



# Adaptive Graph Contrastive Learning for Recommendation

Yangqin Jiang

University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong, China  
mrjiangyq99@gmail.com

Chao Huang\*

University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong, China  
chaohuang75@gmail.com

Lianghao Xia

University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong, China  
aka\_xia@foxmail.com

<https://github.com/HKUDS/AdaGCL>.

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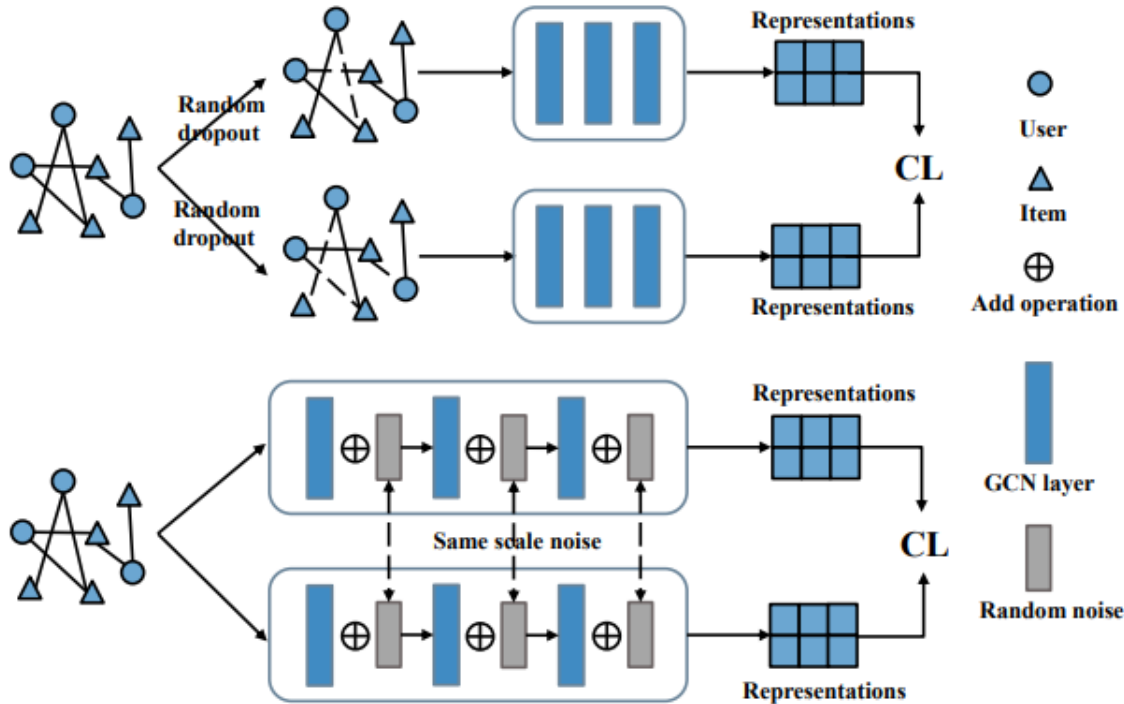




