

DeepMind

Everything is Connected

Graph Neural Networks from the Ground Up

Petar Veličković

Deep Learning Course
Universiteit van Amsterdam
26 November 2021



In this talk:
Neural networks for graph-structured data
*(Graph Neural Networks; **GNNs**)*



In many ways, graphs are
the main modality of data
we receive from nature.



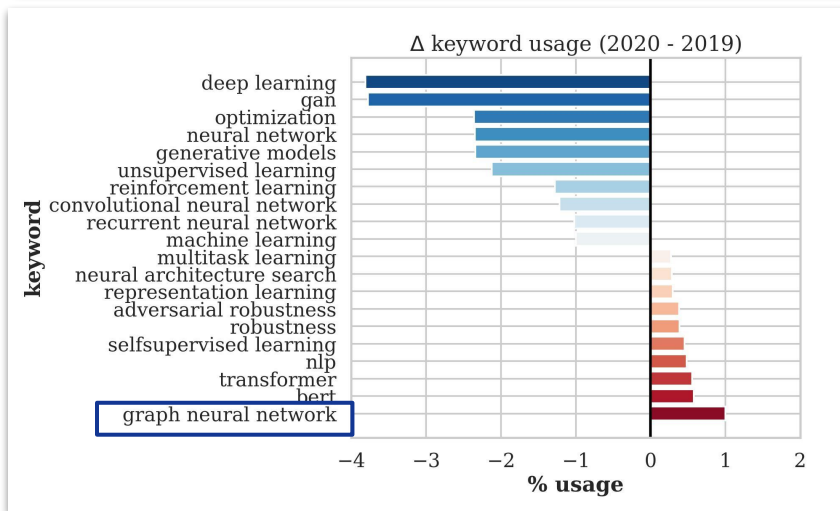
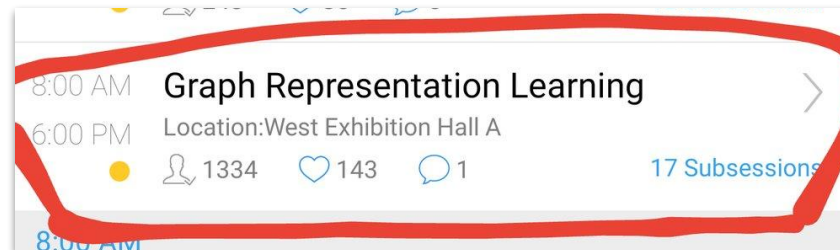
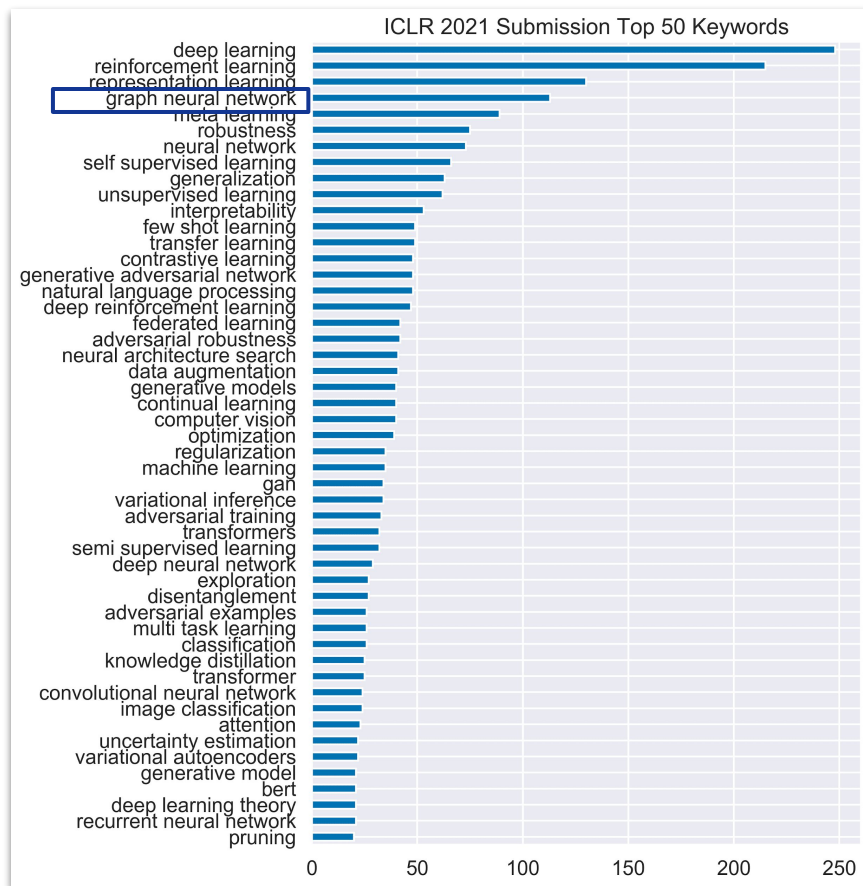
The background of the slide is a vibrant cosmic scene. It features a large, glowing nebula with swirling patterns of green, yellow, and orange. Scattered throughout the dark space are numerous stars, some appearing as bright points of light and others as more complex, multi-colored stellar structures. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, purples, and greens, creating a sense of vastness and wonder.

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Graph representation
learning is likely **critical**
on the path to **AGI**.



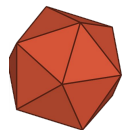
A very hot research topic



*GRL is currently experiencing
its "ImageNet" moment*



Rich ecosystem of libraries



PyTorch
geometric

github.com/rustyls/pytorch_geometric

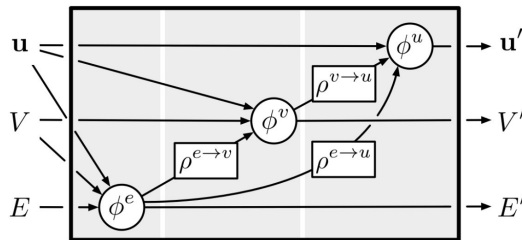


Spektral

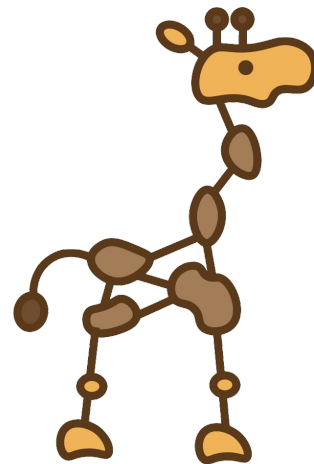
[graphneural.network](https://github.com/graphneural.network)

DGL

dgl.ai



github.com/deepmind/graph_nets



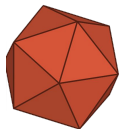
github.com/deepmind/jraph



Rich ecosystem of datasets

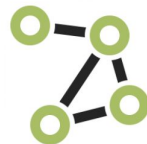


ogb.stanford.edu



PyTorch
geometric

<https://pytorch-geometric.readthedocs.io/en/latest/modules/datasets.html>



TUDataset

graphlearning.io

Benchmarking Graph Neural Networks

github.com/graphdeeplearning/benchmarking-gnns



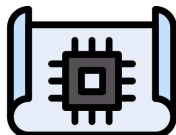
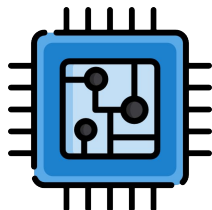
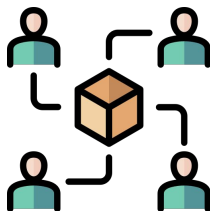
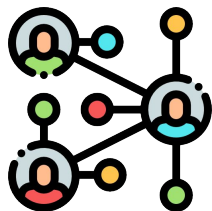
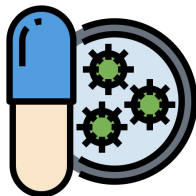
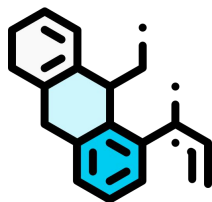
1

Fantastic GNNs in the Wild

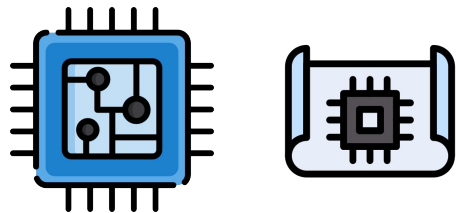
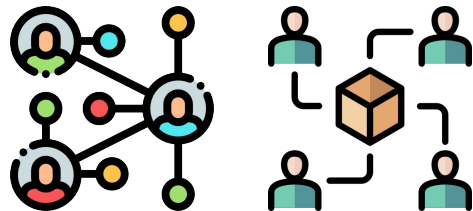
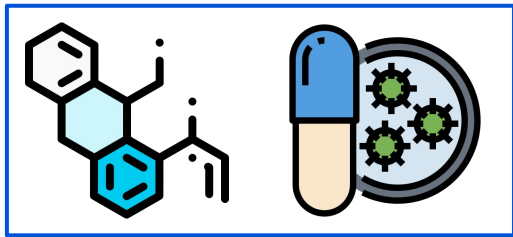
(Compressed & updated talk from EEML 2020)



Impactful applications in **science** and **industry**

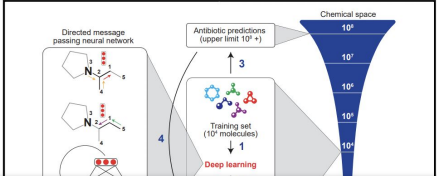


Impactful applications in science and industry



Cell
A Deep Learning Approach to Antibiotic Discovery

Graphical Abstract



The graphical abstract diagram illustrates a deep learning workflow for antibiotic discovery. It starts with a 'Training set (10⁶ molecules)' (1), which is processed by 'Deep learning' (2) to produce 'Antibiotic predictions (upper limit 10⁴ +)' (3). These predictions are then used in a 'Directed message passing neural network' (4) to identify 'Chemical space' (10⁶ to 10⁴).

Authors
Jonathan M. Stokes, Kevin Yang,
Kyle Swanson, ..., Tommi S. Jaakkola,
Regina Barzilay, James J. Collins

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regina@csail.mit.edu
jimjc@mit.edu

In Brief

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Artificial intelligence

AI discovers antibiotics to treat drug-resistant diseases
Machine learning uncovers potent new drug able to kill 35 powerful bacteria

Robotics

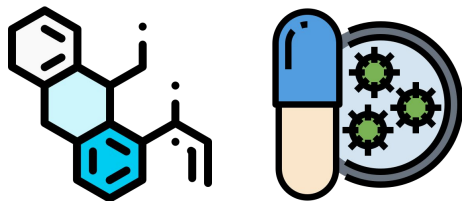
'Death of the office' homeworking claims exaggerated

Anti-social robots harr increase social distanc

Virtual drug screening



Impactful applications in science and industry



PinSage: A new graph convolutional neural network for web-scale recommender systems



Pinterest Engineering [Follow](#)
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Food Discovery with Uber Eats: Using Graph Learning to Power Recommendations

Ankit Jain, Isaac Liu, Ankur Sarda, and Piero Molino
0

December 4, 2019



amazon | science

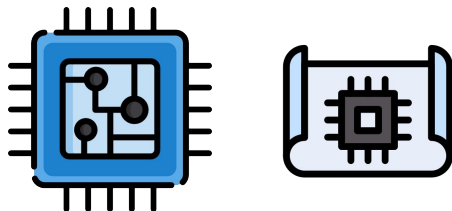


PUBLICATION

P-Companion: A principled framework for diversified complementary product recommendation

By Junheng Hao, [Tong Zhao](#), [Jin Li](#), [Xin Luna Dong](#), [Christos Faloutsos](#), Yizhou Sun, Wei Wang

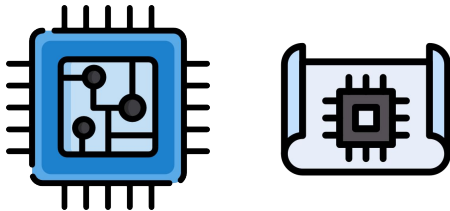
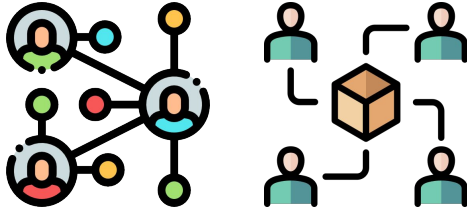
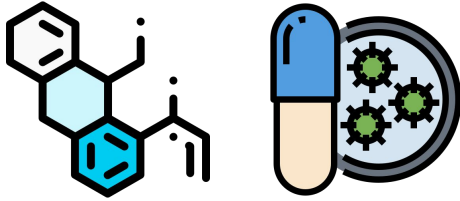
2020



Recommender systems



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Article | Published: 09 June 2021

A graph placement methodology for fast chip design

Azalia Mirhoseini ✉, Anna Goldie ✉, Mustafa Yazgan, Joe Wenjie Jiang, Ebrahim Songhori, Shen Wang, Young-Joon Lee, Eric Johnson, Omkar Pathak, Azade Nazi, Jiwoo Pak, Andy Tong, Kavya Srinivasa, William Hang, Emre Tuncer, Quoc V. Le, James Laudon, Richard Ho, Roger Carpenter & Jeff Dean

