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A Tutorial on Hypergraph Neural Networks: An In-Depth and Step-by-Step Guide

Part 2. Input Features and Structures



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Part 2. Inputs

Part 1.
Introduction

**Part 2.
Inputs**

Part 3.
Message
Passing

Part 4.
Training
Strategies

Part 5.
Applications

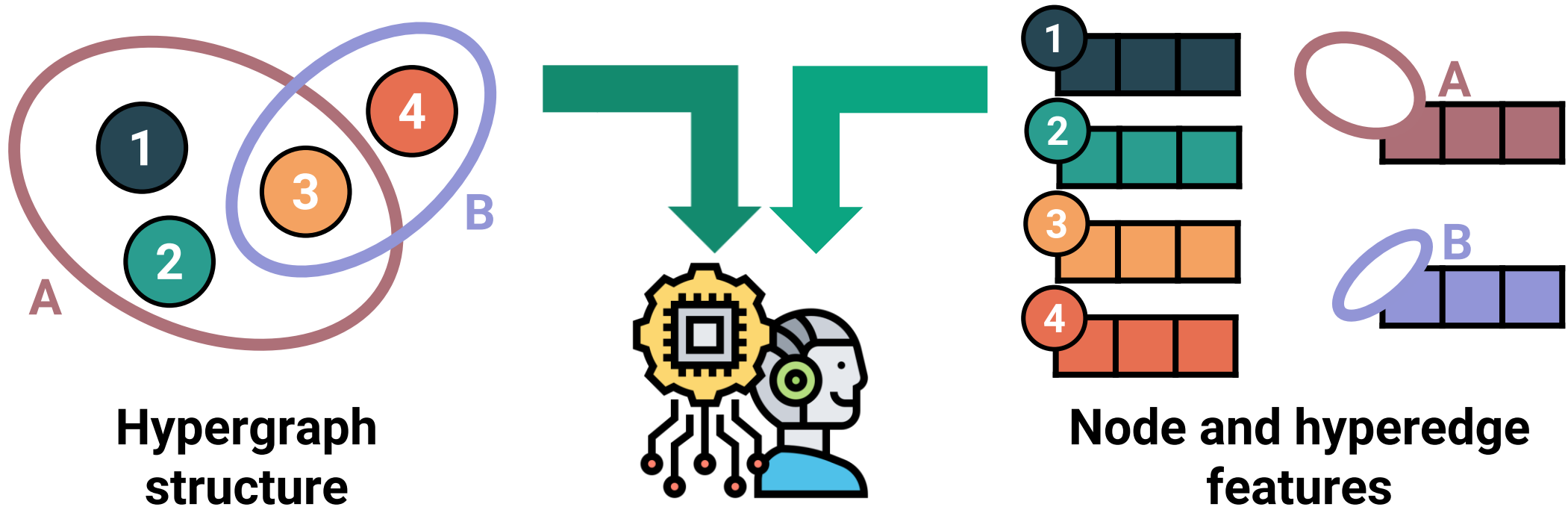
Part 6.
Discussion

The slides are available at <https://sites.google.com/view/hnn-tutorial>



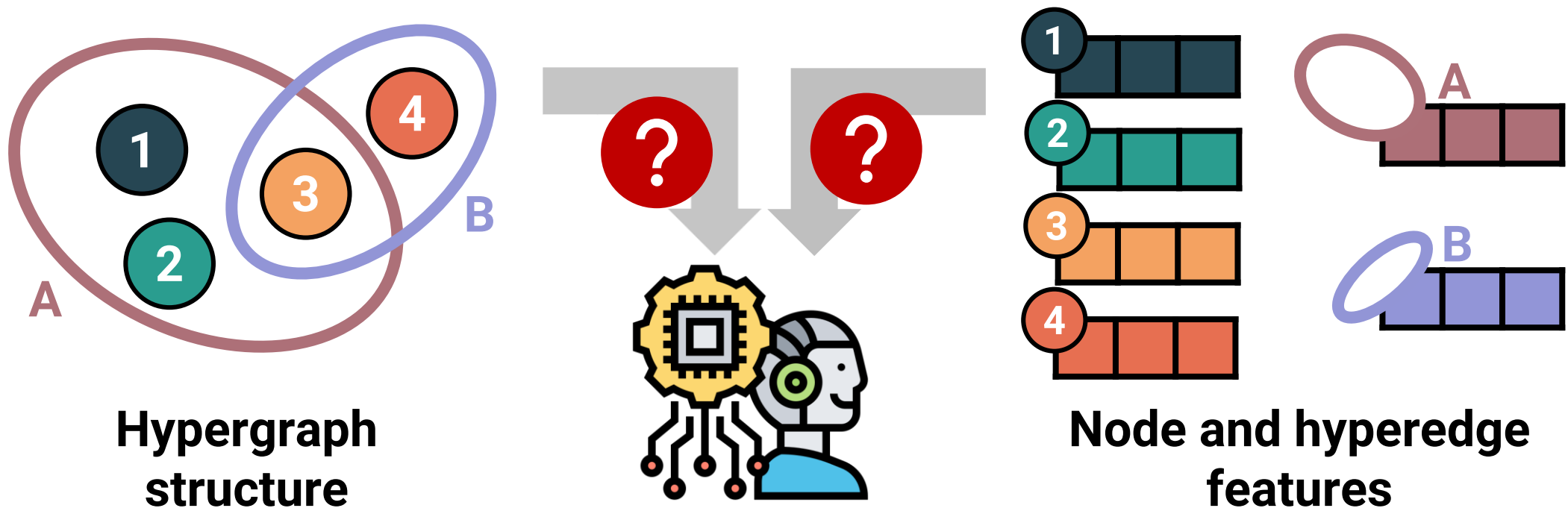
Hypergraph Neural Network Inputs

- The input quality can be critical for effective application of HNNs.
 - The inputs typically include **hypergraph structure** and (node and/or hyperedge) **feature vectors**.



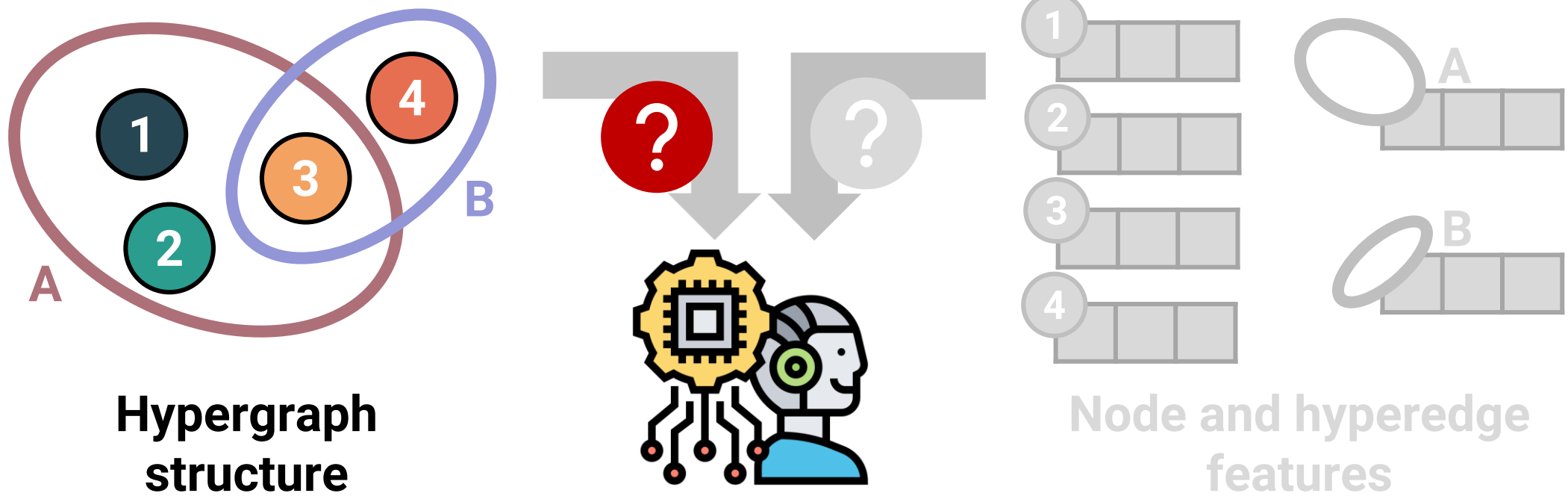
Hypergraph Neural Network Inputs (cont.)

- **Key questions** about the HNN inputs include:
 - **Q1)** How are hypergraph structures expressed?
 - **Q2)** What input features are typically used?



