

Deep Learning for Graphs

Artificial Intelligence for Digital Health (AID)

M.Sc. in Digital Health – University of Pisa

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Lecture Outline

Deep learning for graphs

- Motivation
- Graph formalism
- Learning tasks: Graph prediction, induction, transduction and generation
- Fundamental components of a graph neural network
- Applications to healthcare and biology

Graph Fundamentals

Why Graphs?

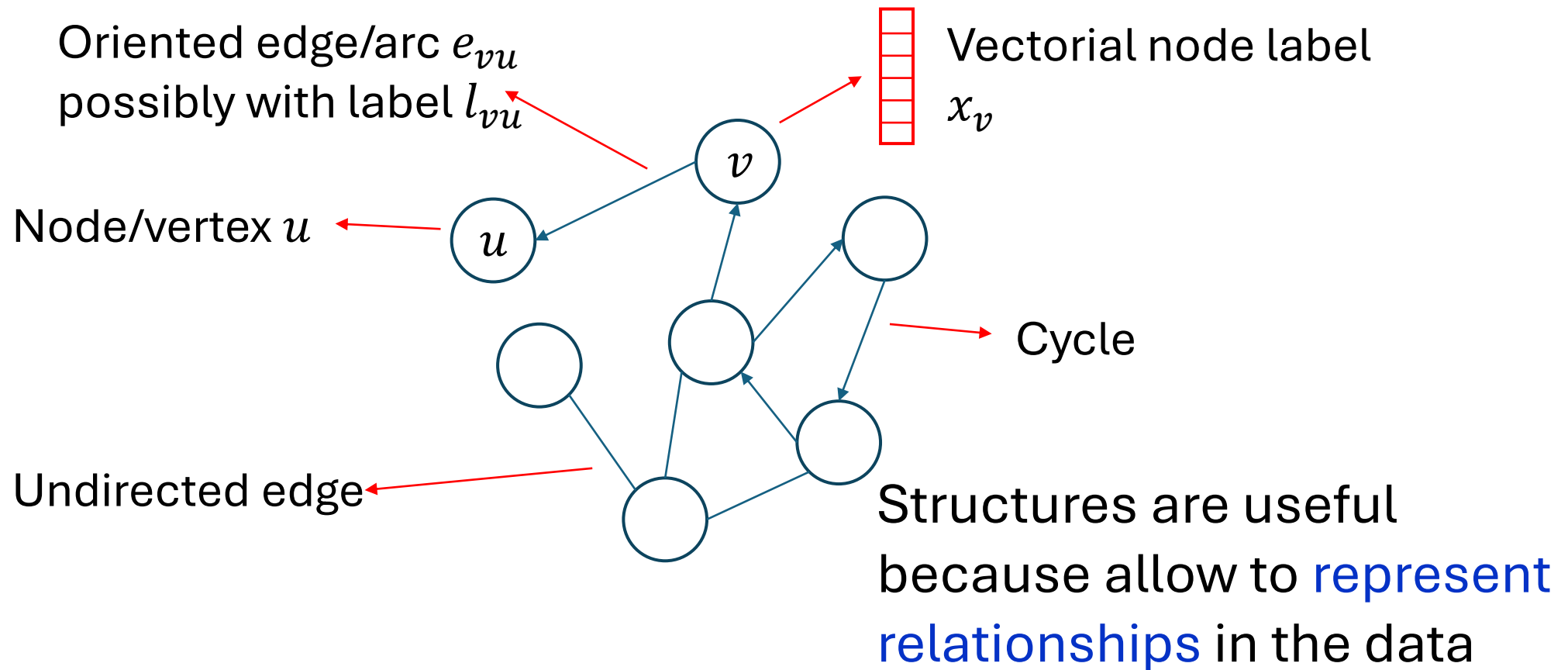


Why Graphs?

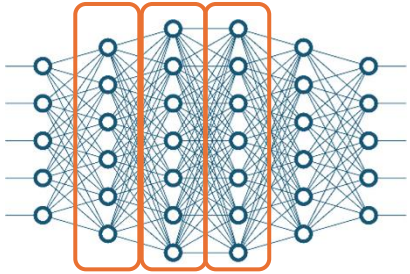
**Context is
fundamental for the
correct
interpretation of
information**



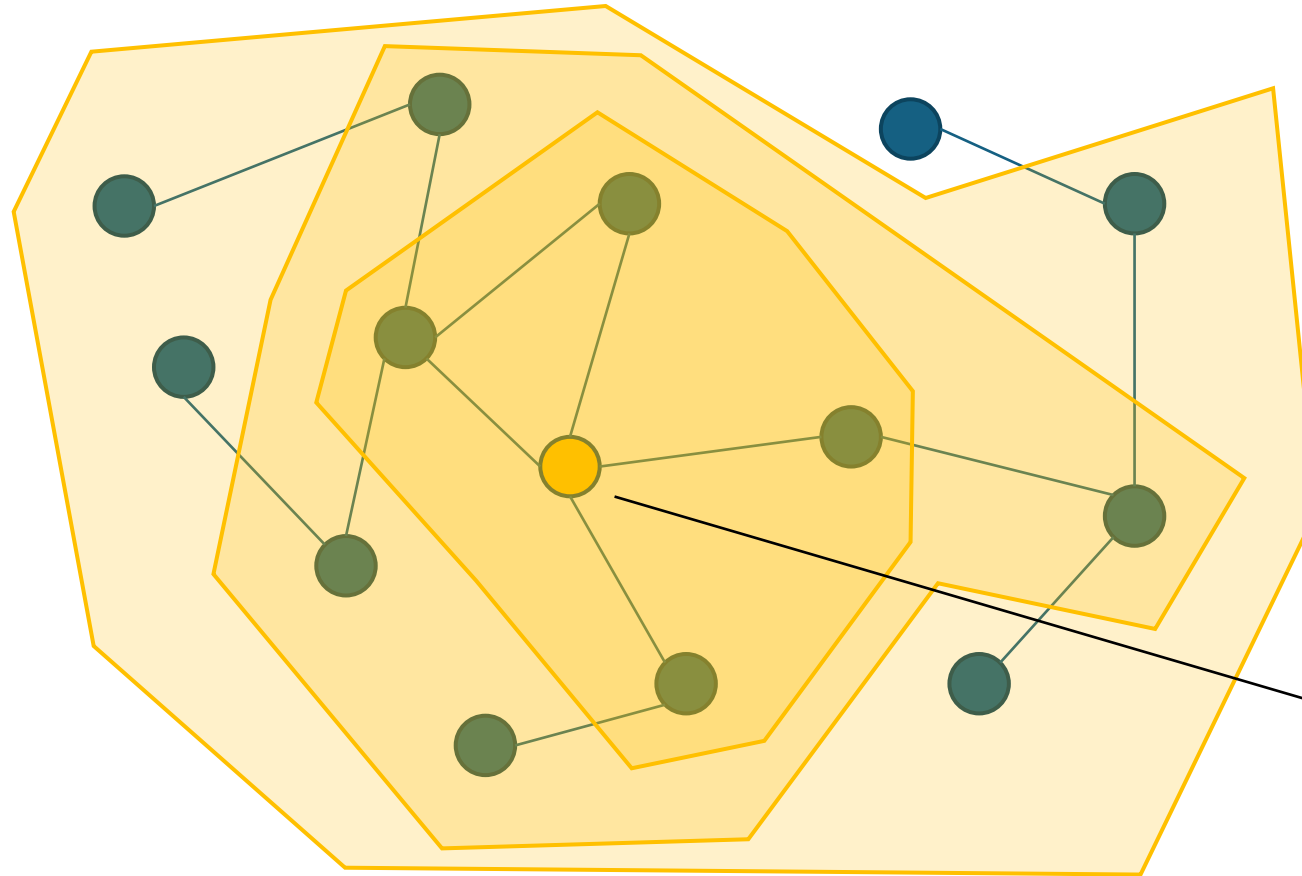
Graph Structured Data



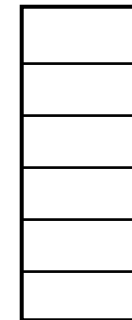
Deep Learning with graphs



Hierarchical representation learning allows to efficiently diffuse information through graph structure

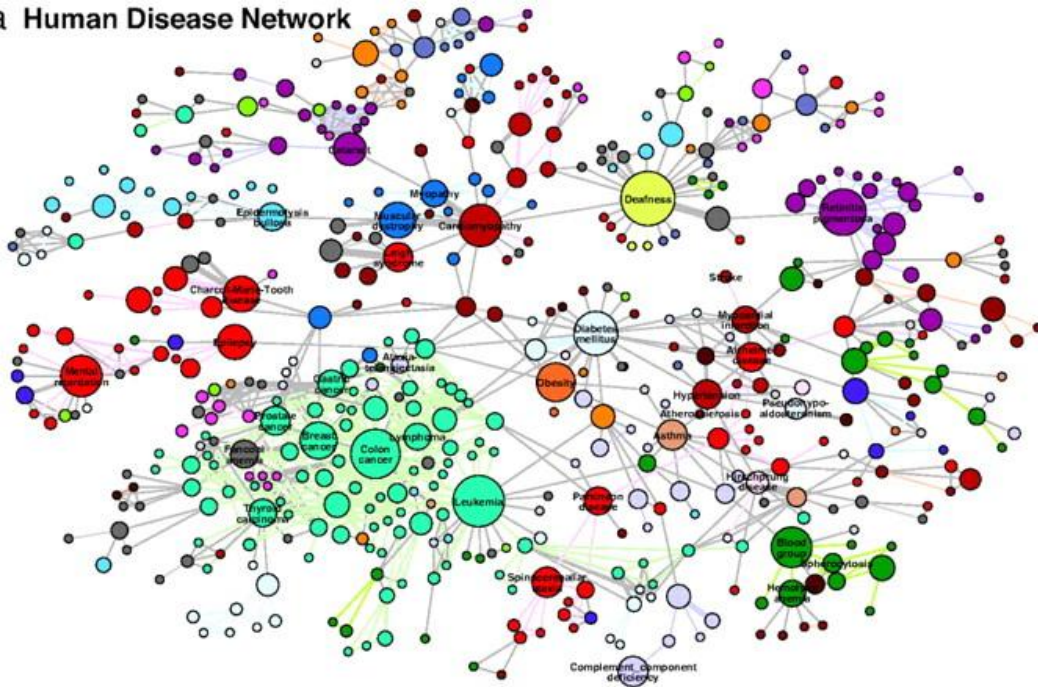


Node representation depends on its context (shorter first-longer later)

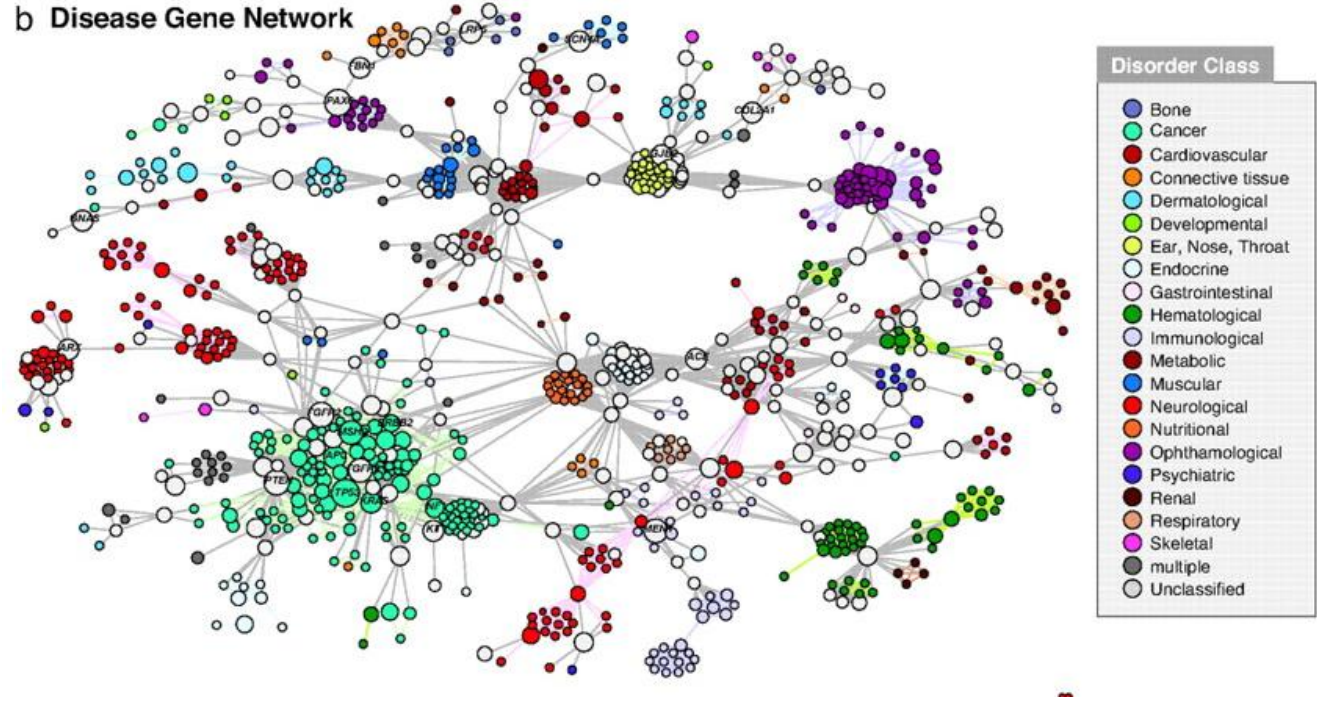


Why graphs in digital health?

