# Higher order graph neural networks with P-tensors

Risi Kondor





Andrew Hands



Tianyi Sun



Richard Xu

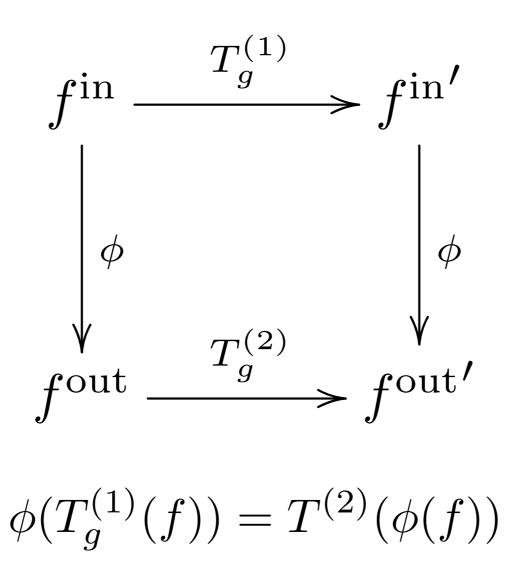


Qingqi Zhang

1. Why I like GNNs.

2. Why I don't like GNNs.

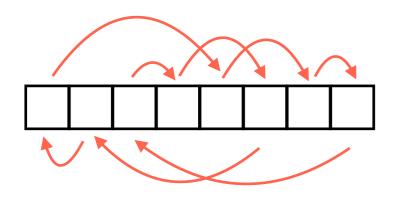
#### Equivariance

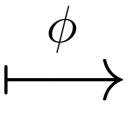


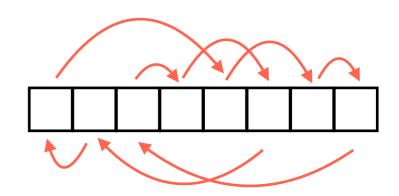
#### First order permutation equivariance

$$f \stackrel{\phi}{\longmapsto} f'$$

$$(f^{\sigma})' = (f')^{\sigma}$$







[Deep sets: Zaheer et al., 2017]

#### First order permutation equivariance

$$f_{i} \qquad \qquad \frac{\alpha_{1}}{n} \sum_{i} f_{i} \qquad \qquad \frac{\alpha_{2}}{n} \sum_{i} f'_{i}$$

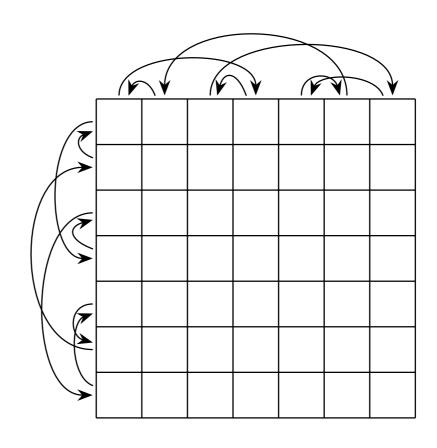
$$f_i' = \alpha_1 f_i + \alpha_2 \frac{1}{n} \sum_j f_j$$

[Deep sets: Zaheer et al., 2017]

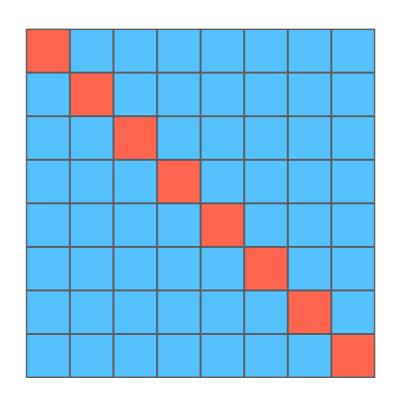
#### Second order permutation action

$$A \longmapsto A^{\sigma}$$

$$A_{i,j}^{\sigma} = A_{\sigma^{-1}(i),\sigma^{-1}(j)}$$



#### Second order permutation action



#### Orbit 1:

$$(i,i) \mapsto (\sigma(i),\sigma(i))$$

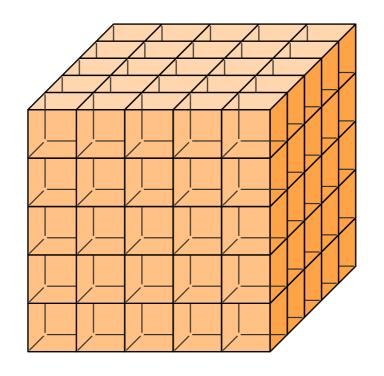
#### Orbit 2:

$$(i,j) \mapsto (\sigma(i),\sigma(j))$$

#### Second order permutation equivariance

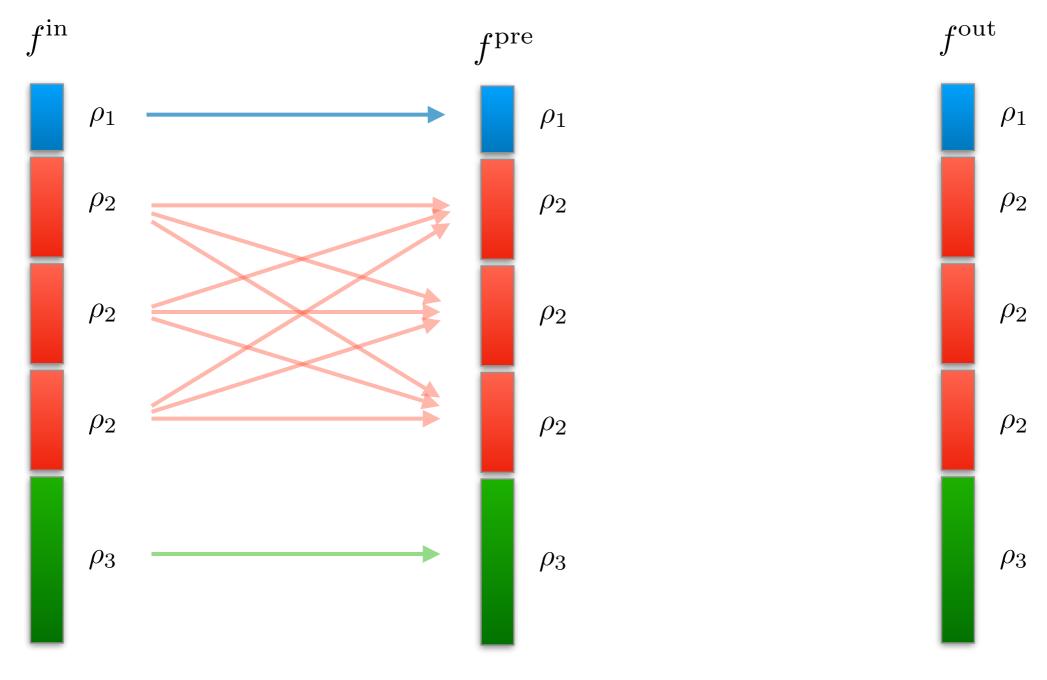
$$\frac{A_{i,i}}{\text{diag}(A)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i} A_{i,i} 
A_{i,j} 
A_{i$$

$$A'_{i,j} = \delta_{i,j} (\alpha_1 A_{i,j} + \alpha_2 \frac{1}{n} \sum_i A_{i,i}) + \alpha_3 (A_{i,j} + A_{j,i})/2 + \alpha_4 (A_{i,j} - A_{j,i})/2 + \alpha_5 \overline{A_{i,*}} + \alpha_6 \overline{A_{*,j}} + \alpha_7 \overline{A_{*,*}} + \dots$$



$$T \stackrel{\sigma}{\longmapsto} T'$$
  $[T']_{i_1,\dots,i_k} = [T]_{\sigma^{-1}(i_1),\dots,\sigma^{-1}(i_k)}.$ 

## Equivariant neuron



Learned equivariant *linear* transformation.

Fixed equivariant nonlinearity

### Representations of $\mathbb{S}_n$

#### The **permutation matrices**

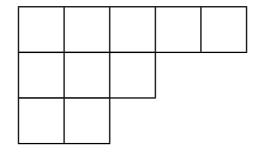
$$P_{i,j}^{\sigma} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma(j) = i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

form a representation  $ho_{\mathrm{def}}$  of  $\mathbb{S}_n$  .

Is it reducible? No!

#### Young diagrams

A **Young diagram** (Ferrers diagram) of size n is a diagram of n boxes arranged in k left-justified rows so that no row is longer than the one above it, e.g.,



A Young diagram is really just the pictorial representation of an **integer partion**, i.e., a sequence  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, ..., \lambda_k)$  such that  $\sum_i \lambda_i = n$ .

#### Young diagrams

The Young diagrams (integer partitions) of n are in bijection with the irreducible representations of  $\mathbb{S}_n$ .

For example, the irreps of  $S_5$ are indexed by:

#### Young tableaux

A **standard Young tableau** is a Young diagram filled with the numbers  $\{1,2,...,n\}$  in such a way that in each row the numbers increase left to right and in each column they increase top to bottom.

For example,

$\boxed{1}$	2	4	6	$\boxed{7}$
3	5	8		
9				

is a standard Young tableau of shape  $\lambda = (5,3,1)$ .

The rows and columns of the irrep  $\rho_{\lambda}$  are in bijection with the standard Young tableaux of shape  $\lambda$ .