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# Introduction



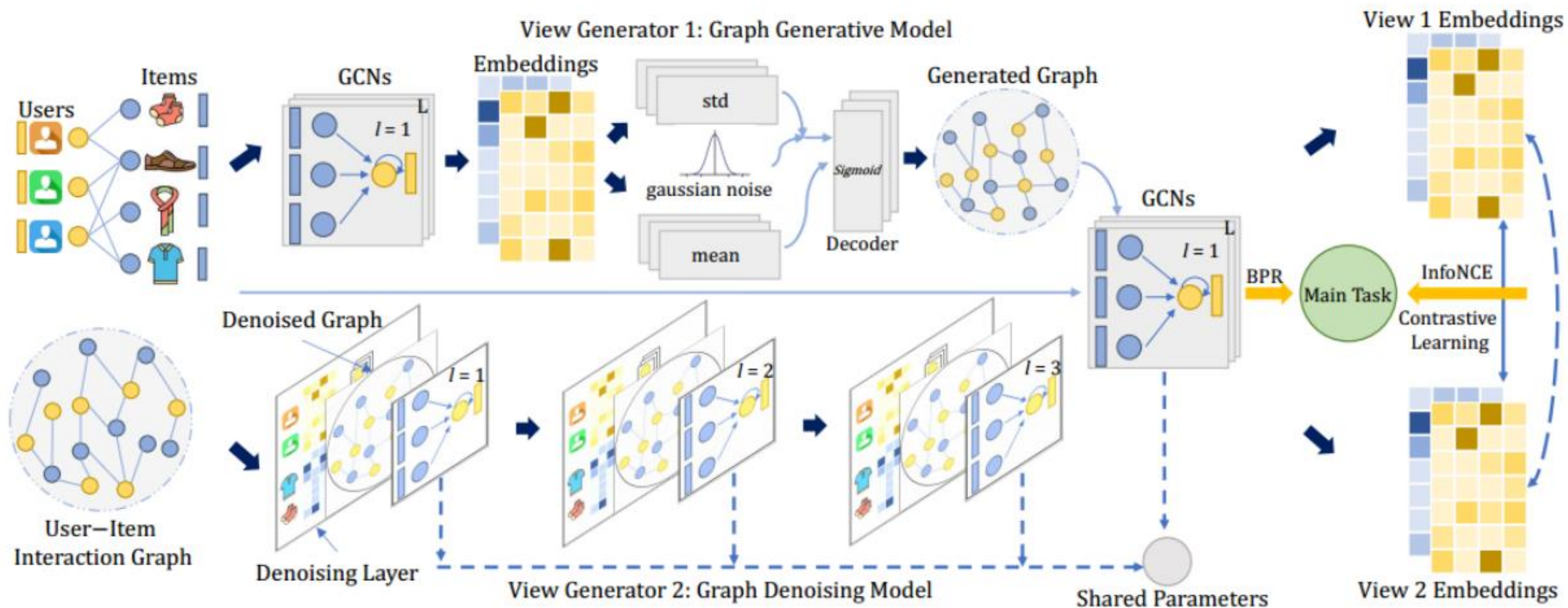
**data noise**, such as users clicking on irrelevant products

the **sparsity and skewed distribution** of recommendation data can negatively impact effective user-item interaction modeling.

self-supervised learning creating contrastive views through probability-based random masking or adding noise.

may keep some noisy interactions or drop important training signals

# Approach

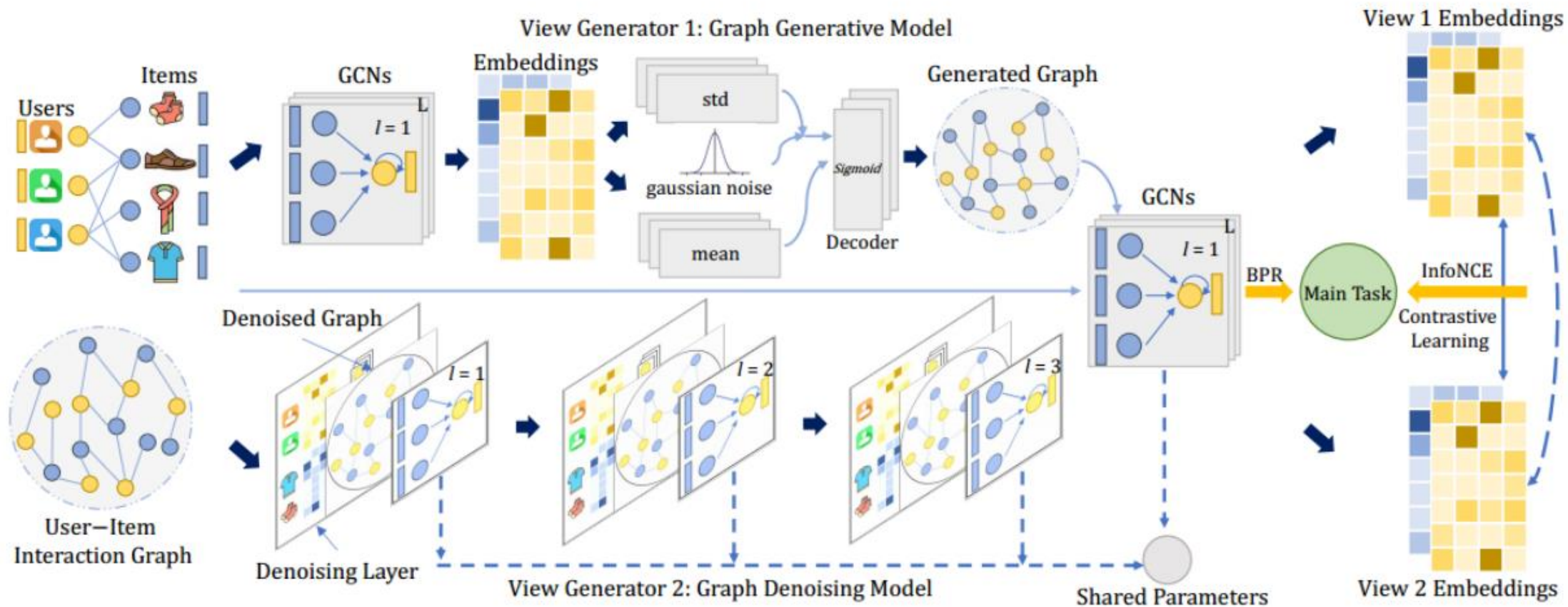


$$\mathcal{U} = \{u_1, \dots, u_i, \dots, u_I\}$$

$$\mathcal{V} = \{v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_J\}$$

interaction matrix  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J}$

embedding matrices  $E^{(u)} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times d}$  and  $E^{(v)} \in \mathbb{R}^{J \times d}$



