

UNIFYING UNSUPERVISED GRAPH-LEVEL ANOMALY DETECTION AND OUT-OF-DISTRIBUTION DETECTION: A BENCHMARK

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ABSTRACT

To build safe and reliable graph machine learning systems, unsupervised graph-level anomaly detection (GLAD) and unsupervised graph-level out-of-distribution (OOD) detection (GLOD) have received significant attention in recent years. Though those two lines of research indeed share the same objective, they have been studied independently in the community due to distinct evaluation setups, creating a gap that hinders the application and evaluation of methods from one to the other. To bridge the gap, in this work, we present a **Unified Benchmark** for unsupervised **Graph-level OOD** and **anomaly Detection** (**UB-GOLD**), a comprehensive evaluation framework that unifies GLAD and GLOD under the concept of generalized graph-level OOD detection. Our benchmark encompasses 35 datasets spanning four practical anomaly and OOD detection scenarios, facilitating the comparison of 18 representative GLAD/GLOD methods. We conduct multi-dimensional analyses to explore the effectiveness, OOD sensitivity spectrum, robustness, and efficiency of existing methods, shedding light on their strengths and limitations. Furthermore, we provide an open-source codebase (<https://anonymous.4open.science/r/UB-GOLD-FFAB>) of UB-GOLD to foster reproducible research and outline potential directions for future investigations based on our insights.

1 INTRODUCTION

With the ubiquity of graph data, graph machine learning has been widely adopted in various scientific and industrial fields, ranging from bioinformatics to social networks (Xia et al., 2021; Wu et al., 2020). As one of the representative graph learning tasks, graph-level anomaly detection (GLAD) has been widely studied to identify abnormal graphs that show significant dissimilarity from the majority of graphs in a collection (Ma et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2022). GLAD task is crucial in various real-world applications, such as toxic molecule recognition and pathogenic brain mechanism discovery (Jiang et al., 2021; Mirakhorli et al., 2020). Due to the high cost of data labeling, existing GLAD studies generally follow an unsupervised paradigm, eliminating the requirement of labeled anomaly samples for model training (Ma et al., 2022; Qiu et al., 2022; Liu et al., 2023b).

In the meantime, another line of research – graph-level out-of-distribution detection (GLOD) – has drawn increasing attention in the research community lately (Liu et al., 2023a; Li et al., 2022). GLOD aims to identify whether each graph sample in a test set is in-distribution (ID), meaning it comes from the same distribution as the training data, or out-of-distribution (OOD), indicating it comes from different distributions. Considering the universality of distribution shift in open-world data, GLOD plays an important role in real-world high-stakes applications such as drug discovery and cyber-attack detection (Shen et al., 2024; Ji et al., 2023; Ju et al., 2024). Though a few post-hoc GLOD methods (Guo et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2024) that rely on a well-trained graph classifier have been proposed, most of the existing GLOD methods (Liu et al., 2023a; Li et al., 2022; Shen et al., 2024) are developed in an unsupervised fashion, where a specific OOD detection model is trained on unlabeled ID data, and then predicts a score for each test sample to indicate its ID/OOD status. In essence, unsupervised GLOD and unsupervised GLAD share the same goal, suggesting that research in one area could potentially be applied to solve problems in the other. Recent survey and benchmark papers (Yang et al., 2022; 2021) also identify anomaly detection and OOD detection as two branches

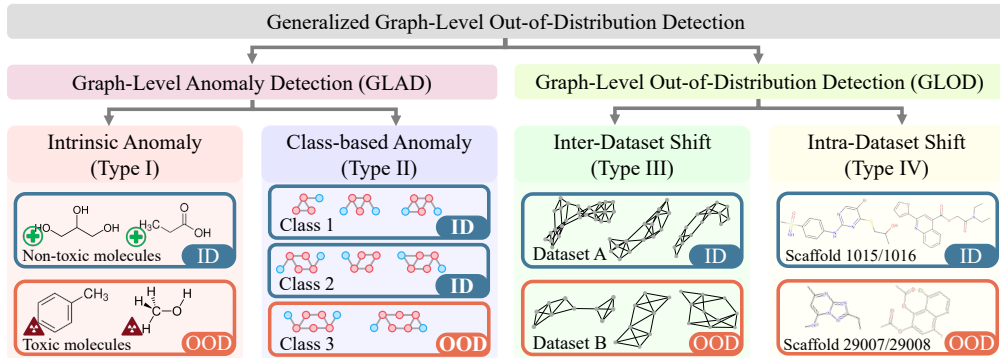


Figure 1: Diagram of generalized OOD detection scenarios supported by UB-GOLD.

under the concept of “generalized OOD detection”, which further highlights the close conceptual connection between GLOD and GLAD tasks.

Despite the inherent connection between the problems of unsupervised GLAD and GLOD, those two research sub-areas have been studied independently in the literature and have distinct evaluation setups. To fill the gap, in this paper, we develop a **Unified Benchmark** for unsupervised **Graph-level OOD** and **anomaly Detection** (UB-GOLD for short). As shown in Fig. 1, we unify GLAD and GLOD as “generalized graph-level OOD detection problem”, and consider two GLOD scenarios and two GLAD scenarios for comprehensive evaluation. For GLAD task that aims to detect graph samples with semantic abnormality, we explore scenarios with *intrinsic anomaly* and *class-based anomaly*. Specifically, the first type of dataset inherently includes semantic anomalies, while the second type treats samples from one class (usually the minority class) as anomalies. For GLOD task that emphasizes the distribution shift between ID and OOD samples, we consider two scenarios with different distribution shifts, i.e., *inter-dataset shift* and *intra-dataset shift*. Specifically, the former simulates distribution shifts by drawing ID and OOD samples from different datasets within the same domain (Liu et al., 2023a; Sehwag et al., 2021), while the latter refers to datasets with intrinsic distribution shifts regarding graph sizes or molecular scaffolds (Gui et al., 2022). Based on 35 datasets belonging to 4 types, we establish a comprehensive benchmark to fairly compare 18 GLAD and GLOD methods under a unified experimental setting, exploring the **effectiveness** of state-of-the-art (SOTA) approaches across diverse scenarios and domains.

Apart from comparing performance, we further investigate the characteristics of GLAD/GLOD methods in terms of three dimensions: OOD sensitivity spectrum, robustness, and efficiency, through extensive experiments. For **OOD sensitivity spectrum**, we test a GLAD/GLOD model on OOD data with varying degrees of distribution shift, investigating each method’s ability to identify both near-OOD and far-OOD samples. For **robustness**, we introduce varying proportions of OOD samples into the training data to observe the impact of noisy ID data on the performance of existing methods. For **efficiency**, we perform efficiency evaluations for representative GLAD/GLOD approaches, focusing on time and space complexity. At the end of this paper, we discuss the future directions of this emerging research direction. To sum up, the main contribution of this paper is three-fold:

- **Comprehensive benchmark.** We introduce UB-GOLD, the first comprehensive and unified benchmark for GLAD and GLOD. UB-GOLD compares 18 representative GLAD/GLOD methods across 35 datasets from four practical anomaly and OOD detection scenarios.
- **Multi-dimensional analysis.** To explore their ability and limitations, we conduct a systematic analysis of existing methods from multiple dimensions, encompassing effectiveness on different datasets, OOD sensitivity spectrum to near-OOD and far-OOD, robustness against unreliable training data, and efficiency in terms of time and memory usage.
- **Unified Codebase and future directions.** To facilitate future research and quick implementation, we provide an open-source codebase for UB-GOLD. We also outline potential directions based on our findings to inspire future research.

Key findings. Through comprehensive comparison and analyses, we have the following remarkable observations: 1) The SOTA GLAD/GLOD methods show excellent performance across tasks; 2) Near-OOD samples are harder to detect compared to far-OOD samples; 3) Most methods are vulnerable to

the perturbations of training sets; and 4) Certain end-to-end methods outperform two-step methods in terms of both performance and computational costs.

2 RELATED WORK AND PROBLEM DEFINITION

In this section, we begin by briefly reviewing related work on GLAD and GLOD. Next, we define the generalized unsupervised graph-level OOD detection problem, formulating GLAD and GLOD into a unified learning task.

Graph-level anomaly detection (GLAD). GLAD aims to identify abnormal graphs that show significant dissimilarity from the majority of graphs in a collection. A simple solution for GLAD is to use graph kernels (Vishwanathan et al., 2010; Neumann et al., 2016) to extract graph-level features and utilize shallow anomaly detectors (e.g. OCSVM (Amer et al., 2013) and iForest (Liu et al., 2008)) to identify anomalies. Recently, GNN-based end-to-end methods have demonstrated significant performance improvements in GLAD (Ma et al., 2022; Zhao & Akoglu, 2023). Among them, some approaches assume that the anomaly labels of graphs are available for model training, and hence formulate GLAD as a supervised classification problem (Zhang et al., 2022; Ma et al., 2023; Dong et al., 2024). Nevertheless, their heavy reliance on labeled anomalies makes it challenging to apply them to real-world scenarios where annotated anomalies are scarce or unavailable. To overcome this shortage, the majority of GNN-based GLAD methods focus on an unsupervised learning paradigm, learning the GLAD model only from normal data (Ma et al., 2022; Qiu et al., 2022; Liu et al., 2023b; Zhao & Akoglu, 2023; Luo et al., 2022; Li et al., 2023). Recent research (Liu et al., 2023a; Li et al., 2022) indicates that GLAD methods also show great potential in handling GLOD problem, prompting us to unify these two fields into a generalized research problem and conduct a comprehensive benchmarking study.

Graph-level out-of-distribution detection (GLOD). GLOD refers to the problem of identifying whether a graph sample in a test set is ID or OOD, i.e., whether it originates from the same distribution as the training data or from a different one (Li et al., 2022). A line of studies developed post-hoc OOD detectors that identify OOD samples by additional fine-tuned detectors on top of well-trained GNN classifiers (Guo et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2024). However, these methods require annotated ID data to train the backbone GNNs, which limits their applicability in scenarios where labeled data is unavailable. In contrast, another line of research proposes training an OOD-specific GNN model using only ID data, without relying on any labels or OOD data (Shen et al., 2024; Liu et al., 2023a; Li et al., 2022). To learn discriminative patterns of ID data, they employ unsupervised learning techniques such as contrastive learning (Liu et al., 2023a) and diffusion model (Shen et al., 2024).

Problem definition. Inspired by generalized OOD detection framework in computer vision (Yang et al., 2021; Gui et al., 2022), and due to the highly similar objectives of GLAD and GLOD (for detailed discussion, see Appendix D.1), we unify GLAD and GLOD into a high-level topic termed **generalized graph-level OOD detection**. The new learning task aims to distinguish generalized OOD samples (i.e., OOD or abnormal graphs) from generalized ID samples (i.e., ID or normal graphs). In this paper, we focus on the unsupervised scenario, considering its universality. The research problem is formulated as:

Definition 1. [Unsupervised generalized graph-level OOD detection] We define the training dataset as $\mathcal{D}_{train} = \{G_1, \dots, G_n\}$, where each sample G_i is a graph drawn from a specific distribution \mathbb{P}^{in} . We define the testing dataset as $\mathcal{D}_{test} = \mathcal{D}_{test}^{in} \cup \mathcal{D}_{test}^{out}$, where \mathcal{D}_{test}^{in} contains graphs sampled from \mathbb{P}^{in} , and \mathcal{D}_{test}^{out} consists of graphs drawn from an OOD distribution \mathbb{P}^{out} . Given \mathcal{D}_{train} and \mathcal{D}_{test} , the learning objective is to train a detection model $f(\cdot)$ on \mathcal{D}_{train} and then the model can predict whether each sample $G' \in \mathcal{D}_{test}$ belongs to \mathbb{P}^{in} or \mathbb{P}^{out} . In practice, $f(\cdot)$ is a scoring function, where a larger OOD score $s' = f(G')$ indicates a higher probability that G' is from \mathbb{P}^{out} (i.e., abnormal samples).

$$g(G'; \tau, f) = \begin{cases} 0 \text{ (OOD)}, & \text{if } f(G') \leq \tau, \\ 1 \text{ (ID)}, & \text{if } f(G') > \tau. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

The theoretical objective of the scoring function $f(G')$ is to maximize the separation between the distributions of ID/normal graphs and OOD/anomalous graphs:

$$\max_f \mathbb{E}_{G' \sim \mathcal{D}_{test}^{in}} f(G') - \mathbb{E}_{G' \sim \mathcal{D}_{test}^{out}} f(G'). \quad (2)$$

Table 1: Statistics of datasets used in UB-GOLD.

