

Ultracold Fermi gases with Neural-Network Quantum States

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ECT* Many-Body Quantum Physics with Machine Learning

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Collaborators

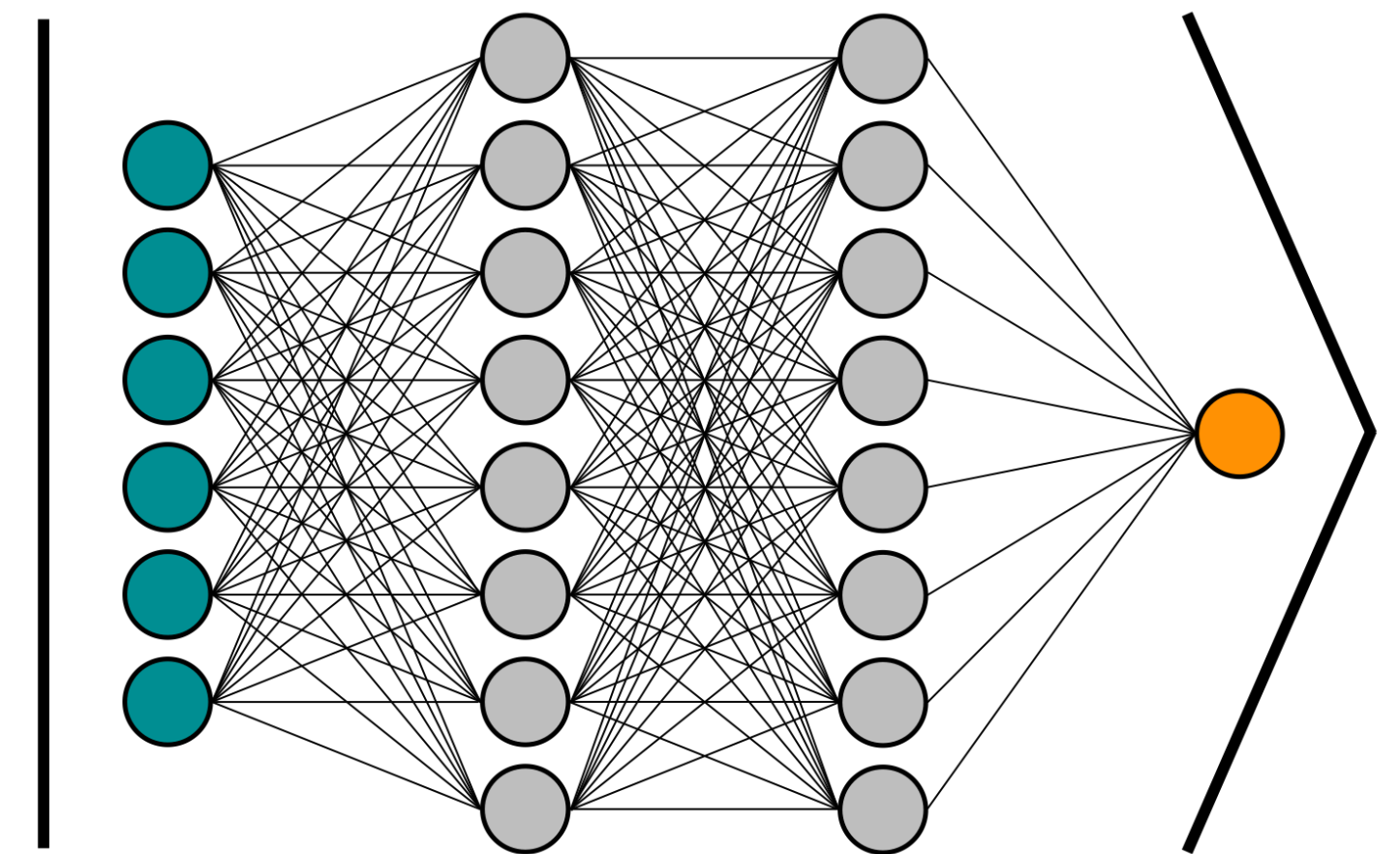
- Argonne National Laboratory: **Alessandro Lovato**
Bryce Fore
- École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne: **Giuseppe Carleo**
Gabriel Pescia
Jannes Nys
- Los Alamos National Laboratory: **Stefano Gandolfi**
- Michigan State University / Facility for Rare Isotope Beams: **Morten Hjorth-Jensen**

- See our preprint: **“Neural-network quantum states for ultra-cold Fermi gases”**
arXiv:2305.08831



Overview

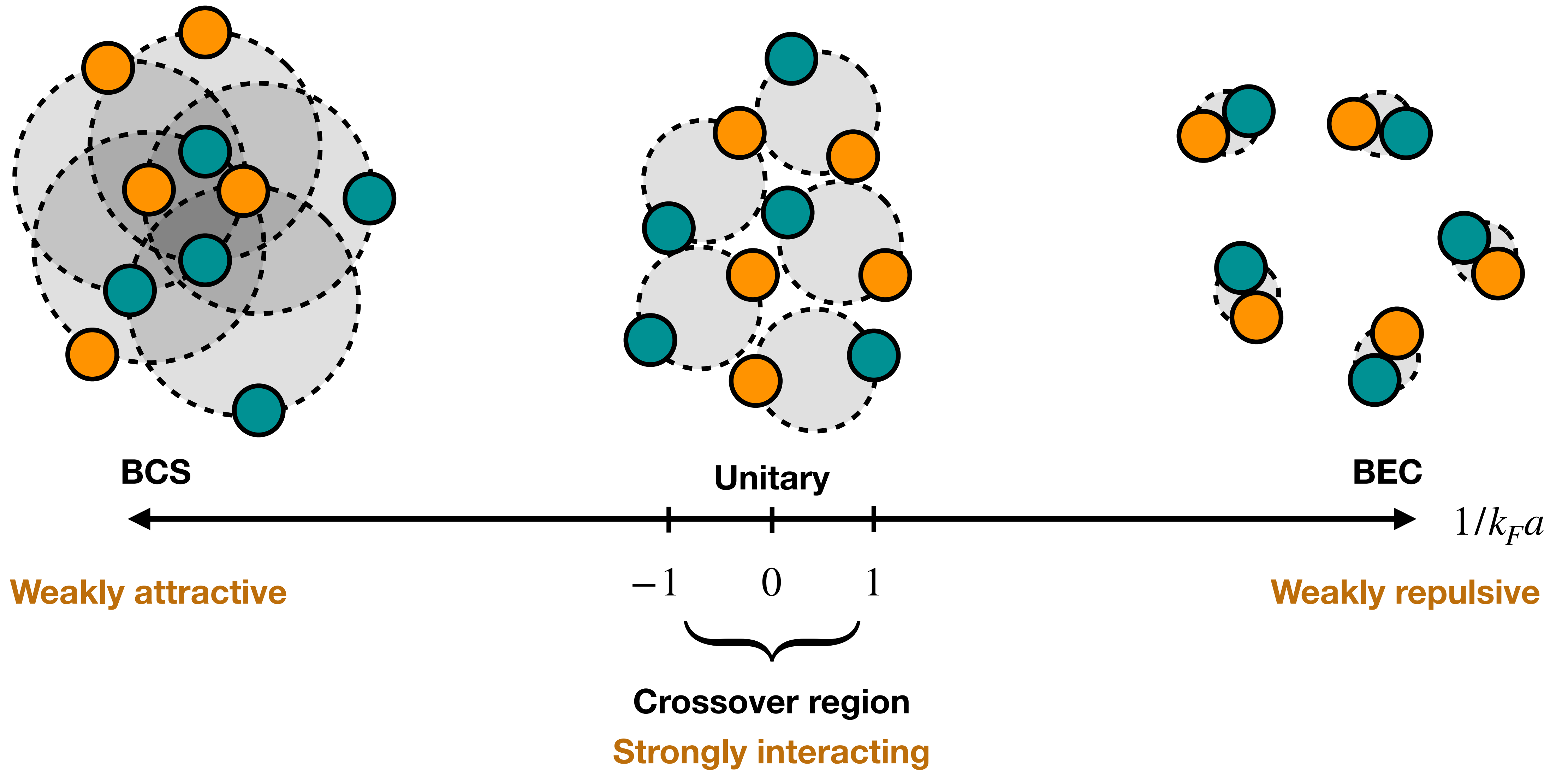
- Ultracold Fermi gases
- Slater determinants, BCS wave functions, and Pfaffians...
- Pfaffian-Jastrow neural-network quantum state
- Backflow correlations with message-passing neural networks
- Results
 - Ground-state energies
 - Opposite-spin pair distributions
 - Pairing gap
- Conclusions and perspectives



Ultracold Fermi gases

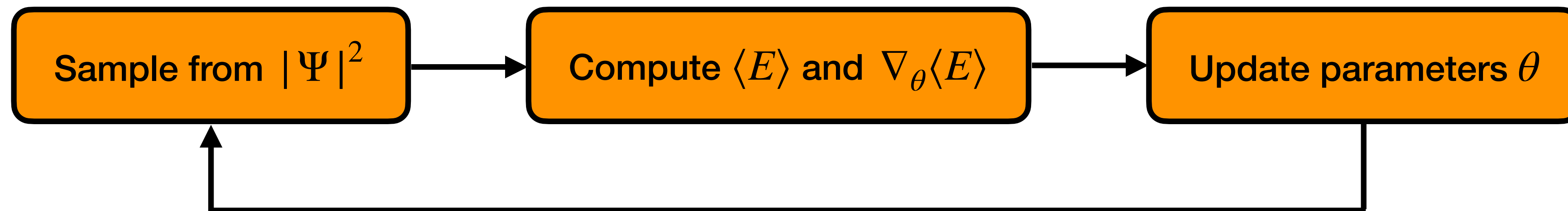
- Dilute, two-component fermions at zero temperature
- Behavior mainly governed by s -wave scattering length a and effective range r_e
- Highly non-perturbative, short-range, attractive interaction
- Can be created in the laboratory with variable scattering length a
 - $a < 0$ BCS regime of long-range Cooper pairs
 - $a > 0$ BEC regime of tightly-bound dimers
 - $|a| \rightarrow \infty$ Unitary limit (universal)
- Relevant for understanding superfluidity in fermionic systems, dilute neutron star matter, and development of many-body methods

BCS-BEC Crossover



Our Approach

- Simulate gas of N fermions in a periodic box of side length L
- Design a neural-network quantum state (NQS) that efficiently captures pairing and backflow correlations, while enforcing symmetries and boundary conditions
- Train NQS using variational Monte Carlo (VMC) method, i.e. minimize the energy $\langle E \rangle$



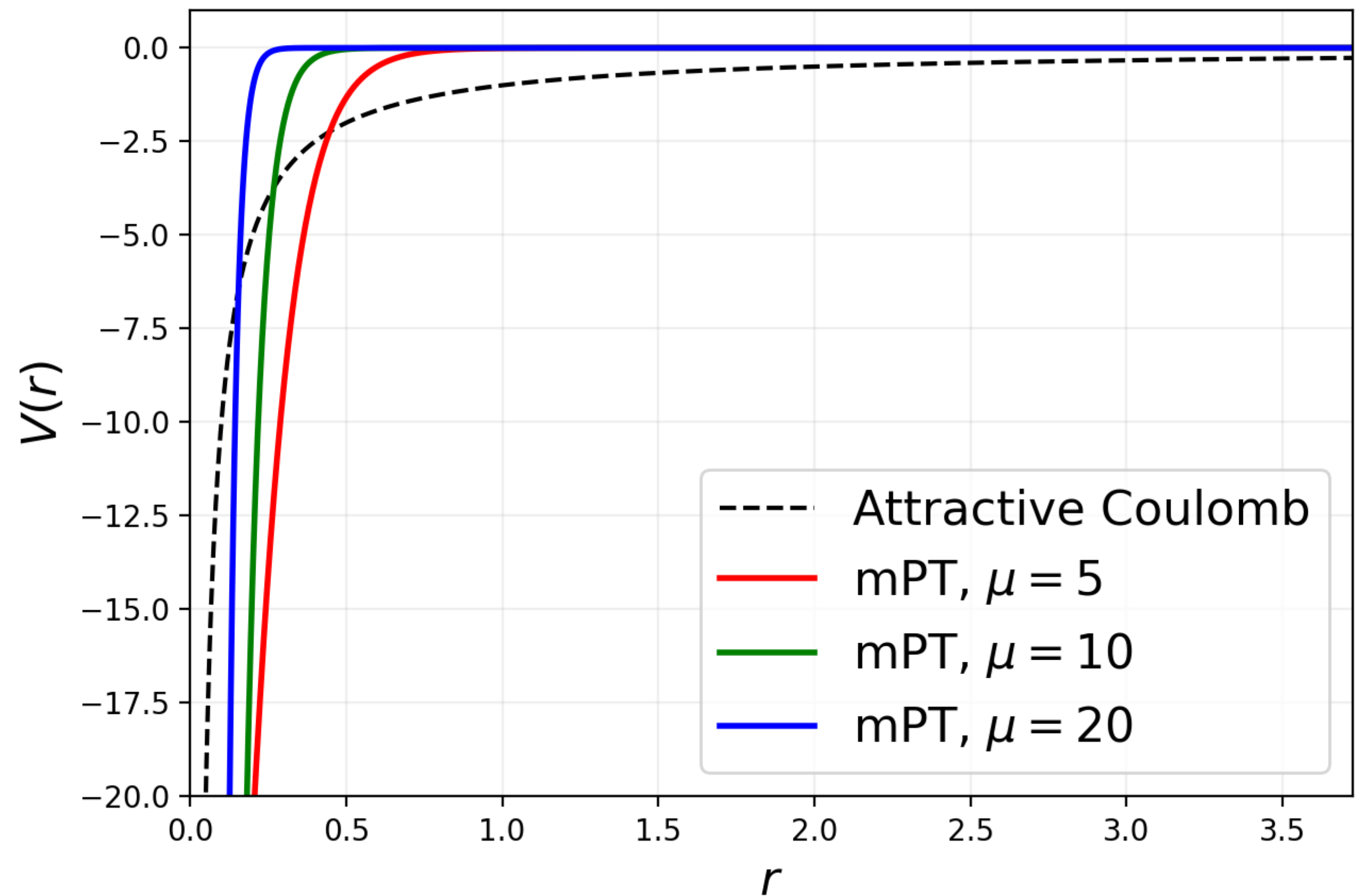
- Compare to state-of-the-art Diffusion Monte Carlo (DMC) calculations
- Compare to similar NQS based on Slater determinants, with and without backflow

Pöschl-Teller Potential

- Regularized, short-range attraction between opposite-spin pairs

$$V_{ij} = (\delta_{s_i, s_j} - 1) v_0 \frac{2\hbar^2}{m} \frac{\mu^2}{\cosh^2(\mu r_{ij})}$$

