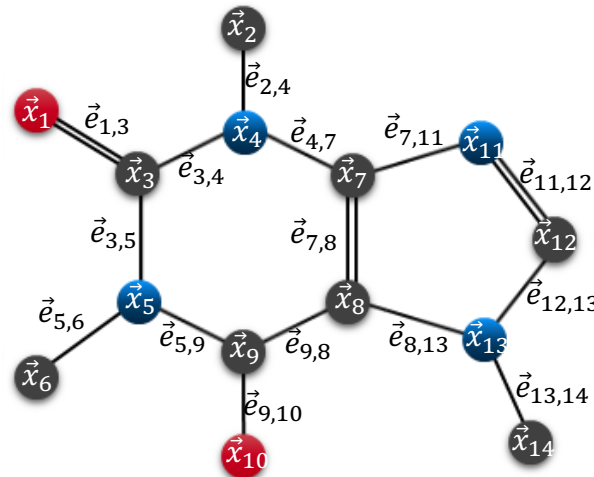


Graph neural Networks for small molecules

Representation of small molecules as graphs

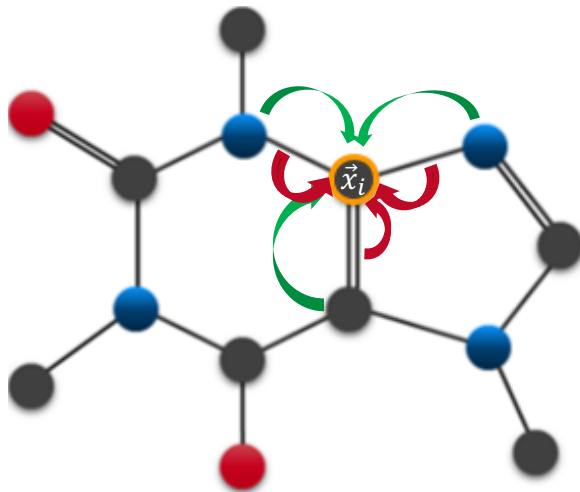
- Atoms can be interpreted as the nodes of a graph and bonds as the edges of a graph
- All N atoms have to be numbered arbitrarily
- Node feature vectors $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{D_n}$ for node i are calculated and saved in a matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D_n}$
- Bond feature vectors $\vec{e}_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}^{D_e}$ (bond between atom i and j) are calculated and saved in a tensor $E \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N \times D_n}$
- Adjacency matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ stores between which atoms a bond exists:
 - $A_{i,j} = 1 \rightarrow$ a bond exists between atom i and j
 - $A_{i,j} = 0 \rightarrow$ no bond exists between atom i and j
- X , E , and A are used as input for a graph neural network (GNN)



$$\vec{x}_i = \begin{pmatrix} \text{atom type} \\ \text{mass} \\ \text{valence} \\ \text{charge} \\ \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{e}_{i,j} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{bond type} \\ \text{part of ring} \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

Typical forward pipeline of a GNN



- First, the node feature vectors are iteratively updated T times by using information about neighboring atoms and edges:

$$\vec{x}_i = \vec{x}_i^{(0)} \rightarrow \vec{x}_i^{(1)} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \vec{x}_i^{(T)} \in \mathbb{R}^{D_n}$$

- Update for a single atom feature vector ($N(i)$ is the set of neighboring atoms):