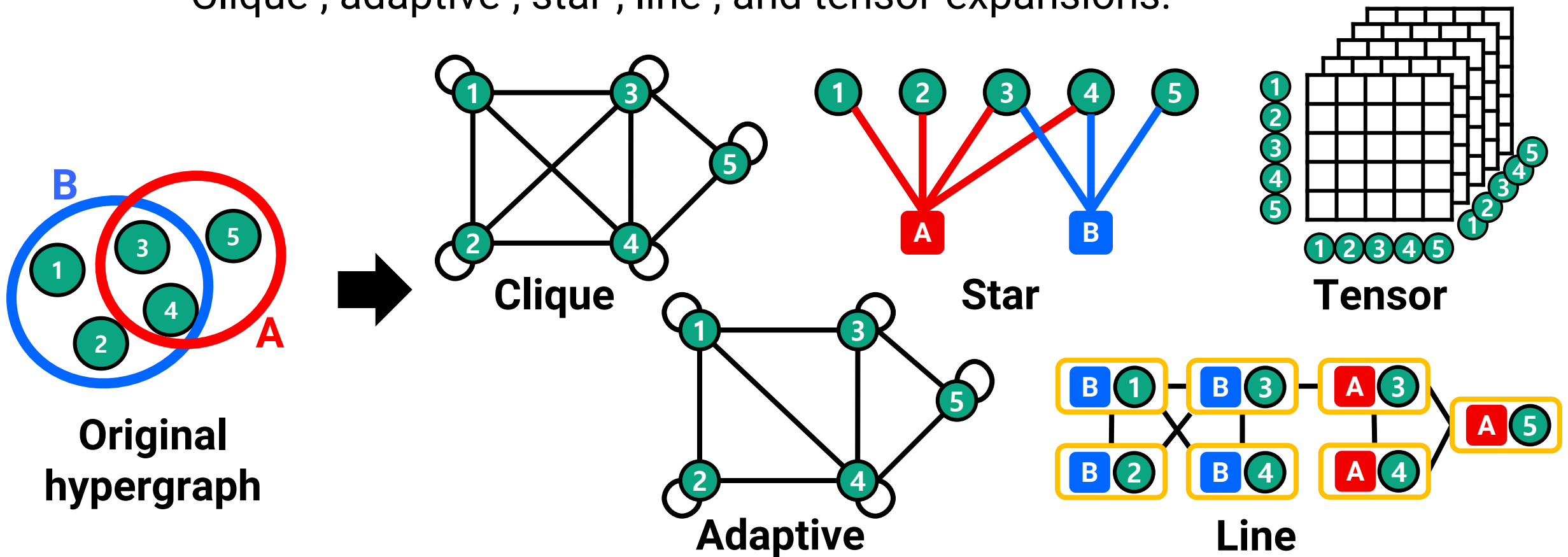
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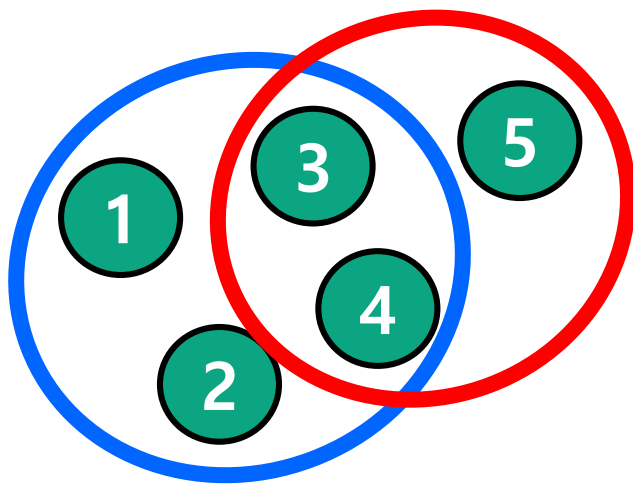
Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures

- We introduce five different ways to express hypergraph structures:
 - Clique-, adaptive-, star-, line-, and tensor-expansions.

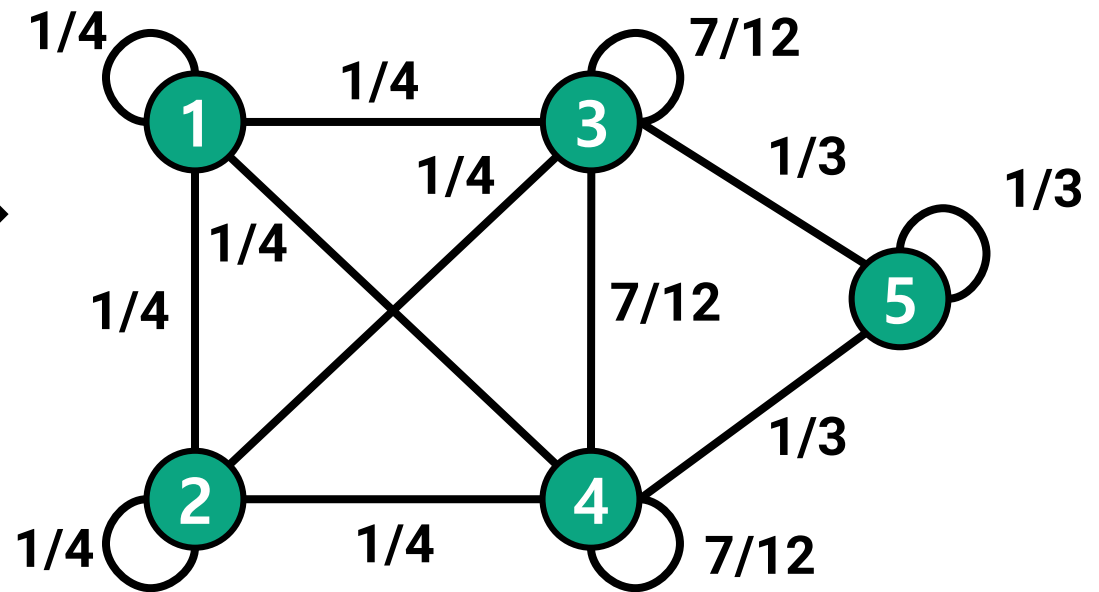


Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures: Clique

- **Clique expansion** of a hypergraph is a homogeneous, pair-wise graph.
 - It transforms a hyperedge into a clique of pairwise edges.
 - Feng et al. (2019) further weigh edges with learnable parameters.