- Provides exact solutions of two-body problem
- Other interaction potentials give similar results near unitarity as long as a and r_e are the same



Slater Determinants

- Wave function must be antisymmetric w.r.t. particle exchange

$$\Psi(X) = e^{J(X)} \Phi(X)$$

antisymmetric symmetric antisymmetric

$$X = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N)$$
$$\mathbf{x}_i = (\mathbf{r}_i, s_i)$$

- Commonly use a Slater determinant of single-particle orbitals

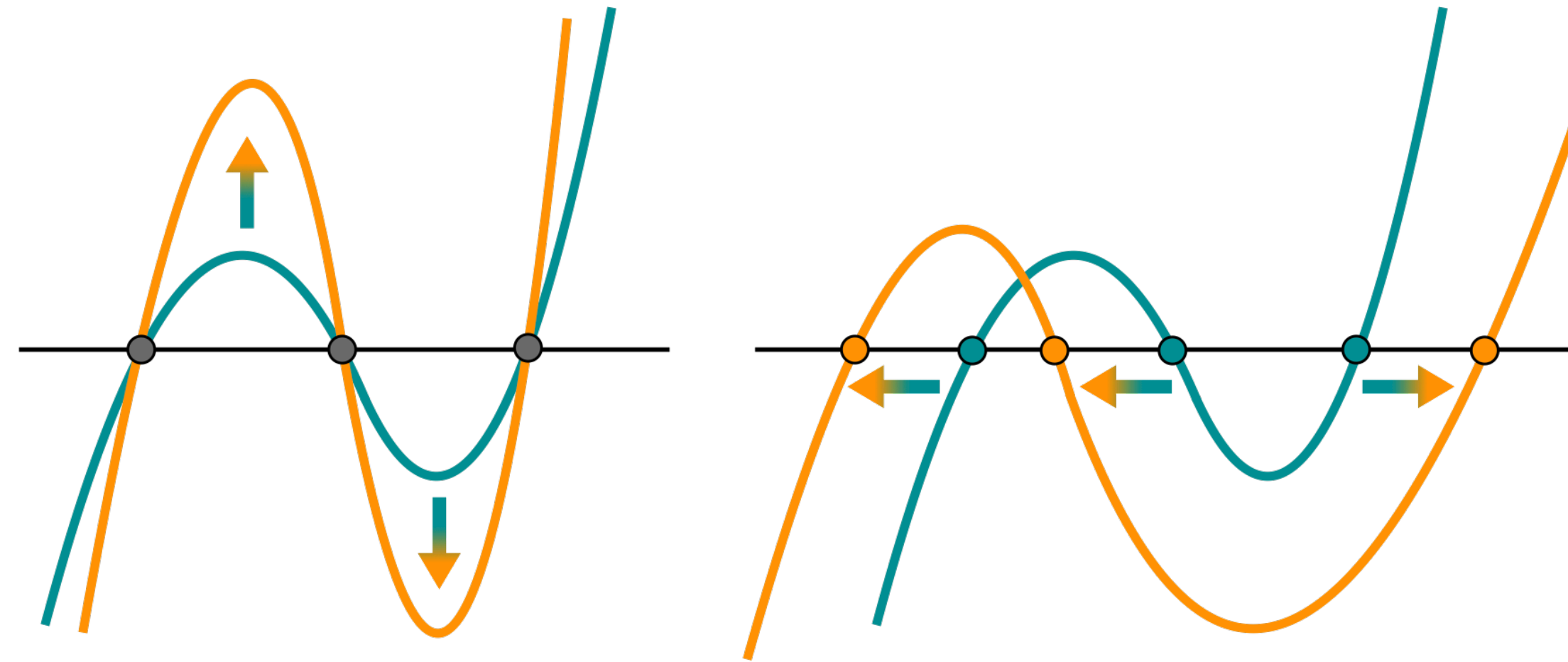
$$\Phi_{SJ}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & \cdots & \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_N) \\ \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_1) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) & \cdots & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_N) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_N(\mathbf{x}_1) & \phi_N(\mathbf{x}_2) & \cdots & \phi_N(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Fixed-node approximation with plane wave orbitals (SJ-PW):

$$\phi_\alpha(\mathbf{x}_i) = e^{i\mathbf{k}_\alpha \cdot \mathbf{r}_i} \delta_{s_\alpha, s_i}$$

Backflow Transformations

- Symmetric, positive-definite Jastrow factor cannot change the nodes of the wave function



- Transform to a new basis that incorporates the influences from surrounding particles
- Transformation must be permutation equivariant to preserve antisymmetry

$$\mathbf{r}_i \mapsto \mathbf{r}_i + \mathbf{u}_i(X) + i\mathbf{v}_i(X)$$

$$|s_i\rangle \mapsto |\chi_i\rangle = \cos\left(\frac{\theta_i(X)}{2}\right) |s_i\rangle + \sin\left(\frac{\theta_i(X)}{2}\right) \sigma_i^x |s_i\rangle$$

BCS Wave Function

- Used for unpolarized systems with strong singlet pairing correlations
- Relies on separating spin-up and spin-down particles (cannot be used for nuclear systems)

$$\Phi_{BCS}(X) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \phi(\mathbf{x}_{1\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{1\downarrow}) & \phi(\mathbf{x}_{1\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{2\downarrow}) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{x}_{1\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{N/2\downarrow}) \\ \phi(\mathbf{x}_{2\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{1\downarrow}) & \phi(\mathbf{x}_{2\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{2\downarrow}) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{x}_{2\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{N/2\downarrow}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi(\mathbf{x}_{N/2\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{1\downarrow}) & \phi(\mathbf{x}_{N/2\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{2\downarrow}) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{x}_{N/2\uparrow}, \mathbf{x}_{N/2\downarrow}) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Can expand matrix to include unpaired orbitals for spin-polarized systems

Determinants vs. Pfaffians

Defined for $n \times n$ matrices

$$\det(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i, \sigma(i)}$$

$$\det(A^T) = \det(A)$$

$$\det(A) \det(B) = \det(AB)$$

Defined for $2n \times 2n$ skew-symmetric matrices

$$\operatorname{pf}(A) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2n}} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^n a_{\sigma(2i-1), \sigma(2i)}$$

$$\operatorname{pf}(A^T) = (-1)^n \operatorname{pf}(A)$$

$$\operatorname{pf}(A) \operatorname{pf}(B) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} \log(A^T B)\right)$$

$$\det(A) = \operatorname{pf}(A)^2$$

Pfaffian Wave Function

- Simplest and most general way to build an antisymmetrized product of pairing orbitals rather than single-particle orbitals

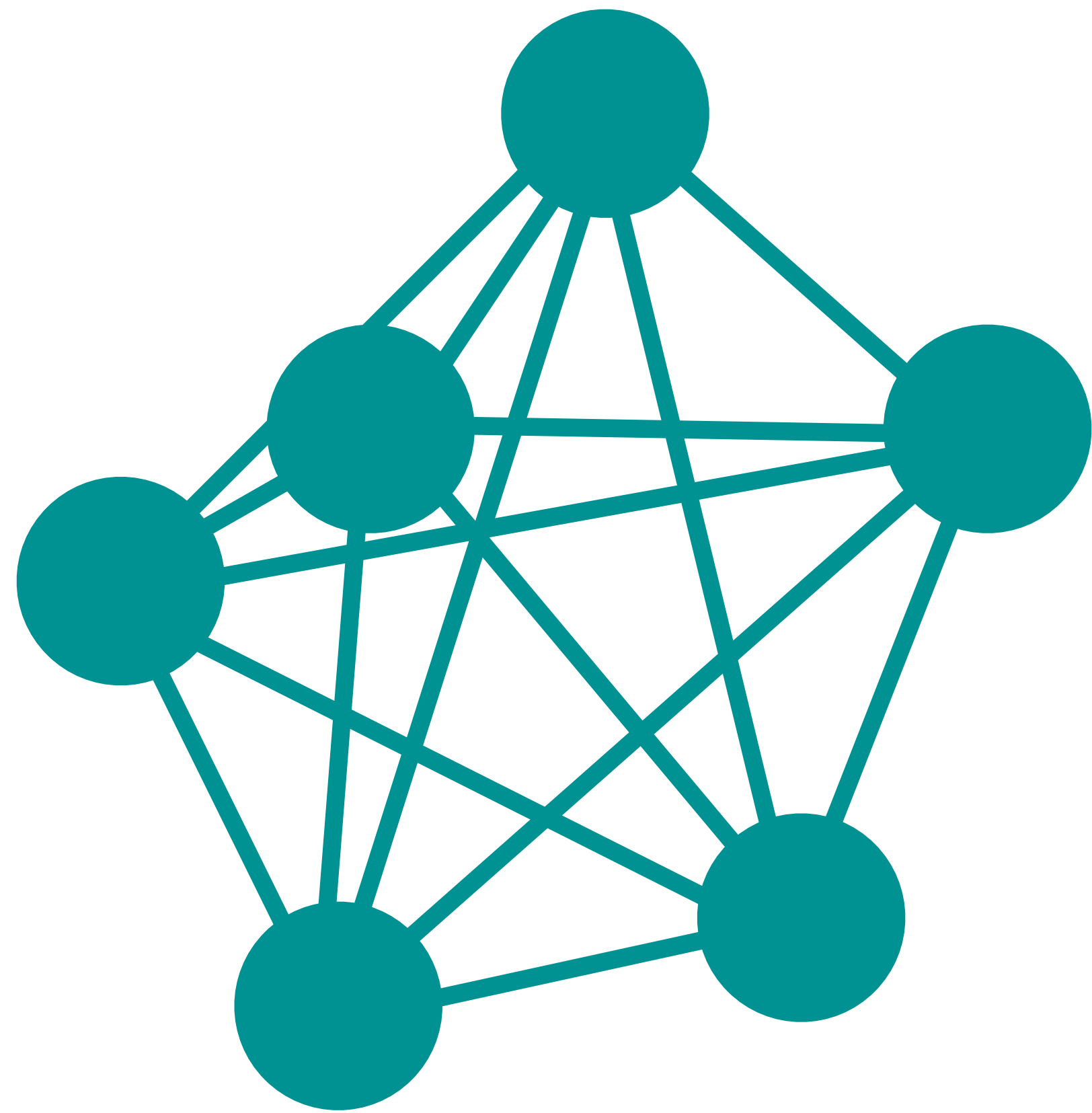
$$\Phi_{PJ}(X) = \text{pf} \begin{bmatrix} \phi(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_1) & \phi(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_N) \\ \phi(\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_1) & \phi(\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_2) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_N) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi(\mathbf{x}_N, \mathbf{x}_1) & \phi(\mathbf{x}_N, \mathbf{x}_2) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{x}_N, \mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Commonly employed Pfaffian wave functions explicitly decompose pairing orbital into singlet and triplet components
- We take advantage of universal approximation theorem: $\phi(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \equiv \nu(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) - \nu(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_i)$, where ν is a neural network.
- Naturally encodes singlet and triplet pairing because ν takes spins as input

Message-Passing Neural Network

- Similar to the message-passing neural network used in our study of the homogenous electron gas (Pescia et al. arXiv:2305.07240)
- Permutation-equivariant graph neural network
- Iteratively builds correlations into new one-body and two-body features from original ones
- Skip connections help stabilize training and avoid vanishing gradients
- Visible nodes/one-body features: $\mathbf{v}_i = (s_i)$
- Visible edges/two-body features: $\mathbf{v}_{ij} = (r_{ij}, \mathbf{r}_{ij}, s_i \cdot s_j)$
- Preprocessing step: $\mathbf{h}_i^{(0)} = (\mathbf{v}_i, A\mathbf{v}_i)$
 $\mathbf{h}_{ij}^{(0)} = (\mathbf{v}_{ij}, B\mathbf{v}_{ij})$

Message-Passing Neural Network



for $t = 1, \dots, T$:

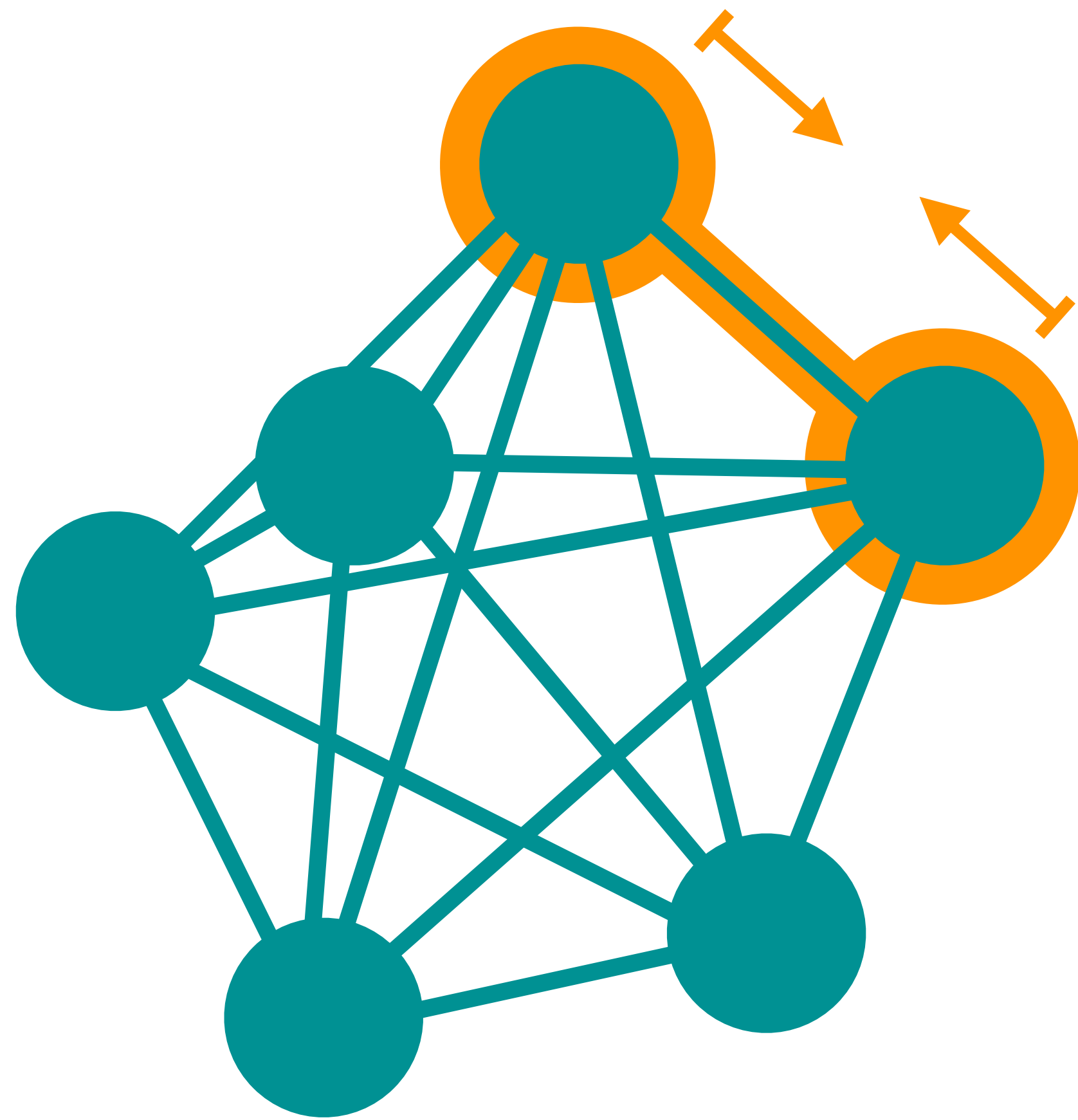
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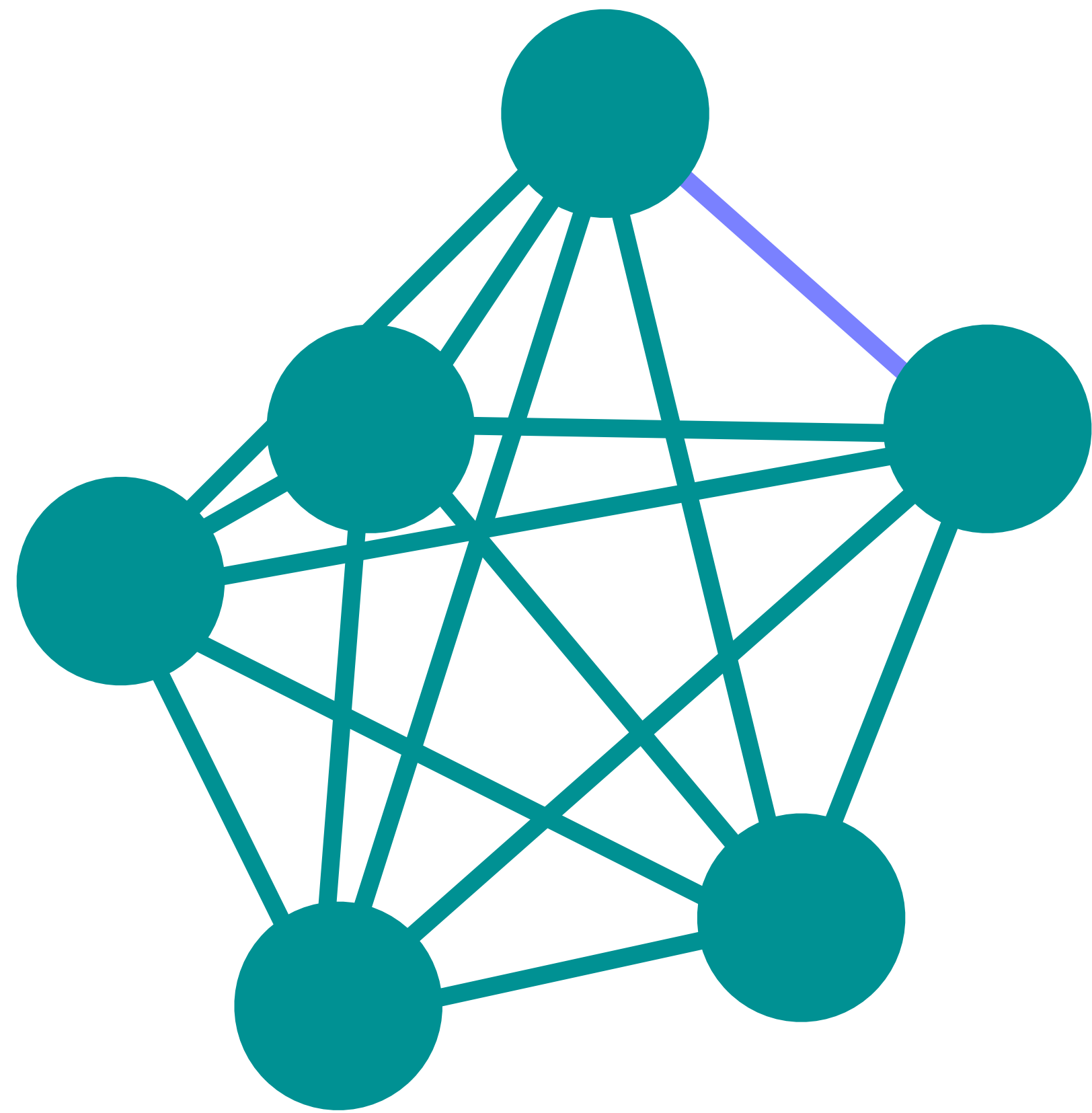
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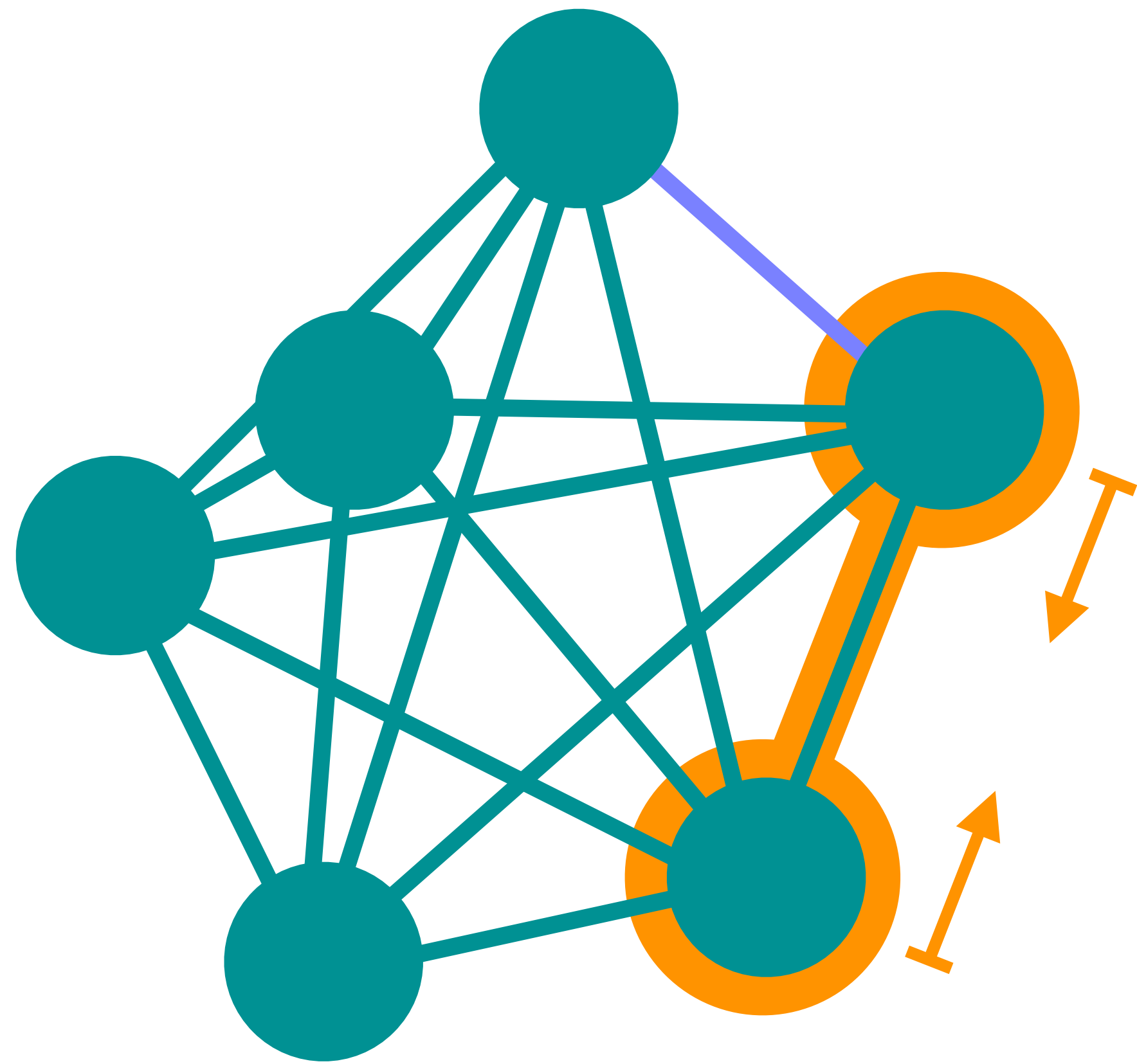
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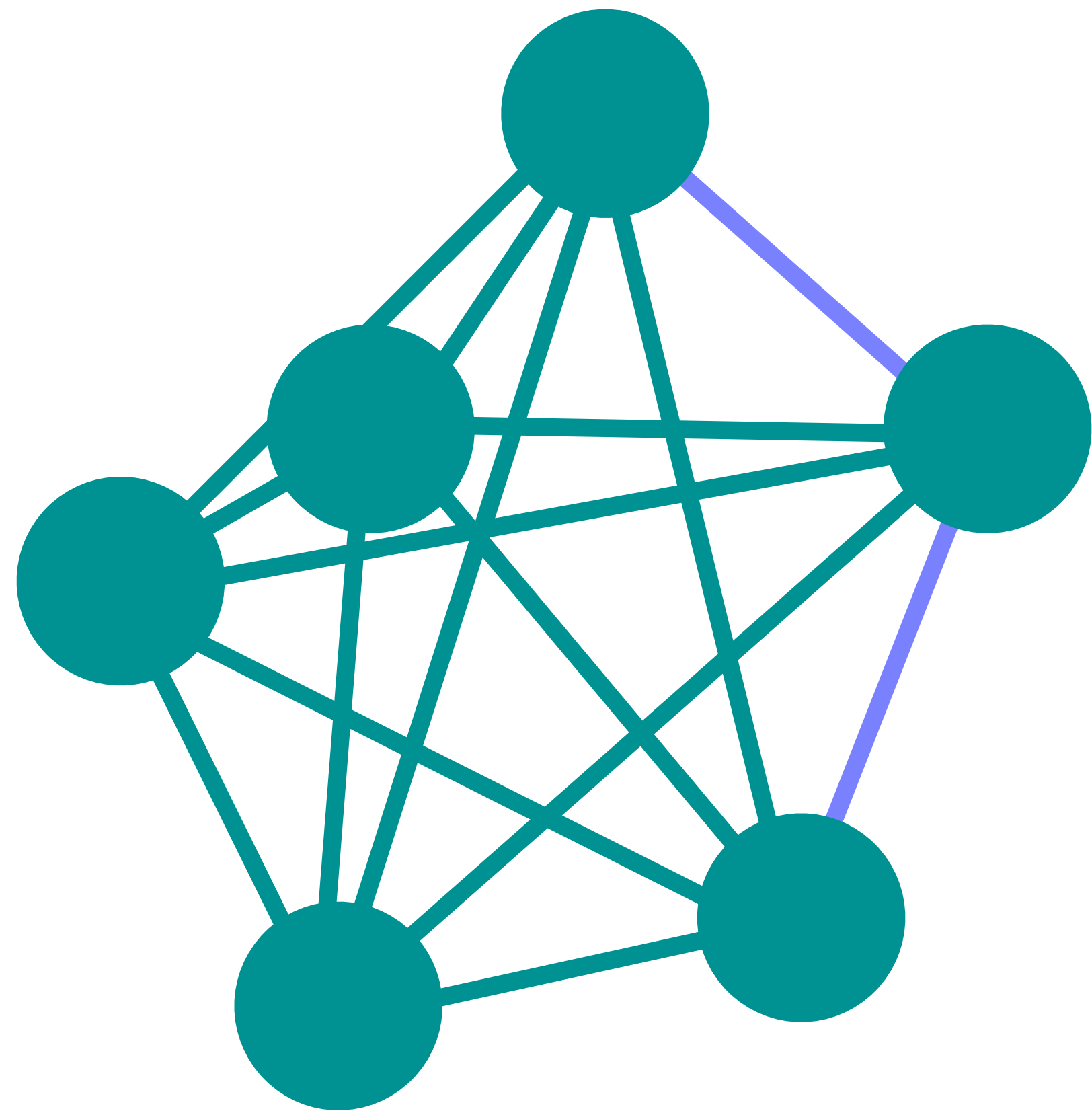
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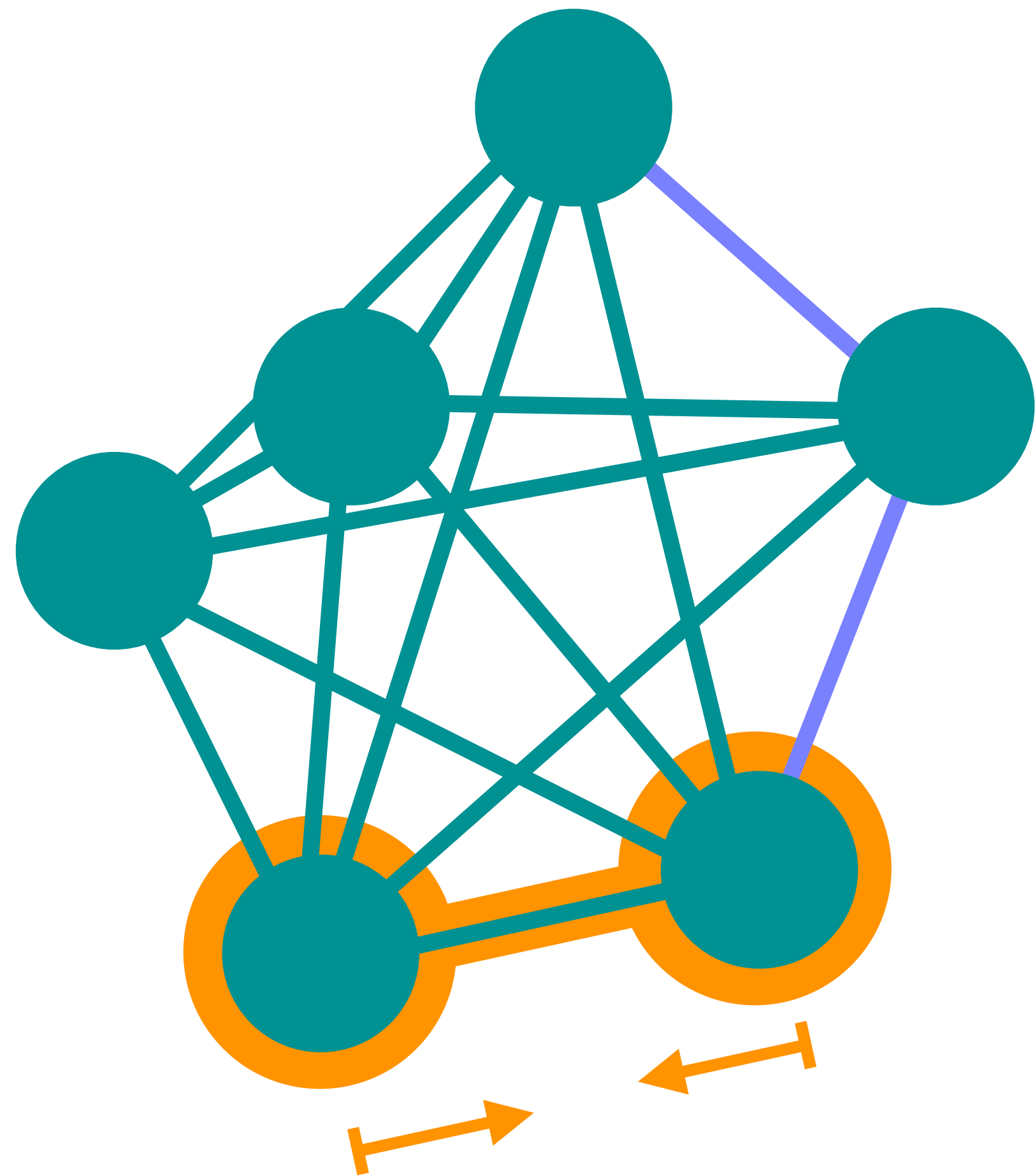
