

# PM2.5-GNN: A Domain Knowledge Enhanced Graph Neural Network For PM2.5 Forecasting

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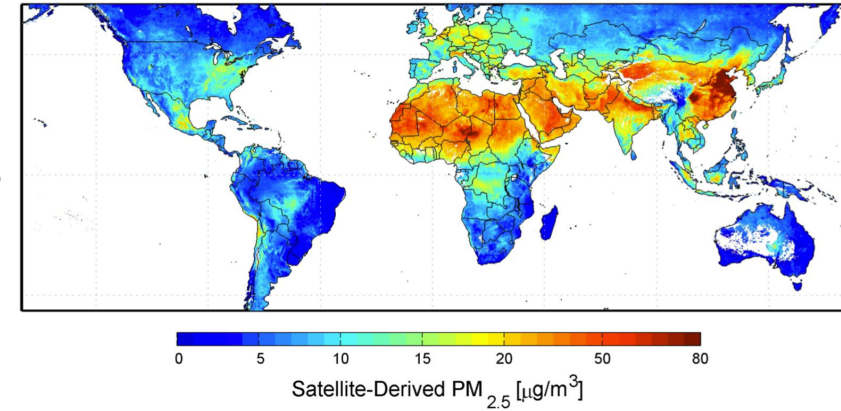
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# Background

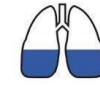
## What is PM2.5

- Particles Matters smaller than  $2.5\mu\text{m}$
- One of the six major air contaminants ( $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ,  $\text{PM}_{10}$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{O}_3$ ), among which  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  is the most harmful one for human body. Long exposure may cause cardiopulmonary diseases.
- Global issue, especially severe in China

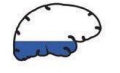


## THE INVISIBLE KILLER

Air pollution may not always be visible, but it can be deadly.



**36%**  
OF DEATHS FROM  
**LUNG CANCER**



**34%**  
OF DEATHS FROM  
**STROKE**



**27%**  
OF DEATHS FROM  
**HEART DISEASE**

**BREATHELIFE.**  
Clean Air. Healthy Future.

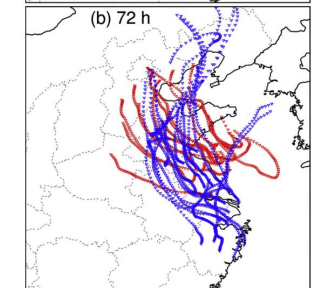
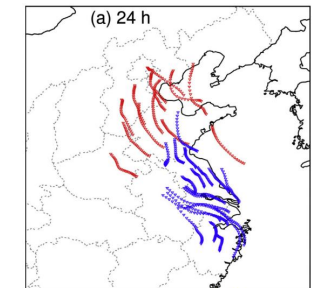
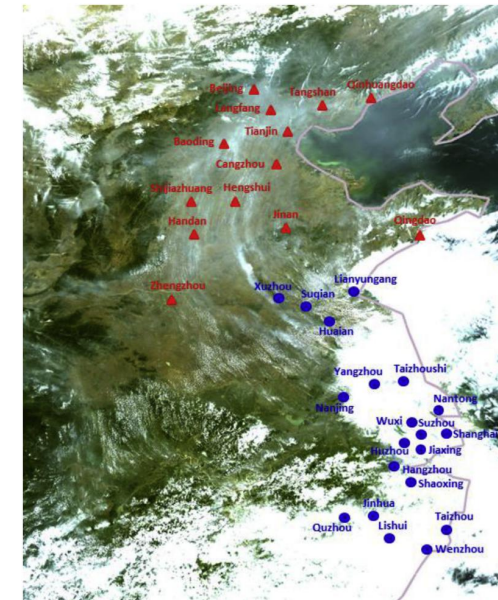


## Purpose of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ forecasting

- governments' policy-making
- people's decision making

## Challenges

- Air pollution is a complex dynamic system
- Long-term spatio-temporal dependency
- Incorporate domain knowledge

