

Betty: Enabling Large-Scale GNN Training with Batch-Level Graph Partitioning and Tiered Memory



Shuangyan Yang¹, Minjia Zhang², Wenqian Dong^{1,3} and Dong Li¹

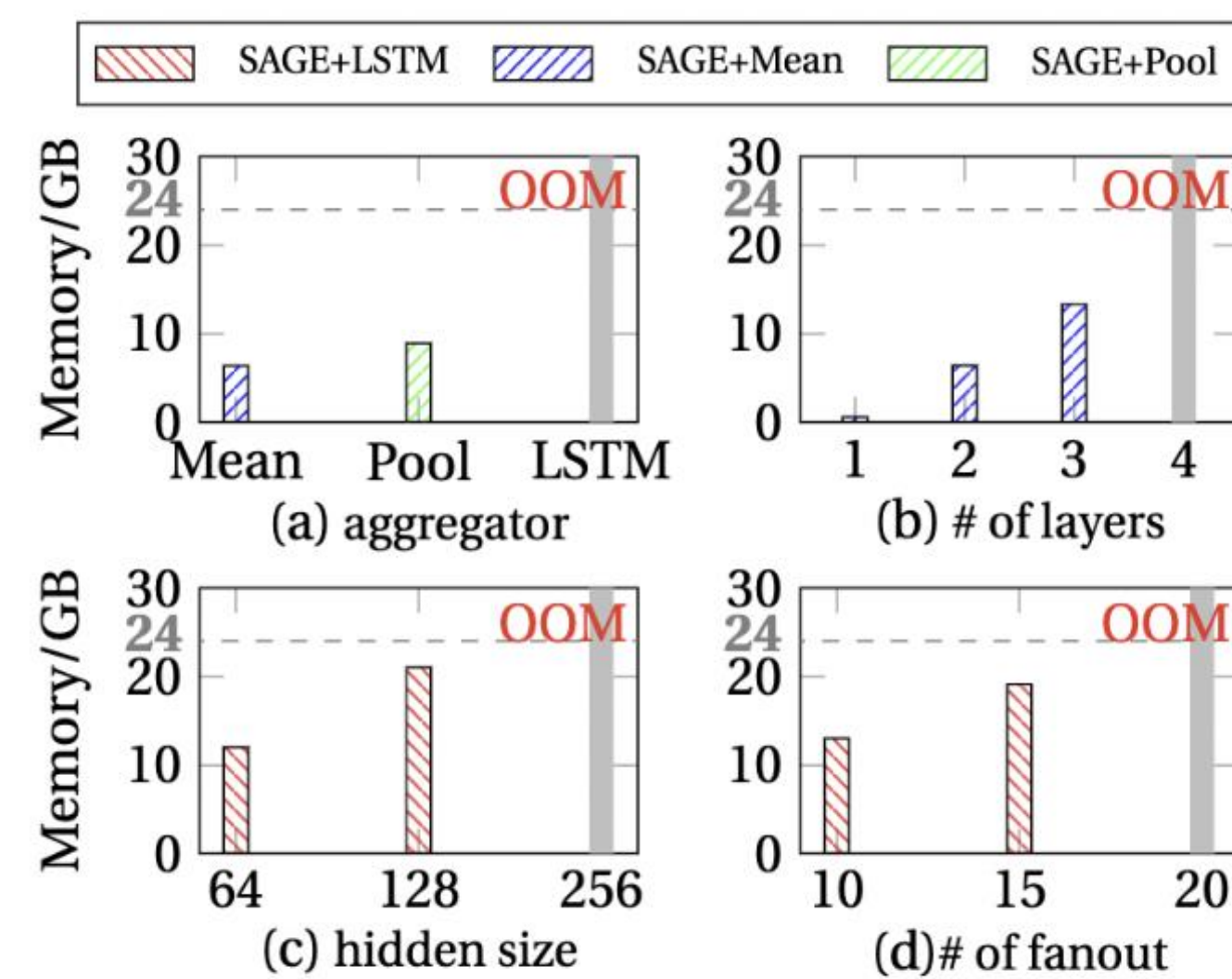
¹University of California Merced, ²Microsoft, ³Florida International University



Motivation

Mitigate the memory bottleneck, and enable large-scale GNN training within a single GPU