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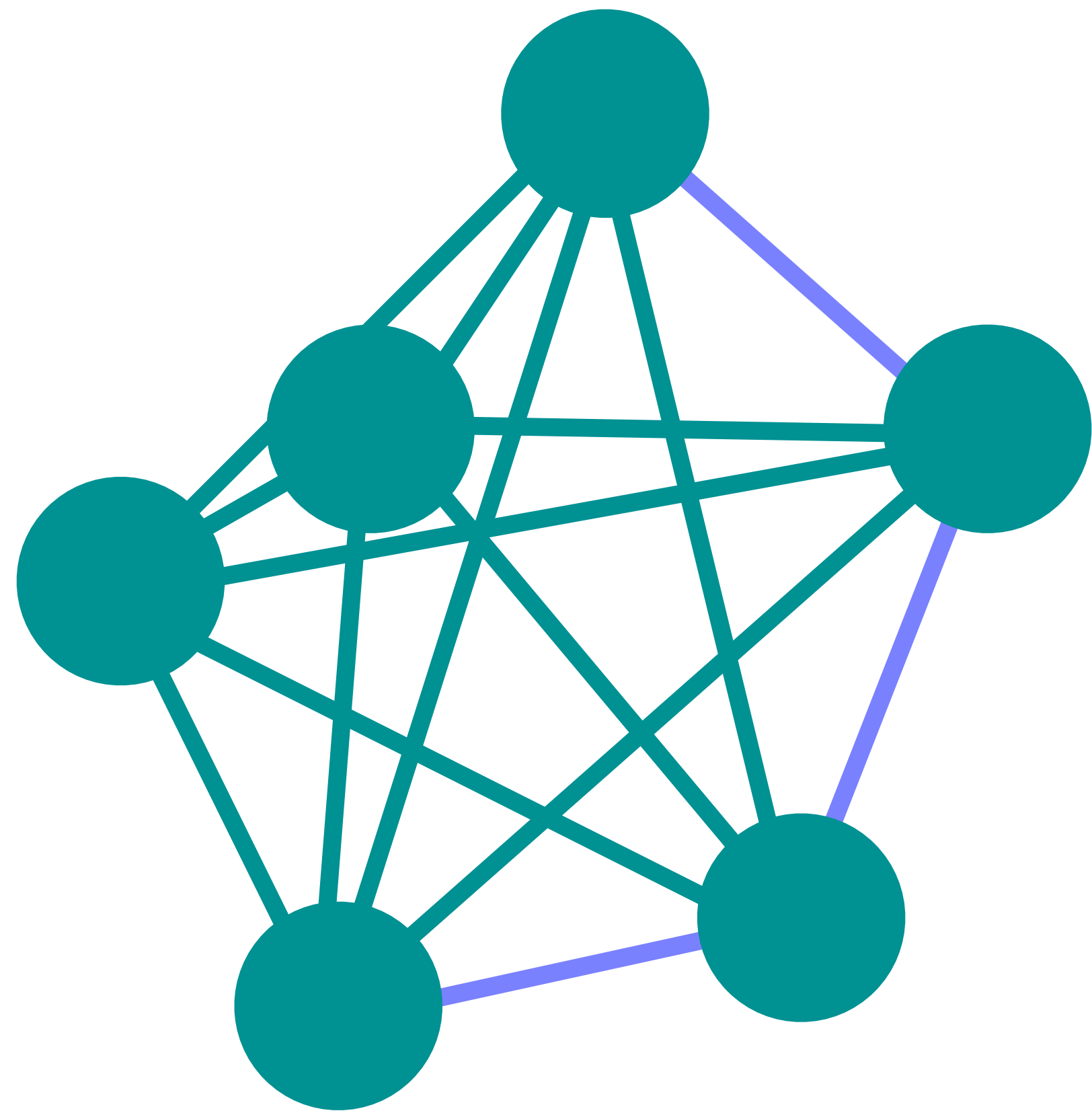
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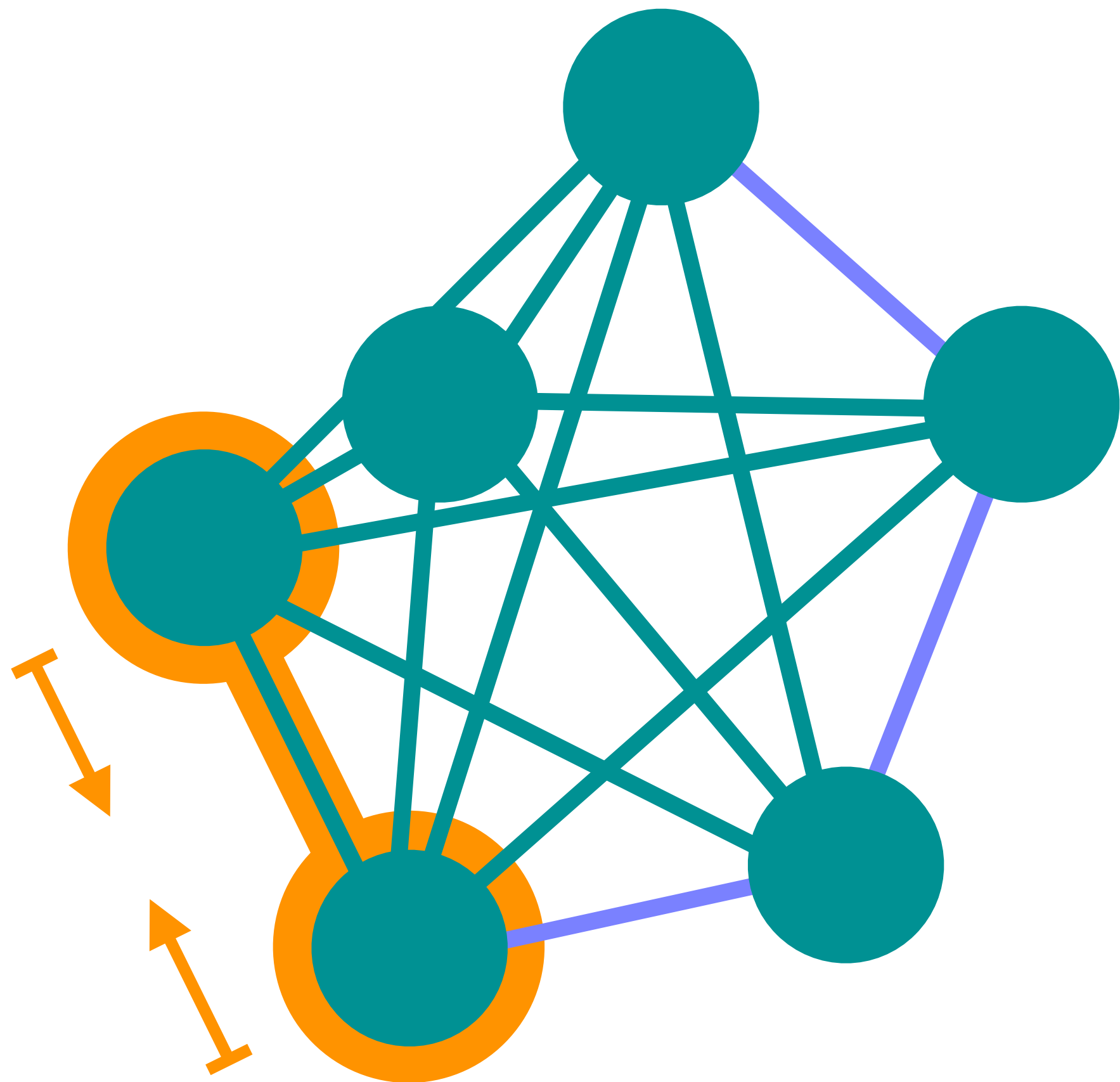
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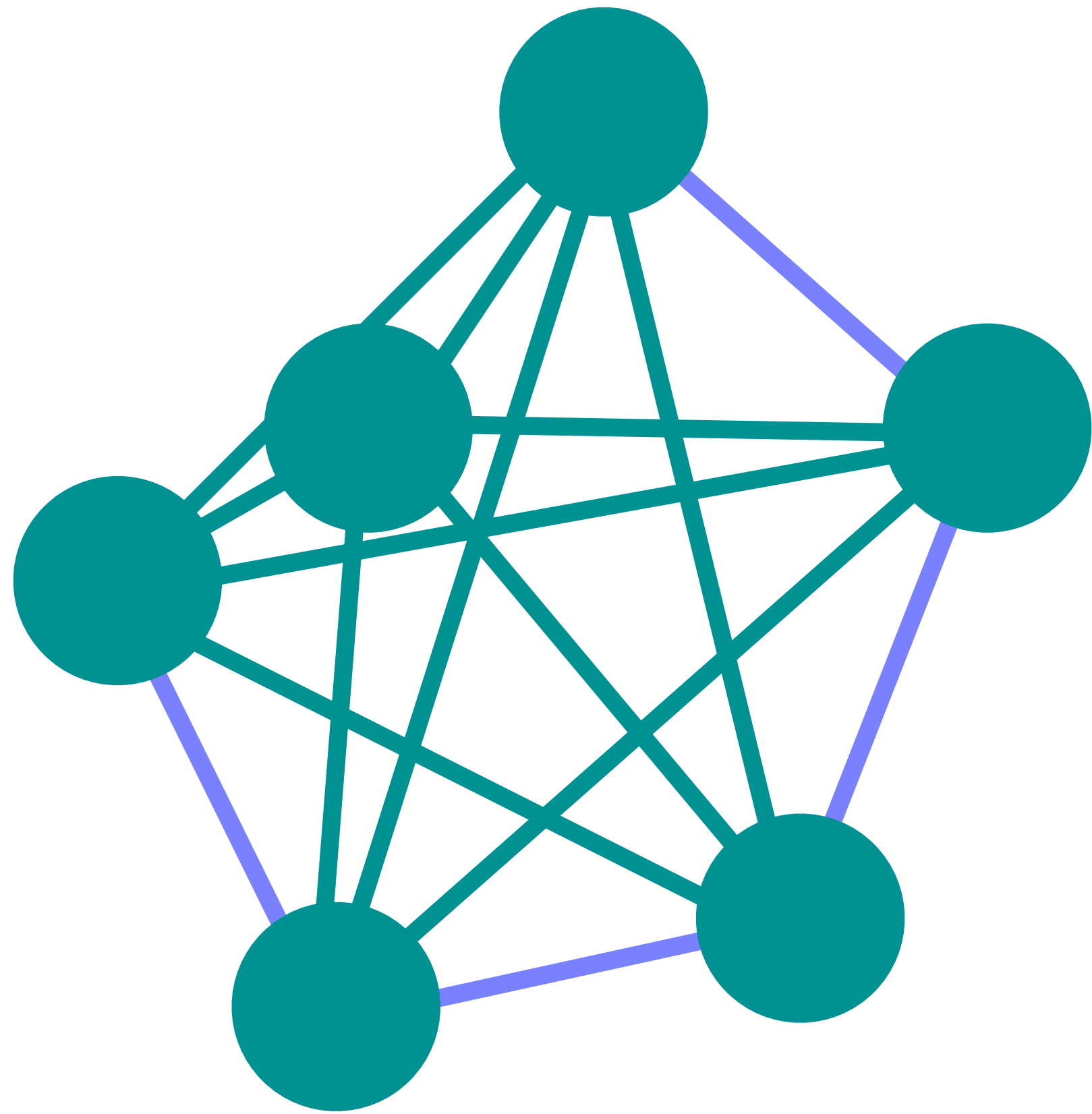
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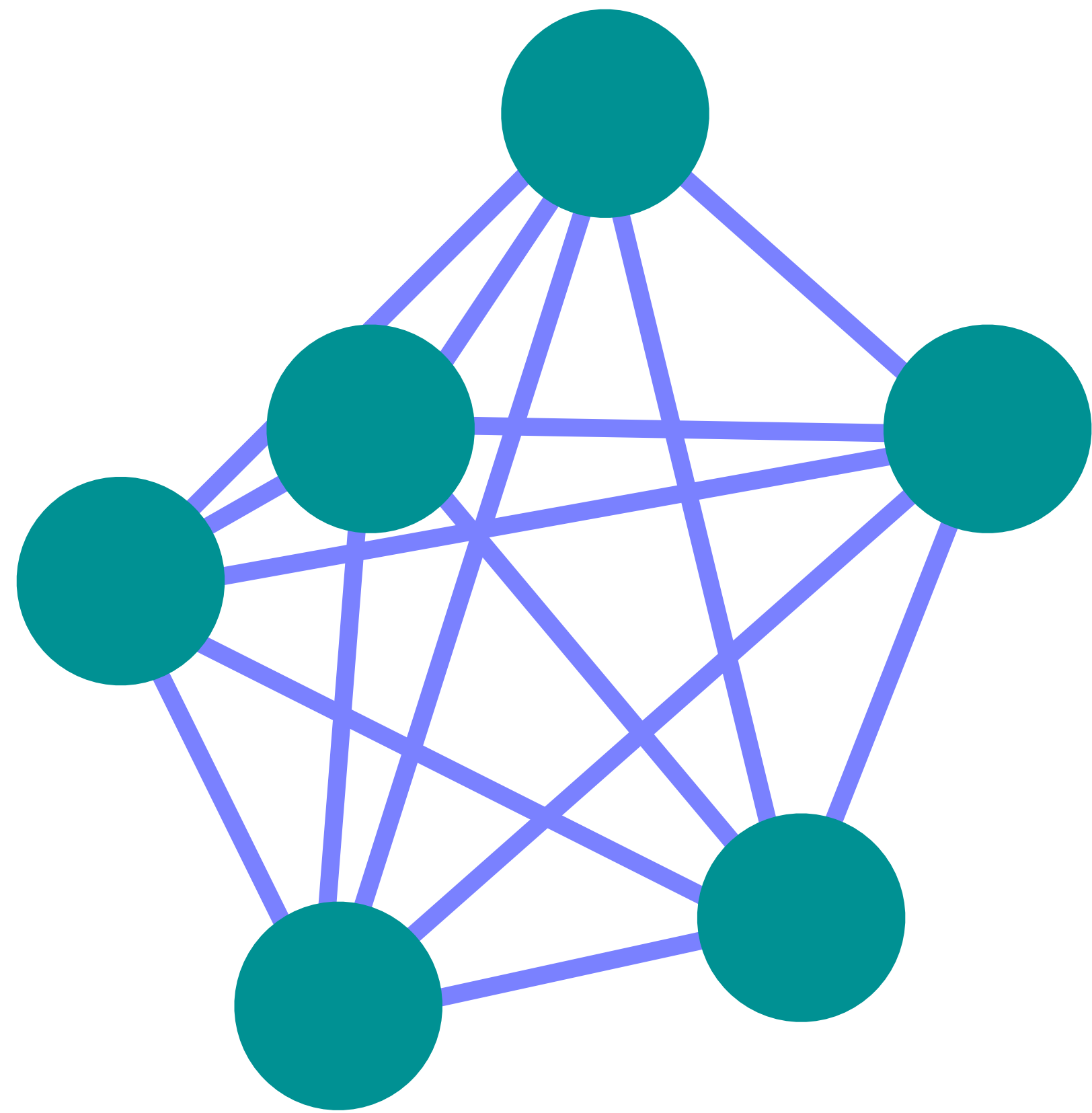
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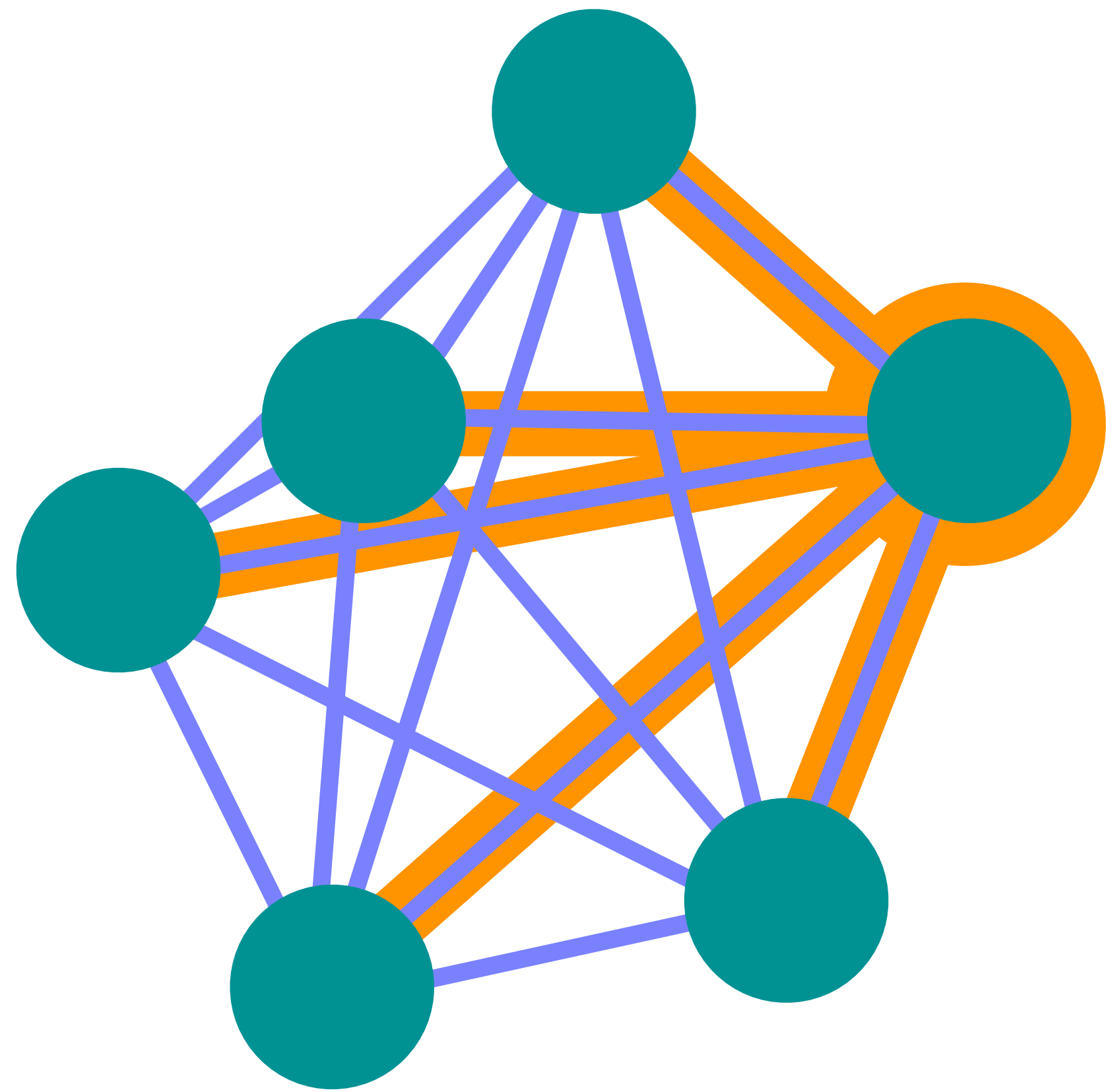