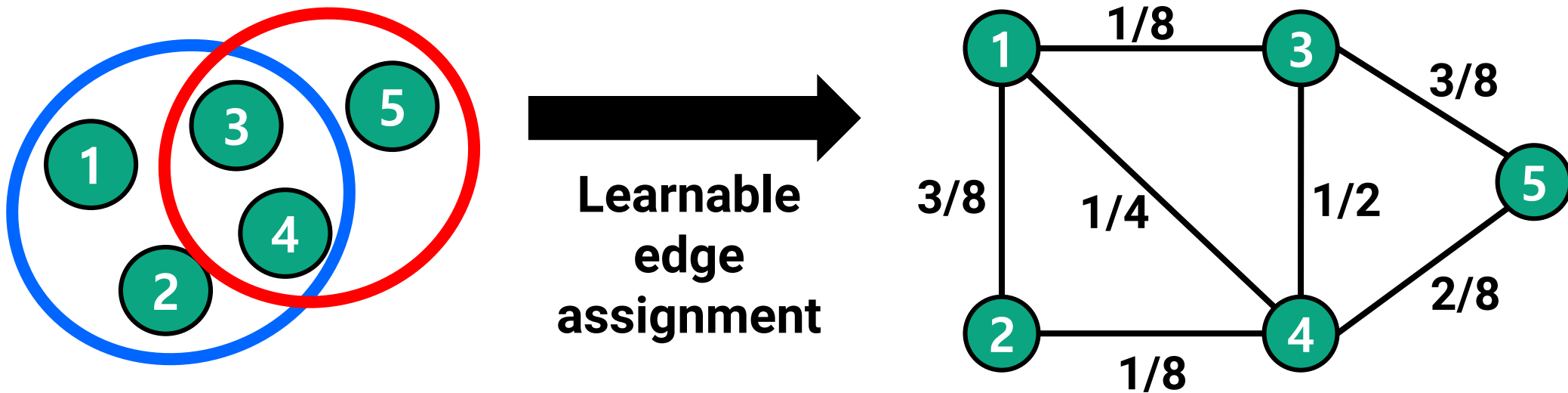


Deterministic edge assignment



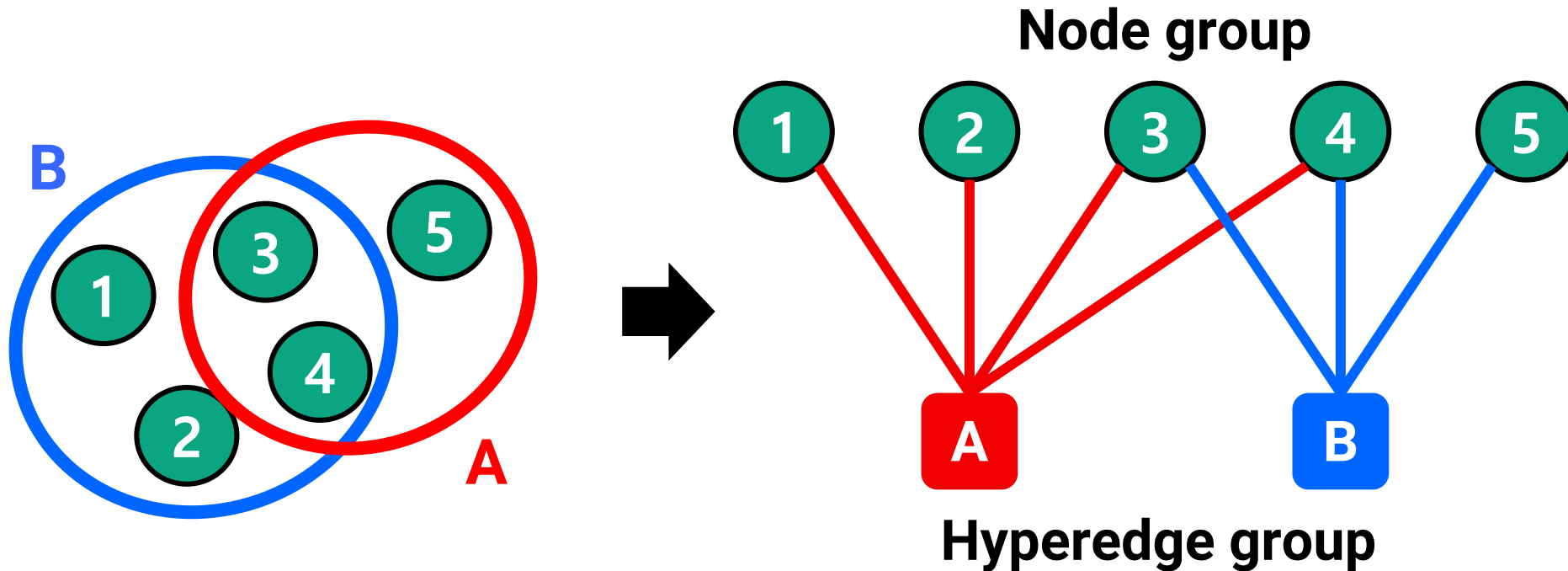
Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures: Adaptive

- **Adaptive expansion** of a hypergraph is a homogeneous, pair-wise graph.
 - It transforms a hyperedge into pairwise edge(s) via learnable rules.
 - Qian et al. (2023) assign and weigh edges based on node features.



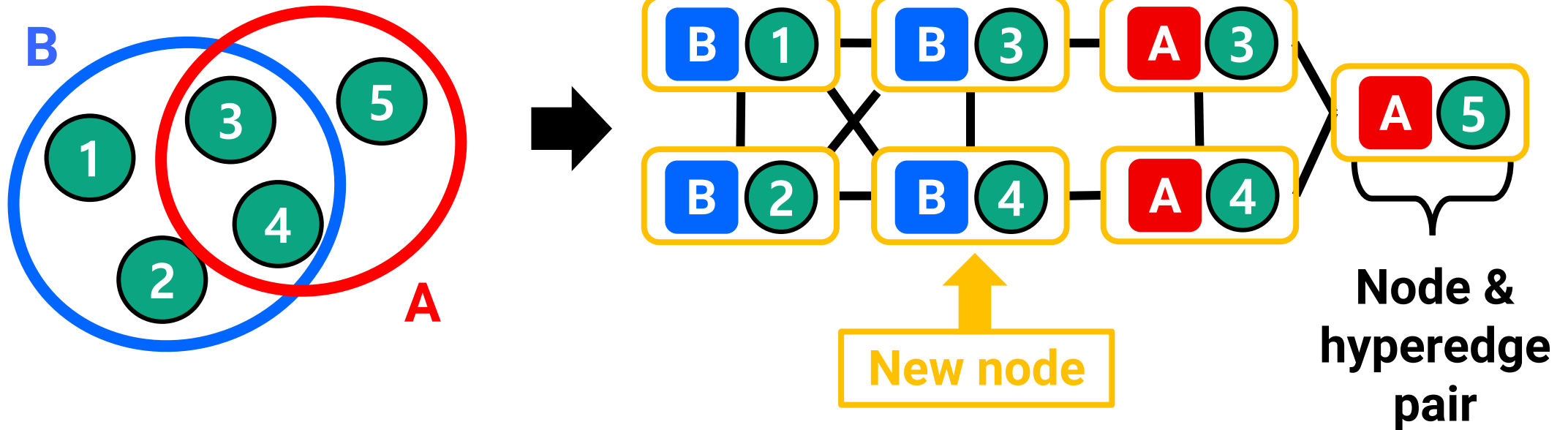
Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures: Star

- **Star expansion** of a hypergraph is a bipartite, pair-wise graph.
 - It transforms a hyperedge into a new node.
 - It joins a hyperedge (i.e., new node) and its nodes via pair-wise edges.



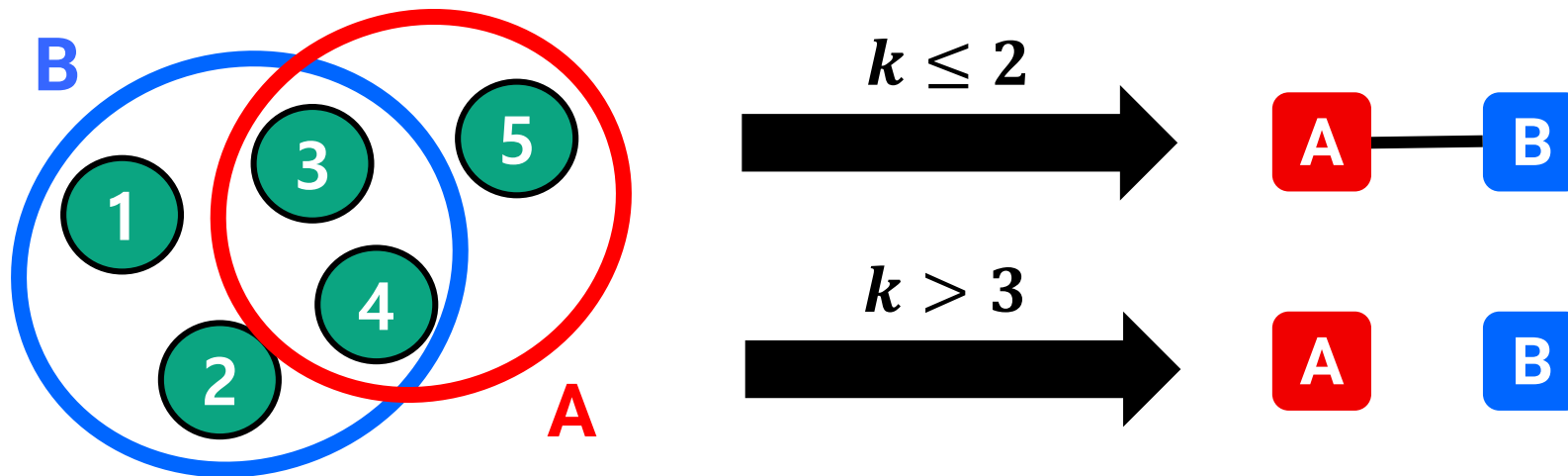
Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures: Line

- **Line expansion** of a hypergraph is a homogeneous, pair-wise graph.
 - It transforms a *pair* of a hyperedge and its node into a new node.
 - Pair-wise edges join new nodes sharing a hyperedge or node.



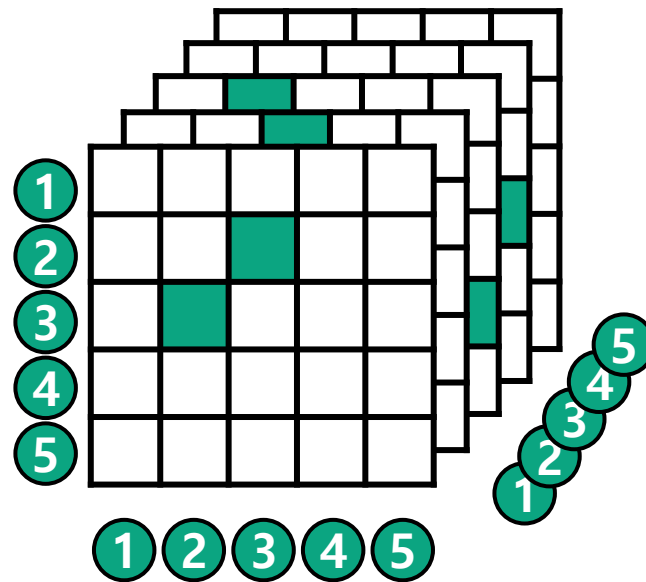
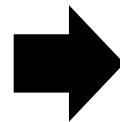
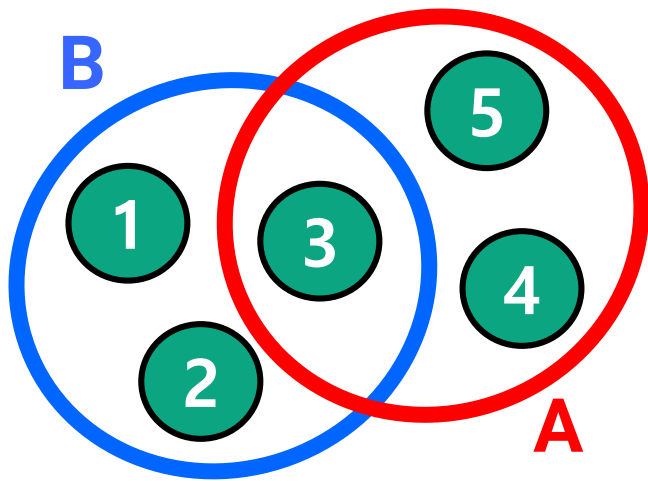
Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures: Line

- Note that line expansion is different from a (k -)line graph
- **k -Line graph** from a hypergraph is a homogeneous, pair-wise graph.
 - It transforms a hyperedge into a new node.
 - It joins hyperedge (i.e., new node) pairs with at least k common nodes



Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures: Tensor

- A hypergraph can be expressed with a **binary tensor \mathcal{A}** .
 - Tensor order expresses the maximum hyperedge size, and each tensor dimension corresponds to node index.