a Human Disease Network



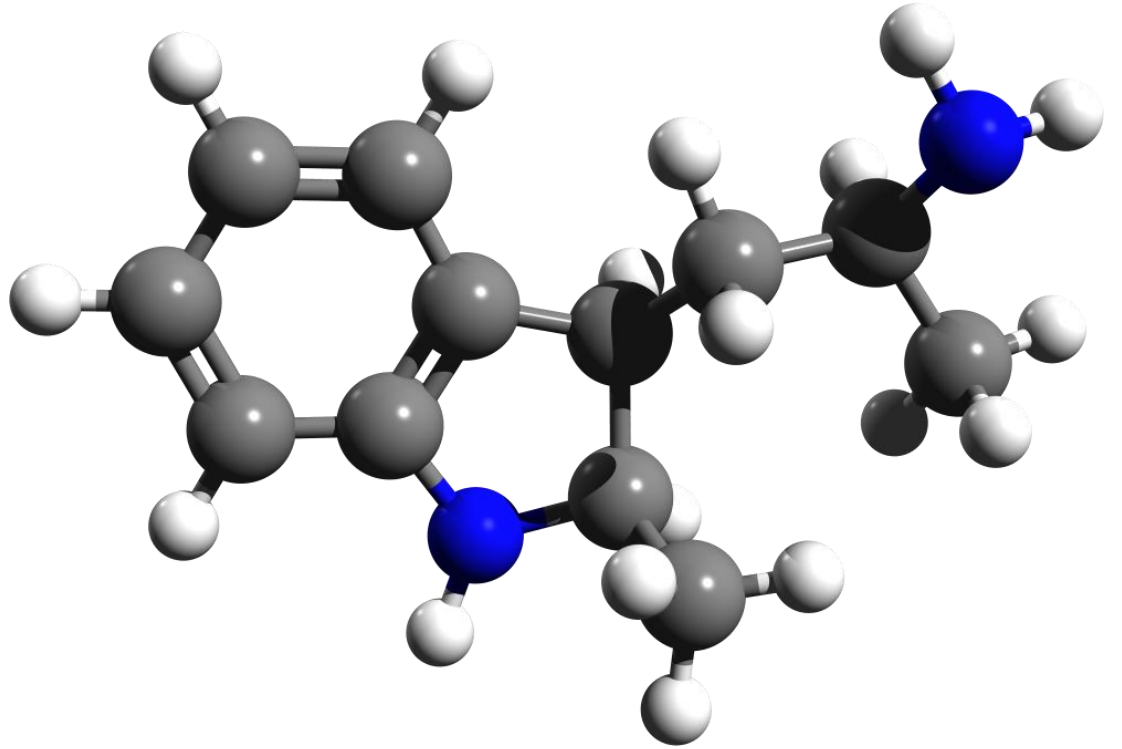
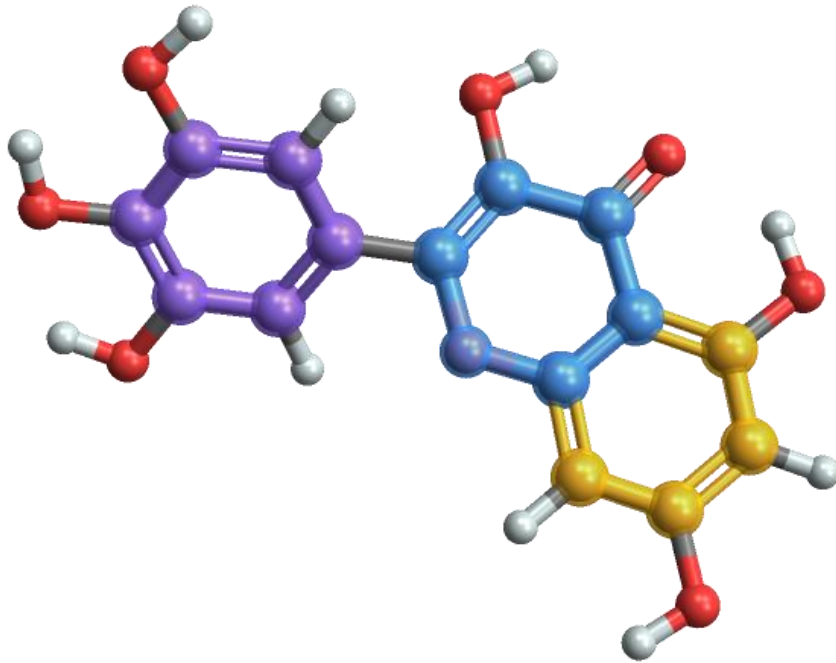
b Disease Gene Network



Source: Goh et al. PNAS 2007

Why graphs in digital health?

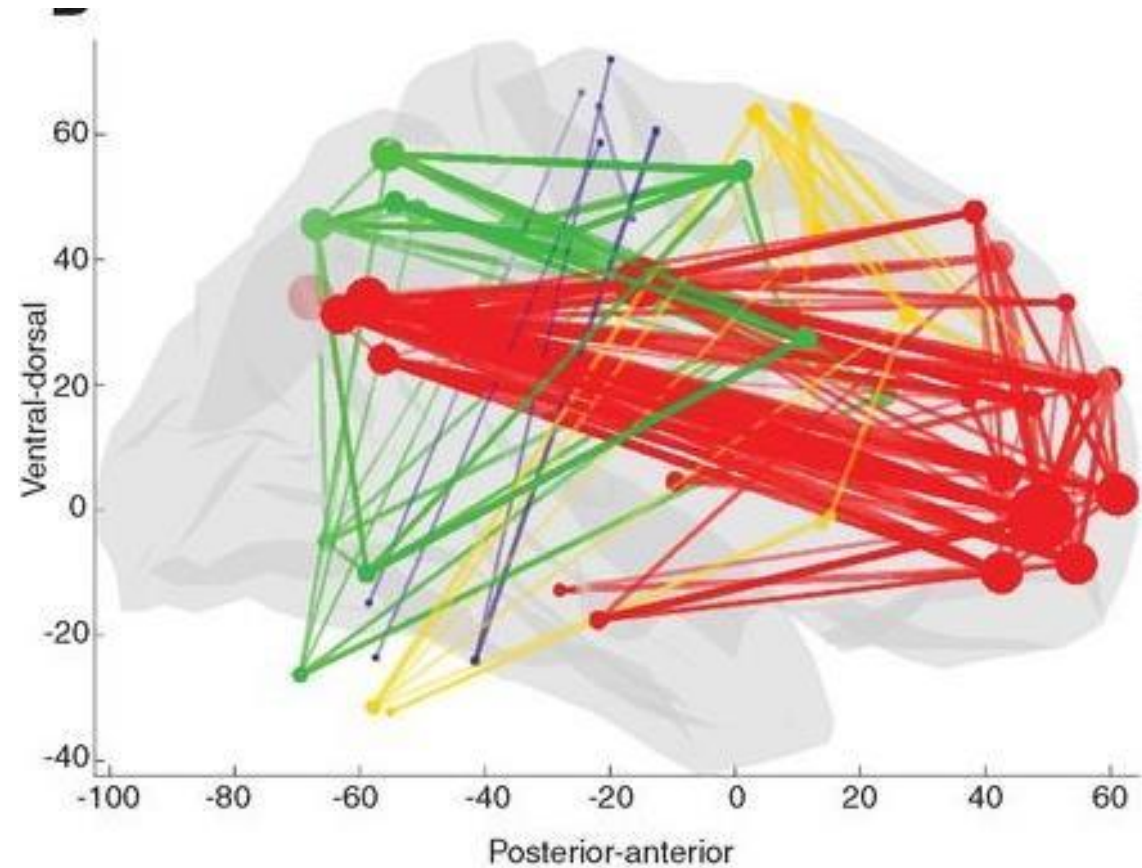
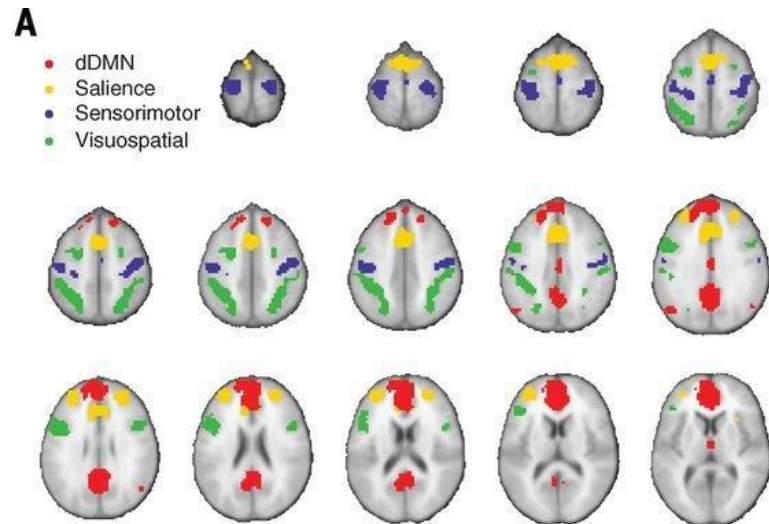
Molecular graph



3D Structure

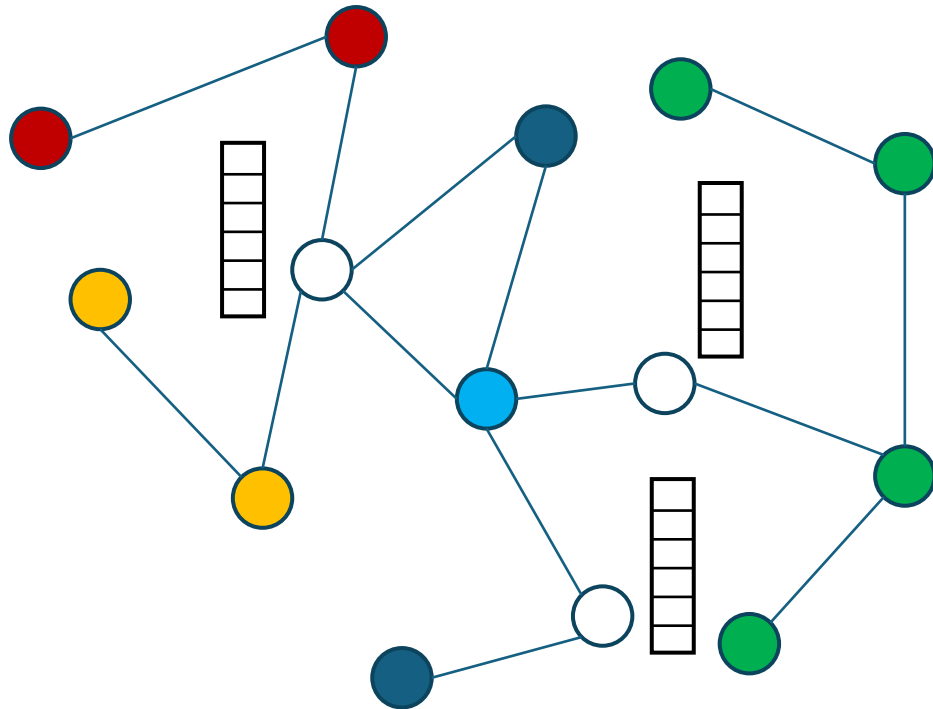
Why graphs in digital health?

Source: Richiardi et al, Science 2015



Predictive Tasks

Network data



Node predictions

Predict a type or a continuous value for a given node

Link prediction

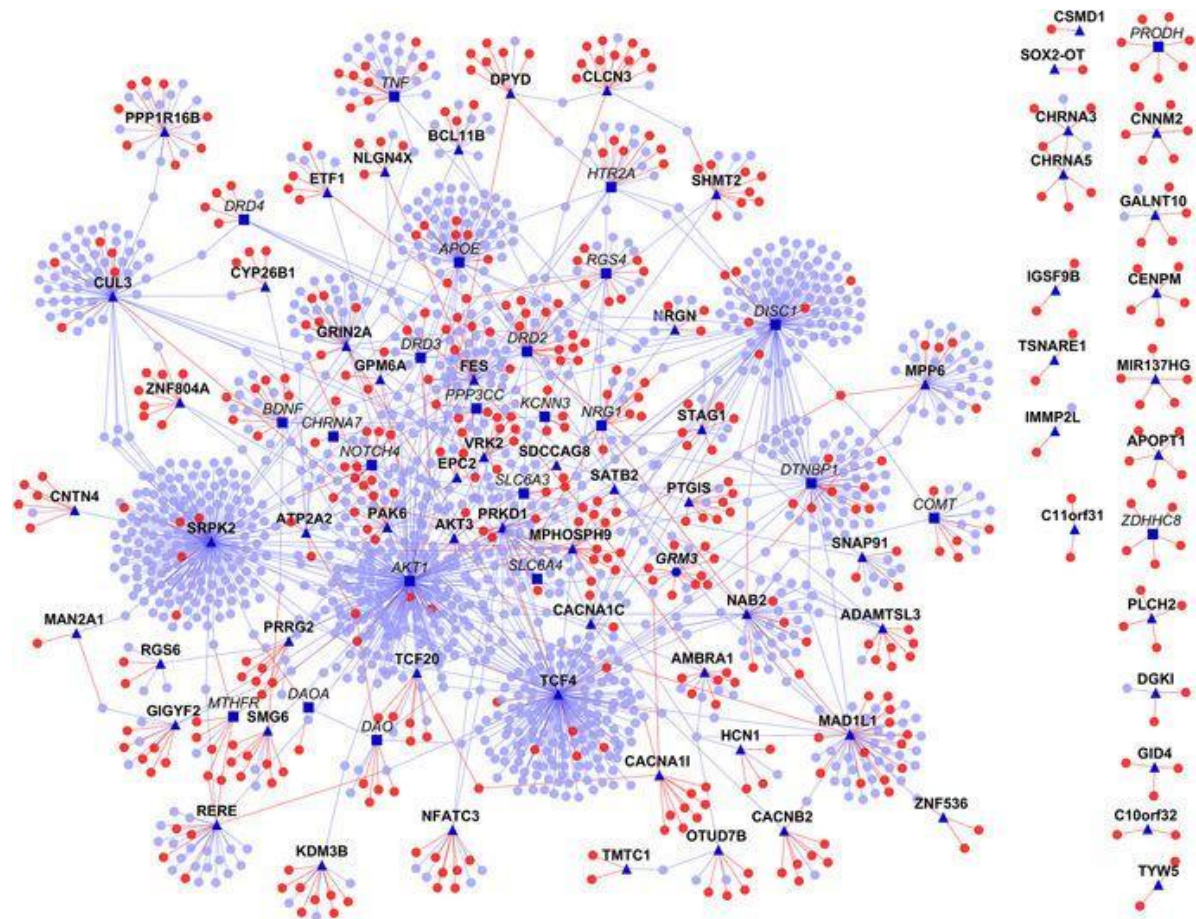
Predict whether two nodes are linked

Community/module detection

Identify clusters of linked nodes that are alike

Node classification example

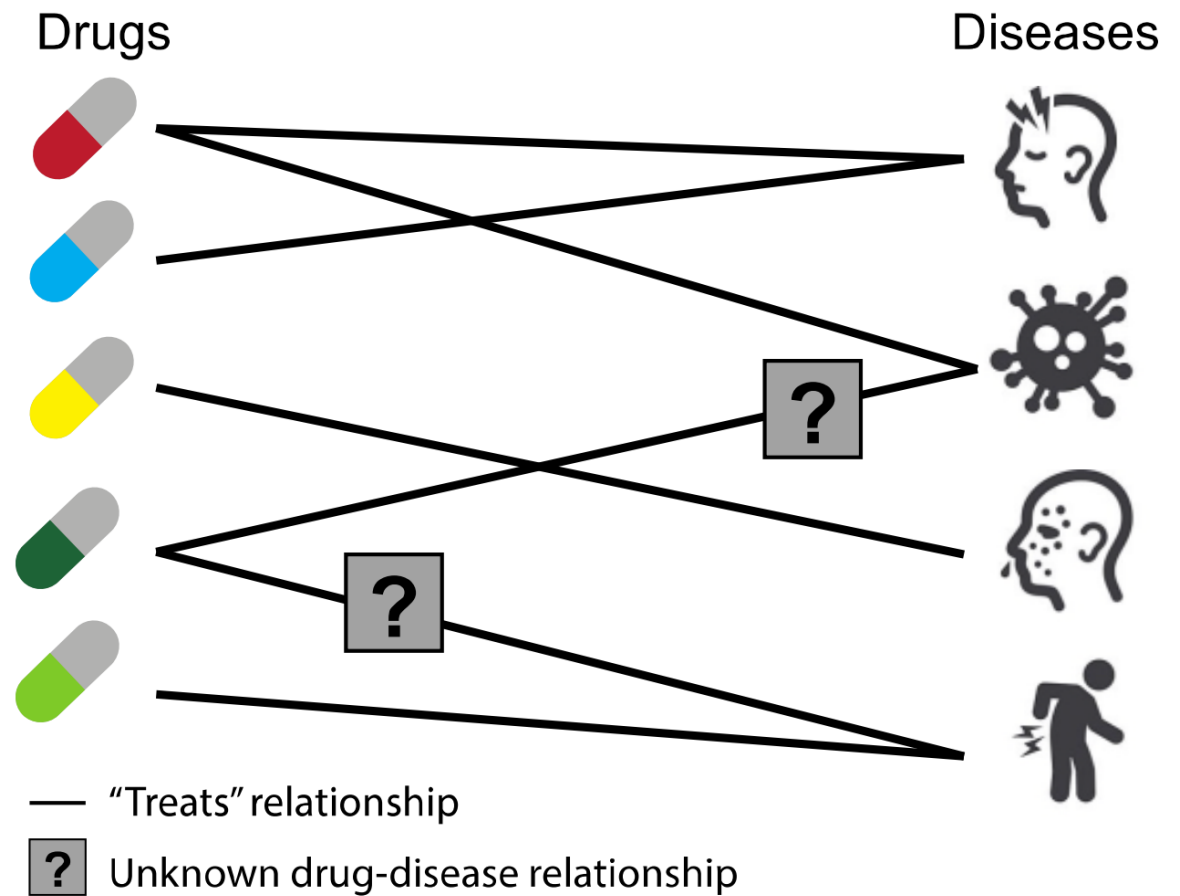
Assign a function to proteins in the interactome