Dataset Type	Full Name	Abbreviation	Domain	OOD Definition	# ID Train	# ID Test	# OOD Test	# Anomaly Ratio %
(Type I) Intrinsic Anomaly	Tox21_p53	p53	Molecules	Inherent Anomaly	8088	241	28	0.34
	Tox21_HSE	HSE	Molecules	Inherent Anomaly	423	257	10	1.45
	Tox21_MMP	MMP	Molecules	Inherent Anomaly	6170	200	38	0.59
	Tox21_PPAR-gamma	PPAR	Molecules	Inherent Anomaly	219	252	15	3.09
(Type II) Class-based Anomaly	COLLAB	-	Social Networks	Unseen Classes	1920	480	520	17.81
	IMDB-BINARY	IMDB-B	Social Networks	Unseen Classes	400	100	100	16.67
	REDDIT-BINARY	REDDIT-B	Social Networks	Unseen Classes	800	200	200	16.67
	ENZYMES	-	Proteins	Unseen Classes	400	100	20	3.85
	PROTEINS	-	Proteins	Unseen Classes	360	90	133	22.81
	DD	-	Proteins	Unseen Classes	390	97	139	22.20
	BZR	-	Molecules	Unseen Classes	69	17	64	42.67
	AIDS	-	Molecules	Unseen Classes	1280	320	80	4.76
	COX2	-	Molecules	Unseen Classes	81	21	73	41.71
	NCHI	-	Molecules	Unseen Classes	1646	411	411	16.65
	DHFR	-	Molecules	Unseen Classes	368	93	59	11.35
(Type III) Inter-Dataset Shift	IMDB-MULTI→IMDB-BINARY	IM→IB	Social Networks	Unseen Datasets	1350	150	150	9.09
	ENZYMES→PROTEINS	EN→PR	Proteins	Unseen Datasets	540	60	60	9.09
	AIDS→DHFR	AI→DH	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	1800	200	200	9.09
	BZR→COX2	BZ→CO	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	364	41	41	9.19
	ESOL→MUV	ES→MU	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	1015	113	113	9.11
	TOX21→SIDER	TO→SI	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	7047	784	784	9.10
	BBBP→BACE	BB→BA	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	1835	204	204	9.09
	PTC_MR→MUTAG	PT→MU	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	309	35	35	9.23
FRESOLV→TOXCAST	FS→TC	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	577	65	65	9.19	
CLINTOX→LIPO	CL→LI	Molecules	Unseen Datasets	1329	148	148	9.11	
(Type IV) Intra-Dataset Shift	GOOD-HIV-Size	HIV-Size	Molecules	Size	1000	500	500	25.00
	GOOD-ZINC-Size	ZINC-Size	Molecules	Size	1000	500	500	25.00
	GOOD-HIV-Scaffold	HIV-Scaffold	Molecules	Scaffold	1000	500	500	25.00
	GOOD-ZINC-Scaffold	ZINC-Scaffold	Molecules	Scaffold	1000	500	500	25.00
	DrugOOD-IC50-Size	IC50-Size	Molecules	Size	1000	500	500	25.00
	DrugOOD-EC50-Size	EC50-Size	Molecules	Size	1000	500	500	25.00
	DrugOOD-IC50-Scaffold	IC50-Scaffold	Molecules	Scaffold	1000	500	500	25.00
	DrugOOD-EC50-Scaffold	EC50-Scaffold	Molecules	Scaffold	1000	500	500	25.00
	DrugOOD-IC50-Assay	IC50-Assay	Molecules	Protein Target	1000	500	500	25.00
	DrugOOD-EC50-Assay	EC50-Assay	Molecules	Protein Target	1000	500	500	25.00

This unified objective integrates the detection principles of GLAD and GLOD, emphasizing their shared goal of distinguishing graphs that deviate from a given distribution.

3 BENCHMARK DESIGN

In this section, we provide a comprehensive overview of UB-GOLD, covering datasets (Sec. 3.1), algorithms (Sec. 3.2), and evaluation metrics & implementation details (Sec. 3.3).

3.1 BENCHMARK DATASETS

UB-GOLD includes 35 datasets in four types, each of which corresponds to either a GLAD or GLOD scenario categorized in Fig.1. Table 1 provides an overview of the benchmark datasets. For **GLAD task**, we consider two types of datasets with intrinsic anomaly and class-based anomaly to test the models’ performance of detecting anomalous graphs. For **GLOD task**, we consider datasets with inter-dataset shift and intra-dataset shift that assess the models’ ability to distinguish between ID and OOD samples. For more detailed information on the datasets, please see Appendix B.

- **Type I: Datasets with intrinsic anomaly.** These datasets contain natural anomalies within chemical compounds, testing the robustness of GLAD methods. We use four datasets (i.e., Tox21_HSE, Tox21_MMP, Tox21_p53, and Tox21_PPAR-gamma) from the Tox21 challenge (Abdelaziz et al., 2016) involving molecules with unexpected biological activities.
- **Type II: Datasets with class-based anomaly.** In these datasets, certain classes are designated as anomalies. We use 11 datasets (e.g., COLLAB, IMDB-BINARY, and ENZYMES) from the TU benchmark (Morris et al., 2020) where minority or distinct class samples are treated as anomalies.
- **Type III: Datasets with inter-dataset shift.** We synthetic a benchmark dataset with inter-dataset shift by considering samples from one real-world dataset as ID and samples from another real-world dataset as OOD. For example, in “IMDB-MULTI→IMDB-BINARY”, graphs from IMDB-MULTI are ID, and graphs from IMDB-BINARY are OOD. The datasets belonging to the same domain and having close distribution shifts form a pair (Liu et al., 2023a).
- **Type IV: Datasets with intra-dataset shift.** Designed to assess GLOD methods under various types of intra-dataset shifts, these datasets are from graph OOD benchmarks, including GOOD (Gui et al., 2022) and DrugOOD (Ji et al., 2023). Specifically, datasets with three kinds of domain shifts, i.e., assay shift, scaffold shift, and size shift, are considered.

Table 2: Categorization of all benchmark algorithms in UB-GOLD.

Method Type	Category	Models
Two-Step	Graph kernel with detector (GK-D)	PK-SVM, PK-iF, WL-SVM, WL-iF
	Self-supervised learning with detector (SSL-D)	IG-SVM, IG-iF, GCL-SVM, GCL-iF
End-to-End	Graph neural network-based GLAD	OCGIN, GLADC, GLocalKD, OCGTL, SIGNET, CVTGAD
	Graph neural network-based GLOD	GOOD-D, GraphDE, AAGOD, GOODAT

3.2 BENCHMARK ALGORITHMS

In UB-GOLD, we consider four groups of GLAD/GLOD methods for a comprehensive evaluation: 1) two-step methods, including graph kernel with detector (GK-D) and self-supervised learning (SSL) with detector (SSL-D), and 2) End-to-End methods, including GNN-based GLAD and GLOD methods. For the end-to-end methods, we further divided them into 4 categories from the technical perspective, including one-class classification-based, graph reconstruction-based, contrastive learning-based, and well-trained GNN-based. All methods are unsupervised, aligning with the primary focus of UB-GOLD to provide a comprehensive and fair evaluation framework. For a detailed summary of the models and further details, please refer to Table 2 and Appendix C.

- **Graph kernel with detector.** These methods follow a two-step process: obtaining graph embeddings using graph kernels and applying outlier detectors in the embedding space. For kernel methods, we consider Weisfeiler-Leman subtree kernel (WL) (Li et al., 2016) and propagation kernel (PK) (Neumann et al., 2016). For detectors, we employ isolation forest (iF) (Liu et al., 2008) and one-class SVM (OCSVM, SVM for short) (Amer et al., 2013).
- **SSL with detector.** These approaches also follow a two-step process but use SSL methods to obtain graph embeddings. We consider two SSL methods, GraphCL (GCL for short) (You et al., 2020) and InfoGraph (IG for short) (Sun et al., 2020) to generate embeddings and use iF (Liu et al., 2008) and SVM (Amer et al., 2013) as detectors.
- **GNN-based GLAD methods.** We consider 6 SOTA methods for GLAD, including OCGIN (Zhao & Akoglu, 2023), GLocalKD (Ma et al., 2022), OCGTL (Qiu et al., 2022), SIGNET (Liu et al., 2023b), GLADC (Luo et al., 2022), and CVTGAD (Li et al., 2023). These methods use different techniques, such as deep one-class classification, contrastive learning, and knowledge distillation, to detect anomalies in graph data.
- **GNN-based GLOD methods.** We involve four representatives of unsupervised GLOD methods, i.e., GOOD-D (Liu et al., 2023a), GraphDE (Li et al., 2022), AAGOD Guo et al., 2023, and GOODAT (Wang et al., 2024) for comparison. GOOD-D is a contrastive learning-based approach, while GraphDE is a generative model-based approach. Both AAGOD and GOODAT operate on well-trained GNNs¹; AAGOD follows a data-centric approach, and GOODAT focuses on test-time OOD detection.

UB-GOLD: A Unified Benchmark Library for Unsupervised GLAD and GLOD. We offer our developed benchmark library UB-GOLD, as illustrated in Fig. 2. Specifically, the benchmark starts with a **Benchmark Datasets** module, which includes four types of datasets: intrinsic anomaly, class-based anomaly, inter-dataset shift, and intra-dataset shift. Each dataset type is designed to cover both GLAD and GLOD scenarios, ensuring broad applicability across different graph-level anomaly and OOD detection tasks. The **Benchmark Tasks** module prepares the settings (e.g., datasets splits and pre-processing) for different benchmarking tasks of anomaly and OOD detection. It supports three main tasks: general anomaly/OOD detection, near-far OOD detection, and perturbation-based detection, enabling models to handle different levels of OOD difficulty and assess robustness to data perturbations. This step ensures the data is well-prepared for downstream tasks. Next, in the **Method** module, UB-GOLD includes both two-step methods and end-to-end methods. Specifically, we categorize end-to-end GLAD and GLOD methods into four technical groups: one-class classification, graph reconstruction, well-trained GNNs, and contrastive learning. Finally, the **Evaluation** module ensures a comprehensive and fair assessment, offering Comprehensive Metrics, Robustness under

¹In this context, “well-trained GNNs” refers to graph neural networks that have been pre-trained using a self-supervised or task-specific pretraining strategy, incorporating domain knowledge to effectively learn graph representations. These models are then fine-tuned for the specific GLAD or GLOD tasks.

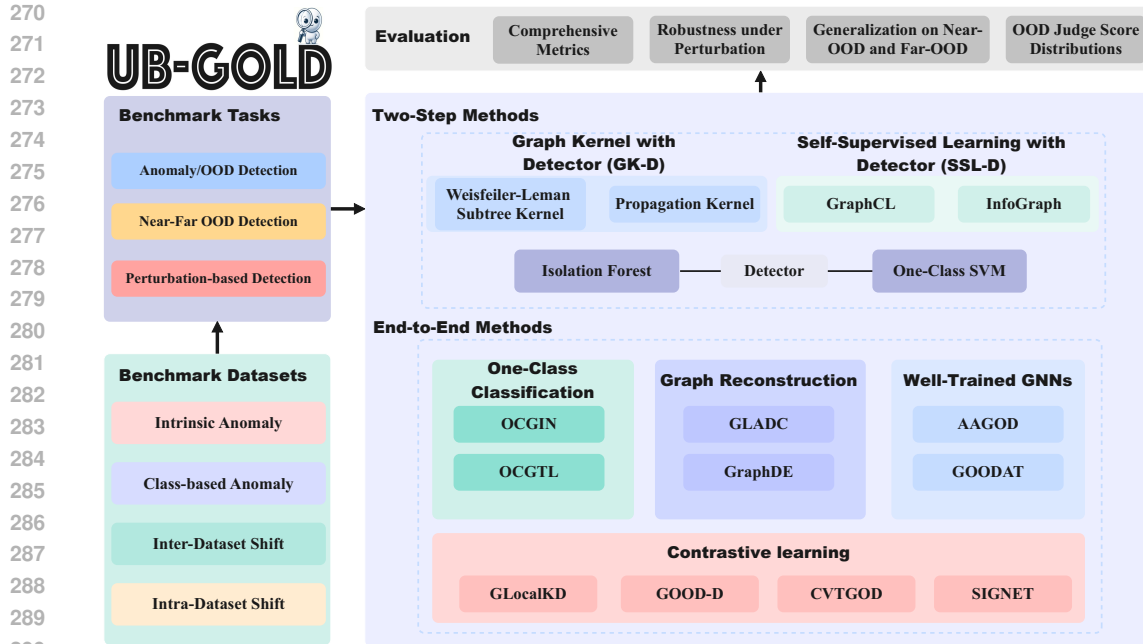


Figure 2: An overview of UB-GOLD.

Perturbation, Generalization on Near-OOD and Far-OOD, and OOD Judge Score Distribution Analysis to measure how well models distinguish between ID and OOD samples.

3.3 EVALUATION METRICS AND IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS

Evaluation metrics. For comprehensive comparison, UB-GOLD utilizes three commonly used metrics for anomaly/OOD detection (Zhang et al., 2023), i.e., **AUROC**, **AUPRC**, and **FPR95**. Higher AUROC and AUPRC values indicate better performance, while lower FPR95 values are preferable.

Data split. In our target scenarios (i.e., unsupervised GLAD/GLOD), all the samples in the training set are normal/ID, while the anomaly/OOD samples only occur in the testing set. In such an unsupervised case, the validation set with anomaly/OOD samples is usually unavailable during the training phase. Thus, following the implementation of OpenOOD (Zhang et al., 2023), we divide the datasets into training and testing sets, without using a validation set. Specifically, we adopted the splits from (Liu et al., 2023a) and (Li et al., 2022), applying them to the benchmark datasets. Detailed splits are provided in Table 1.

Hyperparameter search. To obtain the performance upper bounds of various methods on GLAD/GLOD tasks, we conduct a random search to find the optimal hyperparameters w.r.t. their performance on the testing set. The search space is detailed in Table 4. The random search is conducted 20 times or for a maximum of one day per method per dataset to ensure fairness.

For more details related to the experimental setup in UB-GOLD, please refer to Appendix D.