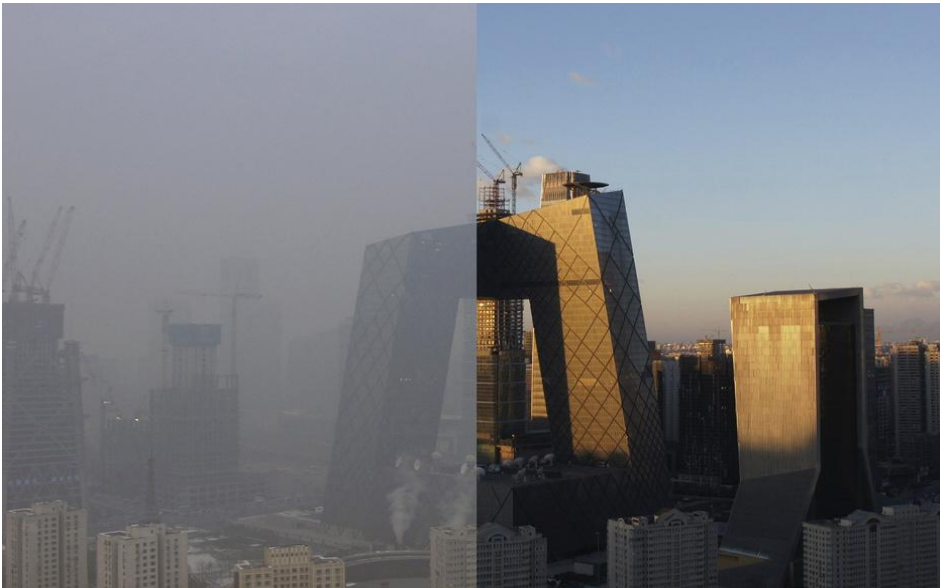
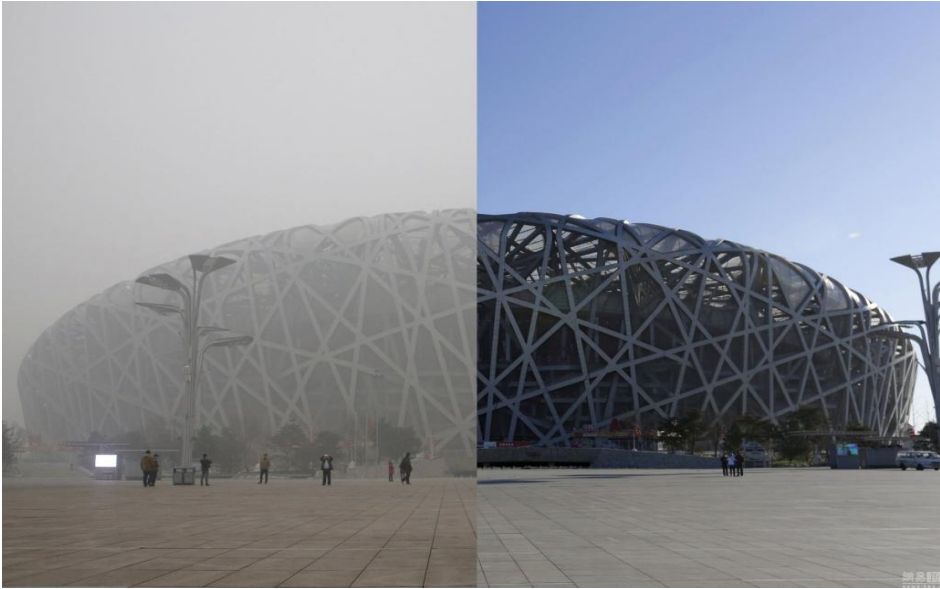


[1] J. Hu, et al., Spatial and temporal variability of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  over the North China Plain and the Yangtze River Delta, China.