Source: Ganapathiraju et al. Nature 2016

Link prediction example

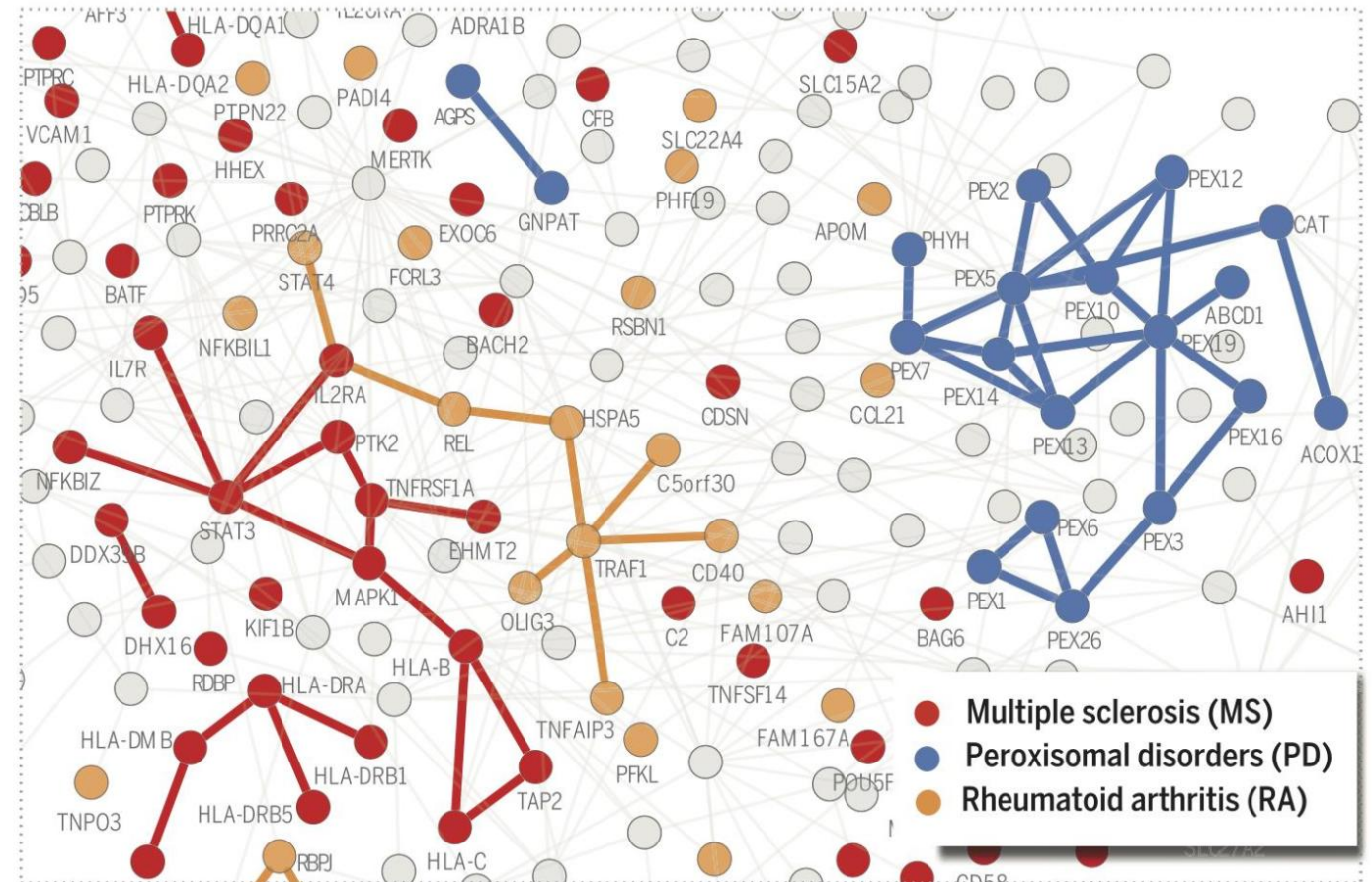
Predict which diseases
can be treated by a
new molecule



Source: Zitnik et al. 2020

Community prediction example

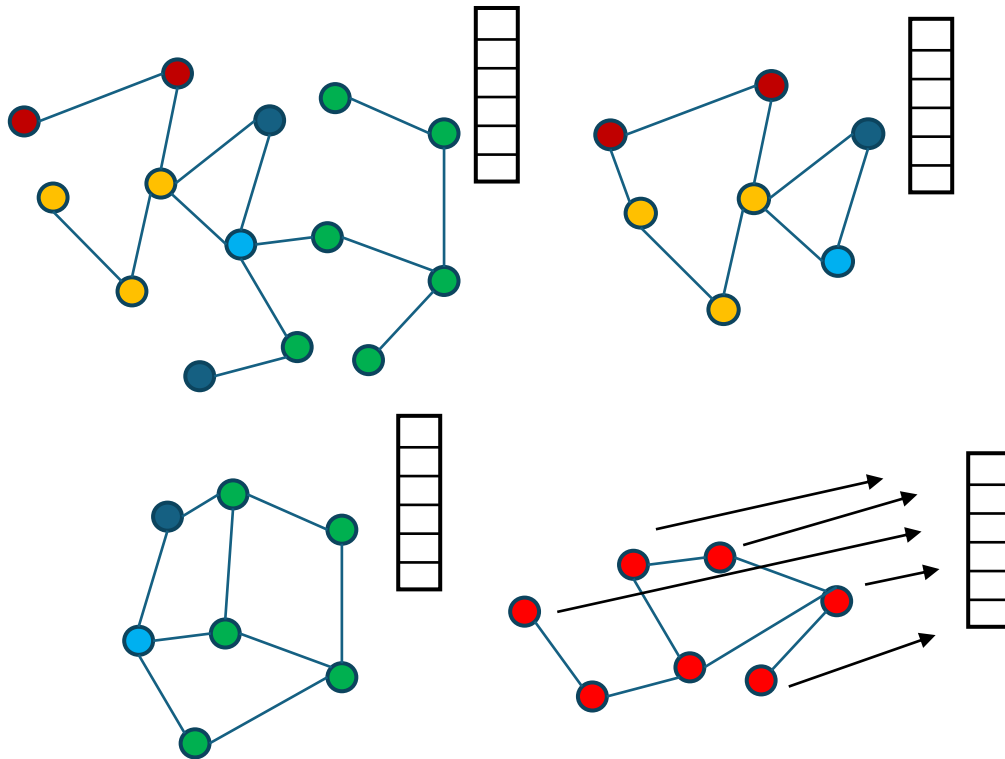
Identify disease proteins in the interactome



Source: Menche et al. Science, 2015

Predictive Tasks

Structure classification/regression



A dataset of i.i.d graphs

Graph classification

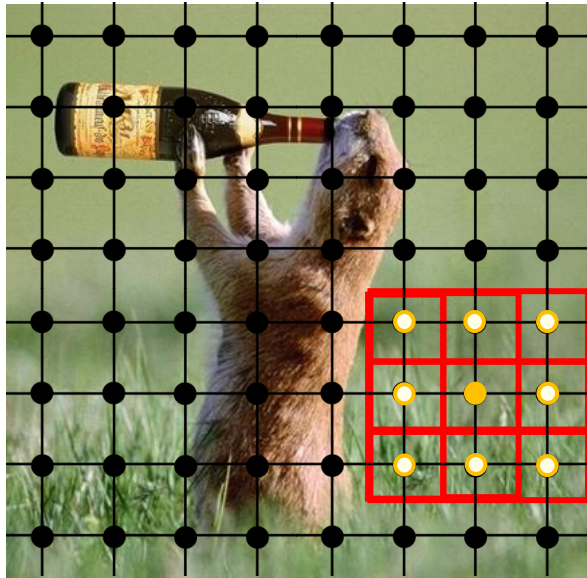
Assign whole structure to a specific class

Graph regression

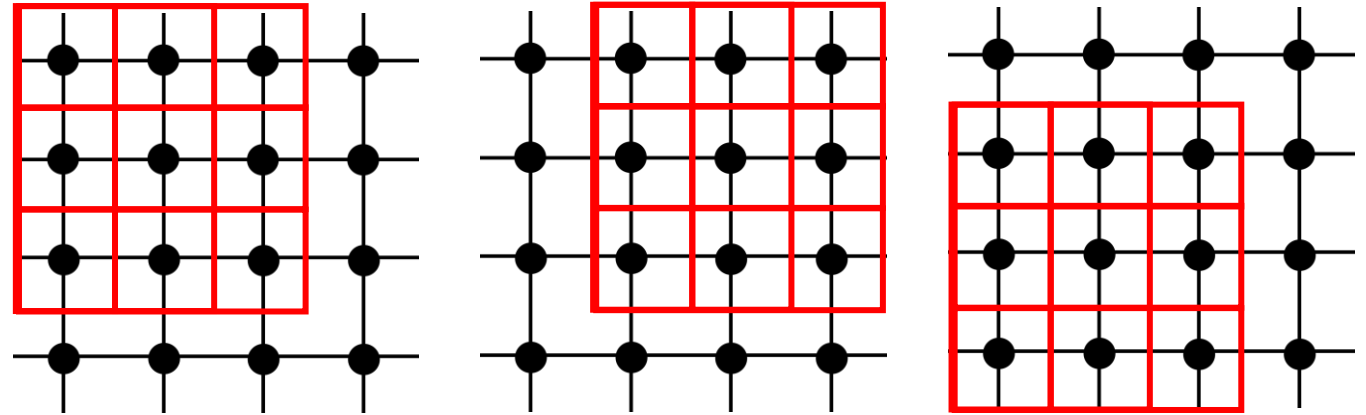
Regress a structure to a value (or a vector of values)

Deep graph networks

A Graph View on (Image) Convolutions



Visual convolutions are graph convolutions on a **regular grid**

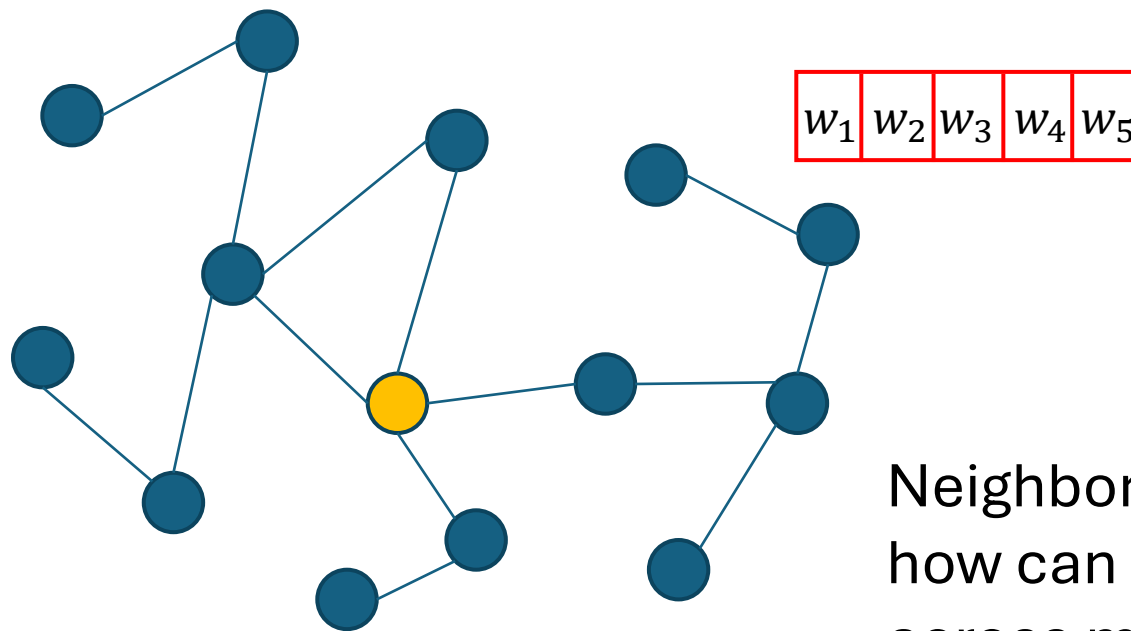


Plus some **key assumptions** which make it difficult to directly apply them to graphs

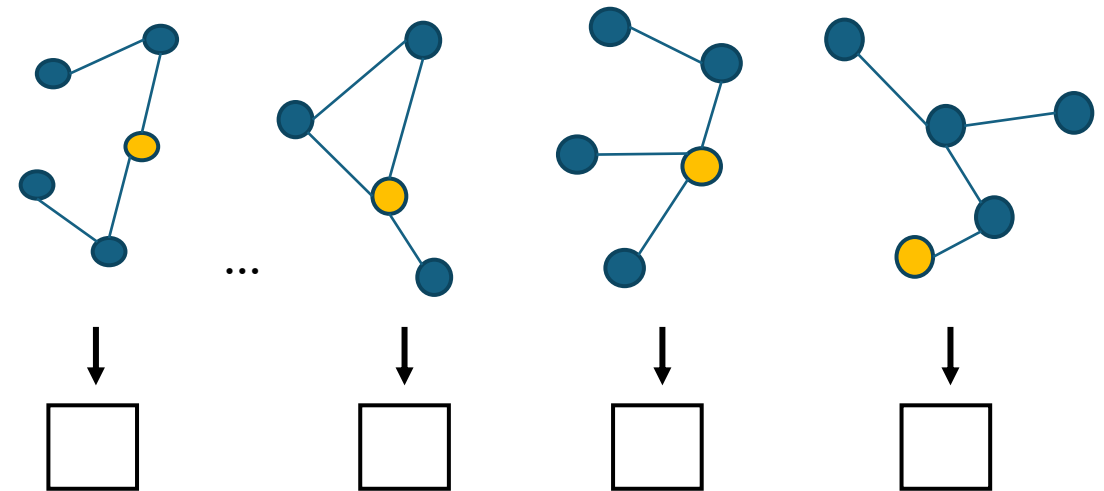
- ❖ Regular neighborhood
- ❖ Existence of a total node ordering