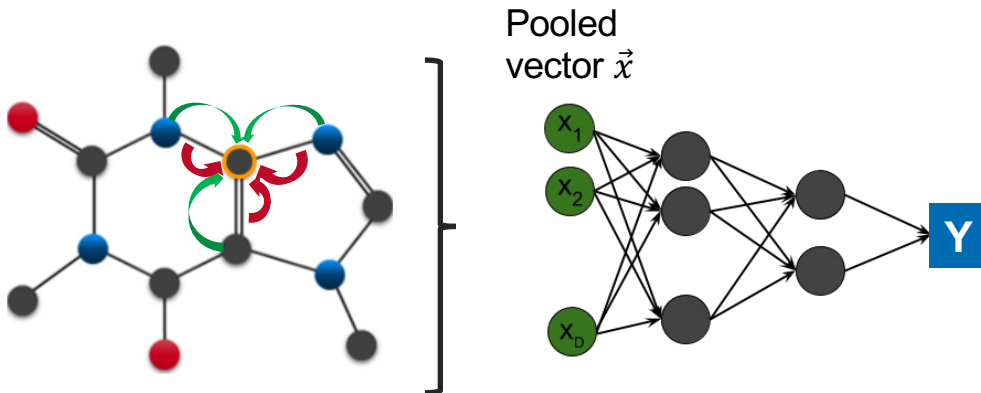
$$\vec{x}_i^{(t+1)} = \sum_{j \in N(i)} U_t(\vec{x}_i^{(t)}, \vec{x}_j^{(t)}, \vec{e}_{i,j})$$

- After T update steps, we pool all feature vectors \vec{x}_i :

$$\text{Pooling}(\vec{x}_1^{(T)}, \vec{x}_2^{(T)}, \dots, \vec{x}_N^{(T)}) = \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{D_n}$$

- Predicting a molecule/graph property:

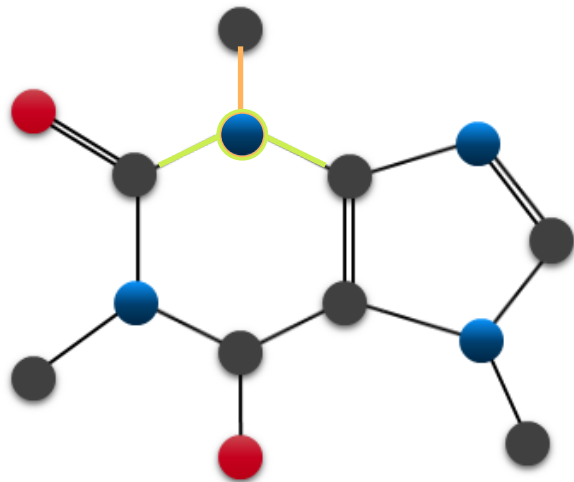
$$FFN(\vec{x}) = y \in \mathbb{R}$$



- Whole network is trained end-to-end
 - Parameters of the update functions and the FFN are adjusted simultaneously
 - Training is the same as for standard deep neural networks

- GNNs can also be pre-trained in a self-supervised way
 - For example: Masking nodes and prediction the type of node from the neighboring bond and node feature vectors

Directed Message Passing Neural Network (D-MPNN)



- Calculating atom feature vectors $\vec{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{D_n}$ and bond feature vectors $\vec{e}_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}^{D_e}$

- Initial hidden representations of atom-bond-pairs:

$$\vec{h}_{i,j}^{(0)} = \text{ReLU}(W_h \cdot \text{concat}(\vec{x}_i, \vec{e}_{i,j}))$$

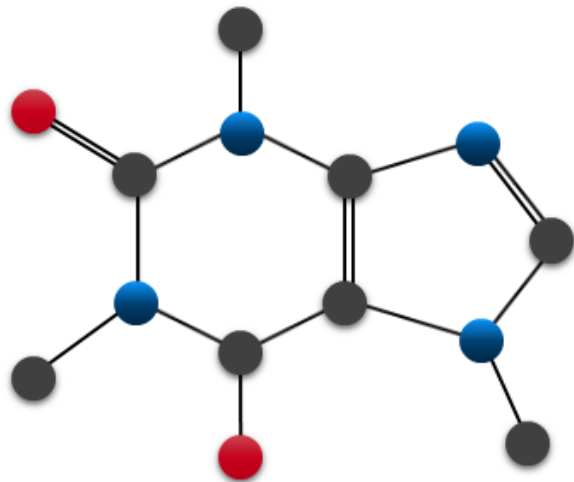
- Update hidden vectors T times

- $t = 1$:
$$\vec{m}_{i,j}^{(1)} = \sum_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} \vec{h}_{i,k}^{(0)} \quad \vec{h}_{i,j}^{(1)} = \text{ReLU}(\vec{h}_{i,j}^{(0)} + W_m^1 \cdot \vec{m}_{i,j}^{(1)})$$

