSIFICATION ACCURACY, AND STANDARD DEVIATION. BEST IN BOLD, SECOND BEST IN BLUE.

model. We use the same optimizer, hidden layer size, etc., as those in FSGNN, and hence the details are omitted. We noticed that the outcome of FSGNN was a bit different from those reported in [39] when we tried to reproduce the results. Therefore we did a separate grid search for FSGNN and the results had slight changes. For our model, we set *r* of input channels to 3. Results of other models (Mixhop [38], GEOM-GCN [28], GCNII [53], H2GCN-1 [12], WRGAT [32], GPRGNN [33]) are cited from [39] and the results of some of the top rows are omitted, which are not among the models with relatively superior performance. All results are collected in Table III.

 $76.92 \pm 1.57$ 

 $89.56 \pm 0.30$ 

 $86.22 \pm 3.30$ 

 $87.16 \pm 1.31$ 

Ours(h = 8, Type c)

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As a brief comparison, Table IV summarizes the average, maximum, and minimum training time of our model and FSGNN on *Chameleon* and *Squirrel* over 108 sets of hyperparameters shown in Table VI of Appendix C. Each training consists of 10 individual training, each of which is on a single data split. All experiments in this paper were conducted using an RTX 3090 graphics card.

TABLE IV Training time over 108 configurations of hyperparameters. Number of Channels: FSGNN(r=3): 4, FSGNN(r=8): 9, Ours(Type c, h=4): 13 (Chameleon), 14 (Squrriel)

Chameleon	avg.	max.	min.
$\begin{aligned} & \text{FSGNN}(r=3) \\ & \text{FSGNN}(r=8) \\ & \text{Ours}(\text{Type c}, \ h=4) \end{aligned}$	37.41s	64.68s 90.70s 125.25s	11.21s 17.75s 22.52s
Squirrel	avg.	max.	min.

# D. Comments on Benchmark Dataset Experiments

We provide in Table III not only the performance of many state-of-the-art models but also their performance on both the homophilous and heterophilous graph datasets (9 datasets in total).

 $80.31 \pm 1.10$ 

 $75.06\!\pm\!1.72$ 

 $35.48 \pm 0.94$ 

As pointed out in the Introduction, traditional models are usually with the underlying assumption of homophily. They perform well for homophilous graph datasets. One can clearly see from Table III that the best performances for the three typical homophilous datasets (*Cora*, *Citeseer*, and *Pubmed*) are given by GEOM-GCN, GCNII, and GPRGNN. For the homophilous datasets, their nature of being homophilous does not necessitate the need for further multi-scale information, and thus our method has a similar performance. The same drawback is shown as in the results of synthetic data, where the results of *Type a channels* are not superior and sensitive to the hyperparameter *h*. It empirically shows that to use framelets alone, it is required to form sufficiently large clusters at the beginning of forming hierarchical partitions.

While models such as GEOM-GCN, GCNII, and GPRGNN perform well in those homophilous datasets, they do not give the best performance for the other six heterophilous datasets. The models that give the best performance for heterophilous datasets are FSGNN and our PEGFAN.

Now between FSGNN and our PEGFAN, from the above discussion, we only need to focus on the 6 heterophilous datasets: *Texas*, *Wisconsin*, *Cornell*, *Actor*, *Chamelon*, and *Squirrel*. We would like to emphasize that we follow the most common way that uses the public data splits in [28]. The proportions of train-validation-test splits are all 48%, 32%, 20%. These 6 datasets can be considered as three groups discussed as follows.

The first group is the datasets of *Texas*, *Wisconsin*, and *Cornell*. They are similar datasets with a small number of nodes, edges, and features. Since the test sets are only 20% of the graph, they contain at most 51 nodes. A correctly predicted node accounts for at least 1.9% of accuracy. Hence we can say that experiments on such datasets are relatively and statistically insignificant. Most of the models have very similar performance

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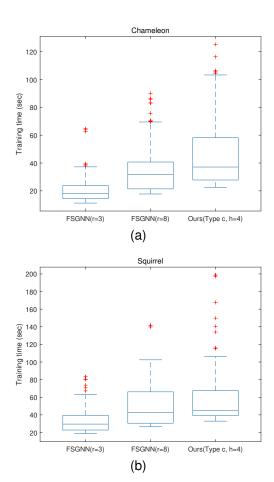


Fig. 5. Demonstration of training time comparison: (a) Chamemleon dataset; (b) Squirrel dataset

with at most 7 nodes wrongly predicted. Nonetheless, we chose to follow the common conduct and report the results for completeness. PEGFAN is best for *Cornell* while ranks second for *Texas*. FSGNN is best for *Wisconsin* and *Texas* while ranks third for *Cornell*. The best or second-best performances of FSGNN and PEGFAN are without much difference. Since the number of nodes is too small. It is not reasonable to say one is better than the other.

The second group is simply the dataset *Actor*. It is a large dataset with 7,600 nodes. However, for this Actor dataset, all models, including Mixhop, GEOM-GCN, GCNII, etc., do not give reasonable performance. They only give very low accuracy about 35%. The best performance is given by the model WRGAT. For this dataset, it is not reasonable to compare performance among different methods.

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The last group is the datasets of *Chameleon* and *Squirrel*. They are both big datasets in terms of nodes and edges. We can see that PEGFAN performs the best. Being heterophilous makes it necessary to gather multi-scale information, and denser graphs facilitate forming better series of partitions and thus better graph framelets. This is also consistent with the empirical results of the synthetic dataset since as shown in [52], the neighborhood distributions of *Chameleon* and *Squirrel* are distinguishable enough for different classes, while other heterophilous datasets either are small datasets that suffer from bias or do not fit such a condition.