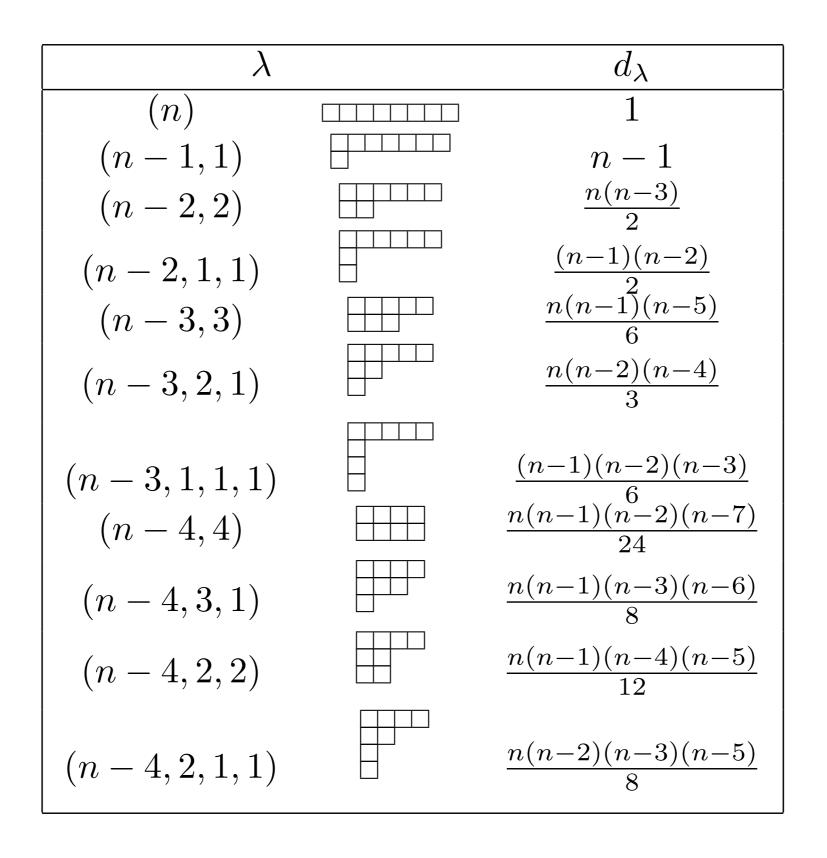
#### Young's orthogonal representation (YOR)

Defined in terms of adjacent transpositions  $\tau_i=(i,i+1)$ , which act naturally on Young tableaux by swapping i and i+1 (if legal). The matrix elements are given explicitly as:

$$[\rho_{\lambda}(\tau_i)]_{t',t} = \begin{cases} 1/d_t(i,i+1) & \text{if } t = t' \\ \sqrt{1 - 1/d_t(i,i+1)^2} & \text{if } t' = \tau_i(t) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $d_t$  is the North-Easterly distance from i to i+1.

#### Sizes of the irreps

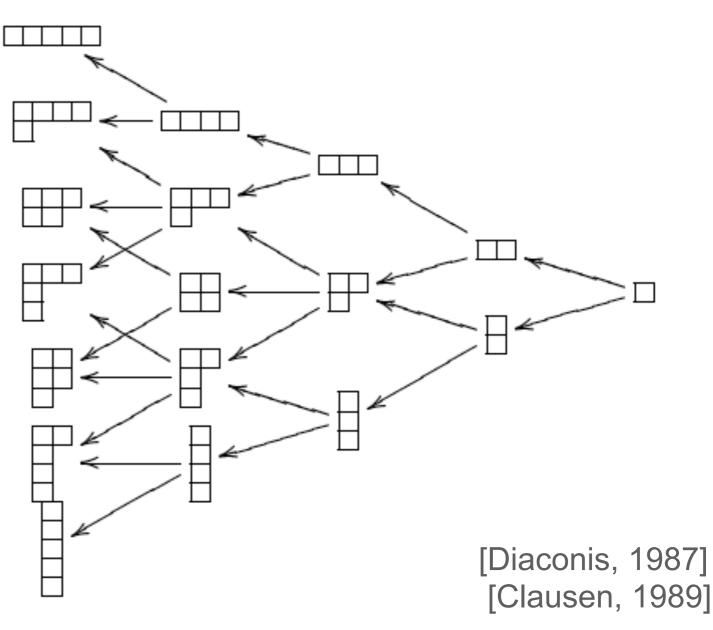


#### FFTs on the symmetric group

$$\widehat{f}(\rho) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathbb{S}_n} f(\sigma) \rho(\sigma)$$

$$f(\sigma) = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} d_{\lambda} \operatorname{tr} \big[ \widehat{f}(\lambda) \, \rho_{\lambda}(\sigma^{-1}) \big].$$

Clausen's FFT reduces the complexity of the FT and iFFT from  $O(n!^2)$  to  $O(n^3n!)$ .

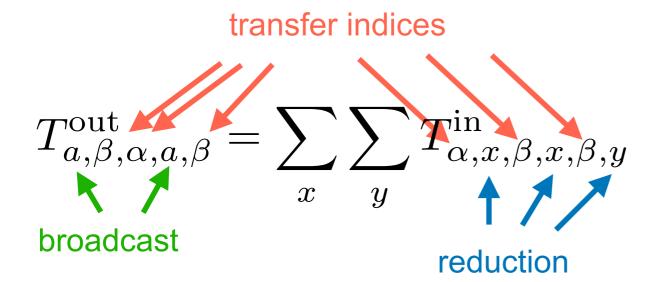


[Thiede, Hy & K, 2020]

C++/Python library: <a href="https://github.com/risi-kondor/Snob2">https://github.com/risi-kondor/Snob2</a>

Is this way to implement permutation equivariance in GNNs? No.

#### General result

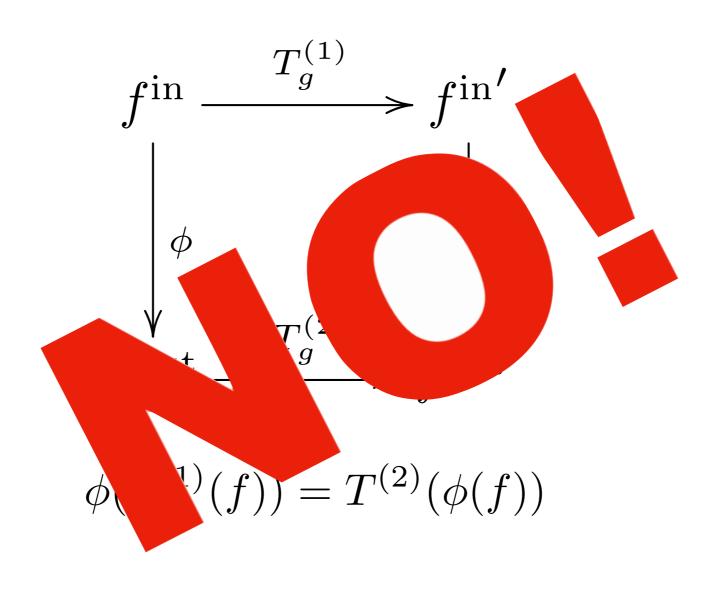


$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \mathcal{P} & \phi \\ \hline \{\{1\},\{2\},\{3\},\{4\}\}\} & T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{c,d} T_{c,d}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1\},\{2\},\{3,4\}\}\} & T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{c} T_{c,c}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1\},\{2,4\},\{3\}\}\} & T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{c} T_{c,b}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1\},\{2,3\},\{4\}\}\} & T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{c} T_{b,c}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{2\},\{1,4\},\{3\}\}\} & T_{b,a}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{c} T_{b,c}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{2\},\{1,3\},\{4\}\}\} & T_{b,a}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{b,c} T_{b,c}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1\},\{2,3,4\}\}\} & T_{a,a}^{\mathrm{out}} = T_{b,b}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1,2,3\},\{4\}\}\} & T_{a,a}^{\mathrm{out}} = T_{b,b}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1,2,4\},\{3\}\}\} & T_{a,a}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{b} T_{b,a}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1,2\},\{3,4\}\}\} & T_{a,a}^{\mathrm{out}} = \sum_{c} T_{c,c}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1,4\},\{2,3\}\}\} & T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{out}} = T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ \{\{1,2,3,4\}\}\} & T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{out}} = T_{b,a}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ T_{a,b}^{\mathrm{out}} = T_{a,a}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ T_{a,a}^{\mathrm{out}} = T_{a,a}^{\mathrm{in}} \\ T_{a,a}^{\mathrm$$

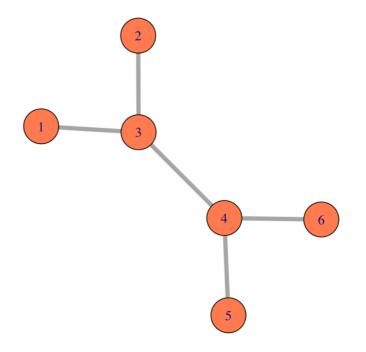
**Proposition** (Maron et al.). The space of linear maps  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^{d^{k_1}} \to \mathbb{R}^{d^{k_2}}$  that is equivariant to permutations  $\tau \in \mathbb{S}_d$  in the sense of (6) is spanned by a basis indexed by the partitions of the set  $\{1, 2, \ldots, k_1 + k_2\}$ .

[Maron, Hamu, Shamir & Lipman, 2019]

## Do we really want equivariance to $S_n$ ?



#### Automorphism groups



The automorphism group  $Aut(\mathcal{G})$  of a graph is the subgroup of permutations that leave the adjacency matrix fixed:

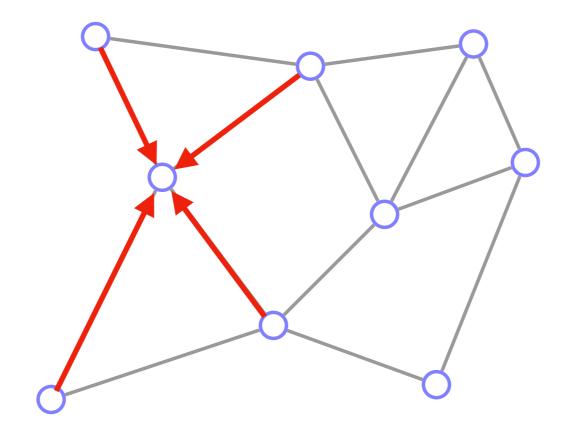
$$\sigma \circ A = A \qquad \iff \quad \sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{G})$$

What we really want is to be equivariant to just  $Aut(\mathcal{G})$ .