- $t = 2$:
...
- $t = T$:

$$\vec{m}_{i,j}^{(T)} = \sum_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} \vec{h}_{i,k}^{(T-1)} \quad \vec{h}_{i,j}^{(T)} = \text{ReLU}(\vec{h}_{i,j}^{(0)} + W_m^T \cdot \vec{m}_{i,j}^{(T)})$$

Directed Message Passing Neural Network (D-MPNN)



- Initial hidden representations of node-bond-pairs:

$$\vec{h}_{i,j}^{(0)} = \text{ReLU}(W_h \cdot \text{concat}(\vec{x}_i, \vec{e}_{i,j}))$$

- Update hidden vectors T times

- For $t = 1, \dots, T$:

$$\vec{m}_{i,j}^{(t)} = \sum_{k \in N(i) \setminus j} \vec{h}_{i,k}^{(t-1)} \quad \vec{h}_{i,j}^{(t)} = \text{ReLU}(\vec{h}_{i,j}^{(0)} + W_m^t \cdot \vec{m}_{i,j}^{(t)})$$

- Calculating atom representations for all atoms i :

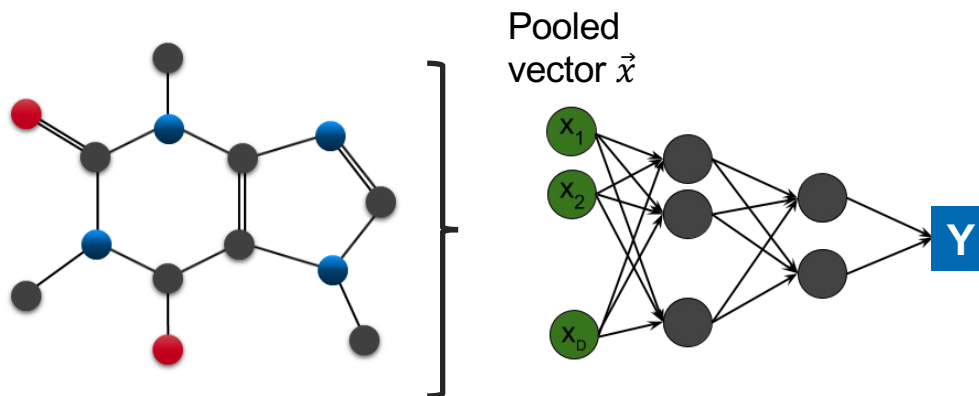
$$\vec{m}_i = \sum_{k \in N(i)} \vec{h}_{i,k}^{(T)} \quad \vec{h}_i = \text{ReLU}(W_a \cdot \text{concat}(\vec{x}_i, \vec{m}_i))$$

- Pooling all atom feature vectors $\vec{x} = \sum_{i=1, \dots, N} \vec{h}_i$

- Predicting a molecule/graph property:

$$\text{FFN}(\vec{x}) = y \in \mathbb{R}$$

After model training



- We can use this model as our final prediction model
- Alternatively, we can extract the vectors \vec{x} for all molecules and train another ML model for the prediction task with these vectors as model input

Comparison to Transformer Networks

	BACE RMSE	Clearance RMSE	Delaney RMSE	Lipo RMSE	BACE ROC	BBBP ROC	ClinTox ROC	SR-p53 ROC
D-MPNN	2.253	49.754	1.105	1.212	0.812	0.697	0.906	0.719
ChemBERTa-2								
MTR-10M	1.417	48.934	0.858	0.744	0.783	0.733	0.601	0.827
MTR-77M	1.363	48.515	0.889	0.798	0.799	0.728	0.563	0.817

Dataset	BBBP	Tox21	ClinTox	HIV	BACE	SIDER
Tasks	1	12	2	1	1	27
D-MPNN ⁵⁴	71.2	68.9	90.5	75.0	85.3	63.2
MOLEFORMER-XL	93.7	84.7	94.8	82.2	88.21	69.0

- Potential reasons for superior performance of Transformer Networks:
 - Can encode stereochemistry of molecules
 - Pre-trained on millions of small molecules