4 EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS & DISCUSSION

In this section, we introduce the experimental setup and discuss the experimental results in UB-GOLD benchmark. Specifically, we aim to answer the following research questions: ● **RQ1 (Effectiveness)**: How do different GLAD and GLOD methods perform under various anomaly scenarios and distribution shifts? (Sec. 4.1) ● **RQ2 (OOD sensitivity spectrum)**: How effective are GLAD and GLOD methods in detecting near-OOD and far-OOD graph samples? (Sec. 4.2) ● **RQ3 (Robustness)**: How does the inclusion of OOD samples in the ID training set affect the robustness of GLAD and GLOD methods? (Sec. 4.3) ● **RQ4 (Efficiency)**: Are the GLAD and GLOD methods efficient in terms of run time and memory usage? (Sec. 4.4)

Table 3: Comparison in terms of AUROC. The best three results are highlighted by 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. “Avg. AUROC” and “Avg. Rank” indicate the average AUROC and rank across all datasets.

	GK-D (two-step)				SSL-D (two-step)				GNN-based GLAD (end-to-end)				GNN-based GLOD (end-to-end)					
	PK-SVM	PK-IF	WL-SVM	WL-IF	IG-SVM	IG-IF	GCL-SVM	GCL-IF	OCGTL	GLocalKD	OCGTL	SIGNET	GLADC	CVTGAD	GOOD-D	GraphDE	AAGOD	GOODAT
p53	49.17	54.05	57.69	54.40	68.11	60.85	68.61	64.60	68.35	65.43	67.58	68.10	65.82	69.40	67.82	62.59	50.12	61.71
HSE	60.72	56.49	63.27	52.98	60.32	52.51	64.49	82.64	71.42	60.21	63.36	64.56	61.37	70.52	68.71	62.47	54.60	61.99
MMP	51.03	49.95	55.50	51.98	57.72	52.58	69.91	71.31	69.37	68.12	67.51	71.23	70.03	70.58	71.41	60.12	62.92	67.49
PPAR	53.74	48.42	57.76	49.45	61.78	63.22	68.37	69.88	67.75	65.29	66.43	68.88	69.43	68.83	68.21	66.31	57.90	66.95
COLL4B	49.72	51.38	54.62	51.41	36.47	38.18	44.91	45.44	60.58	51.85	48.13	72.45	54.32	71.01	69.34	46.77	50.14	44.91
IMDB-B	51.75	52.83	52.98	51.79	40.89	45.64	68.00	63.88	61.47	53.31	65.27	70.12	65.94	69.82	66.68	59.25	58.43	65.46
REDDIT-B	48.36	46.19	49.50	49.84	60.32	52.51	84.49	82.64	82.10	80.32	89.92	85.24	78.87	87.43	89.43	63.42	68.78	80.31
ENZYMES	52.45	49.82	53.75	51.03	60.97	53.94	62.73	63.09	62.44	61.75	63.59	63.12	63.44	68.56	64.58	52.10	58.70	52.33
PROTEINS	49.43	61.24	53.85	65.75	61.15	52.78	72.61	72.60	76.46	77.29	72.89	75.86	77.43	76.49	76.02	68.81	75.04	75.92
DD	47.69	75.29	47.98	70.49	70.33	42.67	76.43	65.41	79.08	80.76	77.76	74.53	76.54	78.84	79.91	60.49	74.00	77.62
BZR	46.67	59.08	51.16	51.71	41.50	45.42	68.93	67.81	69.13	68.55	51.89	80.79	68.23	77.69	73.28	65.94	64.52	64.77
AIDS	50.93	52.01	52.56	61.42	87.20	97.96	95.44	98.80	96.89	96.93	99.36	97.60	98.02	99.21	97.10	70.82	86.64	98.82
COX2	52.15	52.48	53.34	49.56	49.11	48.61	59.68	59.38	57.81	58.93	59.81	72.35	64.13	64.36	63.19	54.73	51.86	59.99
NC11	51.39	50.22	54.18	50.41	45.11	61.88	43.33	46.44	69.46	65.29	75.75	74.32	68.32	69.13	61.58	58.74	49.94	45.96
DHFR	48.31	52.79	50.30	51.64	45.58	63.15	58.21	57.01	61.09	61.79	59.82	72.87	61.25	63.23	64.48	53.23	63.93	61.52
IM-IB	49.80	51.23	53.45	53.03	56.26	51.32	74.45	78.62	80.98	81.25	66.73	71.10	78.28	80.23	80.94	52.67	82.17	77.66
EN-PR	52.53	53.36	53.92	51.90	46.01	33.52	59.76	63.23	61.77	59.36	67.18	62.42	56.95	64.31	63.84	54.48	50.17	64.61
AI-DH	51.18	51.69	52.28	50.95	84.33	83.27	97.11	98.48	95.68	94.33	98.95	96.82	95.42	99.10	99.27	94.58	94.90	93.95
BZ-CO	43.34	52.43	49.76	52.16	64.29	64.65	78.98	76.01	87.27	80.55	81.86	89.11	83.21	96.32	95.16	65.26	77.44	80.97
ES-MU	52.99	52.63	52.13	52.28	58.12	51.57	78.66	79.66	86.70	90.55	88.32	91.43	89.30	92.41	91.98	75.65	91.91	83.92
TO-SI	53.73	51.87	53.50	52.28	64.32	66.53	66.85	64.85	67.29	69.80	68.91	66.72	72.51	68.24	66.70	72.34	66.90	67.21
BB-BA	54.15	53.11	54.62	53.48	63.27	32.37	69.18	67.33	78.83	77.69	78.93	89.88	79.07	80.17	81.44	55.69	72.00	75.94
PT-MU	51.52	55.87	54.03	52.12	55.88	53.78	78.10	79.74	79.27	77.54	62.51	84.63	80.12	79.44	82.05	88.28	67.65	80.42
FS-TC	50.06	54.76	51.98	53.24	44.98	49.57	67.05	66.01	66.98	64.38	78.12	67.32	69.89	71.58	60.12	67.65	67.09	67.09
CL-LI	50.85	51.74	52.66	51.54	55.62	56.45	59.65	54.17	61.21	58.31	59.30	72.15	63.42	70.21	69.28	50.79	53.08	60.93
HIV-Size	48.94	49.96	66.11	45.10	31.39	32.67	26.73	35.80	38.55	42.94	96.34	91.86	47.56	56.23	74.12	68.31	41.83	29.21
ZINC-Size	48.66	50.12	50.58	48.96	53.07	53.47	52.61	53.46	54.22	54.21	59.41	57.29	52.53	58.78	68.43	55.63	56.56	52.51
HIV-Scaffold	49.36	48.43	44.72	54.57	58.78	58.74	61.00	59.26	56.82	54.38	58.05	70.93	63.23	59.49	62.28	53.48	60.75	55.75
ZINC-Scaffold	51.12	46.66	51.17	53.28	54.77	55.17	54.04	55.80	51.87	50.12	86.79	59.24	55.79	55.73	56.39	55.62	52.06	48.68
IC50-Size	67.08	59.35	90.76	52.49	32.61	36.15	24.44	30.96	42.58	41.29	97.36	81.43	39.63	50.37	50.71	45.24	40.57	27.78
EC50-Size	70.50	59.33	92.29	49.36	29.71	32.60	22.83	27.68	41.37	39.42	97.74	77.12	39.23	55.84	56.58	59.49	45.92	32.97
IC50-Scaffold	66.33	60.95	88.49	58.56	36.96	38.67	34.60	38.82	44.56	42.97	96.00	77.58	38.43	57.96	56.62	59.68	49.79	36.34
EC50-Scaffold	64.95	62.78	86.03	55.27	37.88	30.36	31.28	32.35	51.92	48.43	94.18	74.65	40.98	66.52	58.29	54.24	45.85	41.86
IC50-Assay	54.47	53.13	59.18	52.11	51.23	51.42	51.15	51.93	52.61	49.87	68.78	65.99	52.12	54.25	53.74	57.11	48.74	45.34
EC50-Assay	49.08	46.66	48.43	45.32	47.80	47.81	47.80	46.02	56.11	52.44	69.31	82.97	54.34	66.71	65.57	58.96	60.42	55.79
Avg. AUROC	52.69	53.67	57.56	52.91	52.11	50.35	61.29	61.50	66.00	64.29	73.14	75.86	65.50	71.07	71.05	60.38	61.54	61.91
Avg. Rank	13.80	13.54	12.03	13.86	14.00	13.83	10.83	10.63	7.26	8.71	5.43	3.37	7.03	3.69	4.14	10.58	9.89	9.43

These research questions are designed to comprehensively evaluate the performance, OOD sensitivity spectrum, robustness, and efficiency of GLAD and GLOD methods. By examining these aspects, we aim to provide a thorough understanding of their strengths and limitations across different scenarios. For more detailed experimental descriptions and settings, please refer to Appendix F.

4.1 PERFORMANCE COMPARISON (RQ1)

Experiment design. We conduct a comprehensive comparison of the detection performance in terms of AUROC, AUPR, and FPR95 of 18 benchmark algorithms on 35 benchmark datasets. For each method and dataset, we conduct 5 runs of experiments and report the average performance.

Experimental results. Table 3 shows the performance comparison in terms of AUROC, and Fig. 3 provides box plots to overview the model performance across 35 datasets for all metrics. In Appendix F, detailed performance with standard deviation is demonstrated in Table 8, and the box plots of the ranking of each method are demonstrated in Fig. 7. We have the following observations.

Observation ①: The SOTA GLAD/GLOD methods show excellent performance on both tasks.

The results in Table 3 highlight the excellent performance of the SOTA GLAD/GLOD methods on both detection tasks. Specifically, the GLAD methods, SIGNET, CVTGAD, and OCGTL, demonstrate outstanding performance in OOD detection tasks, achieving competitive results in several datasets. Meanwhile, the GLOD method GOOD-D, while not attaining the best performance in anomaly detection tasks, still performs commendably with an average ranking of 4.14, placing it among the top performers. This observation highlights the intercommunity between GLAD and GLOD tasks, emphasizing the need to apply powerful methods designed for one task to the other.

Observation ②: No universally superior method.

Table 3 demonstrates that no single method consistently outperforms others on more than 12 (out of 35) datasets. Even the top-ranked method, SIGNET, can exhibit sub-optimal performance on several datasets belonging to different types, such as HSE, DD, ES→MU, and ZINC-Size. In Fig. 3, although SIGNET has a higher median and a compact interquartile range, the top 25% of its performance is still lower than that of some other models. Similar unstable performance can also be found in other competitive methods, such as OCGTL, CVTGAD, and GOOD-D. This finding illustrates the diversity of our benchmark datasets, underscoring the challenge of identifying a “universal method” that performs well across all datasets. This is particularly evident in the AUPRC metric. For instance, on HSE, SIGNET achieves an AUROC of 64.56 vs. 71.42 (SOTA). On DD, it scores 74.53 vs. 80.76 (SOTA). In the inter-dataset shift ES→MU, it achieves 91.43 vs. 99.64 (SOTA), and in the intra-dataset shift ZINC-Size, it scores 57.29 vs. 68.43 (SOTA).

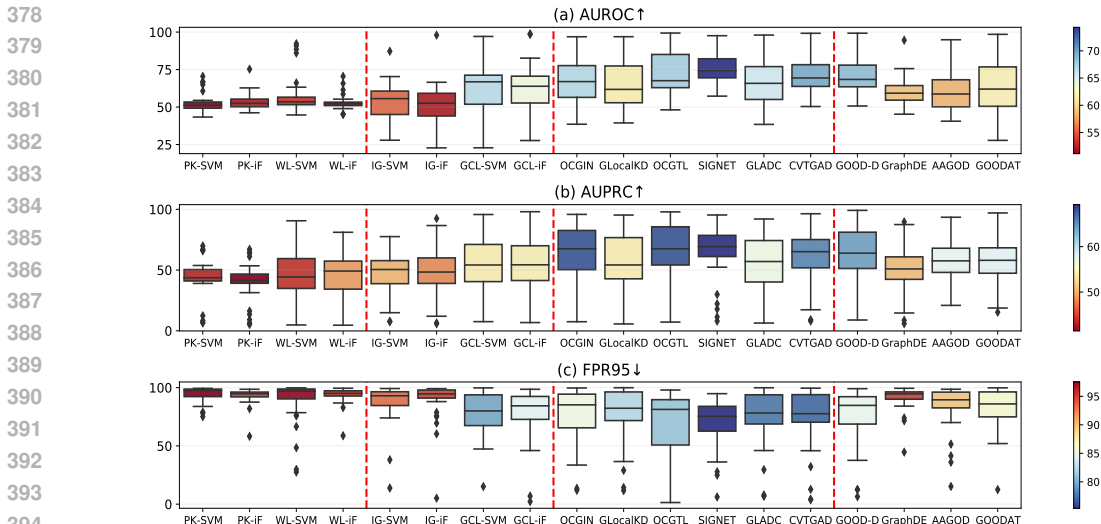


Figure 3: Comparison of the detection performance on 35 datasets in terms of three metrics.

Observation ⑥: Inconsistent performance in terms of different metrics. From Fig. 3 and Table 8, we can observe that some methods performing well on certain metrics may show unstable performance on other metrics. Specifically, CVTGAD and GOOD-D consistently achieve high AUC values on most datasets, but show more variability in other metrics, particularly in their sub-optimal AUPRC and FPR95 performance. This indicates that methods performing well in overall discrimination (high AUROC) may struggle with precision-recall trade-offs (low AUPRC) and maintaining low false positive rates at high true positive rates (low FPR95). This finding highlights the importance of comprehensive evaluation using multiple metrics.