GOOGLE / TECH / ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Google is using AI to design its next generation of AI chips more quickly than humans can

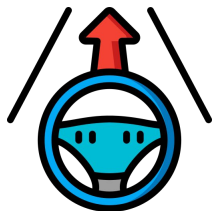
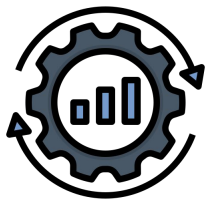
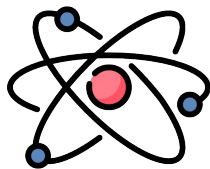
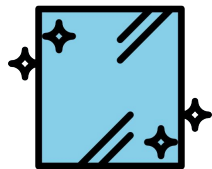
Designs that take humans months can be matched or beaten by AI in six hours

By James Vincent | Jun 10, 2021, 9:13am EDT

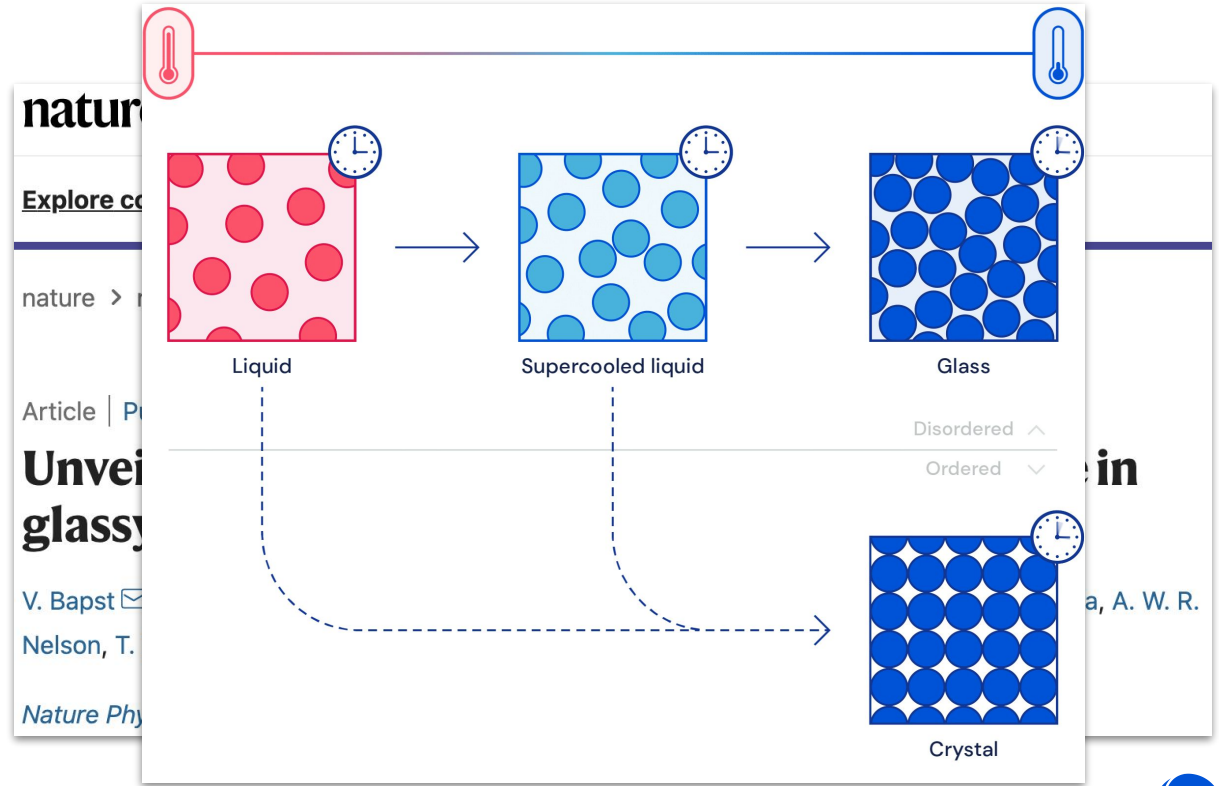
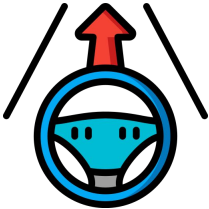
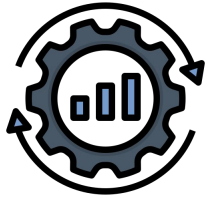
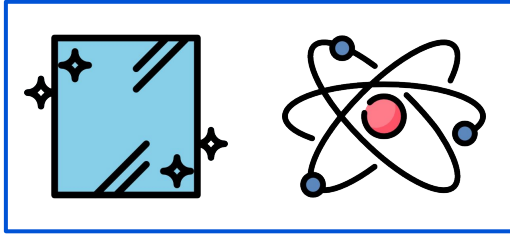
Chip design (TPUv5)



Impactful applications from DeepMind



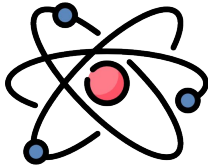
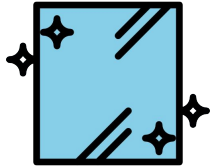
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Glassy dynamics



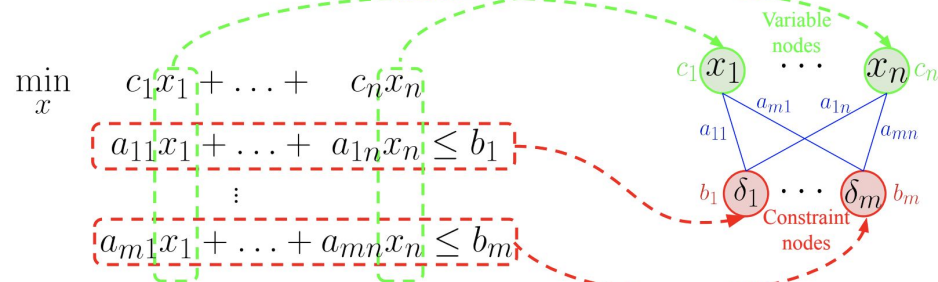
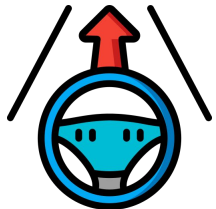
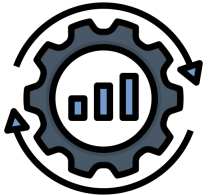
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Solving Mixed Integer Programs Using Neural Networks

Vinod Nair^{*†1}, Sergey Bartunov^{*1}, Felix Gimeno^{*1}, Ingrid von Glehn^{*1}, Pawel Lichocki^{*2}, Ivan Lobov^{*1}, Brendan O'Donoghue^{*1}, Nicolas Sonnerat^{*1}, Christian Tjandraatmadja^{*2}, Pengming Wang^{*1}, Ravichandra Addanki¹, Tharindi Hapuarachchi¹, Thomas Keck¹, James Keeling¹, Pushmeet Kohli¹, Ira Ktena¹, Yujia Li¹, Oriol Vinyals¹, Yori Zwols¹

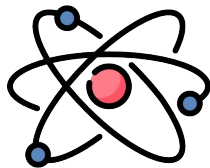
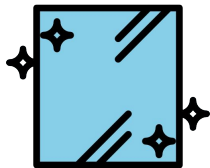
¹DeepMind, ²Google Research



Combinatorial optimisation



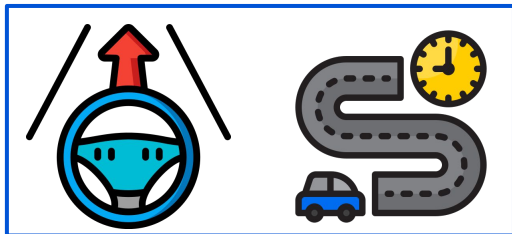
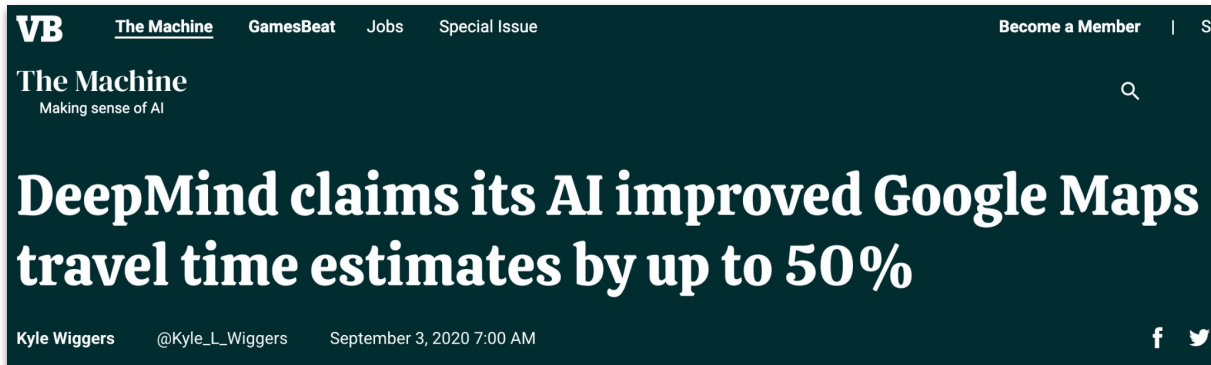
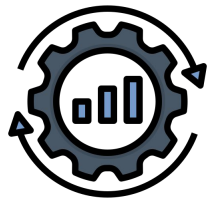
Impactful applications from DeepMind



ETA Prediction with Graph Neural Networks in Google Maps

Austin Derrow-Pinion¹, Jennifer She¹, David Wong^{2*}, Oliver Lange³, Todd Hester^{4*}, Luis Perez^{5*}, Marc Nunkesser³, Seongjae Lee³, Xueying Guo³, Brett Wiltshire¹, Peter W. Battaglia¹, Vishal Gupta¹, Ang Li¹, Zhongwen Xu^{6*}, Alvaro Sanchez-Gonzalez¹, Yujia Li¹ and Petar Veličković¹

¹DeepMind ²Waymo ³Google ⁴Amazon ⁵Facebook AI ⁶Sea AI Lab *work done while at DeepMind
{derrowap,jenshe,wongda,petarv}@google.com



Travel-time Prediction in Google Maps



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2

Talk roadmap



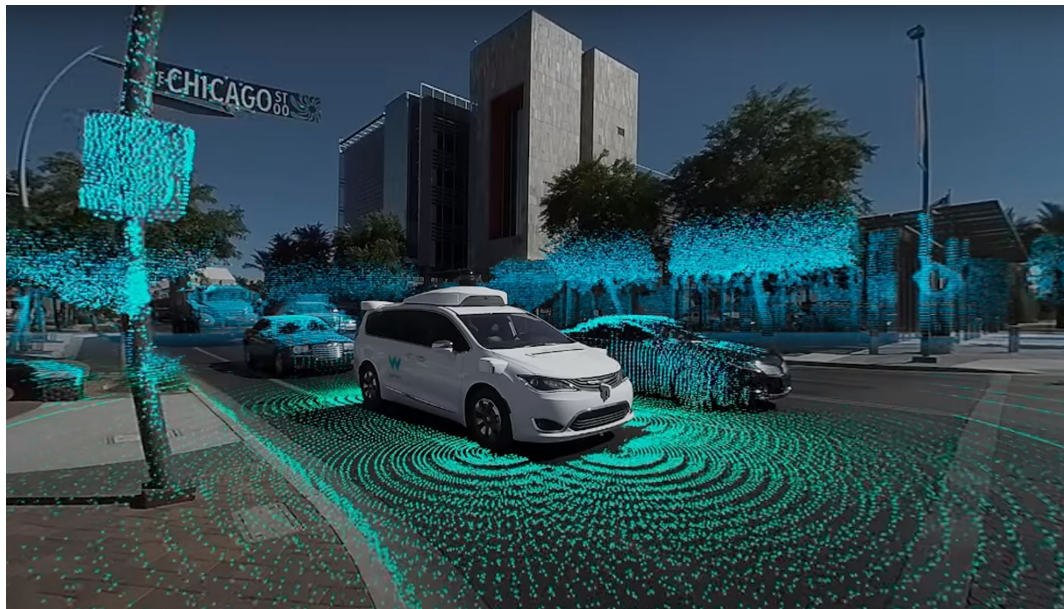
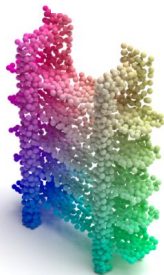
What will we cover today?

- Hopefully I've given you a convincing argument for **why** GNNs are useful to study
 - For more details and applications, please see e.g. my *EEML 2020* talk
- My aims for today: **empower** you to make immediate **contributions** to GRL
- **Derive** GNNs from **first principles** (permutation invariance and equivariance)
 - Similar in spirit to my previous talk at Cambridge
- **Categorise** existing GNNs into three spatial “*flavours*”
- **Present** interesting open problems at the “*bleeding edge*”



Where do we begin?

- We will first look at **graphs without connections** (sets)
 - Much *simpler* to analyse
 - Most conclusions will naturally *carry over* to graphs
 - Still very *relevant!* (point clouds / LiDAR)





3

Permutation invariance and equivariance



Learning on sets: Setup

- For now, assume the graph **has no edges** (e.g. set of nodes, V).