GNNs achieve this by sneakily using the adjacency matrix as side information.

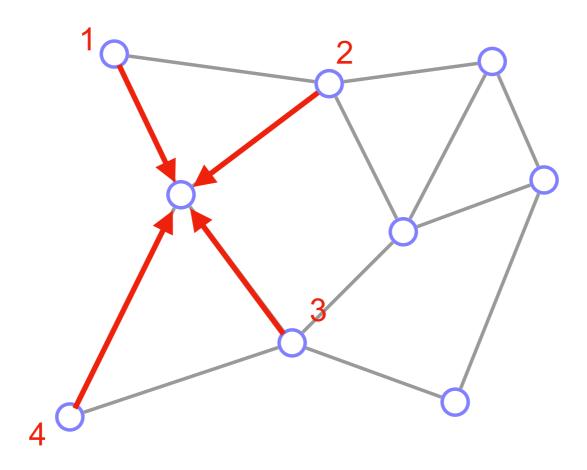
## 2. Why I don't like GNNs

#### MPNN



$$f_i^{\ell+1} = \xi \Big( W \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} f_j^\ell + b \Big)$$
 Associative & commutative

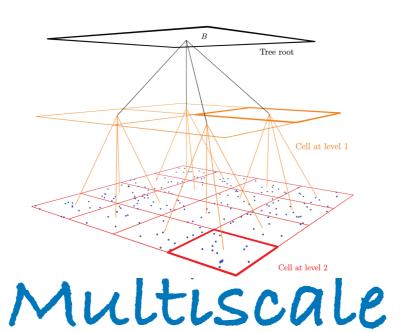
#### 1. MPNNs have amnesia



As soon as we sum the inputs, we lose the ability to distinguish what came from which neighbor.

#### 2. MPNNs have no sense of global structure

#### ctral Networks and Deep Locally Connecte



$$x *_G g := U^T(\operatorname{diag}(w_g)Ux) .$$

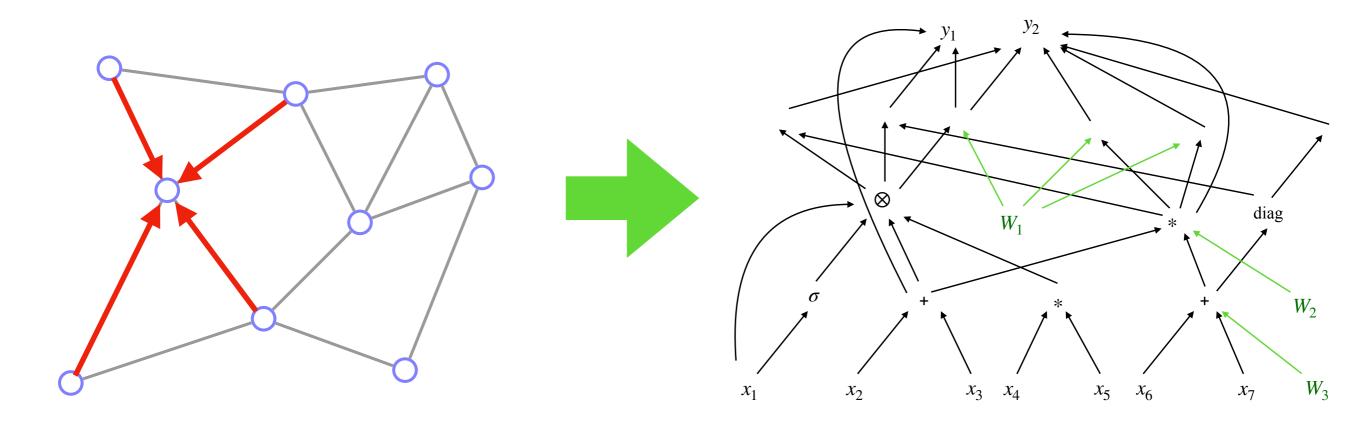
$$x_{k+1,j} = h\left(V \sum_{i=1}^{f_{k-1}} F_{k,i,j} V^T x_{k,i}\right) \quad (j = 1 \dots f_k),$$

$$f_i^{\ell+1} = \xi \Big( W \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} f_j^{\ell} + b \Big)$$

Global

Local

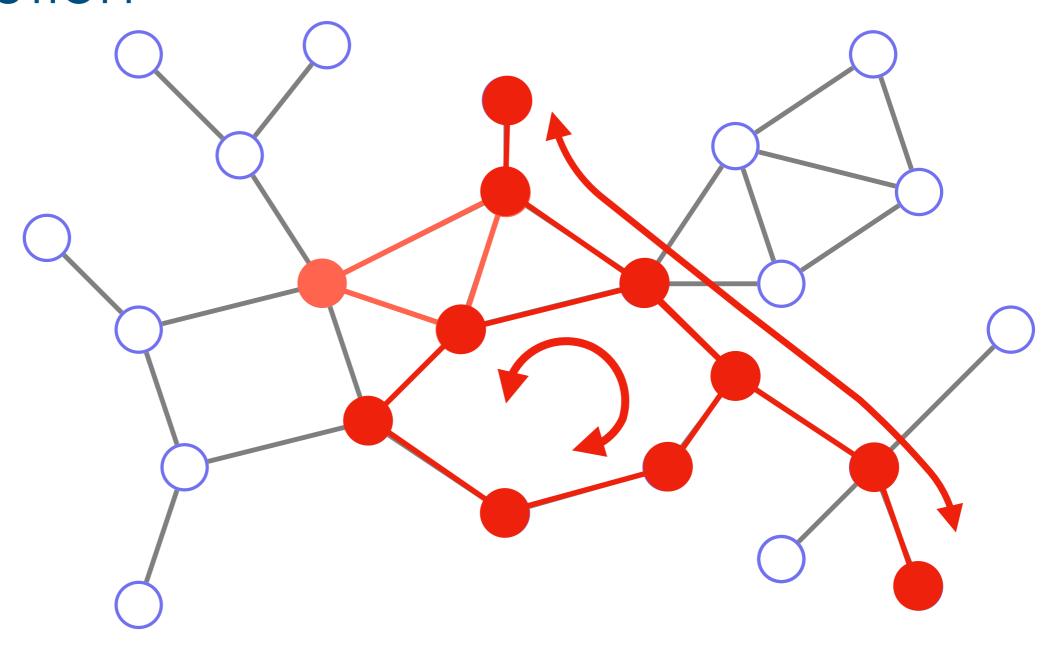
#### 3. MPNNs only encode topology implicitly



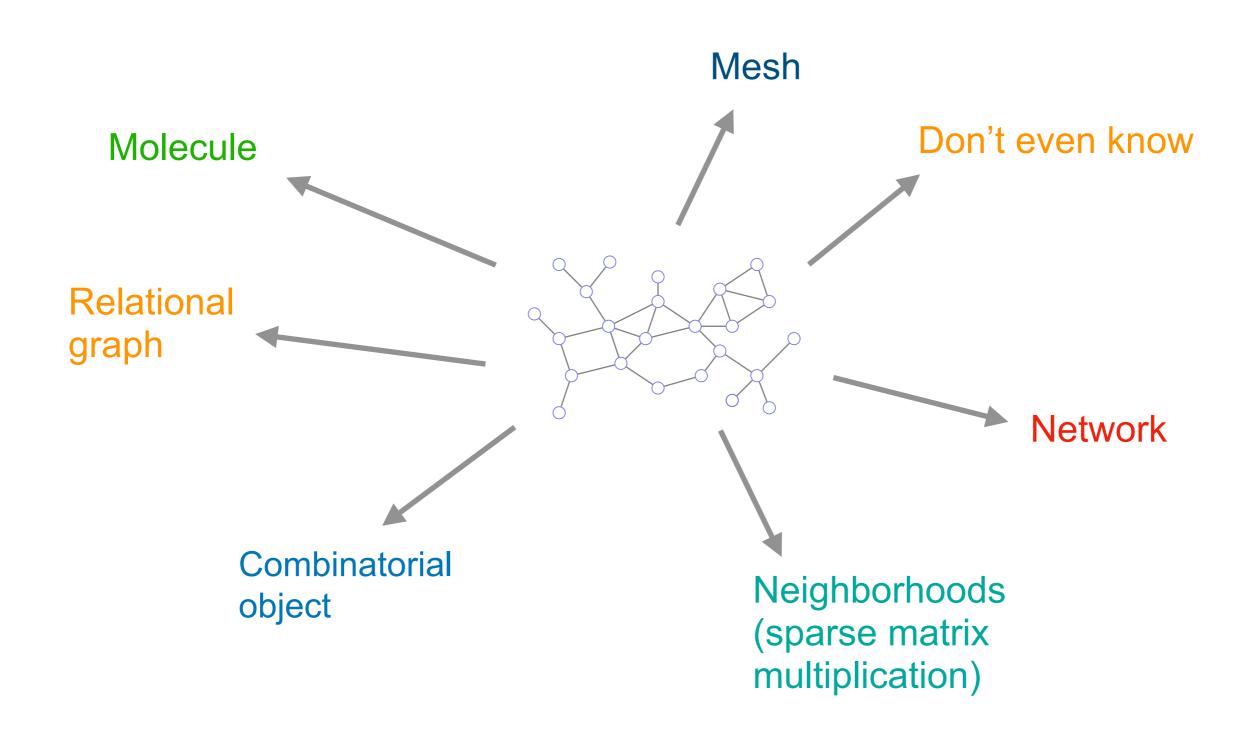
The graph topology determines the structure of the compute graph.

There is no strong sense in which we can encode known substructures, e.g., functional groups.