$$z_i^{(u)} = \bar{\mathcal{A}}_{i,*} \cdot \mathbf{E}^{(v)}, \quad z_j^{(v)} = \bar{\mathcal{A}}_{*,j} \cdot \mathbf{E}^{(u)},$$

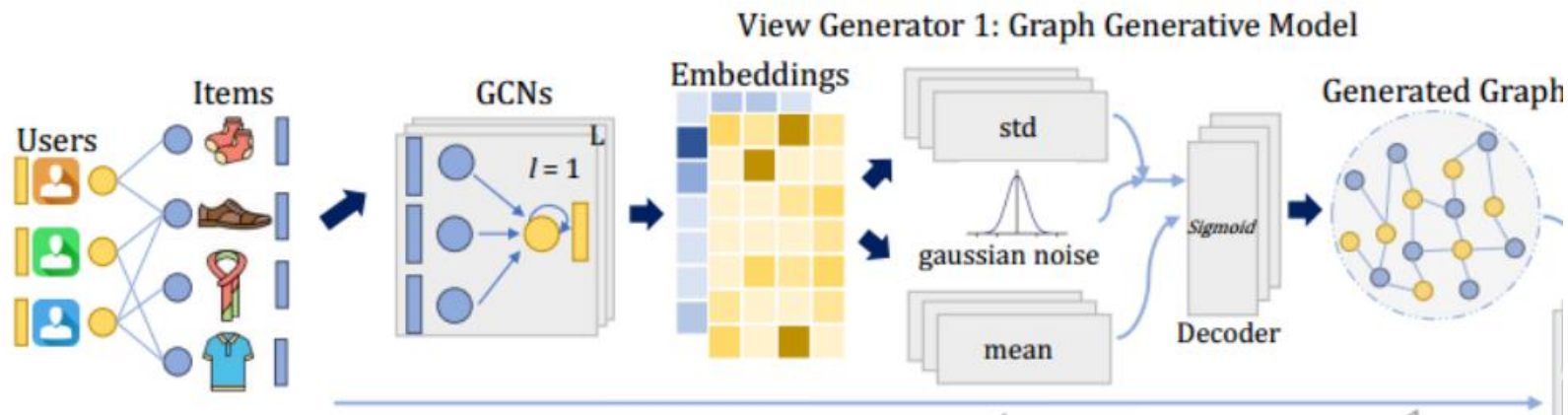
$$(1) \quad \mathbf{e}_{i,l}^{(u)} = \mathbf{z}_{i,l}^{(u)} + \mathbf{e}_{i,l-1}^{(u)}, \quad \mathbf{e}_{j,l}^{(v)} = \mathbf{z}_{j,l}^{(v)} + \mathbf{e}_{j,l-1}^{(v)}. \quad (3)$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \mathbf{D}_{(u)}^{-1/2} \cdot \mathcal{A} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{(v)}^{-1/2}, \quad \bar{\mathcal{A}}_{i,j} = \frac{\mathcal{A}_{i,j}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{N}_i| \cdot |\mathcal{N}_j|}},$$

$$(2) \quad \mathbf{e}_i^{(u)} = \sum_{l=0}^L \mathbf{e}_{i,l}^{(u)}, \quad \mathbf{e}_j^{(v)} = \sum_{l=0}^L \mathbf{e}_{j,l}^{(v)}, \quad \hat{y}_{i,j} = \mathbf{e}_i^{(u)\top} \mathbf{e}_j^{(v)}. \quad (4)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{ssl}^{user} = \sum_{u_i \in \mathcal{U}} -\log \frac{\exp(s(\mathbf{e}'_i, \mathbf{e}''_i)/\tau)}{\sum_{u_{i'} \in \mathcal{U}} \exp(s(\mathbf{e}'_i, \mathbf{e}''_{i'})/\tau)}, \quad (5)$$