Moreover, to compare the *overall performance* of each method on the 9 benchmark datasets, we take the average of the performance of each method over the 9 datasets. The average score of each method is given in the second last column (Avg.) of Table III. Our method with respect to h=8 and Type c (the last row) ranks first among the comparing methods. In general, our Type c methods outperform other methods with high average overall performance. See the last column of Table III for the ranking of each method.

### VI. CONCLUSION

This paper proposes a novel and general method to construct Haar-type framelets on graphs that are permutation equivariant. It aims to serve as an alternative and supplement for multihop aggregations using powers of adjacency matrices. The results show that combining graph framelets and multi-hop aggregation increases the performance of node classification on heterophilous graphs in both synthetic and real-world data. Moreover, compared with using multi-hop aggregation alone, in the synthetic case our model shows significant increases against the deterioration of neighborhood distribution and results show consistency between the synthetic and benchmark datasets in terms of the patterns of neighborhood distribution. The overall results validate the capability of our graph framelets to extract multi-scale information under certain conditions and its superior performance. We would also like to mention that choosing a more sophisticated way to generate the hierarchical partitions has the potential to produce better graph framelets, which will be a future experimental direction to explore. Additionally, theoretical investigations on the impact of the heterophily ratio on the expressive capabilities of frameletbased graph neural networks are expected. Such studies could inspire more advanced GNNs tailored for heterophilous graphs. Building on our work, it would be beneficial to theoretically and empirically explore the potential interplay between key issues like homophily versus heterophily, over-smoothing, and oversquashing, all through the lens of graph wavelets/framelets. We plan to delve into these significant directions in our subsequent research efforts.

### **APPENDIX**

# A. Proofs of theoretical results

Proof of Theorem 1. We denote  $\Phi_j = \{\phi_{\Lambda}\}_{\dim(\Lambda)=j}$  and  $\Psi_j = \{\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}\}_{\dim(\Lambda)=j,m\in[M_{\Lambda}]}$ . Let  $V_j := \operatorname{span}\Phi_j$  and  $W_j := \operatorname{span}\Psi_j$ . Note that supports of  $\phi_{\Lambda}$  and  $\phi_{\Lambda'}$  are disjoint if  $\Lambda \neq \Lambda'$ , so are  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  and  $\psi_{(\Lambda',m')}$ . Hence, by definition and  $\|p_{\Lambda}\| = 1$ , we can see that  $\Phi_j$  forms an orthonormal basis of  $V_j$  for each j. Thus by Lemma 1 in [19], the conditions  $B_{\Lambda}B_{\Lambda}^{\top}B_{\Lambda} = B_{\Lambda}$ ,  $B_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda} = 0$ , and  $\operatorname{Rank}(B_{\Lambda}) = L_{\Lambda} - 1$  are equivalent to that  $V_{j+1} = V_j \oplus W_j$  and  $\{\phi_{\Lambda}\}_{\dim(\Lambda)=j} \cup \{\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}\}_{\dim(\Lambda)=j,m\in[M_{\Lambda}]}$  is a tight frame of  $V_{j+1}$ . Iteratively, for  $j_0 < j$ , we deduce that  $V_{j_0} \oplus W_{j_0} \oplus \cdots \oplus W_{j-1} = V_j$  and  $\Phi_{j_0} \cup \Psi_{j_0} \cup \cdots \cup \Psi_{j-1}$  is a tight frame for  $V_j$  if and only if matrices  $B_{\Lambda}$  and vectors  $p_{\Lambda}$  satisfy  $B_{\Lambda}B_{\Lambda}^{\top}B_{\Lambda} = B_{\Lambda}$ ,  $B_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda} = 0$ , and  $\operatorname{Rank}(B_{\Lambda}) = L_{\Lambda} - 1$  for all  $\Lambda$  with  $\dim(\Lambda) = j_0, \ldots, j$ . Now the conclusion of the theorem follows by letting j = K

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and noting that  $\mathcal{F}_{i_0}(\mathcal{P}_K) = \Phi_{i_0} \cup \Psi_{i_0} \cup \cdots \cup \Psi_{K-1}$  as well as  $V_K = L_2(\mathcal{G})$ . Proof of Proposition 1. If  $B^{T}B = c(I - pp^{T})$ , then  $BB^{\top}B = cB$  by direct computation and in view of Bp = 0. Conversely, if  $BB^{T}B = cB$  for some constant c. Then, by  $B(B^{\top}B) = cB = cB(I - pp^{\top})$  and  $p^{\top}(I - pp^{\top}) = 0$ , we have  $\begin{bmatrix} m{p}^{\top} \\ m{B} \end{bmatrix} (m{B}^{\top} m{B} - c(m{I} - m{p} m{p}^{\top})) = \mathbf{0}$ . Consequently, by the full rank property of the matrix  $[p, B^{\top}]$ , we conclude that  $B^{\top}B = c(I - pp^{\top})$ . The particular part follows by direction evaluation. we are done.

