

# Stability and Generalization Capability of Subgraph Reasoning Models for Inductive Knowledge Graph Completion

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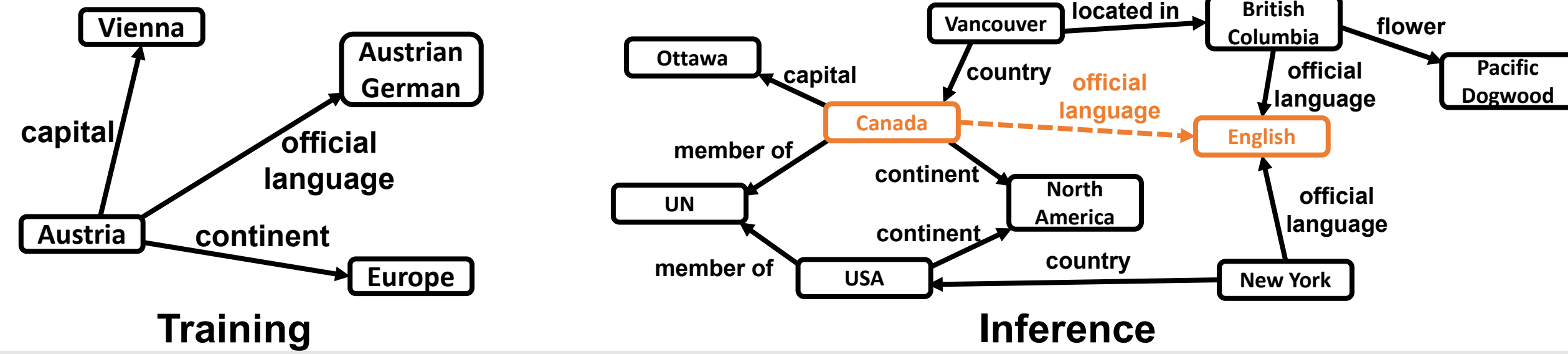
## Main Contributions

- Propose a general framework for **subgraph reasoning models**
  - Derive their **stability** w.r.t. the perturbations of the **subgraph structure**
- Introduce RTMD** designed for subgraph reasoning models
  - Use RTMD to **compute the stability** of subgraph reasoning models
- Analyze the **generalization bound** of the subgraph reasoning model
  - Discuss the impact of **stability** on their **generalization capability**
- Empirically **validate our theoretical findings** on real-world KGs
  - Examine how the **stability impacts generalization capability**

## Inductive Knowledge Graph Completion

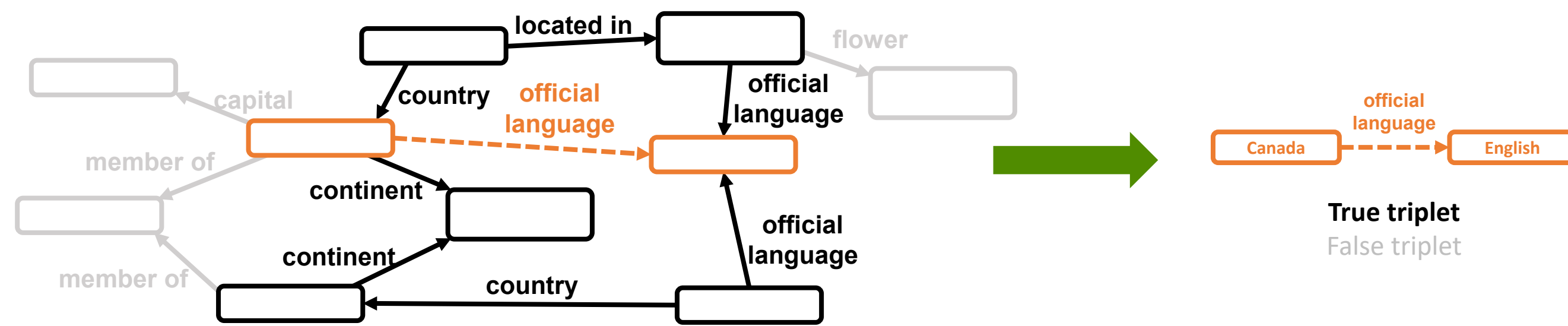
### Knowledge Graph (KG)