[2] <http://www.mee.gov.cn/> <http://106.37.208.228:8082/>

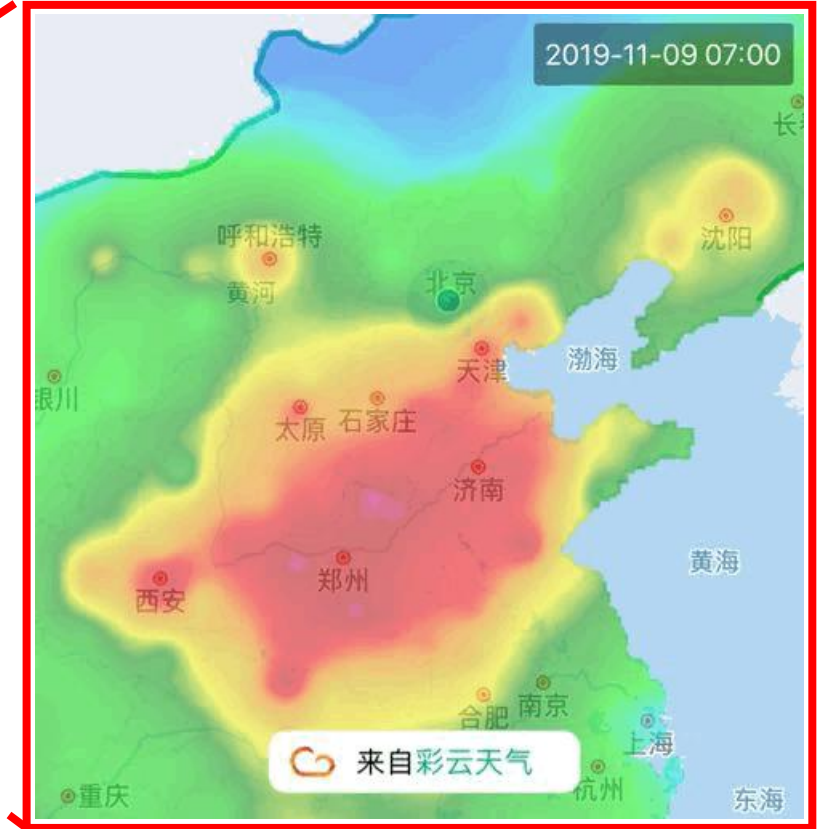
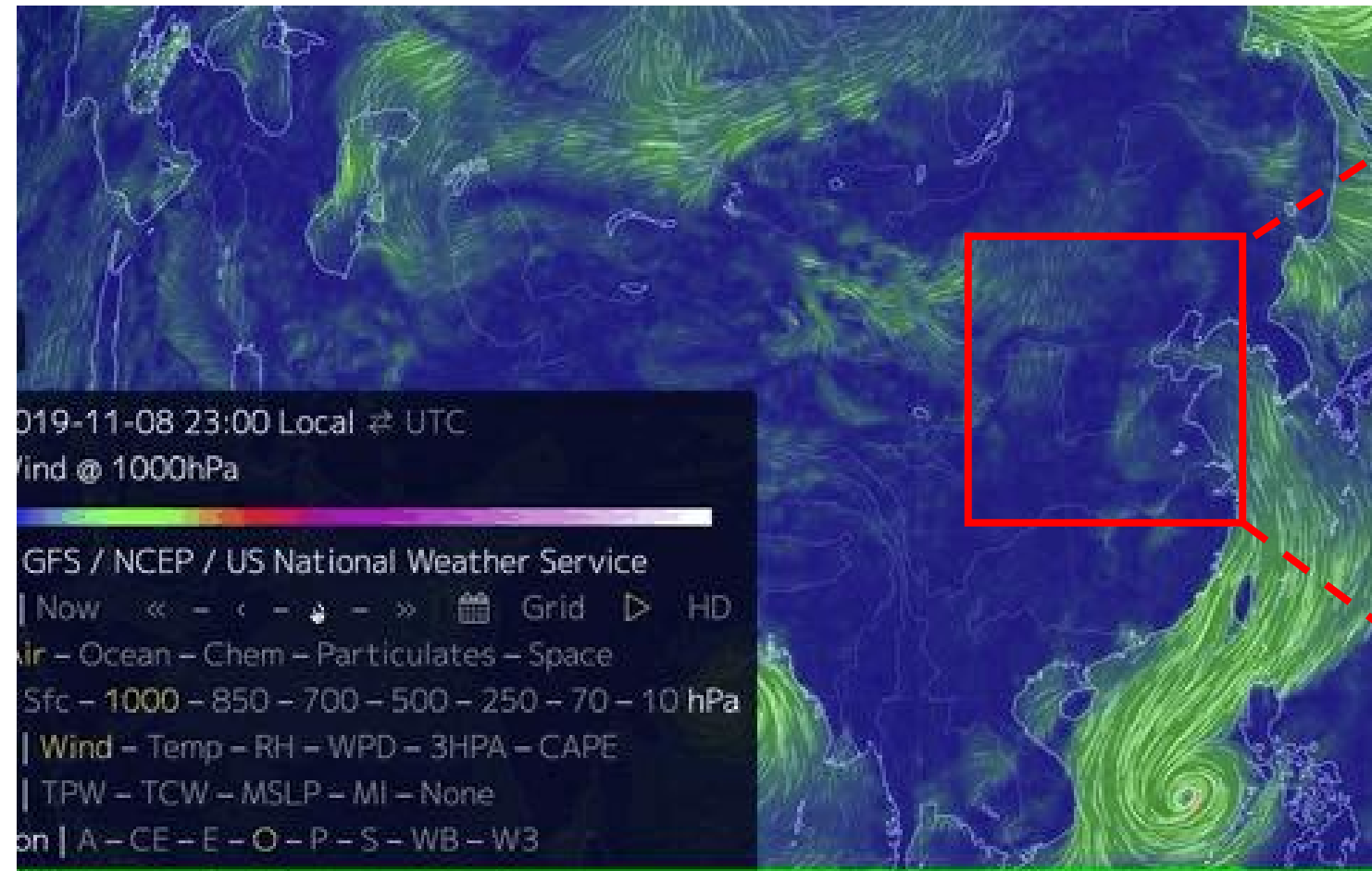
[3] <https://www.who.int/airpollution/news-and-events/how-air-pollution-is-destroying-our-health>