B

$$= \mathcal{A}_{1,2,3} = \mathcal{A}_{1,3,2} = \mathcal{A}_{2,1,3}$$

$$= \mathcal{A}_{2,3,1} = \mathcal{A}_{3,1,2} = \mathcal{A}_{3,2,1}$$

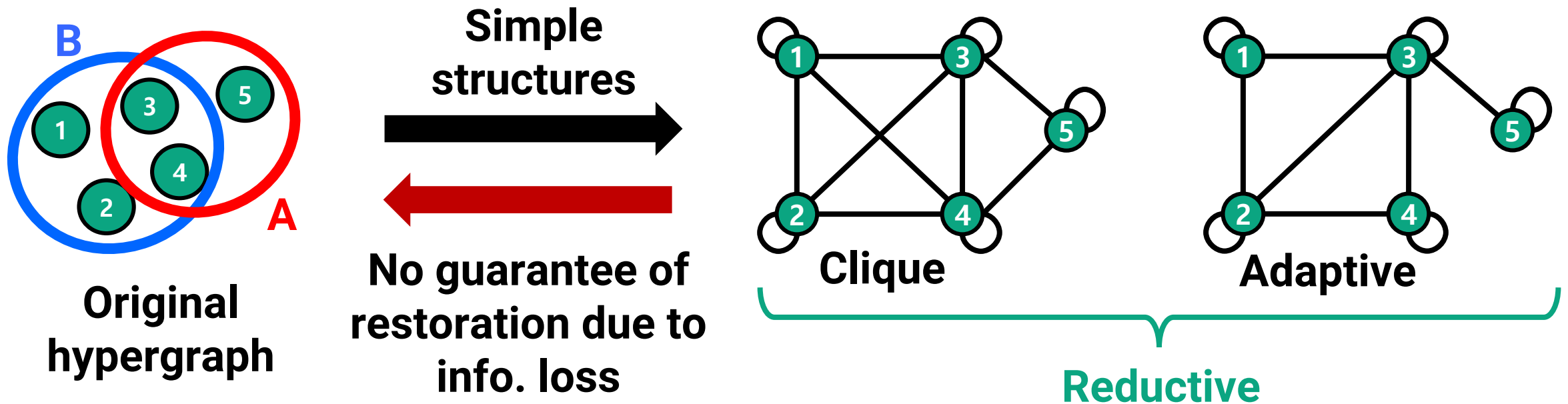
A

$$= \mathcal{A}_{3,4,5} = \mathcal{A}_{3,5,4} = \mathcal{A}_{4,3,5}$$

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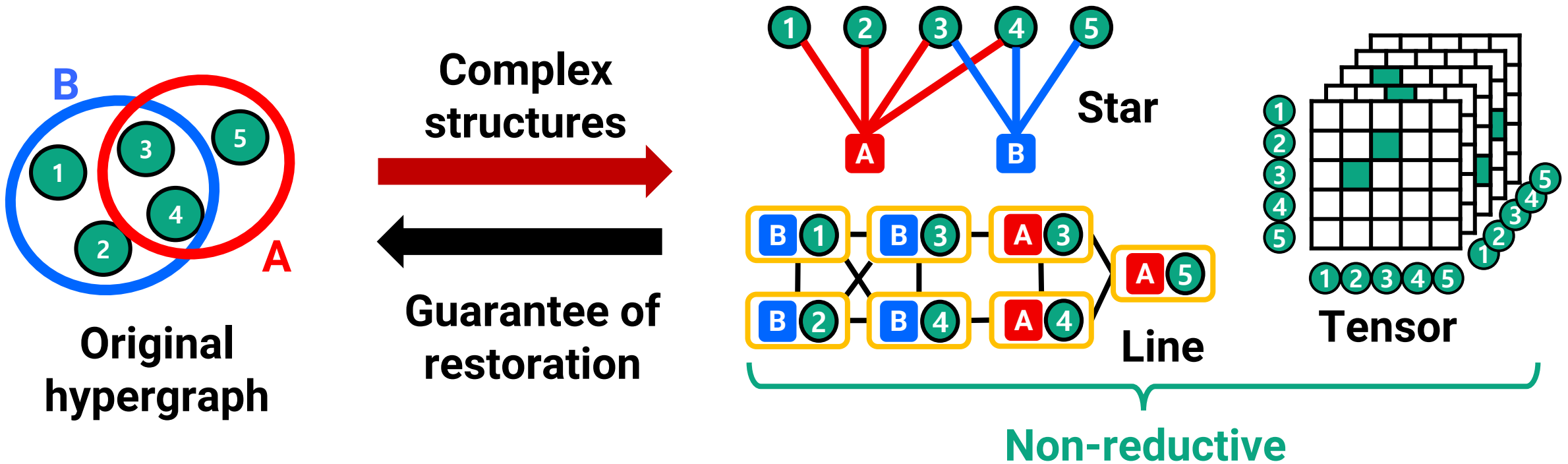
Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures (cont.)

- The discussed approaches are either **reductive** or **non-reductive**.
 - Reductive approaches yield simple and straight-forward graph structures.
 - However, it may incur information loss after transformation.



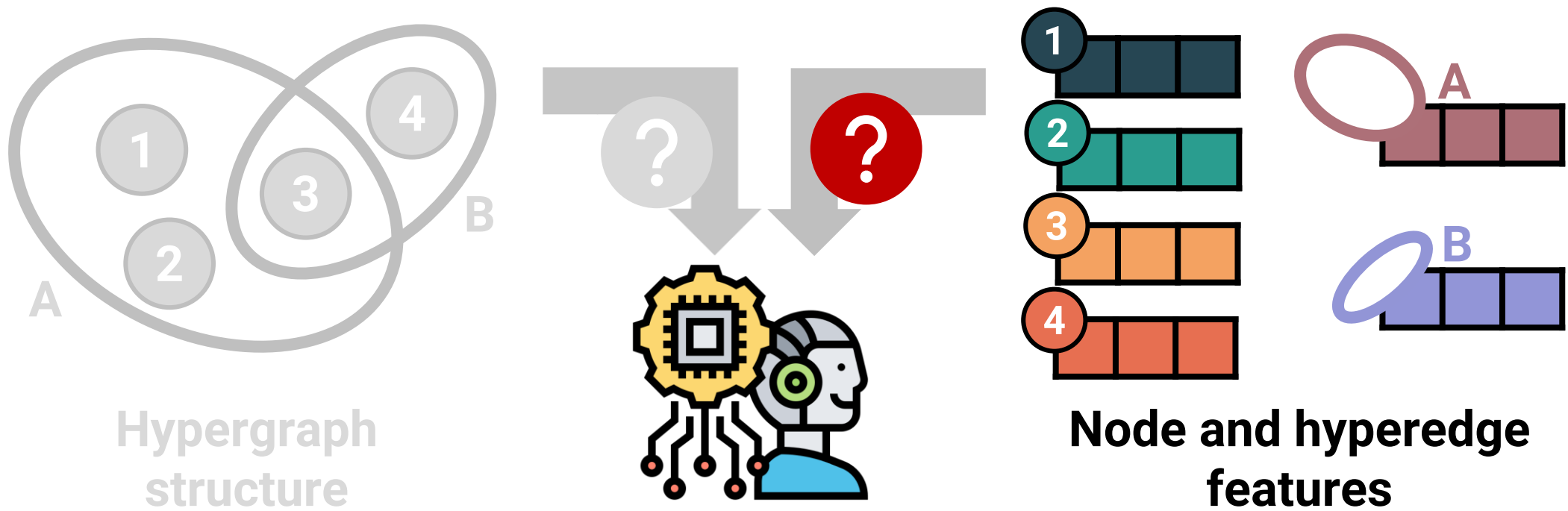
Q1) Expressing Hypergraph Structures (cont.)

- The discussed approaches are either **reductive** or **non-reductive**.
 - Non-reductive transformation incur no information loss.
 - However, they are often more complex and, thus, difficult to handle.



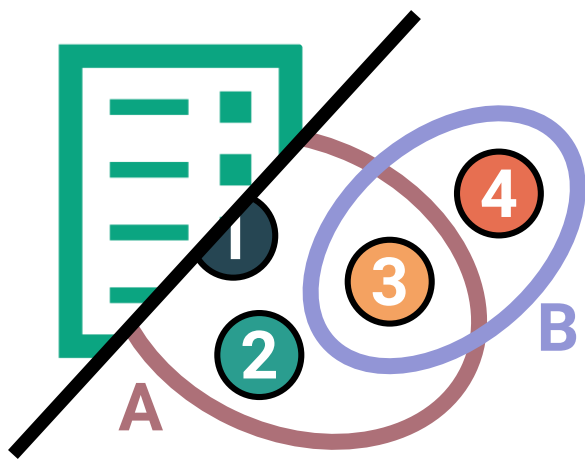
Hypergraph Neural Network Inputs (cont.)