Observation ⑦: End-to-end methods show consistent superiority over two-step methods. While two-step methods show notable performance in certain scenarios, end-to-end methods consistently outperform them. Specifically, in Table 3, the average rankings of most end-to-end methods are below 10, while all two-step methods have rankings above 10. This consistent superiority highlights the advantages of integrated and unified learning approaches over segmented and two-step processes.

4.2 OOD SENSITIVITY SPECTRUM ON NEAR-OOD AND FAR-OOD (RQ2)

Experiment design. To evaluate the OOD sensitivity spectrum of GLAD/GLOD methods in handling near and far OOD samples, we consider two different settings to define near-OOD and far-OOD: (A) **intra-inter dataset setting** and (B) **size-based distance setting**. In setting A, we define the intra-dataset samples with different class labels as the near-OOD, while samples from another dataset are considered far-OOD. In setting B, the size of graphs serves as the measure to divide near and far OOD. We redefine the size of training/testing sets for fair comparison. Please refer to Appendix D.4 for a more detailed description of experimental settings.

Experimental results. The performance of GLAD and GLOD methods in distinguishing between ID and near-OOD/far-OOD samples is demonstrated in Fig. 4 and Table 7, where Subfigures (a)-(c) are in setting A and (d) is in setting B. We have the following key observations.

Observation ⑧: Near-OOD samples are harder to detect compared to far-OOD samples. From Fig. 4, it is evident that end-to-end models generally perform better in detecting far-OOD samples than near-OOD samples. This trend is consistent across various datasets. For instance, in the AIDS dataset, models like GOOD-D, GraphDE, and GOODAT achieve highly better AUROC values for far-OOD conditions than for near-OOD. Similar patterns are observed in the other datasets, where most models display better performance in far-OOD scenarios. This consistent performance discrepancy underscores the challenge of detecting near-OOD samples that closely resemble the ID data, highlighting the need for enhanced model sensitivity to subtle deviations.

Observation ⑨: Poor OOD sensitivity spectrum of several GLAD/GLOD methods in specialized scenarios. Despite the overall effectiveness of GLAD/GLOD methods, their performance has notable limitations, particularly in specialized scenarios. Firstly, in setting A, GLOD approaches (i.e., GOOD-

Experimental results. We present the computational efficiency of all methods in terms of time and memory usage in Fig.6(a) and Fig.6(b), respectively. We highlight the below observation.

Observation ⑨: Certain end-to-end methods outperform two-step methods in terms of both performance and computational costs.

Observation ④ demonstrates that end-to-end methods usually outperform the two-step methods. In addition to their superior performance, most end-to-end methods exhibit comparable time efficiency and significantly better memory efficiency. As shown in Fig. 6(a), end-to-end methods achieve optimal results much faster than two-step methods, except for GOOD-D and GraphDE. In contrast, the iF detector in two-step methods significantly increases the time required to reach optimal performance, leading to substantially higher time costs compared to most existing methods. In terms of memory usage, as illustrated in Fig. 6(b), end-to-end methods show much lower CPU and GPU consumption than two-step methods. Although graph kernel methods do not utilize GPU resources, their high CPU consumption is a critical consideration. To sum up, the majority of end-to-end methods may be preferable for GLAD/GLOD tasks due to their advantages in effectiveness and efficiency.

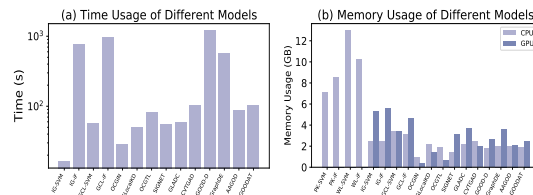


Figure 6: Time and memory usage comparison.

5 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

In this paper, we introduce a unified benchmark, UB-GOLD, for graph-level anomaly detection (GLAD) and graph-level out-of-distribution detection (GLOD), which comprehensively compare the performance of 18 GLAD/GLOD methods on 35 datasets across various scenarios and domains. Based on UB-GOLD, we conduct extensive experiments to analyze the effectiveness, OOD sensitivity spectrum, robustness, and efficiency of these methods. [Additionally, we provide a visualization and analysis of the Judge Score Distribution in the Appendix F.3.](#) Observation ① highlights the intercommunity between GLAD and GLOD tasks. It reveals that many approaches show comparable performance across both tasks, suggesting a significant overlap in the underlying principles and techniques used for detecting anomalies and OOD samples. Several insightful observations are summarized from the results, providing an in-depth understanding of existing methods and inspiration for future work. Our experiments reveal that SOTA methods for GLAD and GLOD exhibit superior performance across both tasks, underscoring the strong interconnection between these two forefront research domains.

Despite the promising results of existing approaches, several critical challenges and research directions remain worthy of future investigation:

- **Universal approaches for diverse datasets.** Observation ② suggests the existing GLAD/GLOD methods do not consistently perform well across diverse datasets. In this case, it is a promising opportunity for producing novel approaches that can generally work well on diverse datasets. Such universal approaches should be aware of various structural and attribute characteristics of graph data from diverse domains and be sensitive to different types of OOD and anomaly samples.
- **Awareness of near-OOD samples.** Observations ⑤ and ⑥ indicate that most existing methods struggle to detect near-OOD samples. Thus, future research is expected to discover more advanced solutions to effectively differentiate between near-OOD and ID samples. Considering the inaccessibility of OOD samples during model training, accurately capturing the patterns of ID data and establishing reliable decision boundaries can be the key to achieving the goal.
- **Robust approaches against unclean training data.** Observations ⑦ and ⑧ expose that most methods are vulnerable to perturbation (i.e., data contaminated by OOD samples) of training datasets. Considering the difficulty of acquiring clean training data in several real-world applications, future approaches are expected to be more robust against noisy training data.

Limitation. Since UB-GOLD mainly focuses on unsupervised GLAD/GLOD tasks, the methods that require anomaly labels (e.g. i-GAD (Zhang et al., 2022)), and domain-specific pre-trained models (e.g., PGR-MOOD (Shen et al., 2024)) are not included for a fair comparison. As a long-term evolving project, UB-GOLD will include these methods in the codebase for quick implementation.

ETHICS STATEMENT

This research is dedicated solely to scientific inquiry, without involving human subjects, animals, or materials that may pose environmental concerns. As such, we do not anticipate any ethical risks or conflicts of interest. We are committed to upholding the highest standards of scientific integrity and ethics to ensure the accuracy and credibility of our findings.

REPRODUCIBILITY STATEMENT

Our benchmark is thoroughly formalized in the main text to ensure clarity and ease of understanding. Detailed information on the implementation, including datasets, baselines, experimental settings, and model configurations, is provided for full transparency. All experimental setups and baselines have been rigorously verified for fair comparison. Additionally, we provide an open-source codebase for full reproducibility at <https://anonymous.4open.science/r/UB-GOLD-FFAB>.

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A WHY UB-GOLD FOCUSES ON UNSUPERVISED SCENARIOS

Node-level anomaly detection (AD) and out-of-distribution (OOD) detection can be performed in both supervised (Tang et al., 2023) and unsupervised (Liu et al., 2022) settings due to their transductive nature. In node-level tasks, the goal is to detect anomalous or OOD nodes within a single graph. Since the entire graph is observed, labeled data is often accessible, and supervised methods can be effectively applied. Supervised approaches leverage these labels to guide the model in identifying anomalies, while unsupervised methods detect deviations from normal node behavior without labels. Both approaches can coexist, as node-level tasks benefit from the complete visibility of the graph during training.

In contrast, graph-level AD/OOD detection poses different challenges, making supervised or semi-supervised approaches less meaningful. Unlike node-level tasks, graph-level detection deals with unseen, independent graphs at test time, where labeled anomaly or OOD samples are rarely available in real-world scenarios. Relying on labeled data in supervised or semi-supervised settings shifts the focus to classification rather than detecting unexpected anomalies. This undermines the core challenge of generalizing across unseen graphs. Furthermore, graph-level tasks share a closer resemblance to computer vision (CV) problems, where the primary challenge is detecting shifts in distribution without labeled anomalies. Our inspiration stems from the success of benchmarks like OpenOOD (Zhang et al., 2023) in CV, where unsupervised methods have proven to be more effective at handling distribution shifts in the absence of labeled OOD data.

By focusing solely on unsupervised methods in UB-GOLD, we ensure that the benchmark reflects the true nature of graph-level AD/OOD detection in real-world applications. Unsupervised approaches eliminate the dependency on labeled data, allowing models to learn from the normal distribution and detect deviations more naturally. This aligns with practical conditions, where labeled OOD or anomaly samples are rarely available. Additionally, an unsupervised framework promotes more robust generalization across diverse datasets, pushing the boundaries of AD/OOD detection in the graph domain, similar to the advancements driven by OpenOOD in computer vision.

B DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF DATASETS IN UB-GOLD

The description of datasets in UB-GOLD is given as follows. To ensure the reliability of our benchmark and avoid any data leakage, we carefully curated all dataset splits to guarantee no overlap between ID and OOD samples, or between training and test sets. Each dataset was meticulously prepared to maintain a clear separation, ensuring that OOD samples are entirely distinct from ID data. This strict partitioning is consistently applied across all experimental setups, providing a robust and unbiased evaluation of the methods.

● Type I: Datasets with intrinsic anomaly.²

Datasets under this type include real anomalies inherently present in the data, defined based on the biological or chemical properties of the samples. These anomalies are characterized by rare or atypical patterns that deviate from the majority of the data. Such intrinsic anomalies are valuable for evaluating the model’s ability to detect deviations from the norm, a common challenge in real-world data analysis.

- **HSE (Abdelaziz et al., 2016):** Anomalies in this dataset are samples exhibiting unusual stress response elements that deviate significantly from typical cellular stress responses. These may include rare mutations or outlier stress markers.
- **MMP (Abdelaziz et al., 2016):** Anomalous samples are identified as molecular structures with abnormal expressions of matrix metalloproteinases, often linked to extreme biological behaviors such as uncontrolled cancer metastasis.
- **p53 (Abdelaziz et al., 2016):** The anomalies are instances with abnormal p53 protein behavior or structural deviations, which may indicate dysfunction in apoptosis or tumor suppression mechanisms.

²Tox21 Challenge Data.

- 810 • **PPAR-gamma (Abdelaziz et al., 2016)**: Anomalies are molecular samples exhibiting irregular
811 activation or suppression of PPAR-gamma, which is unusual in typical metabolic and inflammatory
812 processes.

813
814 ● **Type II: Datasets with class-based anomaly.**³

815 This type includes six datasets (PROTEINS, ENZYMES, AIDS, DHFR, BZR, COX2) where the
816 graphs are attributed, meaning that each node contains descriptive features. The remaining datasets
817 are plain graphs without node-level attributes. All datasets with class-based anomalies are derived
818 from graph classification benchmarks, and for anomaly detection tasks, the minority class is treated
819 as anomalies. These datasets are particularly useful for evaluating models' ability to identify rare
820 classes or outliers within a given graph dataset.

- 821 • **COLLAB (Yanardag & Vishwanathan, 2015)**: Scientific collaboration networks, representing
822 authors and their co-authored papers in various scientific fields.
- 823 • **IMDB-BINARY (Yanardag & Vishwanathan, 2015)**: Movie collaboration networks, where
824 nodes represent actors and edges denote their co-appearance in films. This dataset helps in analyzing
825 the collaboration patterns within the film industry.
- 826 • **REDDIT-BINARY (Yanardag & Vishwanathan, 2015)**: Discussion threads from Reddit, each
827 graph representing a thread with nodes as users and edges as interactions. It captures the structure
828 of online discussions and their dynamics.
- 829 • **ENZYMES (Schomburg et al., 2004)**: Protein tertiary structures, each graph represents an enzyme
830 with nodes as secondary structure elements and edges as spatial adjacencies, crucial for biochemical
831 and functional studies.
- 832 • **PROTEINS (Dobson & Doig, 2003)**: Comprehensive protein structures and interaction data,
833 where nodes represent amino acids and edges denote interactions, providing insights into protein
834 functions and interactions.
- 835 • **DD (Vishwanathan et al., 2010)**: Protein-protein interaction networks, capturing the intricate
836 relationships between proteins within biological systems, essential for understanding cellular
837 functions.
- 838 • **BZR (Wu et al., 2018)**: Benzodiazepine receptor ligands, with nodes representing atoms and edges
839 representing bonds, used for studying molecular interactions with benzodiazepine receptors.
- 840 • **AIDS (Morris et al., 2020)**: Chemical compounds screened for antiviral activity against HIV,
841 where each graph represents a molecule, useful in drug discovery and antiviral research.
- 842 • **COX2 (Morris et al., 2020)**: Cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitors, where nodes and edges represent
843 molecular structures, important for studying anti-inflammatory drug properties.
- 844 • **NCI1 (Wale et al., 2008)**: Chemical compounds screened for anti-cancer activity, each graph
845 representing a molecule, used for evaluating potential anti-cancer drugs.
- 846 • **DHFR (Morris et al., 2020)**: Dihydrofolate reductase inhibitors, with graphs representing molecu-
847 lar structures, focusing on compounds inhibiting the DHFR enzyme, vital for cancer and bacterial
848 infection treatments.