Node Neighborhoods

Example of 4-neighborhoods

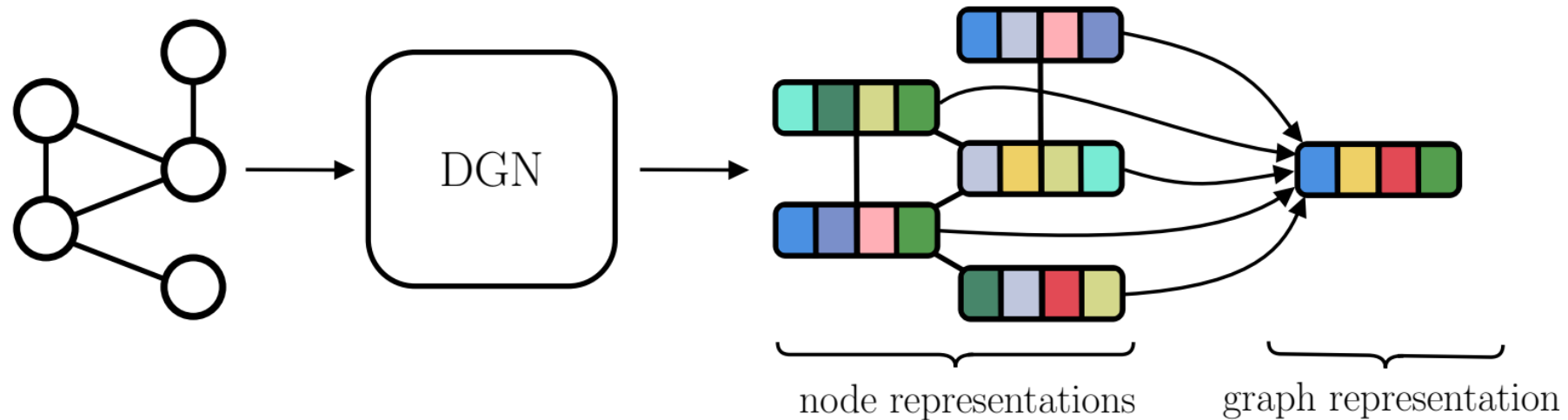


convolutions



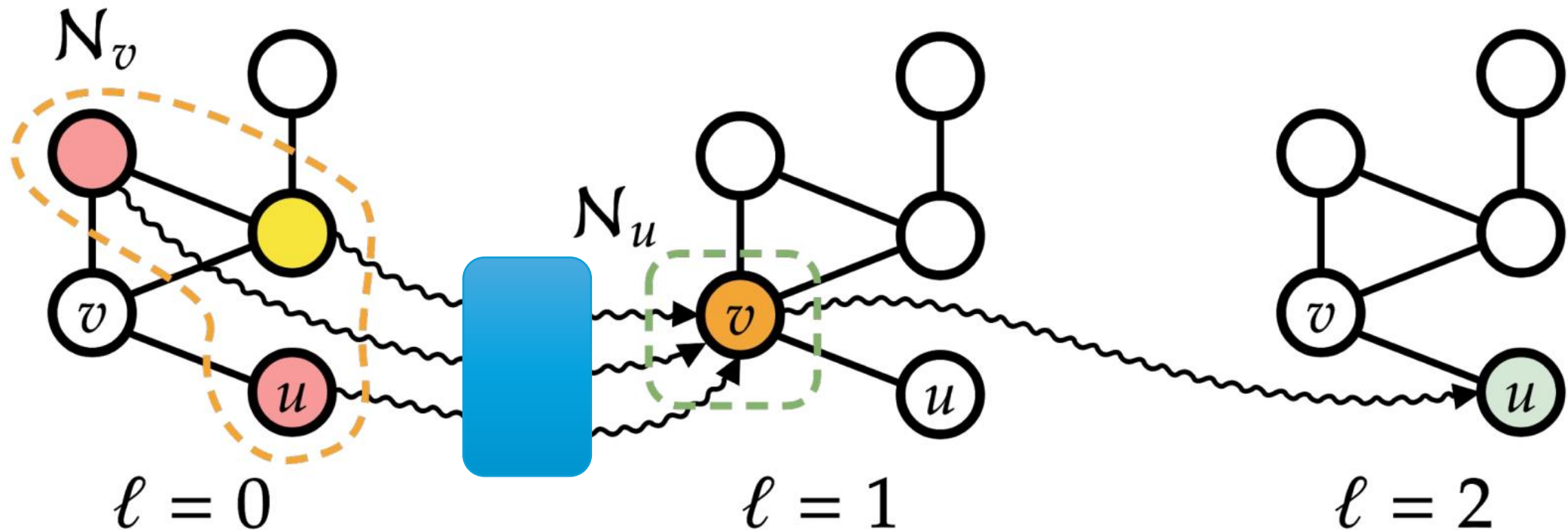
Neighborhoods **depend on node ordering**:
how can I get **coherent node ordering**
across multiple graphs?

Deep Graph Networks - The intuition



- ❖ Encode **vertices and the graph itself into a vector space** by means of an adaptive (learnable) mapping
- ❖ Use the learned encodings to solve **predictive, explorative or generative** tasks

Neighborhood Aggregation & Layering



What is inside of the Box?

A **learning model** of course (e.g. a neural network) including an aggregation function to **handle size-varying** neighborhoods



A simple model

$$\mathbf{h}_v^l = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_l \text{AGG}(\{\mathbf{h}_i^{l-1} : i \in N(v)\}), \widehat{\mathbf{W}}_l \mathbf{h}_v^{l-1})$$

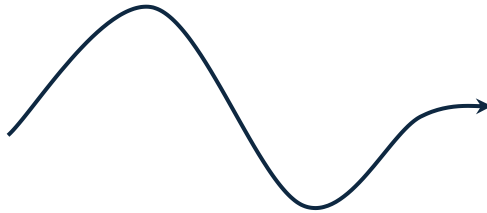
General Graph Convolutional Layer

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{h}_v^{\ell+1}}_{\text{state}} = \overbrace{\phi^{\ell+1}}^{\text{MLP/Linear}} \left(\underbrace{\mathbf{h}_v^\ell}_{\text{state}}, \underbrace{\Psi(\{\psi^{\ell+1}(\mathbf{h}_u^\ell) \mid u \in \mathcal{N}_v\})}_{\text{perm. invariant function}} \right)$$

perm. invariant function

Variants/extensions:

- Edge-aware convolution
- Attention over neighbors
- Laplacian-normalized



| Model | Neighborhood Aggregation $\mathbf{h}_v^{\ell+1}$ |
|----------------|---|
| NN4G [88] | $\sigma(\mathbf{w}^{\ell+1T} \mathbf{x}_v + \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} \sum_{c_k \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v^{c_k}} w_{c_k}^i \mathbf{h}_u^i)$ |
| GNN [104] | $\sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v} MLP^{\ell+1}(\mathbf{x}_u, \mathbf{x}_v, \mathbf{a}_{uv}, \mathbf{h}_u^\ell)$ |
| GraphESN [44] | $\sigma(\mathbf{W}^{\ell+1} \mathbf{x}_u + \hat{\mathbf{W}}^{\ell+1}[\mathbf{h}_{u_1}^\ell, \dots, \mathbf{h}_{u_{N_v}}^\ell])$ |
| GCN [72] | $\sigma(\mathbf{W}^{\ell+1} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \mathbf{L}_{vu} \mathbf{h}_u^\ell)$ |
| GAT [120] | $\sigma(\sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v} \alpha_{uv}^{\ell+1} * \mathbf{W}^{\ell+1} \mathbf{h}_u^\ell)$ |
| ECC [111] | $\sigma(\frac{1}{ \mathcal{N}_v } \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v} MLP^{\ell+1}(\mathbf{a}_{uv})^T \mathbf{h}_u^\ell)$ |
| R-GCN [105] | $\sigma(\sum_{c_k \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v^{c_k}} \frac{1}{ \mathcal{N}_v^{c_k} } \mathbf{W}_{c_k}^{\ell+1} \mathbf{h}_u^\ell + \mathbf{W}^{\ell+1} \mathbf{h}_v^\ell)$ |
| GraphSAGE [54] | $\sigma(\mathbf{W}^{\ell+1}(\frac{1}{ \mathcal{N}_v }[\mathbf{h}_v^\ell, \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v} \mathbf{h}_u^\ell]))$ |
| CGMM [3] | $\sum_{i=0}^{\ell} w^i * (\sum_{c_k \in \mathcal{C}} w_{c_k}^i * (\frac{1}{ \mathcal{N}_v^{c_k} } \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v^{c_k}} \mathbf{h}_u^i))$ |
| GIN [131] | $MLP^{\ell+1}((1 + \epsilon^{\ell+1})\mathbf{h}_v^\ell + \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}_v} \mathbf{h}_u^\ell)$ |

A Message-Passing view on Deep Graph Networks

Algorithm 13.1: Simple message-passing neural network

Input: Undirected graph $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$
Initial node embeddings $\{\mathbf{h}_n^{(0)} = \mathbf{x}_n\}$
Aggregate(\cdot) function
Update(\cdot, \cdot) function
Output: Final node embeddings $\{\mathbf{h}_n^{(L)}\}$

```
// Iterative message-passing
for  $l \in \{0, \dots, L - 1\}$  do
     $\mathbf{z}_n^{(l)} \leftarrow \text{Aggregate} \left( \left\{ \mathbf{h}_m^{(l)} : m \in \mathcal{N}(n) \right\} \right)$ 
     $\mathbf{h}_n^{(l+1)} \leftarrow \text{Update} \left( \mathbf{h}_n^{(l)}, \mathbf{z}_n^{(l)} \right)$ 
end for
return  $\{\mathbf{h}_n^{(L)}\}$ 
```

Graph Isomorphism Network

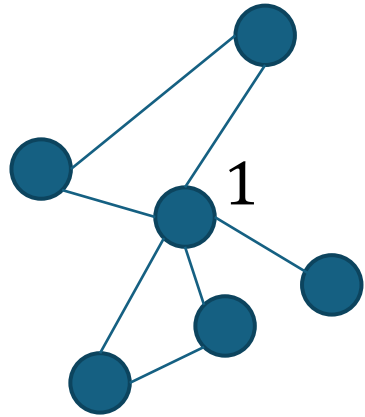
Xu et al, ICLR 2019

- ❖ A study of GNN expressivity
- ❖ Choice of aggregation functions influences what structures can be recognized
- ❖ Propose a simple aggregation and concatenation model

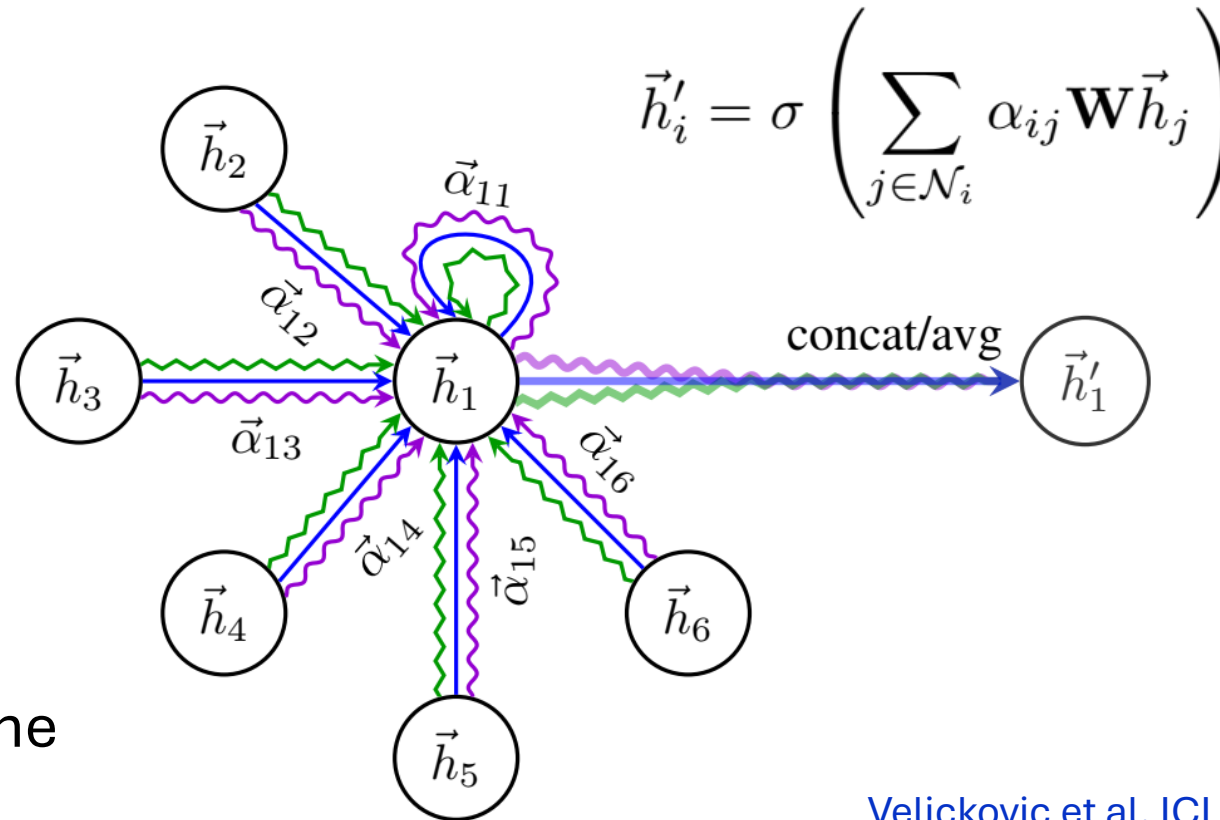
$$h_v^{(k)} = \text{MLP}^{(k)} \left((1 + \epsilon^{(k)}) \cdot h_v^{(k-1)} + \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} h_u^{(k-1)} \right)$$

$$h_G = \text{CONCAT}(\text{READOUT}(\{h_v^{(k)} | v \in G\}) | k = 0, 1, \dots, K)$$

Graph Attention



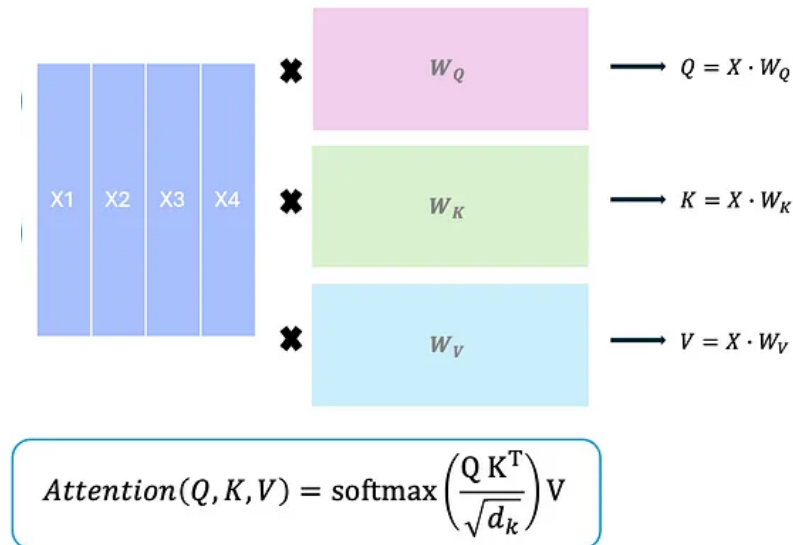
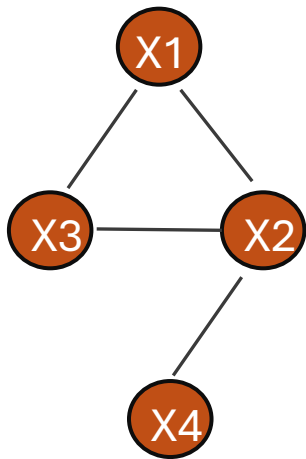
Learning to **weight contribution** of other nodes when aggregating to form the node embedding