*Proof of Corollary 1.* We only need to show that  $B_{\Lambda}$  and  $p_{\Lambda}$  satisfy  $B_{\Lambda}B_{\Lambda}^{\top}B_{\Lambda}=B_{\Lambda},\,B_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}=0$  and  $\mathrm{Rank}(B_{\Lambda})=$  $L_{\Lambda}-1$ . Obviously,  $B_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}=0$ . Define  $A_{\Lambda}:=[p_{\Lambda},B_{\Lambda}^{+}]^{+}$ . By direct evaluations, one can show that the columns of  $A_{\Lambda}$  satisfy  $\|[\boldsymbol{A}_{\Lambda}]_{:\ell_1}\|=1$  and their inner product  $\langle[\boldsymbol{A}_{\Lambda}]_{:\ell_1},[\boldsymbol{A}_{\Lambda}]_{:\ell_2}\rangle=$ 0 for all  $\ell_1 \neq \ell_2$ . That is,  $A_{\Lambda}^{\top} A_{\Lambda} = I$ , where I is the identity matrix of size  $L_{\Lambda}$ . Consequently, we deduce that  $B_{\Lambda}^{\top}B_{\underline{\Lambda}} = A_{\Lambda}^{\top}A_{\Lambda} - p_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}^{\top} = I - p_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}^{\top}$ , which then implies  $B_{\Lambda} B_{\Lambda}^{\top} B_{\Lambda} = B_{\Lambda} (I - p_{\Lambda} p_{\Lambda}^{\top}) = B_{\Lambda} \text{ in view of } B_{\Lambda} p_{\Lambda} = 0.$ Now Rank $(B_{\Lambda}) = L_{\Lambda} - 1$  directly follows from that  $A_{\Lambda}$  is of full column rank and  $B_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}=0$ . We are done.

Proof of Theorem 2. We first consider the sparsity of  $\langle I_{:1}, \psi_{(\Lambda,m)} \rangle$ ,  $m = 1, \dots, M_{\Lambda}$ . Notice that only when the node  $1 \in s_{\Lambda}$ , can the term  $\langle I_{:1}, \psi_{(\Lambda,m)} \rangle$  be nonzero. Thus, without loss of generality, we assume that  $1 \in s_{\Lambda}$ . Thus, by our construction in Corollary 1, at most h-1 framelets  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  that make  $\langle I_{:1}, \psi_{(\Lambda,m)} \rangle \neq 0$ . For each j, only one cluster  $s_{\Lambda}$  of  $V_j = \{s_{\Lambda} : \dim(\Lambda) = j\}$  contains node 1. Thus  $\mathbf{F}^{\top}\mathbf{I}_{:1}$  has at most (h-1)(K-1) nonzero entries. Similar results hold for  $I_i$ . Hence, for  $f = [f_1, \dots, f_n]^{\top}$ , it is easy to show that  $\|\hat{f}\|_0 = \|F^{\top}f\|_0 = \|\sum_{i \in [n], f_i \neq 0}^{[i]} F^{\top}I_{:i}\|_0 \leq \sum_{i \in [n], f_i \neq 0} \|F^{\top}I_{:i}\|_0 \leq (h-1)(K-1)\|f\|_0.$ 

For generating framelets, we use Algorithm 1 (Equations (1) and (2)). Its efficiency is discussed in Theorem 2.

# Algorithm 1 Generating framelets

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**Input:** Node set V, Partition  $\mathcal{P}_K$ , Vectors  $\{p_{\Lambda}\}$ , Matrices initialize  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K) = \emptyset$ ,  $\phi_{\Lambda} = I_{:i}$  for any  $s_{\Lambda} = \{i\}$ . for j = 2 to  $j_0 - 1$  do for  $\Lambda \in {\Lambda : \dim(\Lambda) = j}$  do  $\phi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} := \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} p_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} \phi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)}$  for m=1 to  $M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$  do  $\psi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},m)} := \sum_{\ell \in [L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}}]} \left( oldsymbol{B}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}} 
ight)_{m,\ell} \phi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},\ell)}$ update  $\mathcal{F}_{i_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  $\{\phi_{\Lambda}, \psi_{(\Lambda,m),m=1,...,M_{\Lambda}}\}$ Output:  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$ 

Proof of Theorem 3. Note that we have  $n \leq Ch^{K-1}$  and  $\#\mathcal{V}_j = \#\{\Lambda : \dim(\Lambda) = j\} \leq Ch^{j-1}$  for some fixed constant C>0. Moreover,  $M_{\Lambda}=\frac{L_{\Lambda}(L_{\Lambda}-1)}{2}\leq \frac{h(h-1)}{2}$ . Therefore, there is no more than  $C(h^{j_0-1}+\sum_{j=j_0}^{K-1}\frac{1}{2}h(h-1))$  $1(h^{j-1}) = O(nh)$  elements in the binary graph Haar framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  for any  $j_0 \in [K]$ . By Equations (1) and (2),

$$oldsymbol{\phi}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}}^{ op} := oldsymbol{p}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}}^{ op} egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{\phi}_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} & egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{\psi}_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},M_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} & arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} \ arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} & arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} \ arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} & arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} \ arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} \ arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}})}^{ op} \ arphi_{(oldsymbol{\Lambda},L_{oldsymbol{\Lambda$$

By our construction, there is at most  $h^{K-j}$  nonzero entries for each  $\phi_{\Lambda}$  and at most  $2 \cdot h^{K-j-1}$  nonzero entries for each  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  for  $\dim(\Lambda) = j$ . Hence, the number of nonzero entries of F is at most  $C(h^{K-j_0} \cdot h^{j_0-1} + \sum_{j=j_0}^{K-1} 2h^{K-j-1} \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2} \cdot h^{j-1}) \leq C(K-1) h^{K-j_0}$  $C(K-1)h^K = O(nh\log_h n)$ . Fix a  $\Lambda$  which has size  $\dim(\Lambda) = j$ . Then Equation (9) implies at most  $h \cdot h^{K-j-1}$  multiplication operations and  $(h-1) \cdot h^{K-j-1}$ addition operations needed for  $\phi_{\Lambda}$ . For computing  $\Psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$ ,  $m=1,\ldots,M_{\Lambda}$ , we need at most  $2\cdot h^{K-j-1}\cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2}$ multiplication operations and  $h^{K-j-1} \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2}$  addition operations, respectively. Notice that  $\#\mathcal{V}_i \leq$ To compute the nonzero entries of  $\phi_{\Lambda}$  and  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$ for all  $\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j$  and  $m = 1, \dots, M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$ , from the above computation, one can see that it needs at most  $2C(h^{K-j-1} \cdot h \cdot h^{j-1} + 2h^{K-j-1} \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2} \cdot h^{j-1}) = 2C \cdot h^{K}$ evaluations of multiplications and additions. Hence, in total, to compute the nonzero entries of  $\phi_{m{\Lambda}}$  and  $\psi_{({m{\Lambda}},m)}$  for all  $\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j_0, \dots, K-1 \text{ and } m = 1, \dots, M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}, \text{ it needs at most } 2C \sum_{j=1}^{K-1} \left( h^{K-j-1} \cdot h \cdot h^{j-1} + 2h^{K-j-1} \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2} \cdot h^{j-1} \right) =$  $2C(K-1)h^K = O(nh\log_h n)$  evaluations of multiplications and additions.