- **Key questions** about the HNN inputs include:
 - Q1) How are hypergraph structures expressed?
 - **Q2)** What input features vector are typically used?

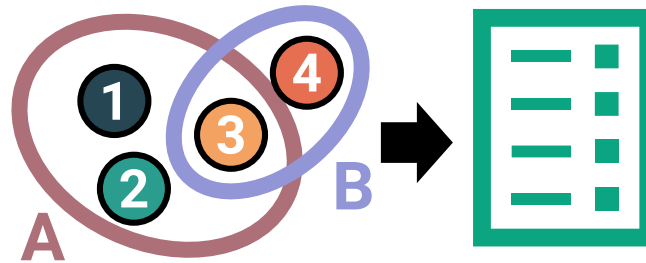


Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features

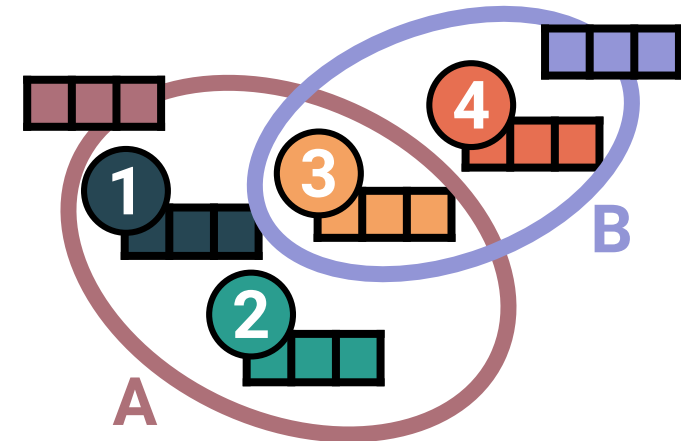
- Typically, **input feature types** for HNNs include:
 - external, structural, and identity features.



External features



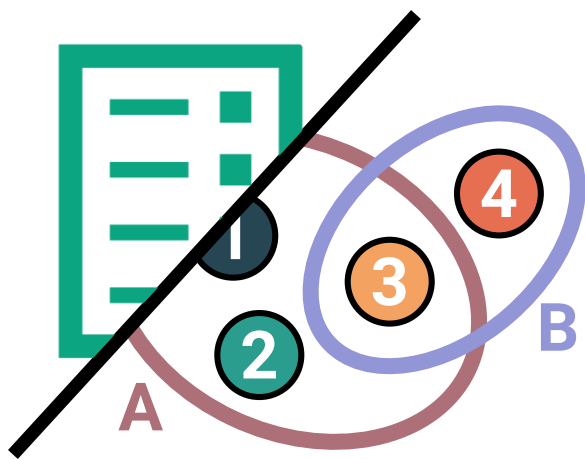
Structural features



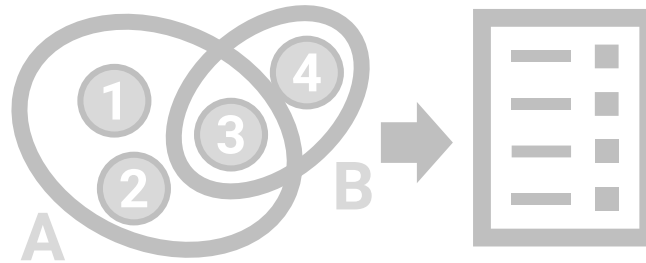
Identity features

Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features: External

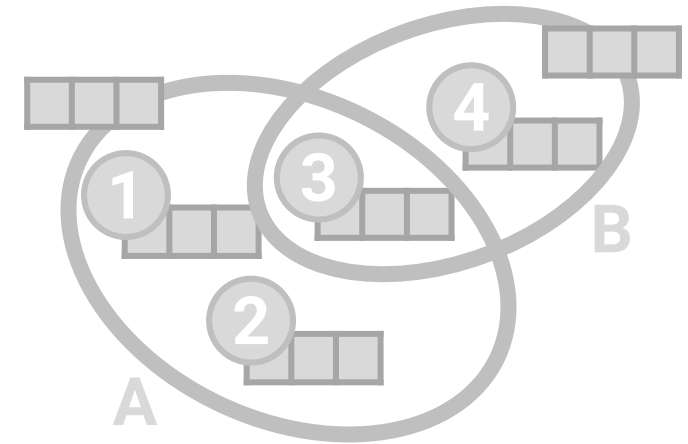
- **External features** are information about a hypergraph that is not directly obtained from its structure,
 - encouraging HNNs to capture info. beyond those reflected in structure.



External features



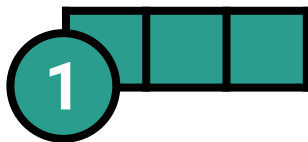
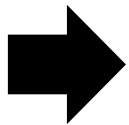
Structural features



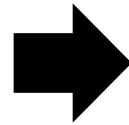
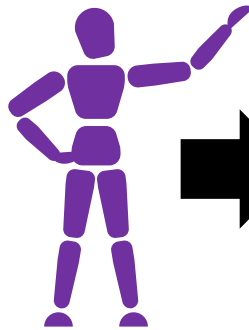
Identity features

Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features: External (cont.)

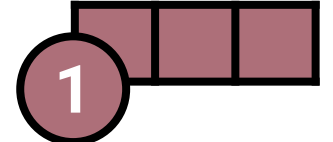
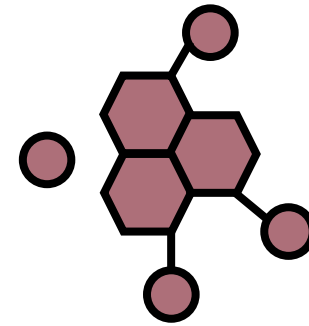
- **External node features** in popular benchmark datasets include:
 - 1) bag-of-words vectors of article nodes, 2) visual object embeddings of image nodes, 3) counts of atoms within molecule nodes, etc.



Bag-of-words



Visual object
embedding



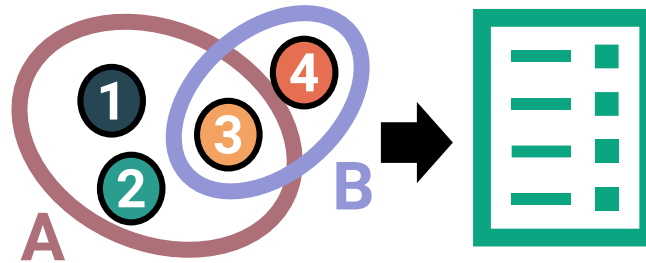
Count of atoms

Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features: Structural

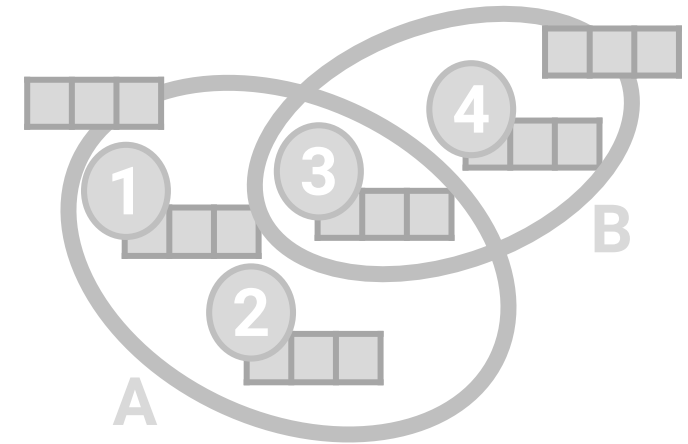
- **Structural features** are derived from the input hypergraph structure,
 - typically capturing structural proximity or similarity among nodes.
 - The structural features are either *local* or *global*.