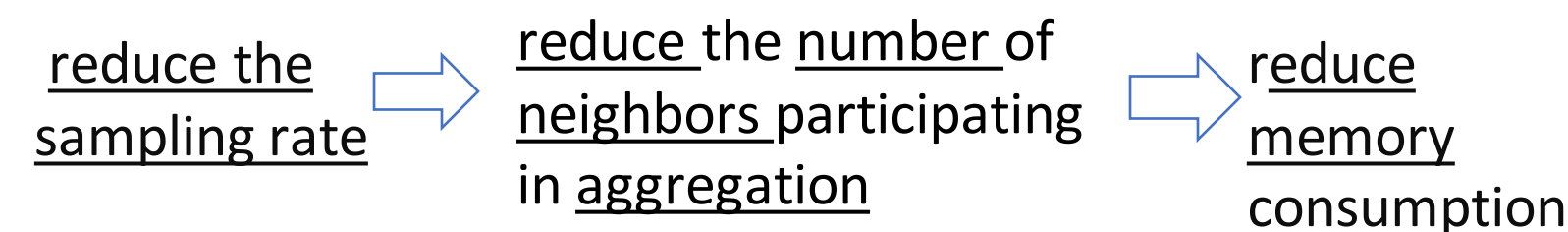
❑ **Challenge** : Easily exceeding GPU memory capacity.



To work around the memory capacity bottleneck, prior work explored both algorithmic (sampling[1]) and system optimizations(DGL [2], PyTorch Geometric [3], and NeuGraph[4]).

❑ **Sampling**

➤ **Pros**: Sample neighbors to compute the feature for a given node/subgraph.



➤ **Cons**: May cause loss of important neighbor information that hurts the final model accuracy.

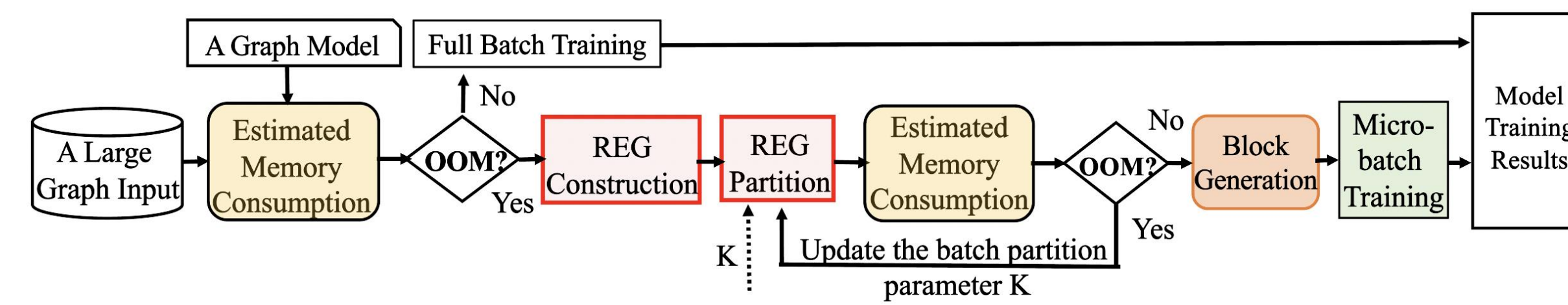
❑ **System optimizations**

➤ **Pros**: support convenient and highly efficient graph operation primitives (e.g., aggregators) in terms of compute and memory efficiency.

➤ **Cons**: GNN training can still run out of memory as more advanced configuration, especially when using more memory intensive aggregators.

