

1 We thank all the reviewers for their constructive feedback. Below are the responses
2 to each reviewer.

3 **Reviewer #1: (1) Number of labeled nodes to train the policy network.** We
4 use all the labeled nodes in the training graphs, as one could very easily find some
5 fully labeled graphs to train the policy network. **(2) About ANRMAB.** Yes, the-
6oretically you are right. However, to learn good weights of different heuristics for
7 ANRMAB, at least a moderate number of labeled data are required. In our setting,
8 we focus on very limited query budget, with which it is very difficult to learn good
9 weights. **(3) Performance w.r.t. query budgets.** We agree that it is important to
10 report the classification performance w.r.t. different query budgets in active learn-
11ing. As an example, we have illustrated the corresponding curves on Reddit 4 in
12 Section 4.4 (Paper). Here, we provide additional results in Fig. 1, where GPA is trained on Reddit {1, 2} and evaluated on
13 Cora. We observe similar trends to the results in Section 4.4 (Paper). **(4) Concerns on Table 1&2.** The purpose of Table
14 1&2 is to compare the performance of different active learning algorithms under the same query budgets of ($5 \times \#$ classes).
15 We have compared classification performance w.r.t. different query budgets in Section 4.4 (Paper) and Fig. 1. **(5)**
16 **Concerns on Section 4.4.** This is a very good point! Following your suggestion, we fix the test budget and change the
17 training budget to see how the performance varies. Fig. 2 shows the results on the Reddit dataset, where graph 1&2 are
18 used for training and graph 4 for testing. The x-axis of the figure corresponds to different query budgets on the training
19 graphs. The results show that a training budget of 30 queries is sufficient to yield good performance, and more budgets
20 will further yield more stable results with lower variance. For the effect of query budgets on classification performance, it
21 has been discussed in the aforementioned answer (3). We will add more results on different graphs in the revised version.

22 **Reviewer #2: (1) About "Ignoring Long-term Performance".** All the baseline
23 methods except ANRMAB greedily choose the node with the maximal surrogate
24 criterion score to label, which ignore the long-term performance. In contrast,
25 our method uses reinforcement learning to label nodes with maximal long-term
26 performance gain. In experiment, our method outperforms all the greedy methods,
27 which proves our claim. **(2) Definition of the reward and evaluation metric.**
28 Empirically, we use Micro-F₁ score of the classification GNN on test sets as
29 the evaluation metric \mathcal{M} to generate the reward signal R . **(3) Relation to prior**
30 **work.** Most previous methods use different kinds of greedy strategies to identify
31 informative nodes to label. In this paper we formulate the problem of active
32 learning on graphs as a sequential decision process and propose to train an active learning policy network to maximize
33 the long-term performance score on the end task. We will discuss this in more details in the revised version.

34 **Reviewer #3: (1) Experiments on other tasks.** We agree that it would be interesting to evaluate the proposed
35 algorithm GPA on other tasks. Indeed, GPA is very general and can be easily applied to different tasks by changing the
36 reward functions accordingly. Here we take node classification as an example, which is the most fundamental problem
37 on graphs. **(2) Questions about zero-shot node classification.** This is a misunderstanding. Our paper actually focuses
38 on “zero-shot transfer learning” instead of “zero-shot node classification”. “Zero-shot transfer learning” means that
39 the *policy network* learned on labeled training graphs can be directly applied to the unlabeled test graphs without any
40 further fine-tuning. In addition, the active learning setting mainly focuses on identifying informative nodes to label
41 for supervised learning, which is different from unsupervised learning setting. **(3) Interaction between graph policy**
42 **network and the one for node classification.** The graph policy network selects unlabeled nodes for annotation to
43 train the node classification network. Meanwhile, the performance of the classification network is used as rewards to
44 train the graph policy network. **(4) Transferring to other graphs.** This is a good point. Indeed, our algorithm is not
45 sensitive to the number of classes between source and target graphs, because all the considered state features are not
46 sensitive to the number of classes. Our algorithm parameterizes policy networks with GNNs, which naturally generalize
47 to graphs with different topology. In experiment, we evaluate GPA on graphs with different numbers of classes and
48 different topology, and show compelling results. **(5) Indices of state features.** The fourth state feature is defined as
49 $s_v^t(4)$ in the equation following L115 on page 3. **(6) Node class prediction probabilities.** Following existing literature,
50 we apply a linear softmax classifier on top of the node representations learned by the classification GNN to get the
51 node class probability. **(7) Evaluation metric for reward.** Empirically, we use Micro-F₁ as the evaluation metric for
52 reward generation. **(8) Action space.** Remember that the action of the policy network is to select an unlabeled node and
53 query for its label in each query step, and thus the action space is defined as the unlabeled nodes in the training set. **(9)**
54 **Comparison with [5].** [5] considers batch-mode active learning on heterogeneous graphs, which cannot be directly
55 applied to our setting. Also, the idea of [5] is very similar to ANRMAB, where the problem is both formulated with
56 multi-armed bandit, and thus we mainly compare against ANRMAB in the paper.

57 **Reviewer #4:** We appreciate your positive feedback, and will revise the paper according to your suggestions.

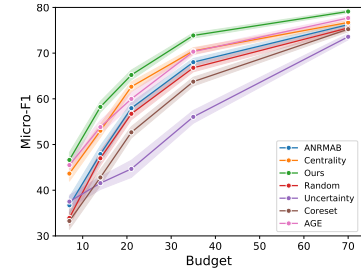


Fig. 1: Performance w.r.t query budget on Cora

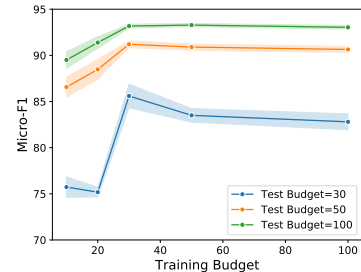


Fig. 2: Performance w.r.t. training budget