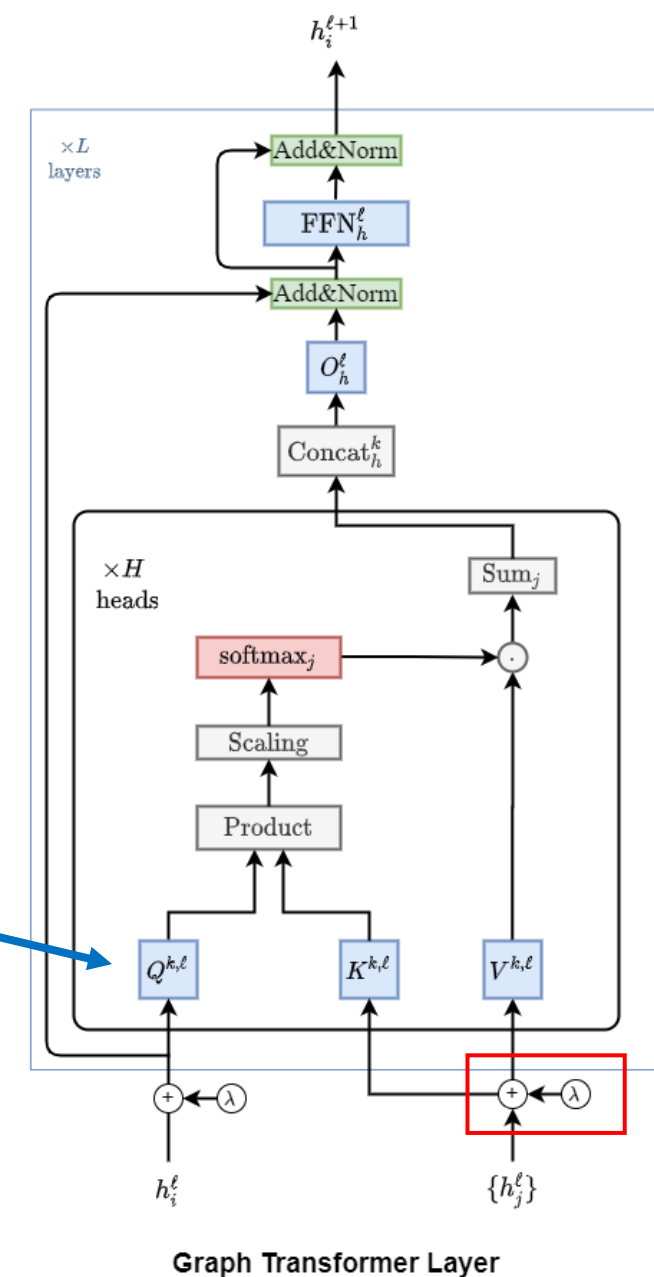
Velickovic et al, ICLR 2018

Global Graph Attention

A direct generalization of transformer attention from sequence tokens to nodes



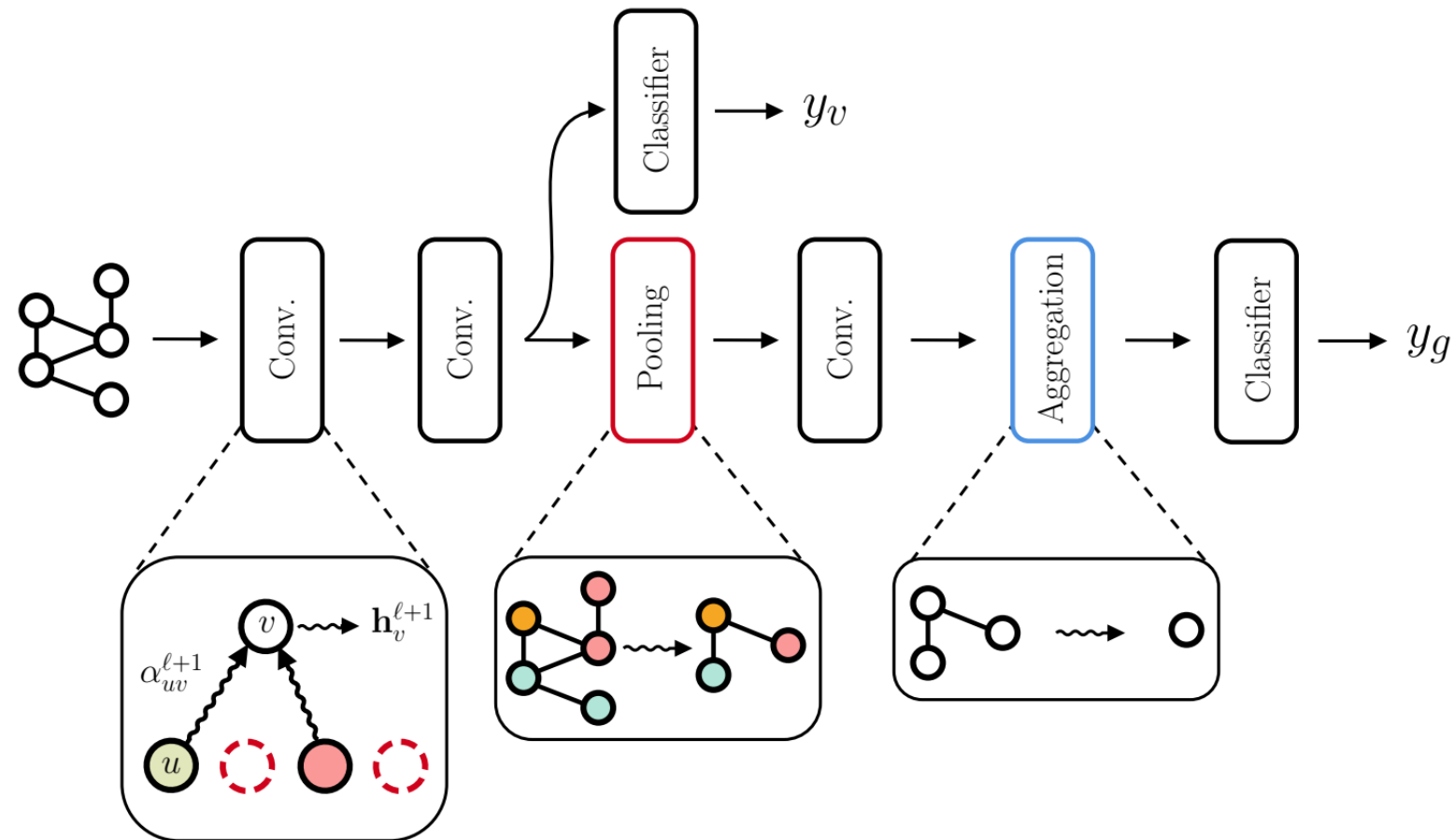
Img adapted from [Medium](#)



Dwivedi &
Bresson, AAAI-
WS 2021

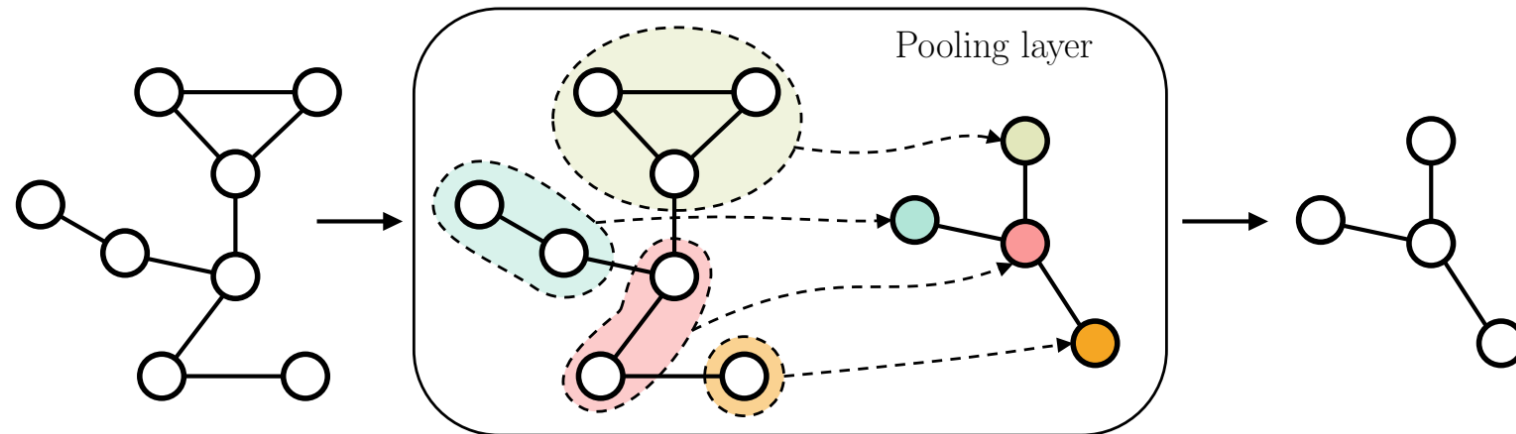
positional
encodings
need to be
used to
reintroduce
structural bias

Deep Graph Networks - The Complete Picture

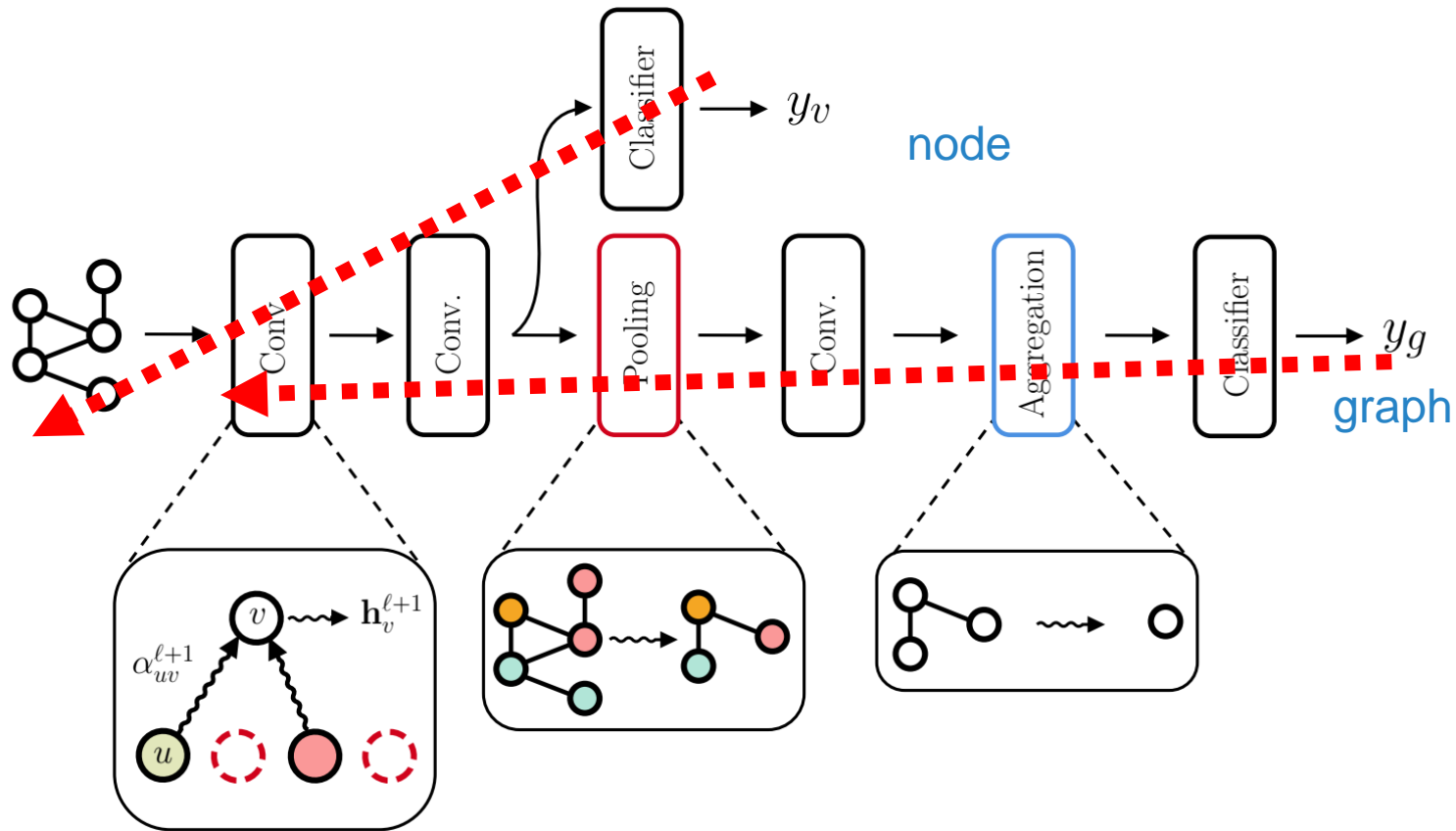


What About Pooling?

- ❖ Standard aggregation operates of **predefined node subsets**
- ❖ Ignore **community/hierarchical structure** in the graph
- ❖ Need graph coarsening (pooling) operators
 - ❖ Differentiable [Rex Ying et al, NIPS 2018](#)
 - ❖ Graph theoretical [Bacciu et al, AAAI 2023](#)
 - ❖ Graph signature



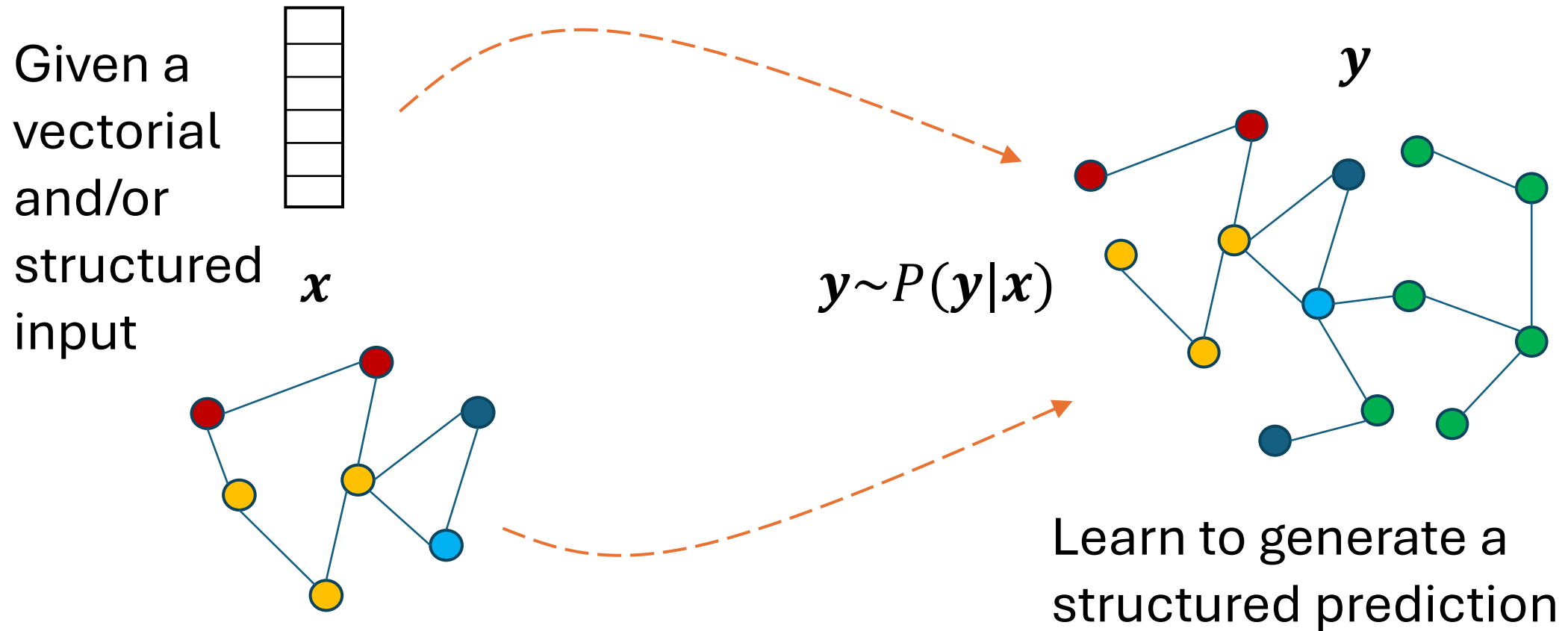
Training



Backpropagate from the (graph or node level) error computed from the **top layer embeddings** to the early layers