- Let $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$ be the features of node i .

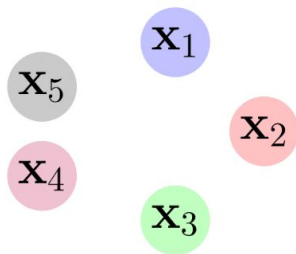
- We can stack them into a node feature matrix of shape $n \times k$:

$$\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)^\top$$

- That is, the i th row of \mathbf{X} corresponds to \mathbf{x}_i
- Note that, by doing so, we have specified a **node ordering**!
 - We would like the result of any neural networks to not depend on this.



What do we want?



What do we want?

$$f \left(\begin{array}{ccc} & \textcolor{blue}{x_1} & \\ \textcolor{gray}{x_5} & & \textcolor{red}{x_2} \\ \textcolor{pink}{x_4} & & \\ & \textcolor{green}{x_3} & \end{array} \right) = \mathbf{y}$$



What do we want?

$$f\left(\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{x}_1 & \\ \text{x}_5 & & \\ \text{x}_4 & & \text{x}_2 \\ & \text{x}_3 & \end{array}\right) = \mathbf{y} = f\left(\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{x}_2 & \\ \text{x}_5 & & \text{x}_4 \\ \text{x}_1 & & \text{x}_3 \end{array}\right)$$



Permutations and permutation matrices

- It will be useful to think about the operations that **change** the node order
 - Such operations are known as **permutations** (there are $n!$ of them)
 - e.g. a permutation (2, 4, 1, 3) means $\mathbf{y}_1 \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{2'}$ $\mathbf{y}_2 \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{4'}$ $\mathbf{y}_3 \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{1'}$ $\mathbf{y}_4 \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{3'}$.
- To stay within linear algebra, each permutation defines an $n \times n$ **matrix**
 - Such matrices are called **permutation matrices**
 - They have exactly one 1 in every row and column, and zeros everywhere else
 - Their effect when left-multiplied is to permute the rows of \mathbf{X} , like so:

$$\mathbf{P}_{(2,4,1,3)}\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_1 & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_2 & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_3 & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_4 & \text{---} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_2 & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_4 & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_1 & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{x}_3 & \text{---} \end{bmatrix}$$



Permutation *invariance*

- We want to design functions $f(\mathbf{X})$ over sets that will not depend on the order
- Equivalently, applying a permutation matrix shouldn't modify the result!
- We arrive at a useful notion of permutation invariance. We say that $f(\mathbf{X})$ is permutation *invariant* if, for *all* permutation matrices \mathbf{P} :

$$f(\mathbf{PX}) = f(\mathbf{X})$$

- One very generic form is the *Deep Sets* model (Zaheer et al., NeurIPS'17): $f(\mathbf{X}) = \phi \left(\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \psi(\mathbf{x}_i) \right)$ where ψ and ϕ are (learnable) functions, e.g. MLPs.
 - The **sum** aggregation is *critical*! (other choices possible, e.g. **max** or **avg**)



Permutation *equivariance*

- Permutation-*invariant* models are a good way to obtain set-level outputs
- What if we would like answers at the **node** level?
 - We want to still be able to **identify** node outputs, which a permutation-invariant aggregator would destroy!
- We may instead seek functions that don't **change** the node order
 - i.e. if we permute the nodes, it doesn't matter if we do it **before** or **after** the function!
- Accordingly, we say that $f(\mathbf{X})$ is permutation equivariant if, for all permutation matrices \mathbf{P} :

$$f(\mathbf{PX}) = \mathbf{P}f(\mathbf{X})$$



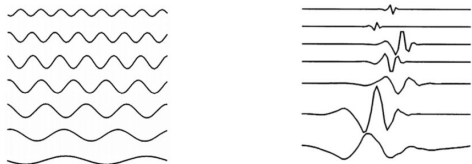
Important constraint: **Locality**

- Want signal to be **stable** under slight *deformations* of the domain

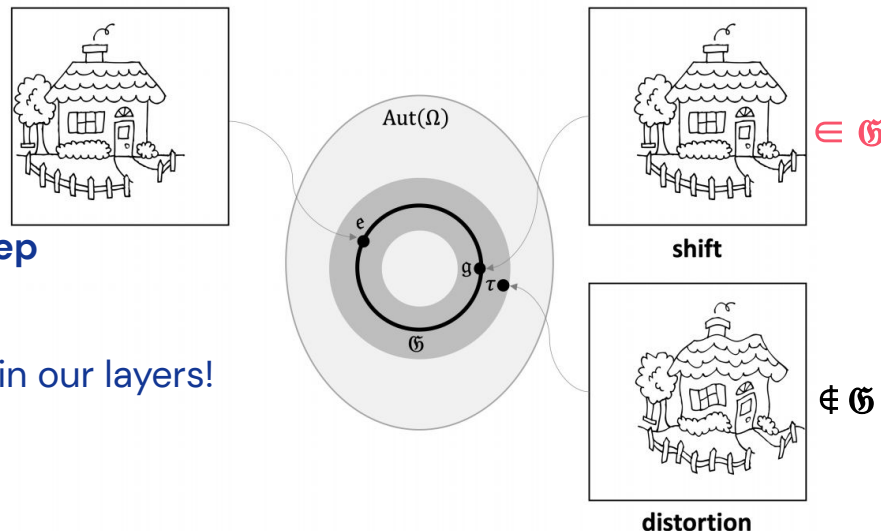
- Highly beneficial to compose **local** operations to model larger-scale ones
 - local ops won't globally propagate errors
 - e.g. CNNs with 3 x 3 kernels, but **very deep**

- Accordingly, we would like to support **locality** in our layers!

- cf. Fourier Transform vs. Wavelets



What does this mean for sets?

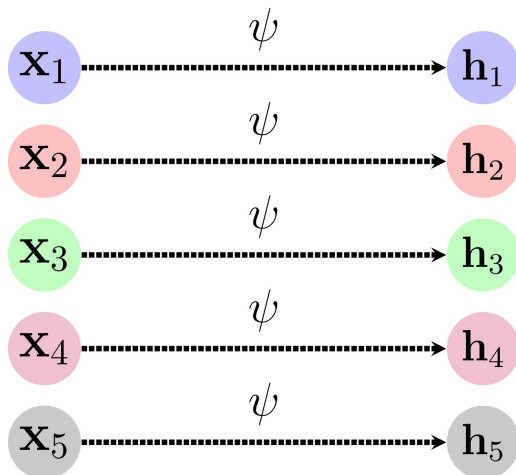


General blueprint for learning on sets

- Equivariance mandates that each node's row is unchanged by f . That is, we can think of equivariant set functions as transforming each node input \mathbf{x}_i into a *latent* vector \mathbf{h}_i :

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \boxed{\psi(\mathbf{x}_i)}$$

where ψ is any function, applied in isolation to every node. Stacking \mathbf{h}_i yields $\mathbf{H} = f(\mathbf{X})$.



(remark: this is typically **as far** as we can get with sets, without assuming or inferring additional structure)

General blueprint for learning on sets

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where ψ is any function, applied in isolation to every node. Stacking \mathbf{h}_i yields $\mathbf{H} = f(\mathbf{X})$.

- We arrive at a general blueprint: (stacking) **equivariant** function(s), potentially with an **invariant** tail---yields (m)any useful functions on sets!

$$f(\mathbf{X}) = \boxed{\phi \left(\bigoplus_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \boxed{\psi(\mathbf{x}_i)} \right)}$$

Here, \bigoplus is a permutation-invariant **aggregator** (such as sum, avg or max).



(remark: this is typically **as far** as we can get with sets, without assuming or inferring additional structure)

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4

Learning on graphs



Learning on graphs

- Now we augment the set of nodes with **edges** between them.
 - That is, we consider general $E \subseteq V \times V$.
- We can represent these edges with an **adjacency matrix**, **A**, such that:

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & (i, j) \in \mathcal{E} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Further additions (e.g. *edge features*) are possible but **ignored** for simplicity.
- Our main desiderata (*permutation {in,equi}variance*) still hold!



What's changed?

$$f\left(\begin{array}{ccc} \text{X}_5 & \text{X}_1 & \\ \text{X}_4 & & \text{X}_2 \\ & \text{X}_3 & \end{array}\right) = \mathbf{y} = f\left(\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{X}_2 & \\ \text{X}_5 & & \text{X}_4 \\ \text{X}_1 & & \text{X}_3 \end{array}\right)$$



What's changed?

$$f \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{X}_5 \quad \text{X}_1 \\ \text{X}_4 \quad \quad \text{X}_2 \\ \quad \text{X}_3 \end{array} \right) = \mathbf{y} = f \left(\begin{array}{c} \quad \text{X}_2 \\ \text{X}_5 \quad \text{X}_4 \\ \text{X}_1 \quad \quad \text{X}_3 \end{array} \right)$$

$$f \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{X}_5 \text{---} \text{X}_1 \\ \quad \quad \text{X}_2 \\ \text{X}_4 \text{---} \text{X}_3 \end{array} \right) = \mathbf{y} = f \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{X}_2 \\ \text{X}_5 \text{---} \text{X}_4 \\ \text{X}_1 \text{---} \text{X}_3 \end{array} \right)$$



Permutation invariance and equivariance on graphs

- The main difference: node permutations now also accordingly act on the **edges**
- We need to appropriately permute both **rows** and **columns** of **A**
 - When applying a permutation matrix **P**, this amounts to **PAP[⊤]**
- We arrive at updated definitions of suitable functions $f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A})$ over graphs:

Invariance: $f(\mathbf{PX}, \mathbf{PAP}^{\top}) = f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A})$

Equivariance: $f(\mathbf{PX}, \mathbf{PAP}^{\top}) = \mathbf{P}f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A})$



Locality on graphs: **neighbourhoods**

- On **sets**, we enforced equivariance by applying functions to every node **in isolation**
- **Graphs** give us a broader context: a node's **neighbourhood**
 - For a node i , its (1-hop) neighbourhood is commonly defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{N}_i = \{j : (i, j) \in \mathcal{E} \vee (j, i) \in \mathcal{E}\}$$

N.B. we do not explicitly consider *directed* edges, and often we assume $i \in \mathcal{N}_i$

- Accordingly, we can extract the *multiset* of **features** in the neighbourhood

$$\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{N}_i} = \{\{\mathbf{x}_j : j \in \mathcal{N}_i\}\}$$

and define a *local* function, g , as operating over this multiset: $g(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{N}_i})$.



A recipe for **graph** neural networks

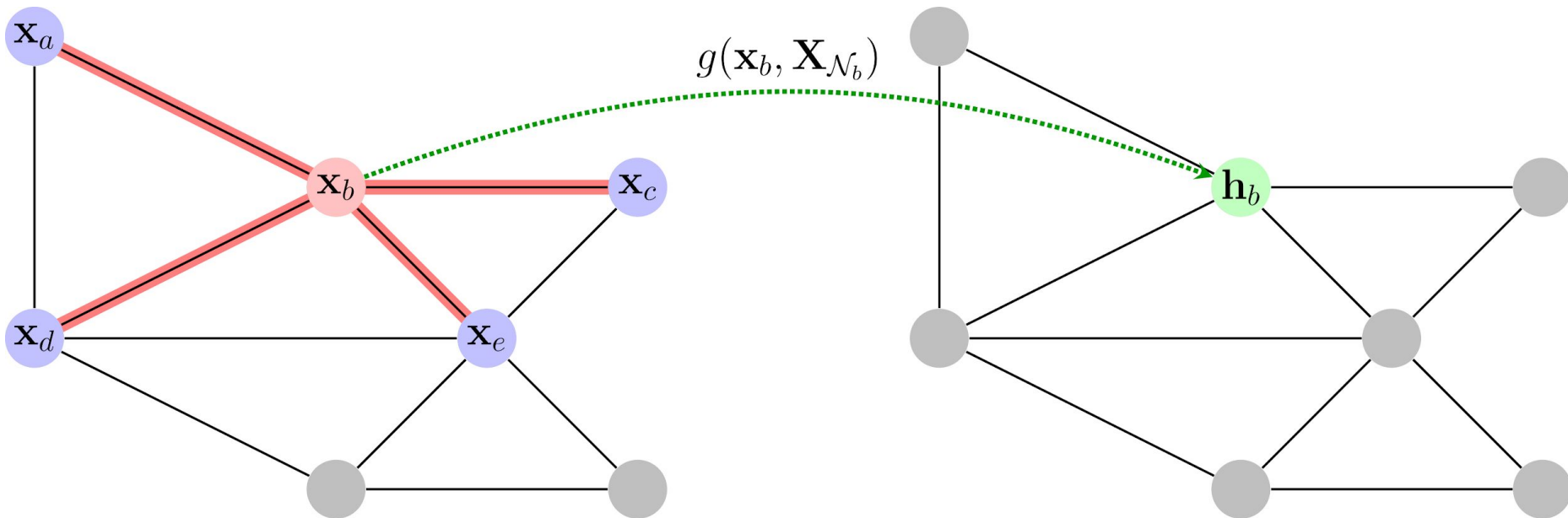
- Now we can construct permutation equivariant functions, $f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A})$, by appropriately applying the local function, g , over *all* neighbourhoods:

$$f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A}) = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & g(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{N}_1}) & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & g(\mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{N}_2}) & \text{---} \\ & \vdots & \\ \text{---} & g(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{N}_n}) & \text{---} \end{bmatrix}$$

- To ensure equivariance, we need g to not depend on the **order** of the vertices in $\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{N}_i}$
 - Hence, g should be permutation **invariant**!