Before showing the proof of Theorem 4, we want to give some comments on permutations. Notice that the construction of  $p_{\Lambda}$  and  $B_{\Lambda}$  only depends on  $L_{\Lambda}$ . Hence, under node permutation ( $\pi$  or  $P_{\pi}$ ), it means that we have the following relationship between original  $\phi_{\Lambda}$  and  $\phi_{\Lambda}^*$ ,  $\psi_{\Lambda}$  and  $\psi_{\Lambda}^*$ ,

$$(\boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda}^{*})^{\top} := \boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{P}_{\pi}, \tag{7}$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda}^{*})^{\top} := \boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{P}_{\pi},$$
 (7)
$$\begin{bmatrix} (\boldsymbol{\psi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{*})^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ (\boldsymbol{\psi}_{(\Lambda,M_{\Lambda})}^{*})^{\top} \end{bmatrix} := \boldsymbol{B}_{\Lambda} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{P}_{\pi}.$$
 (8)

Under partition permutation  $\pi_p$ , fixing a  $\Lambda$  (there exists a permutation matrix  $Q_{\Lambda}$  w.r.t.  $\pi_p$  at  $\Lambda$ ), we have the following relationship between original  $\phi_{\Lambda}$  and  $\phi_{\Lambda}^*$ ,  $\psi_{\Lambda}$  and  $\psi_{\Lambda}^*$ ,

$$(\boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda}^*)^{\top} := \boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda}^{\top} \boldsymbol{Q}_{\Lambda} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix}, \tag{9}$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda}^{*})^{\top} := \boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda}^{\top} \boldsymbol{Q}_{\Lambda} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix},$$
(9)
$$\begin{bmatrix} (\boldsymbol{\psi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{*})^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ (\boldsymbol{\psi}_{(\Lambda,M_{\Lambda})}^{*})^{\top} \end{bmatrix} := \boldsymbol{B}_{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{Q}_{\Lambda} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix}.$$
(10)

*Proof of Theorem 4.* Let  $\Phi_{\Lambda} := [\phi_{(\Lambda,1)}, \ldots, \phi_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}]^{\top}$  and  $\Psi_{\Lambda} := [\psi_{(\Lambda,1)}, \dots, \psi_{(\Lambda,M_{\Lambda})}]^{\top}$ . Since the scaling vectors

54

 $\phi_{\Lambda}^{\top} = p_{\Lambda}^{\top} \Phi_{\Lambda}$  are defined iteratively for  $\dim(\Lambda)$  decreasing from K to 1 through Equation (1) and the framelets  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$  are given by  $\Psi_{\Lambda} = B_{\Lambda} \Phi_{\Lambda}$ , we only need to prove the permutation equivariance properties for each  $\Lambda$ .

For Item (i), note that by Equation (1) and Corollary 1,  $\phi_{(\Lambda,\ell)}: \mathcal{V} \to \mathbb{R}$  only depends on  $\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{P}_K$ , and  $p_{\Lambda} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_{\Lambda}}} \mathbf{1}$ . For any node permutation  $\pi$ , the  $\mathcal{P}_K$  is determined by the index vectors  $\Lambda$  according to a tree structure and is independent of the node permutation  $\pi$ . Moreover, the vectors  $p_{\Lambda}$  are fixed constants. Hence, iteratively, after node permutation  $\pi$  acting on graph  $\mathcal{G}$ , the new scaling vector  $\phi_{(\Lambda,\ell)}^{\pi}:\pi(\mathcal{V})\to\mathbb{R}$  is given by  $\phi_{(\Lambda,\ell)}^{\pi}=P_{\pi}\phi_{(\Lambda,\ell)}$ , where  $P_{\pi}$  is the permutation matrix with respect to  $\pi$ . Consequently, the new  $\Phi_{\Lambda}^{\pi}$  and  $\Phi_{\Lambda}^{\pi}$  on the permuted graph  $\pi(\mathcal{G})$  are given by  $\Phi_{\Lambda}^{\pi}=\Phi_{\Lambda}P_{\pi}$  and  $\Phi_{\Lambda}^{\pi}=B_{\Lambda}\Phi_{\Lambda}=B_{\Lambda}\Phi_{\Lambda}P_{\pi}=\Psi_{\Lambda}P_{\pi}$ . This implies the conclusion in Item (i).