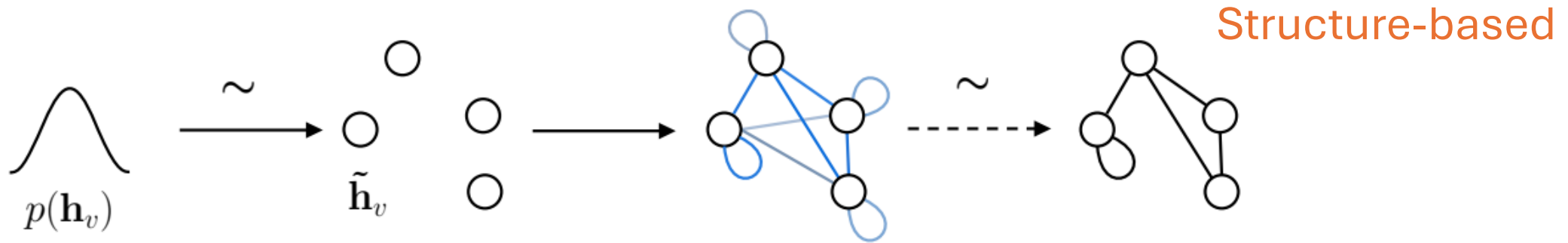
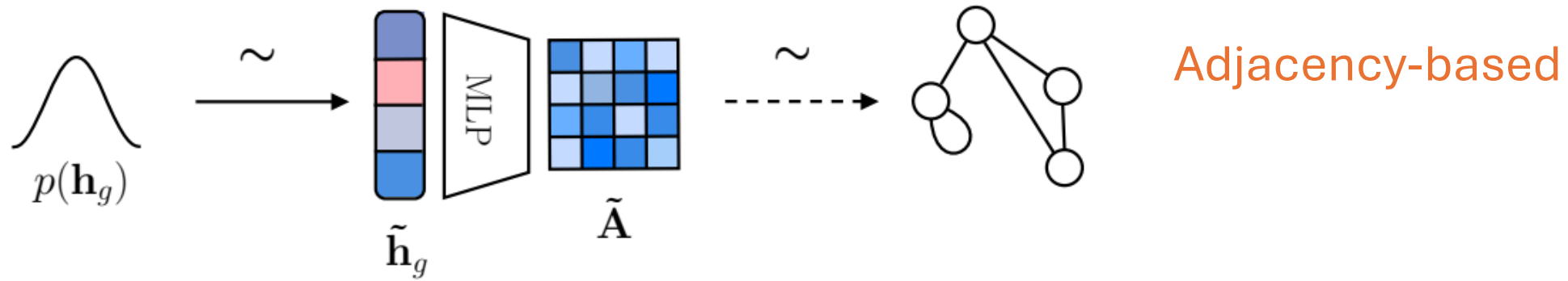
Beyond Graph Prediction

Transductive tasks

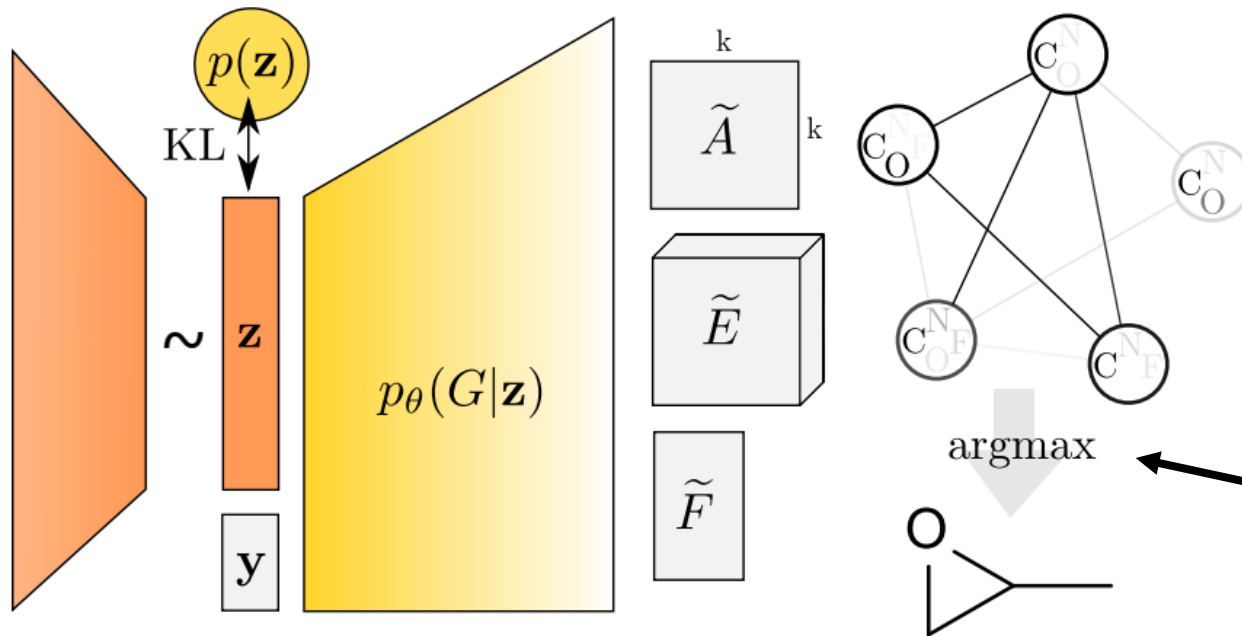


Graph Generation

Generate a **prediction** that is **itself a graph**



Graph Autoencoder

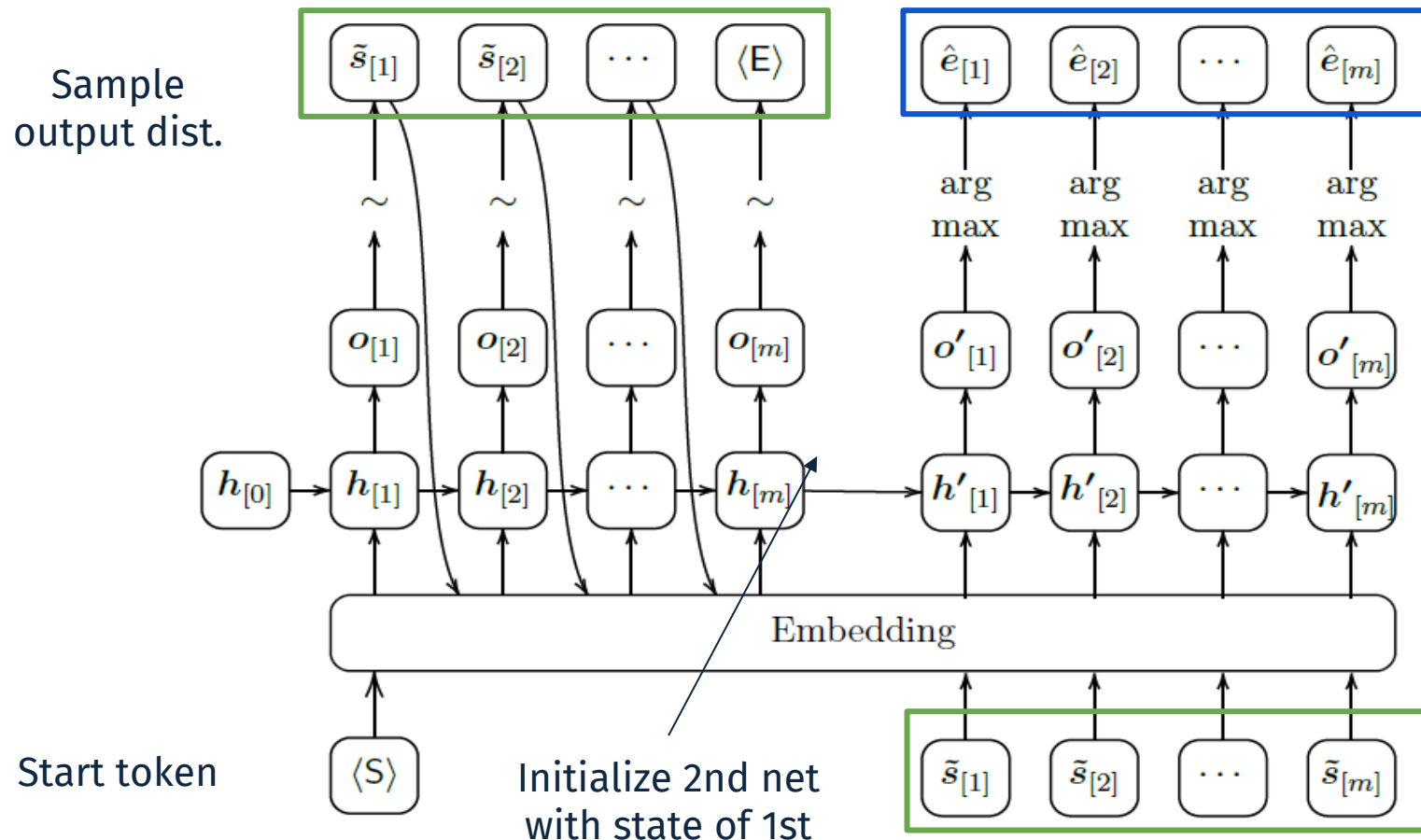


GraphVAE generates adjacency matrix up to k vertices along with the relevant edge/node features (for molecular data)

Argmax a.k.a. sampling \Rightarrow non-differentiable

Simonovsky, Komodakis, ICLR-WS 2018

Language-Based Graph Generation

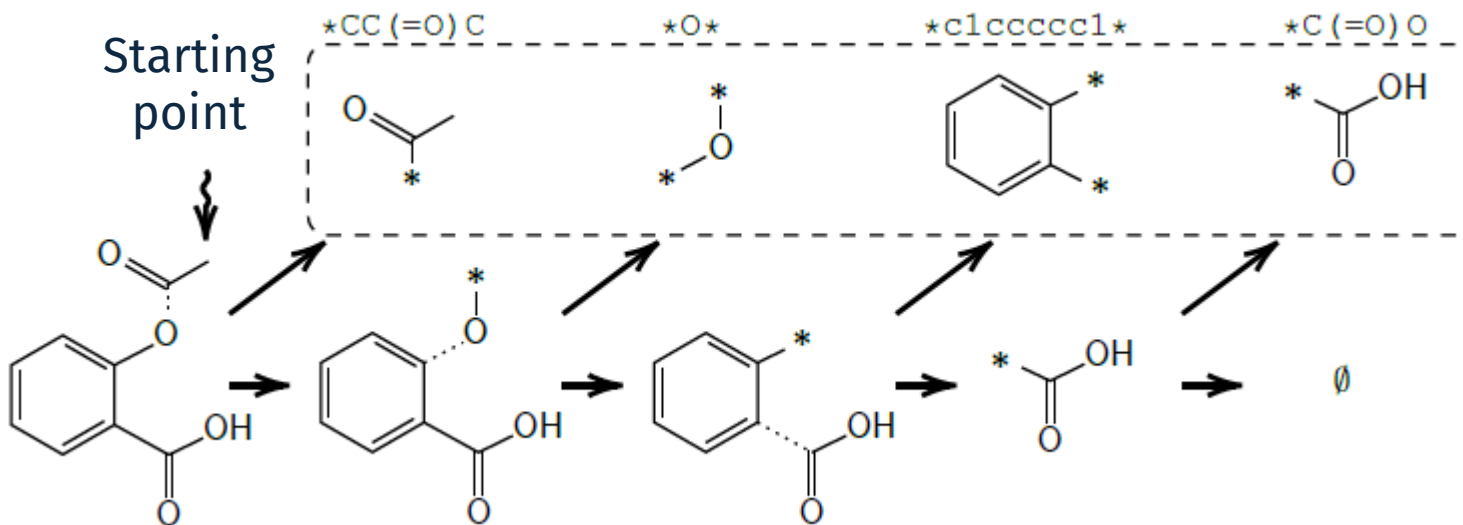


Generate a graph node-by-node and edge-by-edge through a language model

Bacciu et al,
Neurocomputing
2020

Generate Molecules by Fragmentation

- ✓ Molecule is scanned in SMILES order
- ✓ Find first breakable bond
- ✓ Break the molecule at that bond, set aside leftmost fragment
- ✓ Proceed recursively on rightmost fragment

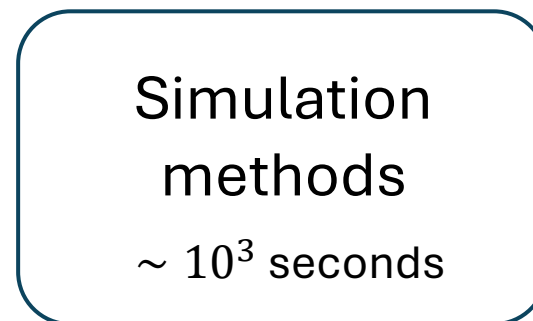
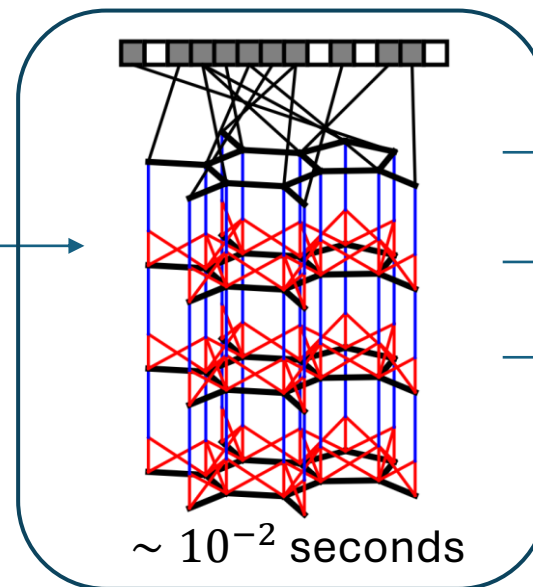
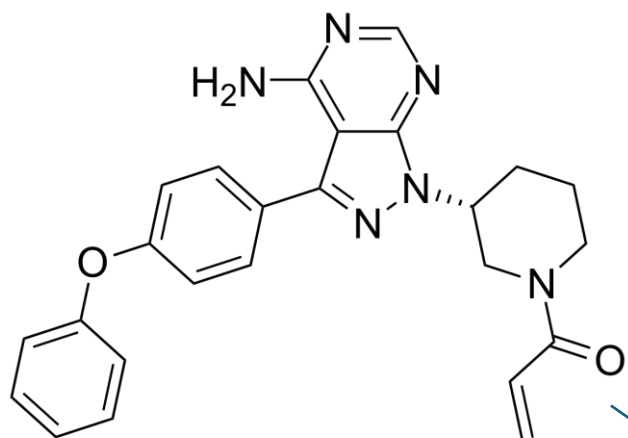


- ✓ Order is **deterministic** and the molecule can be reconstructed
- ✓ Keep a **vocabulary of all possible fragments** found in a dataset
- ✓ Graphs are transformed into **fragment sequences**