850
851 ● **Type III: Datasets with inter-dataset shift.**

852 Inter-dataset shift datasets are designed by drawing ID and OOD samples from different but related
853 datasets. This design approach allows us to simulate real-world scenarios where data distributions for
854 both ID and OOD samples are distinct, yet share some underlying similarities.

- 855
856 • **BBBP (Martins et al., 2012)**: BBBP is the Blood-brain barrier penetration (BBBP) dataset
857 includes binary labels for over 2000 compounds on their permeability properties.
- 858 • **BACE (Subramanian et al., 2016)**: BACE provides a series of human β -secretases as well as
859 their binary label, and all data are experimental values reported in the scientific literature over the
860 last decade.
- 861 • **CLINTOX (Gayvert et al., 2016)**: The ClinTox dataset compares drugs that have been approved
862 by the FDA with drugs that have failed in clinical trials for toxicity reasons.

863
³TUDataset.

- 864 • **LIPO (Wu et al., 2018)**: The full name of LIPO is Lipophilicity, which is an important feature of
865 drug molecules that affects both membrane permeability and solubility.
- 866 • **FREESOLV (Mobley & Guthrie, 2014)**: The Free Solvation database (FreeSolv) provides
867 experimental and calculated free energies of hydration of small molecules in water.
- 868 • **TOXCAST (Richard et al., 2016)**: ToxCast providing toxicology data for a library of compounds
869 based on high-throughput screening and includes qualitative results of over 600 experiments on
870 8615 compounds.
- 871 • **ESOL (Delaney, 2004)**: ESOL is a small dataset containing water solubility data for 1128
872 compounds with the goal of estimating solubility from chemical structures.
- 873 • **MUV (Rohrer & Baumann, 2009)**: The Maximum Unbiased Validation (MUV) group is another
874 benchmark dataset selected from PubChem BioAssay by applying a modified nearest neighbor
875 analysis
- 876 • **TOX21 (Wu et al., 2018)**: The dataset contains qualitative toxicity measurements of 8014 com-
877 pounds against 12 different targets, including nuclear receptors and stress response pathways.
- 878 • **SIDER (Altae-Tran et al., 2017)**: The Side Effect Resource (SIDER) is a database of marketed
879 drugs and adverse drug reactions which measured for 1427 approved drugs.
- 880 • **PTC-MR (Helma et al., 2001)**: PTC dataset labels compounds based on their carcinogenicity
881 where MR Indicates that their rodent is a male rat.

884 ● **Type IV: Datasets with intra-dataset shift.**

885 Intra-dataset shift datasets simulate OOD conditions within a single dataset by defining shifts based
886 on specific attributes such as size, scaffold, or assay. Unlike inter-dataset shifts, which involve
887 drawing ID and OOD samples from different datasets, intra-dataset shifts introduce variations within
888 the same dataset, creating challenges for models that must adapt to these changes without external
889 data sources. Intra-dataset shifts are particularly useful for testing how well a model can handle
890 structural or feature-based changes within a consistent data domain.

- 891 • **GOOD (Gui et al., 2022)**: A systematic benchmark specifically tailored for the graph OOD
892 problem. We utilize two molecular datasets for OOD detection tasks: (1) GOOD-HIV is a small-
893 scale real-world molecular dataset which aim to predict whether this molecule can inhibit HIV
894 replication. (2) GOOD-ZINC is a real-world molecular property regression dataset from ZINC
895 database and aims at predicting molecular solubility. Each dataset comprises two ID-OOD splitting
896 strategies (scaffold and size), resulting in a total of 4 distinct datasets.
- 897 • **DrugOOD (Ji et al., 2023)**: This OOD benchmark is designed for AI-aided drug discovery. It
898 includes three ID-OOD splitting strategies: assay, scaffold, and size. These strategies are applied
899 to two measurements (IC50 and EC50), resulting in six datasets. Each dataset comprises a binary
900 classification task aimed at predicting drug target binding affinity.

903 C DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ALGORITHMS IN UB-GOLD

904 The description of benchmarking algorithms in UB-GOLD is demonstrated as follows.

905 ● **Graph kernels.**

- 906 • **Weisfeiler-Leman Subtree Kernel (WL) (Li et al., 2016)** : This kernel generates graph embed-
907 dings by iteratively refining node labels based on subtree patterns. It effectively captures structural
908 similarities within graphs, making it a powerful tool for embedding generation.
- 909 • **Propagation Kernel (PK) (Neumann et al., 2016)**: This method propagates labels through the
910 graph structure, resulting in embeddings that reflect the graph’s topology. It captures relational
911 information within the graph, providing a robust basis for subsequent outlier detection.

912 ● **Self-supervised learning methods.**

- 913 • **GraphCL (GCL) (You et al., 2020)**: GCL leverages augmentations to learn robust graph-level
914 representations. By contrasting different views of the same graph, the model learns to capture

- 918 essential graph structures and properties, making it highly effective for various graph-based tasks.
 919 This method is known for its strong performance in unsupervised learning settings.
 920
- 921 • **InfoGraph (IG) (Sun et al., 2020):** IG maximizes the mutual information between local and global
 922 graph representations to achieve unsupervised and semi-supervised graph-level representation
 923 learning. By capturing meaningful information across different levels of the graph, IG effectively
 924 learns comprehensive graph embeddings that are useful for a wide range of downstream tasks.
- 925 ● **Outlier Detectors.**
- 926
 - 927 • **Isolation Forest (iF) (Liu et al., 2008):** This algorithm isolates observations by constructing an
 928 ensemble of trees, each built by randomly selecting features and split values. An anomaly score is
 929 calculated based on the path length from the root to the leaf node, with shorter paths indicating
 930 anomalies.
 - 931 • **One-Class SVM (OCSVM) (Amer et al., 2013):** OCSVM aims to separate the data from the
 932 origin using a hyperplane in a high-dimensional space. Points that lie far from the hyperplane are
 933 considered outliers.
- 934
- 935 ● **Graph neural network-based GLAD methods.**
- 936
 - 937 • **OCGIN (Zhao & Akoglu, 2023):** Utilizes a GIN encoder optimized with a Support Vector Data
 938 Description (SVDD) objective to identify anomalies within the graph structure. This method
 939 employs an end-to-end GNN model with one-class classification for effective anomaly detection.
 - 940 • **GLocalKD (Ma et al., 2022):** Jointly learns two GNNs and performs graph-level and node-level
 941 random knowledge distillation between their learned representations. By leveraging both local and
 942 global knowledge, this approach enhances the detection of anomalies.
 - 943 • **OCGTL (Qiu et al., 2022):** Extends deep one-class classification to a self-supervised detection
 944 approach using neural transformations and graph transformation learning as regularization. This
 945 technique improves the model’s unsupervised anomaly detection capabilities.
 - 946 • **SIGNET (Liu et al., 2023b):** Proposes a self-interpretable graph-level anomaly detection frame-
 947 work that infers anomaly scores while providing subgraph explanations. By maximizing mutual
 948 information of multi-view subgraphs, it achieves both detection and interpretation of anomalies.
 - 949 • **GLADC (Luo et al., 2022):** Incorporates graph-level adversarial contrastive learning to identify
 950 anomalies. Through the creation of adversarial examples and learning robust representations, this
 951 method effectively distinguishes between normal and abnormal graphs.
 - 952 • **CVTGAD (Li et al., 2023):** Introduces a simplified transformer with cross-view attention for
 953 unsupervised graph-level anomaly detection. It overcomes the limited receptive field of GNNs by
 954 using a transformer-based module to capture relationships between nodes and graphs from both
 955 intra-graph and inter-graph perspectives.
- 956
- 957 ● **Graph neural network-based GLOD methods.**
- 958
 - 959 • **GOOD-D (Liu et al., 2023a):** Performs perturbation-free graph data augmentation and utilizes
 960 hierarchical contrastive learning on the generated graphs for graph-level OOD detection. By
 961 leveraging multiple levels of contrastive learning, GOOD-D enhances the representation learning
 962 process, making it robust in distinguishing between in-distribution (ID) and out-of-distribution
 963 (OOD) graphs.
 - 964 • **GraphDE (Li et al., 2022):** Models the generative process of the graph to characterize distribution
 965 shifts. Using variational inference, GraphDE infers the environment from which a graph sample is
 966 drawn. This generative approach effectively identifies ID and OOD graphs by detecting shifts in
 967 the underlying data distribution.
 - 968 • **AAGOD (Guo et al., 2023):** A data-centric framework for graph OOD detection that operates
 969 on well-trained GNNs without retraining. AAGOD uses an Adaptive Amplifier to modify input
 970 graphs, highlighting key patterns for OOD detection. Through its Learnable Amplifier Generator
 971 (LAG) and Regularized Learning Strategy (RLS), it significantly improves detection performance
 and efficiency.

- 972 • **GOODAT (Wang et al., 2024):** A test-time graph OOD detection method designed to operate on
 973 well-trained GNNs without requiring training data or altering the GNN architecture. GOODAT em-
 974 ploys a graph masker and the Graph Information Bottleneck (GIB) principle to extract informative
 975 subgraphs. Utilizing GIB-boosted loss functions effectively distinguishes between ID and OOD
 976 graphs, achieving strong performance across diverse datasets.

978 D SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION OF UB-GOLD

979 D.1 DEFINITION OF GLAD AND GLOD

980 **GLAD definition.** For GLAD, the task is to detect anomalous graphs within a given distribution \mathbb{P}^{in} .
 981 The objective is to assign anomaly scores $S(G)$ such that anomalous graphs are distinguishable from
 982 normal graphs based on a threshold τ :

$$983 g(G; \tau, S) = \begin{cases} 0 \text{ (Anomalous)}, & \text{if } S(G) \leq \tau, \\ 1 \text{ (Normal)}, & \text{if } S(G) > \tau. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

984 The theoretical objective for the anomaly scoring function $S(G)$ is to maximize the separation
 985 between the distributions of normal and anomalous graphs:

$$986 \max_S \mathbb{E}_{G \sim \mathbb{P}^{normal}} S(G) - \mathbb{E}_{G \sim \mathbb{P}^{anomalous}} S(G). \quad (4)$$

987 Here, \mathbb{P}^{normal} and $\mathbb{P}^{anomalous}$ represent the idealized distributions of normal and anomalous graphs.
 988 While this objective cannot be directly optimized during training due to the lack of access to test
 989 distributions, it provides a guiding principle for designing $S(G)$. Practical approaches typically
 990 rely on approximations or surrogate objectives based on training data, such as unsupervised or
 991 self-supervised learning frameworks, to approximate the separation of score distributions. When the
 992 separation is achieved, a threshold τ can effectively classify graphs as normal (1) or anomalous (0),
 993 aligning with the GLOD framework.

1000 **GLOD definition.** For GLOD, the task is to detect graphs in a test dataset that originate from a
 1001 different distribution \mathbb{P}^{out} compared to the training distribution \mathbb{P}^{in} . The goal is to assign OOD
 1002 scores $J(G)$ such that OOD graphs have significantly lower scores than ID graphs, enabling a
 1003 threshold-based classification.

$$1004 g(G; \tau, J) = \begin{cases} 0 \text{ (OOD)}, & \text{if } J(G) \leq \tau, \\ 1 \text{ (ID)}, & \text{if } J(G) > \tau. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

1005 The theoretical objective for the OOD scoring function $J(G)$ is to maximize the separation between
 1006 the distributions of ID and OOD graphs:

$$1007 \max_J \mathbb{E}_{G \sim \mathbb{P}^{in}} J(G) - \mathbb{E}_{G \sim \mathbb{P}^{out}} J(G). \quad (6)$$

1008 Here, \mathbb{P}^{in} and \mathbb{P}^{out} represent the idealized distributions of ID and OOD graphs, respectively. Although
 1009 these distributions are not directly accessible during training (since OOD samples are not present in
 1010 the training phase), they provide a theoretical goal for designing $J(G)$. In practice, approximations
 1011 are used based on the available training data to model the OOD detection function. When the
 1012 distributions of ID and OOD scores are well-separated, a threshold τ can effectively classify graphs
 1013 as ID (1) or OOD (0).
 1014
 1015
 1016
 1017

1018 D.2 METRICS

1019 In UB-GOLD, we consider three metrics for evaluation. Their definitions are given as follows.

- 1020 • **AUROC:** Fundamental for both GLOD and GLAD, AUROC measures a model’s ability to dis-
 1021 tinguish between normal and anomalous or OOD instances across various threshold levels. A
 1022 higher AUROC value indicates better performance in correctly classifying positives (anomalies
 1023 or OOD instances) and negatives (normal instances), making it crucial for evaluating the overall
 1024 effectiveness of detection algorithms.
 1025

Table 4: Hyper-parameter search space of all implemented methods.