For Item (ii), given a partition permutation  $\pi_p$  acting on  $\mathcal{P}_K$ , We denote  $\pi_p(\mathcal{P}_K)$  the hierarchical clustering w.r.t. such a  $\pi_p$ . Let  $\tilde{\Lambda} := \pi_p(\Lambda)$  be the permuted index vector  $\pi_p(\mathcal{P}_K)$  from the index vector  $\Lambda$  in  $\mathcal{P}_K$ . Since the partition permutation acts on the children of each  $\Lambda$  only, we have  $\pi_p(\Lambda, \ell) = (\tilde{\Lambda}, \pi_{\Lambda}(\ell))$  for some permutation  $\pi_{\Lambda}$  on  $[L_{\Lambda}]$ . Then, the matrix  $\Phi_{\tilde{\Lambda}}$  is

21

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}} := [\boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}, \pi_{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}(1))}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}, \pi_{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}(L_{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}))}]^\top = \boldsymbol{P}_{\pi_{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}} \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}}$$

with  $P_{\pi_{\Lambda}}$  being the permutation matrix with respect to  $\pi_{\Lambda}$ . Then, in view of  $p_{\Lambda}^{\top}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}}=p_{\Lambda}^{\top}$ , the permuted scaling vector  $\phi_{\tilde{\Lambda}}$  is given by

$$egin{aligned} (oldsymbol{\phi}_{ ilde{oldsymbol{\Lambda}}})^ op &= (oldsymbol{\phi}_{\pi_p(oldsymbol{\Lambda}})^ op &= oldsymbol{p}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}}^ op oldsymbol{P}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}} oldsymbol{P}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}} oldsymbol{\Phi}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}} &= oldsymbol{p}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}}^ op oldsymbol{\Phi}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}} &= oldsymbol{p}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}}^ op oldsymbol{\Phi}_{oldsymbol{\Lambda}} o$$

That is, the new scaling vectors in  $\{\phi_{\tilde{\Lambda}}: \dim(\tilde{\Lambda})=j\}$  are simply the recording of  $\{\phi_{\Lambda}: \dim(\Lambda)=j\}$  under  $\pi_p$  for  $j=0,\ldots,K$ . Thus, all scaling vectors are invariant (up to index permutation) under the partition permutation  $\pi_p$ . Now for the framelet vectors  $\psi_{(\Lambda,m)}$ , by Equation (2), we have

$$\Psi_{\tilde{\Lambda}} = B_{\Lambda} \Phi_{\tilde{\Lambda}} = B_{\Lambda} P_{\pi_{\Lambda}} \Phi_{\Lambda}.$$

We claim that there exist  $M_{\Lambda} \times M_{\Lambda}$  permutation matrix  $R_{\Lambda}$  and sign matrix  $S_{\Lambda} = \operatorname{diag}(c_1, \dots, c_{M_{\Lambda}})$  with all  $c_i \in \{-1, +1\}$  such that  $B_{\Lambda}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}} = S_{\Lambda}R_{\Lambda}B_{\Lambda}$ . Then, we have

$$\Psi_{\tilde{\Lambda}} = B_{\Lambda} P_{\pi_{\Lambda}} \Phi_{\Lambda} = S_{\Lambda} R_{\Lambda} B_{\Lambda} \Phi_{\Lambda} = S_{\Lambda} R_{\Lambda} \Psi_{\Lambda}$$

which then concludes Item (ii). Noting that  $B_{\Lambda}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}}$  is to reorder the columns of  $B_{\Lambda}$  and regardless the sign, all elements appear in each column with the same times and 1 (or -1) appears in rows of  $B_{\Lambda}$  once. In other words,  $(B_{\Lambda}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}})_{r:}=w^{\top}P_{r}^{\top}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}}$ , which is to permute  $w=[1,-1,0,\ldots,0]^{\top}$  (up to a constant) with respect to  $P_{r}^{\top}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}}$ . Since  $\mathrm{Rank}(B_{\Lambda})=L-1$  and  $B_{\Lambda}1=0$ , we have  $Pw\in\mathrm{span}\{P_{m}w\}_{m=1}^{M_{\Lambda}}$  for any permutation matrix P. Thus for any r, there exists exactly one  $j\in[M_{\Lambda}]$  such that  $(B_{\Lambda}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}})_{r:}=w^{\top}P_{r}^{\top}P_{\pi_{\Lambda}}=cw^{\top}P_{j}^{\top}$  where c is either 1 or -1. Hence the claim holds. This completes the proof of Item (ii).

The proof of Item (iii) is a direct consequence of Items (i) and (ii).

Proof of Proposition 2. From Item (i) of Theorem 4 , we see that the corresponding permuted versions of  $\Phi_1$  and

 $\Psi_j$  are  $\Phi_1 P$  and  $\Psi_j P$ . Thus  $F_j(PX) = PF_j(X)$ ,  $F_j(PAP^\top PX) = PF_j(AX)$ ,  $F_j(P\tilde{A}P^\top PX) = PF_j(\tilde{A}X)$  for  $j = 0, \dots, K-1$ . It is obvious that the remaining channels also differ by a permutation matrix P. Since the row normalization and the softmax function are applied row-wise and the activation function is applied elementwise, it is straightforward to see that  $\hat{Y}_P = P\hat{Y}$ .

### B. Fast Decomposition and Reconstruction Algorithms

Given a K-hierarchical clustering  $\mathcal{P}_K$ , we consider graph Haar framelet transform between  $V_{j+1}$  and  $V_j \oplus W_j$ . Define  $x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} := \langle f,\phi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} \rangle$  and  $y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)} := \langle f,\psi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)} \rangle$  for a given graph signal f. The transform algorithm is to evaluate  $x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)}$  and  $y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)}$  effectively. Let  $C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \in \mathbb{R}^{L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \times (1+M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}$  be a matrix satisfying  $C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}\binom{p_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}^{\top}}{B_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}^{\mathbf{\Lambda}}} = \mathbf{I} \in \mathbb{R}^{L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \times L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}}$ . Then Lemma 1 in [19] and Equations (1) and (2) imply that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{\Lambda}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \boldsymbol{\psi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\psi}_{(\Lambda,M_{\Lambda})}^{\mathsf{T}} \end{bmatrix} := \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \boldsymbol{B}_{\Lambda} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\mathsf{T}} \end{bmatrix}, \tag{11}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \phi_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \phi_{(\Lambda,L_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix} := C_{\Lambda} \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{\Lambda}^{\top} \\ \psi_{(\Lambda,1)}^{\top} \\ \vdots \\ \psi_{(\Lambda,M_{\Lambda})}^{\top} \end{bmatrix}. \tag{12}$$