- Represents **real-world knowledge** by **relationships between entities**
- Inductive Knowledge Graph Completion (Inductive KGC)**
  - Predicts missing triplets** within knowledge graphs
  - KG that appears during **inference** differs from the one used for **training**



## Subgraph Reasoning Model

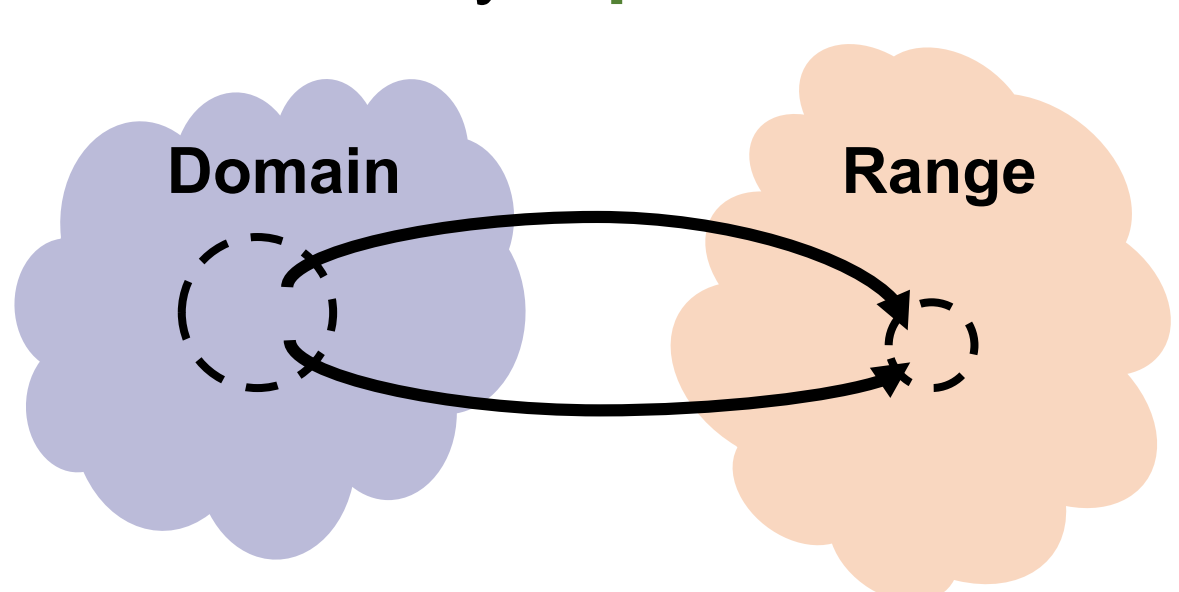
- Determines the validity of a triplet **using the subgraph**
  - Extracts a subgraph** associated with a target triplet
  - Relabels the entities** within the subgraph
  - Computes a score** of the subgraph through **message-passing**