External features



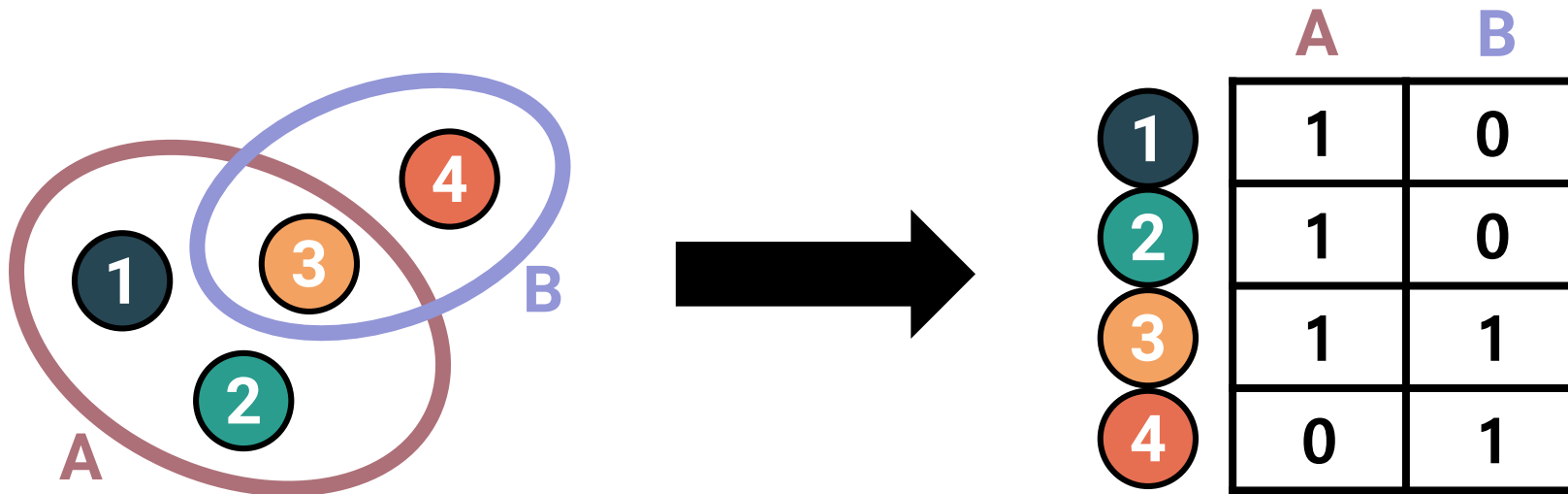
Structural features



Identity features

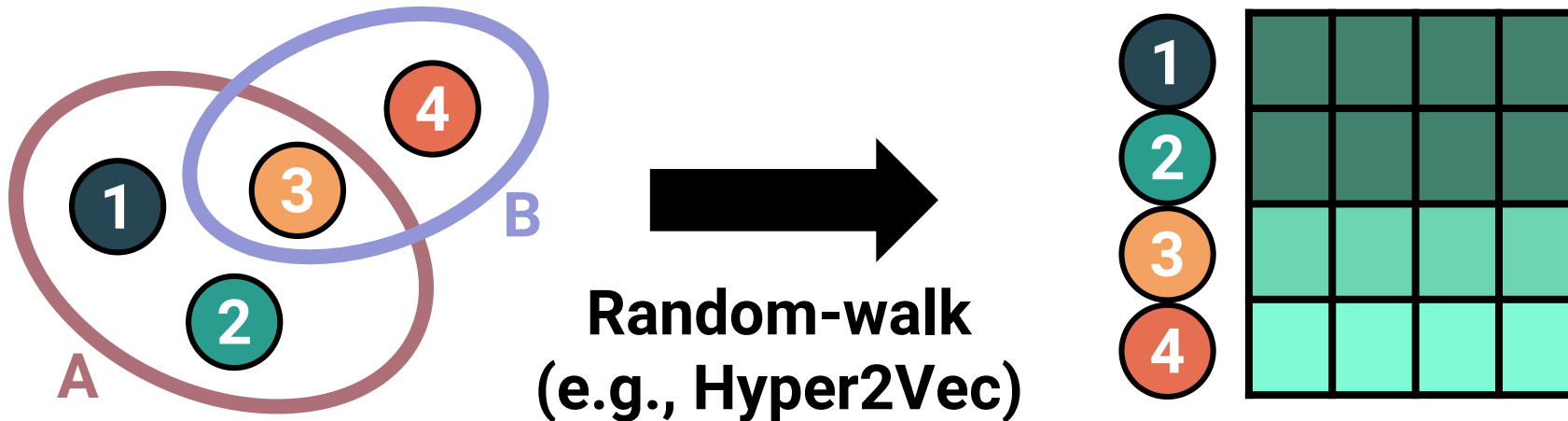
Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features: Structural (cont.)

- For **local structural features**, Liu et al. (2024) leverage the incidence matrix as part of the input features,
 - capturing local neighborhood information for each node.



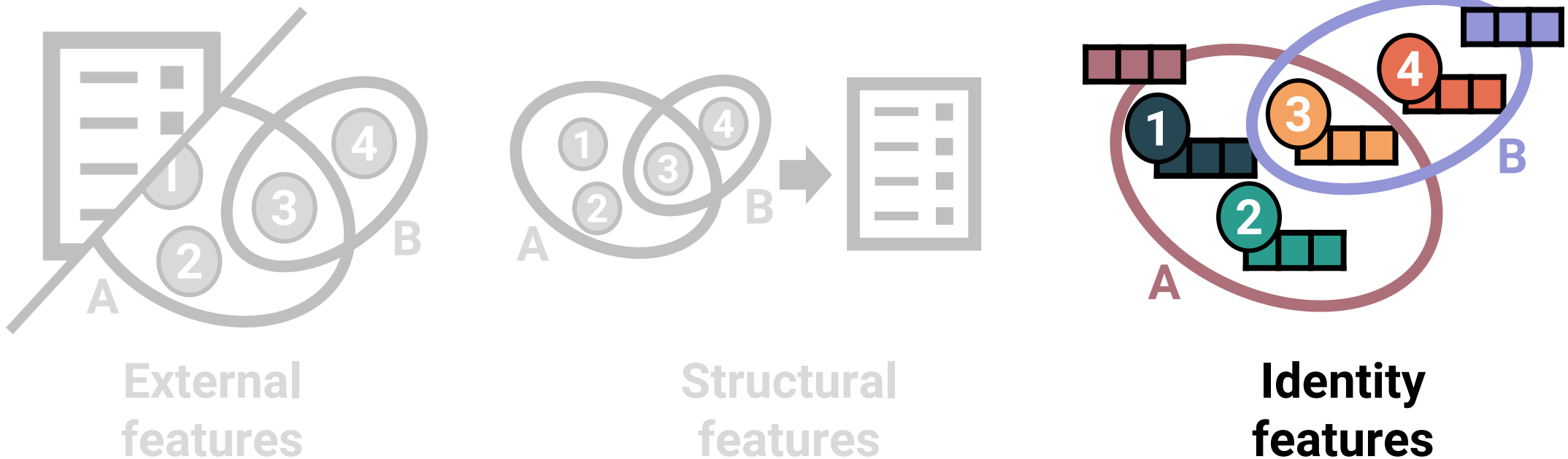
Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features: Structural (cont.)

- For **global structural features**, Zhang et al. (2020) leverage random-walk-based node features,
 - capturing proximity of each node to all other nodes.



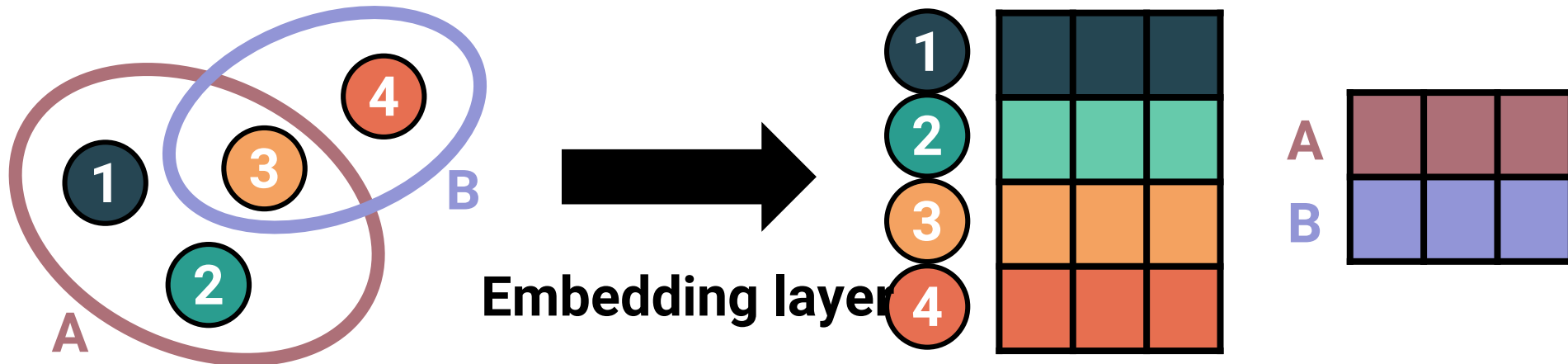
Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features: Identity

- **Identity features** are indicator vectors uniquely assigned to each node and hyperedge,
 - encouraging HNNs to learn distinct embeddings for each node.