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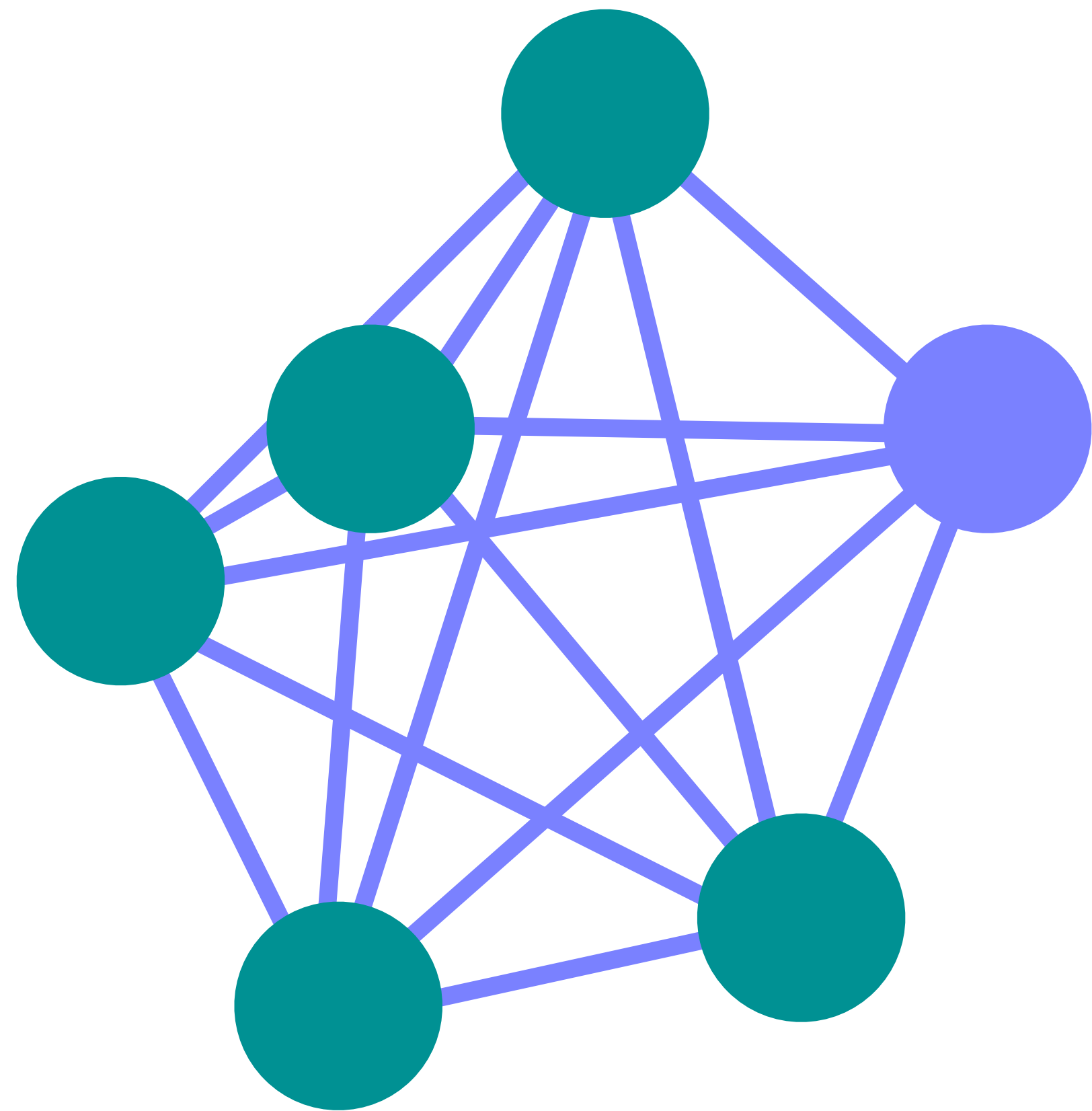
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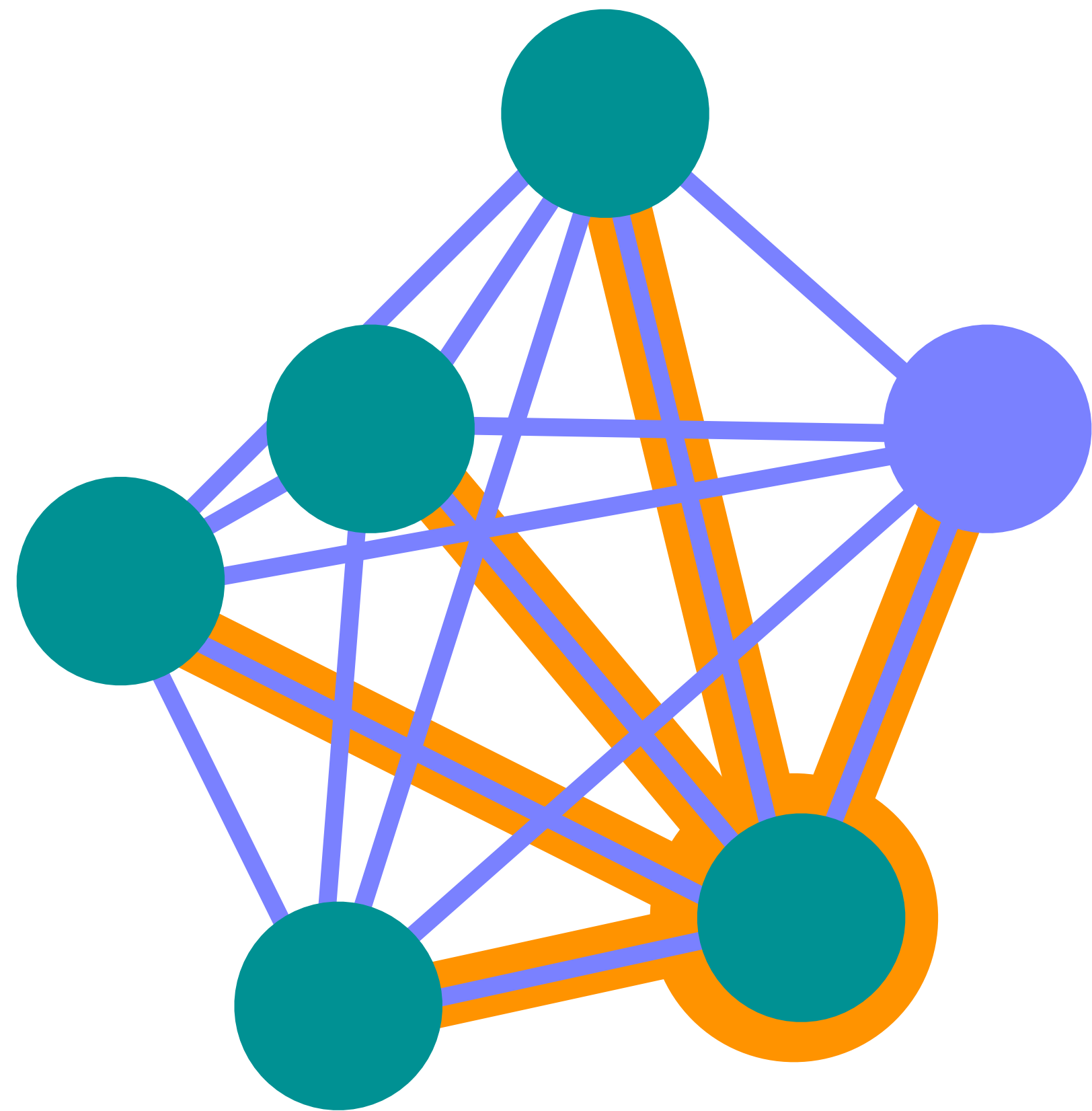
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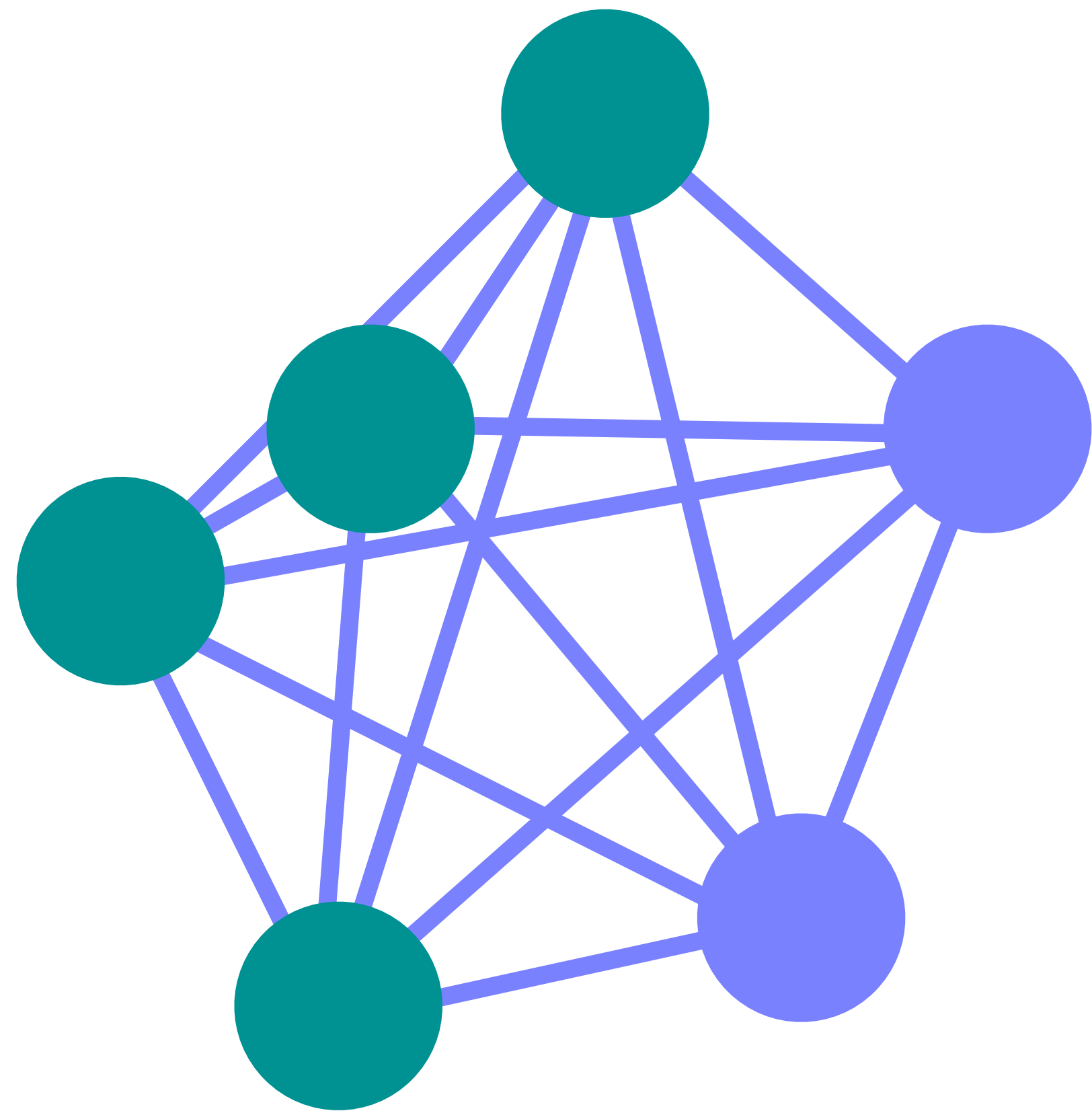
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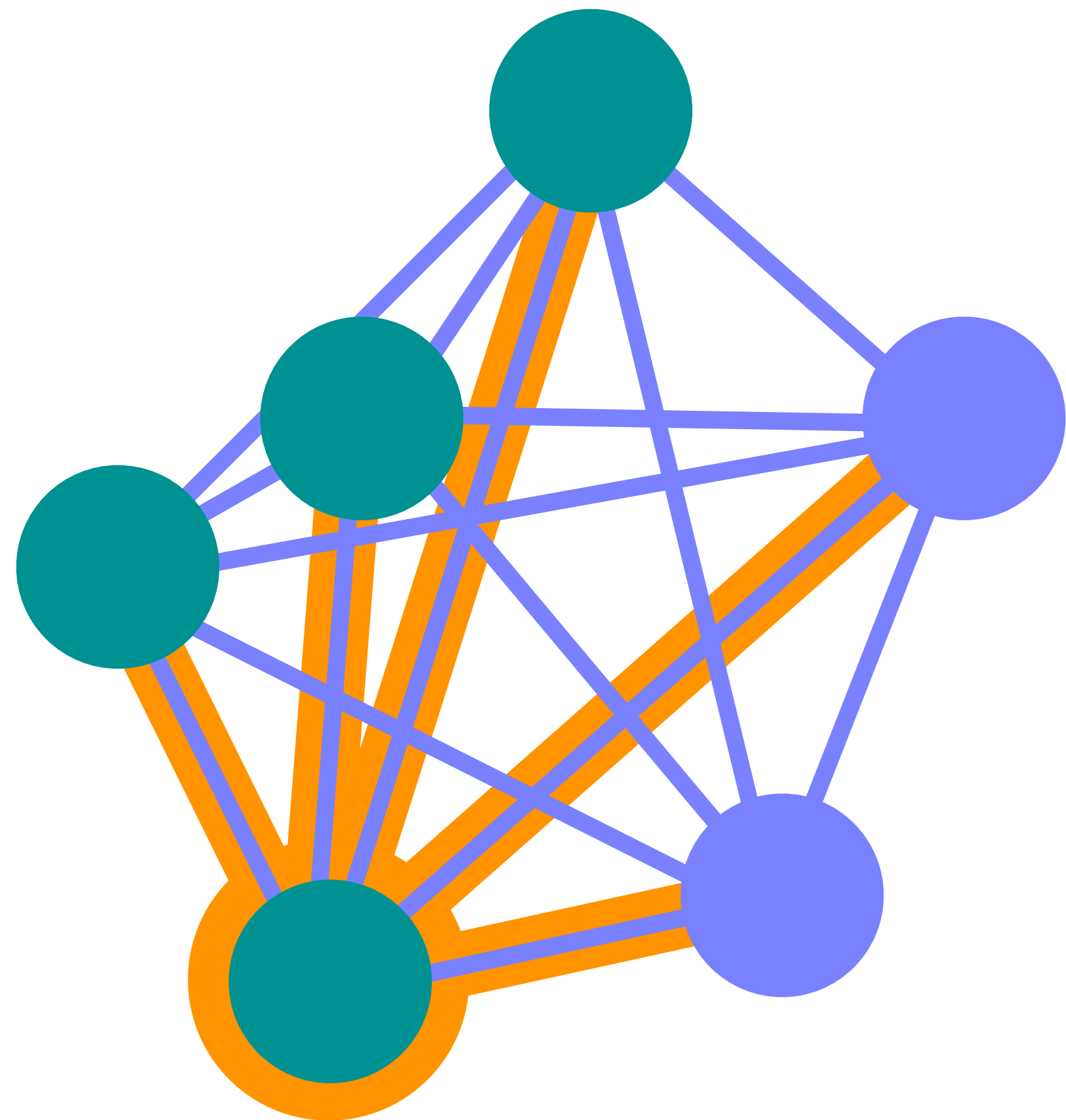
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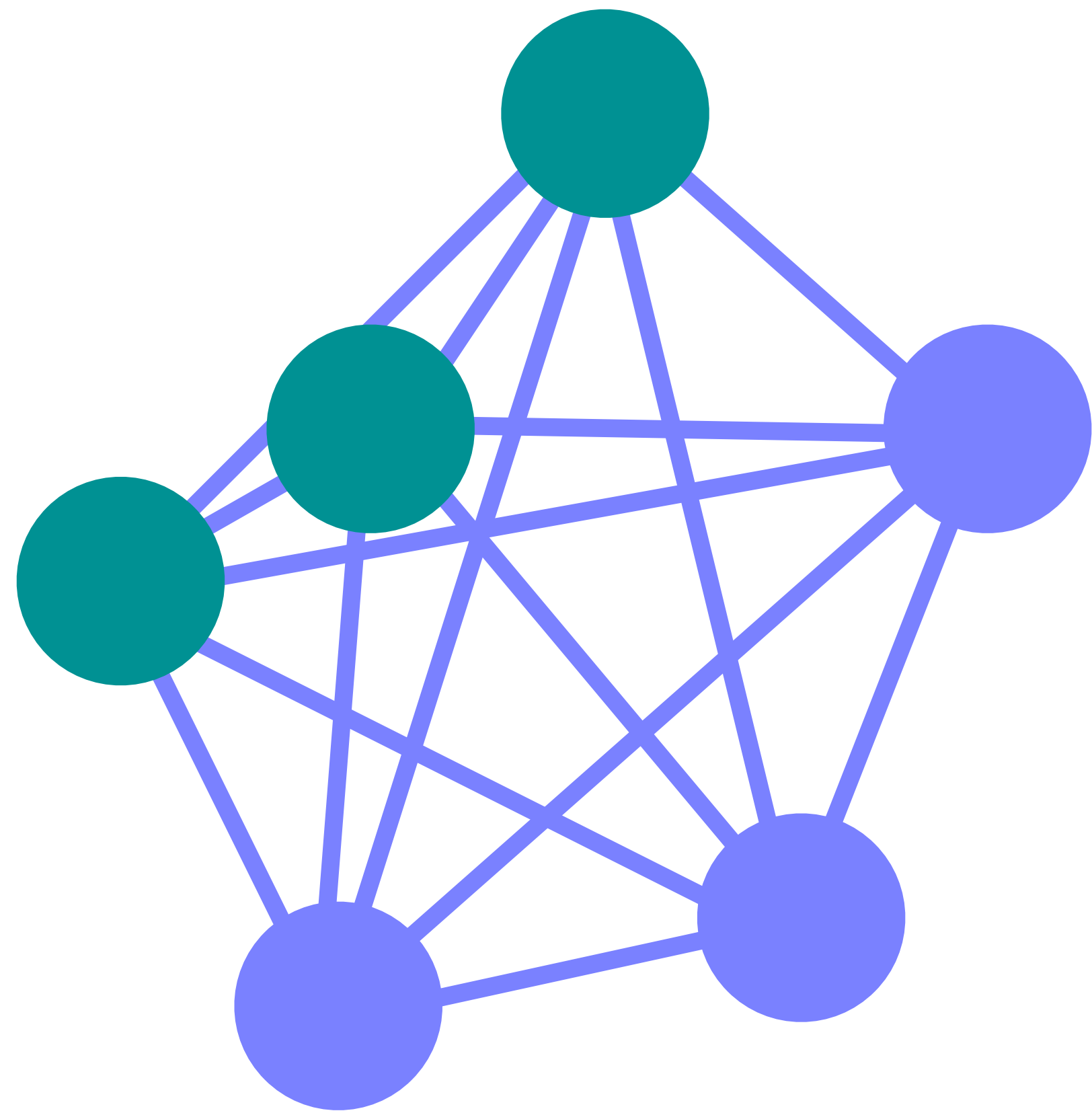
