

CONTENTS

1	Introduction	1
2	Notation and Preliminaries	2
3	Related Work	3
4	Methodology	3
4.1	Attack Model	4
4.2	Equivalence Classes in Structural Attacks	4
4.3	Gottack: Graph Structure Poisoning via Orbit Learning	5
5	Experiments	6
5.1	Gottack Misclassification Results	8
5.2	Insights from Gottack Results	9
6	Conclusion	10
A	Random Walks to Orbits 15 and 18	17
B	Graph Neural Network	17
B.1	Backbone Models	17
B.2	Baseline Models	18
B.3	Defense Methods	19
C	Further analysis of graphlets and orbits	19
C.1	Topological properties of graphlets and orbits	19
C.2	Additional analysis of 1518 orbit nodes	20
C.3	Orbit hierarchy	20
D	Experimental Results on all Datasets	21
D.1	Non-defense GNN backbone	21
D.1.1	Attack Results on GCN	21
D.1.2	Attack Results on GraphSAGE	21
D.1.3	Attack Results on GIN	21
D.2	Defense GNN backbone	23
D.2.1	Attack Results on GCN-Jaccard	23
D.2.2	Attack Results on MedianGCN	24
D.2.3	Attack Results on RobustGCN	24
D.2.4	Attack Results on GCN-SVD	24
D.2.5	Attack Results on GNNGuard	25

D.2.6	Attack Results on GCORN	25
D.2.7	Attack Results on GARNET	25
E	Additional proof of GAttack's impact	25
E.1	Subgraph-based Explanations	27

A RANDOM WALKS TO ORBITS 15 AND 18

We will start by defining hitting time as used in random walks over graphs (Burioni & Cassi, 2005). Our notation is listed in Table 55.

The expected hitting time of a random walk starting from node v and reaching node w is

$$H(v, w) = \mathbb{E}[\min\{t \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\} : X_t = w\} \mid X_0 = v].$$

By definition, the first hitting time of a node on itself is typically defined as zero, i.e., $H(v, v) = 0$.

Theorem 1 (Remote Connection Candidates). *Let $H(v, w)$ denote the expected hitting time from node v to node w in \mathcal{G} . For any node $v \in V$, nodes in orbits 15 and 18 are the most effective candidates for establishing paths to the most remote parts of \mathcal{G} , due to their longer expected hitting times $H(v, w)$ compared to other nodes not in these orbits.*

Proof: It is known that the hitting time $H(v, w)$ is influenced by the structural configuration of the graph and the position of the nodes within it. Kahn et al. have proved that for any regular graph $\mathcal{G} = (V, \mathcal{E})$, the maximum hitting time $H(v, w)$ is bounded by $O(n^2)$ (Kahn et al., 1989), where n is the number of nodes. The expected time of the first hit from v to w is affected by the structural properties of the graph. Consider a node w appearing in orbits 15, 18, or both. By the definition of graphlets \mathcal{G}_9 and \mathcal{G}_{10} , we have i) $\deg(w) = 1$ when connected to a single graphlet and ii) the first hitting time of w is influenced by the configuration of nodes adjacent to w . As a result, $H(v, w)$ is greater than $H(v, z)$ for all $z \in N(w)$. Extending this, on the shortest path from v to w , $H(v, w)$ is the maximum hitting time among all paths from v to any node in \mathcal{V} .

Target node v can be at the center or away from the center.

Center case. Due to their peripheral placement in graphlets, nodes in orbits 15 and 18 are further away from central nodes or densely connected regions of the graph; their hitting times are expected to approach the upper bound of n^2 due to their increased distance from other nodes in \mathcal{G} .

Periphery case. The target node v may not necessarily be at the center of the graph. However, by the definition of orbits 15 and 18, there is at least one node in these orbits (perhaps the other end of the same graphlet) that has the longest distance to the target node v . This further increases the hitting time, as the random walk must navigate through central nodes and potentially longer paths to reach these peripheral nodes. \square

B GRAPH NEURAL NETWORK

Graph Neural Networks are pivotal in learning node embeddings by capturing node features and their local network neighbourhoods. These embeddings encapsulate the essential characteristics of the nodes into condensed representations by leveraging both the graph structure and feature information from neighbouring nodes. Such embeddings have practical applications across various domains, which are detailed further in the related work section 3.

B.1 BACKBONE MODELS

In our evaluation of various models, we incorporated baseline models utilizing Graph Neural Networks (GNNs). In this section, we will elucidate the rationale behind each baseline model utilized in our study.

The Graph Convolutional Network (GCN), introduced by Kipf & Welling (2017), provides a foundational model for understanding and analyzing the vulnerabilities exposed by our proposed attack model. GCN employs a message-passing technique that utilizes the features of neighboring nodes, making it susceptible to adversarial manipulations that can alter node connections and lead to misclassifications. Here, we provide a detailed overview of the GCN architecture, particularly focusing on the structure of its graph convolutional layer (i.e., hidden layer $\mathbf{H}^{(l+1)}$):

$$\mathbf{H}^{(l+1)} = \sigma \left(\tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{H}^{(l)} \mathbf{W}^{(l)} \right) \quad (2)$$

In this formulation, $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}_N$ represents the adjacency matrix of the undirected graph augmented with self-loops, and \mathbf{I}_N is the identity matrix. The matrix $\mathbf{W}^{(l)}$ denotes the trainable weight matrix for layer l , optimized during backpropagation. $\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_{ii} = \sum_j \tilde{\mathbf{A}}_{ij}$ defines the degree matrix, and σ represents a non-linear activation function.

Setting $\mathbf{H}^{(0)} = \mathbf{X}$ (i.e., the initial node features), the GCN model with l layers computes node classifications as follows:

$$\mathbf{Z} = f(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{X}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}\Theta) = \text{softmax}(\hat{\mathbf{A}}\sigma(\hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{W}^1)\mathbf{W}^2) \quad (3)$$

Here, $\hat{\mathbf{A}} = \tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \tilde{\mathbf{D}}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ acts as the renormalized adjacency matrix, \mathbf{X} is the feature matrix, and Θ includes the set of parameters (e.g., $\mathbf{W}^1, \mathbf{W}^2$) to be learned. The matrix $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times c}$ represents the probabilities of $C = \{c_i\}$ for each node $v \in V$, with each row indicating the likelihood of each class label c for a node.

GCNs operate under both inductive and transductive settings. We focus on transductive classification, where all node connections and features are accessible during the training phase. For such tasks, the softmax function normalizes the final output matrix \mathbf{Z} , and the cross-entropy loss $L = -\sum_{v \in \mathcal{V}_t} \log \mathbf{Z}_{v, y_v}$ is calculated, comparing the predicted probabilities to the true labels, where y_v represents the true class of node v . Weight updates are performed using gradient descent optimization algorithms, such as Adam (Kingma & Ba, 2015).

The Graph Isomorphism Network (GIN) is another type of GNN designed to respect graph isomorphisms. It produces the same embedding for isomorphic graphs. Although the learning process is similar to the GCN, it uses a different aggregation function. The following equation (Xu et al., 2019b) shows the calculation of the hidden layer $\mathbf{H}^{(l+1)}$, where, $\epsilon^{(l)}$ is a trainable parameter and $\text{MLP}^{(l)}$ is a multi layer perception.

$$\mathbf{H}^{(l+1)} = \sigma \left((1 + \epsilon^{(l)}) \cdot \text{MLP}^{(l)}(\mathbf{H}^{(l)}) \right) \quad (4)$$

GraphSAGE is a type of GNN that also gathers information from the neighboring nodes like GCN but in a slightly different way. The following equation (Hamilton et al., 2017) shows the aggregation of node feature \mathbf{X} using a sampling strategy, where AGG is an aggregation function such as mean or max pooling.

$$\mathbf{H}_v^{(l+1)} = \text{AGG} \left(\{\mathbf{H}_u^{(l)}, \forall u \in \mathcal{N}(v)\} \right) \quad (5)$$

B.2 BASELINE MODELS

In this subsection, we present a brief idea of the existing state-of-the-art adversarial techniques that we have considered as comparable baseline methods.

Nettack (Zügner et al., 2018) is a targeted attack method to enforce misclassification on the target nodes using edge and feature perturbations, which can handle both direct and influence attacks.

FGA attack (Chen et al., 2018) is a targeted attack method to enforce misclassification on the target nodes using graph perturbations by generating adversarial graph networks based on the gradient information of GCN.

SGAttack (Li et al., 2023) is a targeted attack method to enforce misclassification on the target nodes using features or edge perturbations through a multi-stage attack framework, which needs only a much smaller subgraph.

PRBCD attack (Geisler et al., 2021) is a sparsity-aware first-order optimization strategy that effectively targets GNNs by optimizing parameters in a manner that scales to large graphs.

Random attack randomly selects non-adjacent node pairs and introduces fake edges or removing existing edges between them.

B.3 DEFENSE METHODS

We provide a brief overview of existing state-of-the-art adversarial defense techniques that effectively counteract adversarial attacks. These defense methods are considered to demonstrate the effectiveness of the GOTTack approach.

RobustGCN (Zhu et al., 2019) improves GCN robustness by representing nodes as Gaussian distributions to absorb perturbations. Moreover, it uses a variance-based attention mechanism to assign weights to node neighborhoods.

GCN-Jaccard (Wu et al., 2019) enhances GCN robustness by removing edges between nodes with low Jaccard similarity.

GCN-SVD (Entezari et al., 2020) leverages low-rank approximations of graphs to mitigate the effects of adversarial attacks by focusing on high-rank singular components that are more susceptible to perturbations.

MedianGCN (Chen et al., 2021) enhances the robustness by replacing the traditional weighted mean aggregation scheme with a median-based approach.

C FURTHER ANALYSIS OF GRAPHLETS AND ORBITS

In this section, we present an overview of graphlets and their topological properties, followed by the orbit 1518, which is the topological node embedding. Finally, we discuss the hierarchy of orbits based on relation algebra.