For the decomposition algorithm, we are given a signal  $f \in V_{i+1}$ , which means that

$$f = \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j} \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} \phi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)}.$$

By Equation (11), we have

$$f = \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} \phi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)}$$

$$= \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} \left( {}^{(C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}_{\ell,1} \phi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} + \sum_{m \in [M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} {}^{(C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}_{\ell,m+1} \psi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \phi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} {}^{(C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}_{\ell,1}$$

$$+ \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \sum_{m \in [M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} \psi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)} \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} {}^{(C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}_{\ell,m+1}$$

$$= \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \phi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} + \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \sum_{m \in [M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)} \psi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)},$$

$$(13)$$

where we can represent decomposition of f with respect to each  $\Lambda$  as

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}, & y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},1)}, & \cdots, & y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})} \end{bmatrix}$$
  
=  $\begin{bmatrix} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},1)}, & x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},2)}, & \cdots, & x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})} \end{bmatrix} C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}.$  (14)

Conversely, if we have  $f \in V_j \oplus W_j$ , which means that

$$f = \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j} x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \phi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} + \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j} \sum_{m \in [M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, m)} \psi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, m)},$$

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then, by Equation (11), for the reconstruction from  $V_j \oplus W_j$  to  $V_{j+1}$ , we have

$$f = \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \phi_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} + \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \sum_{m \in [M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)} \psi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)}$$

$$= \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} (r_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})_{\ell} \phi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)}$$

$$= \sum_{\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j} \sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)} \phi_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)},$$
(15)

where

$$\boldsymbol{r}_{\Lambda} = x_{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda}^{\top} + \boldsymbol{y}_{\Lambda}^{\top} \boldsymbol{B}_{\Lambda}, \text{ with } \boldsymbol{y}_{\Lambda} = [y_{(\Lambda,1)}, \dots, y_{(\Lambda,M_{\Lambda})}]^{\top},$$
(16)

and  $x_{(\Lambda,\ell)} := (r_{\Lambda})_{\ell}$ .

# Algorithm 2 Fast framelet decomposition

Input: 
$$\mathcal{P}_{K}$$
,  $\{x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} : \dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j_{0}\}$ ,  $\{C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}\}$ ,  $j_{1}$  initialize  $\hat{f} = \emptyset$ .

for  $j = j_{0} - 1$  to  $j_{1}$  do

for  $\mathbf{\Lambda} \in \{\mathbf{\Lambda} : \dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j\}$  do

 $[x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}, y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, 1)}, \cdots, y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}]$ 
 $[x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, 1)}, x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, 2)}, \cdots, x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}]C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$ 

update  $\hat{f} \leftarrow \hat{f} \cup \{x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}, y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda}, m)}, m = 1, \dots, M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}\}$ 

Output:  $\mathcal{F}_{j_{0}}(\mathcal{P}_{K})$ 

### Algorithm 3 Fast framelet reconstruction

Input: 
$$\mathcal{P}_K$$
,  $\{x_{\Lambda}: \dim(\Lambda)=j_0\} \cup \{y_{(\Lambda,m)}: \dim(\Lambda)=j_0, m \in [M_{\Lambda}]\}$ ,  $\{p_{\Lambda}, C_{\Lambda}\}$ ,  $j_1$  initialize  $f=\emptyset$ .

for  $j=j_0+1$  to  $j_1$  do

for  $\Lambda \in \{\Lambda: \dim(\Lambda)=j\}$  do

 $r_{\Lambda}=x_{\Lambda}p_{\Lambda}^{\top}+y_{\Lambda}^{\top}B_{\Lambda}$ 

for  $\ell=1$  to  $L_{\Lambda}$  do

 $x_{(\Lambda,\ell)} \leftarrow (r_{\Lambda})_{\ell}$ 

update  $f \leftarrow f \cup \{x_{(\Lambda,\ell)}\}_{\ell \in [L_{\Lambda}]}$ 

Output: f

Hence, by using Equation (14) iteratively from  $V_K$ , given a framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$  and a graph signal f, we get the coefficient vector  $\hat{f}$  consisting of coefficients from

$$\mathbf{f} \mapsto \{x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} : \dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j_0\} \cup \{y_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} : \dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j\}_{j=j_0+1}^{K-1}$$
 (17)

- with respect to  $V_{j_0} \oplus W_{j_0} \oplus \cdots \oplus W_{K-1}$ . In the reconstruction
- $_{\rm 6}$   $\,$  process, we iteratively obtain the representation of  ${\it f}$  in  $V_{K}$
- from coefficient vector  $\hat{f}$ :

$$\{x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}: \dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j_0\} \cup \{y_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}: \dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j\}_{j=j_0+1}^{K-1} \mapsto \mathbf{f}$$
 (18)

8 with respect to  $V_{j_0} \oplus W_{j_0} \oplus \cdots \oplus W_{K-1}$ .

From the above discussion, we observe that decomposition and reconstruction algorithms do not need to form the full framelet system explicitly, but  $p_{\Lambda}$ ,  $B_{\Lambda}$  and  $C_{\Lambda}$ , which implies efficiency in general applications that apply our framelet system.

**Theorem 5.** Under the same assumption as in Corollary 1. The decomposition algorithm to obtain the framelet coefficient vector  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$  from  $\mathbf{f}$  and the reconstruction algorithm to obtain the graph signal  $\mathbf{f}$  from  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$ , as described in Equations (17) and (18), are both with a computational complexity of order O(nh).