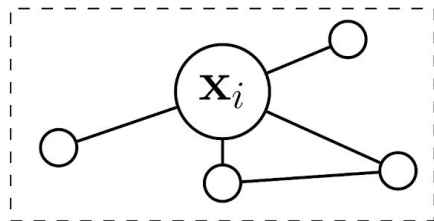
A recipe for **graph** neural networks, visualised



$$\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{N}_b} = \{\{\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b, \mathbf{x}_c, \mathbf{x}_d, \mathbf{x}_e\}\}$$



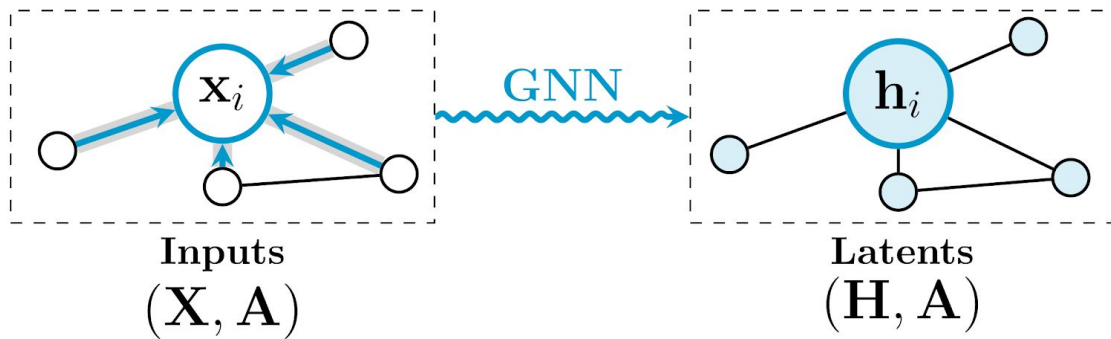
General blueprint for learning on graphs



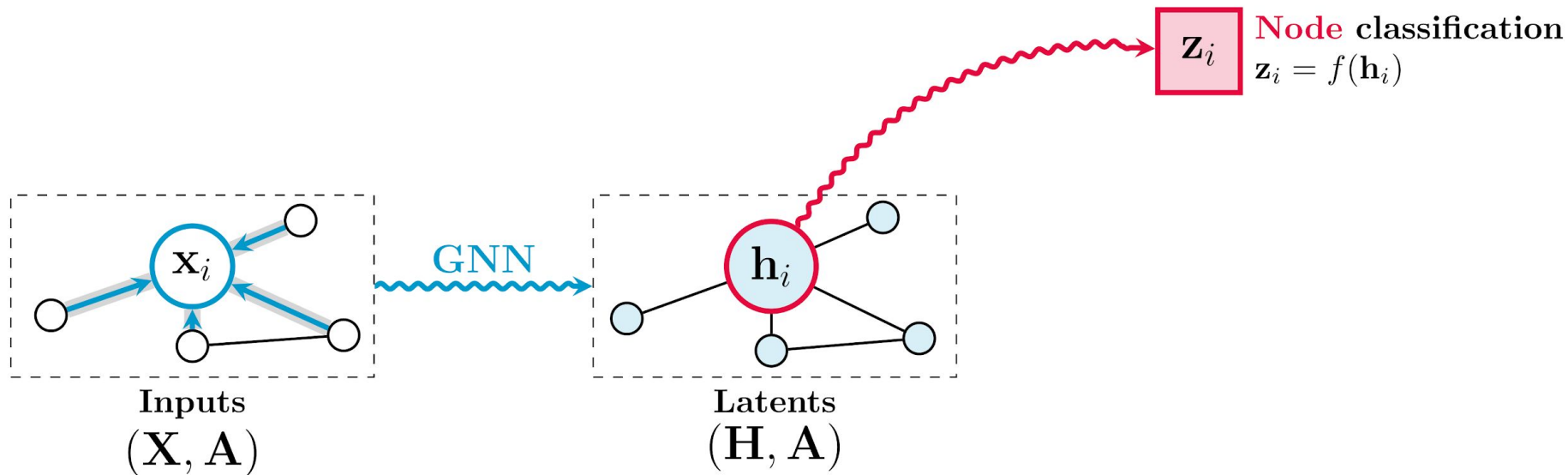
Inputs
 (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A})



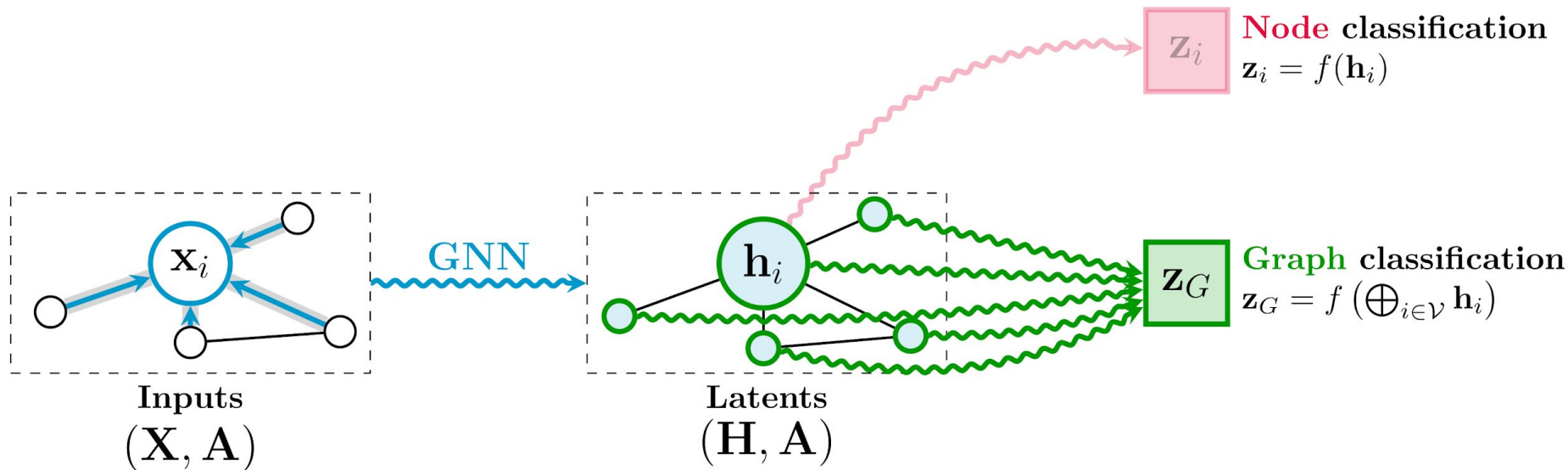
General blueprint for learning on graphs



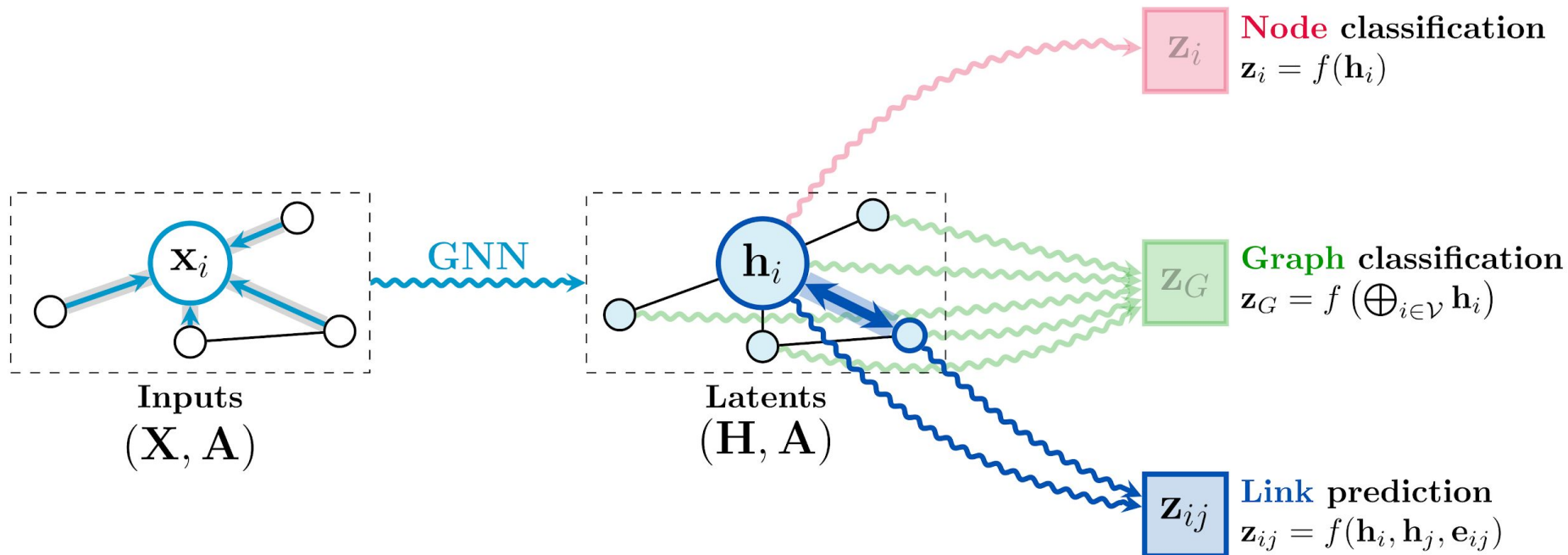
General blueprint for learning on graphs



General blueprint for learning on graphs



General blueprint for learning on graphs



5

Message passing on graphs

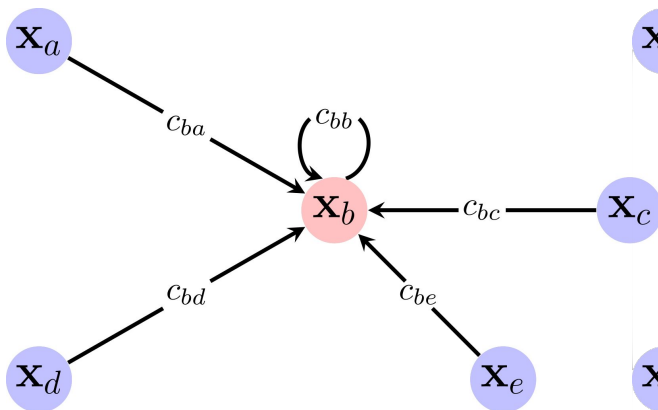


What's in a GNN layer?

- As mentioned, we construct permutation-equivariant functions $f(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A})$ over graphs by shared application of a local permutation-invariant $g(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{X}_{N(i)})$.
 - We often refer to f as “GNN layer”, g as “diffusion”, “propagation”, “message passing”
- Now we look at ways in which we can actually concretely **define** g .
 - **Very intense** area of research!
- Fortunately, *almost all* proposed layers can be classified as one of three ***spatial*** “flavours”.

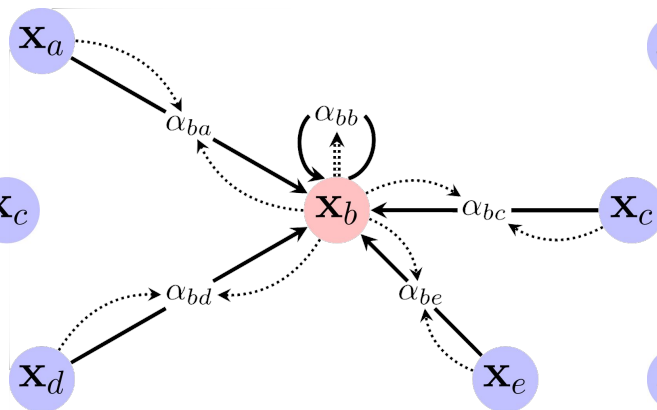


The three “flavours” of GNN layers



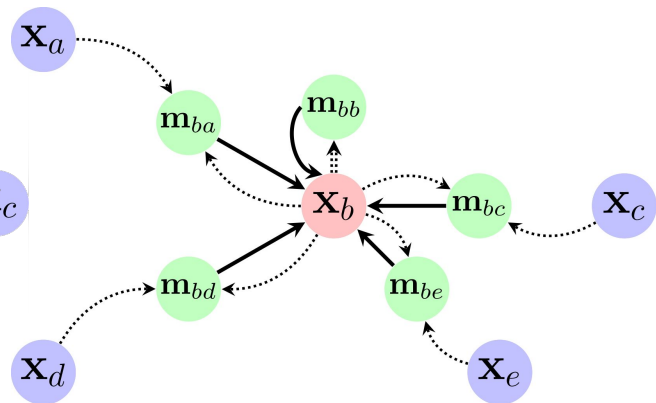
Convolutional

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} c_{ij} \psi(\mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$



Attentional

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} a(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \psi(\mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$



Message-passing

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \psi(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$