# 4. MPNNs don't reduce to classical convolution

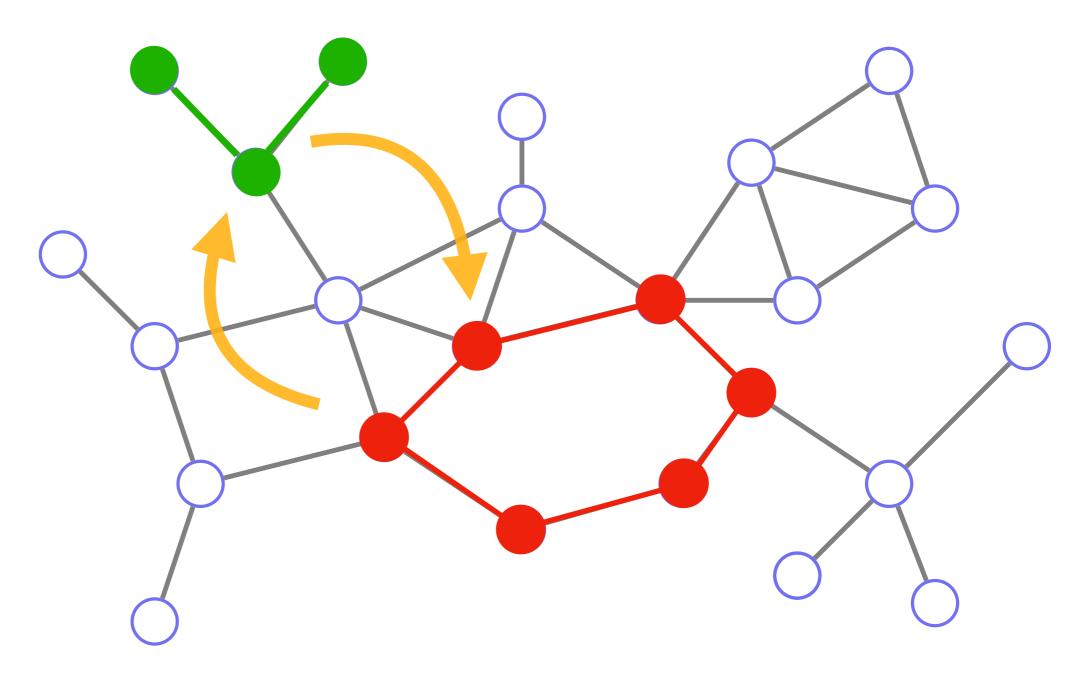


#### 5. What is a graph, anyway?



### Higher order message passing

#### Subgraph neural nets



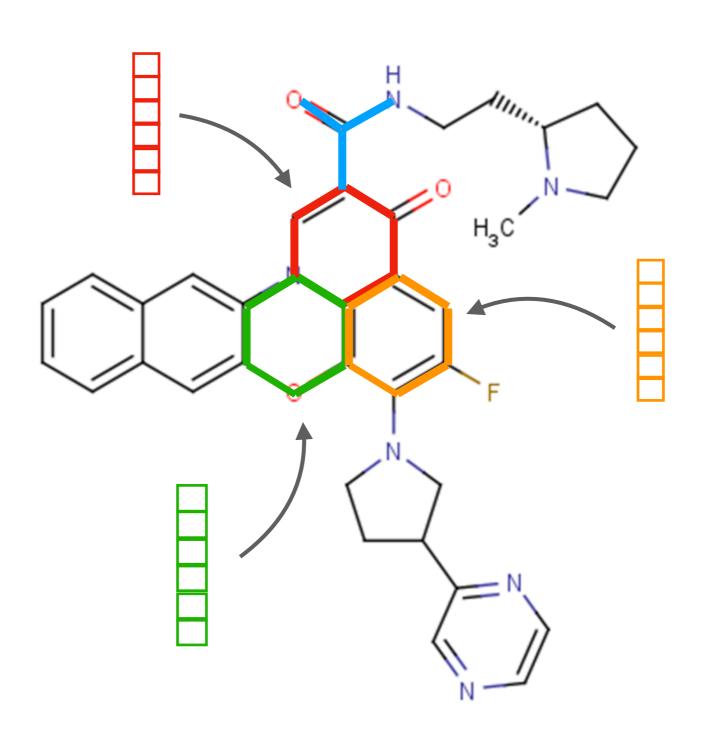
Define some "policy" to identify interesting subgraphs and use specialized rules to send messages to/from these subgraphs.

How can we do this in an equivariant way?

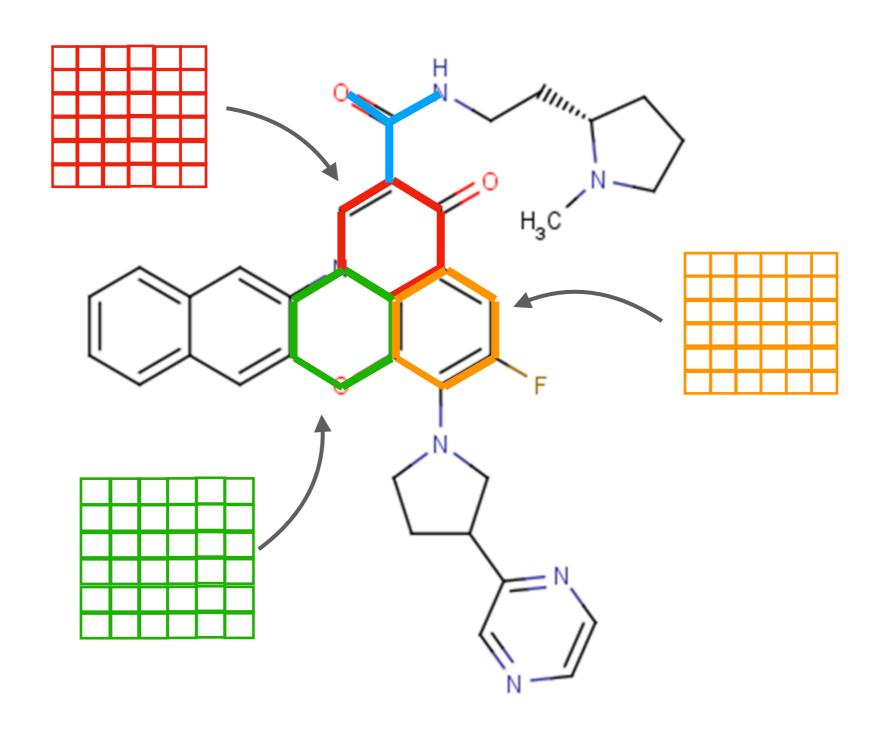
[Frasca, Bevilacqua, Bronstein & Maron, 2022]

quarfloxin

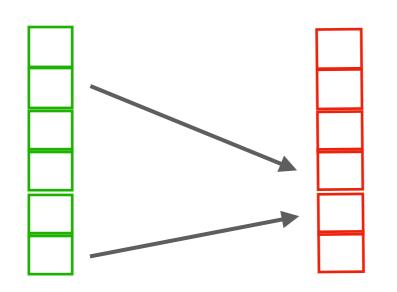
### First order subgraph neural nets

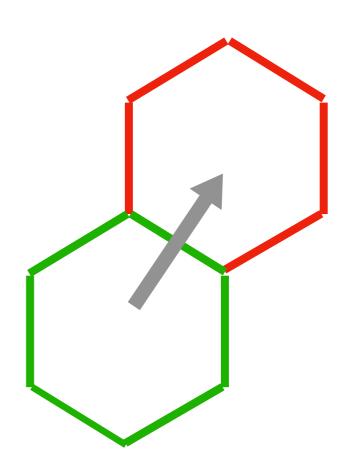


## Second order subgraph neural nets

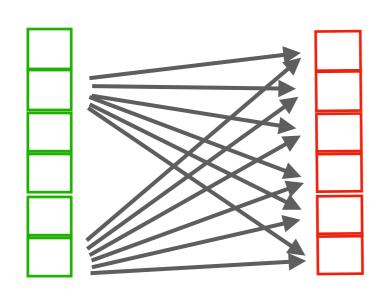


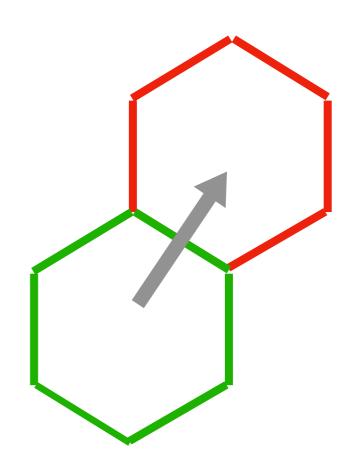
# What is the correct generalization of message passing?



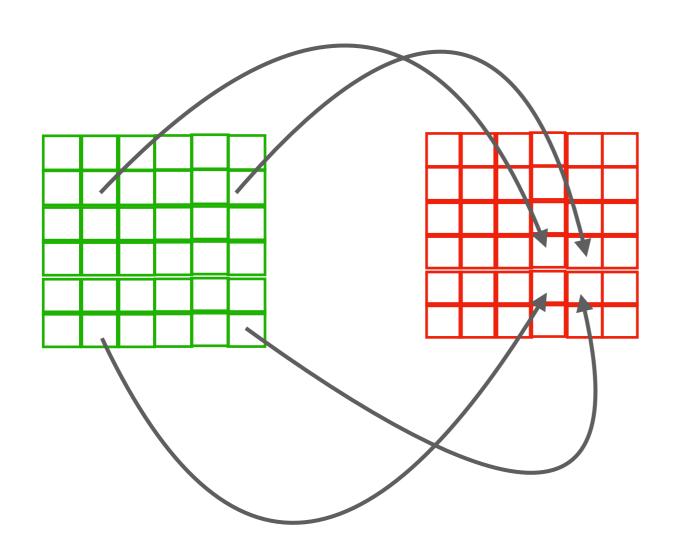


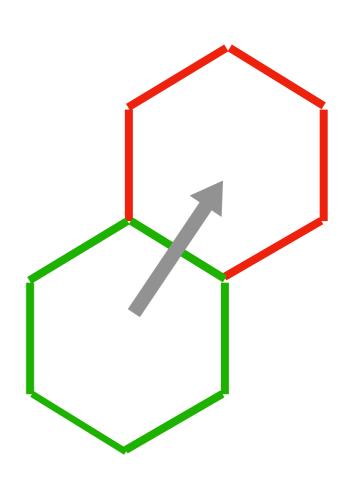
# What is the correct generalization of message passing?