# Approach



Two MLPs are utilized to derive the mean value and the standard deviation

$$\mu = GCN_{\mu}(X, A)$$

another MLP as the decoder,  $p(A_{ij} = 1 | z_i, z_j) = \sigma(z_i^T z_j)$

$$\log \sigma = GCN_{\sigma}(X, A)$$

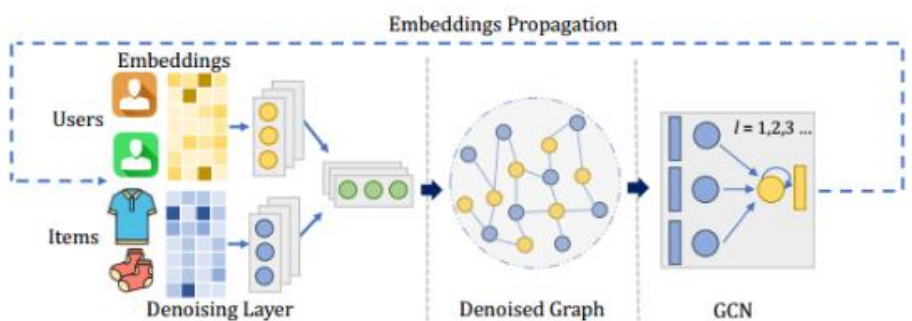
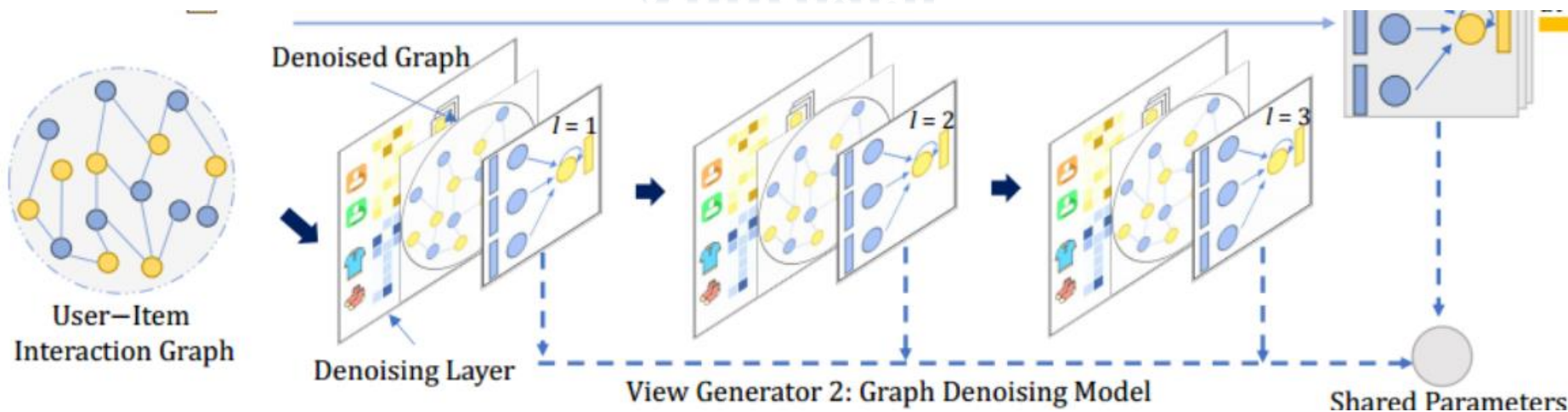
$$GCN(X, A) = \tilde{A} ReLU(\tilde{A} X W_0) W_1$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{gen} = \mathcal{L}_{kl} + \mathcal{L}_{dis},$$

$$(6) \quad L = E_{q(Z|X,A)}[\log p(A|Z)] - KL[q(Z|X,A)||p]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{gen} = \mathcal{L}_{kl} + \mathcal{L}_{dis} + \mathcal{L}_{bpr}^{gen} + \lambda_2 \|\Theta\|_F^2, \quad (10)$$

# Approach



binary matrix  $\mathbf{M}^l \in \{0, 1\}^{|\mathcal{V}| \times |\mathcal{V}|}$ ,  
[0 indicates a noisy edge]

$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^l = \mathbf{A} \odot \mathbf{M}^l$$

$$\sum_{l=1}^L \|\mathbf{M}^l\|_0 = \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{(u,v) \in \mathcal{E}} \mathbb{I}[m_{i,j}^l \neq 0], \quad (7)$$

we adopt the reparameterization trick and relax the binary entries  $m_{i,j}^l$  from being drawn from a Bernoulli distribution to a deterministic function  $g$  of parameters  $\alpha_{i,j}^l \in \mathbb{R}$  and an independent random variable  $\epsilon^l$ . That is  $m_{i,j}^l = g(\alpha_{i,j}^l, \epsilon^l)$ .