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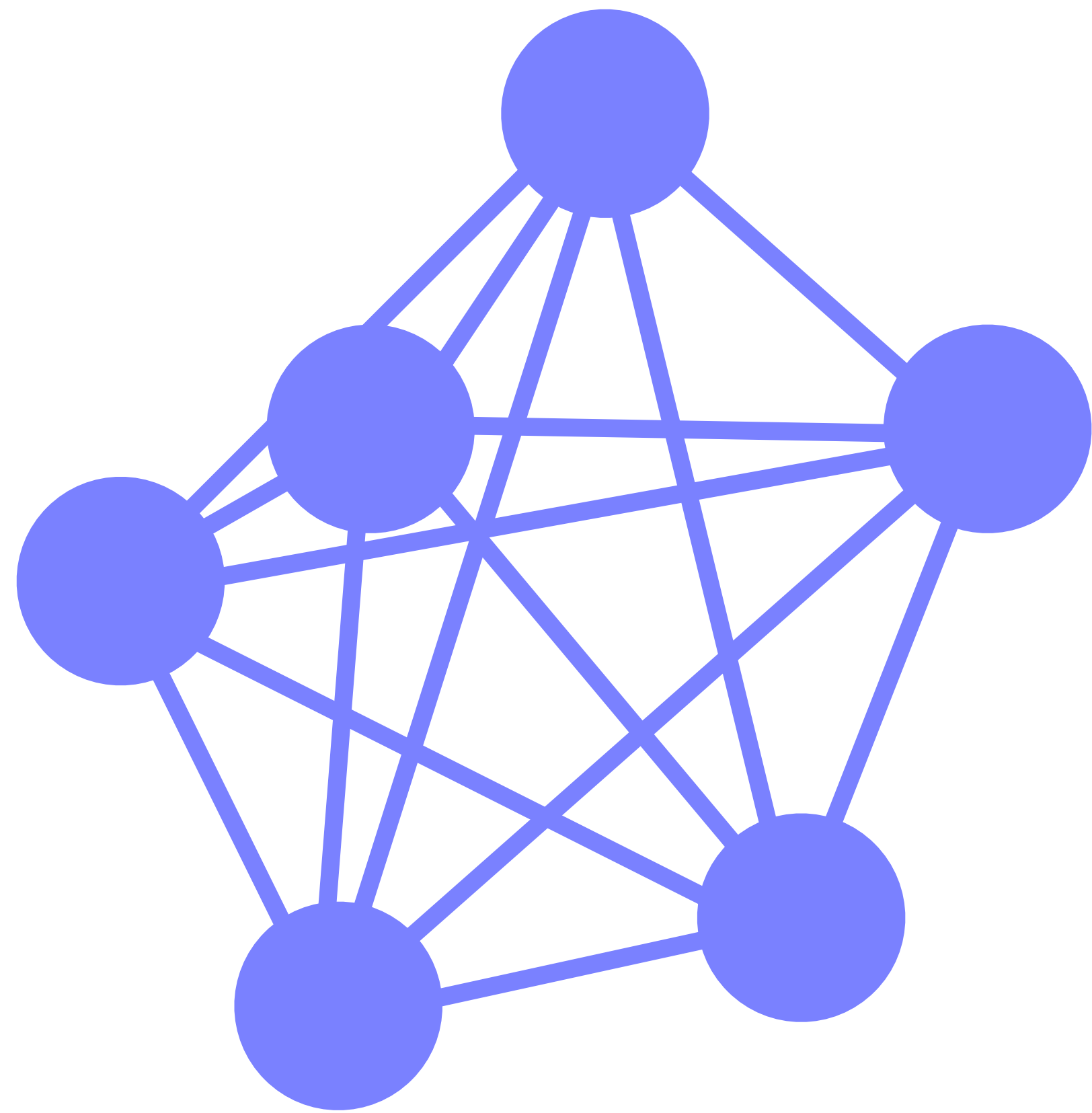
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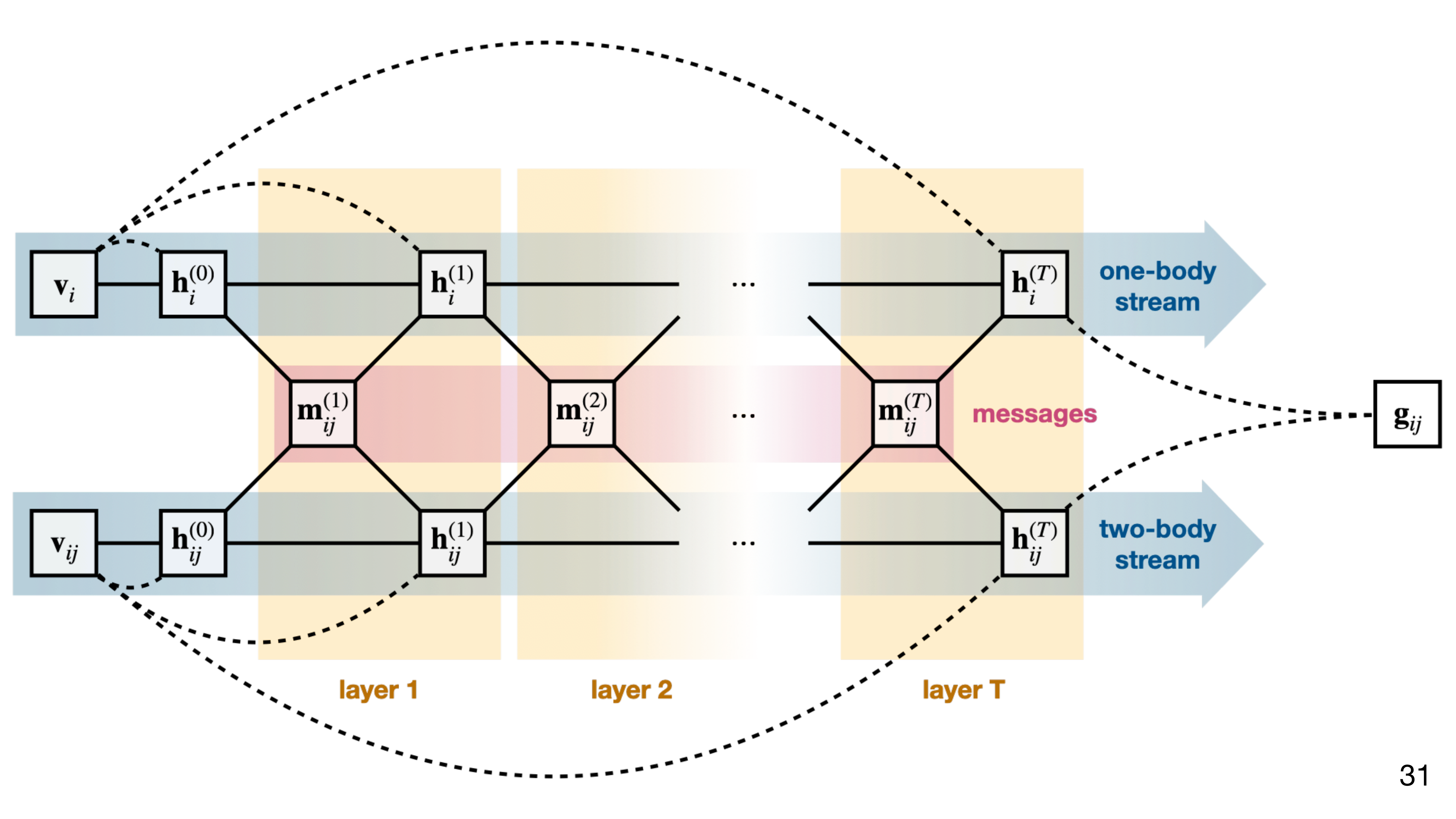
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$$\mathbf{h}_i^{(t)} = \left(\mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{F}_t \left(\mathbf{h}_i^{(t-1)}, \mathbf{m}_i^{(t)} \right) \right)$$