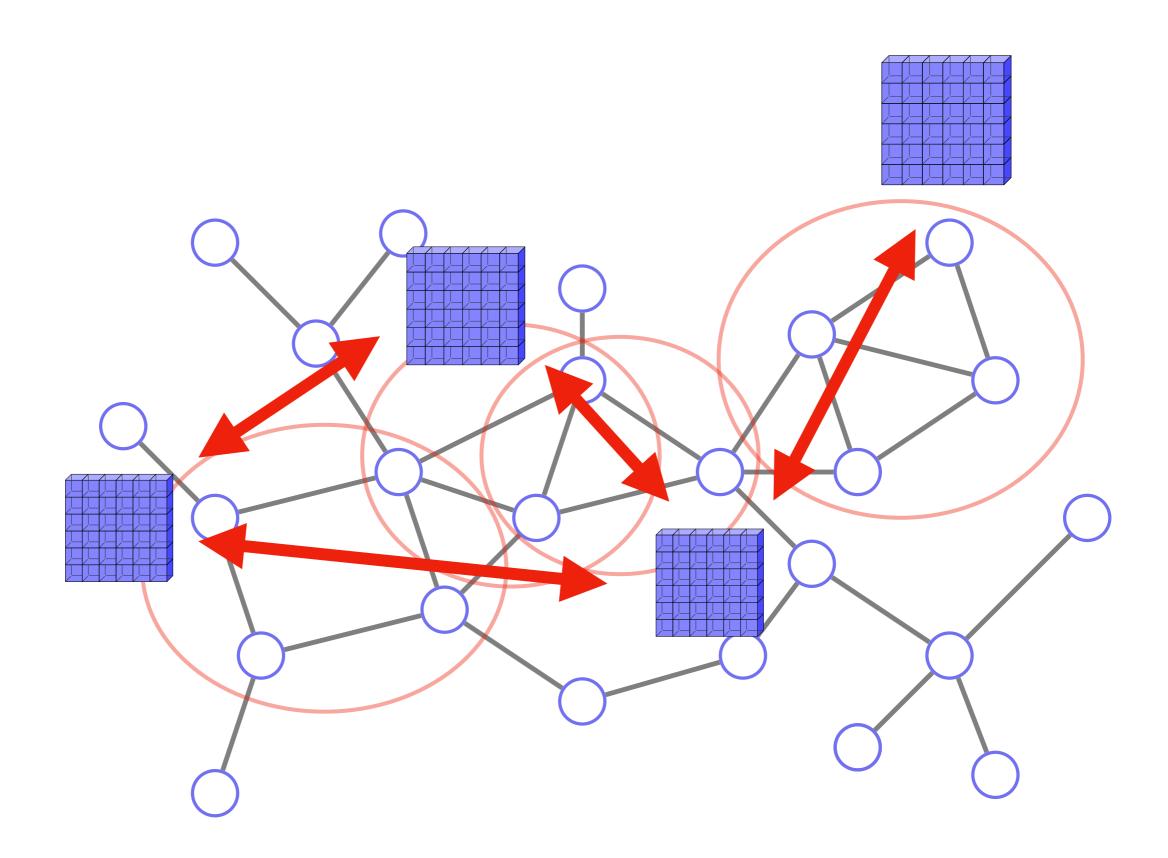




# What is the correct generalization of message passing?

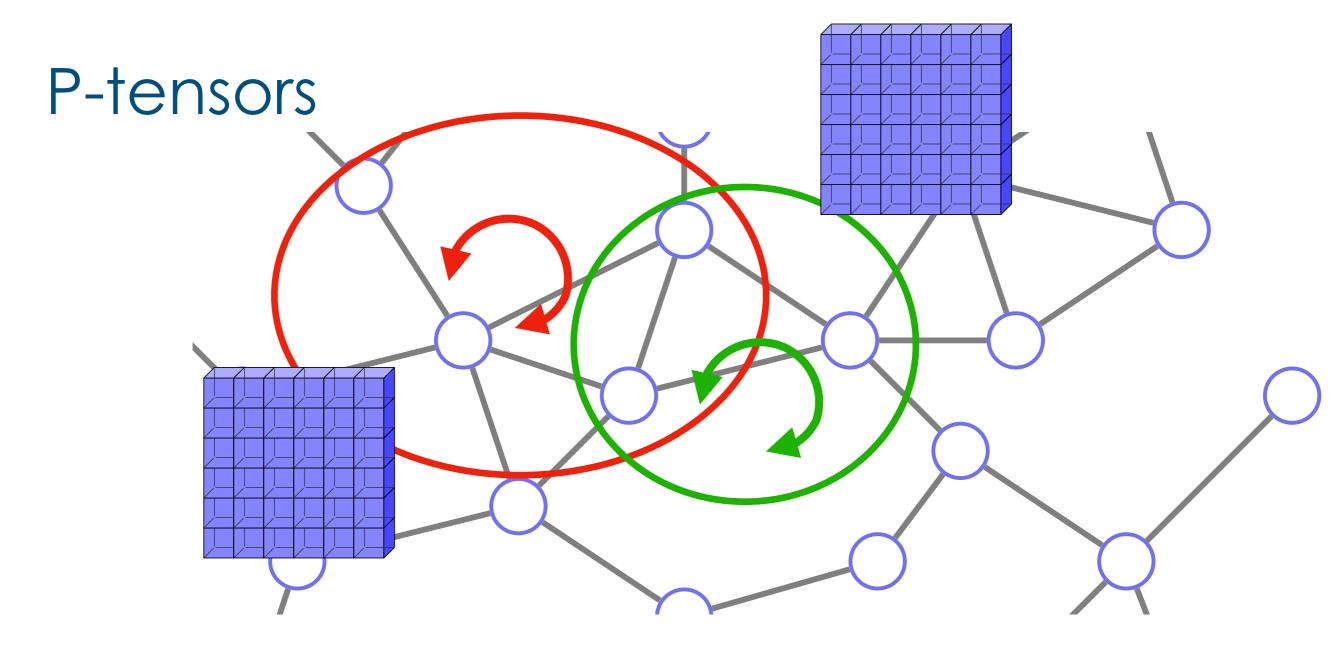






# P-tensors

[Andrew Hands, Tiny Sun & K, 2024]

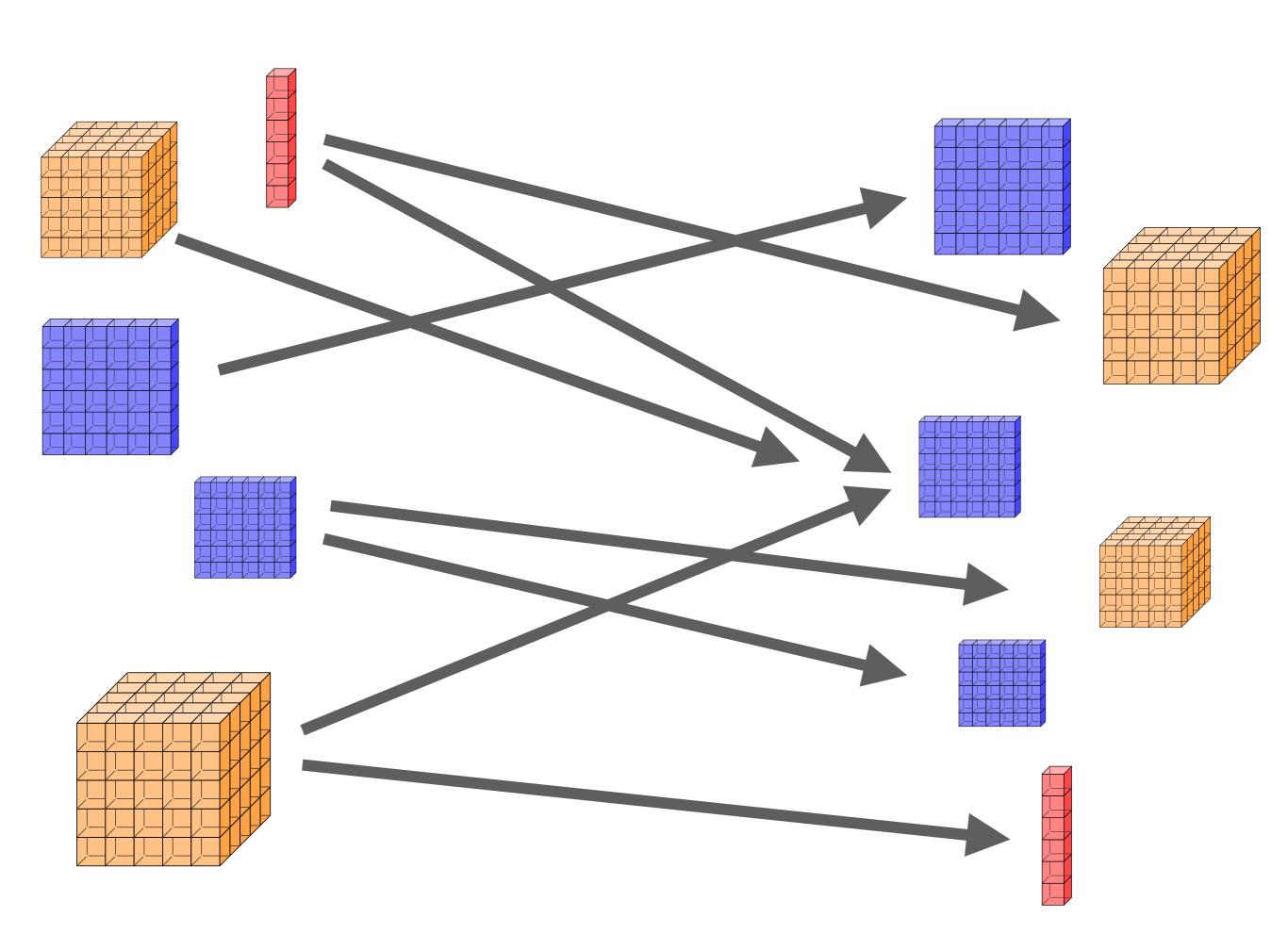


Given an ordered subset of d atoms  $(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_m)$ , a tensor  $T \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d \times \ldots \times d}$  that transforms under permutations according to

$$T_{i_1,...,i_k} = T_{\tau-1(i_1),...,\tau^{-1}(i_k)}$$
  $\tau \in \mathbb{S}_k$ 

is called a k'th order **P-tensor**.