Overview

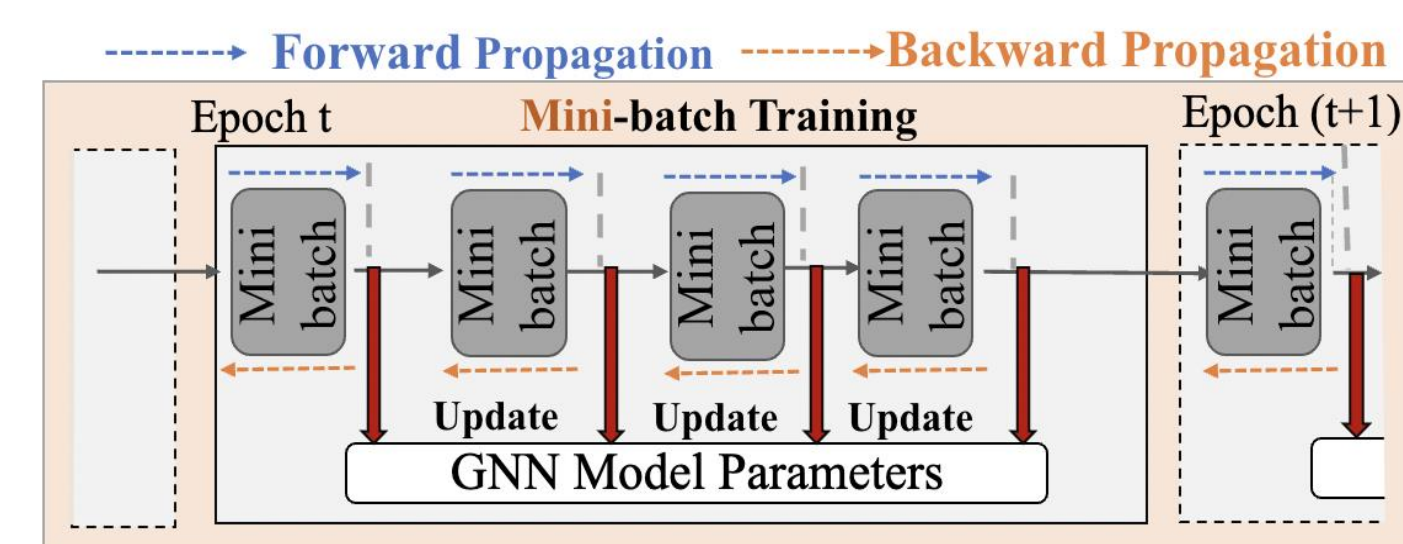
Betty introduces two novel techniques, **redundancy-embedded graph (REG) partitioning** and **memory-aware partitioning**.



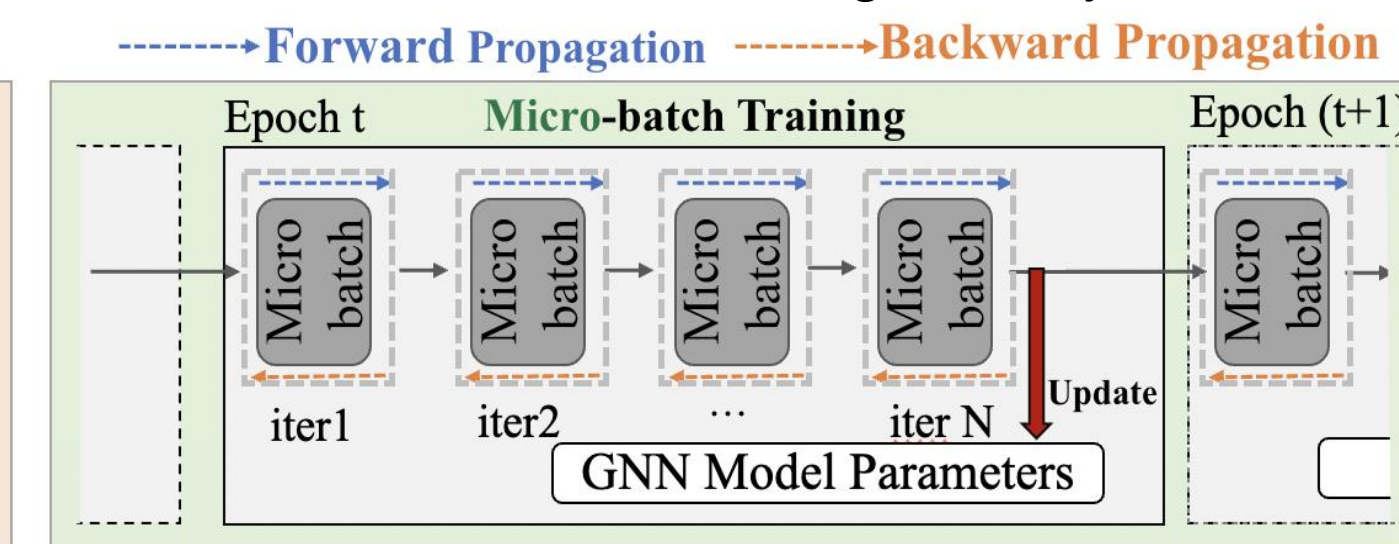
Design

➤ **Batch-Level Partitioning**: reduces the memory consumption via the batch-level partitioning and using *both CPU and GPU memory* to enable training of advanced GNNs *on single GPU*.