Podda et al, AISTATS 2020

Application cases

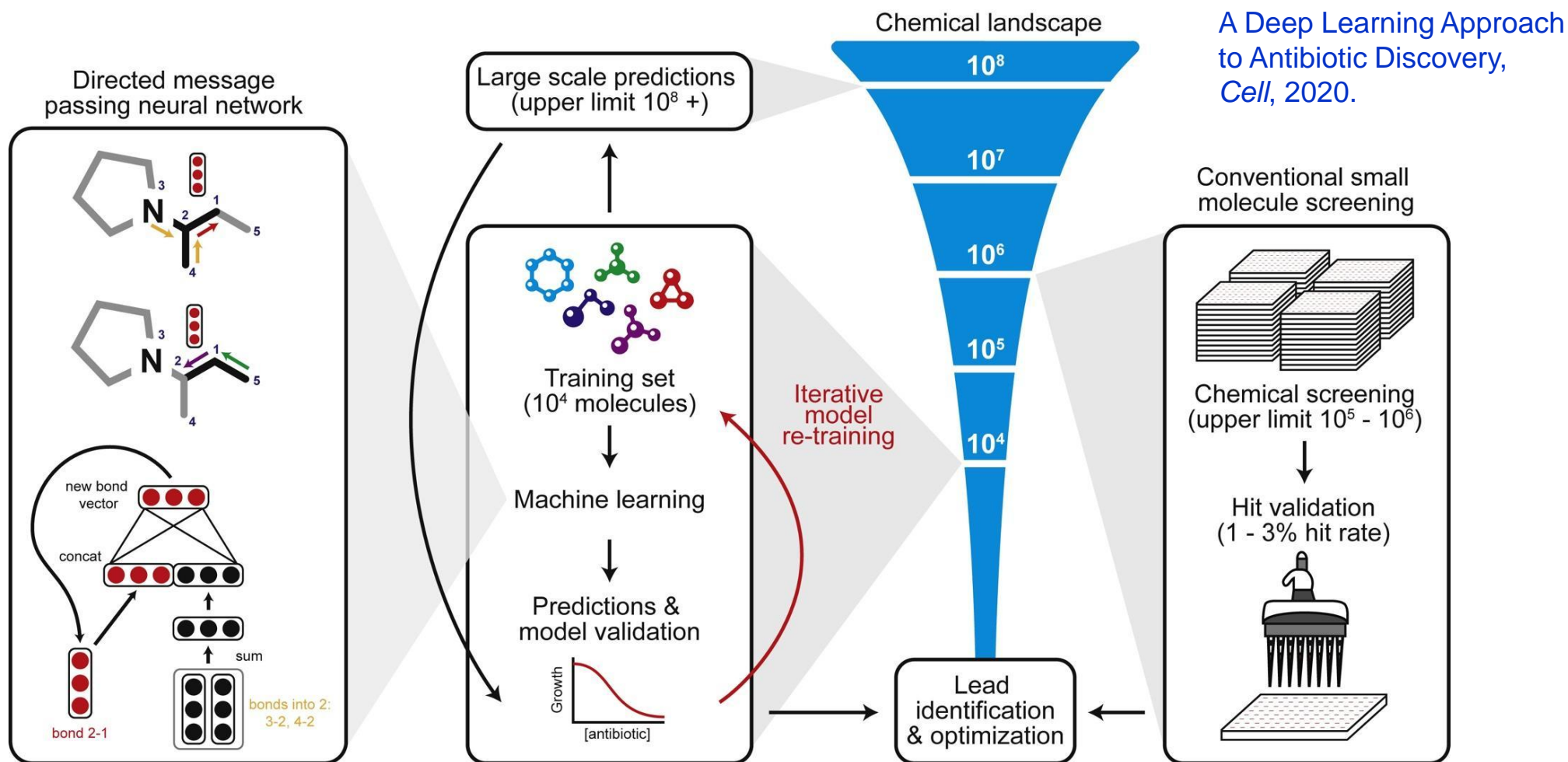
Predicting Properties of Chemical Compounds



Toxicity
Solubility
Quantum mechanical properties

Gilmer et al, ICML 2017

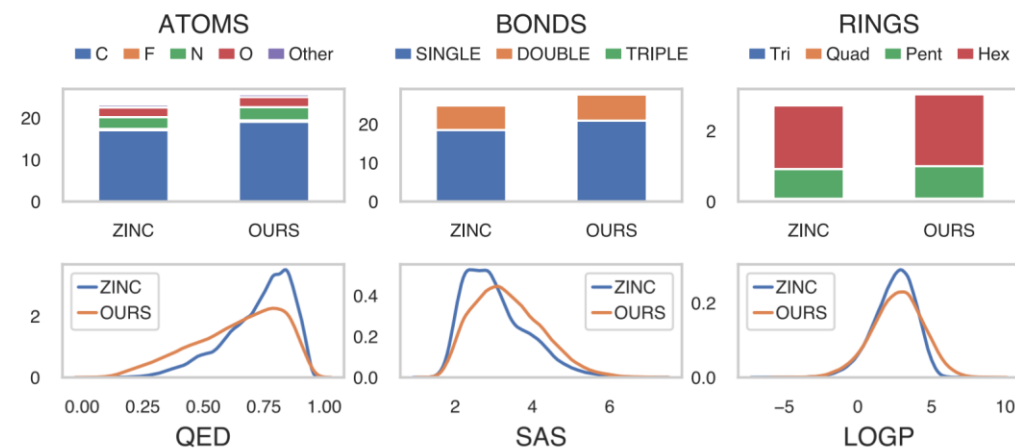
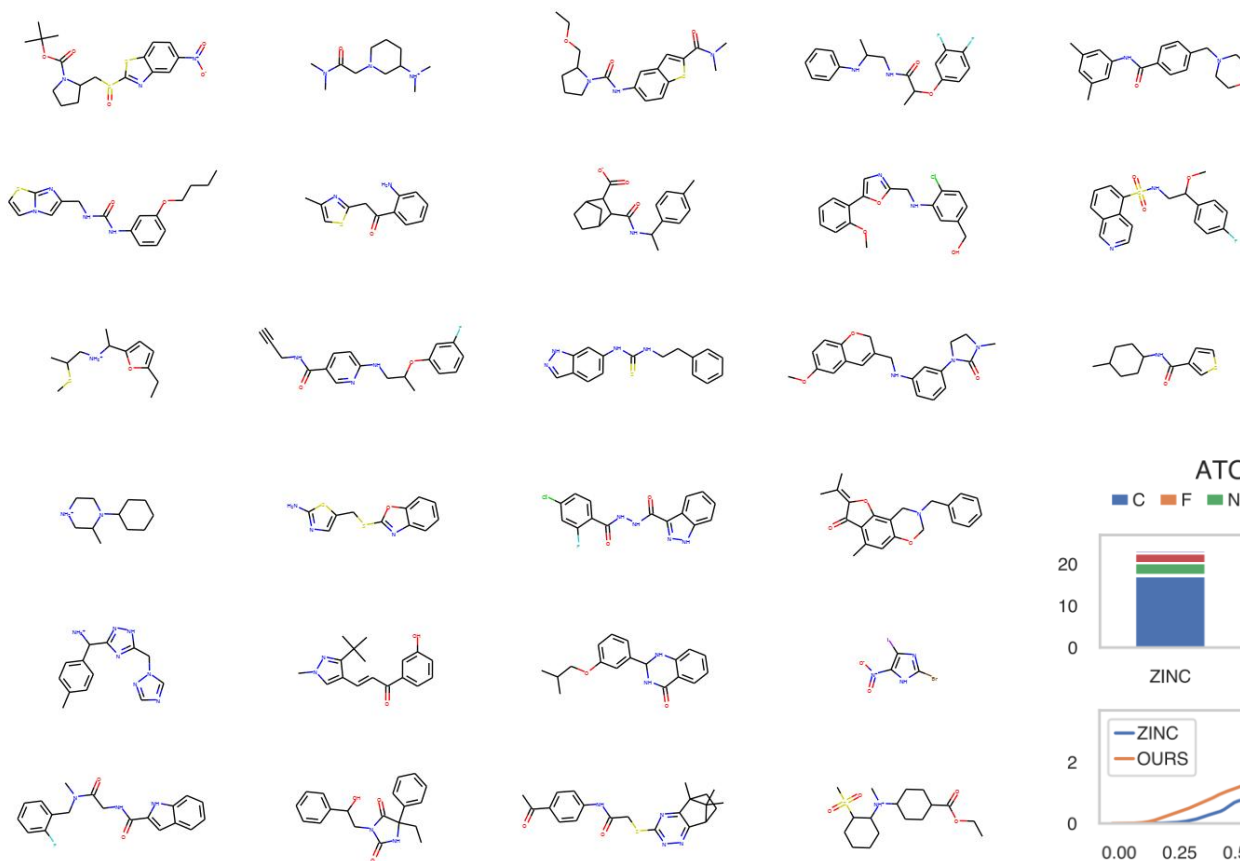
A molecular discovery pipeline