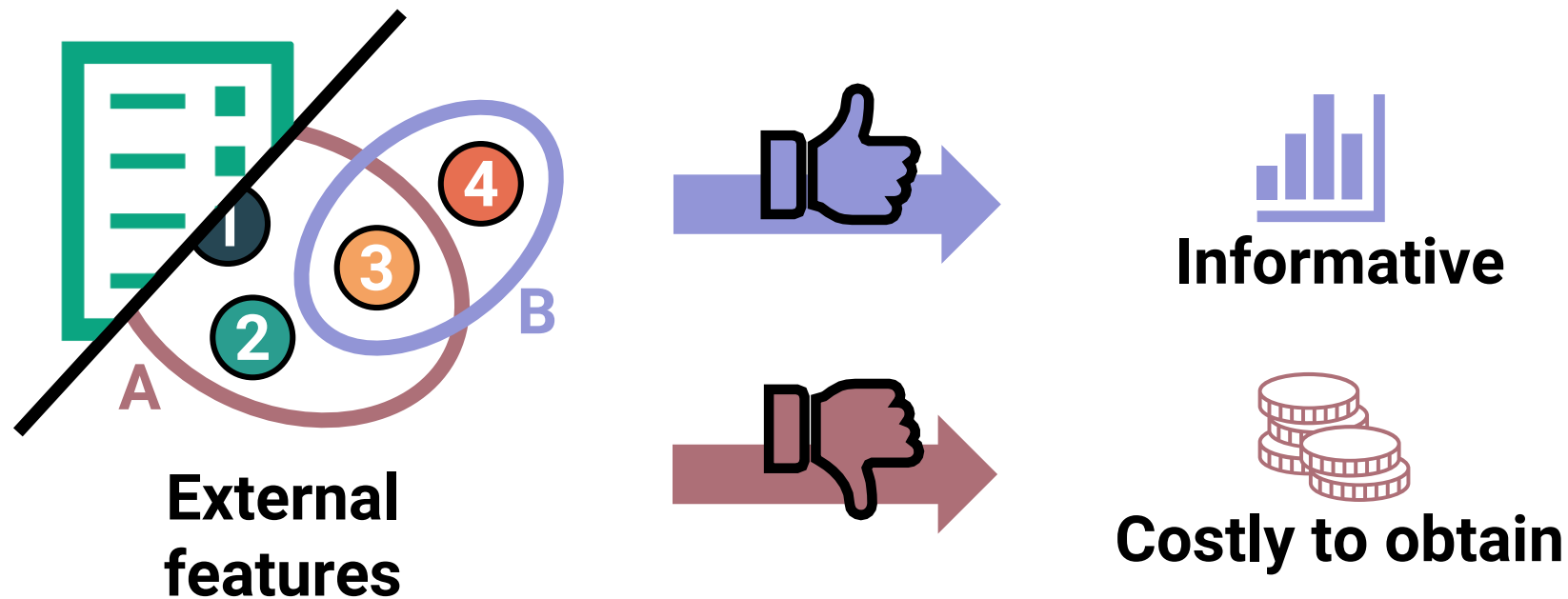
Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features: Identity (cont.)

- Ji et al. (2020) generated **identity features** via an embedding layer,
 - such that each node and hyperedge has a learnable random feature vector.



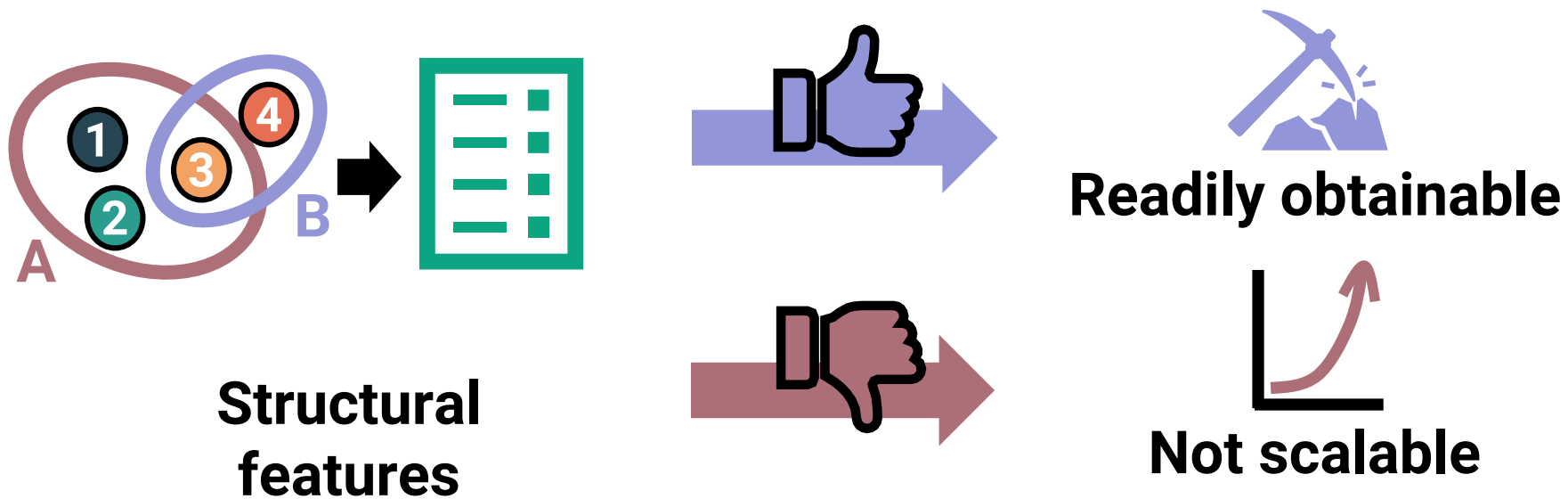
Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features (cont.)

- External, structural, and identity features have **pros and cons**.
 - External features** can be highly informative, encouraging HNNs to be more effective. However, obtaining external features can be costly.



Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features (cont.)

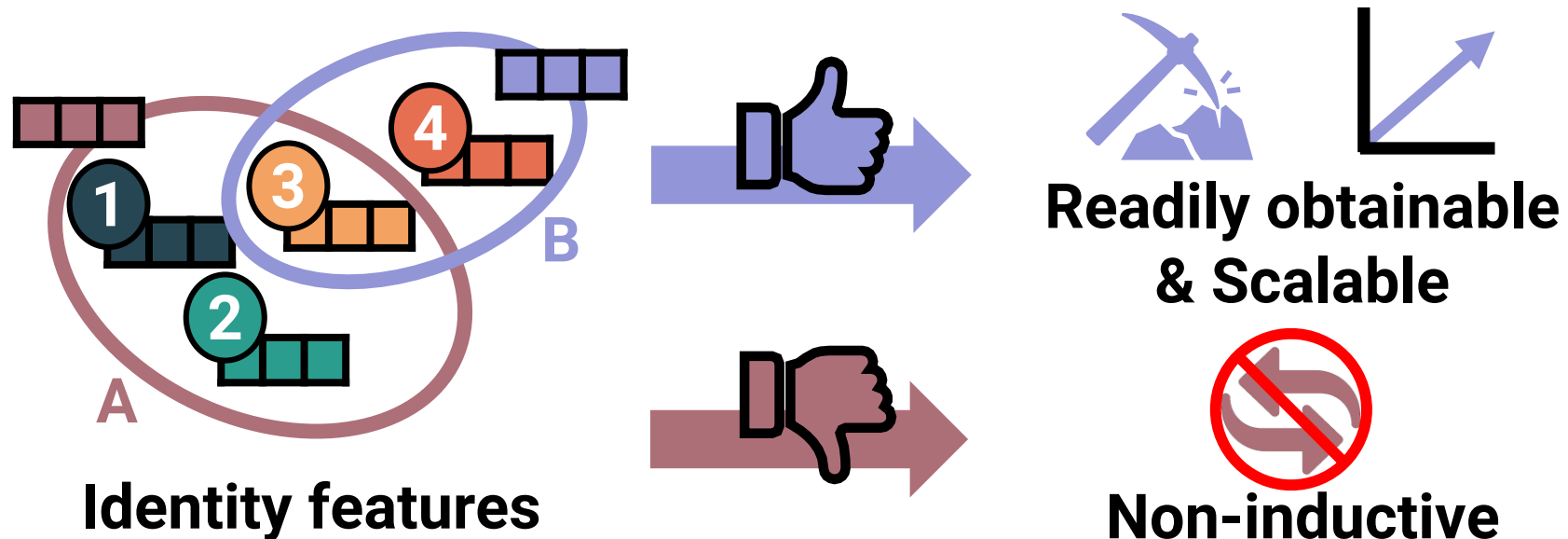
- External, structural, and identity features have **pros and cons**.
 - Structural features** are readily obtainable from hypergraph structure. However, they may not be scalable for large hypergraphs.



Q2) Node and Hyperedge Features (cont.)

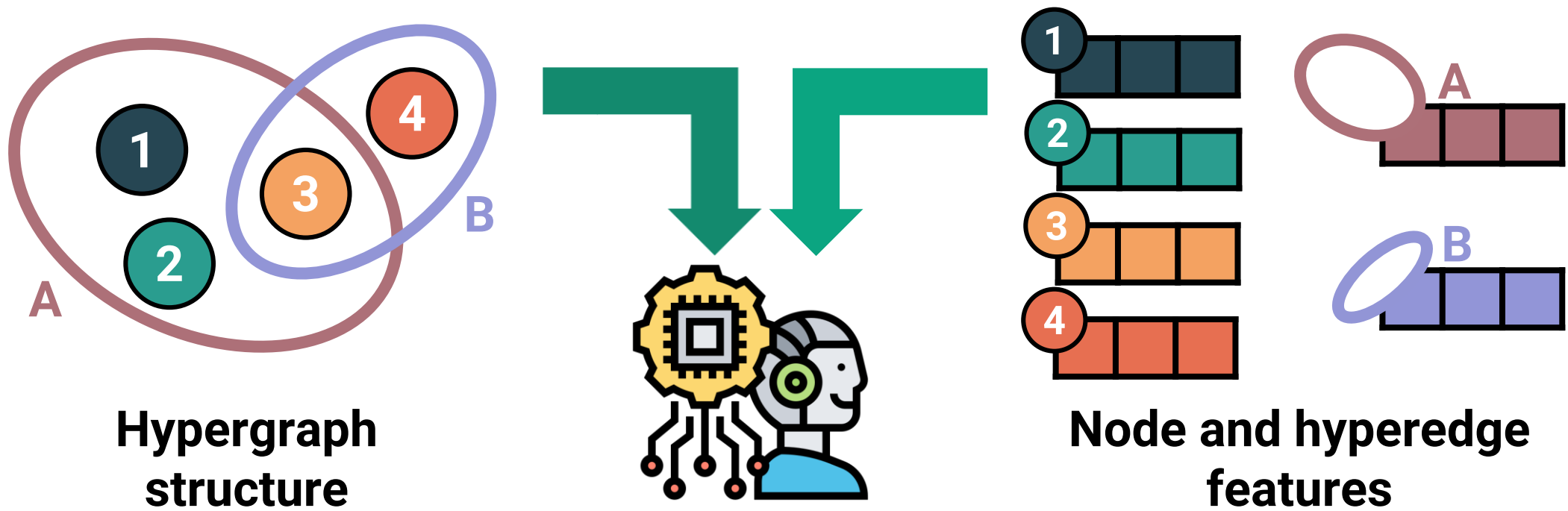
- External, structural, and identity features have **pros and cons**.
 - Identity features** are readily obtainable and scalable.