Pfaffian-Jastrow-Backflow Ansatz

- The outputs of the message-passing neural network $\mathbf{g}_{ij} = (\mathbf{h}_i^{(T)}, \mathbf{h}_j^{(T)}, \mathbf{h}_{ij}^{(T)})$ are used as input to the trainable pairing orbital $\phi(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \mapsto \phi(\mathbf{g}_{ij})$

- Periodicity:

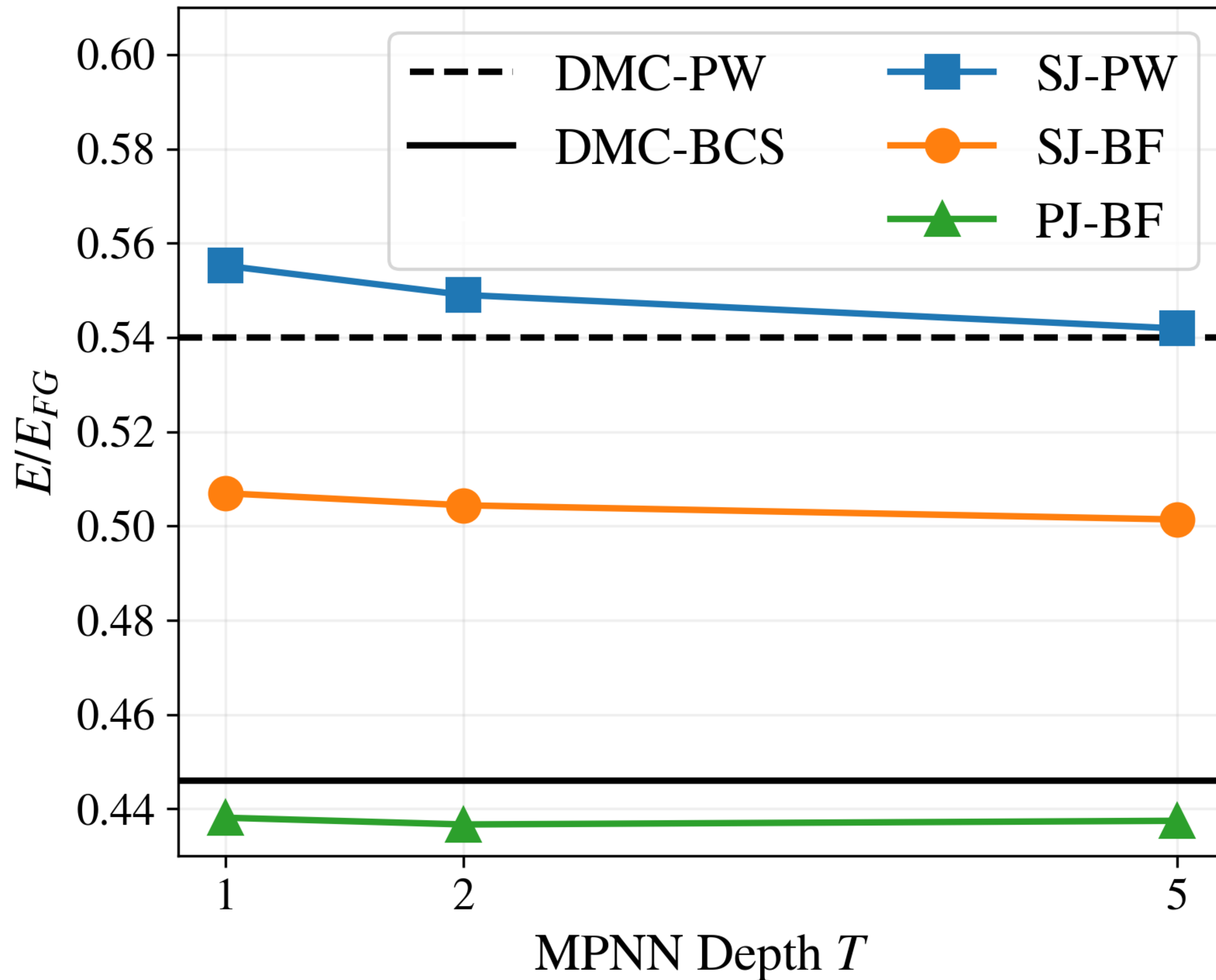
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_{ij} = \mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j &\mapsto \left(\cos(2\pi\mathbf{r}_{ij}/L), \sin(2\pi\mathbf{r}_{ij}/L) \right) \\ \|\mathbf{r}_{ij}\| &\mapsto \|\sin(2\pi\mathbf{r}_{ij}/L)\| \end{aligned}$$

- Parity and time-reversal:

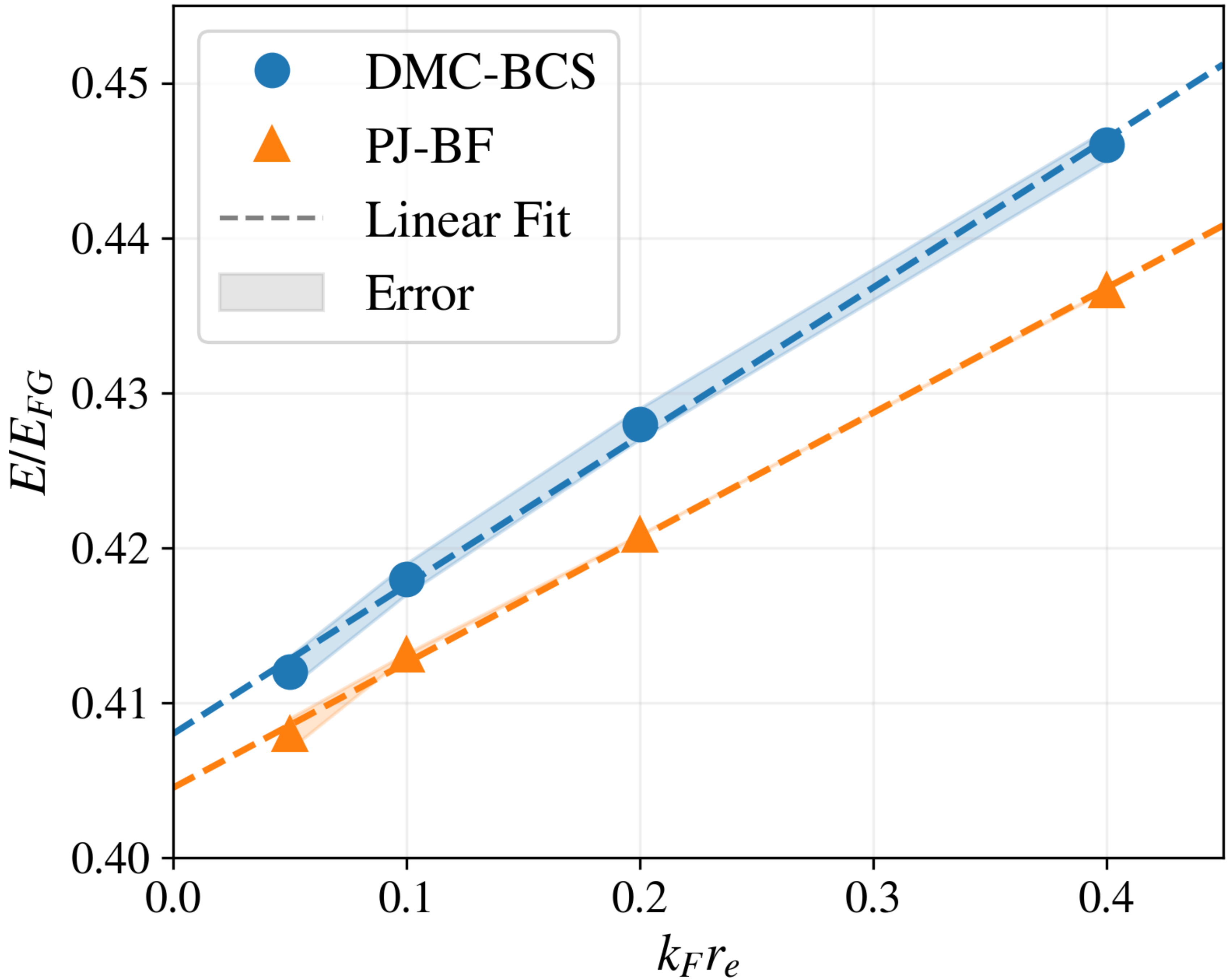
$$\Psi^P(R, S) = \Psi(R, S) + \Psi(-R, S)$$

$$\Psi^{PT}(R, S) = \Psi^P(R, S) + (-1)^{N/2} \Psi^P(R, -S)$$

- Positions are ignored to enforce translational invariance
- Jastrow correlator constructed as a Deep Set over \mathbf{g}_{ij}