❑ Traditional mini-batch training

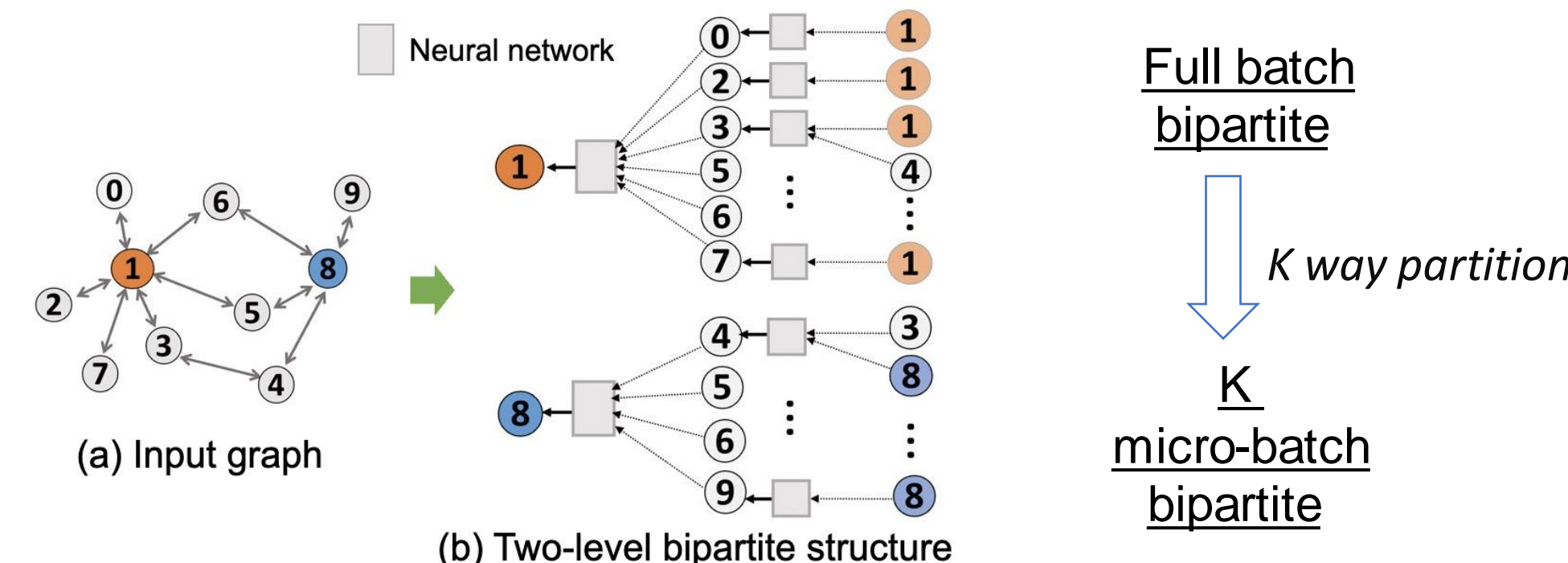


❑ Micro-batch training in Betty



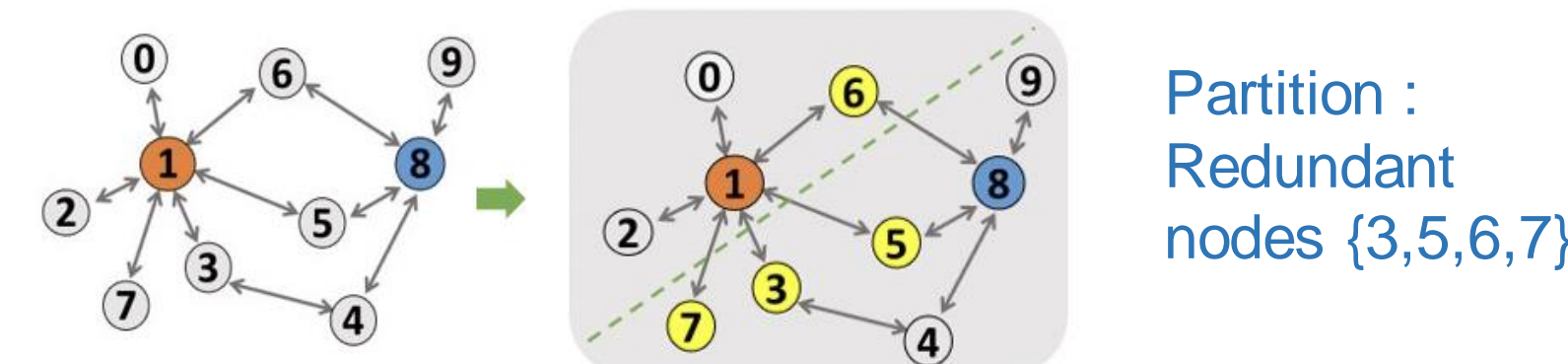
➤ **Partitioning the Multi-Level Bipartite for Micro-batch GNN Training**

Dividing each batch into K micro-batches, each micro-batch is still a hierarchical bipartite that is a subgraph of the original bipartite.



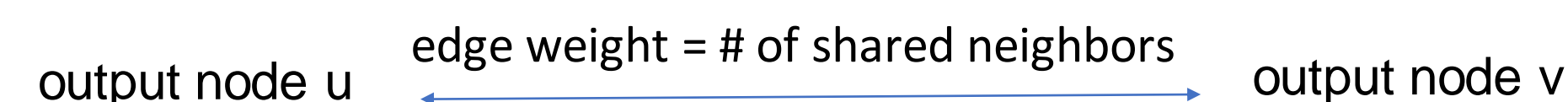
➤ **Redundancy Reduction**:

Reduce the number of redundant node introduced by the partition of multi-level bipartite structure.



➤ **Redundancy-Embedded Graph (REG) Construction and Partition**

➤ In REG



➤ **Reducing Maximal Memory Footprint**

- Memory-aware Partitioning.
- Partition memory estimation

Experiment Results

Betty **breaks the memory capacity constraint, reduce the peak memory consumption up to 48.3%**.

➤ Dataset: Cora, Pubmed, Reddit, ogbn-arxiv and ogbn-products

➤ Baselines

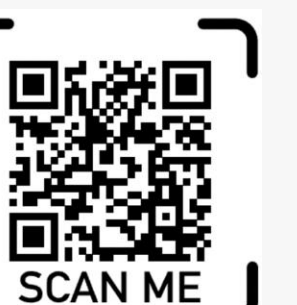
- We evaluate the scalability of GNN training,
 - Aggregator
 - Hidden size
 - Number of model layers.
 - Fanout

• We use three common graph partition algorithms: range partition, random partition, and Metis[5]. (The partition is applied on the IDs of output nodes.)