# Background





# Background



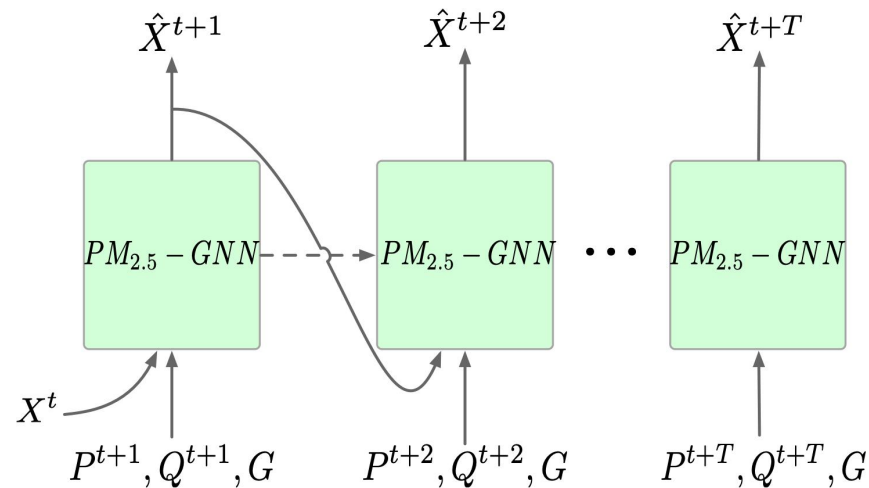
- [1] <https://earth.nullschool.net/>  
[2] <http://caiyunapp.com/map/>

# PM2.5-GNN

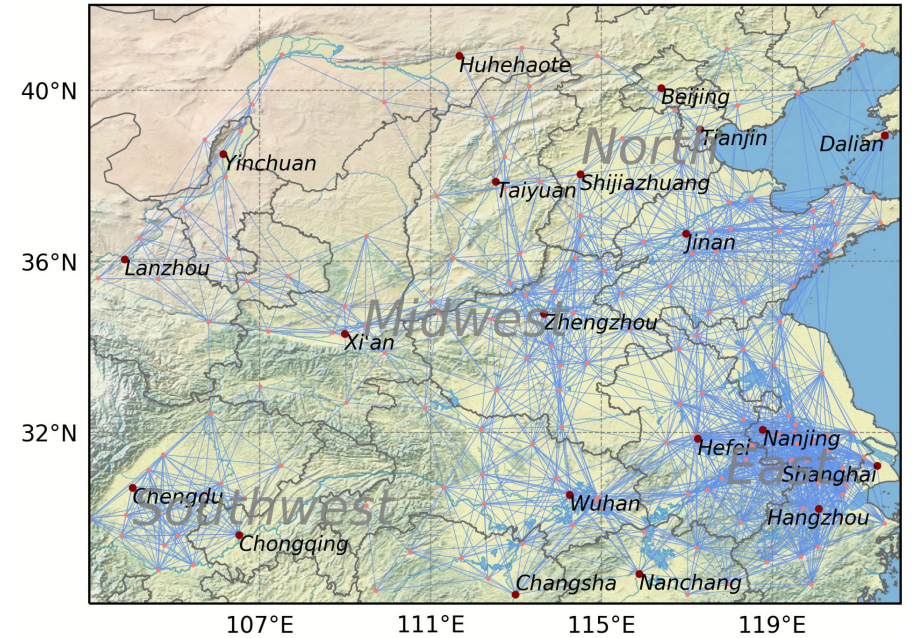
## Graph Construction

- Nodes are cities, node state  $X^t \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times 1}$  is PM2.5 concentrations
- Edges are possible PM2.5 transport paths between nodes
- Meteorological data are used as nodes' attributes  $p^t \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$  and edges' attributes  $Q^t \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times \tilde{q}}$

## Algorithm Frame Work



Output: PM2.5 prediction at  $t+1, \dots, t+T$



# Compared model: GC-LSTM

## GC-LSTM<sup>[1]</sup>

- the previous state-of-the-art graph-based model in PM2.5 forecasting
- Graph Convolutional Networks (GCN) + LSTM