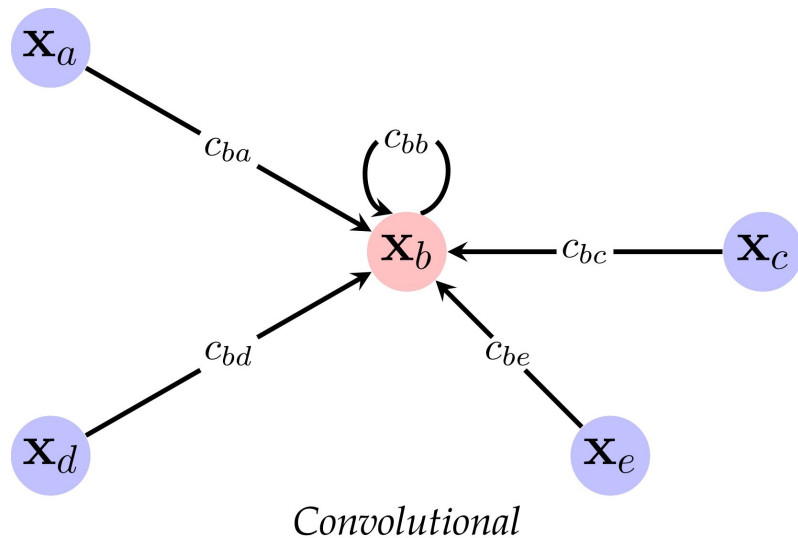


Convolutional GNN

- Features of neighbours aggregated with fixed weights, c_{ij}

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} c_{ij} \psi(\mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$

- Usually, the weights depend directly on \mathbf{A} .
 - ChebyNet (Defferrard *et al.*, NeurIPS'16)
 - GCN (Kipf & Welling, ICLR'17)
 - SGC (Wu *et al.*, ICML'19)
- Useful for **homophilous** graphs and **scaling up**
 - When edges encode *label similarity*

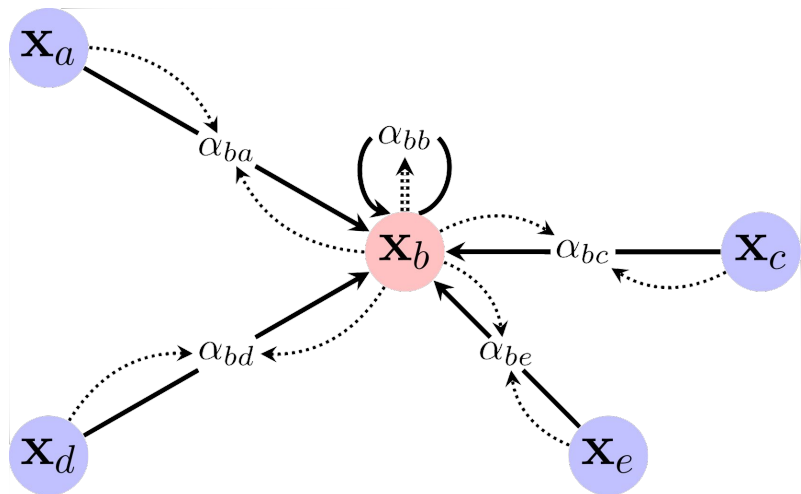


Attentional GNN

- Features of neighbours aggregated with **implicit** weights (via *attention*)

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} a(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \psi(\mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$

- Attention weight computed as $\alpha_{ij} = a(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$
 - MoNet (Monti *et al.*, CVPR'17)
 - GAT (Veličković *et al.*, ICLR'18)
 - GATv2 (Brody *et al.*, 2021)
- Useful as “middle ground” w.r.t. **capacity** and **scale**
 - Edges need not encode homophily
 - But still compute *scalar* value in each edge



Attentional

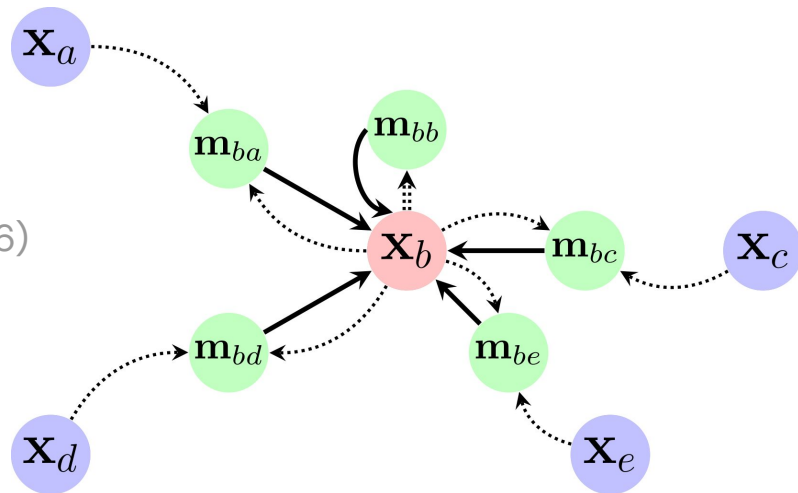


Message-passing GNN

- Compute **arbitrary vectors** (“messages”) to be sent across edges

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} \psi(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$

- Messages computed as $\mathbf{m}_{ij} = \psi(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$
 - Interaction Networks (Battaglia et al., NeurIPS'16)
 - MPNN (Gilmer et al., ICML'17)
 - GraphNets (Battaglia et al., 2018)
- Most **generic** GNN layer
 - May have *scalability* or *learnability* issues
 - Ideal for *computational chemistry, reasoning and simulation*



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6

Perspectives on GNNs



Towards the bleeding edge

- Now I will present and state **three** areas full of *open problems*, which can be easily expressed using the tools we've built up so far
- This can enable you to make immediate contributions to the area.
- If you've read up on graph machine learning before, there's a good chance you will have seen at least some of these.
- Happy to chat about these (or related) open problems at any point :)



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I

Latent Graph Inference



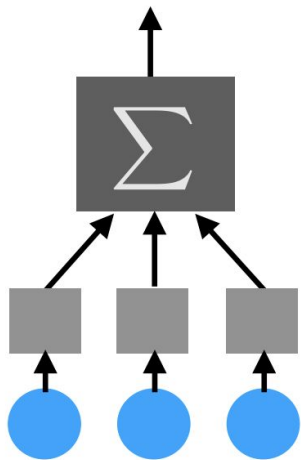
What to do when there is **no** graph?

- So far, we've assumed something (seemingly) very innocent: that *the **graph** is given to us!*
- In practice, the given graph may often be *suboptimal* for the task we're solving
 - For various connectivity querying on graphs, maintaining the right set of edges can make a difference between **linear-time** and (amortised) **constant-time** complexity!
- Taken to the extreme: *what to do when there is **no** graph?*
 - Assume we're given a node feature matrix, but no adjacency
 - We've seen one "solution" for this already...



Option 1: Assume *no* edges

Deep Sets (Zaheer *et al.*, NeurIPS'17)



No edges (set)

$$\mathcal{N}_i = \{i\}$$

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \psi(\mathbf{x}_i)$$



Option 2: Assume *all* edges

$$\mathcal{N}_i = \mathcal{V}$$

Let the GNN decide which edges matter!

Using conv-GNNs no longer makes sense.

If we use **attentional** GNNs we recover:

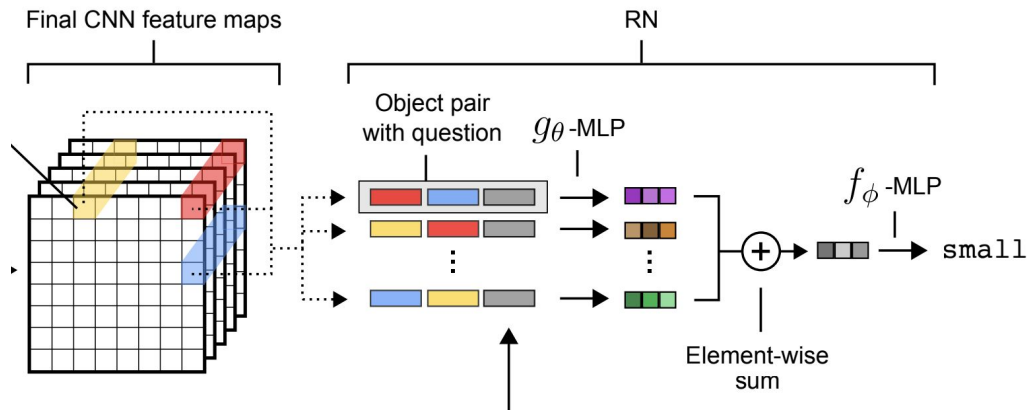
$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{V}} a(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \psi(\mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$

Does this look *familiar*?

Interaction Nets (Battaglia *et al.*, NeurIPS'16)

Relational Nets (Santoro *et al.*, NeurIPS'17)

Transformers (Vaswani *et al.*, NeurIPS'17)



All edges (*fully-connected graph*)



A note on Transformers

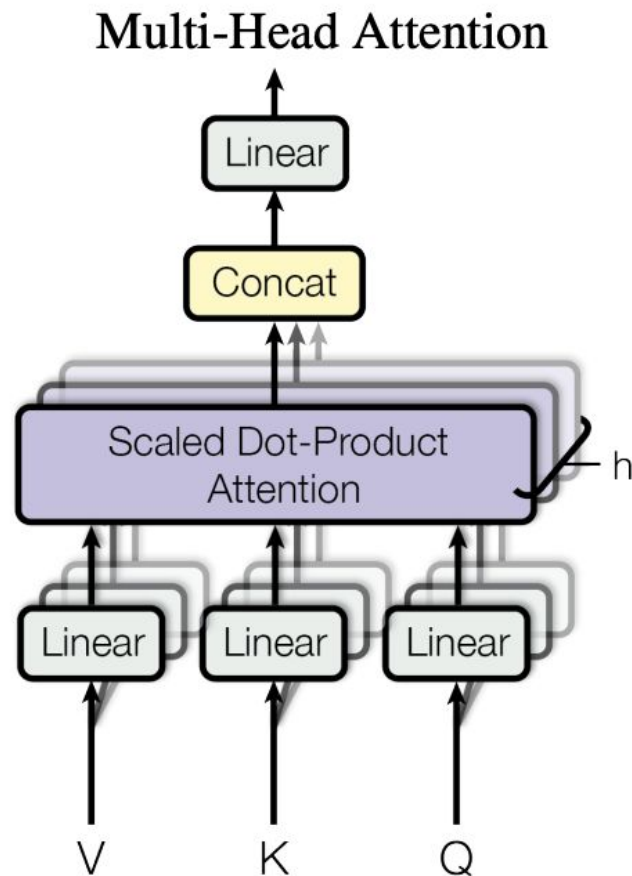
Transformers **are** Graph Neural Networks!

- Fully-connected graph
- Attentional flavour

The sequential structural information is injected through the **positional embeddings**. Dropping them yields a fully-connected GAT model.

Attention can be seen as inferring **soft adjacency**.

See Joshi (The Gradient; 2020).



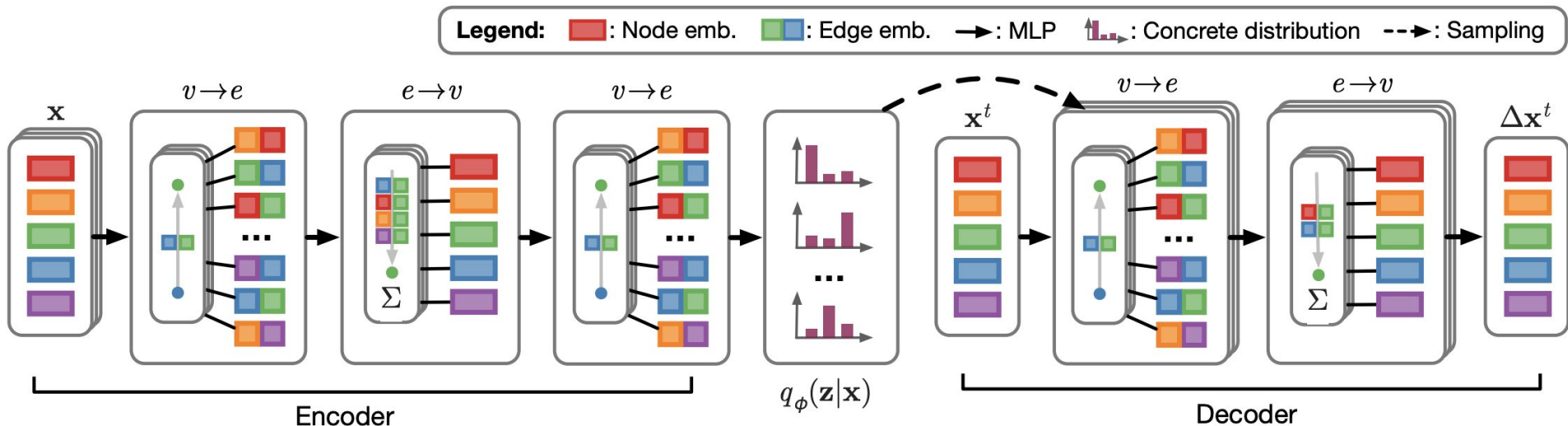
The “truth” likely lies *in between*

- Empty graph ignores a potential **wealth** of information
- Full graph can be hard to scale (*quadratic* complexity, large neighbourhoods)
- Ideally, we want to **infer** the adjacency matrix **A**, then use it as **edges** for a GNN!
- Commonly termed “*latent graph inference*”.
- Choosing edges is a **discrete decision** -- inherently hard to backpropagate!