Proof of Theorem 5. A fast decomposition algorithm is given by Equation (13), which computes  $\hat{f}$  iteratively. In order to get  $x_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$  and  $y_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},m)}$  for  $\hat{f}$ , we need to compute  $\sum_{\ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]} x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},\ell)}(C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})_{\ell,t} = (q_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}^{\top}C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})_t$ , where  $t=1,\ldots,M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}+1, \ell \in [L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}]$  and  $q_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} := [x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},1)},\ldots,x_{(\mathbf{\Lambda},L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}})}]^{\top}$  (see Equation (14)). Note that for our binary graph Haar framelet system  $\mathcal{F}_{j_0}(\mathcal{P}_K)$ , the matrix  $C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$  in Equation (11) is given by  $C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} = [p_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}, B_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}^{\top}]$  and each row of  $B_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$  has only two nonzero elements. Hence, for a given  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  with  $\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda}) = j$ , since  $L_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \leq h$  and  $M_{\mathbf{\Lambda}} \leq \frac{h(h-1)}{2}$ , the number of nonzero elements in  $C_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$  is no more than  $h+2 \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2}$ . Therefore, the computational complexity for obtaining  $q_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}^{\top}C$  is of the same order as  $h+2 \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2}$ . In total, observing that  $\#\{\mathbf{\Lambda}:\dim(\mathbf{\Lambda})=j\} \leq h^{j-1}$ , to get the full  $\hat{f}$ , the computational complexity is of order the same as  $\sum_{j=1}^{K-1} (h+2 \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2}) h^{j-1} = O(nh)$ .

Fast reconstruction algorithm (Equation (15)) which computes f from  $\hat{f}$  only need to compute  $r_{\Lambda}$  iteratively. Let  $Y_{\Lambda} := [x_{\Lambda}, y_{\Lambda}^{\top}]^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\Lambda}+1}$  and  $P_{\Lambda} := \begin{pmatrix} p_{\Lambda}^{\top} \\ p_{\Lambda}^{\top} \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $P_{\Lambda} = C_{\Lambda}^{\top}$  and  $r_{\Lambda} = Y_{\Lambda}^{\top} P_{\Lambda}$ . Following a similar calculation as for the fast decomposition algorithm, it is not hard to see the computation complexity is of  $\sum_{j=1}^{K-1} h^{j-1} (h+2 \cdot \frac{h(h-1)}{2}) = O(nh)$ .  $\square$ 

# C. Experiment Details on the Synthetic Dataset

A theoretical characterization of graphs, given in [52], explains when GCN fails to produce acceptable performance. We follow and modify Algorithm 2 in [52] to generate synthetic data.

The key idea of the algorithm is to generate edges of nodes in a graph such that the intra-class and inter-class similarities are properly controlled. The intra-class and interclass similarity are defined by Definition 1. Cross-class neighborhood similarity (CCNS) measures how close the patterns of connections of nodes between two classes are. In our experiment, we generate graphs with 3,000 nodes for which assign labels from  $C = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  randomly. It means that we have  $n_c = 4$  classes. We generate edges according to Algorithm 4. The distributions that control CCNS are designed based on the uniform distribution and a prescribed distribution  $\{\mathcal{D}_c : c \in \mathcal{C}\}$ . The distributions  $\{\mathcal{D}_c : c \in \mathcal{C}\}$ can be found in Table V. Integer N is set to be 45,000. The hyperparameter  $\gamma \in \{0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1\}$  indicates the probability of sampling neighbors from uniform distributions other than the predefined distributions that are much more distinguishable for different classes. When  $\gamma$  is small, vertices of the neighborhood are more likely to be sampled according to  $\{\mathcal{D}_c:c\in\mathcal{C}\}$  and when  $\gamma$  is large, it is more likely to sample from the indistinguishable uniform distribution. As a result, when  $\gamma$  becomes larger, the uniform distribution has more impact on CCNS and thus the metric becomes more similar between classes. We evaluate CCNSs on the generated graphs

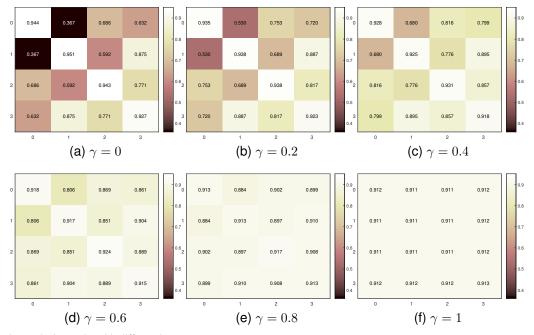


Fig. 6. CCNS on the synthetic graphs with different hyperparameters  $\gamma$ .

and show heatmaps in Fig. 6. It is clear that, when  $\gamma = 0$ , CCNS is dominated by  $\{\mathcal{D}_c : c \in \mathcal{C}\}\$ , and since  $\mathcal{D}_0$  is more similar to  $\mathcal{D}_2$  than  $\mathcal{D}_1$ , we get  $s(0,1) = 0.367 \le 0.686 = s(0,2)$ . And finally when  $\gamma = 1$ , all CCNS are almost 0.91. Notice that in Algorithm 4, we slightly modify the algorithm in [52]. Since we generate graphs with only nodes initialized, when  $r < \gamma$ , we sample label c from all labels C, instead of  $C - \{y_i\}$  used in [52]. Table VI shows the hyperparameter search range for the experiments of FSGNN and PEGFAN on the synthetic data, where  $\{WD_{sca}, LR_{sca}, WD_{fc1}, WD_{fc2}, LR_{fc}\}$  are the weight decay coefficient of attention weights, learning rate of attention weights, weight decay coefficient of the first fully-12 connected layer, weight decay coefficient of the second fully-13 connected layer and learning rate of the fully-connected part, 14 respectively.