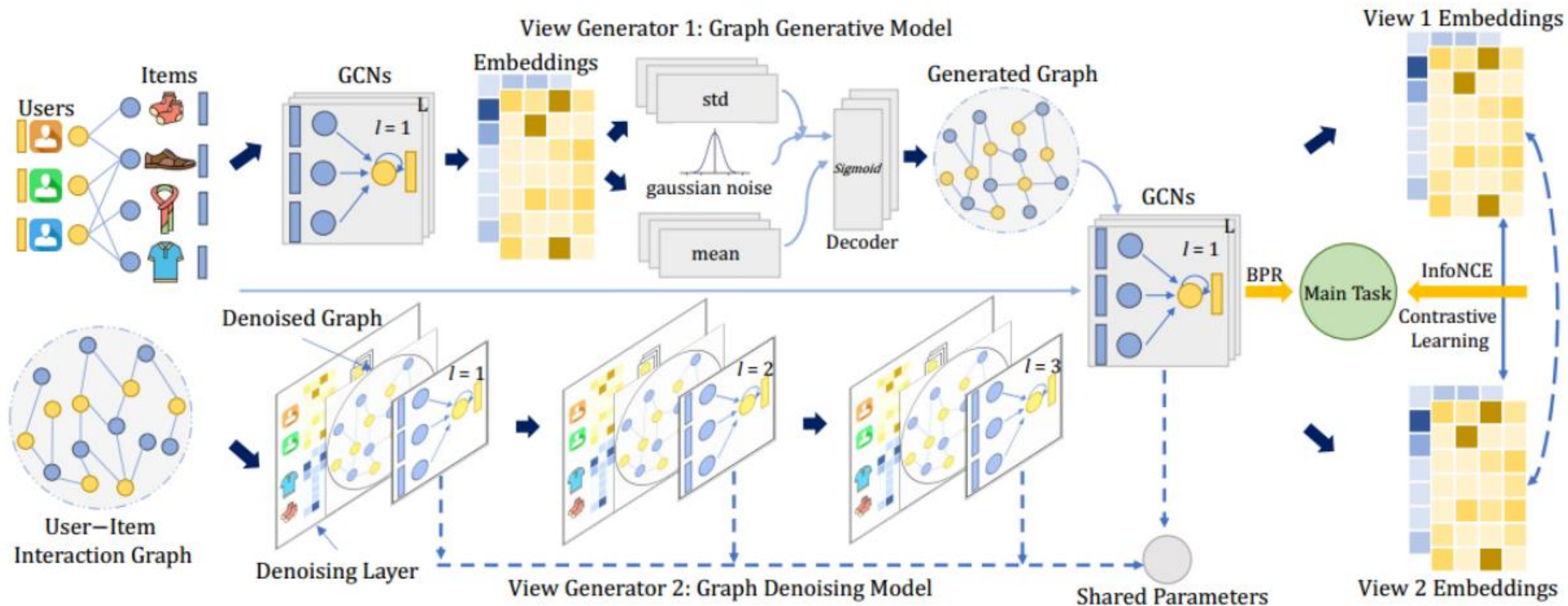
$$\alpha_{i,j}^l = f_{\theta^l}^l(\mathbf{e}_i^l, \mathbf{e}_j^l),$$

$$\mathcal{L}_c = \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{(u_i, v_j) \in \mathcal{E}} (1 - \mathbb{P}_{\sigma(s_{i,j}^l)}(0|\theta^l)), \quad (8)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{den} = \mathcal{L}_c + \mathcal{L}_{bpr}^{den} + \lambda_2 \|\Theta\|_F^2. \quad (11)$$

Figure 2: Workflow of the graph denoising model.

# Approach



$$\mathcal{L}_{bpr} = \sum_{(u,i,j) \in O} -\log \sigma(\hat{y}_{ui} - \hat{y}_{uj}), \quad (9)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{upper} = \mathcal{L}_{bpr} + \lambda_1 \mathcal{L}_{ssl} + \lambda_2 \|\Theta\|_F^2, \quad (12)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{lower} = \mathcal{L}_{gen} + \mathcal{L}_{den}. \quad (13)$$