[Hands, Sun & K, AISTATS 2024]

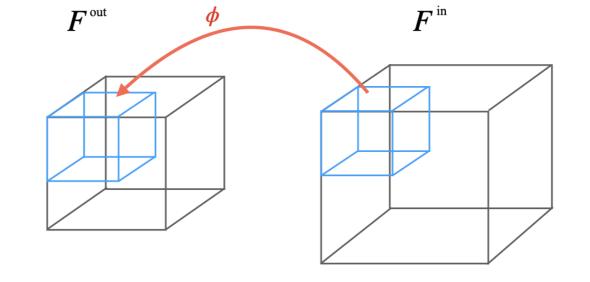


## Message passing between P-tensors

**Definition 6** (Equivariant map between P-tensors). Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  be two P-tensors with reference domains  $\mathcal{D}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{U}$ , respectively. We say that a linear map  $\phi \colon T_1 \to T_2$  is permutation equivariant if

$$\phi(\sigma\downarrow_{\mathcal{D}_1}\circ T_1)=\sigma\downarrow_{\mathcal{D}_2}\circ\phi(T_1)$$

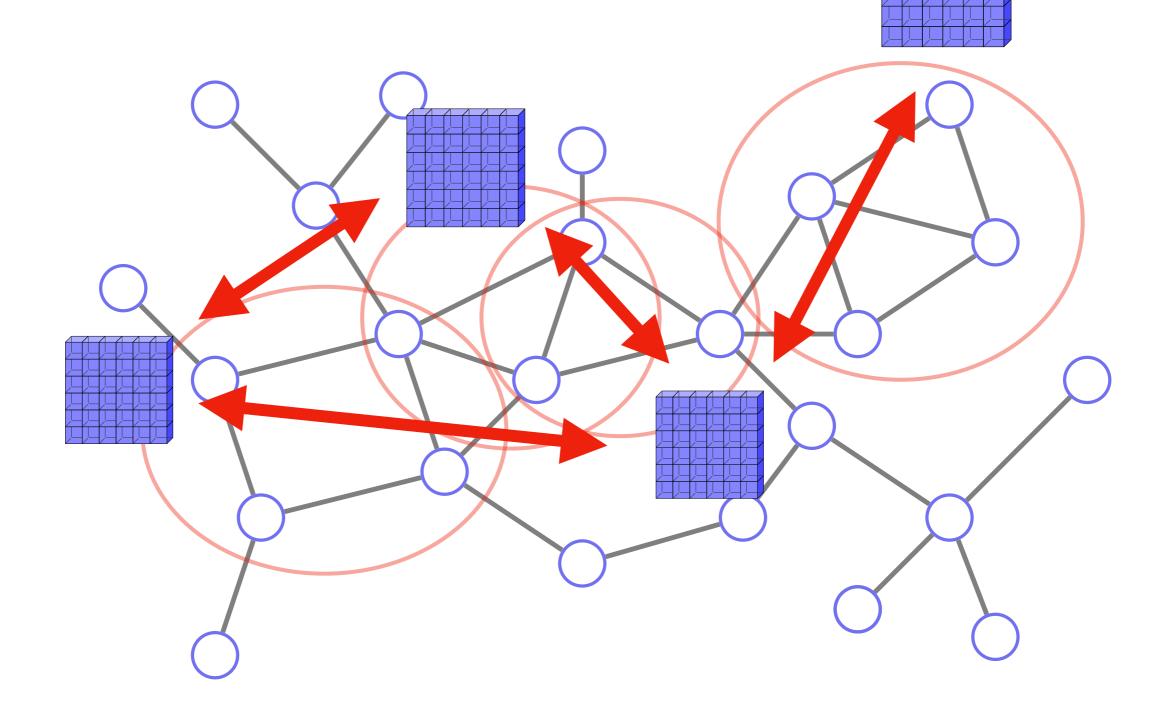
for any permutations  $\sigma$  of  $\mathcal{U}$  that fixes both  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2$  as sets.



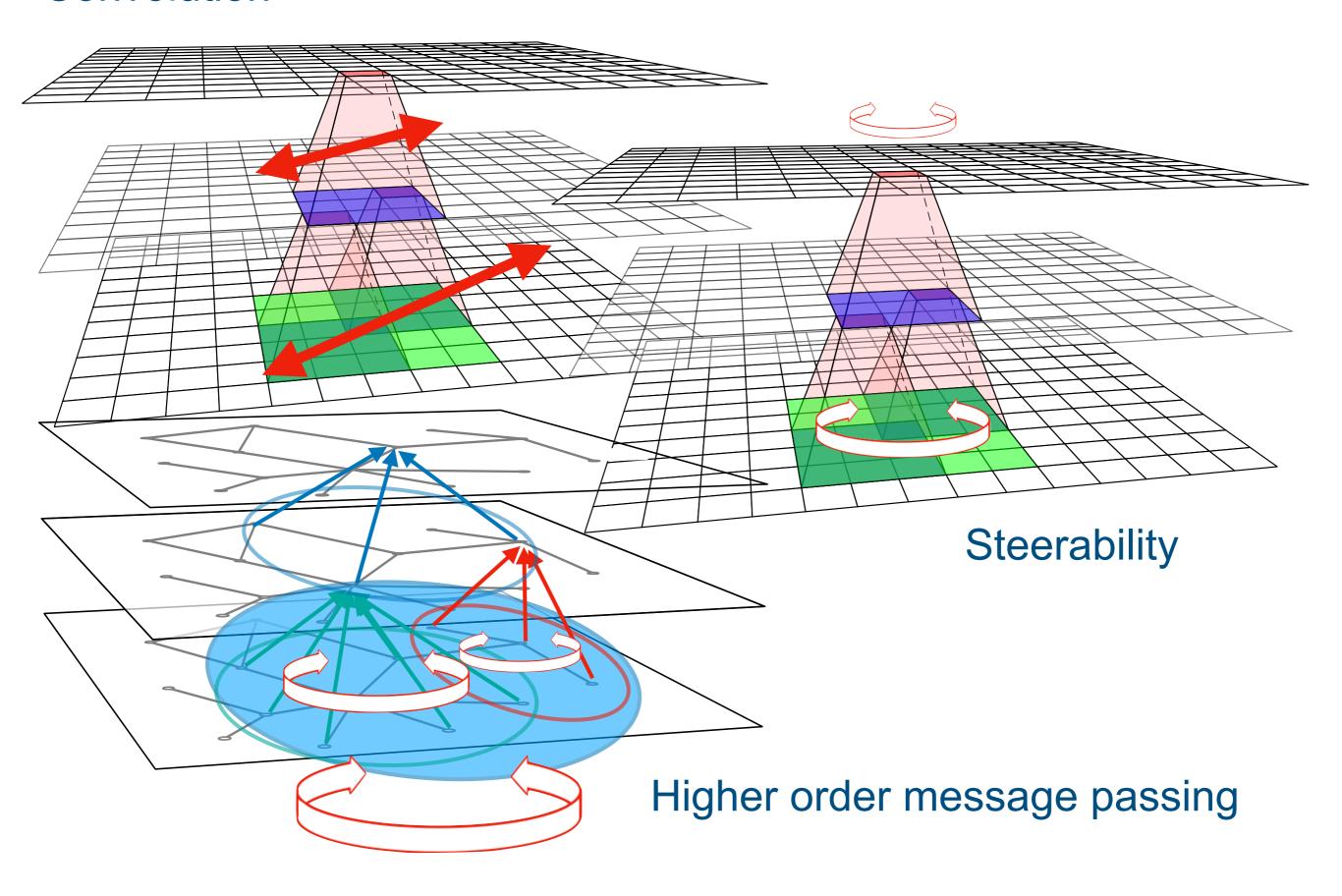
**Theorem 2.** Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  be two P-tensors with reference domains  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2$  such that  $\mathcal{D}_1 \cap \mathcal{D}_2 \neq \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{D}_1 \not\subseteq \mathcal{D}_2$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2 \not\subseteq \mathcal{D}_1$ . Then for each partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $\{1,\ldots,k_1+k_2\}$  of type  $(p_1,p_2,p_3)$  there are  $2^{p_1+p_3}$  independent permutation equivariant maps  $\phi: T_1 \mapsto T_2$ .