Option 3a: Infer edges to use (*variational*)

Neural Relational Inference (Kipf, Fetaya et al., ICML'18)



Specify **prior** over edges, use encoder to derive **posterior**, sample to infer graph (~VAE setup)



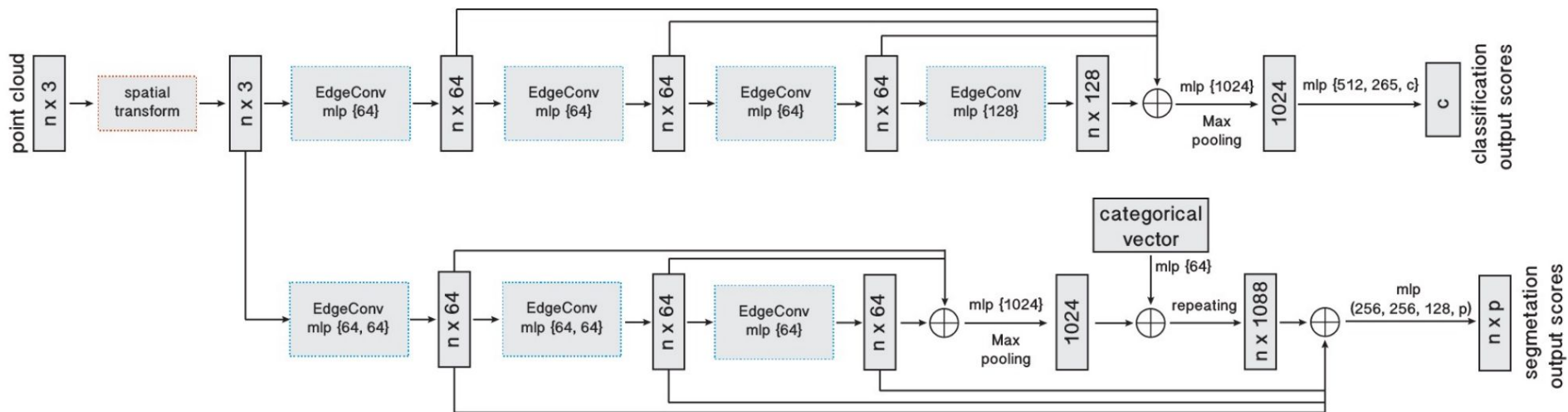
k -NN graphs

- The NRI approach above gives a way to reason about the graph structure probabilistically
 - But it still requires running a fully-connected GNN!
- Ideally, we want to infer a sparse graph **without ever** doing a dense GNN
 - (at least at inference time...)
- The current workhorse of such approaches is the **k -nearest neighbour** (k -NN) graph
 - Each node stores features \mathbf{h}_i
 - Connect it only to its k nearest neighbours in \mathbf{h} (e.g. based on Euclidean distance).
- Open problem: Can we (*should we*) do better?



Option 3b: *Infer edges to use (no learning)*

Dynamic Graph CNN (Wang et al., 2018)

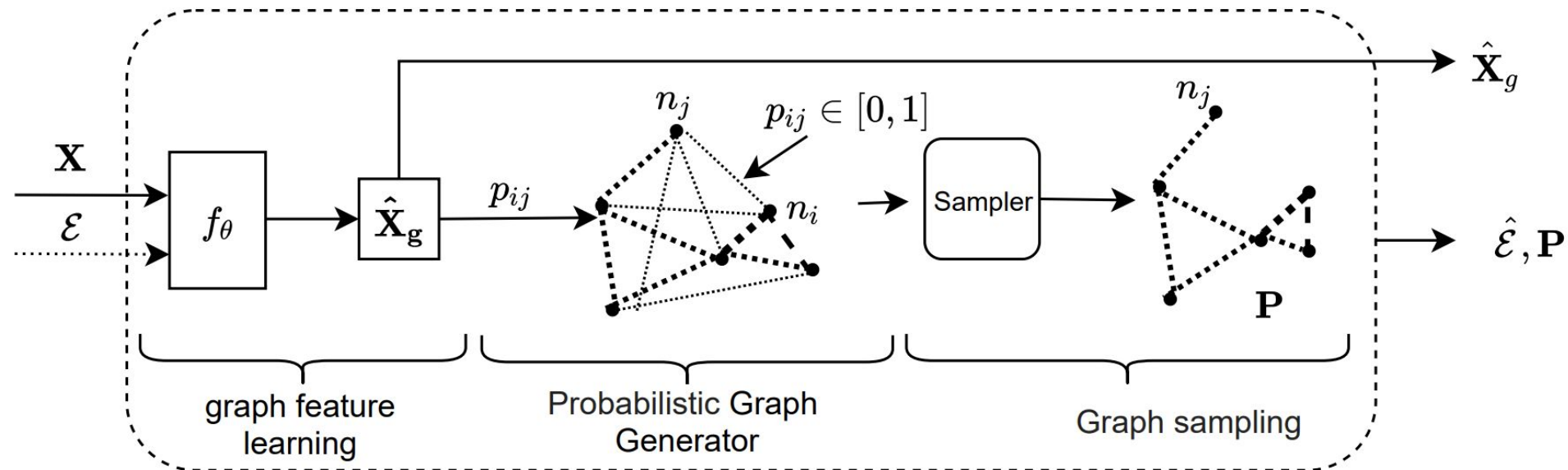


Literally take k nearest neighbours to decide edges at every layer, without any new parameters



Option 3c: Infer edges to use (reinforcement learning)

Differentiable Graph Module (Kazi et al., 2020)

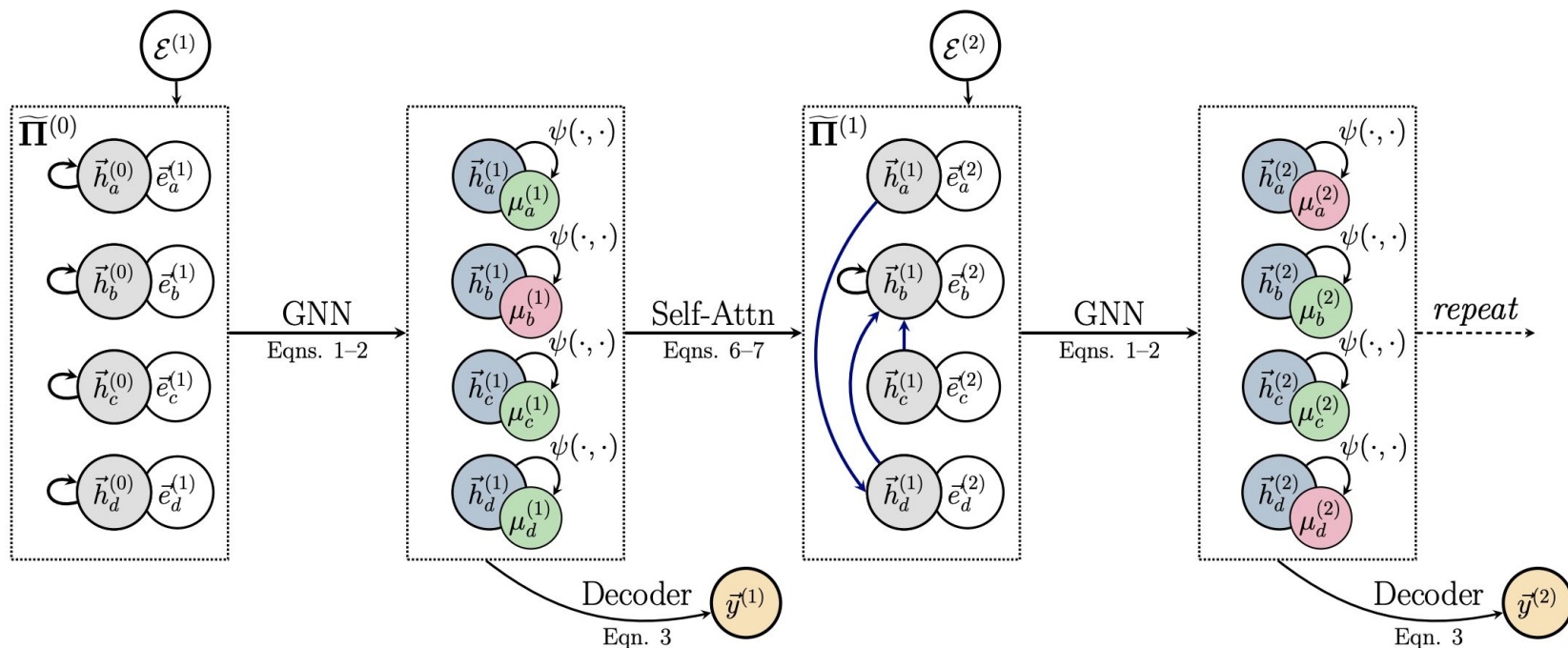


Sample (probabilistically) a **k-NN graph**, optimise **downstream performance** as RL reward



Option 3d: Infer edges to use (supervised learning)

Pointer Graph Networks (Veličković et al., NeurIPS'20)



Directly **supervise** the **k-NN graph** using ground-truth knowledge (e.g. **data structure rollouts**)



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II

Graph Isomorphism Testing



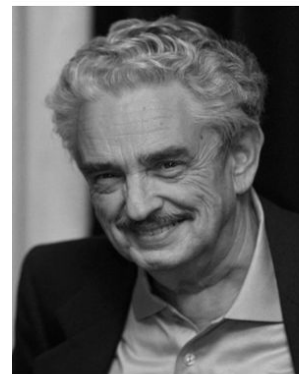
How *powerful* are Graph Neural Networks?

- GNNs are a powerful tool for processing real-world graph data
 - But they won't solve **any** task specified on a graph accurately!
- Canonical example: deciding *graph isomorphism*
 - Am I able to use my GNN to **distinguish** two *non-isomorphic* graphs? ($\mathbf{h}_{G1} \neq \mathbf{h}_{G2}$)
 - If I can't, any kind of task discriminating them is *hopeless*
- We will assess the **power** of GNNs by *which graphs they are able to distinguish*.



Weisfeiler-Lehman Test

- Simple but powerful way of distinguishing: pass **random hashes** of **sums** along the edges
 - Iterate until hashes don't change.
 - *"Possibly isomorphic"* if hash histograms are the same.



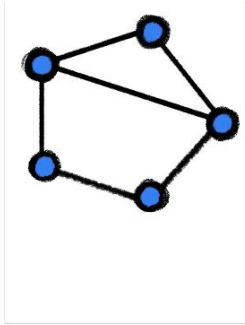
A. Lehman



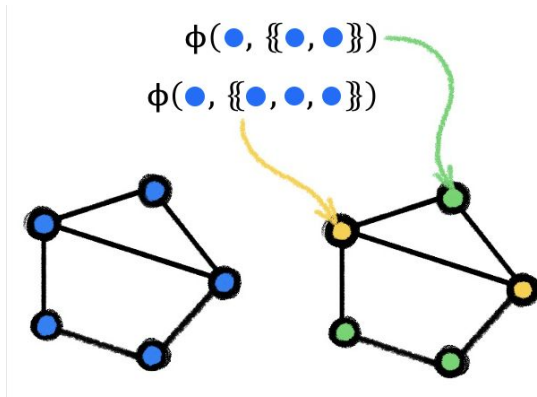
B. Weisfeiler



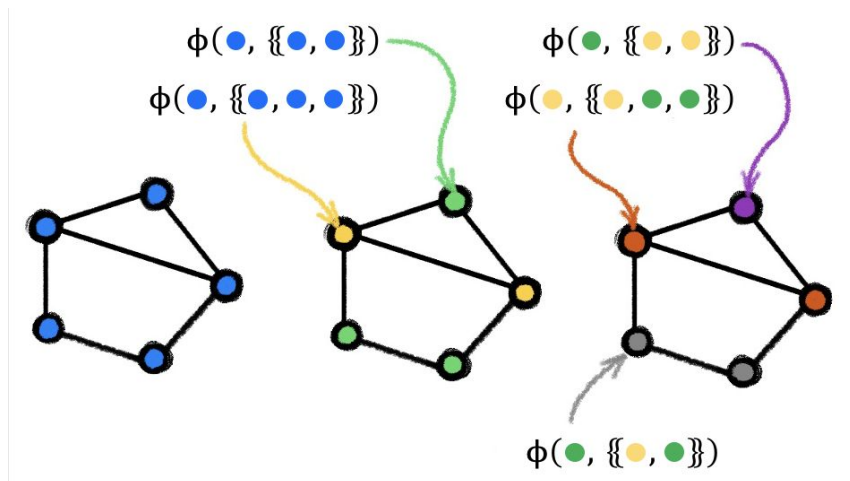
Let's run the WL Test!