## GCN<sup>[2]</sup> vs. GNN proposed by DeepMind<sup>[3]</sup>

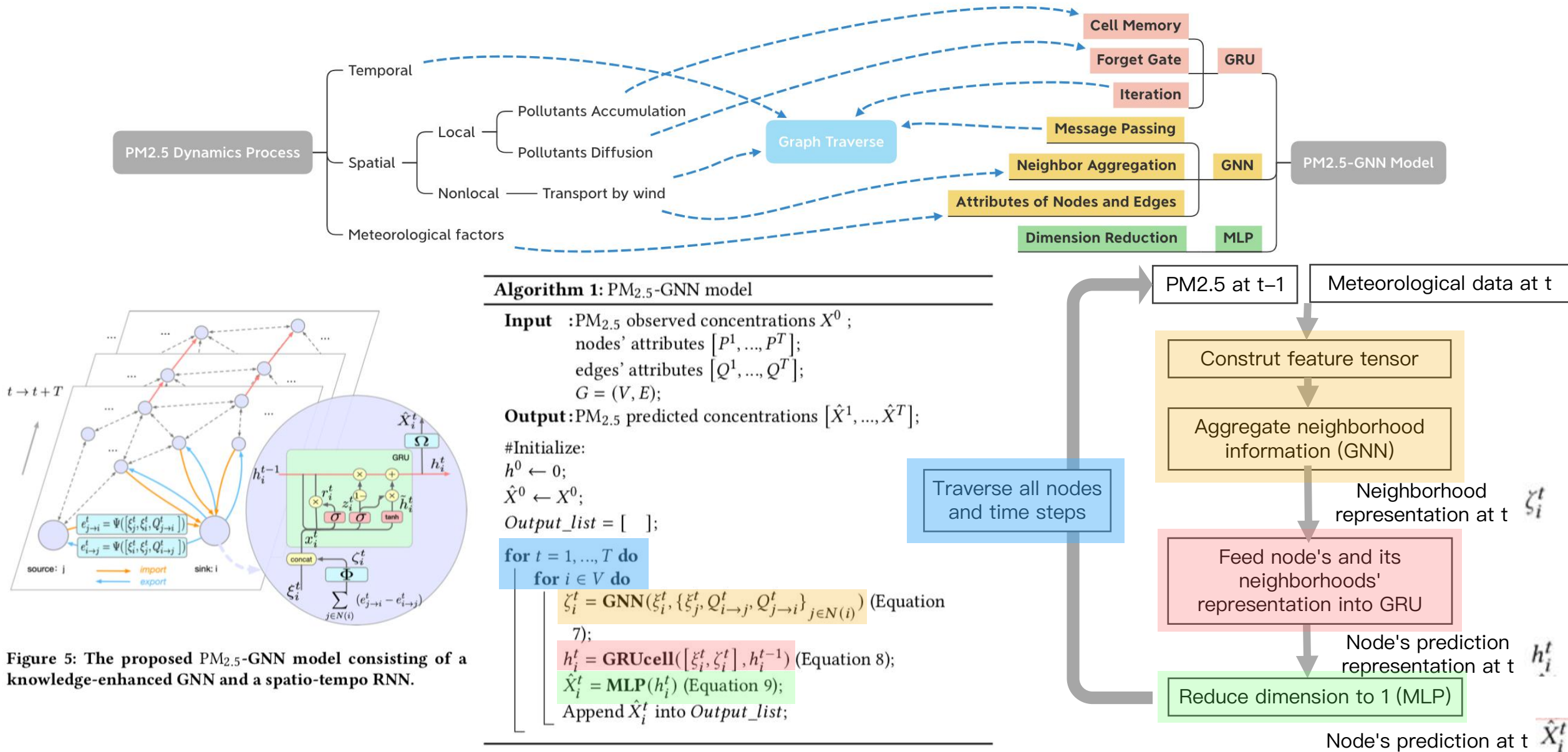
|   | GCN   | GNN (Basic block used in our model) |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
|   | $f(H^{(l)}, A) = \sigma \left( \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \hat{A} \hat{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}} H^{(l)} W^{(l)} \right)$ |                                     |
| Pass and aggregate Information on graphs                                |   |                                     |
| Work on directed graphs, feed in edge Attributes, and run MLPs on edges |   |                                     |

[1] Y. Qi, Q. Li, H. Karimian, and D. Liu, A hybrid model for spatiotemporal forecasting of PM 2.5 based on graph convolutional neural network and long short-term memory, 2019.