Definition 1 (Cross-Class Neighborhood Similarity (CCNS) [52]). Given graph  $\mathcal G$  and node labels  $y_i \in \{0,1,\ldots,n_c-1\}$  for  $i \in \mathcal V$ . the metric between classes c and c' is  $s(c,c') = \frac{1}{|\mathcal V_c||\mathcal V_{c'}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal V_c, j \in \mathcal V_{c'}} \cos\langle d(i), d(j) \rangle$ , where  $\mathcal V_c := \{i \in \mathcal V: y_i = c\}$  and  $d(i) \in \mathbb R^{n_c}$  is a vector with elements defined by  $\#\{j: (i,j) \in \mathcal E, y_j = c\}$  for any  $c \in \{0,1,\ldots,n_c-1\}$ .

TABLE V DISTRIBUTION  $D_4$ 

$\{\mathcal{D}_c: c \in \mathcal{C}\}$	class 0	class 1	class 2	class 3
$\mathcal{D}_0$	0.1	0.4	0	0.5
$egin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_0 \ \mathcal{D}_1 \end{array}$	0.5	0	0.5	0
$egin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_2 \ \mathcal{D}_3 \ \end{pmatrix}$	0.2	0	0.5	0.3
$\mathcal{D}_3$	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

Features on graph nodes are from  $\mathbb{R}^{700}$ , with each element randomly generated according to Gaussian distribution  $\left(-\frac{9}{2} + \frac{9}{2}\right)$ 

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TABLE VI HYPERPARAMETER SEARCH RANGE

Hyperparameters	Values		
$WD_{sca}$ $LR_{sca}$ $WD_{fc1}$ $WD_{fc2}$ $LR_{fc}$	0.0, 0.001, 0.1 0.01, 0.04 0.0, 0.0001, 0.001 0.0, 0.0001, 0.001 0.005, 0.01		

 $\frac{1}{2}c)+\xi$  (Table I) or  $(-\frac{3}{4}+\frac{1}{2}c)+\xi$  (Table II) independently, where  $\xi\sim N(0,1)$  and c is the label.

### Algorithm 4 [52]

Input: Nodes  $\mathcal V$ , Integer N, Distribution matrix  $\{\mathcal D_c:c\in\mathcal C\}$ , labels  $\mathcal C=\{c\}_{i=0}^{n_c-1},\,\gamma$  initialize  $\mathcal E=\emptyset$  and k=0; while  $k\leq N$  do

Sample  $i\in\mathcal V$  and  $r\in[0,1]$  uniformly Obtain the label  $y_i\in\mathcal C$  of node i if  $r\leq\gamma$  then

Sample a label c from c uniformly else

Sample a label c from c according to distribution c0 c1.

Sample node j from class c uniformly **if**  $(i,j) \notin \mathcal{E}$  **then** update  $\mathcal{E} \leftarrow \mathcal{E} \cup (i,j)$  update  $k \leftarrow k+1$ 

Output:  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ 

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Jianfei Li received the B.S. degree in mathematics from Ocean University of China, Qingdao, China, in 2017, the M.S. degree in mathematics from Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China, in 2020. He is currently a Ph.D. student in the Department of Mathematics, City University of Hong Kong. His research interests include approximation theory, signal processing, and deep neural networks.



Xiaosheng Zhuang received the bachelor's and master's degree in mathematics from Sun Yat-Sen (Zhongshan) University, China, in 2003 and 2005, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in applied mathematics from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada, in 2010. He was a Post-Doctoral Fellow with the Universität Osnabrück in 2011 and Technische Universität Berlin in 2012. He is currently an Associate Professor with the Department of Mathematics, City University of Hong Kong. His research interests include applied and computational harmonic analysis,

sparse approximation and directional multiscale representation systems, deep and machine learning, and signal/image processing.



Ruigang Zheng received the B.S. degree from the College of Mathematics and Statistics, Shenzhen University in 2016 and the M.S. degree in Computational Mathematics from the School of Mathematics, Sun Yat-sen University in 2020. He is now pursuing his Ph.D. degree at the Department of Mathematics, City University of Hong Kong. His current research interests include graph-relevant machine learning problems and applied harmonic analysis.



Han Feng received the B.S.degree in mathematics from Beijing Normal University, China, in 2011, and the M. Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in mathematics from University of Alberta, Canada, in 2013 and 2016, respectively. She is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics, City University of Hong Kong. Her research interests include spherical approximation theory, learning theory, and deep neural networks.



Ming Li received the Ph.D. degree from the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology, La Trobe University, Australia, in 2017. After that, he completed two Postdoctoral Fellowship positions with the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, La Trobe University, Australia, and the Department of Information Technology in Education, South China Normal University, China, respectively. He is currently a "Shuang Long Scholar" Distinguished Professor with the Key Laboratory of Intelligent Education Technology and Application,

Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua, China. He has authored or coauthored the top-tier journals and conferences, including IEEE TPAMI, Artificial Intelligence, IEEE TKDE, IEEE TNNLS, IEEE TCYB, IEEE TAI, IEEE TITS, IEEE TBD, Information Fusion, Pattern Recognition, Neural Networks, Computers & Education, NeurIPS, ICML, IJCAI, etc.

He, as a leading Guest Editor, organized a special issue "Deep Neural Networks for Graphs: Theory, Models, Algorithms and Applications" in IEEE TNNLS. He is an Associate Editor for Neural Networks, Applied Intelligence, Alexandria Engineering Journal, Soft Computing, Neural Processing Letters. His research interests include graph neural networks, graph learning, geometric deep learning, AI for education, educational data mining, etc.