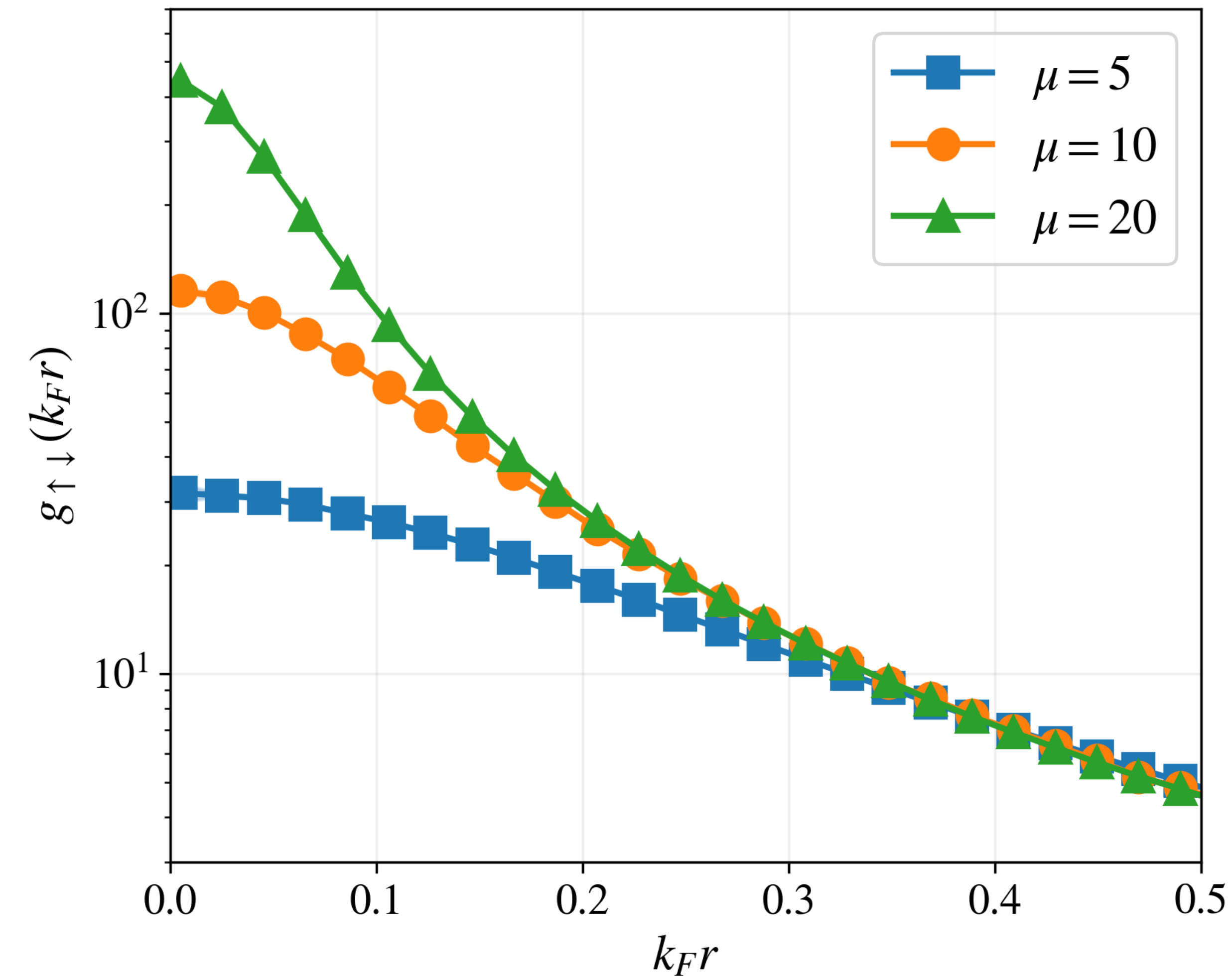


**Initial comparison of NQS
at unitarity**
 $k_F r_e = 0.4$
 $1/ak_F = 0$

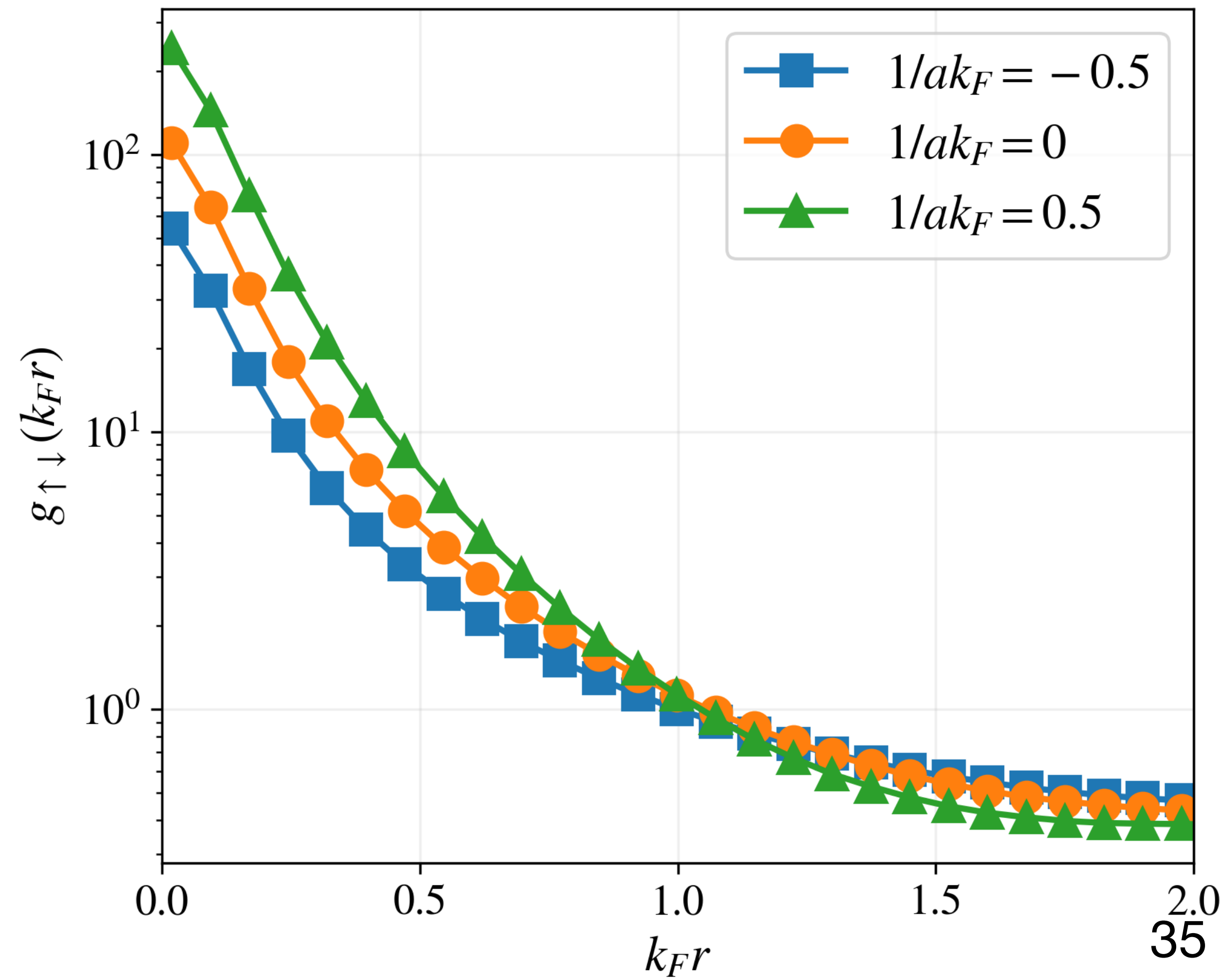


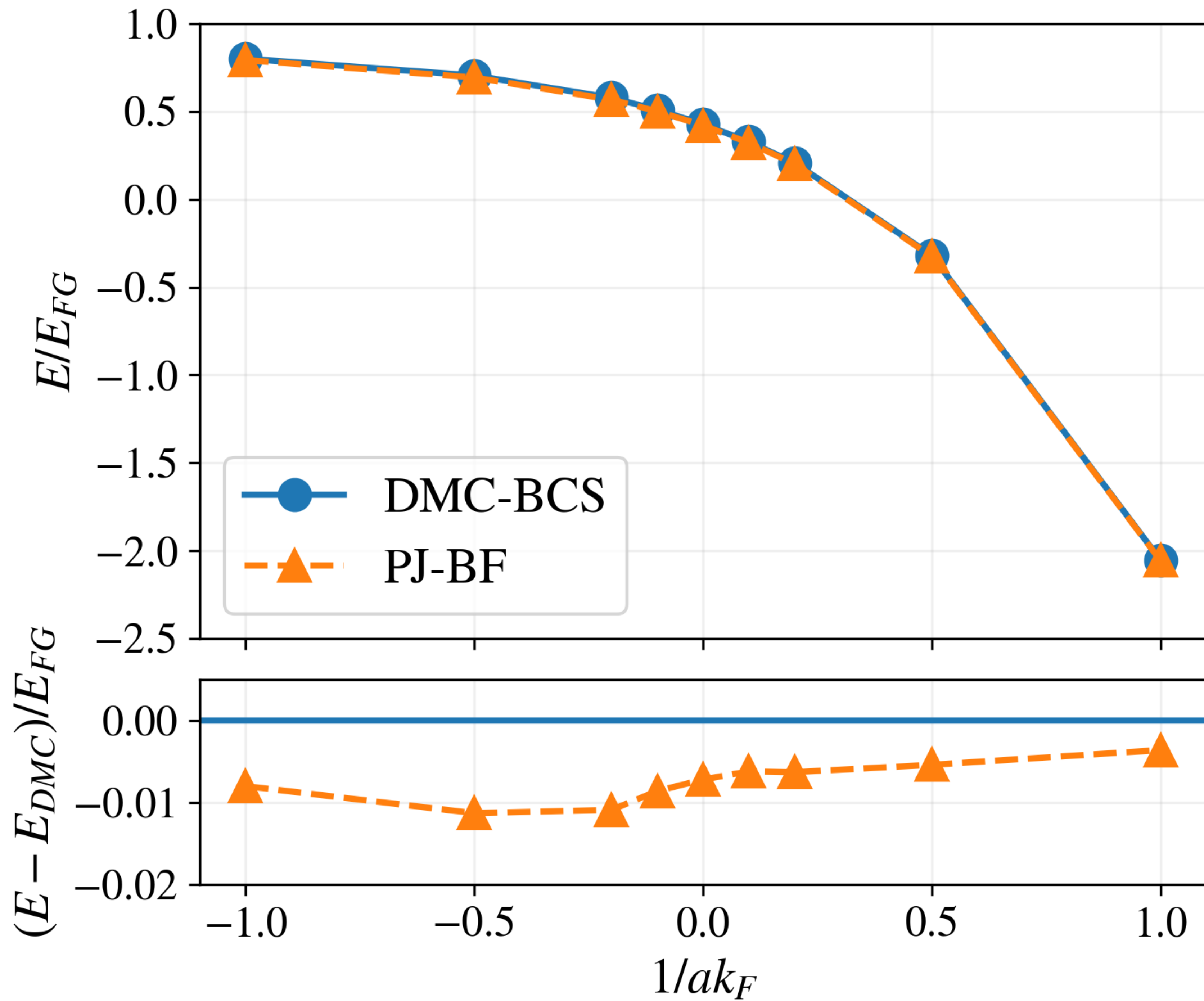
Extrapolation to zero $k_F r_e$
 $1/ak_F = 0$

**Different effective ranges $r_e = 2/\mu$
at unitarity ($1/ak_F = 0$)**



**Different scattering lengths near unitarity
(fixed $r_e = 0.2$)**



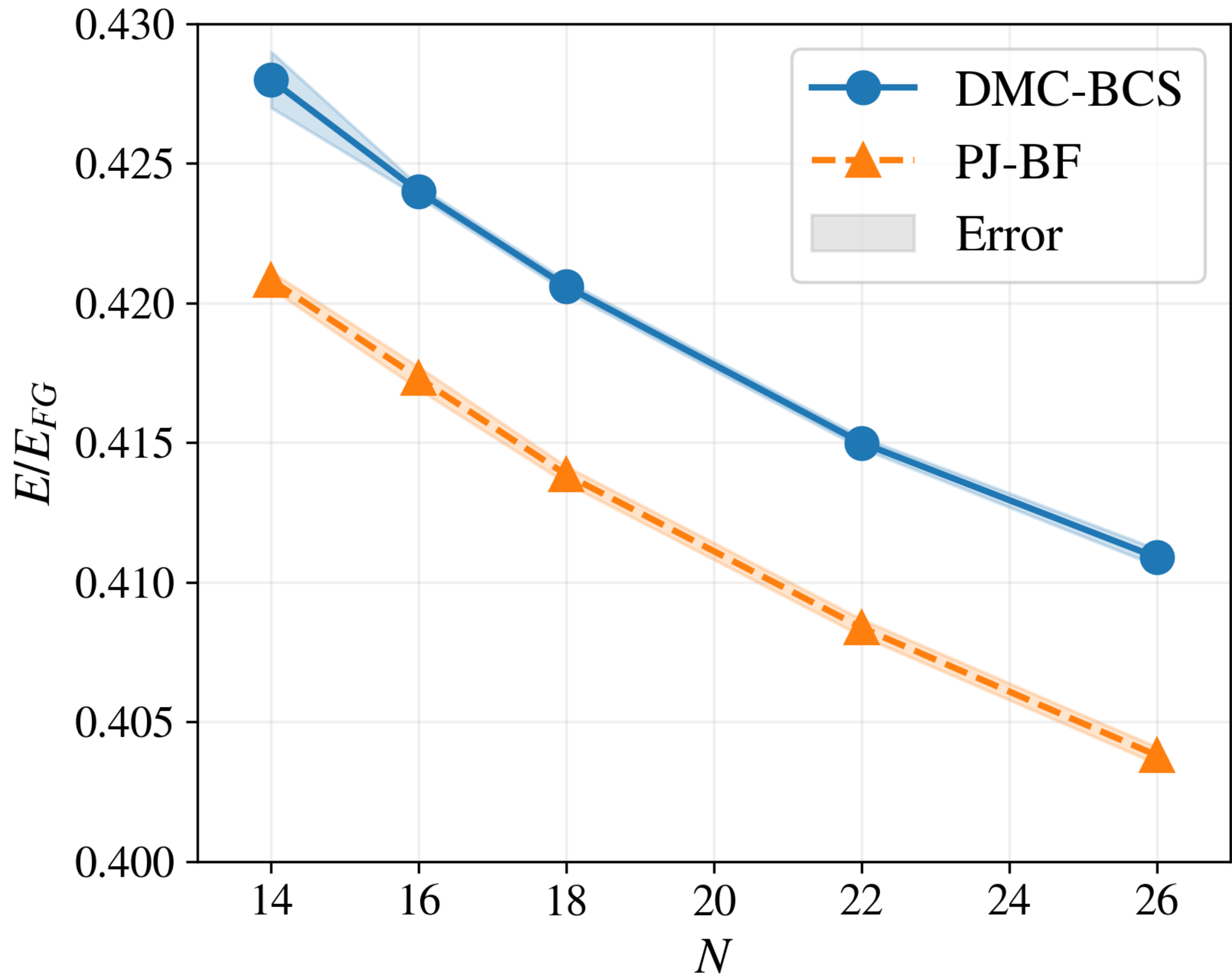


N -Independence

- Sizes of all trainable networks only depend on spatial dimension and chosen hidden layer dimensions
- Pfaffian NQS can be pretrained with smaller N to stabilize overall training
- Odd- N cases require one additional feedforward neural network to represent the unpaired single-particle orbital

$$\Phi_{PJ}(X) = \text{pf} \begin{bmatrix} \phi(\mathbf{g}_{11}) & \phi(\mathbf{g}_{12}) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{g}_{1N}) & \varphi(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \phi(\mathbf{g}_{21}) & \phi(\mathbf{g}_{22}) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{g}_{2N}) & \varphi(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \phi(\mathbf{g}_{N1}) & \phi(\mathbf{g}_{N2}) & \cdots & \phi(\mathbf{g}_{NN}) & \varphi(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Replace \mathbf{x}_i with $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{h}_i^{(T)})$



Pairing Gap

- At unitarity ($k_F r_e = 0.2$):

$\Delta(15)/E_{FG}$	DMC-BCS	PJ-BF
Non-translation invariant	0.9620(2)	0.8618(5)
Translation invariant	1.6475(2)	1.5263(5)

- Around unitarity ($k_F r_e = 0.2$):

$1/ak_F$	DMC-BCS	PJ-BF
-0.5	—	0.6370(5)
0	0.9620(2)	0.8618(5)
0.5	—	1.6028(5)

Conclusions and Perspectives

- Our Pfaffian ansatz is very general — works for any Hamiltonian (even those that exchange spin!)
- Can obtain lower energies than state-of-the-art diffusion Monte Carlo methods
- Requires far fewer parameters compared to other NQS applied to similar problems (~8500 vs millions)
- Future work:
 - Larger $N > 26$ and smaller r_e
 - Partially-polarized systems
 - Test if Jastrow is necessary

Thank you!

Deep Sets

- Introduced by Zaheer et al. in 2017 (arXiv:1703.06114)
- Suppose we want to learn on sets of N elements $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_N\}$
- Any permutation-invariant function can be decomposed as

$$f(\{\mathbf{v}_i\}) = \rho(\text{Pool}(\{\phi(\mathbf{v}_i)\}))$$

Pooling operation destroys ordering 

- If ρ and ϕ are feedforward neural networks, then $f(\{\mathbf{v}_i\})$ is a universal approximator for permutation-invariant functions