## Theoretical Properties

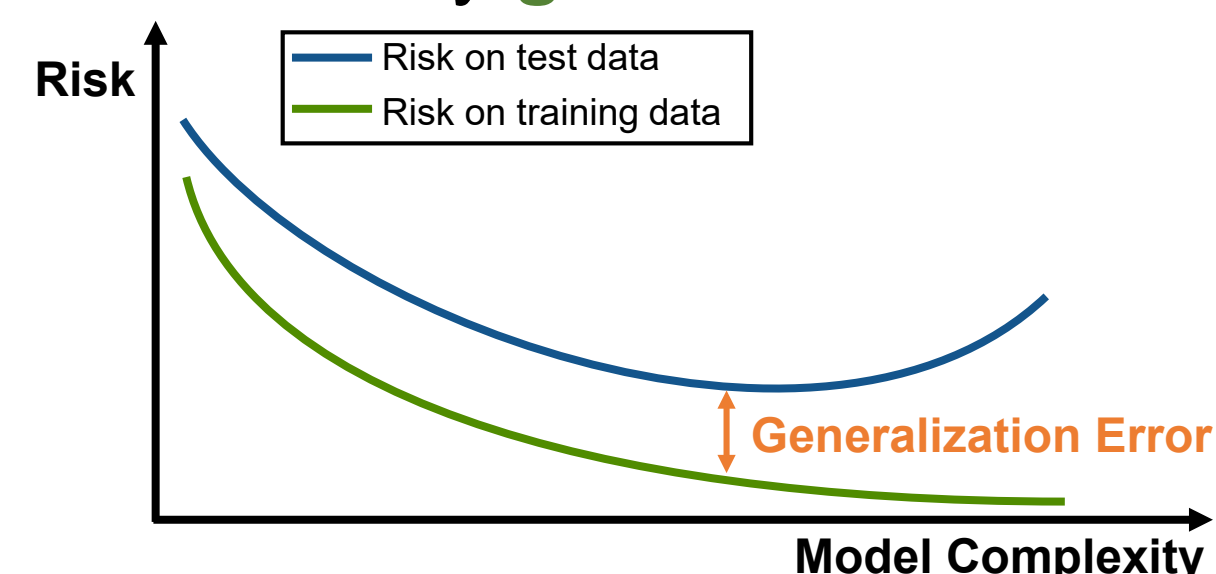
### Stability

- Consistency** of the model's output
- Measured by **Lipschitz constant**



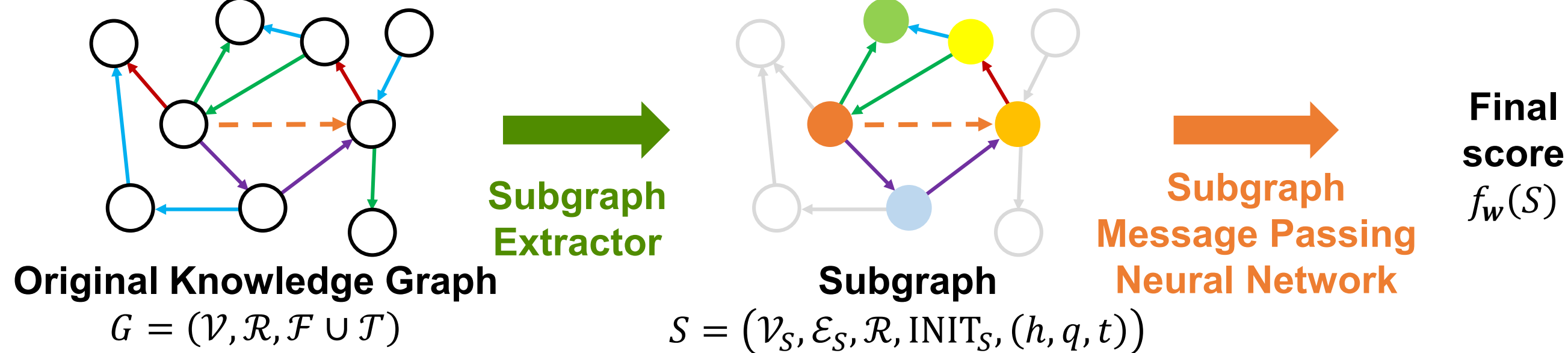
### Generalization Capability

- Performance discrepancy** between training and test data
- Measured by **generalization bounds**



## General Framework for Subgraph Reasoning Model

- Decomposing the subgraph reasoning model** into two parts
  - Subgraph Extractor** / **Subgraph Message Passing Neural Network**



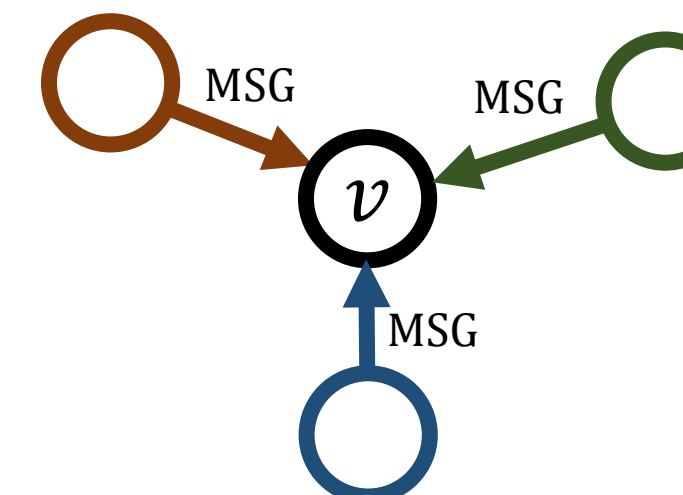
### Subgraph Extractor

- A non-parametric function that **maps a triplet to a subgraph**
- Generates an **initial embedding** for each entity