C.1 TOPOLOGICAL PROPERTIES OF GRAPHLETS AND ORBITS

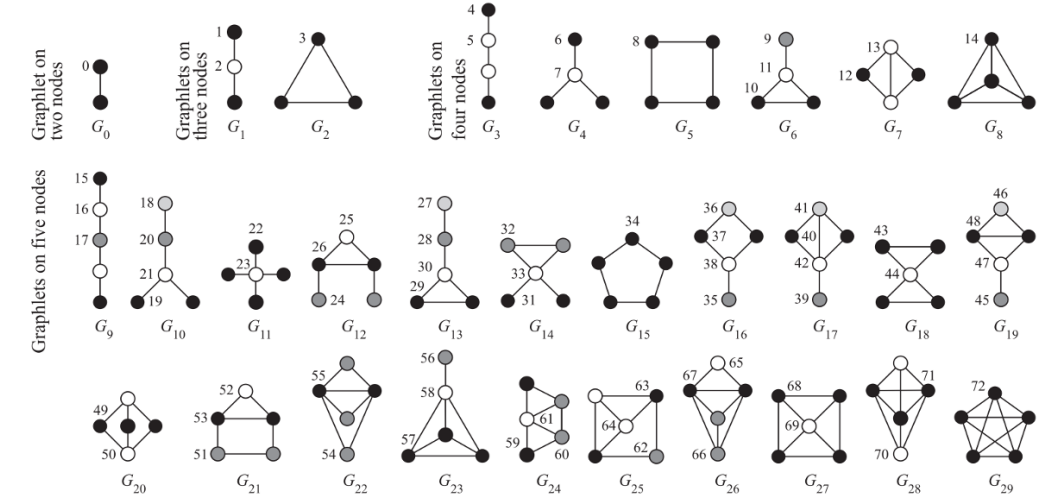


Figure 6: All 30 Graphlets with two to five nodes with the automorphism orbits of each graphlet (Hoccar & Demsar, 2014).

Graphlets are small, connected, non-isomorphic induced subgraphs that represent topological patterns of interconnection between k nodes in a graph (Feng & Chen, 2020). Figure 6 illustrates all graphlets with two to five nodes, including 9 different graphlets with 2 to 4 nodes and up to 30 graphlets, ranging from G_0 to G_{29} , with 5 nodes. The 30 graphlets with 5 nodes and their corresponding 73 orbits. Each orbit represents a unique position within a graphlet as determined by its automorphism group. The total of 73 orbits corresponds to the feature dimensions of \mathbf{GOV}_v . However, the structural properties of a network can be represented by the frequency of graphlet appearances within the network. The orbits define the unique characteristics of the nodes within a graphlet, express different connection modes between nodes, and contain abundant high-order structural information (Feng & Chen, 2020).

Table 6: Comparison of orbit-based node selection in sequential FGA phases.

Dataset	Orbits	% of nodes	% in 1 st Attack	% in 2 nd Attack
Cora	1518	24.00%	60.00%	45.00%
	1519	14.41%	10.00 %	20.00%
	1819	11.59%	15.00 %	02.50%
Citeseer	1518	21.99%	20.00%	15.00%
	1519	21.18%	32.50 %	20.00%
	1819	11.56%	15.00 %	05.00%
Polblogs	1518	09.41%	37.50%	37.50%
	1519	02.29%	00.00%	00.00%
	1819	12.93%	62.50 %	00.00%

Table 7: Comparison of orbit-based node selection in sequential SGA phases.

Dataset	Orbits	% of nodes	% in 1 st Attack	% in 2 nd Attack
Cora	1518	24.00%	51.00%	47.00%
	1519	14.41%	12.00 %	13.00%
	1819	11.59%	6.00 %	07.00%
Citeseer	1518	21.99%	37.00%	32.00%
	1519	21.18%	27.00 %	26.00%
	1819	11.56%	19.00 %	23.00%
Polblogs	1518	09.41%	52.00%	46.00%
	1519	02.29%	08.00%	08.00%
	1819	12.93%	07.00 %	10.00%

For instance, consider the graphlet \mathcal{G}_{11} from the set of five-node graphlets. It can be observed that \mathcal{G}_{11} is a star graph where the node labeled with orbit 23 is the central node, while the remaining nodes, labeled with orbit 22, are leaf nodes. The topological context of a node can be determined by counting the orbits of that node.

Orbit counting is computationally expensive because the number of orbits in a graph grows exponentially with the size of the original graph. However, many advanced algorithms have been developed to mitigate the complexity of computing graphlets and orbits (Kloks et al., 2000; Hocevar & Demsar, 2014; Melckenbeeck et al., 2018; Kowaluk et al., 2013). Consequently, numerous studies leverage the topological insights provided by graphlet and orbit counting across various domains. For example, Feng & Chen (2020) used orbits counting as high-order structural features of nodes to learn efficient node representations, which were then utilized to enhance link prediction tasks.

C.2 ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS OF 1518 ORBIT NODES

Connecting the 1518 orbit node with the target node $v \in \mathcal{V}_T \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ has been demonstrated to significantly impact the prediction accuracy of GNNs f_θ on the node v . This impact is also reflected in the effectiveness of various attack methods, such as FGA and SGA, which frequently select the 1518 node for graph manipulations (e.g., adding or removing edges with v). Table 6 shows that in the Cora dataset, up to 60% and 45% of the nodes manipulated by FGA in the first and second attacks, respectively. Likewise, the node labeled as 1518 is consistently the primary target of SGA in both the first and second attack scenarios across all datasets (ref. Table 7). For instance, in the Citeseer dataset, SGA manipulates nodes in the first and second attacks at rates of 37% and 32%, respectively. Similarly, in the Polblogs dataset, these percentages are 52% and 46% for the first and second attacks.

C.3 ORBIT HIERARCHY

Based on the analysis of the impact of GOTack discussed in 5.1 and experimental results, we have concluded that the 1518 orbit is crucial for attacking the GNNs. This raises the question: *what happens if the 1518 orbit node does not exist in the network?* To address this, we have developed an orbit hierarchy (or orbit transition), as shown in Figure 7, based on relational algebra. From this hierarchy, we can see that if the 15 and 18 orbit nodes are absent, the attack model can instead select nodes from orbits 4 and 6, respectively. Similarly, if nodes from orbits 4 and 6 are not present, nodes from orbit 1 can be chosen.

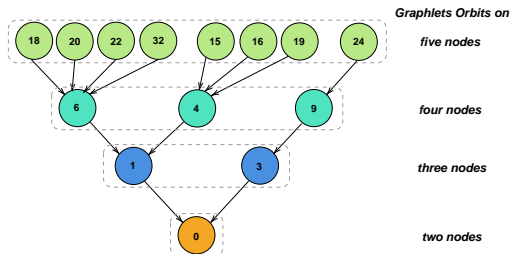


Figure 7: Orbit hierarchy.

To better understand how the orbit transition approach works, let us consider the following example.

Example 2. Consider a 5-node graphlet \mathcal{G}_{10} , where orbits 18, 19, 20 and 21 are present (see Figure 6). If orbit 18 is removed from \mathcal{G}_{10} , then it becomes the 4-node graphlet \mathcal{G}_4 . Suppose $\mathcal{G}_{10} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ with

$\mathcal{V} = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$ and edges \mathcal{E} , where node $v \in \mathcal{V}$ belongs to one of the orbits Orb_{18}^v , Orb_{19}^v , Orb_{20}^v and Orb_{21}^v . If the removal operation ρ removes orbit node Orb_{18}^v , resulting in $\mathcal{G}_4 = (\mathcal{V}', \mathcal{E}')$, where $\mathcal{V}' = \mathcal{V} - \{v_1\}$. Therefore, by using the projection operations (π) the transition of orbits can be written as: $\pi_{Orb_{21}^v}(\mathcal{G}_{10}) \rightarrow Orb_7^v$ and $\pi_{Orb_{19}^v, Orb_{20}^v}(\mathcal{G}_{10}) \rightarrow Orb_6^v$, indicating that orbit Orb_{21}^v transitions to orbit Orb_7^v , and orbit Orb_{19}^v and Orb_{20}^v now belong to orbit Orb_6^v .

D EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS ON ALL DATASETS

In this section, we present the results of our experiments. In Table 8, we demonstrate the success of our GOTTack strategy across five different datasets, with the results averaged over these datasets. Detailed results for each individual dataset are provided in the subsequent Tables 9 to 21. We present the results of various attack strategies, including GOTTack and its variants such as 1819, 1519, and 1922. The results are presented as the mean and standard deviation computed from five independent runs.

Table 8: Summary of attack results averaged over five datasets.

Budget	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.15	0.22	0.28	0.31	0.38
Nettack	0.43	0.51	0.56	0.61	0.61
GOTTack	<u>0.44</u>	<u>0.54</u>	0.61	0.65	0.68
1819 orbit attack	0.35	0.42	0.46	0.47	0.50
1519 orbit attack	0.37	0.41	0.44	0.45	0.46
1922 orbit attack	0.35	0.40	0.41	0.44	0.45
FGA	0.37	0.47	0.52	0.53	0.56
SGAttack	0.47	0.57	0.58	0.62	0.64
PRBCD	0.43	<u>0.54</u>	<u>0.59</u>	<u>0.64</u>	<u>0.67</u>

D.1 NON-DEFENSE GNN BACKBONE

In this section, we demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed attack model; we evaluate the performance of GOTTack alongside various adversarial attack techniques on different non-defence GNN backbones as discussed further in Section B.1, namely GCN, GIN, and GraphSAGE. Based on the analysis of the results, as shown in from Table 9 to Table 21, we conclude that the proposed GOTTack achieves the best performance with GSAGE in 13 out of 20 tasks while attaining the second-highest performance with GCN.

D.1.1 ATTACK RESULTS ON GCN

We present the performance of various adversarial attack techniques on GCN. Tables 9 to 13 display the misclassification rates for various datasets with 1 to 5 perturbed edges, respectively. The proposed GOTTack method achieved the highest performance in 8 out of 25 tasks, while PRBCD attained the highest performance in 10 tasks. Additionally, SGA ranked third in 5 tasks.

D.1.2 ATTACK RESULTS ON GRAPH SAGE

The results of adversarial techniques on GraphSAGE are presented in Tables 14 to 17. In summary, the proposed GOTTack outperforms all baseline adversarial techniques by achieving the highest misclassification rate in 13 out of 20 tasks. In addition, SGA performs the second highest performance in 5 out of 20 tasks. Likewise, both PRBCD and Nettack have the third highest performance, with scores of 1 in their respective tasks.