# Experiment

**Table 2: Performance comparison on Last.FM, Yelp, BeerAdvocate datasets in terms of *Recall* and *NDCG*.**

Dataset	Metric	BiasMF	NCF	AutoR	PinSage	STGCN	GCMC	NGCF	GCCF	LightGCN	SLRec	NCL	SGL	HCCF	SHT	DirectAU	Ours	p-val.
Last.FM	Recall@20	0.1879	0.1130	0.1518	0.1690	0.2067	0.2218	0.2081	0.2222	0.2349	0.1957	0.2353	0.2427	0.2410	0.2420	0.2422	<b>0.2603</b>	$2.1e^{-5}$
	NDCG@20	0.1362	0.0795	0.1114	0.1228	0.1528	0.1558	0.1474	0.1642	0.1704	0.1442	0.1715	0.1761	0.1773	0.1770	0.1727	<b>0.1911</b>	$9.5e^{-5}$
	Recall@40	0.2660	0.1693	0.2174	0.2402	0.2940	0.3149	0.2944	0.3083	0.3220	0.2792	0.3252	0.3405	0.3232	0.3235	0.3356	<b>0.3531</b>	$6.9e^{-5}$
	NDCG@40	0.1653	0.0952	0.1336	0.1472	0.1821	0.1897	0.1829	0.1931	0.2022	0.1737	0.2033	0.2104	0.2051	0.2055	0.2042	<b>0.2204</b>	$5.6e^{-4}$
Yelp	Recall@20	0.0532	0.0304	0.0491	0.0510	0.0562	0.0584	0.0681	0.0742	0.0761	0.0665	0.0806	0.0803	0.0789	0.0794	0.0818	<b>0.0873</b>	$1.5e^{-6}$
	NDCG@20	0.0264	0.0143	0.0222	0.0245	0.0282	0.0280	0.0336	0.0365	0.0373	0.0327	0.0402	0.0398	0.0391	0.0395	0.0424	<b>0.0439</b>	$1.8e^{-8}$
	Recall@40	0.0802	0.0487	0.0692	0.0743	0.0856	0.0891	0.1019	0.1151	0.1175	0.1032	0.1230	0.1226	0.1210	0.1217	0.1226	<b>0.1315</b>	$3.2e^{-6}$
	NDCG@40	0.0321	0.0187	0.0268	0.0315	0.0355	0.0360	0.0419	0.0466	0.0474	0.0418	0.0505	0.0502	0.0492	0.0497	0.0524	<b>0.0548</b>	$2.7e^{-7}$
BeerAdvocate	Recall@20	0.0996	0.0729	0.0816	0.0930	0.1003	0.1082	0.1033	0.1035	0.1102	0.1048	0.1131	0.1138	0.1156	0.1150	0.1182	<b>0.1216</b>	$7.7e^{-6}$
	NDCG@20	0.0856	0.0654	0.0650	0.0816	0.0852	0.0901	0.0873	0.0901	0.0943	0.0881	0.0971	0.0959	0.0990	0.0977	0.0981	<b>0.1015</b>	$4.9e^{-3}$
	Recall@40	0.1602	0.1203	0.1325	0.1553	0.1650	0.1766	0.1653	0.1662	0.1757	0.1723	0.1819	0.1776	0.1847	0.1799	0.1797	<b>0.1867</b>	$1.3e^{-2}$
	NDCG@40	0.1016	0.0754	0.0794	0.0980	0.1031	0.1085	0.1032	0.1062	0.1113	0.1068	0.1150	0.1122	0.1176	0.1156	0.1139	<b>0.1182</b>	$2.4e^{-1}$

**Table 3: Ablation study on key components of AdaGCL.**

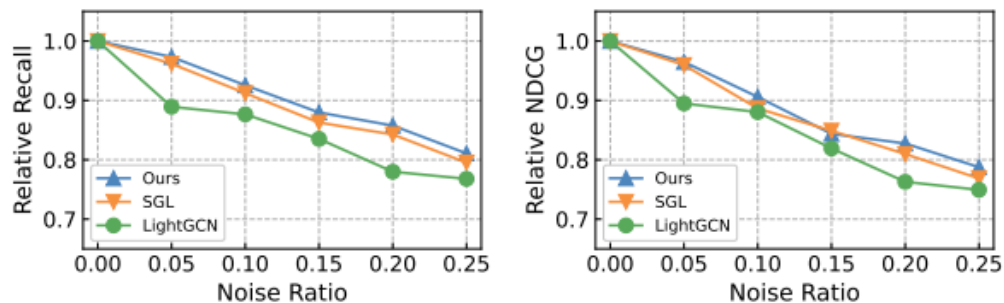
Category	Data	Last.FM		Yelp		BeerAdvocate	
	Variants	Recall	NDCG	Recall	NDCG	Recall	NDCG
Adaptive	w/o Task	0.2562	0.1868	0.0849	0.0425	0.1212	0.1010
	Gen+Gen	0.2494	0.1819	0.0853	0.0429	0.1187	0.0992
Random	EdgeD	0.2476	0.1794	0.0852	0.0424	0.1163	0.0964
AdaGCL		0.2603	0.1911	0.0873	0.0439	0.1216	0.1015