### Subgraph Message Passing Neural Network (SMPNN)

- Generalizes the scoring functions that utilize **message-passing**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_s^{(0)}(v) &= \text{INIT}_S \\ \mathcal{M}_S^{(l)}(v) &= \{\{\text{MSG}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x}_s^{(l-1)}(u), \mathbf{x}_s^{(l-1)}(v), r, q) \mid (r, u) \in \mathcal{N}_S(v)\}\} \\ \mathbf{x}_s^{(l)}(v) &= \text{UPD}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x}_s^{(l-1)}(v), \text{AGG}^{(l)}(\mathcal{M}_S^{(l)}(v))) \\ f_w(S) &= \text{RD}(\mathbf{x}_s^{(L)}(h), \mathbf{x}_s^{(L)}(t), \text{GRD}(\{\{\mathbf{x}_s^{(L)}(u) \mid u \in \mathcal{V}_S\}\}, q)) \end{aligned}$$



## Instantiation of Subgraph Reasoning Models

- By **appropriately configuring** the **subgraph extractor** and **SMPNN**, well-known subgraph reasoning models can be represented.

Models	Subgraph	MSG	AGG	UPD	GRD	RD
Grall (ICML 2020)	Enclosing subgraph	Attention	Sum	Linear	Mean	Linear
NBFNet (NeurIPS 2021)	Union	TransE / DistMult / RotatE	Sum / Mean / PNA	Linear	-	MLP
RED-GNN (WWW 2022)	Union	Attention	Sum	Linear	-	Linear

## Relational Tree Mover's Distance (RTMD)

### Relational Computation Tree

- Modeling how **SMPNNs process the subgraph structures**

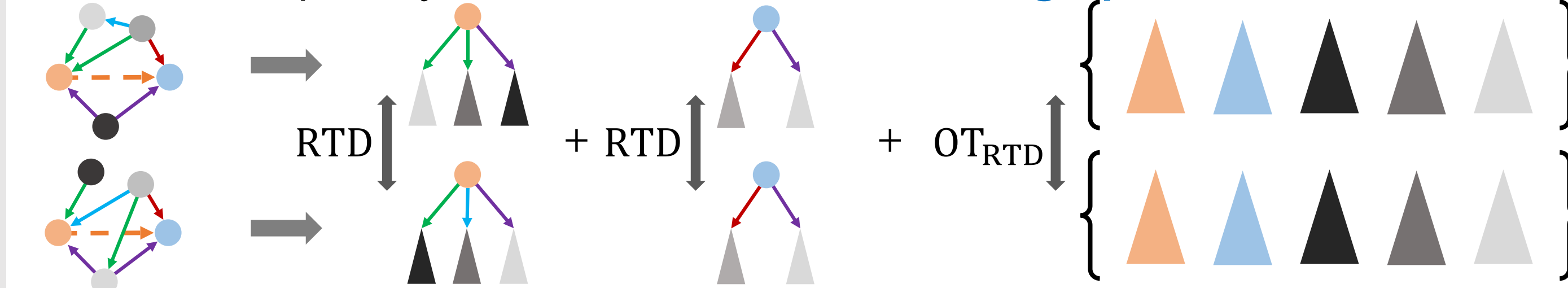
### Relational Tree Distance (RTD)