[2] T. N. Kipf and M. Welling, Semi-supervised classification with graph convolutional networks, 2017

[3] P. W. Battaglia et al., Relational inductive biases, deep learning, and graph networks, 2018.

# PM2.5-GNN





# Experiment

## Dataset

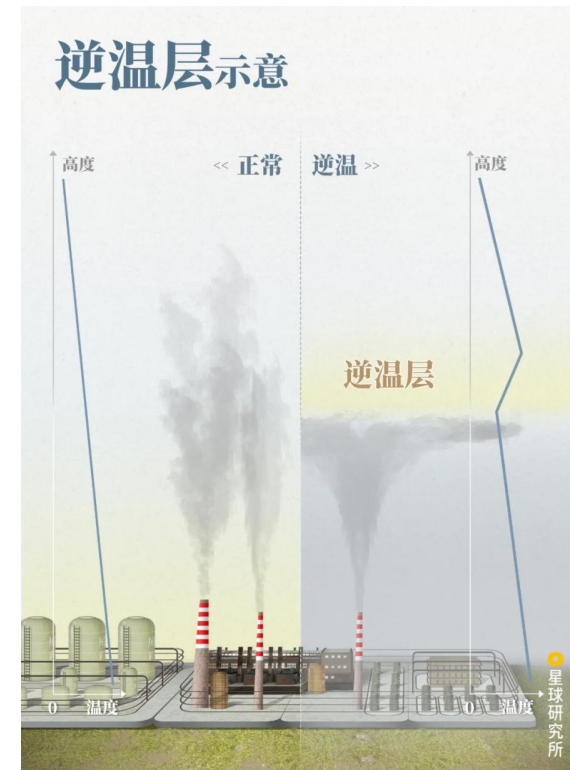
- A 4-year dataset (2015–2018)
- PM2.5 concentrations from Ministry of Ecology and Environment
- Meteorological data from European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)

## Planetary Boundary Layer height (PBL)



Table 3: Dataset is split into 3 sub-datasets.

| Dataset | Train                 | Validate               | Test                  |
|---------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1       | 2015/1/1 - 2016/12/31 | 2017/1/1 - 2017/12/31  | 2018/1/1 - 2018/12/31 |
| 2       | 2015/11/1 - 2016/2/28 | 2016/11/1 - 2017/2/28  | 2017/11/1 - 2018/2/28 |
| 3       | 2016/9/1 - 2016/11/30 | 2016/12/1 - 2016/12/31 | 2017/1/1 - 2017/1/31  |



[1] M. R. Perrone and S. Romano, Relationship between the planetary boundary layer height and the particle scattering coefficient at the surface, 2018.