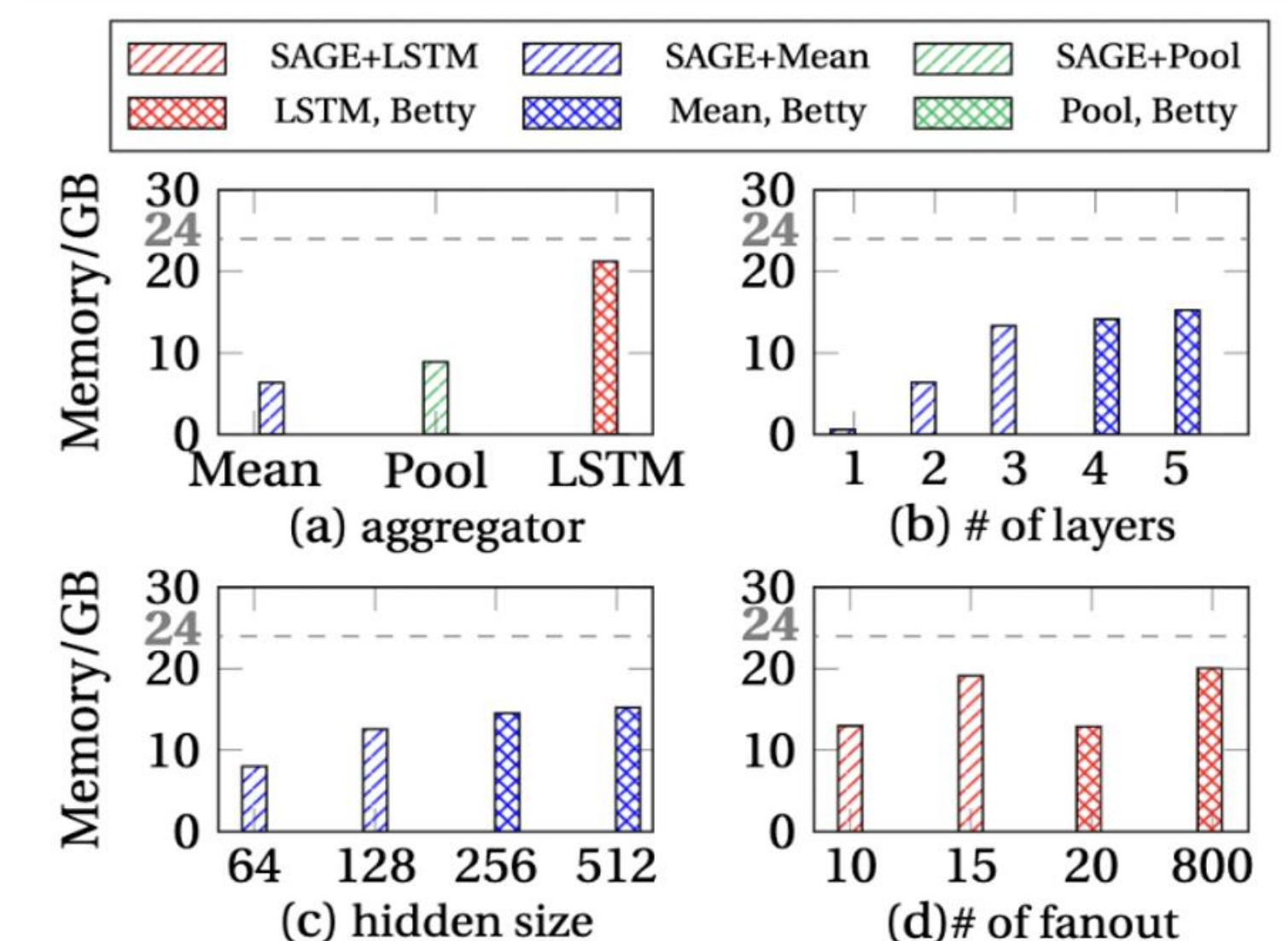
➤ Enable advanced and efficient GNN training with hybrid CPU-GPU memory.

➤ A transparent solution that does not require any hyperparameter tuning and preserve model convergence.

Open source



For more details



➤ Compared with other graph partition methods, Betty can:

- reduce max memory consumption by 48.3% and 37.7% on average,
- reduce the node redundancy by up to 49.2% and 28.4% on average.
- improve computation efficiency by 20.6%, 21.1%, and 22.9%, when the number of batches increases (number of redundant nodes increases).

❑ **References**

- [1] Da Zheng, Xiang Song, Chengru Yang, Dominique LaSalle, Qidong Su, Minjie Wang, Chao Ma, and George Karypis. Distributed hybrid cpu and gpu training for graph neural networks on billion-scale graphs. arXiv preprint arXiv:2112.15345, 2021
- [2] DGL. Deep Graph Library. <https://www.dgl.ai/>
- [3] PyG. PyTorch Geometric. <https://pytorch-geometric.readthedocs.io>
- [4] Lingxiao Ma, Zhi Yang, Youshan Miao, Jilong Xue, Ming Wu, Lidong Zhou, and Yafei Dai. {NeuGraph}: Parallel deep neural network computation on large graphs. In 2019 USENIX Annual Technical Conference (USENIX ATC 19), pages 443–458, 2019.
- [5] George Karypis and Vipin Kumar. Metis-unstructured graph partitioning and sparse matrix ordering system, version 2.0. 1995