using the random edge drop augmentation

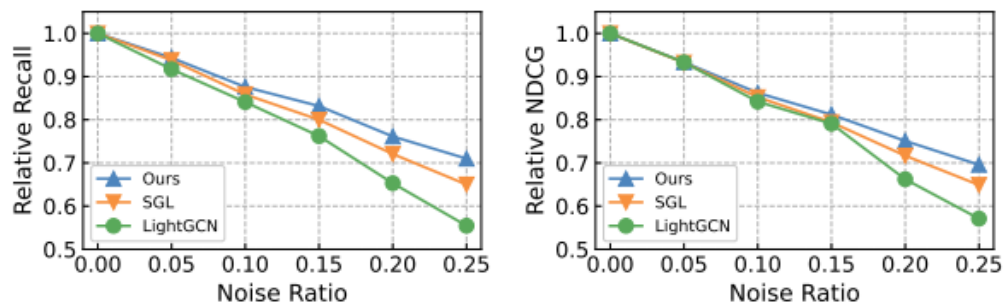
replace the denoising view generator with an identical VGAE-based generator

replace the task-aware optimization with the original reconstruction objective

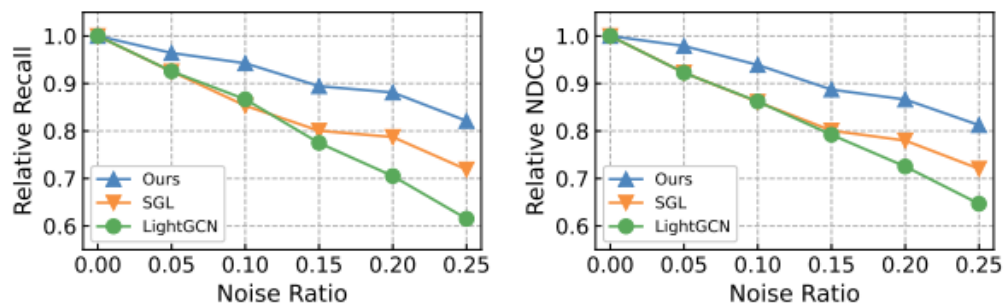
# Experiment



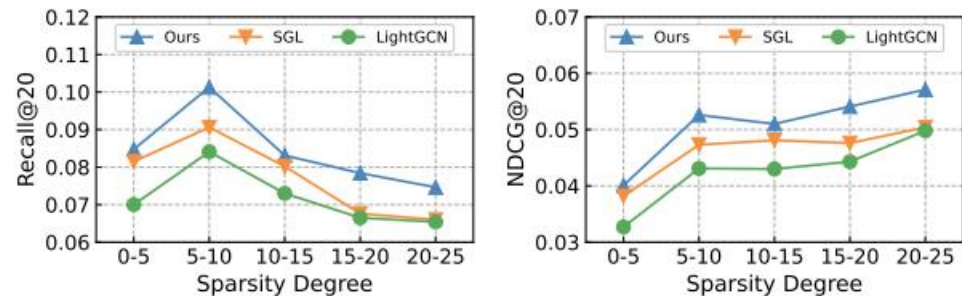
(a) Lasat.FM data



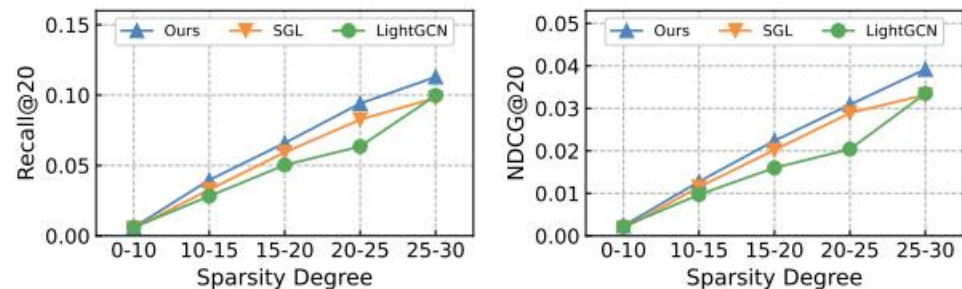
(b) Yelp data



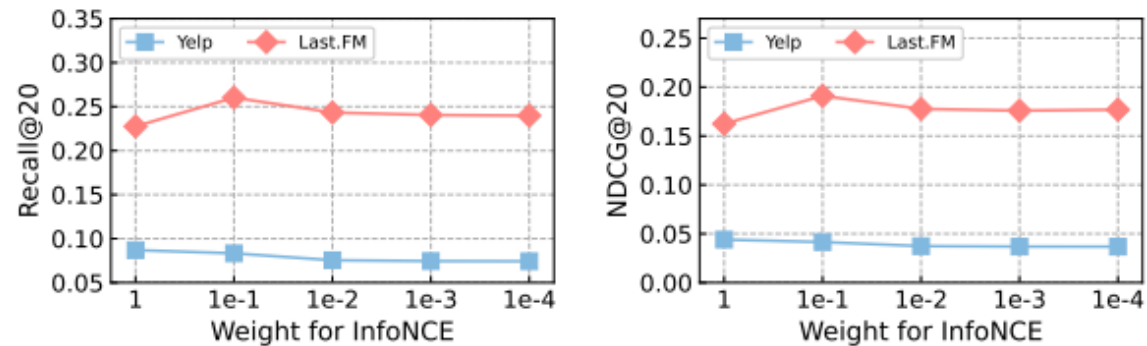
(c) BeerAdvocate data