D.1.3 ATTACK RESULTS ON GIN

In this subsection, we discuss the performance of the proposed GOTTack along with various adversarial attack techniques on GIN, as shown in Tables 18 to 21. Results show that GOTTack outperforms all

Table 9: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (GCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.02 \pm 0.029	0.05 \pm 0.000	0.15 \pm 0.100	0.23 \pm 0.104	0.27 \pm 0.076
Nettack	0.34 \pm 0.060	0.50 \pm 0.068	0.58 \pm 0.057	0.66 \pm 0.029	0.70 \pm 0.011
GÖttack	0.41 \pm 0.052	0.54 \pm 0.049	0.62 \pm 0.033	0.66 \pm 0.042	0.71 \pm 0.052
1819 orbit attack	0.32 \pm 0.063	0.45 \pm 0.073	0.540 \pm 0.076	0.60 \pm 0.051	0.65 \pm 0.025
1519 orbit attack	0.37 \pm 0.029	0.47 \pm 0.080	0.57 \pm 0.062	0.62 \pm 0.074	0.64 \pm 0.072
1922 orbit attack	0.34 \pm 0.078	0.43 \pm 0.074	0.50 \pm 0.075	0.57 \pm 0.080	0.58 \pm 0.069
FGA	0.32 \pm 0.057	0.44 \pm 0.080	0.53 \pm 0.033	0.58 \pm 0.048	0.61 \pm 0.042
SGA	<u>0.41 \pm 0.058</u>	<u>0.59 \pm 0.050</u>	<u>0.63 \pm 0.070</u>	<u>0.69 \pm 0.020</u>	0.69 \pm 0.060
PRBCD	0.41 \pm 0.060	0.61 \pm 0.072	0.64 \pm 0.038	0.73 \pm 0.014	0.76 \pm 0.025

Table 11: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Polblogs with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.12 \pm 0.043	0.09 \pm 0.052	0.15 \pm 0.075	0.19 \pm 0.104	0.20 \pm 0.101
Nettack	0.38 \pm 0.040	0.43 \pm 0.058	0.46 \pm 0.063	0.50 \pm 0.082	0.51 \pm 0.072
GÖttack	<u>0.41 \pm 0.086</u>	0.46 \pm 0.08	0.51 \pm 0.089	0.52 \pm 0.089	0.55 \pm 0.077
1819 orbit attack	0.26 \pm 0.193	0.35 \pm 0.100	0.36 \pm 0.183	0.41 \pm 0.152	0.46 \pm 0.089
1519 orbit attack	0.30 \pm 0.198	0.30 \pm 0.203	0.30 \pm 0.164	0.32 \pm 0.179	0.30 \pm 0.178
1922 orbit attack	0.22 \pm 0.184	0.25 \pm 0.149	0.25 \pm 0.156	0.26 \pm 0.080	0.26 \pm 0.038
FGA	0.31 \pm 0.098	0.40 \pm 0.078	0.45 \pm 0.097	0.45 \pm 0.089	0.48 \pm 0.087
SGA	0.37 \pm 0.075	0.56 \pm 0.051	0.56 \pm 0.037	0.57 \pm 0.068	0.65 \pm 0.020
PRBCD	0.42 \pm 0.072	<u>0.48 \pm 0.058</u>	0.55 \pm 0.043	0.55 \pm 0.043	0.58 \pm 0.052

Table 13: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Pubmed with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves highest performance in 3 out of 5 tasks (GCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.20 \pm 0.050	0.21 \pm 0.014	0.27 \pm 0.109	0.24 \pm 0.072	0.25 \pm 0.029
Nettack	0.50 \pm 0.045	0.62 \pm 0.037	0.67 \pm 0.052	<u>0.72 \pm 0.032</u>	<u>0.75 \pm 0.025</u>
GÖttack	0.57 \pm 0.012	0.60 \pm 0.037	<u>0.65 \pm 0.020</u>	0.72 \pm 0.012	0.75 \pm 0.017
FGA	0.32 \pm 0.025	0.48 \pm 0.037	0.51 \pm 0.012	0.50 \pm 0.075	0.57 \pm 0.050
SGA	<u>0.57 \pm 0.040</u>	0.65 \pm 0.067	0.65 \pm 0.053	0.69 \pm 0.021	0.72 \pm 0.031
PRBCD	0.52 \pm 0.038	<u>0.63 \pm 0.025</u>	0.64 \pm 0.043	0.70 \pm 0.058	0.72 \pm 0.038

Table 14: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves highest performance in 4 out of 5 tasks (GraphSAGE model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.19 \pm 0.115	0.30 \pm 0.128	0.39 \pm 0.052	0.39 \pm 0.076	0.47 \pm 0.100
Nettack	0.58 \pm 0.045	0.66 \pm 0.042	0.70 \pm 0.067	0.74 \pm 0.054	0.77 \pm 0.027
GÖttack	0.59 \pm 0.055	0.78 \pm 0.054	0.86 \pm 0.014	0.88 \pm 0.029	0.92 \pm 0.033
1819 orbit attack	0.5 \pm 0.053	0.52 \pm 0.080	0.56 \pm 0.135	0.52 \pm 0.083	0.53 \pm 0.080
1519 orbit attack	0.52 \pm 0.031	0.54 \pm 0.014	0.58 \pm 0.037	0.59 \pm 0.076	0.54 \pm 0.065
1922 orbit attack	0.52 \pm 0.045	0.59 \pm 0.049	0.55 \pm 0.04	0.57 \pm 0.085	0.59 \pm 0.045
FGA	0.54 \pm 0.089	0.57 \pm 0.082	0.68 \pm 0.072	0.70 \pm 0.108	0.71 \pm 0.029
SGA	0.61 \pm 0.060	<u>0.68 \pm 0.060</u>	0.67 \pm 0.090	<u>0.78 \pm 0.040</u>	0.73 \pm 0.080
PRBCD	0.35 \pm 0.025	0.54 \pm 0.038	0.59 \pm 0.095	0.76 \pm 0.038	0.74 \pm 0.113

Table 16: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Polblogs with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (GraphSAGE model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.15 \pm 0.132	0.15 \pm 0.139	0.16 \pm 0.118	0.17 \pm 0.109	0.18 \pm 0.151
Nettack	0.29 \pm 0.029	0.34 \pm 0.078	0.36 \pm 0.074	0.39 \pm 0.068	0.38 \pm 0.115
GÖttack	<u>0.29 \pm 0.038</u>	<u>0.36 \pm 0.054</u>	<u>0.44 \pm 0.072</u>	<u>0.49 \pm 0.084</u>	0.54 \pm 0.099
1819 orbit attack	0.21 \pm 0.091	0.25 \pm 0.077	0.29 \pm 0.042	0.30 \pm 0.113	0.30 \pm 0.066
1519 orbit attack	0.23 \pm 0.112	0.24 \pm 0.102	0.24 \pm 0.08	0.22 \pm 0.053	0.24 \pm 0.070
1922 orbit attack	0.20 \pm 0.074	0.20 \pm 0.074	0.21 \pm 0.045	0.24 \pm 0.08	0.25 \pm 0.093
FGA	0.22 \pm 0.081	0.28 \pm 0.071	0.32 \pm 0.084	0.33 \pm 0.096	0.37 \pm 0.110
SGA	0.35 \pm 0.057	0.38 \pm 0.065	0.51 \pm 0.093	0.52 \pm 0.079	<u>0.52 \pm 0.030</u>
PRBCD	0.08 \pm 0.014	0.10 \pm 0.043	0.13 \pm 0.014	0.13 \pm 0.052	0.13 \pm 0.029

baseline adversarial techniques in 7 out of 20 tasks, while SGA, PRBCD and Nettack achieve the performance in 6, 5 and 1 tasks, respectively.

Table 10: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves highest performance in 4 out of 5 tasks (GCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.02 \pm 0.014	0.06 \pm 0.038	0.17 \pm 0.075	0.25 \pm 0.066	0.30 \pm 0.109
Nettack	0.46 \pm 0.045	0.61 \pm 0.038	0.68 \pm 0.027	<u>0.74 \pm 0.021</u>	<u>0.76 \pm 0.014</u>
GÖttack	0.46 \pm 0.034	0.63 \pm 0.037	0.72 \pm 0.054	0.76 \pm 0.063	0.78 \pm 0.042
1819 orbit attack	0.44 \pm 0.058	0.56 \pm 0.038	0.67 \pm 0.045	0.71 \pm 0.029	0.74 \pm 0.033
1519 orbit attack	0.45 \pm 0.050	0.63 \pm 0.031	<u>0.68 \pm 0.018</u>	0.73 \pm 0.037	0.76 \pm 0.021
1922 orbit attack	0.40 \pm 0.033	0.55 \pm 0.041	0.67 \pm 0.033	0.70 \pm 0.033	0.72 \pm 0.0401
FGA	0.31 \pm 0.107	0.48 \pm 0.040	0.62 \pm 0.068	0.64 \pm 0.045	0.68 \pm 0.069
SGA	0.41 \pm 0.060	0.60 \pm 0.050	0.63 \pm 0.068	0.69 \pm 0.022	0.69 \pm 0.057
PRBCD	<u>0.46 \pm 0.044</u>	0.57 \pm 0.014	0.68 \pm 0.038	0.70 \pm 0.00	0.73 \pm 0.014

Table 12: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on BlogCatalog with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.12 \pm 0.092	0.17 \pm 0.071	0.20 \pm 0.097	0.25 \pm 0.085	0.30 \pm 0.082
Nettack	0.20 \pm 0.027	0.25 \pm 0.085	<u>0.37 \pm 0.072</u>	<u>0.40 \pm 0.077</u>	<u>0.45 \pm 0.065</u>
GÖttack	<u>0.22 \pm 0.040</u>	0.25 \pm 0.050	0.35 \pm 0.062	0.37 \pm 0.083	0.45 \pm 0.075
FGA	0.10 \pm 0.047	0.20 \pm 0.083	0.27 \pm 0.050	0.35 \pm 0.031	0.37 \pm 0.018
SGA	<u>0.24 \pm 0.030</u>	<u>0.28 \pm 0.05</u>	0.32 \pm 0.050	0.37 \pm 0.040	0.41 \pm 0.070
PRBCD	0.33 \pm 0.052	0.39 \pm 0.072	0.41 \pm 0.115	0.45 \pm 0.146	0.50 \pm 0.153

Table 15: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves highest performance in 3 out of 5 tasks (GraphSAGE model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.30 \pm 0.014	0.43 \pm 0.058	0.47 \pm 0.025	0.46 \pm 0.038	0.46 \pm 0.063
Nettack	0.66 \pm 0.091	0.68 \pm 0.123	0.72 \pm 0.069	0.77 \pm 0.065	0.74 \pm 0.082
GÖttack	0.61 \pm 0.093	0.83 \pm 0.062	0.92 \pm 0.029	0.95 \pm 0.047	0.97 \pm 0.041
1819 orbit attack	0.52 \pm 0.029	0.56 \pm 0.052	0.62 \pm 0.043	0.600 \pm 0.057	0.65 \pm 0.047
1519 orbit attack	0.55 \pm 0.085	0.55 \pm 0.12	0.62 \pm 0.107	0.59 \pm 0.038	0.63 \pm 0.057
1922 orbit attack	0.50 \pm 0.060	0.62 \pm 0.060	0.54 \pm 0.060	0.64 \pm 0.042	0.60 \pm 0.083
FGA	0.60 \pm 0.113	0.65 \pm 0.079	0.74 \pm 0.072	0.76 \pm 0.052	0.76 \pm 0.082
SGA	0.60 \pm 0.060	0.68 \pm 0.060	0.67 \pm 0.090	0.78 \pm 0.037	0.73 \pm 0.080
PRBCD	0.35 \pm 0.043	<u>0.69 \pm 0.014</u>	<u>0.89 \pm 0.138</u>	<u>0.95 \pm 0.075</u>	0.99 \pm 0.132