- Difference between relational computation trees

$$\text{RTD} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Tree 1} \\ \text{Tree 2} \end{array} \right] = \|\text{INIT}(\mathbf{v}_1) - \text{INIT}(\mathbf{v}_2)\|_2 + \frac{1}{|\mathcal{R}|^2} (\mathbf{1}[\downarrow \neq \downarrow] + \mathbf{1}[\downarrow \neq \downarrow]) + w(l) \text{OT}_{\text{RTD}}(\{\text{Tree 1}, \text{Tree 2}\}, \{\text{Tree 1}, \text{Tree 2}\})$$

### Relational Tree Mover's Distance (RTMD)

- A metric to quantify the **difference between subgraphs**



## Stability of Subgraph Reasoning Model

### Lipschitz continuity of subgraph reasoning models

- A **score difference** is bounded by an **RTMD between subgraphs**

### The upper bound of the Lipschitz constant

- Bounded by the **Lipschitz constant of each function** of the SMPNNs.

**Theorem 4.5** Given  $G_{\text{tr}} = (\mathcal{V}_{\text{tr}}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{F}_{\text{tr}} \cup \mathcal{T}_{\text{tr}})$ ,  $G_{\text{inf}} = (\mathcal{V}_{\text{inf}}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{F}_{\text{inf}} \cup \mathcal{T}_{\text{inf}})$ , and an SMPNN  $f_w$  with  $L$  layers, if the message, aggregation, update, global-readout, and readout function of  $f_w$  are Lipschitz continuous, then  $f_w$  is Lipschitz continuous with the Lipschitz constant  $\eta_f$  and the following holds:

$$\eta_f \leq \prod_{l=1}^{L+1} \eta^{(l)} \text{ if } \theta(k) = k-1, \quad \eta_f \leq (L+1) \prod_{l=1}^{L+1} \eta^{(l)} \text{ if } \theta(k) = 0$$

$$\eta^{(l)} = \max \left( A_{\text{upd}}^{(l)}, d_{\text{max}} B_{\text{agg}}^{(l)} A_{\text{agg}}^{(l)} B_{\text{msg}}^{(l)}, B_{\text{upd}}^{(l)} A_{\text{agg}}^{(l)} A_{\text{msg}}^{(l)} |\mathcal{R}|^2 B_{\text{rd}}^{(l)} A_{\text{rd}}^{(l)} C_{\text{rd}}^{(l)} |\mathcal{R}|^2 B_{\text{agg}}^{(l)} A_{\text{agg}}^{(l)} D_{\text{msg}}^{(l)}, 1 \right)$$

$$\eta^{(L+1)} = \max \left( A_{\text{rd}}, B_{\text{rd}}, C_{\text{rd}} A_{\text{grd}}, \frac{|\mathcal{R}|^2 D_{\text{rd}}}{2 + \max(|\mathcal{V}_{\text{tr}}|, |\mathcal{V}_{\text{inf}}|)} \right)$$

where  $1 \leq l \leq L$ , and  $A, B, C, D$  are the Lipschitz constants of the corresponding function.

## Generalization Bound of Subgraph Reasoning Models

### Expected Risk Discrepancy

- Discrepancy** between the **expected risks** measured on each KG

#### Expected Risk Discrepancy

$$D(\mathcal{P}, \lambda, \gamma) = \ln \left( \mathbb{E}_{w \sim \mathcal{P}} \left[ \exp \left( \lambda \left( \mathcal{L}_{G_{\text{tr}}}(f_w, \gamma) - \mathcal{L}_{G_{\text{inf}}}(f_w, \gamma) \right) \right) \right] \right)$$

## Generalization Bound of Subgraph Reasoning Model

- Depends on the **KL divergence** and **expected risk discrepancy**

**Theorem 5.3** Given  $G_{\text{tr}}$ ,  $G_{\text{inf}}$ , and a subgraph reasoning model with a subgraph extractor  $g$  and an SMPNN  $f_w$ , for any prior distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  and posterior distribution  $\mathcal{Q}$  on the parameter space of  $f_w$  constructed by adding random noise  $\tilde{w}$  to  $w$  such that  $\mathbb{P} \left( \max_{e \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{tr}}} |f_w(g(G_{\text{tr}}, e)) - f_w(g(G_{\text{tr}}, e))|, \max_{e \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{inf}}} |f_w(g(G_{\text{inf}}, e)) - f_w(g(G_{\text{inf}}, e))| \right) \leq \gamma$ , and  $\gamma, \lambda > 0$ , the following holds with probability at least  $1 - \delta$