[2] 中国雾霾说明书. 微信公众号 星球研究所

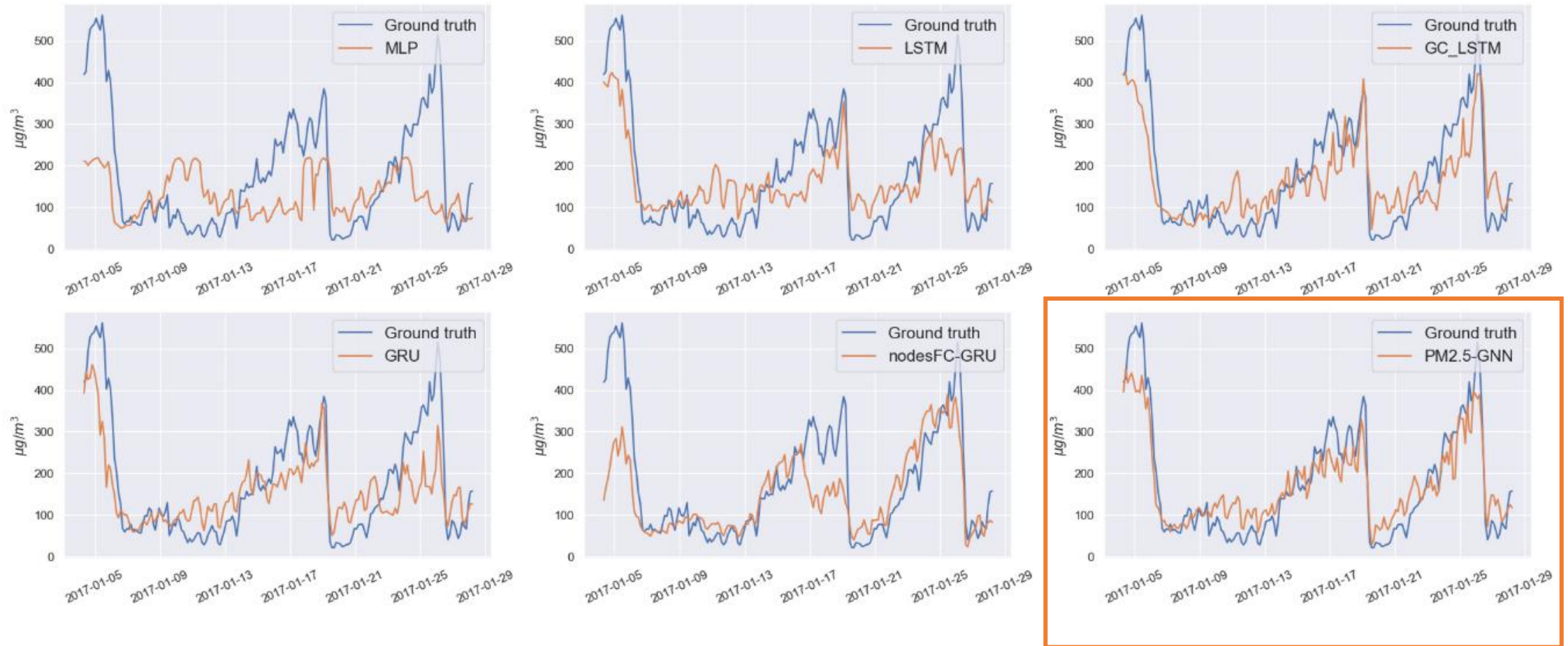


# Results

**Table 2: Experimental results of PM<sub>2.5</sub>-GNN's compared models, and its different configurations for ablation study. Lack of PBL feature or subtraction (export) component worsens PM<sub>2.5</sub>-GNN's performance.**

|                                  | Sub-dataset 1 |              | Sub-dataset 2 |              | Sub-dataset 3 |              |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|                                  | RMSE          | CSI (%)      | RMSE          | CSI (%)      | RMSE          | CSI (%)      |
| GRU                              | 21.00 ± 0.17  | 45.38 ± 0.52 | 32.59 ± 0.16  | 51.07 ± 0.81 | 45.25 ± 0.85  | 59.40 ± 0.01 |
| GC-LSTM                          | 20.84 ± 0.11  | 45.83 ± 0.43 | 32.10 ± 0.29  | 51.24 ± 0.13 | 45.01 ± 0.81  | 60.58 ± 0.14 |
| PM <sub>2.5</sub> -GNN           | 19.93 ± 0.11  | 48.52 ± 0.48 | 31.37 ± 0.34  | 52.33 ± 1.06 | 43.29 ± 0.79  | 61.91 ± 0.78 |
| PM <sub>2.5</sub> -GNN no PBL    | 20.46 ± 0.18  | 47.43 ± 0.37 | 32.44 ± 0.36  | 51.05 ± 1.15 | 44.71 ± 1.02  | 60.64 ± 0.84 |
| PM <sub>2.5</sub> -GNN no export | 20.54 ± 0.16  | 45.73 ± 0.58 | 31.91 ± 0.32  | 51.54 ± 1.27 | 43.72 ± 1.03  | 61.52 ± 0.95 |

# Results



**Figure 11: Comparison of prediction curves between PM<sub>2.5</sub>-GNN and its baselines for 72 hours ahead prediction at Xi'an node of testset of Dataset 3.**

# Deployment



<http://caiyunapp.com/map/>



Figure 2: Online website (<http://caiyunapp.com/map/>) that provides 72-hour real-time PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration prediction using PM<sub>2.5</sub>-GNN model proposed in this paper.