Algorithm	Hyper-parameter	Search Space
General Settings	hidden size	16, 32, 64, 128
	dropout	0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3
	layers	1, 2, 3, 4
	learning rate	1e-1, 1e-2, 1e-3, 1e-4
GOOD-D	str_dim	8, 16, 24, 32
	cluster number	2, 3, 4
	α	[0, 1.0]
GraphDE	dropedge	0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3
	dropnode	0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3
	model type	graphde-v, graphde-a
CVTGAD	str_dim	8, 16, 24, 32
	cluster number	2, 3, 4
	α	[0, 1.0]
	pooling	mean, max
GLADC	hidden size	32, 64, 128, 256
	output size	32, 64, 128
GLocalKD	clip	0.10, 0.15, 0.20
	nobn	True, False
	nobias	True, False
OCGTL	hidden size	32, 64, 128
	layers	2, 3, 4, 5
SIGNET	pooling	add, max
	readout	concat, add, last
	layers	3, 4, 5
OCGIN	aggregation	mean, add, max
	bias	True, False
AAGOD	λ	10, 50, 100
GOODAT	α	0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9
	β	0.03, 0.05, 0.07
GCL+kernel	tree number	200, 250, 300
	sample ratio	0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6
KernelGLAD	tree number	200, 250, 300
	sample ratio	0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6
	neighbors	20, 30, 40
	leaves	25, 30, 35
	WL iteration	3, 4, 5, 6, 7

- **AUPRC:** Gains importance in imbalanced datasets, common in AD where anomalies are rare, and in GLOD where OOD instances are infrequent. This metric focuses on precision (the accuracy of positive predictions) and recall (the model’s ability to detect all positive cases), providing a clear measure of performance in scenarios where positive cases are critical and more challenging to detect.
- **FPR95:** Evaluates the number of false positives accepted when the model correctly identifies 95% of true positives. This metric is particularly useful in settings where missing an anomaly or an OOD instance can lead to significant consequences, emphasizing the need for models that maintain high sensitivity without sacrificing specificity.

Table 5: Dataset statistics including ID Train, ID Test, Near OOD, and Far OOD counts. Additionally, Unseen Class (UC), Unseen Dataset (UD), Near Size (NS), and Far Size (FS).

Scenario Type	Data	ID Train	ID/Near/Far Test	Near OOD	Far OOD
Class-based Anomaly	AIDS	1280	80	AIDS(UC)	DHFR(UD)
	BZR	69	17	BZR(UC)	COX2(UD)
	ENZYMES	400	20	ENZYMES(UC)	PROTEINS(UD)
Size-based	GOOD-ZINC-Size	1000	500	ZINC(NS)	ZINC(FS)

Table 6: Dataset statistics including ID Train, ID Train with different perturbation levels, ID Test, and OOD Test counts.

Data	ID Train	ID Train (10%)	ID Train (20%)	ID Train (30%)	ID Test	OOD Test
BZR	69	76	82	89	17	44
PROTEINS	360	374	387	400	90	93
COX2	81	89	96	103	21	51

D.3 ADDITIONAL EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

Implementation Details. To ensure a comprehensive evaluation and maintain fairness across a broad spectrum of models, we develop an open-source toolkit named UB-GOLD. This toolkit is built on top of Pytorch 2.01 (Paszke et al., 2019), torch_geometric 2.4.0 (Fey & Lenssen, 2019) and DGL 2.1.0 (Wang et al., 2019). We implement graph kernel methods with the DGL library. All other models are unified using the torch_geometric library. GCL and IG are included via the PYGCL library (Zhu et al., 2021).

Hardware Specifications. All our experiments were carried out on a Linux server with an Intel(R) Xeon(R) Gold 5120 2.20GHz CPU, 160GB RAM, and NVIDIA A40 GPU, 48GB RAM.

Hyperparameter Settings. Table 4 provides a comprehensive list of all hyperparameters used in our random search complete with their search spaces. For the design of the default hyperparameters please refer to our code base in. /benchmark/Source.

Efficiency Analysis (Sec. 4.4). We evaluate the computational efficiency of GLOD and GLAD methods using default hyperparameter settings. Our assessment focuses on two main aspects:

- **Time Efficiency:** We record the average time each method takes to achieve the best results across all datasets, providing insights into their processing speed.
- **Resource Usage:** We monitor each method’s CPU and GPU consumption (on COLLAB) during experiments, determining their demand for computational resources.

This setup allows us to measure the methods’ efficiency directly and reliably, reflecting their practicality for real-world application.

D.4 NEW EXPERIMENTS DATASET SPLIT

In the experiments for OOD sensitivity spectrum and robustness, we do not follow the original split but utilize experiment-specific splits for fair comparison. The details are as follows.

OOD sensitivity spectrum on Near-OOD and Far-OOD (Sec. 4.2). To rigorously evaluate the performance of GLOD and GLAD methods in handling near and far OOD conditions, we have implemented a distinct partitioning strategy for this research question. Unlike the setup in RQ1, here we ensure that the number of samples in the Near OOD, Far OOD, and ID Test groups are precisely equal, detailed in Table 5. This balanced configuration is designed to provide a fair comparison across different degrees of OOD scenarios, and it includes two specific setups:

- **Intra-inter dataset setting:** We utilize the class-based anomaly partitioning method to set the ID Train and ID Test, along with the Near OOD Test. The Far OOD Test employs datasets from the Inter-Dataset Shift category, representing more significant deviations.

- **Size-based distance setting:** We maintain the same ID Train and ID Test groupings of Intra-Dataset Shift. However, for the Near OOD and Far OOD tests, we categorize the samples based on differing graph sizes, with smaller sizes representing Near OOD and larger sizes for Far OOD.

These settings are designed to rigorously test the capability of GLOD and GLAD methods to recognize and differentiate between subtle and substantial distribution shifts, thereby assessing their effectiveness in realistic and challenging environments.

Robustness under Training Set Perturbation (Sec. 4.3). In this study, we investigate the robustness of GLOD and GLAD methods against the contamination of the ID training set with OOD samples. In Table 6, we begin by partitioning the OOD test dataset, randomly selecting 30% of its samples to be mixed into the ID training set. The remaining 70% of the OOD test dataset is kept intact for performance evaluation. This procedure is repeated to create four distinct experimental groups where 0%, 10%, 20%, and 30% of the originally selected OOD samples are added to the ID training dataset. These modifications allow us to systematically explore how progressively increasing the proportion of OOD samples within the ID training set affects the methods’ ability to identify and differentiate true OOD instances during testing accurately.

E REPRODUCIBILITY

Ensuring the reproducibility of experimental results is a core principle of UB-GOLD. Below, we outline the measures we have taken to achieve this:

Accessibility. All datasets, algorithm implementations, and experimental configurations are freely accessible through our open-source project at <https://anonymous.4open.science/r/UB-GOLD-FFAB>. No special requests or permissions are needed to access the resources.

Datasets. Our datasets are publicly available and include TUDataset, OGB, TOX21, DrugOOD, and GOOD. Among them, TUDataset (Morris et al., 2020), OGB (Hu et al., 2020), and TOX21 (Abdelaziz et al., 2016) are licensed under the MIT License. DrugOOD (Ji et al., 2023) is licensed under the GNU General Public License 3.0. GOOD (Gui et al., 2022) is licensed under GPL-3.0.

All these datasets are permitted by their authors for academic use and contain no personally identifiable information or offensive content.

Documentation and Usage. We provide comprehensive documentation to facilitate easy use of our library. The code includes thorough comments to enhance readability. Users can reproduce experimental results by following the examples, which outline how to run the code with specific data, methods, and GPU configuration arguments.

License. UB-GOLD is distributed under the MIT license, ensuring wide usability and adaptability.

Code Maintenance. We are dedicated to regularly updating our codebase, addressing user feedback, and incorporating community contributions. We also enforce strict version control to maintain reproducibility throughout the code maintenance process.

With these measures, UB-GOLD aims to foster transparency, accessibility, and collaboration within the research community.

F ADDITIONAL EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND ANALYSES

F.1 ADDITIONAL EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

In this section, we present additional experimental results, providing comprehensive insights into the performance of our models across different datasets and metrics.

Main experiments. Table 8 presents the complete results of the main experiment. Each model is executed 5 times with varying random seeds, and the mean scores along with standard deviations are reported. “Avg. AUROC”, “Avg. FPR95”, “Avg. AUPRC”, and “Avg. Rank” indicate the average AUROC, FPR95, AUPRC, and rank across all datasets, respectively. We observe that the End-to-End approach stands out in AUROC, achieving the best overall results. However, in the metrics of AUPRC and FPR95, SSL-D in the two-step approach also performs well, showing competitive results.

Table 7: Near and Far OOD performance comparison.

Model	Type	AIDS			BZR			ENZYMES			ZINC-Size		
		AUROC \uparrow	AUPR \uparrow	FPR95 \downarrow	AUROC \uparrow	AUPR \uparrow	FPR95 \downarrow	AUROC \uparrow	AUPR \uparrow	FPR95 \downarrow	AUROC \uparrow	AUPR \uparrow	FPR95 \downarrow
IG-iF	Far OOD	46.50	48.88	93.75	50.80	53.88	94.12	51.87	56.31	92.00	48.95	50.19	96.00
	Near OOD	45.92	47.75	93.75	49.58	54.43	91.76	50.15	54.76	89.00	50.39	50.90	94.72
IG-SVM	Far OOD	47.17	48.57	95.75	50.17	51.98	95.29	53.88	55.27	85.00	48.66	50.02	95.64
	Near OOD	45.01	46.42	95.50	50.83	55.36	96.47	53.85	55.51	85.00	50.14	50.46	94.92
GCL-iF	Far OOD	49.73	50.60	94.00	38.55	46.59	100.00	42.85	50.73	93.00	48.95	49.71	95.32
	Near OOD	53.53	53.86	94.50	47.23	54.29	98.82	50.65	52.68	88.00	50.51	50.00	94.00
GCL-SVM	Far OOD	50.26	50.60	93.00	42.56	49.85	97.65	44.82	50.47	91.00	49.43	49.90	95.20
	Near OOD	53.52	53.41	93.50	47.47	51.52	95.29	48.20	53.17	90.00	50.55	50.36	93.76
OCGIN	Far OOD	99.88	99.88	0.75	87.20	83.44	37.65	63.45	72.12	93.00	41.97	45.39	97.00
	Near OOD	96.01	95.95	13.25	66.16	59.78	50.59	58.35	63.39	89.00	36.96	45.98	99.56
GLocalKD	Far OOD	100.00	100.00	0.00	83.39	75.63	35.29	53.70	67.07	85.00	30.07	34.50	95.40
	Near OOD	99.89	99.90	0.00	65.81	58.54	51.76	40.45	54.30	85.00	13.14	31.09	99.92
OCGTL	Far OOD	100.00	100.00	0.00	84.64	77.25	28.24	80.10	77.04	41.00	99.58	99.32	1.00
	Near OOD	99.61	99.66	0.00	65.19	58.08	48.24	74.20	69.04	51.00	84.40	70.09	23.44
SIGNET	Far OOD	98.00	93.07	2.00	95.50	90.38	11.76	67.48	67.05	86.00	80.48	79.23	66.96
	Near OOD	97.16	91.02	2.50	88.93	83.93	85.88	71.60	71.27	68.00	72.90	71.41	82.64
GLADC	Far OOD	100.00	100.00	0.00	79.58	69.52	41.18	43.00	57.80	90.00	35.55	40.40	98.12
	Near OOD	98.74	98.60	3.75	64.36	56.84	52.94	41.25	43.32	85.00	11.63	32.34	100.00
CVTGOD	Far OOD	99.94	99.94	0.25	93.91	91.30	17.65	70.20	76.29	87.00	44.57	51.56	95.44
	Near OOD	94.93	95.01	24.00	80.48	72.37	63.53	53.05	58.40	88.00	20.68	38.52	99.84
GOOD-D	Far OOD	98.95	98.93	5.75	99.31	99.37	9.41	71.60	77.06	83.00	67.73	67.68	88.00
	Near OOD	87.80	88.60	43.25	87.54	86.49	69.41	58.10	62.40	88.00	55.85	56.94	94.36
GraphDE	Far OOD	80.25	90.13	100.00	51.18	50.91	96.47	58.75	64.84	100.00	59.01	65.91	98.80
	Near OOD	50.09	71.87	100.00	49.41	50.61	97.65	40.30	47.18	100.00	56.61	57.25	98.00
AAGOD	Far OOD	94.95	94.80	8.25	78.39	75.42	21.50	57.92	64.35	87.00	54.23	60.45	94.00
	Near OOD	84.32	83.45	18.75	60.08	57.80	42.34	56.34	58.72	88.00	51.60	55.23	96.00
GOODAT	Far OOD	93.28	92.88	10.00	82.43	80.32	24.11	65.97	71.25	89.00	53.78	60.25	94.50
	Near OOD	81.93	80.75	22.50	62.92	61.23	45.36	56.98	60.12	88.00	46.77	52.03	95.00

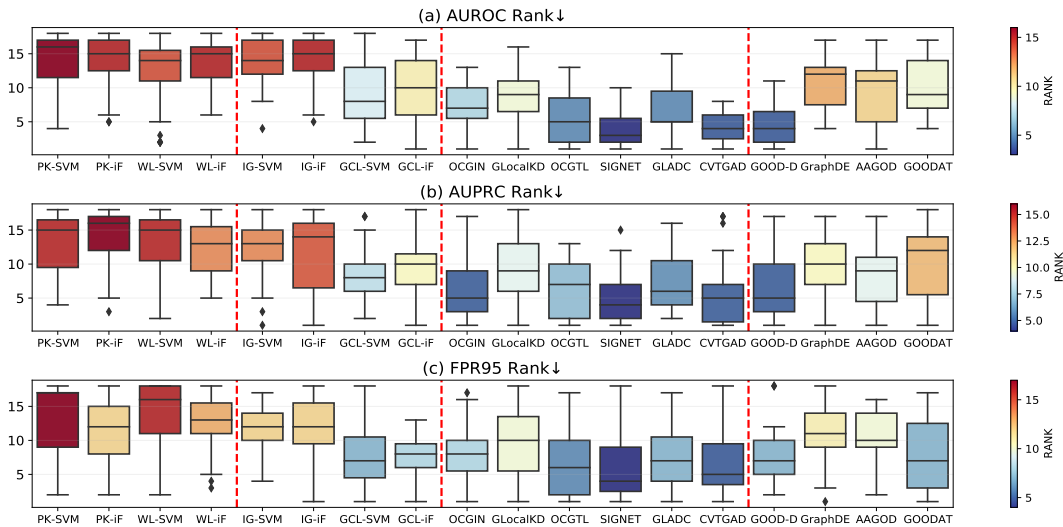


Figure 7: Comparison of the ranking on 35 datasets in terms of three metrics.