$$\mathcal{L}_{G_{\text{inf}}}(f_w, 0) \leq \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{G_{\text{tr}}}(f_w, \gamma) + \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( 2\text{KL}(\mathcal{Q}|\mathcal{P}) + \ln \frac{4}{\delta} + \frac{\lambda^2}{4|\mathcal{T}_{\text{tr}}|} + D(\mathcal{P}, \lambda, \gamma) \right)$$

where  $D(\mathcal{P}, \lambda, \gamma)$  is the expected risk discrepancy between  $G_{\text{tr}}$  and  $G_{\text{inf}}$ , and  $\text{KL}(\mathcal{Q}|\mathcal{P})$  is a KL divergence of  $\mathcal{Q}$  from  $\mathcal{P}$ .

## Upper Bound of the Expected Risk Discrepancy

- As **the stability increases**, the **expected risk discrepancy decreases**

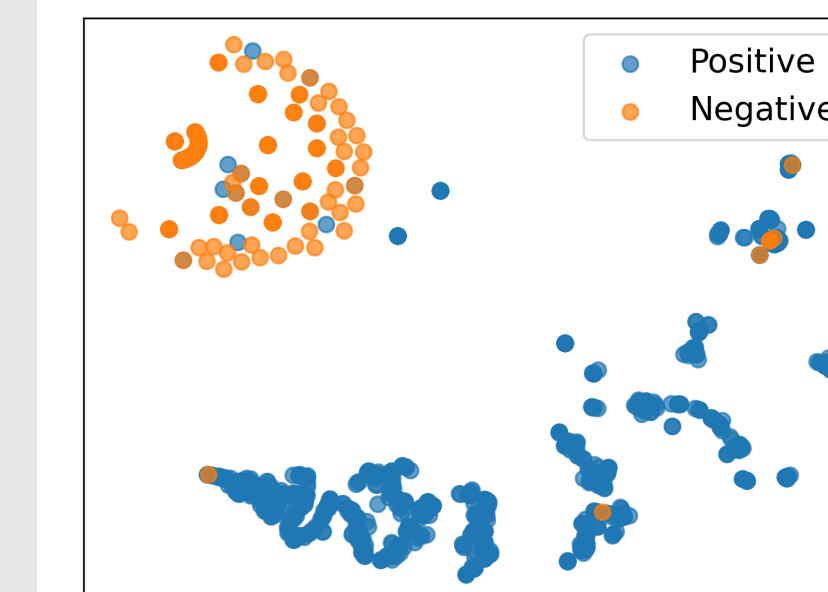
**Theorem 5.5** Given  $G_{\text{tr}}$ ,  $G_{\text{inf}}$ , and a subgraph reasoning model with a subgraph extractor  $g$  and an SMPNN  $f_w$  with stability  $C_f$ , for any prior distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  and posterior distribution  $\mathcal{Q}$  on the parameter space of  $f_w$ , and  $\lambda > 0$ , the following holds:

$$D(\mathcal{P}, \lambda, \gamma) \leq \lambda \left( \max \left( 0, \frac{|\mathcal{T}_{\text{tr}}|}{|\mathcal{T}_{\text{inf}}|} - 1 \right) + \frac{20\text{RTMD}(\psi(\mathcal{T}_{\text{inf}}, \mathcal{T}_{\text{tr}}))}{\gamma C_f \max(|\mathcal{T}_{\text{inf}}|, |\mathcal{T}_{\text{tr}}|)} \right)$$