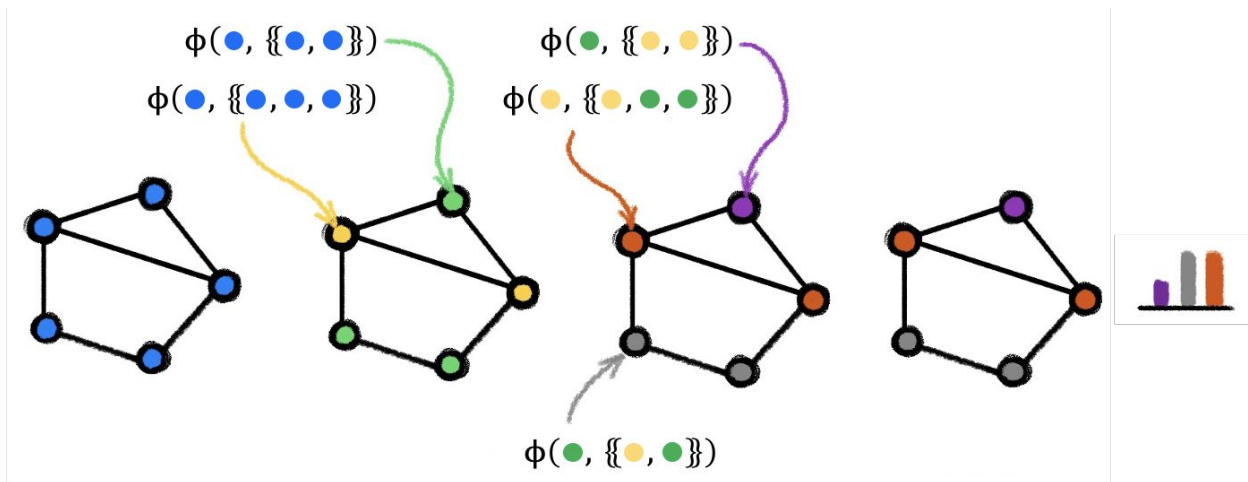
Let's run the WL Test!



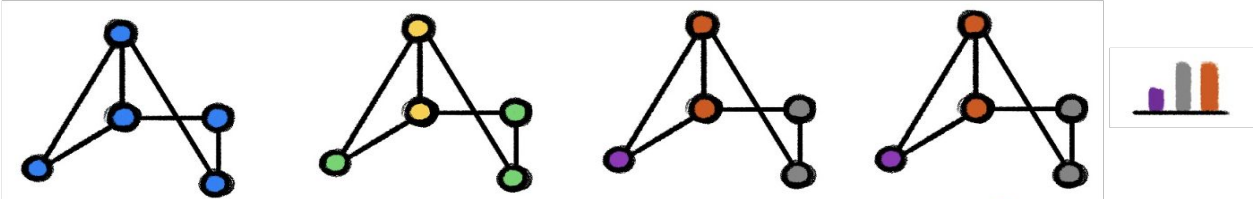
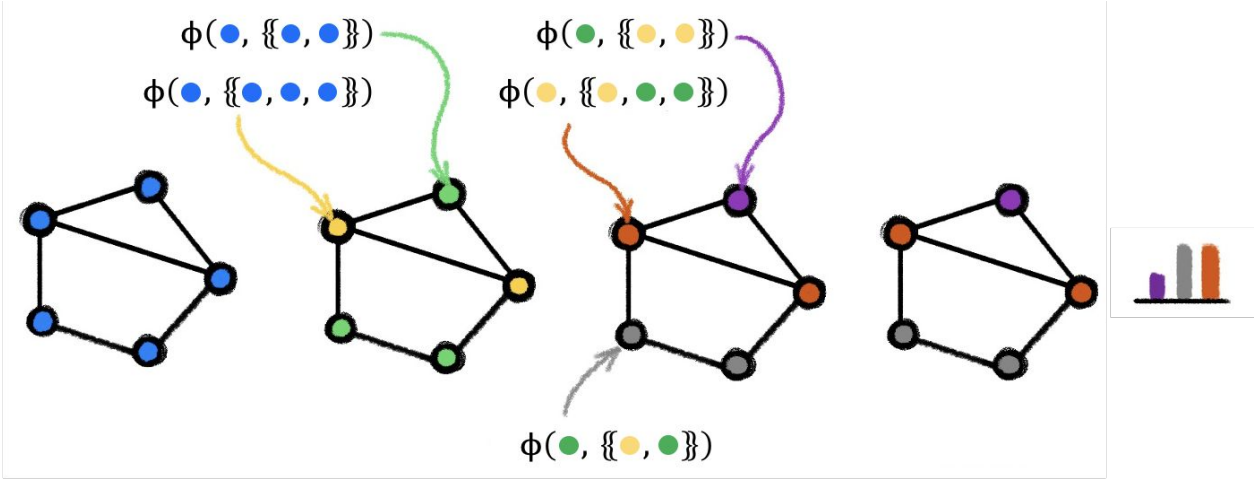
Let's run the WL Test!



Let's run the WL Test!

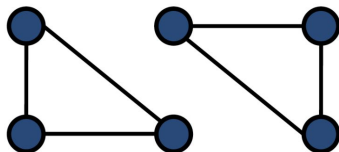
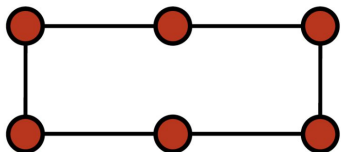


Let's run the WL Test!



Weisfeiler-Lehman Test

- Connection to conv-GNNs spotted very early; e.g. by GCN (Kipf & Welling, ICLR'17)
- **Untrained** GNNs can hence work very well!
 - Untrained ~ random hash
- The test does **fail** at times, however:



Algorithm 1: WL-1 algorithm (Weisfeiler & Lehmann, 1968)

Input: Initial node coloring $(h_1^{(0)}, h_2^{(0)}, \dots, h_N^{(0)})$

Output: Final node coloring $(h_1^{(T)}, h_2^{(T)}, \dots, h_N^{(T)})$

$t \leftarrow 0$;

repeat

for $v_i \in \mathcal{V}$ **do**

$h_i^{(t+1)} \leftarrow \text{hash} \left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} h_j^{(t)} \right)$;

$t \leftarrow t + 1$;

until *stable node coloring is reached*;

$$\mathbf{h}_i = \phi \left(\mathbf{x}_i, \bigoplus_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i} c_{ij} \psi(\mathbf{x}_j) \right)$$



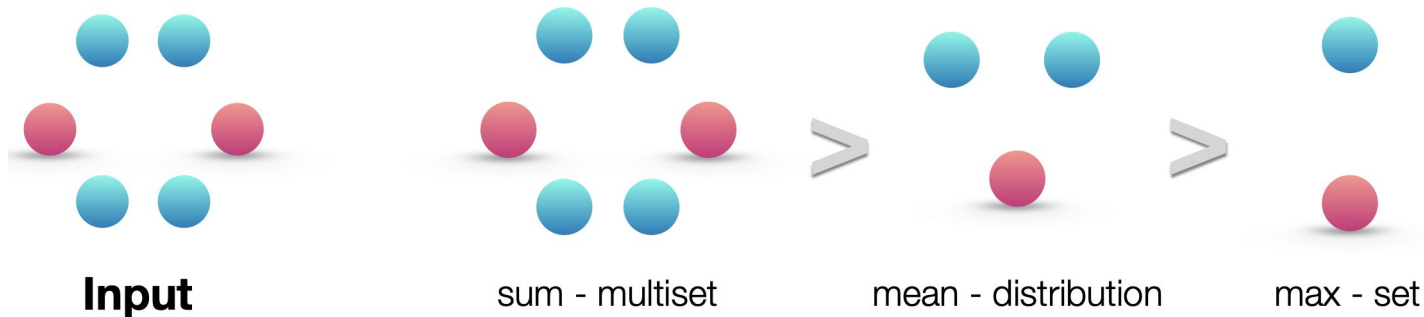
GNNs are **no more powerful** than 1-WL

- Over *discrete features*, GNNs can only be **as powerful** as the 1-WL test described before!



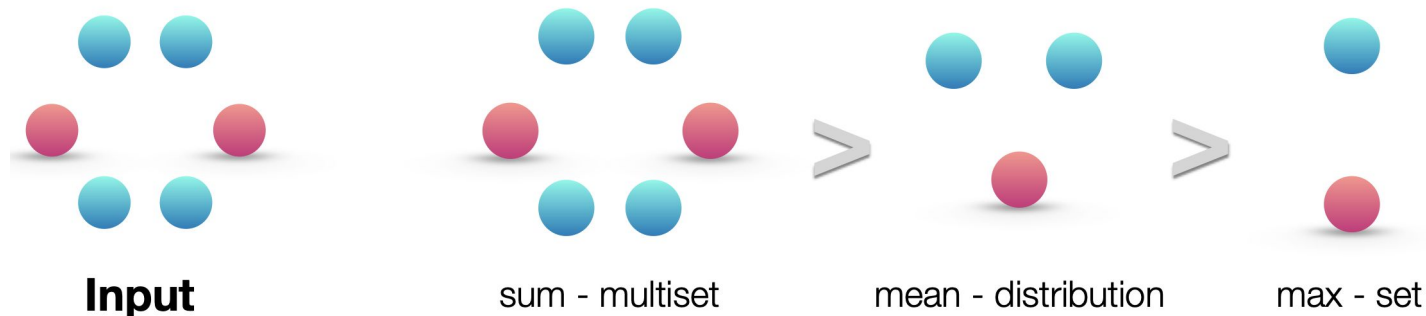
GNNs are **no more powerful** than 1-WL

- Over **discrete** features, GNNs can only be **as powerful** as the 1-WL test described before!
- One important condition for maximal power is an **injective** aggregator (e.g. **sum**)



GNNs are **no more powerful** than 1-WL

- Over **discrete** features, GNNs can only be **as powerful** as the 1-WL test described before!
- One important condition for maximal power is an **injective** aggregator (e.g. **sum**)

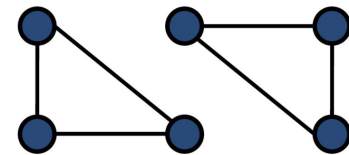
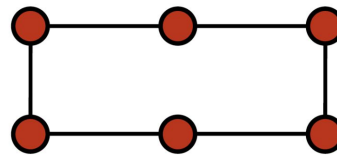


- Graph isomorphism network (**GIN**; Xu *et al.*, ICLR'19) proposes a simple, maximally-expressive GNN, following this principle:

$$h_v^{(k)} = \text{MLP}^{(k)} \left(\left(1 + \epsilon^{(k)} \right) \cdot h_v^{(k-1)} + \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} h_u^{(k-1)} \right)$$



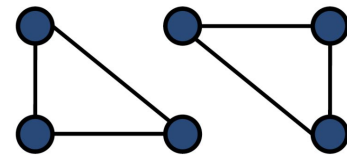
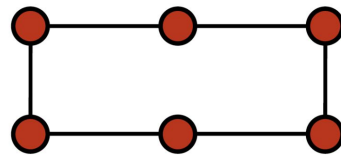
Higher-order GNNs



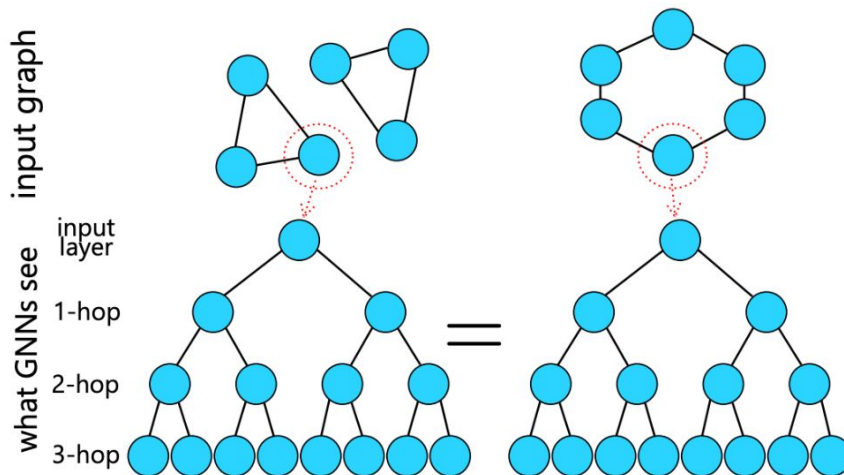
- We can make GNNs stronger by analysing **failure cases** of 1-WL!
 - Very active area, with many open problems!