Table 17: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Pubmed with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GÖttack achieves highest performance in 5 out of 5 tasks (GraphSAGE model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.14 \pm 0.029	0.20 \pm 0.038	0.30 \pm 0.090	0.30 \pm 0.072	0.30 \pm 0.095
Nettack	<u>0.52 \pm 0.090</u>	0.60 \pm 0.050	0.65 \pm 0.07	<u>0.77 \pm 0.070</u>	0.52 \pm 0.060
GÖttack	0.52 \pm 0.080	0.67 \pm 0.060	0.70 \pm 0.08	0.77 \pm 0.060	0.77 \pm 0.050
FGA	0.42 \pm 0.030	0.55 \pm 0.050	0.60 \pm 0.070	0.62 \pm 0.060	<u>0.70 \pm 0.040</u>
SGA	0.30 \pm 0.000	0.47 \pm 0.001	0.57 \pm 0.000	0.55 \pm 0.000	0.55 \pm 0.000
PRBCD	0.38 \pm 0.025	0.48 \pm 0.095	0.54 \pm 0.038	0.59 \pm 0.052	0.59 \pm 0.029

Table 18: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GIN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.17 \pm 0.303	0.36 \pm 0.292	0.57 \pm 0.066	0.61 \pm 0.014	0.65 \pm 0.063
Nettack	0.46 \pm 0.108	0.55 \pm 0.116	0.62 \pm 0.084	0.64 \pm 0.091	0.66 \pm 0.049
GOfack	0.37 \pm 0.037	0.48 \pm 0.076	0.54 \pm 0.074	0.59 \pm 0.101	0.64 \pm 0.076
1819 orbit attack	0.34 \pm 0.089	0.32 \pm 0.055	0.38 \pm 0.063	0.36 \pm 0.084	0.40 \pm 0.112
1519 orbit attack	0.36 \pm 0.029	0.36 \pm 0.048	0.36 \pm 0.091	0.37 \pm 0.041	0.40 \pm 0.069
1922 orbit attack	0.35 \pm 0.085	0.34 \pm 0.091	0.36 \pm 0.065	0.38 \pm 0.121	0.38 \pm 0.096
FGA	0.40 \pm 0.095	0.46 \pm 0.058	0.52 \pm 0.027	0.57 \pm 0.027	0.64 \pm 0.033
SGA	0.57 \pm 0.060	0.63 \pm 0.060	0.61 \pm 0.065	0.57 \pm 0.090	0.61 \pm 0.040
PRBCD	0.36 \pm 0.104	0.47 \pm 0.063	0.59 \pm 0.095	0.67 \pm 0.063	0.83 \pm 0.113

Table 20: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Polblogs with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GIN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.17 \pm 0.043	0.20 \pm 0.066	0.20 \pm 0.115	0.22 \pm 0.113	0.24 \pm 0.080
Nettack	0.13 \pm 0.029	0.20 \pm 0.048	0.29 \pm 0.055	0.32 \pm 0.048	0.38 \pm 0.061
GOfack	0.15 \pm 0.086	0.23 \pm 0.048	0.28 \pm 0.011	0.32 \pm 0.042	0.34 \pm 0.029
1819 orbit attack	0.15 \pm 0.048	0.16 \pm 0.022	0.15 \pm 0.037	0.14 \pm 0.049	0.16 \pm 0.065
1519 orbit attack	0.12 \pm 0.053	0.16 \pm 0.068	0.18 \pm 0.056	0.16 \pm 0.052	0.18 \pm 0.045
1922 orbit attack	0.15 \pm 0.031	0.12 \pm 0.066	0.19 \pm 0.052	0.17 \pm 0.048	0.18 \pm 0.040
FGA	0.14 \pm 0.029	0.14 \pm 0.048	0.15 \pm 0.031	0.17 \pm 0.037	0.20 \pm 0.040
SGA	0.35 \pm 0.080	0.35 \pm 0.070	0.37 \pm 0.120	0.40 \pm 0.076	0.50 \pm 0.097
PRBCD	0.33 \pm 0.063	0.38 \pm 0.076	0.41 \pm 0.029	0.43 \pm 0.029	0.47 \pm 0.100

Table 22: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves performance in 2 out of 5 tasks (GCN-Jaccard model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.24 \pm 0.011	0.41 \pm 0.047	0.47 \pm 0.065	0.55 \pm 0.020	0.56 \pm 0.062
SGA	0.33 \pm 0.025	0.50 \pm 0.038	0.54 \pm 0.050	0.59 \pm 0.013	0.65 \pm 0.025
Nettack	0.38 \pm 0.011	0.50 \pm 0.073	0.54 \pm 0.023	0.62 \pm 0.000	0.61 \pm 0.112
GOfack	0.39 \pm 0.011	0.46 \pm 0.062	0.61 \pm 0.031	0.62 \pm 0.023	0.57 \pm 0.054

Table 24: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Polblogs with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (GCN-Jaccard model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.50 \pm 0.077	0.42 \pm 0.061	0.56 \pm 0.042	0.59 \pm 0.031	0.55 \pm 0.054
SGA	0.43 \pm 0.050	0.43 \pm 0.000	0.56 \pm 0.088	0.43 \pm 0.025	0.59 \pm 0.088
Nettack	0.46 \pm 0.031	0.47 \pm 0.073	0.44 \pm 0.031	0.47 \pm 0.02	0.52 \pm 0.071
GOfack	0.53 \pm 0.065	0.43 \pm 0.065	0.49 \pm 0.071	0.46 \pm 0.058	0.54 \pm 0.077

Table 19: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves highest performance in 4 out of 5 tasks (GIN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.10 \pm 0.038	0.24 \pm 0.038	0.35 \pm 0.043	0.42 \pm 0.025	0.46 \pm 0.063
Nettack	0.57 \pm 0.049	0.60 \pm 0.084	0.64 \pm 0.033	0.70 \pm 0.035	0.74 \pm 0.065
GOfack	0.57 \pm 0.040	0.60 \pm 0.077	0.66 \pm 0.099	0.74 \pm 0.104	0.76 \pm 0.074
1819 orbit attack	0.42 \pm 0.136	0.45 \pm 0.064	0.47 \pm 0.094	0.43 \pm 0.080	0.50 \pm 0.033
1519 orbit attack	0.39 \pm 0.140	0.44 \pm 0.119	0.43 \pm 0.063	0.48 \pm 0.055	0.44 \pm 0.089
1922 orbit attack	0.45 \pm 0.066	0.47 \pm 0.091	0.39 \pm 0.101	0.42 \pm 0.014	0.46 \pm 0.114
FGA	0.44 \pm 0.102	0.57 \pm 0.104	0.56 \pm 0.084	0.64 \pm 0.108	0.64 \pm 0.054
SGA	0.57 \pm 0.060	0.62 \pm 0.061	0.61 \pm 0.067	0.56 \pm 0.090	0.60 \pm 0.040
PRBCD	0.43 \pm 0.025	0.52 \pm 0.072	0.53 \pm 0.025	0.55 \pm 0.050	0.65 \pm 0.050

Table 21: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Pubmed with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves highest performance in 3 out of 5 tasks (GIN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
Random	0.20 \pm 0.052	0.22 \pm 0.090	0.30 \pm 0.058	0.31 \pm 0.080	0.32 \pm 0.066
Nettack	0.47 \pm 0.020	0.60 \pm 0.080	0.60 \pm 0.070	0.57 \pm 0.070	0.52 \pm 0.060
GOfack	0.55 \pm 0.050	0.60 \pm 0.040	0.67 \pm 0.060	0.67 \pm 0.080	0.67 \pm 0.070
FGA	0.52 \pm 0.001	0.67 \pm 0.060	0.62 \pm 0.030	0.52 \pm 0.010	0.52 \pm 0.020
SGA	0.47 \pm 0.018	0.60 \pm 0.011	0.66 \pm 0.022	0.67 \pm 0.021	0.68 \pm 0.014
PRBCD	0.43 \pm 0.066	0.55 \pm 0.090	0.53 \pm 0.014	0.56 \pm 0.014	0.59 \pm 0.080

Table 23: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves highest performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (GCN-Jaccard model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.35 \pm 0.035	0.42 \pm 0.073	0.46 \pm 0.031	0.52 \pm 0.065	0.57 \pm 0.112
SGA	0.36 \pm 0.013	0.60 \pm 0.050	0.63 \pm 0.025	0.68 \pm 0.000	0.70 \pm 0.025
Nettack	0.42 \pm 0.020	0.52 \pm 0.035	0.59 \pm 0.047	0.60 \pm 0.040	0.72 \pm 0.040
GOfack	0.42 \pm 0.092	0.52 \pm 0.020	0.57 \pm 0.020	0.62 \pm 0.011	0.72 \pm 0.020

Table 25: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on BlogCatalog with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOfack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GCN-Jaccard model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.12 \pm 0.050	0.19 \pm 0.011	0.25 \pm 0.000	0.325 \pm 0.035	0.34 \pm 0.042
SGA	0.25 \pm 0.025	0.28 \pm 0.000	0.33 \pm 0.000	0.35 \pm 0.050	0.40 \pm 0.025
Nettack	0.19 \pm 0.030	0.30 \pm 0.031	0.41 \pm 0.058	0.46 \pm 0.071	0.47 \pm 0.04
GOfack	0.20 \pm 0.020	0.30 \pm 0.054	0.36 \pm 0.071	0.43 \pm 0.077	0.42 \pm 0.042

D.2 DEFENSE GNN BACKBONE

To demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed attack model, we compare the performance of GOfack with various adversarial attack techniques across different defense models, namely GCN-Jaccard, MedianGCN, RobustGCN, and GCN-SVD. Based on the analysis of the results, as shown in Tables 22 to 37, we can conclude that the proposed GOfack is more robust against MedianGCN, achieving the highest performance in 11 out of 20 tasks, whereas it attained the least performance in 3 out of 20 tasks.