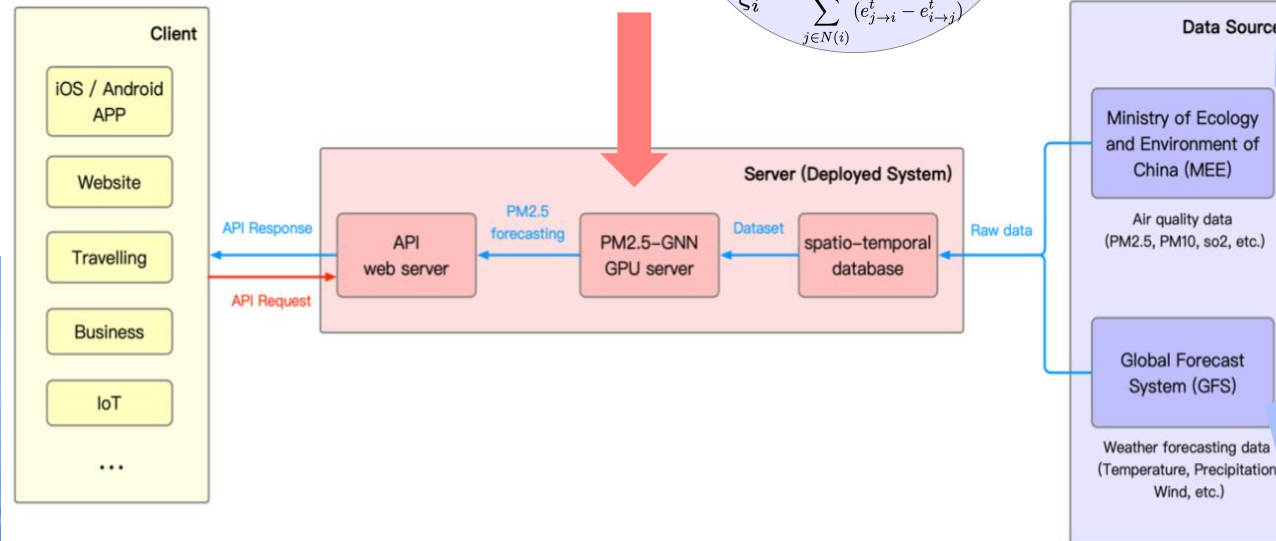
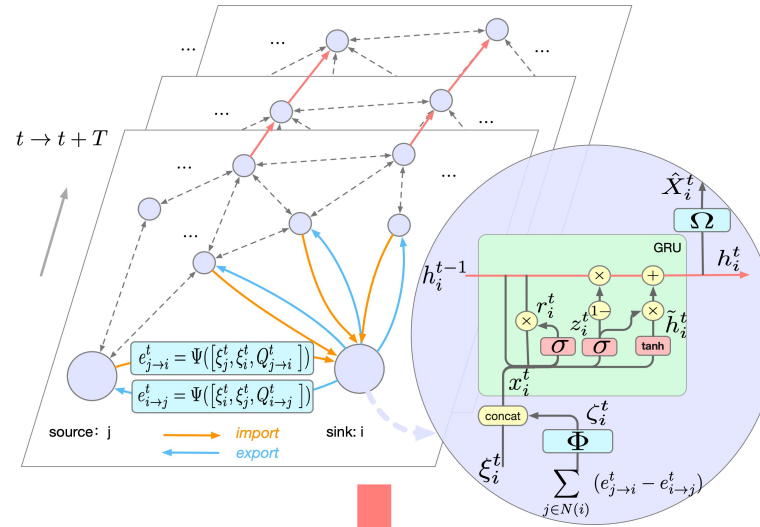
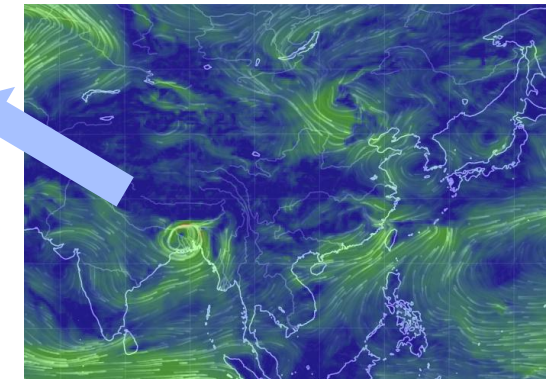
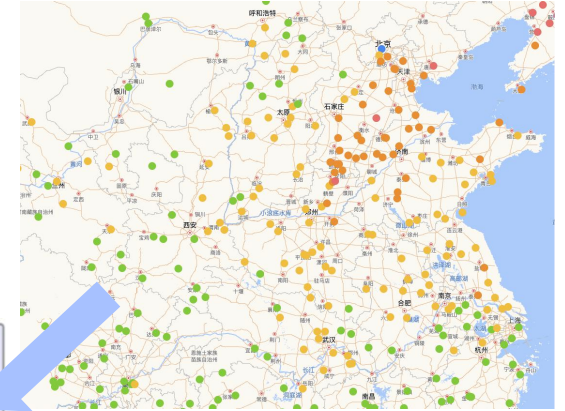


Figure 10: Deployment Framework





# PM<sub>2.5</sub>-GNN: A Domain Knowledge Enhanced Graph Neural Network For PM<sub>2.5</sub> Forecasting

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Code: <https://github.com/shawnwang-tech/PM2.5-GNN>