$(k_1, k_2)$	# of maps in	# of maps in	
	$\mathcal{D}_1 = \mathcal{D}_2$ case	$\mathcal{D}_1 \neq \mathcal{D}_2$ case	
(0,0)	1	1	
(1,1)	$\overline{2}$	5	
(1,2)	5	17	
(2,2)	15	61	
(2,3)	52	321	
(3,3)	203	769	

# Message passing between P-tensors



## Convolution



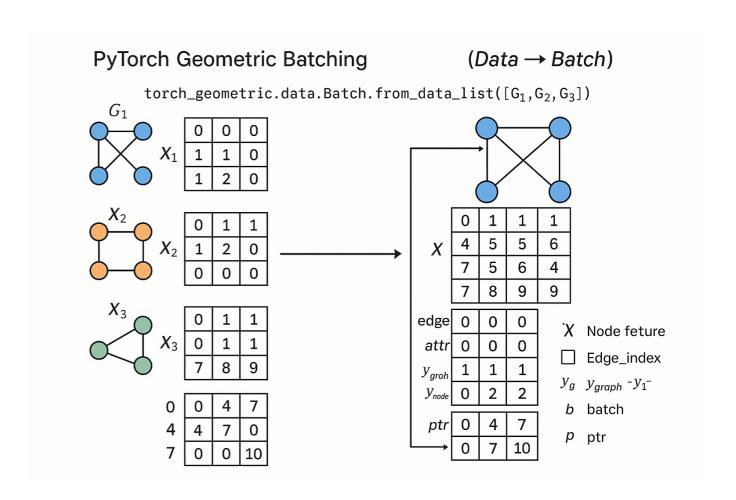
## P-tensor software

## pytorch-geometric

### Efficient gather/scatter

# index 0 0 1 0 2 2 3 3 input 5 1 7 2 3 2 1 3 output 8 7 5 4

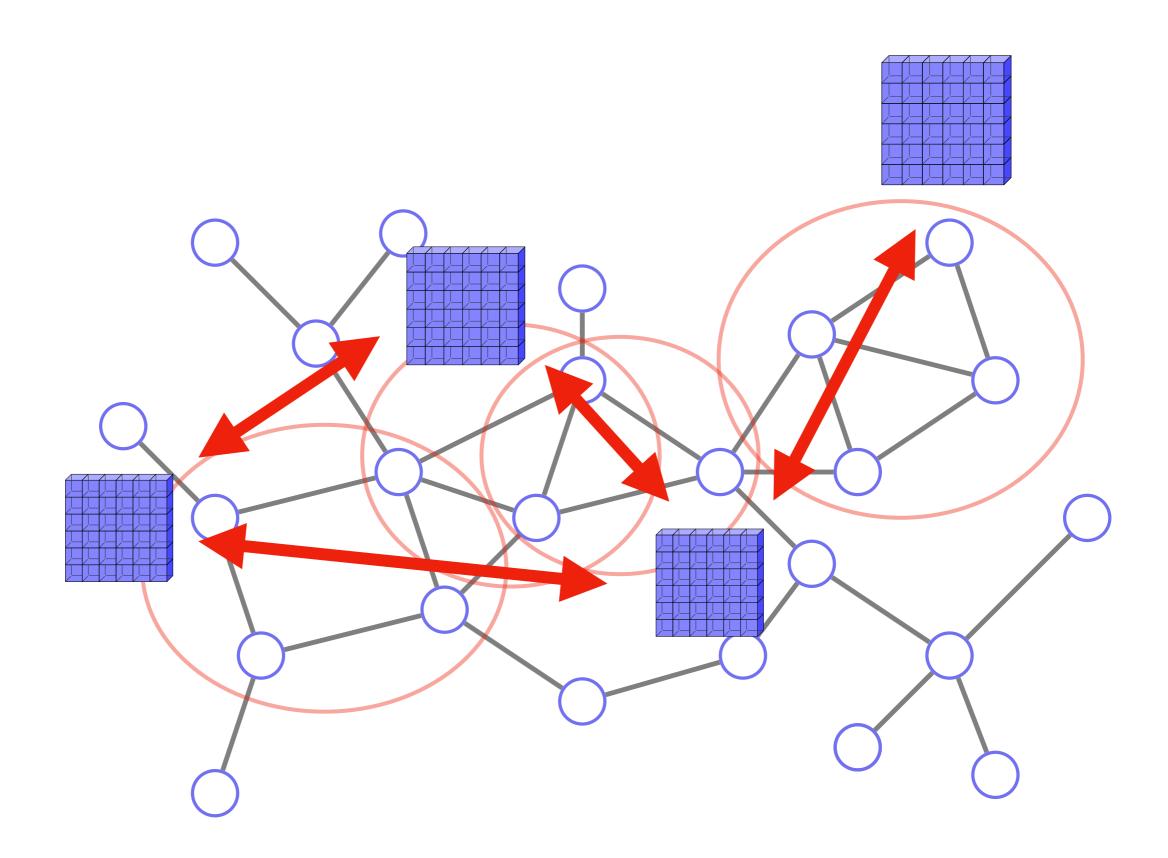
## Batching

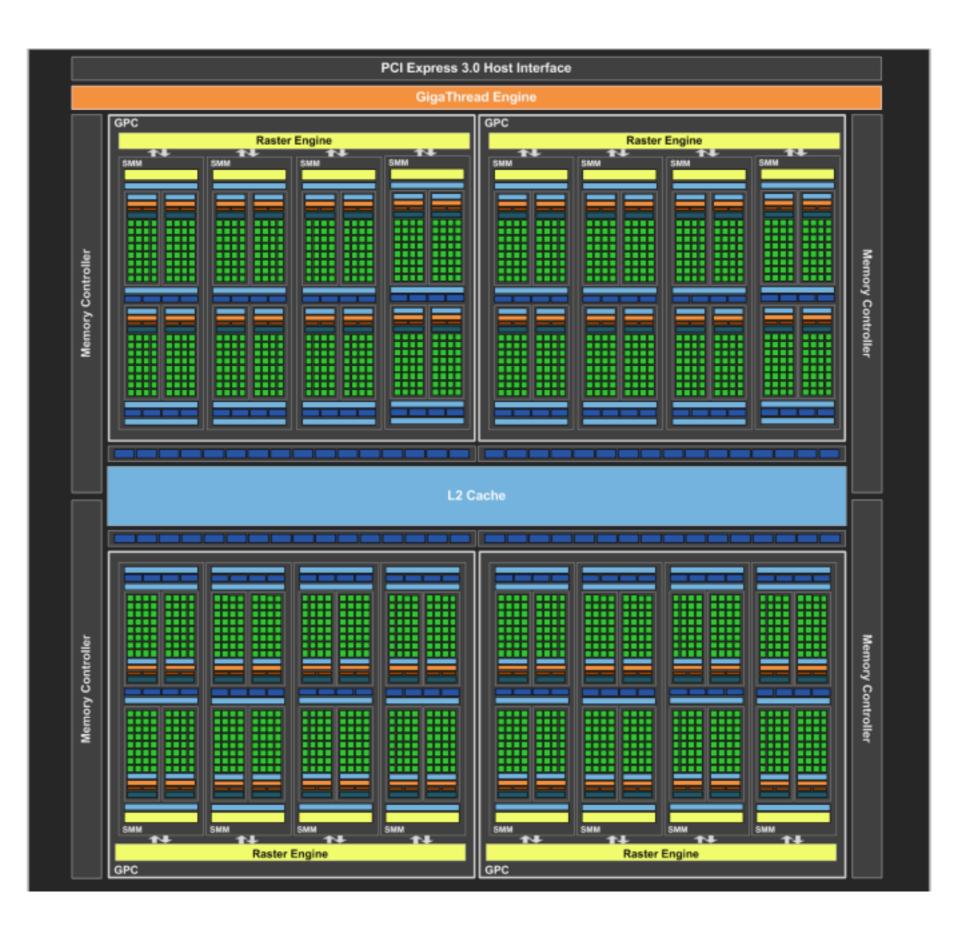


https://pyg.org/

## pytorch scatter

```
#define ATOMIC(NAME)
 3
        template <typename scalar, size_t size> struct Atomic##NAME##IntegerImpl;
 5
        template <typename scalar> struct Atomic##NAME##IntegerImpl<scalar, 1> {
           inline __device__ void operator()(scalar *address, scalar val) {
             uint32_t *address_as_ui = (uint32_t *)(address - ((size_t)address & 3)); \
 8
            uint32_t old = *address_as_ui;
            uint32_t shift = ((size_t)address & 3) * 8;
10
            uint32_t sum;
11
12
            uint32_t assumed;
13
            do {
14
              assumed = old;
15
              sum = OP(val, scalar((old >> shift) & 0xff));
16
               old = (old & \sim(0x0000000ff << shift)) | (sum << shift);
17
18
               old = atomicCAS(address_as_ui, assumed, old);
             } while (assumed != old);
19
         }
20
21
        };
22
```







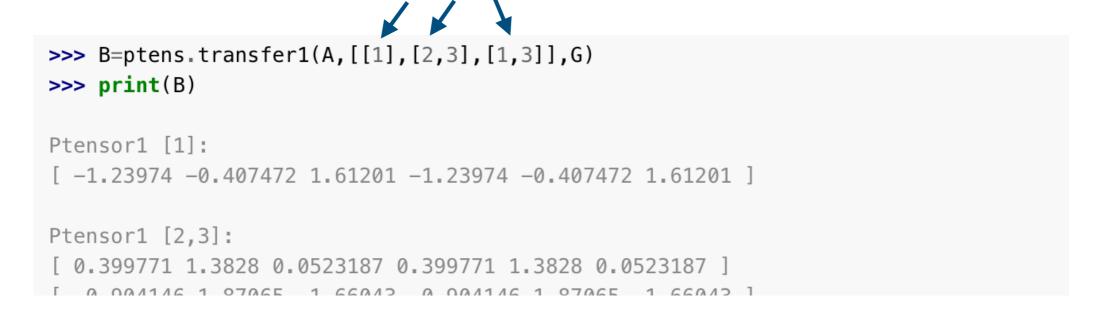
#### ref domains

```
communication graph
>>> A=ptens.ptensors1.randn([[1,2],[3]],3)
>>> G=ptens.graph.from_matrix(torch.ones(3,2))
>>> print(A)

Ptensor1 [1,2]:
[ -1.23974 -0.407472 1.61201 ]
[ 0.399771 1.3828 0.0523187 ]

Ptensor1 [3]:
[ -0.904146 1.87065 -1.66043 ]
```

#### ref. domains



https://github.com/arhands/topological\_model https://github.com/risi-kondor/ptens