D.2.1 ATTACK RESULTS ON GCN-JACCARD

In this subsection, we discuss the performance of the proposed GOfack along with various adversarial attack techniques on GCN-Jaccard, as shown in Tables 22 to 25. The proposed GOfack method achieved the second highest performance in 4 out of 20 tasks, while Nettack and SGA attained the highest performance in 7 tasks.

Table 26: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (MedianGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.25 \pm 0.060	0.32 \pm 0.040	0.49 \pm 0.033	0.54 \pm 0.065	0.55 \pm 0.036
SGA	0.32 \pm 0.050	0.52 \pm 0.075	0.60 \pm 0.057	0.65 \pm 0.06	0.75 \pm 0.031
Nettack	0.32 \pm 0.052	0.45 \pm 0.044	0.59 \pm 0.058	0.61 \pm 0.033	0.66 \pm 0.033
GOTTack	0.32 \pm 0.036	0.45 \pm 0.048	0.58 \pm 0.053	0.63 \pm 0.033	0.68 \pm 0.029

Table 28: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Polblogs with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (MedianGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.32 \pm 0.065	0.46 \pm 0.117	0.49 \pm 0.044	0.50 \pm 0.044	0.53 \pm 0.029
SGA	0.43 \pm 0.050	0.50 \pm 0.075	0.55 \pm 0.025	0.51 \pm 0.038	0.60 \pm 0.025
Nettack	0.33 \pm 0.029	0.40 \pm 0.060	0.51 \pm 0.081	0.47 \pm 0.092	0.47 \pm 0.082
GOTTack	0.34 \pm 0.079	0.37 \pm 0.057	0.45 \pm 0.06	0.53 \pm 0.078	0.51 \pm 0.060

Table 30: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (RobustGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.34 \pm 0.060	0.46 \pm 0.068	0.63 \pm 0.048	0.62 \pm 0.048	0.65 \pm 0.044
SGA	0.44 \pm 0.013	0.55 \pm 0.025	0.60 \pm 0.025	0.69 \pm 0.088	0.71 \pm 0.013
Nettack	0.48 \pm 0.080	0.61 \pm 0.046	0.72 \pm 0.029	0.70 \pm 0.033	0.73 \pm 0.025
GOTTack	0.43 \pm 0.048	0.60 \pm 0.036	0.70 \pm 0.027	0.69 \pm 0.033	0.73 \pm 0.025

Table 32: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Polblogs with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (RobustGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.31 \pm 0.110	0.32 \pm 0.062	0.41 \pm 0.037	0.50 \pm 0.027	0.48 \pm 0.040
SGA	0.46 \pm 0.038	0.43 \pm 0.025	0.54 \pm 0.038	0.61 \pm 0.013	0.64 \pm 0.063
Nettack	0.38 \pm 0.055	0.40 \pm 0.048	0.45 \pm 0.027	0.52 \pm 0.027	0.51 \pm 0.043
GOTTack	0.40 \pm 0.022	0.40 \pm 0.062	0.46 \pm 0.046	0.51 \pm 0.060	0.50 \pm 0.039

Table 27: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves highest performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (MedianGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.18 \pm 0.018	0.37 \pm 0.048	0.46 \pm 0.037	0.56 \pm 0.079	0.62 \pm 0.052
SGA	0.36 \pm 0.013	0.50 \pm 0.000	0.60 \pm 0.000	0.66 \pm 0.063	0.73 \pm 0.000
Nettack	0.27 \pm 0.050	0.46 \pm 0.051	0.55 \pm 0.050	0.65 \pm 0.024	0.71 \pm 0.048
GOTTack	0.28 \pm 0.029	0.43 \pm 0.048	0.57 \pm 0.048	0.65 \pm 0.022	0.72 \pm 0.053

Table 29: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on BlogCatalog with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (MedianGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.25 \pm 0.025	0.19 \pm 0.062	0.17 \pm 0.025	0.25 \pm 0.00	0.26 \pm 0.037
SGA	0.20 \pm 0.018	0.25 \pm 0.048	0.32 \pm 0.085	0.32 \pm 0.082	0.35 \pm 0.062
Nettack	0.17 \pm 0.025	0.24 \pm 0.037	0.26 \pm 0.037	0.26 \pm 0.037	0.31 \pm 0.037
GOTTack	0.19 \pm 0.037	0.21 \pm 0.037	0.31 \pm 0.125	0.25 \pm 0.049	0.34 \pm 0.037

Table 31: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves highest performance in 2 out of 5 tasks (RobustGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.35 \pm 0.113	0.49 \pm 0.095	0.60 \pm 0.029	0.59 \pm 0.048	0.62 \pm 0.057
SGA	0.53 \pm 0.000	0.59 \pm 0.013	0.66 \pm 0.013	0.71 \pm 0.013	0.75 \pm 0.000
Nettack	0.46 \pm 0.040	0.61 \pm 0.071	0.72 \pm 0.018	0.72 \pm 0.038	0.75 \pm 0.047
GOTTack	0.48 \pm 0.070	0.59 \pm 0.046	0.72 \pm 0.043	0.73 \pm 0.020	0.76 \pm 0.046

Table 33: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on BlogCatalog with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (RobustGCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.32 \pm 0.027	0.26 \pm 0.046	0.26 \pm 0.033	0.31 \pm 0.019	0.31 \pm 0.088
SGA	0.25 \pm 0.025	0.33 \pm 0.025	0.36 \pm 0.013	0.36 \pm 0.013	0.45 \pm 0.050
Nettack	0.35 \pm 0.044	0.32 \pm 0.027	0.34 \pm 0.029	0.37 \pm 0.048	0.40 \pm 0.044
GOTTack	0.35 \pm 0.050	0.31 \pm 0.048	0.30 \pm 0.306	0.35 \pm 0.059	0.35 \pm 0.043

D.2.2 ATTACK RESULTS ON MEDIANGCN

We discuss the performance of the proposed GOTTack along with various adversarial attack techniques on the MedianGCN defense model, as shown in Tables 26 to 29. The proposed SGA method achieved the highest performance in 17 out of 20 tasks, while GOTTack achieved the second highest performance in 2 tasks.

D.2.3 ATTACK RESULTS ON ROBUSTGCN

We discuss the performance of the proposed GOTTack along with various adversarial attack techniques on RobustGCN, as shown in Tables 30 to 33. The proposed GOTTack method achieved the second highest performance in 2 out of 20 tasks, while the competitor attack methods, SGA and Nettack, had the highest performance in 9 tasks.

D.2.4 ATTACK RESULTS ON GCN-SVD

In this subsection, we discuss the performance of the proposed GOTTack along with various adversarial attack techniques on GCN-SVD, as shown in Tables 34 to 37. The proposed GOTTack method achieved the highest performance in 2 out of 20 tasks, whereas Nettack and SGA attained the highest performance in 10 and 8 tasks, respectively.

Table 34: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (GCN-SVD model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.27 \pm 0.010	0.23 \pm 0.070	0.30 \pm 0.070	0.30 \pm 0.040	0.27 \pm 0.048
SGA	0.28 \pm 0.033	0.38 \pm 0.038	0.39 \pm 0.000	0.39 \pm 0.050	0.40 \pm 0.100
Nettack	0.24 \pm 0.011	0.29 \pm 0.050	0.31 \pm 0.050	0.33 \pm 0.059	0.32 \pm 0.031
GOTTack	0.28 \pm 0.020	0.25 \pm 0.060	0.30 \pm 0.035	0.27 \pm 0.050	0.26 \pm 0.031

Table 36: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Polblogs with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GCN-SVD model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.10 \pm 0.010	0.16 \pm 0.311	0.16 \pm 0.031	0.20 \pm 0.054	0.25 \pm 0.065
SGA	0.16 \pm 0.013	0.16 \pm 0.038	0.15 \pm 0.025	0.15 \pm 0.025	0.20 \pm 0.025
Nettack	0.12 \pm 0.040	0.18 \pm 0.031	0.22 \pm 0.020	0.24 \pm 0.042	0.30 \pm 0.093
GOTTack	0.10 \pm 0.020	0.12 \pm 0.020	0.12 \pm 0.031	0.16 \pm 0.011	0.16 \pm 0.011

Table 38: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (GNNGuard model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
SGA	0.125 \pm 0.024	0.200 \pm 0.043	0.233 \pm 0.057	0.258 \pm 0.062	0.316 \pm 0.057
Nettack	0.070 \pm 0.050	0.138 \pm 0.054	0.184 \pm 0.066	0.250 \pm 0.065	0.278 \pm 0.069
PRBCD	0.074 \pm 0.041	0.136 \pm 0.036	0.169 \pm 0.046	0.200 \pm 0.049	0.229 \pm 0.057
GOTTack	0.116 \pm 0.028	0.175 \pm 0.066	0.216 \pm 0.057	0.258 \pm 0.012	0.260 \pm 0.025

Table 40: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 3 out of 5 tasks (GCORN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
SGA	0.266 \pm 0.014	0.291 \pm 0.014	0.366 \pm 0.028	0.408 \pm 0.094	0.458 \pm 0.057
Nettack	0.391 \pm 0.076	0.508 \pm 0.052	0.608 \pm 0.112	0.658 \pm 0.080	0.691 \pm 0.052
PRBCD	0.350 \pm 0.024	0.508 \pm 0.028	0.575 \pm 0.090	0.600 \pm 0.086	0.583 \pm 0.057
GOTTack	0.325 \pm 0.017	0.550 \pm 0.053	0.575 \pm 0.088	0.675 \pm 0.034	0.696 \pm 0.088

Table 35: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves highest performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GCN-SVD model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.22 \pm 0.054	0.27 \pm 0.540	0.24 \pm 0.031	0.22 \pm 0.047	0.25 \pm 0.035
SGA	0.24 \pm 0.013	0.25 \pm 0.025	0.26 \pm 0.038	0.28 \pm 0.100	0.38 \pm 0.020
Nettack	0.28 \pm 0.040	0.30 \pm 0.020	0.35 \pm 0.035	0.33 \pm 0.023	0.33 \pm 0.047
GOTTack	0.25 \pm 0.030	0.27 \pm 0.040	0.27 \pm 0.062	0.31 \pm 0.065	0.37 \pm 0.061

Table 37: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on BlogCatalog with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 1 out of 5 tasks (GCN-SVD model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
FGA	0.17 \pm 0.031	0.18 \pm 0.062	0.23 \pm 0.031	0.19 \pm 0.011	0.30 \pm 0.054
SGA	0.15 \pm 0.050	0.24 \pm 0.013	0.25 \pm 0.025	0.31 \pm 0.063	0.35 \pm 0.000
Nettack	0.19 \pm 0.023	0.23 \pm 0.051	0.28 \pm 0.023	0.20 \pm 0.023	0.37 \pm 0.023
GOTTack	0.20 \pm 0.002	0.22 \pm 0.020	0.28 \pm 0.062	0.20 \pm 0.024	0.35 \pm 0.020