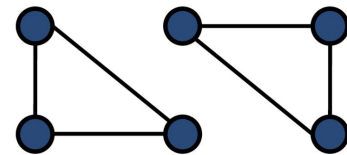
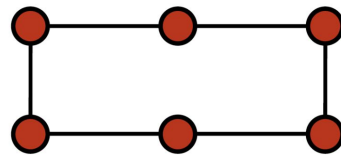
Higher-order GNNs



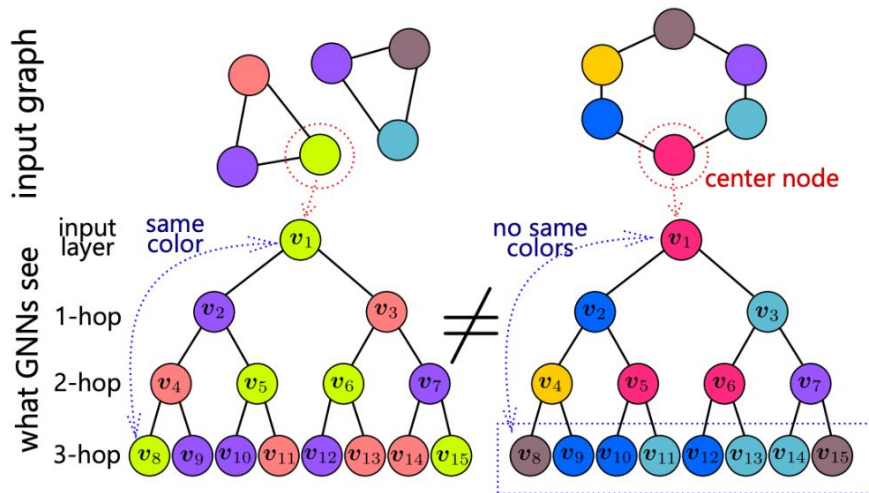
- We can make GNNs stronger by analysing **failure cases** of 1-WL!
- For example, just like 1-WL, GNNs cannot detect **closed triangles**
 - This is because, from a GNN's perspective, all nodes look the same!
 - Can you think of a simple fix?



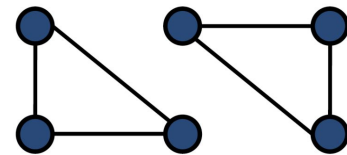
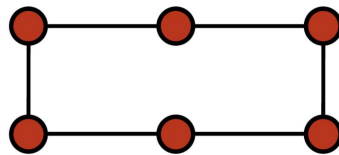
Higher-order GNNs



- We can make GNNs stronger by analysing **failure cases** of 1-WL!
- For example, just like 1-WL, GNNs cannot detect **closed triangles**
 - Augment nodes with **randomised** features (Sato *et al.*, SDM'21)
 - Now a node can “see itself” k hops away!



Higher-order GNNs

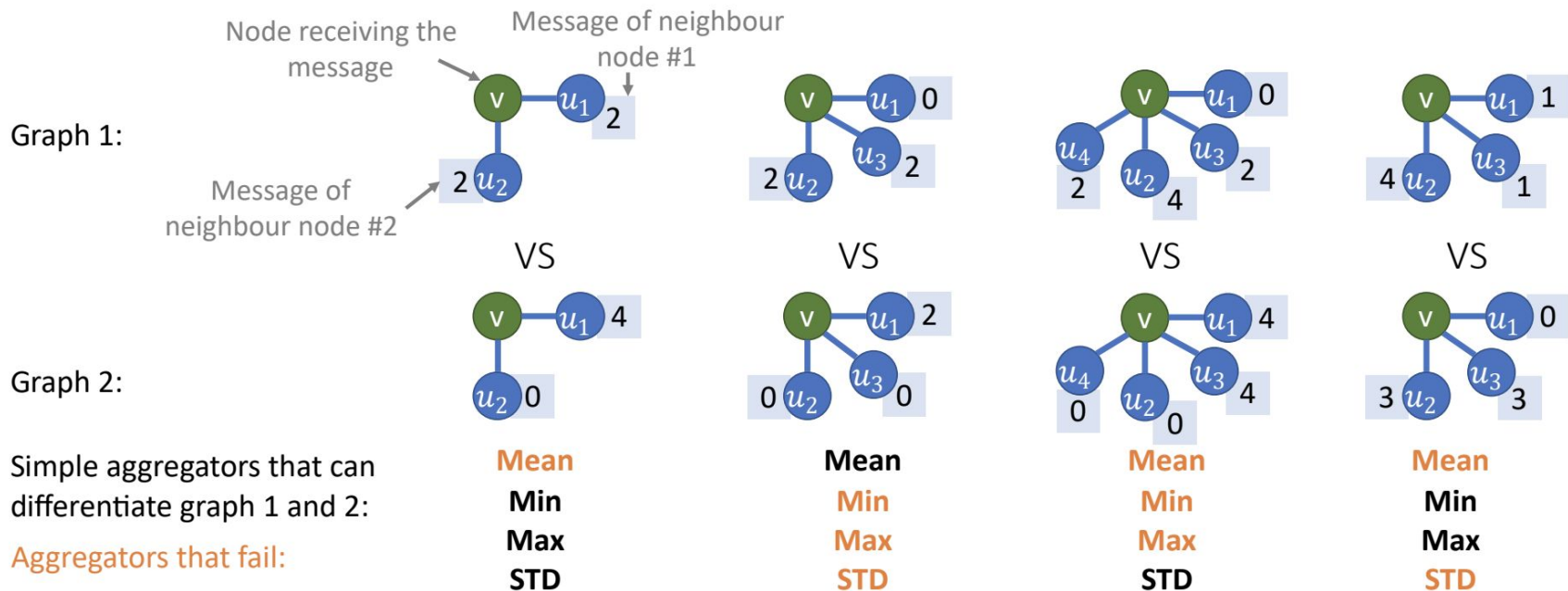


- We can make GNNs stronger by analysing **failure cases** of 1-WL!
- For example, just like 1-WL, GNNs cannot detect **closed triangles**
 - Augment nodes with randomised/positional features (Sato *et al.*, SDM'21)
 - Explored by RP-GNN (Murphy *et al.*, ICML'19) and P-GNN (You *et al.*, ICML'19)
 - Can also literally **count** interesting subgraphs (Bouritsas *et al.*, 2020)
- Fixing “failure cases” of 1-WL yields many classes of *higher-order GNNs*
- They can broadly be categorised into three groups:
 - Modifying **features** (as above)
 - Modifying the **message passing rule**; e.g. DGN (Beaini, Passaro *et al.* (2020))
 - Modifying the **graph** structure; e.g. 1-2-3-GNNs (Morris *et al.*, AAAI'19)



Going beyond *discrete* features

- What happens when features are **continuous**? (real-world apps / latent GNN states)
 - ... the proof for injectivity of sum (hence GINs' expressivity) **falls apart**



Which is best? Neither.

- There doesn't seem to be a clear single “winner” aggregator here...
- In fact, we prove in the PNA paper (Corso, Cavalleri *et al.*, NeurIPS'20) that **there isn't one!**

Theorem 1 (Number of aggregators needed). *In order to discriminate between multisets of size n whose underlying set is \mathbb{R} , at least n aggregators are needed.*

- The proof is (in my opinion) **really cool!** (relies on **Borsuk–Ulam** theorem)
- PNA proposes empirically powerful **combination** of aggregators for general-purpose GNNs:

$$\bigoplus = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} I \\ S(D, \alpha = 1) \\ S(D, \alpha = -1) \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{scalers}} \otimes \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mu \\ \sigma \\ \max \\ \min \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{aggregators}}$$



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III

Geometric Deep Learning



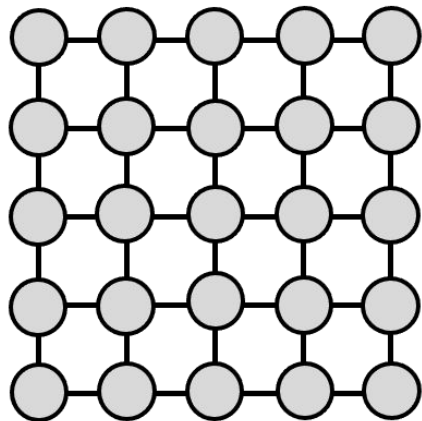
Remark on **geometric** deep learning

- We used the blueprint of *invariances* and *equivariances* to describe GNNs
- In fact, it is remarkably powerful! By combining an appropriate
 - **Local** and **equivariant** layer specified over *neighbourhoods*
 - Activation functions
 - (Potentially: **pooling** layers that coarsen the structure)
 - **Global** and **invariant** layer over the entire domain

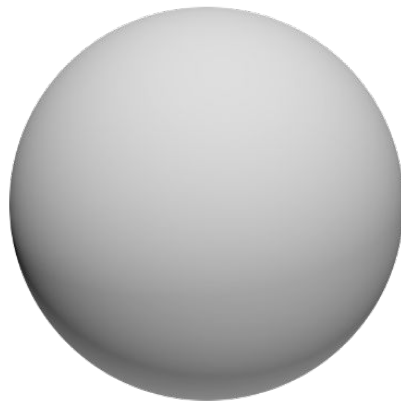
we recover many standard architectures (including CNNs and Transformers!)
- But also a more general class of **geometric** deep learning architectures



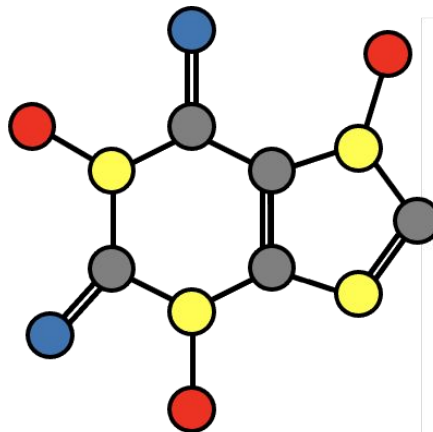
The “FiveGs” of geometric deep learning



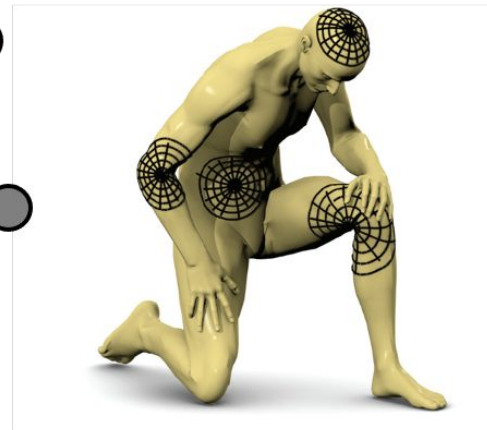
Grids



Groups



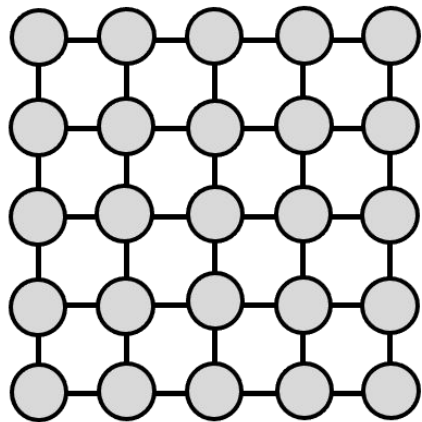
Graphs



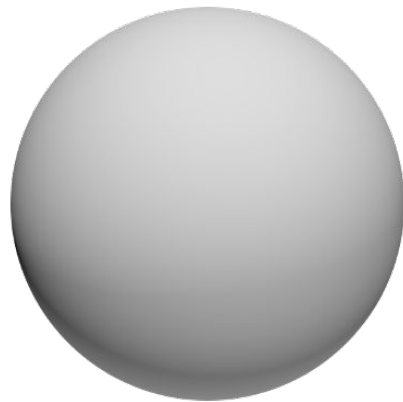
**Geodesics &
Gauges**



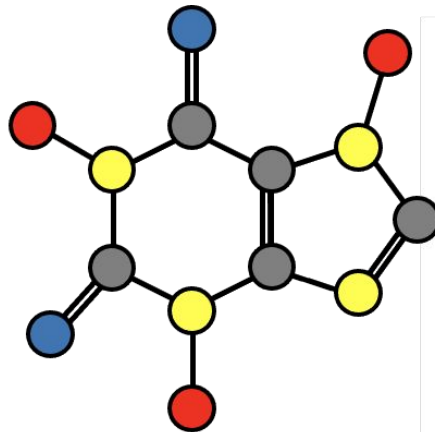
The “Five Gs” of geometric deep learning



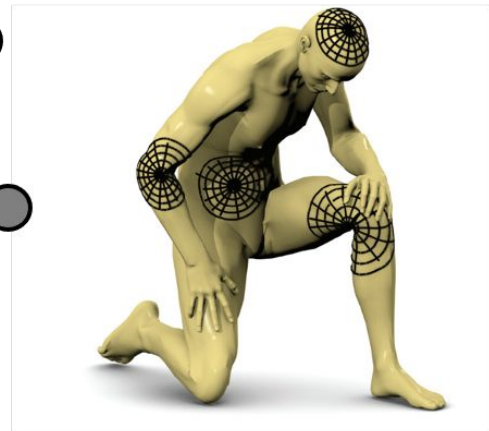
**Images &
Sequences**



**Homogeneous
spaces**



Graphs & Sets



**Manifolds, Meshes &
Geometric graphs**



Some architectures of interest

Architecture	Domain Ω	Symmetry group \mathcal{G}
<i>CNN</i>	Grid	Translation
<i>Spherical CNN</i>	Sphere / $SO(3)$	Rotation $SO(3)$
<i>Intrinsic / Mesh CNN</i>	Manifold	Isometry $Iso(\Omega)$ / Gauge symmetry $SO(2)$
<i>GNN</i>	Graph	Permutation Σ_n
<i>Deep Sets</i>	Set	Permutation Σ_n
<i>Transformer</i>	Complete Graph	Permutation Σ_n
<i>LSTM</i>	1D Grid	Time warping



DeepMind

Thank you!

Questions?

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