Ranking experiments. Fig. 7 shows the ranking of models across 35 datasets in terms of their performance. It provides a visual representation of the comparative ranking, allowing for an easy assessment of how different models rank against each other across a large number of datasets.

Near and far OOD performance. We provide the full results of Near-OOD and Far-OOD evaluations for three metrics across four datasets, as shown in Table 7. This table allows for a detailed comparison of Near and Far OOD performance, showcasing how our models perform under different out-of-distribution scenarios. Further confirming our findings in Observations 5 and 6.

Robustness under Training Set Perturbation. While Observations 7 and 8 are based on AUROC, we also provide AUPRC and FPR95 results in this section. However, it is important to note that since AUPRC and FPR95 are computed based on the model’s performance on AUROC, the conclusions drawn from AUROC do not necessarily extend to these other metrics. As shown in Fig.9 and Fig.10,

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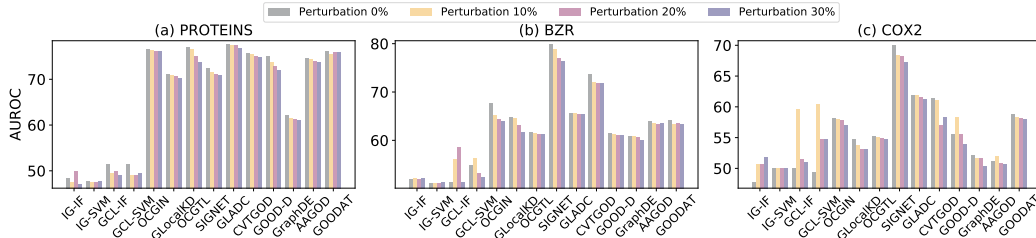


Figure 8: Performance of models under different perturbation levels in terms of AUROC.

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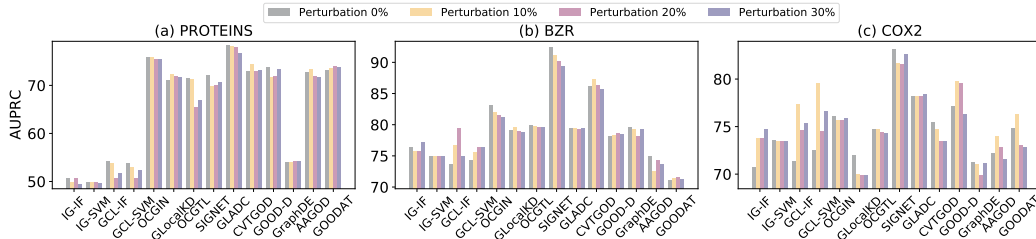


Figure 9: Performance of models under different perturbation levels in terms of AUPRC.

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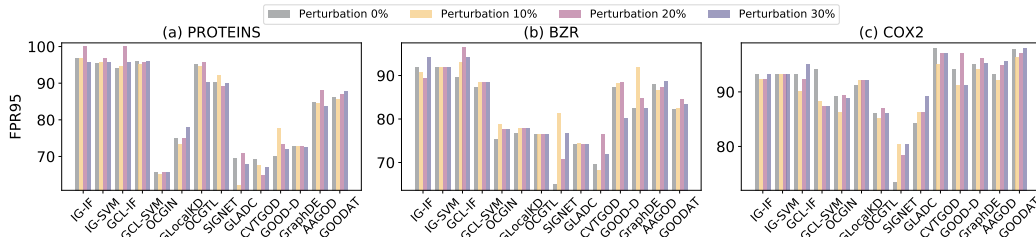


Figure 10: Performance of models under different perturbation levels in terms of FPR95.

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the results for AUPRC and FPR95 do not exhibit the same consistent trends, indicating that the behavior of models may vary across different evaluation metrics.

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F.2 ADDITIONAL EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSES

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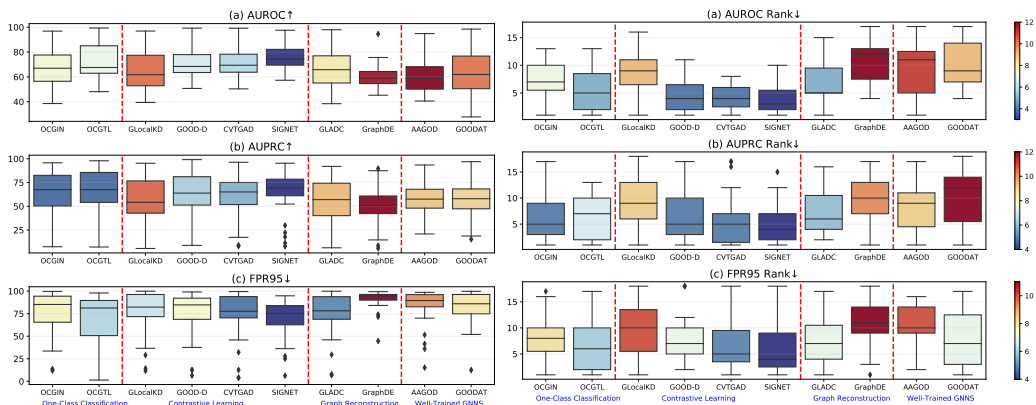


Figure 11: Scores and ranks for four types of methods.

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In this section, as illustrated in Fig. 2, we categorize the GLAD/GLOD methods into four main technical groups:

- **One-Class Classification:** OCGIN, OCGTL.
- **Contrastive Learning:** GLocalKD, GOOD-D, CVTGOD, SIGNET.
- **Graph Reconstruction:** GLADC, GraphDE.

1296 • **Well-Trained GNNs:** AAGOD, GOODAT.
1297

1298 From Fig.11, we observe that contrastive learning methods generally perform better and exhibit more
1299 stable results compared to other methods. This performance difference can be attributed to several
1300 key factors:

1301 **Rich Representations in Contrastive Learning:** Contrastive learning methods (GLocalKD, GOOD-
1302 D, CVTGOD, SIGNET) demonstrate superior and stable performance across all metrics, particularly
1303 AUROC and AUPRC. This strong performance can be attributed to their ability to maximize mutual
1304 information between different augmentations of the same graph (positive pairs) and minimize it for
1305 negative pairs. By capturing and preserving the most relevant and rich graph features, these methods
1306 produce robust, discriminative representations that generalize well in OOD detection. Their compact
1307 interquartile ranges indicate stable performance across datasets.

1308 **Sensitivity to Anomalies in One-Class Classification:** One-class classification methods (OCGIN,
1309 OCGTL) perform well overall, particularly in FPR95. These methods excel by learning a dense,
1310 representative boundary around the in-distribution (ID) data, treating everything outside this boundary
1311 as OOD. Their strength lies in handling compact, well-defined distributions, making them particularly
1312 effective in scenarios where OOD samples deviate significantly from the ID distribution. This is why
1313 they show relatively consistent performance across datasets. However, when the OOD samples closely
1314 resemble the ID samples, the separation becomes more challenging, leading to some variability in
1315 performance on metrics like AUROC and AUPRC.

1316 **Limitations of Graph Reconstruction:** Graph reconstruction methods (GLADC, GraphDE) show
1317 more variability. GLADC performs reasonably well on AUROC but struggles with AUPRC and
1318 FPR95. These methods reconstruct the input graph and detect anomalies based on reconstruction
1319 errors, but when the reconstruction error does not strongly correlate with OOD instances, their
1320 effectiveness decreases. This is especially true for GraphDE, which shows poor performance and
1321 significant variability.

1322 **Dependency on Pre-trained Models in Well-Trained GNNs:** Well-trained GNNs (AAGOD,
1323 GOODAT) show mixed results, depending on the availability of pre-trained model parameters. These
1324 methods rely heavily on the pre-trained GNNs' quality. GOODAT is more stable across datasets,
1325 while AAGOD displays higher variability. The methods perform well when high-quality pre-trained
1326 parameters are available, but retraining without these parameters leads to a noticeable performance
1327 drop, indicating a strong dependency on the initial pre-training phase.

1328 Overall, contrastive learning methods stand out for their ability to capture high mutual information
1329 between graph augmentations, resulting in robust and generalizable representations. One-class
1330 classification methods perform well, especially in handling distinct OOD cases but show some
1331 sensitivity when OOD samples closely resemble ID data. Graph reconstruction methods face
1332 challenges in correlating reconstruction errors with OOD detection, leading to inconsistent results.
1333 Well-trained GNNs can be effective but are highly dependent on pre-trained models, impacting their
1334 consistency across different scenarios. This analysis highlights the importance of selecting methods
1335 that align with the characteristics of the task and data.

1336 F.3 JUDGE SCORE DISTRIBUTION ANALYSIS

1337
1338 As illustrated in Fig.12, we visualize the OOD Judge score distributions for eight baseline models
1339 across three datasets (AIDS, BZR, Tox21_HSE, and AI-DH). The X-axis shows the OOD Judge
1340 score, and the Y-axis shows the frequency. These plots demonstrate how OOD and ID samples
1341 are distributed based on their scores, highlighting the separation between these distributions. This
1342 analysis directly assesses the models' ability to distinguish OOD from ID samples, which is more
1343 task-relevant than visualizing the embedding space.

1344 Most methods perform well on the AIDS dataset, with clear separation between OOD (red) and ID
1345 (blue) distributions. However, methods like GraphDE and SIGENT exhibit noticeable differences in
1346 distribution shapes, suggesting variability in decision boundaries and sensitivity to data characteristics.
1347

1348 In contrast, all methods show poor performance on the Tox21_HSE dataset, with overlapping OOD
1349 and ID distributions. This overlap indicates a failure to effectively distinguish OOD from ID samples,
suggesting that the dataset presents significant challenges for OOD detection.

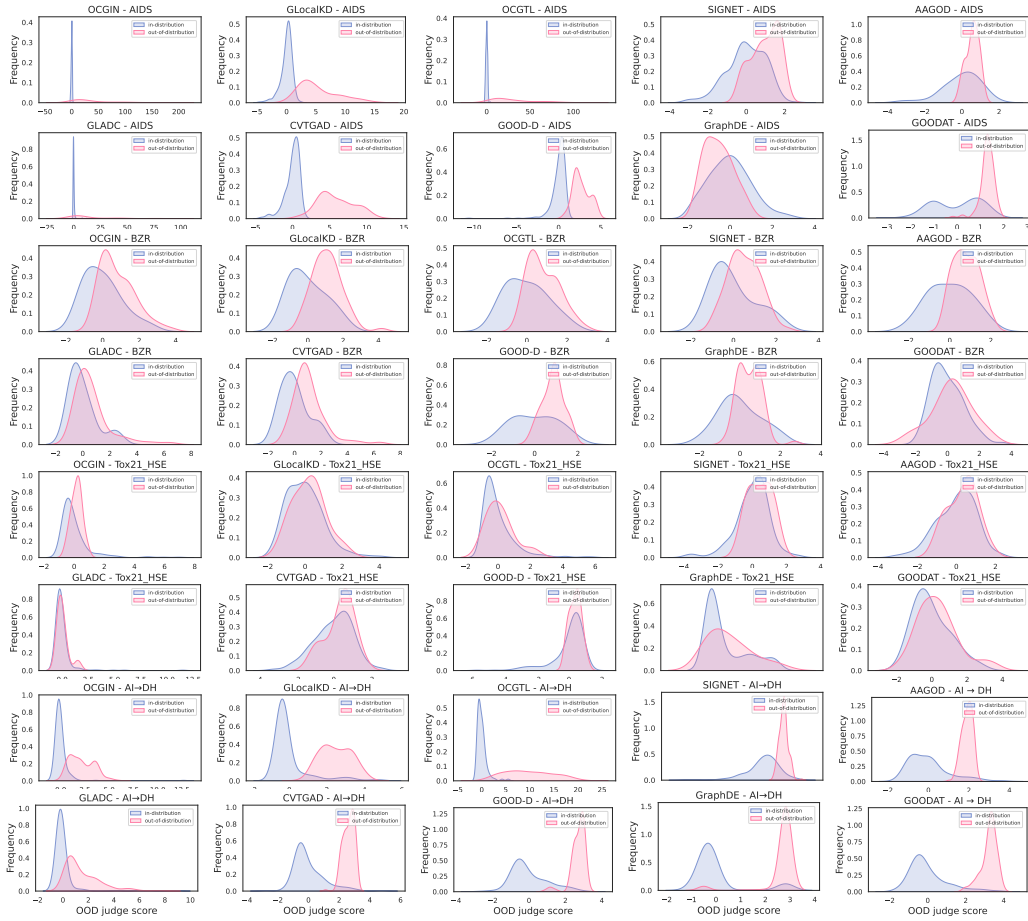


Figure 12: OOD Judge score distributions.