(a) Performance w.r.t. user interaction numbers



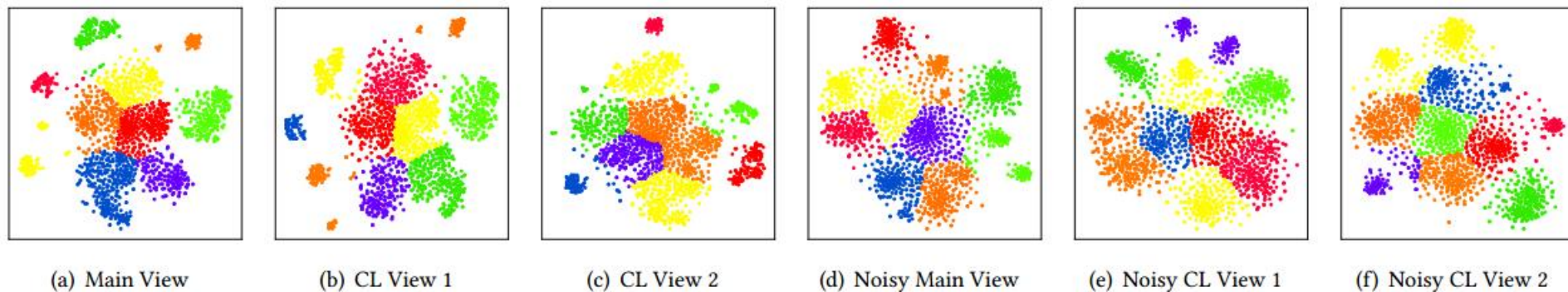
(b) Performance w.r.t. item interaction numbers



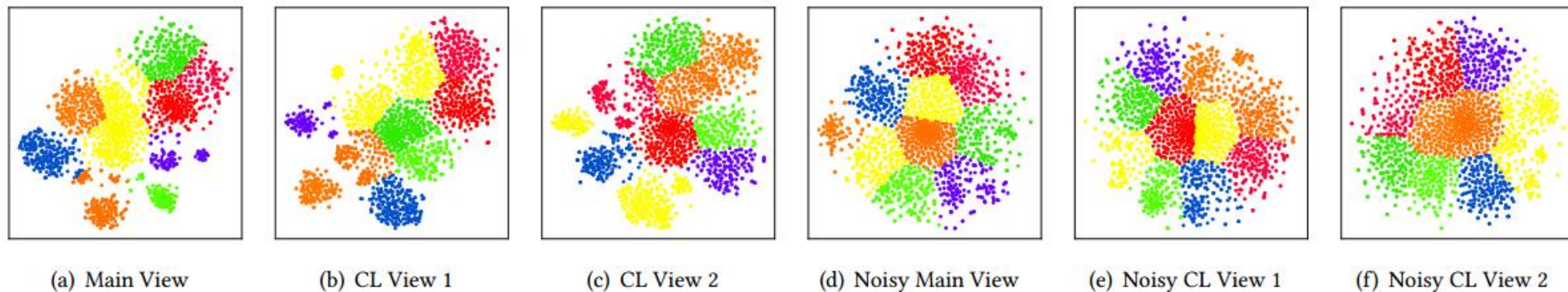
(a) Recall@20

(b) NDCG@20

# Experiment



**Figure 6: View embedding visualization for AdaGCL.**



**Figure 7: View embedding visualization for SGL.**

View 1 and View 2 are generated by the graph generative model and the graph denoising model, respectively.



**Thank you!**