However, they may not be applicable to inductive settings where test hypergraphs are different from training hypergraphs.



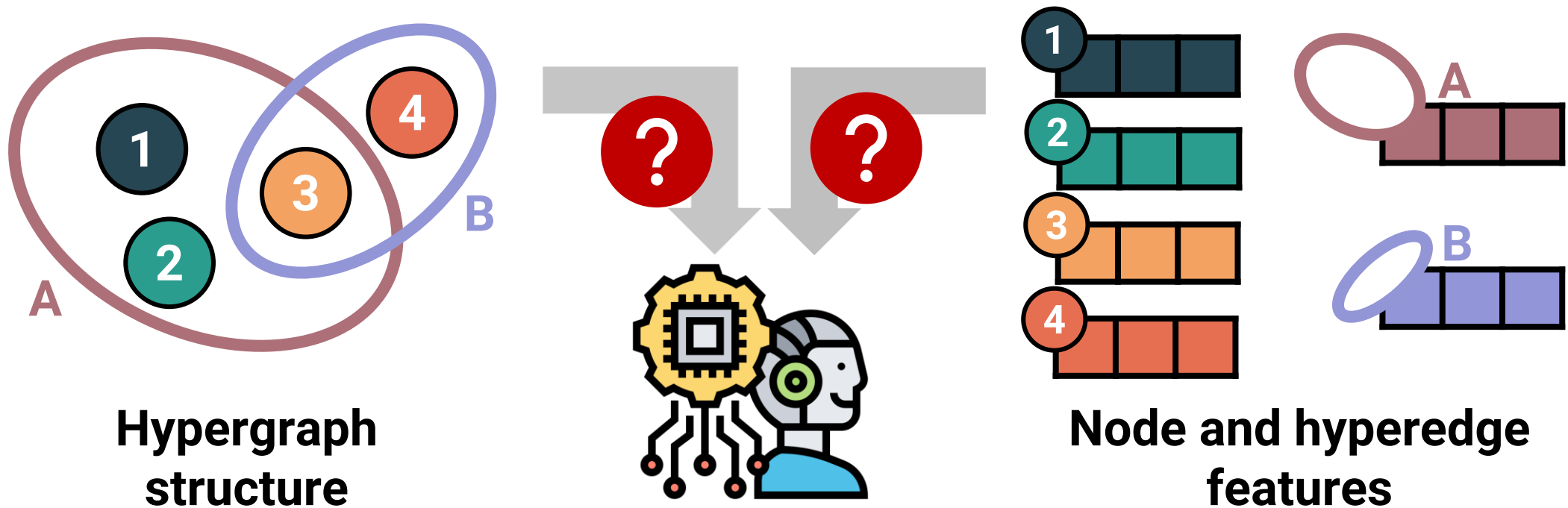
Part 2 Summary

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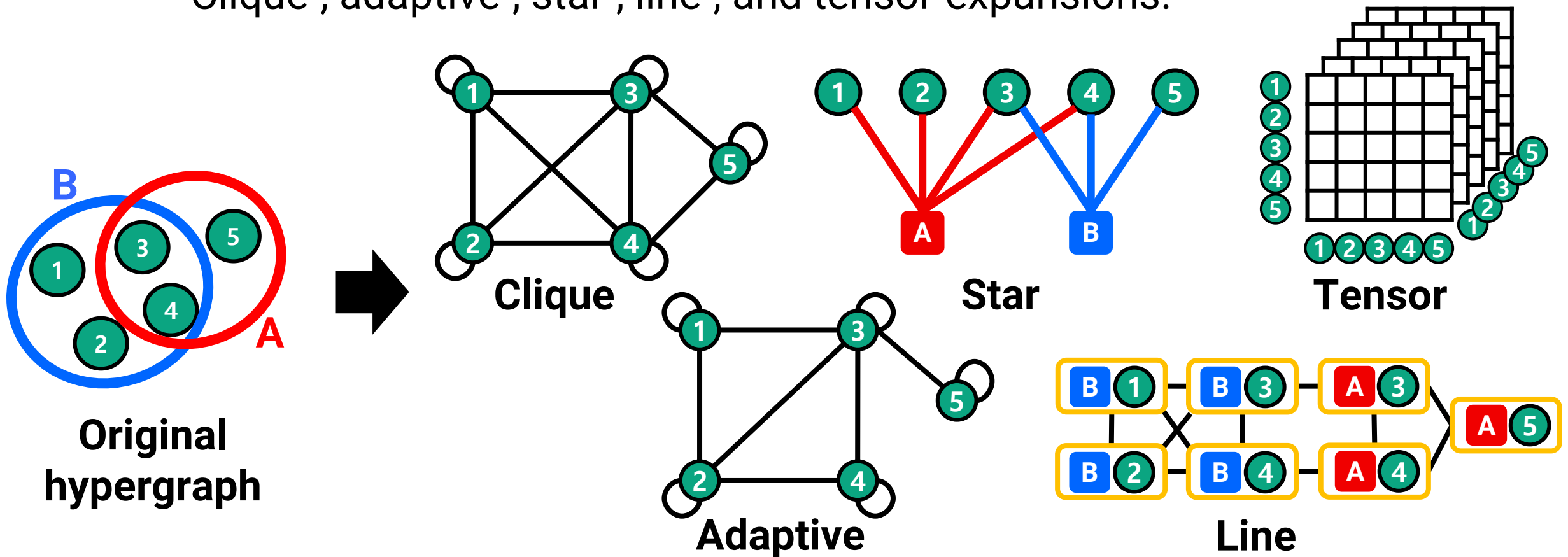
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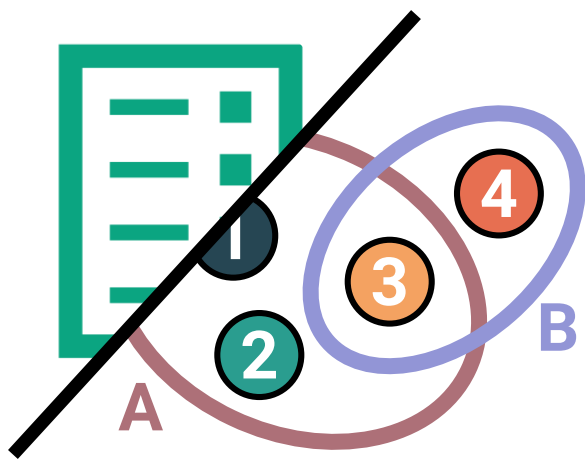
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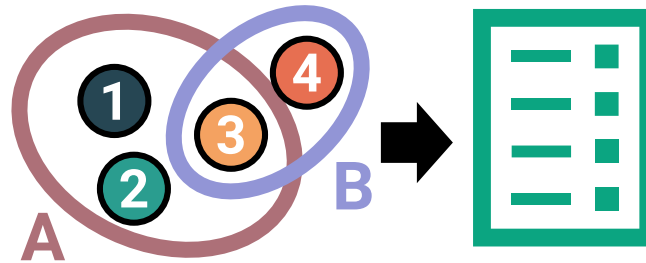


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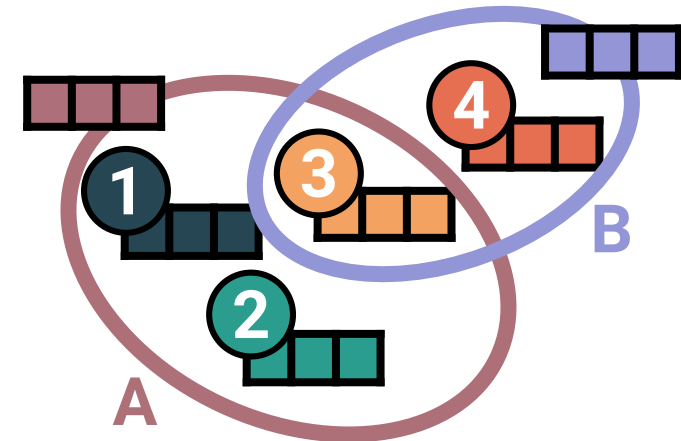
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External features



Structural features



Identity features