Table 39: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 4 out of 5 tasks (GCORN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
SGA	0.300 \pm 0.035	0.337 \pm 0.017	0.400 \pm 0.070	0.425 \pm 0.000	0.462 \pm 0.053
Nettack	0.312 \pm 0.053	0.387 \pm 0.088	0.475 \pm 0.076	0.600 \pm 0.000	0.587 \pm 0.017
GOTTack	0.350 \pm 0.000	0.462 \pm 0.017	0.537 \pm 0.053	0.600 \pm 0.070	0.587 \pm 0.017

Table 41: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora with budget $\Delta = 1$ to 5: GOTTack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GARNET model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
SGA	0.183 \pm 0.011	0.133 \pm 0.031	0.199 \pm 0.020	0.250 \pm 0.040	0.272 \pm 0.050
Nettack	0.250 \pm 0.035	0.250 \pm 0.035	0.333 \pm 0.042	0.541 \pm 0.096	0.643 \pm 0.045
GOTTack	0.185 \pm 0.023	0.225 \pm 0.020	0.291 \pm 0.062	0.383 \pm 0.104	0.501 \pm 0.146

D.2.5 ATTACK RESULTS ON GNNGUARD

In this subsection, we discuss the performance of the proposed GOTTack along with various adversarial attack techniques on GNNGuard, as shown in Table 38. The proposed GOTTack method achieved the highest performance in 1 out of 5 tasks, while SGA achieved the highest performance in 4 tasks.

D.2.6 ATTACK RESULTS ON GCORN

In this subsection, we discuss the performance of the proposed GOTTack along with various adversarial attack techniques on GCORN, as shown in Tables 39 and 40. The proposed GOTTack method achieved the highest performance in 7 out of 10 tasks, while Nettack achieved the highest performance in 4 tasks.

D.2.7 ATTACK RESULTS ON GARNET

In this subsection, we discuss the performance of the proposed GOTTack along with various adversarial attack techniques on GARNET, as shown in Table 41. The proposed GOTTack method secured the second-highest performance across all 5 tasks, while Nettack achieved the highest performance.

E ADDITIONAL PROOF OF GOTTACK’S IMPACT

Node’s features. Another interesting property of the proposed attacks can be seen in Table 45 and Table 53, in which we observe the change in the target node characteristics after adding or removing

Table 42: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora (GCN backbone) with budget ϵ .

$\epsilon \rightarrow$	0.10	0.30	0.50
SGA	0.087 ± 0.01	0.250 ± 0.07	0.325 ± 0.10
Nettack	0.125 ± 0.00	0.237 ± 0.05	0.412 ± 0.08
PRBCD	0.137 ± 0.01	0.262 ± 0.08	0.337 ± 0.12
Gottack	0.112 ± 0.05	0.225 ± 0.03	0.387 ± 0.08

Table 43: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer (GCN backbone) with budget ϵ .

$\epsilon \rightarrow$	0.10	0.30	0.50
SGA	0.058 ± 0.02	0.200 ± 0.03	0.450 ± 0.04
Nettack	0.037 ± 0.01	0.187 ± 0.05	0.625 ± 0.17
PRBCD	0.033 ± 0.01	0.216 ± 0.04	0.500 ± 0.14
Gottack	0.062 ± 0.01	0.237 ± 0.12	0.652 ± 0.37

Table 44: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Pubmed (GCN backbone) with budget ϵ .

$\epsilon \rightarrow$	0.10	0.30	0.50
SGA	0.262 ± 0.01	0.337 ± 0.01	0.475 ± 0.01
Nettack	0.262 ± 0.03	0.525 ± 0.02	0.726 ± 0.01
PRBCD	0.250 ± 0.00	0.425 ± 0.07	0.537 ± 0.05
Gottack	0.275 ± 0.03	0.537 ± 0.01	0.700 ± 0.10

an edge between different orbit types. More precisely, we consider degree centrality, closeness centrality, betweenness centrality, and clustering coefficient as node feature metrics. The results show that adding/removing an edge between the target node and the connecting node with frequent orbit type causes a significant shift in node feature, especially the betweenness centrality of the target node.

Table 45: Changes in the node attribute of the target node, averaged over all target nodes (CORA dataset). A positive value indicates an increase after the attack compared to before.

Attack Orbit Type	Degree Centrality	Closeness Centrality	Betweenness Centrality	Clustering Coefficient
Gottack (1518)	+15.18	+6.50	+20.32	-3.46
1922	+15.19	+17.01	+25.54	+1.35
1519	+15.21	+4.58	+23.60	-3.43
1819	+15.22	+9.34	+23.61	-3.42

Gottack with PRBCD. We integrated Gottack with PRBCD and GO-PRBCD and evaluated it on Cora and Citeseer. The results (ref. Table 46 and Table 47) provided that GO-PRBCD performs the best for budget 3 but not as well as PRBCD or Gottack. We attribute this to the block sampling strategy that scales up PRBCD. In contrast, Gottack presents a non-sampling-based, principled approach to identifying the best candidate nodes.

Shortest path scores. In this experiment, we aim to observe the change in shortest path scores before and after attacks, calculating the minimum traveling cost from the source node to the destination node. Table 48 presents the results for different orbit types and node labels in the Cora dataset. Here, the notation **LS** denotes the score when connecting edges between nodes with the same label, while **LD** denotes the score when connecting edges between nodes with different labels. It is worth noting that connecting edges between different labels results in higher or equal changes in shortest path scores compared to connections between nodes with the same label. The results also indicate that connecting nodes with different or the same labels belonging to the 1518 orbit types results in higher changes compared to other orbit types.

Nodes' label in two hops neighbors changes.

As we know, GNN classification depends not only on the node itself but also on its neighbors. Given two nodes in the network, if they belong to the same class, their embeddings will exhibit high similarity. Considering this, we investigate the number of nodes that share the same label (LS) as the target node (v) and the number of nodes with different labels (LD) before and after applying the attack.

Table 49: Edge betweenness of newly added edges between 1518 nodes and target nodes.

Newly added edge to	Edge betweenness
Misclassified nodes	0.44 ± 0.18
Correctly classified nodes	0.22 ± 0.14

Table 46: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Cora: GOTack achieves performance in 0 out of 5 tasks (GCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
PRBCD	0.41 ± 0.060	0.61 ± 0.072	0.64 ± 0.038	0.73 ± 0.014	0.76 ± 0.025
GO-PRBCD	0.44 ± 0.017	0.52 ± 0.035	0.67 ± 0.010	0.70 ± 0.035	0.70 ± 0.000
GOTack	0.41 ± 0.052	0.54 ± 0.049	0.62 ± 0.033	0.66 ± 0.042	0.71 ± 0.052

Table 47: Misclassification rate (\uparrow) on Citeseer: GOTack achieves performance in 5 out of 5 tasks (GCN model).

Budget \rightarrow	1	2	3	4	5
PRBCD	0.46 ± 0.044	0.57 ± 0.014	0.68 ± 0.038	0.70 ± 0.000	0.73 ± 0.014
GO-PRBCD	0.38 ± 0.035	0.58 ± 0.100	0.59 ± 0.017	0.65 ± 0.035	0.70 ± 0.350
GOTack	0.46 ± 0.034	0.63 ± 0.037	0.72 ± 0.054	0.76 ± 0.063	0.78 ± 0.042

Table 48: Shortest path length changes of the target node to the candidate node, with seven rows each representing a different label node group. These are mean values calculated over target test nodes. LS denotes the same label with the target node, and LD denotes a different label with the target node. A negative value indicates a decrease after the attack compared to before.

	1518		1922		1519		1819	
	LS	LD	LS	LD	LS	LD	LS	LD
Label-0	-0.06	-0.08	-0.04	-0.01	-0.00	-0.00	-0.01	-0.00
Label-1	-0.01	-0.01	-0.07	-0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.00	-0.00
Label-2	-0.02	-0.02	-0.03	-0.02	-0.05	-0.03	-0.03	-0.02
Label-3	-0.05	-0.08	-0.05	-0.04	-0.06	-0.04	-0.07	-0.04
Label-4	-0.00	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.04	-0.02	-0.00	-0.01
Label-5	-0.00	0.0	-0.02	-0.00	-0.05	-0.03	-0.02	-0.01
Label-6	-0.03	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	-0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01

It is noteworthy that when we apply an attack on two convolution layers of GNN variants, the embeddings of nodes in the two-hop neighborhood significantly contribute to updating the embedding of the target node. Table 50 shows the changes in the two-hop neighbors of target nodes for the Cora dataset. From the results, we can observe that the target node is connected to LD nodes, which belong to 1518 orbit types. The neighbor change is significant, with an average increase of +3.36 for the GOTack method. Furthermore, the results of the same experiment with the same settings conducted on the Citeseer dataset are shown in the Appendix, Table 54.

Important edge. After adding a new edge to the target node, the embedding of the target nodes is updated with information aggregated through the new edge. The more important the edge in the two-hop neighbor of the target node, the more noise is added to the target node that eventually causes misclassification.

The importance of edge can be assessed based on edge betweenness centrality. We conducted 1518 GOTack on GCN, using the Cora dataset once to get the list of the target node and corresponding connecting nodes chosen by our algorithm. We separate them into two classes, one is the list of target nodes that are miss-classified and the other is the list of correct-classified. Table 49 shows that the average edge betweenness of edges added to miss-classified nodes is 0.44, which is twice compared to the average edge betweenness of edges added to correct-classified nodes, 0.22. It proves that our attack harms node classification accuracy by discovering and adding important edges, which connect the target node to a faraway region in the graph and bring the noise to the target nodes' embedding.

E.1 SUBGRAPH-BASED EXPLANATIONS

GNNs integrate node feature information and graph structure by recursively passing messages along the edges of the graph to update the embedding and make predictions; therefore, this complex integration leads to models that are challenging to explain in terms of their predictions.

In this subsection, we leverage two different renowned explainers (subgraph-based) to see the changes that the GOTack method poses to graphs that lead to misclassification.