Table 8: Comparison in terms of AUROC (top), AUROC (middle), and FPR95 (bottom). The best three results are highlighted using 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Avg. AUROC, FPR95, "Avg. AUROC" and "Avg. Rank" indicate the average AUROC, FPR95, AUROC, and rank across all datasets.

	GK-D (two-step)				SSL-D (two-step)				GNN-based GLAD (end-to-end)					GNN-based GLOD (end-to-end)				
	PK-SVM	PK-F	WL-SVM	WL-F	IG-SVM	IG-F	GCL-SVM	GCL-F	OCGIN	GlobalKD	OCGTL	SIGNET	GLADC	CVTGD	GOOD-D	GraphDE	AAGOD	GOODAT
p53	49.17±0.46	54.05±0.25	57.69±0.57	54.40±0.41	68.11±0.07	60.85±0.68	68.81±0.14	64.00±0.10	68.35±0.20	65.43±0.29	67.58±0.20	68.10±0.15	65.82±0.21	69.01±0.28	67.82±0.27	62.59±0.56	50.13±0.67	61.71±0.35
COLLAP	60.72±0.43	56.49±0.66	63.27±0.26	52.98±0.53	60.33±0.29	22.77±0.63	67.40±0.16	63.95±0.20	71.43±0.20	60.21±0.12	63.76±0.69	61.56±0.60	61.37±0.48	70.92±0.30	68.71±0.22	62.47±0.27	54.60±0.36	61.99±0.28
ES -MU	51.03±0.44	48.95±0.29	55.50±0.67	51.96±0.20	57.72±0.26	52.58±0.29	69.11±0.13	71.81±0.13	60.75±0.12	68.12±0.22	67.15±0.27	71.09±0.38	70.58±0.22	71.43±0.63	69.12±0.33	62.92±0.78	67.49±0.29	67.49±0.29
PPAR	53.74±0.21	48.22±0.16	57.76±0.33	49.45±0.12	61.78±0.06	63.22±0.22	68.37±0.44	69.88±0.24	67.75±0.34	65.29±0.58	66.43±0.67	68.88±0.42	69.43±0.38	68.83±0.10	68.21±0.30	57.90±0.56	66.95±0.52	
COLLAP	49.72±0.06	51.38±0.20	54.62±0.28	51.41±0.09	36.47±0.42	38.18±0.34	44.91±0.56	45.44±0.43	60.58±0.27	51.85±0.18	48.13±0.44	72.45±0.11	54.32±0.27	71.01±0.58	69.34±0.55	46.77±0.48	50.14±0.35	44.91±0.19
IMB-B	51.75±0.30	52.85±0.51	52.98±0.69	51.79±0.32	40.89±0.48	45.64±0.67	68.09±0.22	63.88±0.15	61.47±0.10	53.31±0.31	65.27±0.21	70.12±0.61	65.93±0.28	69.92±0.13	66.68±0.11	59.25±0.39	58.43±0.22	65.49±0.34
ENZYMES	45.43±0.09	49.24±0.67	53.75±0.34	51.03±0.42	60.97±0.19	53.94±0.66	62.73±0.21	63.09±0.20	62.44±0.38	61.75±0.20	63.59±0.11	63.12±0.52	63.40±0.30	68.56±0.43	64.58±0.57	52.10±0.65	58.40±0.35	52.33±0.59
PROTEINS	49.43±0.69	61.84±0.34	53.85±0.26	65.75±0.35	61.15±0.11	52.78±0.58	72.61±0.04	72.60±0.26	72.64±0.13	77.29±0.01	72.89±0.37	75.86±0.30	77.43±0.19	76.49±0.29	72.81±0.37	68.13±0.33	73.04±0.25	77.92±0.75
BZR	47.69±0.24	75.29±0.46	47.98±0.32	70.49±0.28	70.53±0.33	42.67±0.19	76.43±0.45	65.41±0.09	79.89±0.19	80.76±0.06	77.95±0.46	74.55±0.11	76.5±0.25	78.84±0.38	79.09±0.55	60.49±0.17	74.00±0.21	77.62±0.28
AIDS	46.67±0.52	59.88±2.09	51.16±0.36	51.71±0.45	41.50±0.24	45.42±0.34	68.93±0.43	67.81±0.32	69.13±0.13	68.55±0.11	51.89±0.46	80.79±0.34	68.23±0.31	77.69±0.28	73.28±0.10	65.94±0.12	64.52±0.77	64.77±0.12
HZZ	50.93±0.19	52.01±0.53	52.56±0.41	61.42±0.69	87.20±0.18	97.96±0.36	95.44±0.46	98.80±0.32	96.89±0.20	96.93±0.34	99.26±0.67	97.60±0.28	98.02±0.23	99.21±0.27	97.10±0.22	70.82±0.57	86.64±0.29	98.82±0.66
CONC	52.15±0.18	52.38±0.38	53.34±0.27	49.05±0.11	49.11±0.28	48.61±0.00	59.08±0.27	50.38±0.36	57.31±0.21	58.93±0.47	58.1±0.29	72.95±0.38	68.83±0.28	64.36±0.31	63.1±0.31	54.74±0.15	51.89±0.61	59.9±0.20
NCHI	51.39±0.19	50.22±0.12	54.18±0.47	50.41±0.31	45.11±0.33	61.88±0.23	43.34±0.25	46.44±0.00	69.04±0.36	65.29±0.21	75.75±0.47	74.32±0.34	68.32±0.22	69.13±0.58	61.58±0.40	58.74±0.18	49.94±0.78	45.96±0.45
DHFR	48.31±0.47	52.99±0.35	50.30±0.31	51.64±0.22	45.58±0.21	63.15±0.24	58.21±0.56	57.10±0.01	61.01±0.27	61.79±0.54	59.82±0.14	72.87±0.28	61.29±0.19	63.23±0.18	64.48±0.13	53.23±0.10	63.93±0.33	61.52±0.40
IM -IB	49.80±0.33	51.23±0.05	53.45±0.29	53.03±0.14	56.26±0.29	51.32±0.16	74.45±0.19	78.62±0.07	80.89±0.31	81.25±0.08	66.73±0.12	71.10±0.35	78.28±0.23	80.23±0.34	80.94±0.17	52.67±0.12	82.17±0.17	77.66±0.11
EN -PR	52.53±0.22	53.36±0.31	53.92±0.58	51.90±0.49	46.01±0.42	33.52±0.17	59.76±0.16	63.23±0.04	61.74±0.35	59.36±0.16	67.18±0.13	62.42±0.12	56.85±0.24	63.81±0.68	68.18±0.12	54.48±0.38	50.17±0.39	65.13±0.68
AD -DH	51.18±0.11	51.09±0.66	52.28±0.21	50.95±0.48	44.33±0.29	63.27±0.47	97.11±0.32	98.48±0.40	95.95±0.26	94.33±0.35	96.82±0.37	95.42±0.37	95.10±0.12	94.58±0.33	94.38±0.63	94.90±0.43	93.95±0.32	
BZ -CO	43.34±0.58	52.43±0.14	49.76±0.47	52.16±0.54	64.29±0.30	64.65±0.31	78.98±0.44	76.01±0.07	87.7±0.32	80.55±0.09	81.86±0.29	89.11±0.37	83.21±0.06	96.32±0.17	95.16±0.19	65.26±0.24	77.44±0.33	80.97±0.26
ES -MU	52.99±0.55	52.63±0.16	52.15±0.25	52.24±0.12	58.12±0.30	51.52±0.27	78.66±0.17	79.66±0.15	66.73±0.36	90.55±0.15	88.23±0.25	94.43±0.09	91.81±0.39	91.89±0.39	91.89±0.39	75.65±0.12	89.93±0.28	83.82±0.29
TO -SI	53.73±0.34	51.74±0.67	53.50±0.14	52.25±0.64	61.32±0.22	65.53±0.60	66.54±0.38	64.85±0.07	67.24±0.29	69.80±0.16	68.91±0.42	66.72±0.33	72.51±0.24	76.60±0.13	72.34±0.15	66.90±0.33	67.21±0.65	
BB -BA	54.15±0.61	53.14±0.48	54.62±0.55	53.48±0.12	63.27±0.30	32.37±0.30	69.18±0.22	67.33±0.37	78.8±0.46	77.69±0.14	78.93±0.60	89.88±0.22	79.07±0.17	80.17±0.44	81.44±0.11	60.69±0.67	72.00±0.33	75.94±0.11
IMB-B	51.52±0.32	55.74±0.19	54.05±0.28	52.14±0.36	55.88±0.33	58.78±0.15	78.10±0.38	79.74±0.18	79.74±0.18	75.54±0.26	84.63±0.24	80.1±0.27	79.44±0.38	82.03±0.17	58.28±0.61	67.65±0.41	88.02±0.44	
FS -TC	50.06±0.55	54.76±0.29	51.98±0.53	53.24±0.44	44.98±0.37	49.57±0.66	67.01±0.30	66.01±0.30	66.88±0.18	68.92±0.26	64.38±0.18	78.12±0.06	67.32±0.29	69.89±0.41	71.58±0.50	60.12±0.67	67.65±0.41	67.09±0.28
CL -LI	50.65±0.47	51.74±0.55	52.66±0.30	51.54±0.18	50.62±0.47	45.95±0.11	54.07±0.16	51.10±0.44	61.1±0.27	58.31±0.20	59.30±0.17	72.15±0.06	63.42±0.21	70.21±0.14	65.57±0.19	50.79±0.66	53.08±0.72	60.93±0.54
HIV-Size	48.94±0.33	49.96±0.44	66.11±0.56	45.10±0.12	31.39±0.25	32.67±0.37	26.73±0.30	35.80±0.20	58.55±0.15	42.94±0.06	96.34±0.67	91.86±0.23	47.96±0.55	56.23±0.26	74.12±0.29	68.31±0.30	41.88±0.11	29.21±0.08
HIV-Hafford	44.66±0.22	46.42±0.35	46.18±0.31	48.86±0.34	53.07±0.38	58.74±0.29	61.00±0.42	59.26±0.20	56.82±0.34	54.38±0.04	59.4±0.24	54.18±0.14	58.03±0.24	70.93±0.34	63.23±0.22	59.49±0.17	62.28±0.33	53.48±0.25
ZINC-Scflood	49.36±0.65	48.45±0.42	44.72±0.41	54.57±0.67	54.78±0.14	56.17±0.38	54.04±0.22	54.28±0.05	56.24±0.30	50.12±0.34	66.79±0.18	59.24±0.40	55.73±0.47	56.79±0.24	56.39±0.24	55.62±0.45	52.06±0.22	48.88±0.41
EC50-Size	51.12±0.50	46.61±0.17	51.17±0.33	52.29±0.65	32.61±0.32	32.61±0.32	22.83±0.40	27.68±0.14	41.47±0.12	41.29±0.52	97.36±0.13	81.63±0.18	80.93±0.29	50.17±0.47	60.17±0.29	59.49±0.47	45.91±0.07	32.97±0.33
EC50-Size	70.50±0.33	59.33±0.21	92.29±0.33	49.36±0.19	29.71±0.34	32.60±0.32	22.83±0.40	27.68±0.14	41.47±0.12	41.29±0.52	97.36±0.13	81.63±0.18	80.93±0.29	50.17±0.47	60.17±0.29	59.49±0.47	45.91±0.07	32.97±0.33
IC50-Scflood	66.33±0.49	60.95±0.55	88.49±0.32	58.56±0.30	36.96±0.28	38.67±0.66	34.09±0.31	38.82±0.33	44.90±0.22	42.97±0.37	96.00±0.10	77.58±0.47	38.48±0.10	57.96±0.19	56.62±0.31	59.08±0.40	49.79±0.42	36.34±0.63
IC50-Scflood	64.95±0.21	62.78±0.38	86.03±0.34	55.27±0.63	27.88±0.34	30.36±0.60	31.28±0.23	32.35±0.23	39.78±0.18	48.51±0.35	94.14±0.14	84.63±0.24	40.98±0.30	66.26±0.21	68.26±0.16	54.35±0.25	57.85±0.27	41.85±0.57
IC50-Scflood	54.47±0.46	53.13±0.22	50.18±0.18	52.11±0.18	51.23±0.10	51.42±0.11	51.93±0.14	51.93±0.14	52.61±0.10	49.87±0.28	68.78±0.18	65.99±0.21	52.12±0.24	54.25±0.11	53.71±0.10	57.11±0.12	48.74±0.20	45.34±0.49
EC50-Assay	49.08±0.41	46.60±0.65	48.43±0.23	45.32±0.19	47.80±0.44	47.81±0.66	47.80±0.55	46.02±0.52	56.16±0.21	52.44±0.18	69.31±0.31	82.97±0.38	58.43±0.13	66.71±0.10	65.57±0.17	58.96±0.11	60.42±0.40	55.79±0.52
Avg. AUROC	52.69	53.67	57.56	52.91	52.11	50.35	61.29	61.50	66.06	64.29	73.14	75.86	65.50	71.07	71.05	60.38	61.54	61.91
Avg. Rank	13.80	13.54	12.03	13.86	14.00	13.83	10.83	10.63	7.26	8.71	5.43	3.37	7.03	3.69	4.14	10.38	9.89	9.43