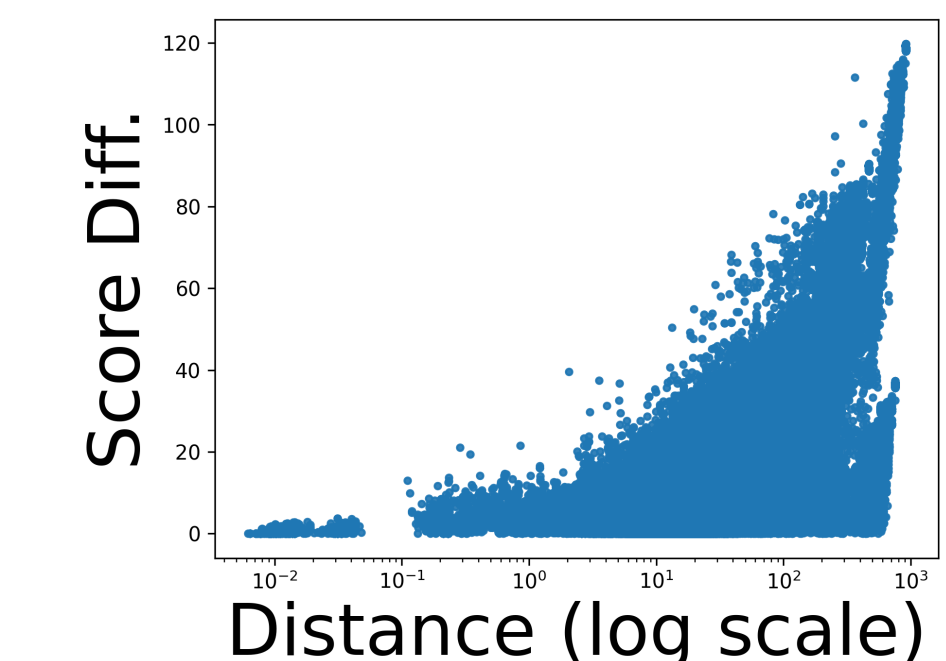
## Experiments

### Empirically validate our theoretical findings

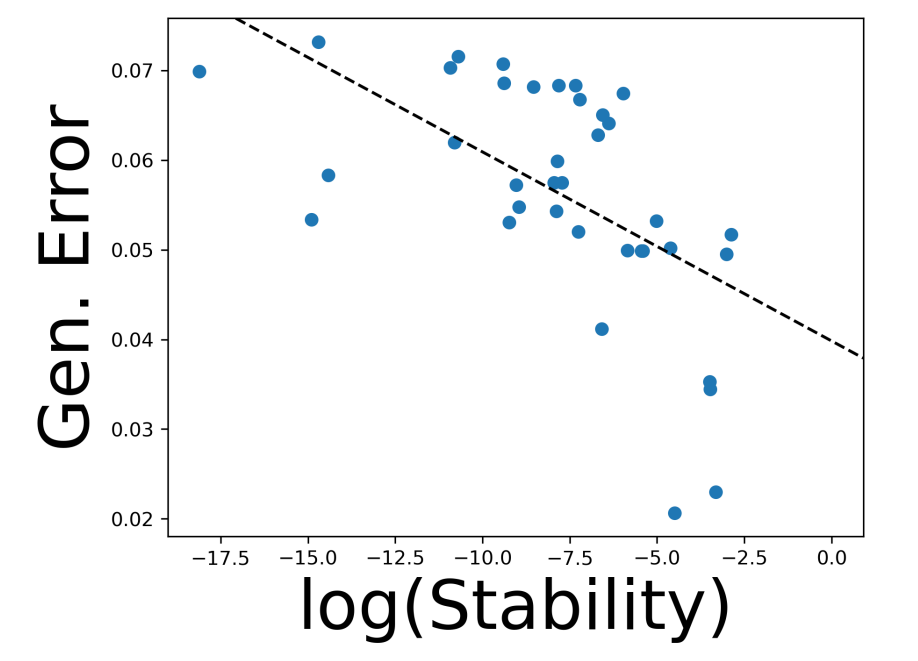
- Conduct experiments on **real-world KGs** (FB15K237, WN18RR, NELL-995)



t-SNE plot based on RTMD  
Classification acc: 0.8205



Compare score differences and RTMD



Compare stability and gen. error  
Corr: -0.5759, p-value: 0.00019

**RTMD is a valid metric** for quantifying the distance between subgraphs

**SMPNN is Lipschitz continuous** with respect to the RTMD

A **more stable subgraph reasoning model** tends to exhibit **better generalization capability**