GNNExplainer. Battaglia et al. (2018), Zhou et al. (2020), and Zhang et al. (2022) summarize the update of the GNN model in three core computations. (i) For every pair of node (v_i, v_j) , the message is computed from the representations $\mathbf{h}_i^{l-1}, \mathbf{h}_j^{l-1}$ of each node in the previous layer and their relation r_{ij} , given by $m_{ij}^l = \text{MSG}(\mathbf{h}_i^{l-1}, \mathbf{h}_j^{l-1}, r_{ij})$. (ii) Secondly, an aggregated message \mathbf{M}_i is computed for each node v_i by aggregating messages from all v_i 's neighborhood. (iii) Finally, the representation,

Table 50: Changes in the nodes’ labels within two-hop neighbors (CORA dataset) of the target node, with seven rows each representing a different label node group. LS denotes the same label with the target node, and LD denotes a different label with the target node. These are mean values calculated over target test nodes. A positive value indicates an increase after the attack compared to before.

	1518		1922		1519		1819	
	LS	LD	LS	LD	LS	LD	LS	LD
Label-0	+1.25	+3.70	+0.63	+4.75	+1.28	+3.88	+1.60	+3.50
Label-1	+1.27	+3.58	+0.50	+4.00	+0.58	+3.73	+0.48	+4.05
Label-2	+1.30	+2.65	+2.36	+3.53	+0.78	+3.15	+0.55	+3.75
Label-3	+1.00	+3.50	+0.43	+4.53	+1.28	+3.58	+1.08	+3.88
Label-4	+0.52	+3.20	+0.68	+3.80	+0.50	+3.50	+0.65	+3.60
Label-5	+0.12	+3.55	0.28	+4.10	+0.33	+3.75	+0.45	+3.95
Label-6	+0.97	+3.40	+1.88	+3.80	+1.63	+3.43	+1.48	+3.83

Table 51: Time Experiment Results in Seconds (\downarrow).

	Gottack	Nettack	FGA	SGAttack	PRBCD	Random
Cora	48.27 \pm 7.55	59.57 \pm 11.31	55.63 \pm 16.96	32.24 \pm 5.27	242.37 \pm 6.03	0.030 \pm 0.000
Citeseer	42.02 \pm 5.14	46.12 \pm 15.96	42.43 \pm 2.31	41.02 \pm 4.45	210.55 \pm 7.58	0.034 \pm 0.001
Polblogs	139.68 \pm 62.21	175.23 \pm 56.14	165.37 \pm 17.12	164.07 \pm 13.77	210.87 \pm 5.23	0.020 \pm 0.000
BlogCatalog	512.04 \pm 9.56	916.91 \pm 129.17	223.02 \pm 15.53	335.91 \pm 4.66	259.38 \pm 3.58	0.038 \pm 0.014
Pubmed	246.96 \pm 62.57	243.78 \pm 2.14	533.55 \pm 108.19	68.23 \pm 7.58	240.23 \pm 4.65	0.040 \pm 0.017

also known as embedding, \mathbf{h}_i^l of node v_i at layer l is calculated from the embedding of the node v_i in the previous layer and aggregated message \mathbf{M}_i . This demonstrates that the neighbor of all node v_i contributes to formulating the final embedding of v_i . Ying et al. defined the subgraph of all neighbors of the node v_i as a computation graph, denoted as \mathcal{G}_c (Ying et al., 2019).

In particular, v ’s computation graph tells the GNN how to generate v ’s embedding z . The computation graph of node v is crucial, as it fully determines all the information GNN uses to generate prediction \hat{y}_v at node v . Among nodes and edges in \mathcal{G}_c , we are interested in $\mathcal{G}_s \subseteq \mathcal{G}_c$ that are important for the GNN’s prediction on node v , in which removing of either a node or an edge in \mathcal{G}_s strongly decrease the probability of prediction \hat{y}_v . By solving the optimization of the conditional entropy $H(Y|\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_s, \mathcal{X} = \mathcal{X}_s)$, GNNExplainer returns an explanation for the prediction \hat{y}_v as $(\mathcal{G}_s, \mathcal{X}_s^F)$, where \mathcal{G}_s is a small subgraph of the computation graph, \mathcal{X}_s^F is the associated feature of \mathcal{G}_s , and \mathcal{X}_s^F is a small subset of node features that are most important for explaining \hat{y}_v (Ying et al., 2019).

Figure 5 is the subgraph of the computation graph most influential for the GNN’s prediction on node 1978, denoted as \hat{y}_{1978} . Before the attack, the prediction \hat{y}_{1978} made by GNN on node 1978 is strongly affected by edges connecting to 1306, 1241 and 2381 having the same label and 6 edges connecting to different label nodes. After the attack by adding an edge between the target node and 1518 node 387, there are two out of three edges connecting the node having the same label to 1978 is no longer having a strong impact on \hat{y}_{1978} , while there is an increase in the number of edges connecting different label nodes to 9. As a result, GNN is fooled into making a misprediction on 1978 after applying Gottack. In addition, we leverage GNNExplainer to explain another successful attack of Gottack on

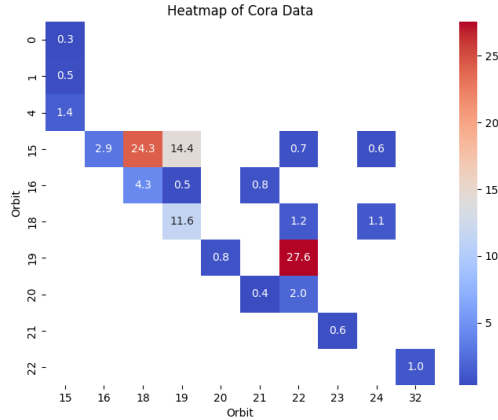


Figure 8: Matrix of co-occurrence percentages for node orbits: visualizing intersections between the first and second orbit.

Table 52: Computation time for orbit discovery across different datasets.

Dataset	Orbit Discovery Time (in Seconds)
Cora	0.17
Citeseer	0.10
Polblogs	18.34
Blogcatalog	470.60
Pubmed	2.48

Table 53: Changes in the node attribute of the target node, averaged over all target nodes (POLBLOGS dataset). A positive value indicates an increase after the attack compared to before.

Orbit type	LSame-2 hop	LDiff-2hop	Degree Centrality(10^{-3})	Closeness Centrality(10^{-2})	Betweenness Centrality(10^{-3})	Cluster
GOTack (1518)	8.30 ± 1.06	1.58 ± 0.30	0.82 ± 0.00	0.35 ± 0.14	0.11 ± 0.02	-0.04 ± 0.03
1922	8.89 ± 1.14	1.51 ± 0.20	0.82 ± 0.00	0.43 ± 0.17	0.12 ± 0.03	-0.04 ± 0.04
1519	9.25 ± 0.83	0.97 ± 0.46	0.82 ± 0.00	0.43 ± 0.17	0.12 ± 0.03	-0.04 ± 0.04
1819	9.64 ± 1.18	4.29 ± 0.63	0.95 ± 0.00	0.47 ± 0.20	0.12 ± 0.05	-0.05 ± 0.04

node 1784, described by Figure 10.

Similarly, the newly added edge is considered an important edge, and there are significant changes in the importance of the remaining edge in the computational subgraph caused by the newly added edge (1784, 709).

PGExplainer. PGExplainer (Luo et al., 2020) is a model-agnostic method designed to provide explanations for predictions made by GNNs. It is used to identify a subgraph and subset of node features crucial for a specific prediction. Let us consider a trained GNN model $f_\theta(\mathcal{G})$, where $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{X})$ is input graph. It aims to explain the prediction \hat{y}_v for a target node $v \in \mathcal{V}$. It learns an edge mask $\mathbf{M}_e \in [0, 1]^{|\mathcal{E}|}$ and a feature mask $\mathbf{M}_x \in [0, 1]^{|\mathcal{X}|}$. The masks are optimized to maximize the mutual information between the GNN’s predictions \hat{y}_v and the subgraph \mathcal{G}_s , expressed as: $\mathbf{MI}(\hat{y}_v, \mathcal{G}_s) = H(\hat{y}_v) - H(\hat{y}_v | \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_s)$.

However, optimizing this objective is infeasible due to the exponential number of possible subgraphs (i.e., 2^N), the problem is relaxed by assuming \mathcal{G}_s is a Gilbert random graph where edge selections are conditionally independent. The probability of an edge e_{ij} being selected is modeled using a Bernoulli distribution: $P(\mathcal{G}) = \prod_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} P(e_{ij})$, where $e_{ij} \in \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}$ is a binary variable indicating whether the edge is selected, with $e_{ij} = 1$ if the edge (i, j) is selected, and 0 otherwise. The probability $P(e_{ij} = 1) = \theta_{ij}$ is the probability that edge (i, j) exists in \mathcal{G} . With this relaxation, the objective can be rewritten as (Luo et al., 2020): $\min_{\mathcal{G}_s} H(\hat{y}_v | \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_s) = \min_{\mathcal{G}_s} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{G}_s} [H(\hat{y}_v | \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_s)]$.

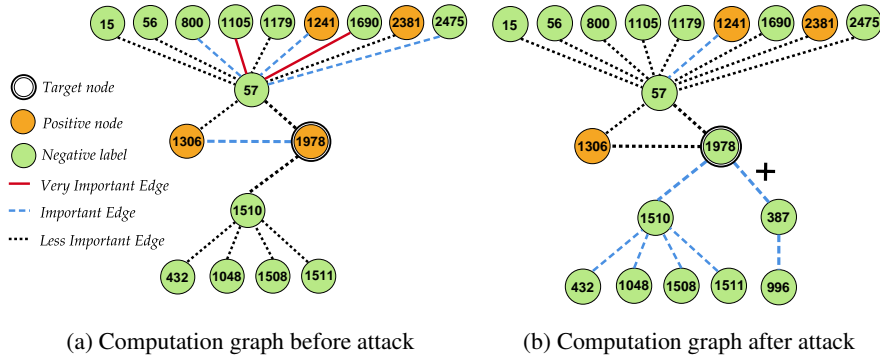


Figure 9: The computation graph for the targeted node 1978 from the CORA datasets, as identified by PGExplainer (Luo et al., 2020). The edge (1978, 387) is added during the successful attack. Edge importances change considerably after the attack, and the negative class gains importance due to the newly added nodes.