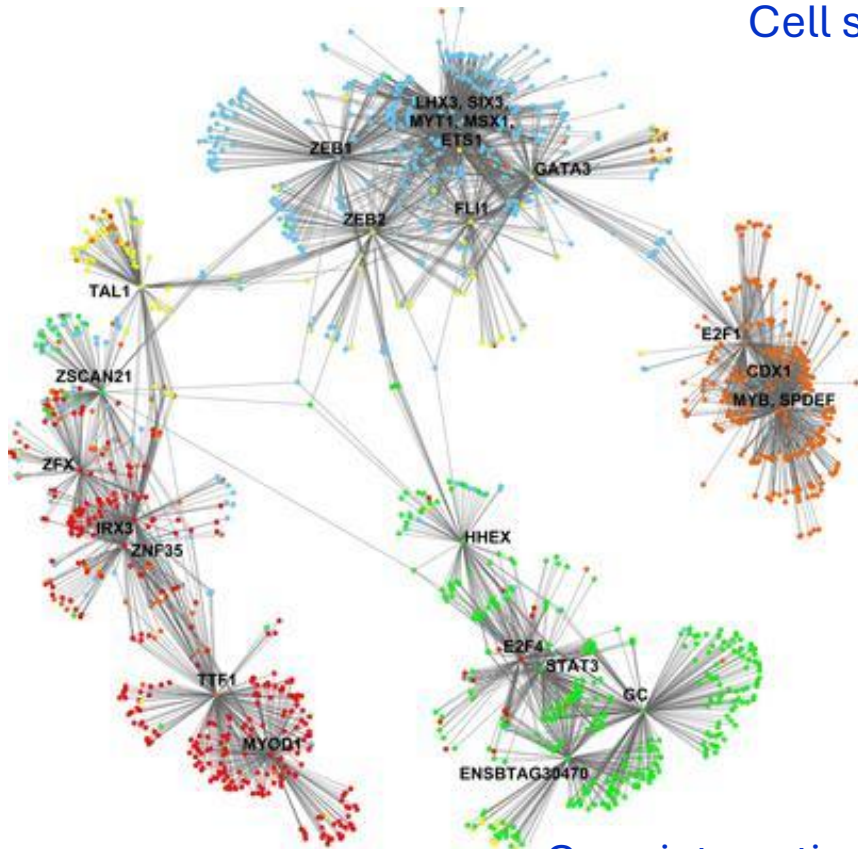
Generating Molecules

Podda, Bacciu, Micheli, AISTATS
2020

Fragment-based
deep molecule
generation

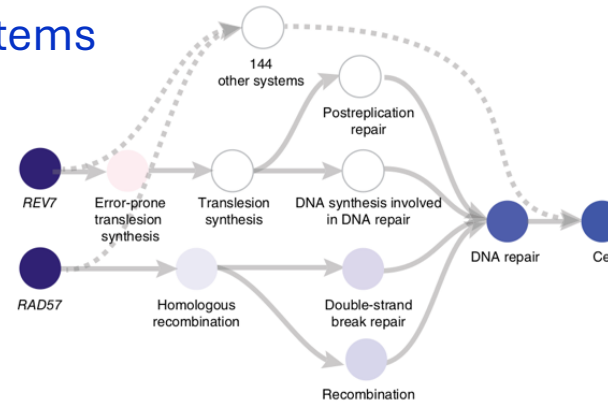


Graphs/Networks are everywhere

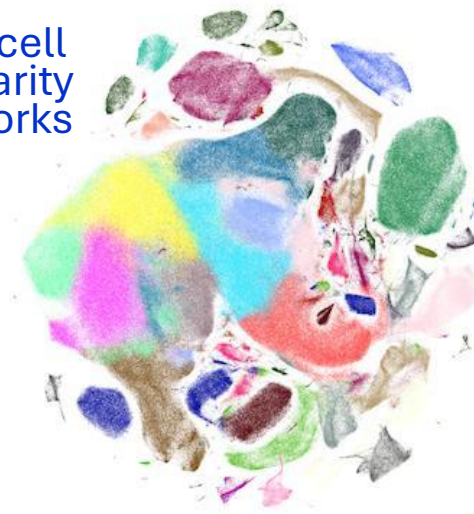


Gene interaction networks

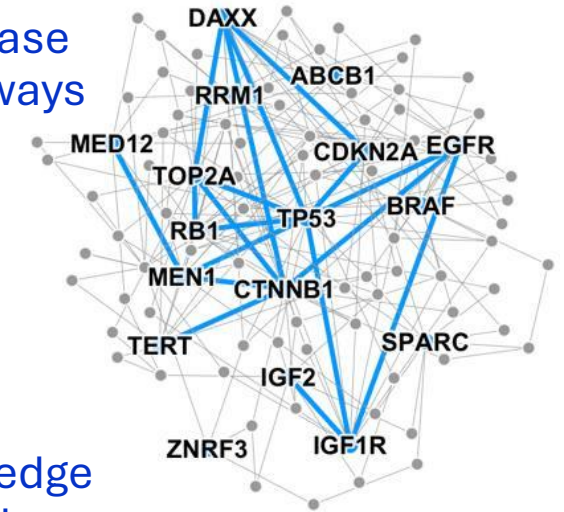
Cell systems



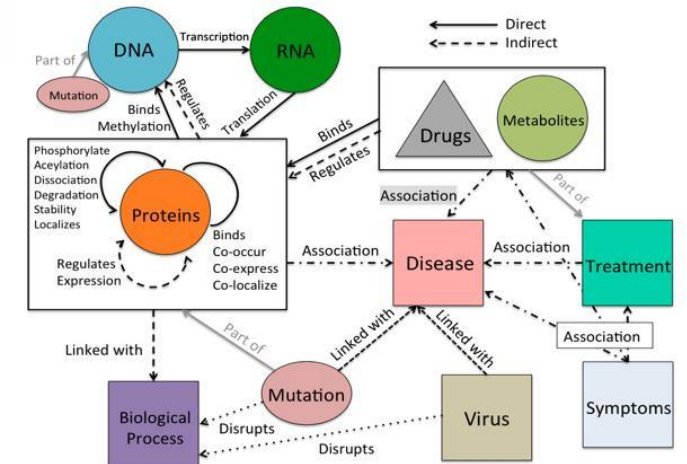
Cell-cell similarity networks



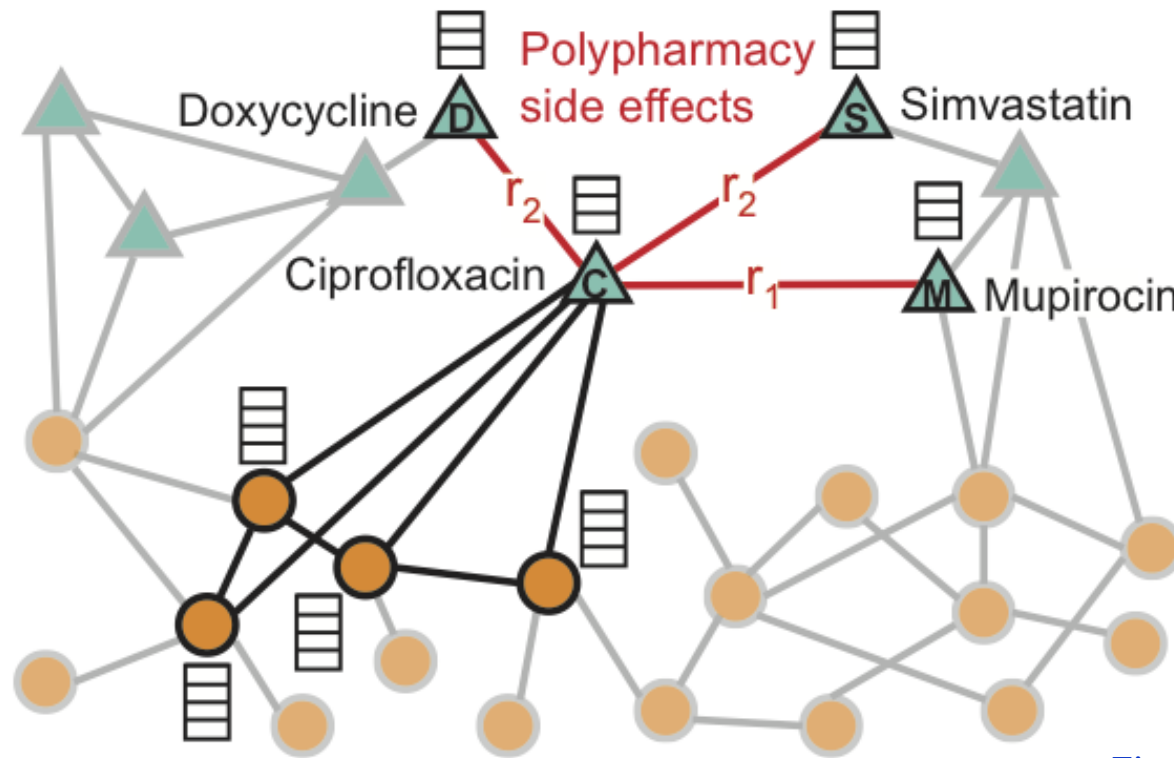
Disease pathways



Knowledge graphs



Side Effects of Drug Combinations

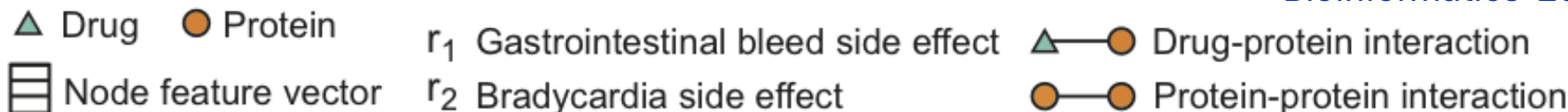


Analyzing a multimodal graph of interactions

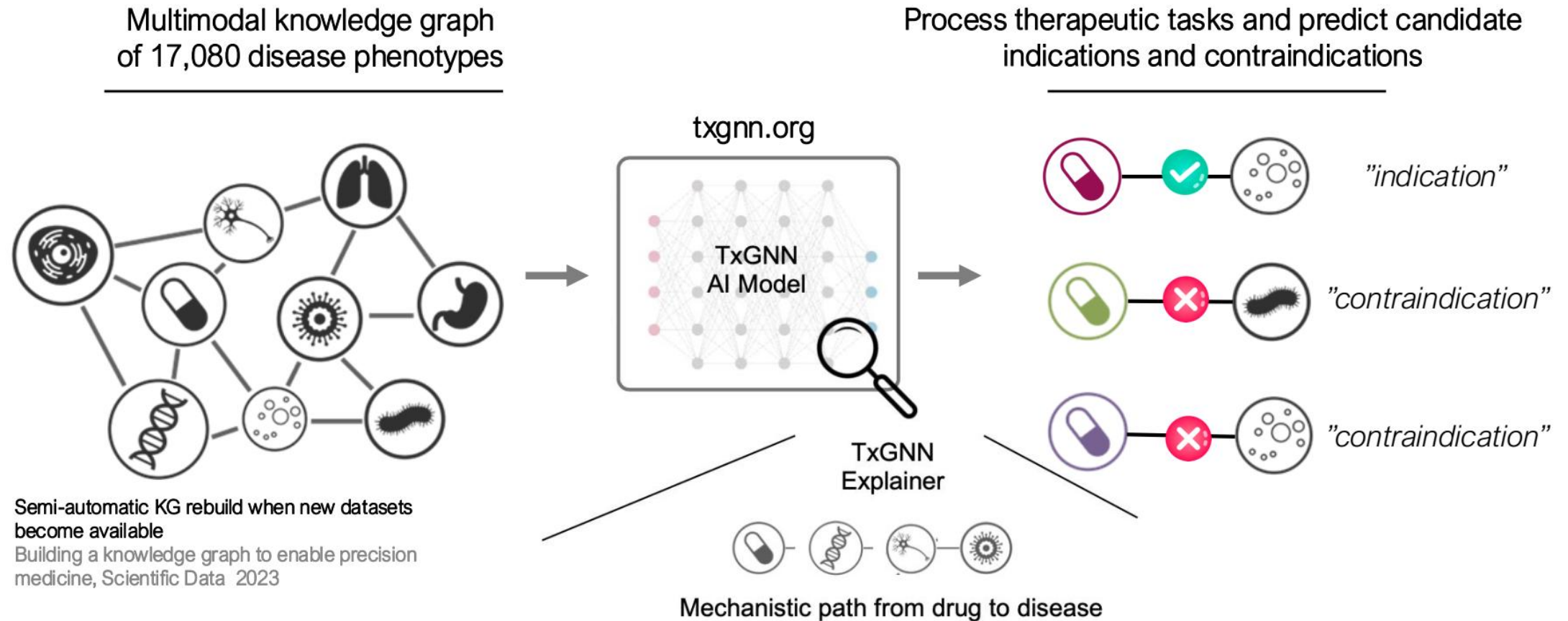
- Drug-drug
- Drug-protein
- Protein-protein

Molecular, drug, and patient data for all US-approved drugs (5M edges)

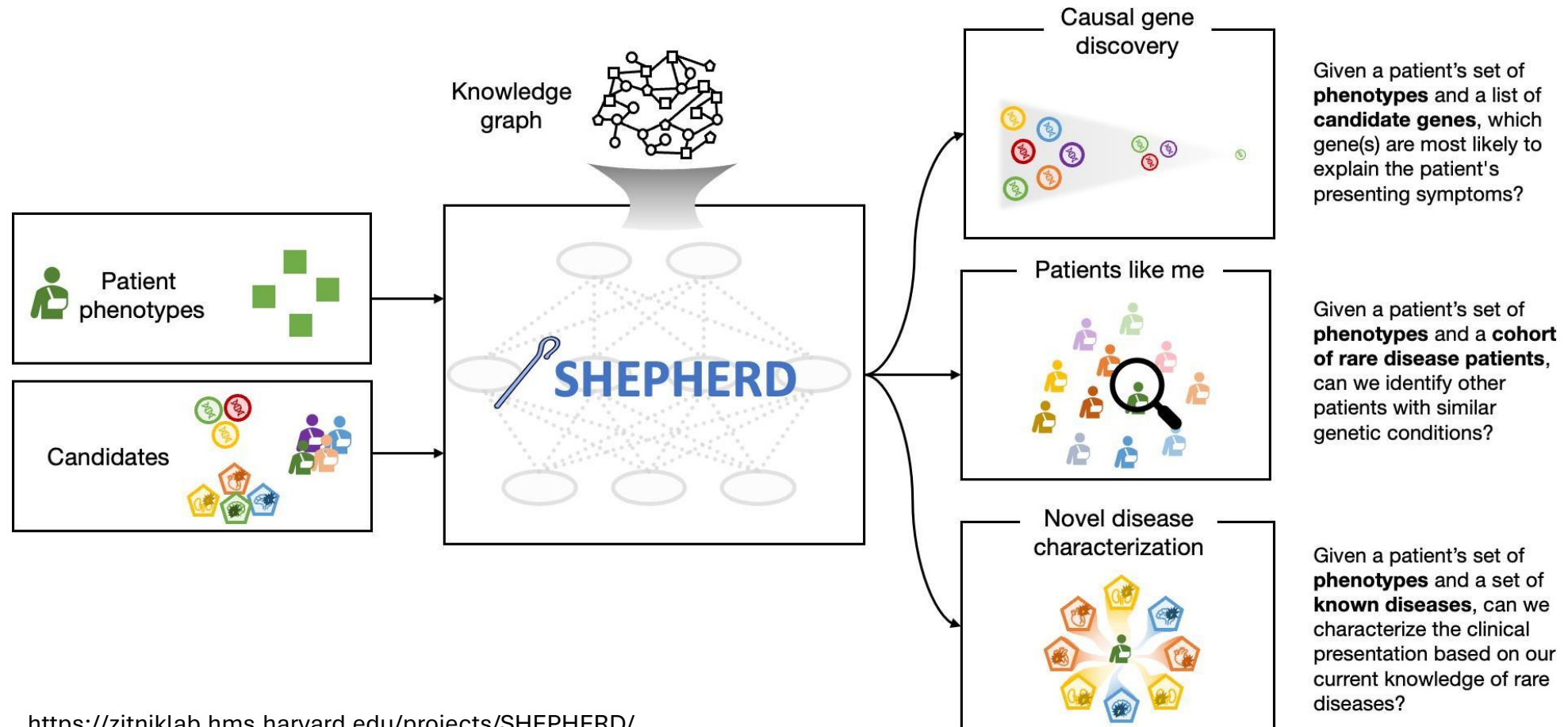
Zitnik, Agrawal, Leskovec,
Bioinformatics 2018



Drug Repurposing

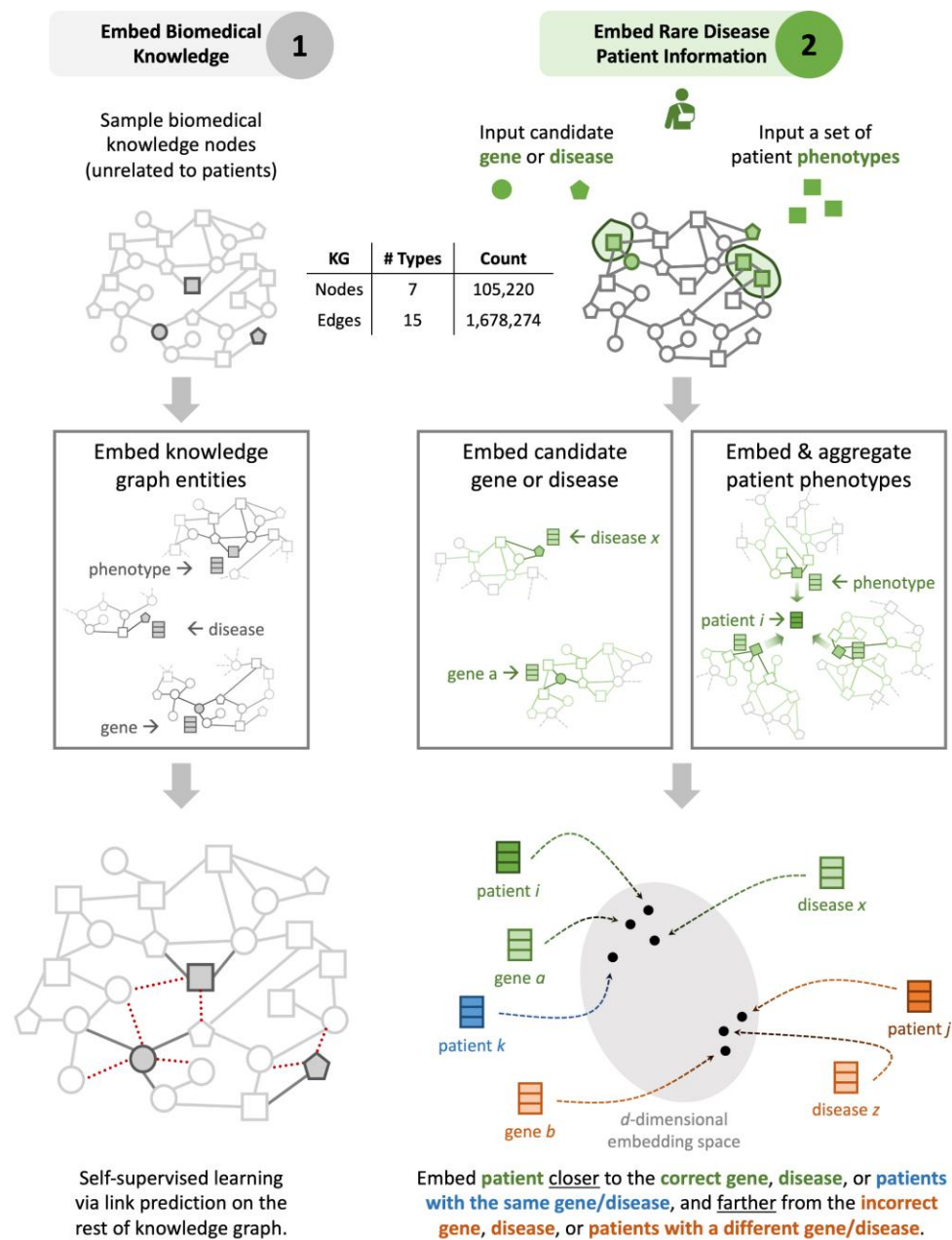


Knowledge-Based rare disease diagnosis



<https://zitniklab.hms.harvard.edu/projects/SHEPHERD/>

SHEPERD – Graph processing pipeline



Software

You can find most of the foundational models in this lecture [implemented](#) here



DeepGraphLibrary

Structured Biobanks



includes 1.6M assays
covering 2.4M compounds



includes 31,467 bulk and
single-cell RNA-seq libraries



includes 20B interactions
between 59.3M proteins



includes 6M gene annotations
derived from 150K publications



includes 2,711 pathways
manually curated by PhDs



includes 17K FDA-approved
and experimental drugs



includes annotations for 192K
human genetic elements



includes 139K adverse
reactions for marketed drugs



includes 13K phenotypes and
156K disease annotations

Wrap-up

Take Home Lessons

- Deep learning for graphs is now a consolidated research area
 - DGNs as natural extensions of convolutional and recurrent architectures to graphs
 - A candidate AI model for the integration of symbolic knowledge, numerical data and reasoning
- First wave of works (now almost over?) focusing mainly on
 - Different ways of implementing message passing and aggregation on static graphs
 - Graph reductions and pooling
 - Expressivity properties associated with different aggregation functions
 - Efficiency and efficacy of context creation and propagation
- New wave of works focusing on
 - Dynamic graphs
 - DGNs as dynamical systems and their physical interpretation
 - Learning and aligning with (graph) algorithms
 - Oversmoothing, oversquashing and problems of the sort
- ...in other words, plenty of opportunities for thesis work!

Advertisement time

Learning on Graph course

- ❖ Coming up on Semester 1, Year 2027
- ❖ 6 CFU Elective of the AI curriculum (M.Sc. Computer Science)
- ❖ From foundations of learning on graphs to edge-of-research models

Next Lecture

- Graph Learning Laboratory
- Final lecture (exams and all)