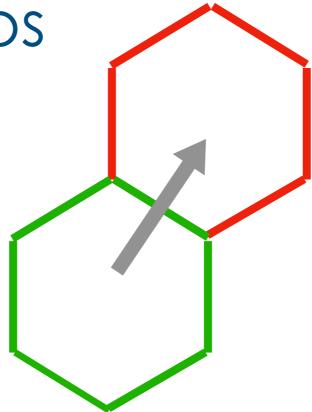
```
x=subgraphlayer0(G,x_in)
a=p.subgraphlayer1.gather(x,self.nodes)
a=self.linear(a,w0,b0)
b=p.subgraphlayer1.gather(x,self.edges)
b=self.linear(b,w1,b1)
c=p.subgraphlayer1.gather(x,self.cycle5)
b=self.linear(c,w2,b2)
d=p.subgraphlayer1.gather(x,self.cycle6)
d=self.linear(d,w3,b3)
z=sugraphlayer1.cat(a,b,c,d)
z=ReLU(z)
y=subgraphlayer2(z,S)
```

	ZINC-12K	ZINC-Full	OGBG-MOLHIV	TOX21
	$MAE(\% \downarrow)$	$MAE(\% \downarrow)$	$ROC\text{-}AUC(\% \uparrow)$	$ROC\text{-}AUC(\% \uparrow)$
RP-NGF (Murphy et al., 2019)	_	_	_	$0.79.4 \pm 1.00$
GCN (Kipf and Welling, 2017)	$0.321 \pm 0.009$	_	$76.07 \pm 0.97$	_
GIN (Xu et al., 2018)	$0.408 \pm 0.008$	$0.088 \pm 0.002$	$75.58 \pm 1.40$	_
GINE (Hu et al., 2019)	$0.252 \pm 0.014$	$0.088 \pm 0.002$	$75.58 \pm 1.40$	$86.68 \pm 0.77$
PNA (Corso et al., 2020)	$0.133 \pm 0.011$	$0.320 \pm 0.032$	$79.05 \pm 1.32$	_
HIMP (Fey et al., 2020)	$0.151 \pm 0.002$	$0.036 \pm 0.002$	$78.80 \pm 0.82$	$87.36 \pm 0.50$
CIN (Bodnar et al., 2021a)	$0.079 \pm 0.006$	$\boldsymbol{0.022 \pm 0.002}$	$80.94 \pm 0.57$	_
DS-GNN (EGO+) (Bevilacqua et al., 2022)	$0.105 \pm 0.003$	_	$77.40 \pm 2.19$	$76.39 \pm 1.18$
DSS-GNN (EGO+) (Bevilacqua et al., 2022)	$0.097 \pm 0.006$	_	$76.78 \pm 1.66$	$77.95 \pm 0.40$
GNN-AK+ (Zhao et al., 2022)	$0.091 \pm 0.011$	_	$79.61 \pm 1.19$	_
SUN (EGO+) (Frasca et al., 2022)	$0.084 \pm 0.002$	_	$80.03 \pm 0.55$	_
First order P-tensors (our model)	$0.075\pm0.003$	0.024	$80.47 \pm 0.87$	$84.95 \pm 0.58$

## Schur Nets

Equivariance to the automorphism group of subgraphs [Qingqi Zhang, Ruize (Richard) Xu & K, 2024]

Automorphism groups

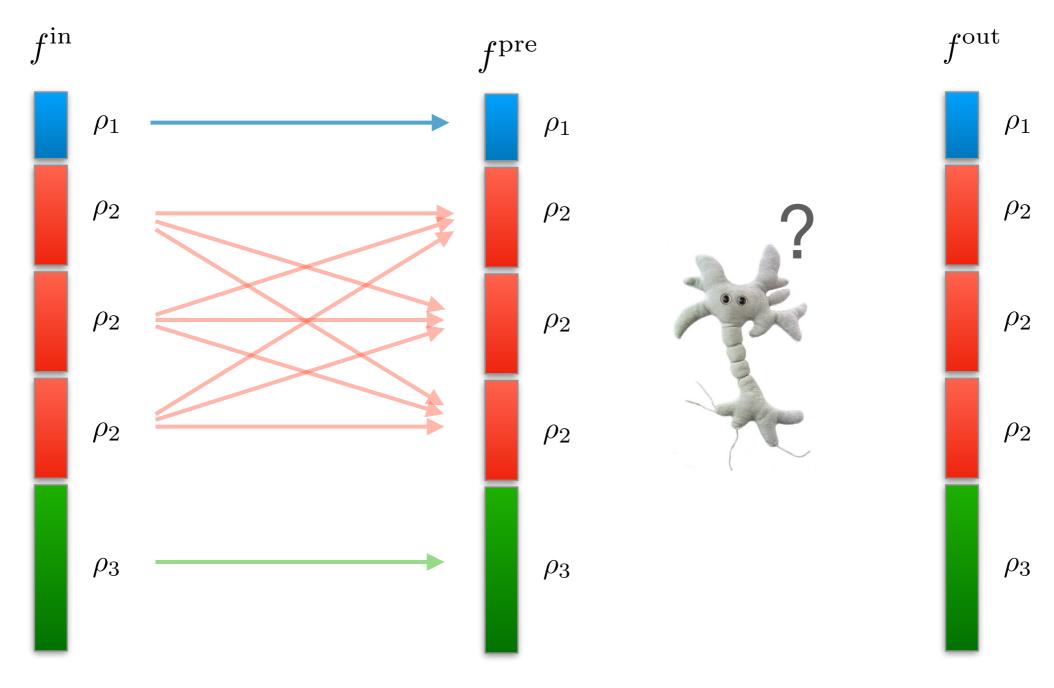


The automorphism group  $Aut(\mathcal{G})$  of a graph is the subgroup of permutations that leave the adjacency matrix fixed:

$$\sigma \circ A = A \qquad \iff \quad \sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{G})$$

We want the operations on each subgraph to be equivariant to the automorphism group of the subgraph.

# Equivariance

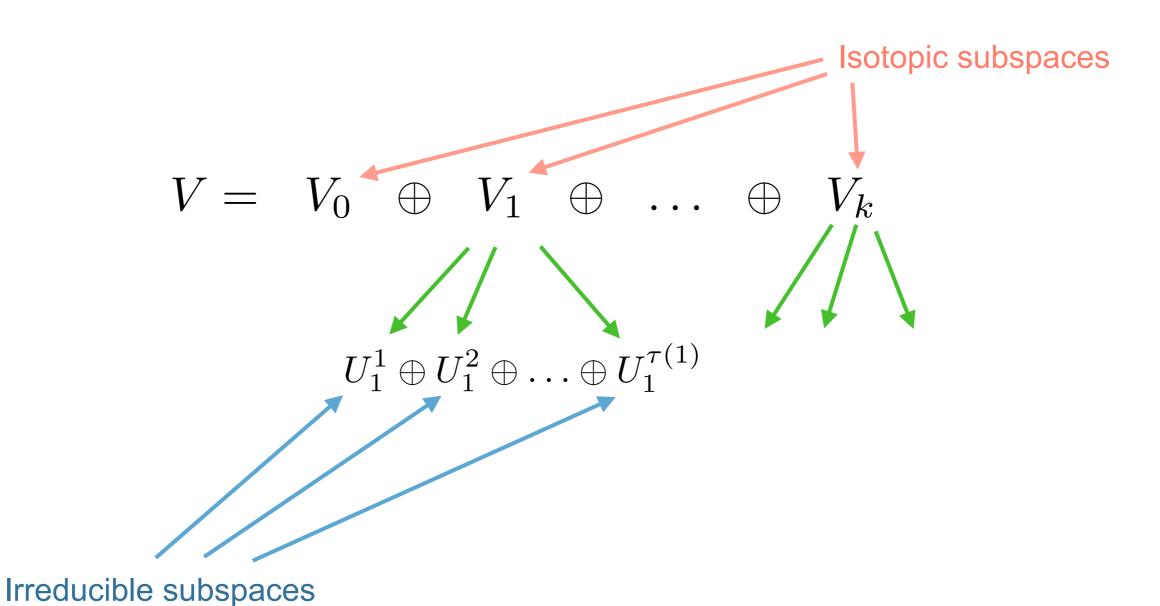


Learned equivariant *linear* transformation.

Fixed equivariant nonlinearity

## Harmonic Analysis

Peter-Weyl Thm: Any finite dimensional representation of a compact group G reduces into a direct sum of irreducible representation.



## Bare bones harmonic analysis

Ultimately we only need *some* decomposition into invariant subspaces

$$V = V_0 \oplus V_1 \oplus \ldots \oplus V_k$$

not necessarily the finest. How about just using the eigenspaces of the Laplacian?

Letting  $\Pi_i$  denote the projector onto the i'th eigenspace of L this gives (1st order case)

$$f^{\text{out}} = \sum_{i} \Pi_{i}^{\top} w_{i} \Pi_{i} f^{\text{in}}$$

Learnable weights

Graph	$Aut_S$	# of distinct Eigenvalues (Schur Layer)	$\sum_i (\kappa_i)^2$ irreps approach	$\sum_i \kappa_i$
6-cycle	$D_6$	4	4	4
5-cycle	$D_5$	3	3	3
4-cycle	$D_4$	3	3	3
3-cycle	$D_3$	2	2	2
5-star	$S_4$	3	5	3
4-star	$S_3$	3	5	3
3-path	$S_2$	3	5	3
n-cliques	$S_n$	2	2	2
5-cycle with one branch	$S_2$	6	20	6
6-cycle with one branch	$S_2$	7	29	7

# Summary

## P-tensors are an abstraction that can

- unify a wide range of graph, hypergraph and simplicial neural networks
- make it easy to construct domain specific networks tailored to particular types of substructures
- afford a unified efficient implementation on GPUs

## **Extensions:**

- Attention
- Generative models
- Combine with spectral ideas
- Incorporating local topology