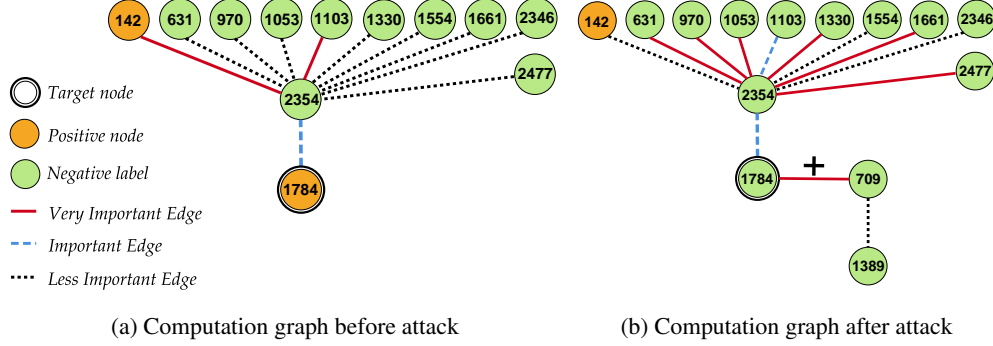


Figure 10: The computation graph for the targeted node 1784 from the CORA datasets, as identified by GNNExplainer (Luo et al., 2020). The edge (1784, 709) is added during the successful attack. Edge importances change considerably after the attack, and the negative class gains importance due to the newly added nodes.

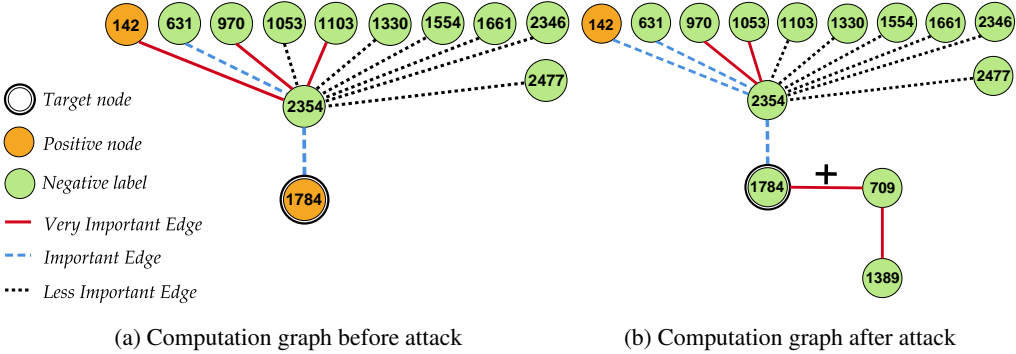


Figure 11: The computation graph for the targeted node 1784 from the CORA datasets, as identified by PGExplainer (Luo et al., 2020). The edge (1784, 709) is added during the successful attack. Edge importances change considerably after the attack, and the negative class gains importance due to the newly added nodes.

Table 54: Changes in the nodes’ labels within two-hop neighbors (CITESEER dataset) of the target node, with six rows each representing a different label node group. LS denotes the same label with the target node, and LD denotes a different label with the target node. These are mean values calculated over target test nodes. A positive value indicates an increase after the attack compared to before.

	1518		1922		1519		1819	
	LS	LD	LS	LD	LS	LD	LS	LD
Label-0	+0.45	+3.78	+0.95	+4.50	+0.15	+3.43	+0.05	+4.15
Label-1	+0.58	+3.58	+2.50	+3.35	+0.33	+3.30	+1.53	+3.08
Label-2	+2.00	+3.03	+1.48	+4.18	+2.80	+2.28	+0.63	+3.80
Label-3	+0.15	+3.73	+0.38	+4.18	+0.48	+3.23	+0.65	+3.50
Label-4	+2.55	+2.95	+1.70	+3.30	+1.13	+3.28	+1.78	+2.88
Label-5	+1.28	+3.12	0.48	+4.18	+1.65	+3.38	+0.65	+3.93

Table 55: The descriptions of symbols.

Symbol	Descriptions
\mathcal{G}	Graph representation
\mathcal{V}	Sets of vertices in \mathcal{G}
\mathcal{E}	Sets of edges in \mathcal{G}
$ \mathcal{E} $	Number of edges
$ \mathcal{V} $	Number of nodes
\mathcal{A}	Adjacency matrix of \mathcal{G}
\mathcal{X}	Node features
f_θ	Graph neural network model
v	Target node
\mathcal{V}_T	Set of target nodes
$\mathcal{N}(v)$	Set of adjacency nodes of v
$h(\cdot)$	Graph homophily ratio
\mathcal{G}'	Perturbed graph
\mathcal{G}_c	Computation graph
\mathcal{G}_s	Subgraph of computation graph
\mathcal{A}'	Perturbed adjacency matrix
\hat{y}_v	Predicted class
Δ	Attack budget
\mathcal{G}_{gp}	Graphlet
$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}_{gp})$	Automorphisms of a graphlet
GOV	Graphlets Orbit Vector
Orb_{max}	Largest orbit count value
Orb_{sec}	Second-largest count value

$\mathcal{G}_s)$ $\approx \min_{\Theta} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{G}_s \sim q(\Theta)} [H(\hat{y}_v | G = \mathcal{G}_s)]$, where $q(\Theta)$ is the distribution of the explanatory graph parameterized by θ^* s.

Figure 9 shows the subgraph of the computation graph with the most influential edge connections. Before the attack, the prediction \hat{y}_{1978} made by the GNN on node 1978 is strongly influenced by edges connecting to node 1306. However, after the attack, which involves adding an edge between the target node and node 387, the strong connection to node 1306 is no longer present. Instead, there is an increase in the number of edges connecting to different label nodes such as node 1510. Consequently, the GNN is misled into making an incorrect prediction for node 1978 after the application of GOTTack. In addition, we leverage PGExplainer to explain another successful attack of GOTTack on node 1784, described by Figure 11. Similarly, the newly added edge is considered an important edge, and there are significant changes in the importance of the remaining edge in the computational subgraph caused by the newly added edge (1784, 709).

Table 56: Summary of the Literature review.

Ref.	Article Name	Attack Type	Perturbation	Evasion/ Poisoning	Domain	Model	Baseline	Metrics	Dataset
Zügner et al. (2018)	Nettack	Target Attack	Structure Feature	Both	Node Classif.	GCN CLN DeepWalk GCN Grarep	Random FGSM	Accuracy Classif. Margin	Cora-ML Citeseer Polblogs
Chen et al. (2018)	FGA	Target Attack	Structure	Both	Node Classif.	DeepWalk Node2vec Line GraphGAN	Random DICE Nettack	Success Rate AML	Cora-ML Citeseer Polblogs
Zügner & Günnemann (2019)	Metttack	Global Attack	Structure Feature	Poisoning	Node Classif.	GCN CLN DeepWalk	DICE Nettack First-order attack	Accuracy Misclassif. Rate	Cora-ML Pubmed Citeseer Polblogs Citeseer Finance Pubmed Cora
Dai et al. (2018)	RL-S2V	Target Attack	Structure	Evasion	Node Classif.	GNNs	Rnd. sampling Genetic algs.	Accuracy	
Bojchevski & Günnemann (2019)	Node Embedding	Global Attack	Structure	Poisoning	Node Embedding	DW SVD DW SGNS Node2vec Spect. Embd Label Prop. GCN	Unknown	Accuracy Classif. Margin Loss	Cora Citeseer Polblogs
Xu et al. (2019a)	PGD, Min-max	Global Attack	Structure	Both	Node Classif.	GCN	DICE Greedy Meta-self	Misclassif. Rate	Cora Citeseer
Waniek et al. (2016)	DICE	Global Attack	Structure	Both	Node Classif.	GCN	DICE ROAM heuristic	Concealment	TerroristNet Facebook Twitter Google+ ScaleFree SmallWorld RandomGraph
Wu et al. (2019)	IG-Attack	Target Attack	Structure Feature	Both	Node Classif.	GCN	JSMA IG-JSMA Nettack FGSM	Classif. Margin Accuracy	Cora Citeseer Polblogs
Sun et al. (2020)	NIPA	Global Attack	Structure	Poisoning	Node Classif.	GCN	Random FGA Preferential attack	Accuracy Graph Statistics	Cora-ML Pubmed Citeseer
Li et al. (2023)	SGAttack	Target Attack	Structure	Poisoning	Node Classif.	GCN GAT SGC GraphSAGE ClusterGCN	Random DICE GradArgmaxNettack	Accuracy Classif. Margin	Citeseer Cora Pubmed Reddit
Ma et al. (2020)	GC-RWCS	Target Attack	Structure	Evasion	Node Classif.	GCN JKNetConcat JKNetMaxpool	Random Degree Pagerank Betweenness RWCS GC-RWCS	Accuracy Loss	Citeseer Cora Pubmed
Chang et al. (2022)	GF-Attack	Global Attack	Feature	Evasion	Vertex Classif.	GCN SGC Cheby DW LINE	Random Degree RL-S2V A_class GF-Attack Radnom	Accuracy Execution Time	Cora Citeseer Pubmed
Tao et al. (2021)	G-NIA	Target Attack	Structure Feature	Evasion	Node Classif.	GCN GAT APPNP	MostAttr. PrefEdge. NIPA AFGSM G-NIA	Misclassif. Rate	Reddit Citeseer ogbn-products
Sun et al. (2018)	OPT-Attack	Target Attack	Structure	Poisoning	Node Embedding	GAE DeepWalk Node2vec LINE	Degree sum Shortest path Random PageRank Random DICE	AP Similarity Score	Cora Citeseer Facebook
Hussain et al. (2021)	STRUtack	Global Attack	Structure	Poisoning	Node Classif.	GCN	Metttack PGD MinMax DICE PGD Metttack	Accuracy	Cora Citeseer Pubmed Cora-ML Polblogs Cora Citeseer Polblogs
Wu et al. (2023)	WT-AWP	Unknown	Feature	Poisoning Evasion	Node Classif. Graph Classif.	GCN GAT PPNP	FGSM AFGSMSPeIT	Accuracy Loss	KDD-CUP ogbn-arxiv Reddit
Zou et al. (2021)	TDGIA	Unknown	Feature	Evasion	Node Classif.	GCN	PGD TDGIA G-NIA	Accuracy Misclassif. Rate	ogbn-products redditogbn-arxiv
Tao et al. (2023)	CANA	Unknown	Feature	Unknown	Unknown	COPOD PCA HBOS IForestAE	FGA	Macro F1 Micro F1	ACM DBLP IMDB
Zhao et al. (2024)	HGAttack	Target Attack	Unknown	Evasion	Node Embedding	GCN	Nettack Metttack Random PGD	Accuracy Attention Score	Cora Citeseer Polblogs
Jin et al. (2023)	PEH	Unknown	Structure	Unknown	Node Classif. Node Clustering	GCN GAT DGI RGCN GCN GIN GSAGE RGCN GCN-Jaccard GCN-SVD MedianGCN GNNGuard GARNET GCORN			
Proposed Approach	Gottack	Target Attack	Structure	Poisoning	Node Classif.			Misclassif. Rate	Cora Citeseer Polblogs Pubmed BlogCatalog