

# Leveraging AI for Faster Storage Access: a Graph-Neural-Network-Based Prefetcher

**Faradawn Yang**

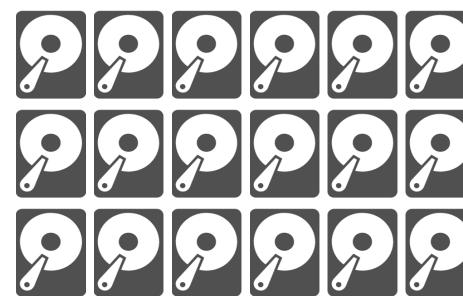
Advisor: **Haryadi S. Gunawi**



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**CHICAGO**

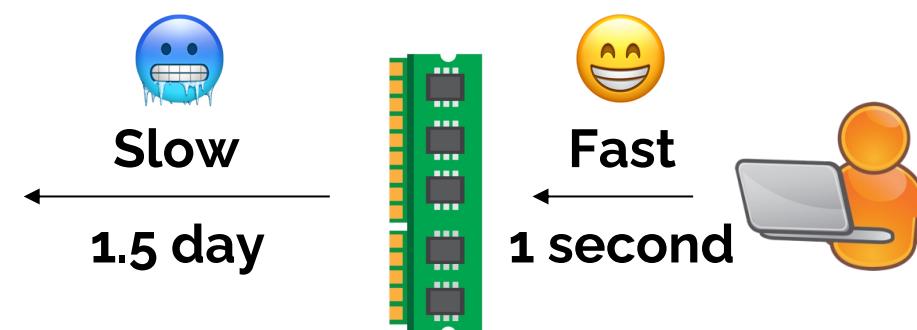
# Backend storage is slow

Bulk Storage  
Meta Microsoft



Memory

CPU

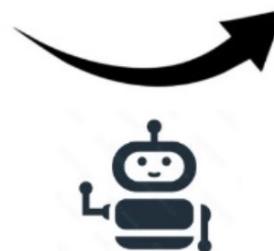


# Prefetching improves access speed

No prefetch



With prefetch



# Previous work

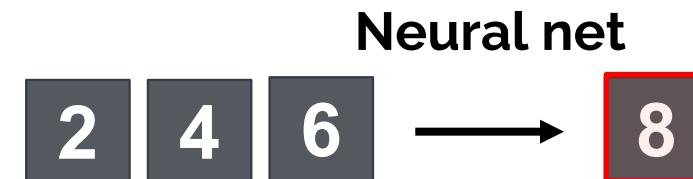
[‘92] Stride



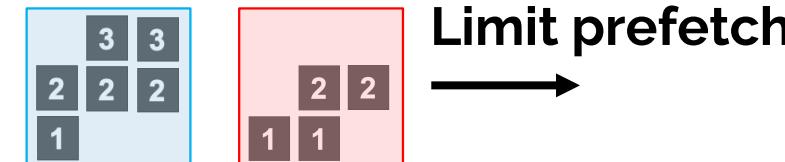
[‘20] Leap



[‘21] LSTM

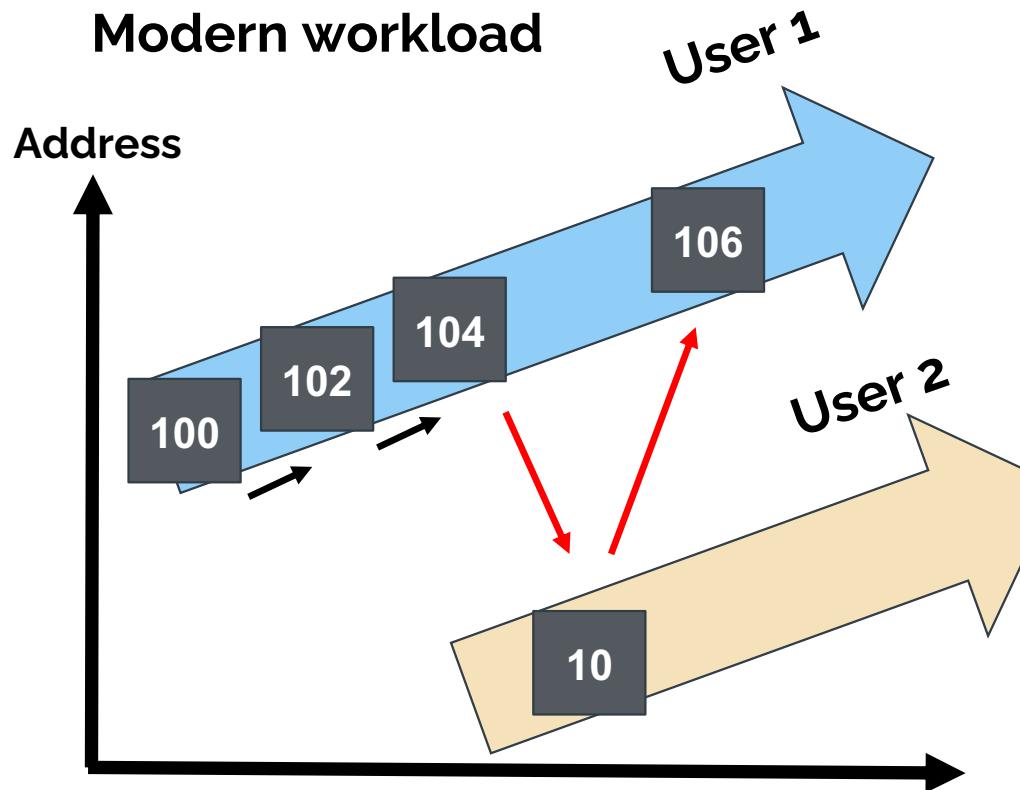


[‘24] Baleen



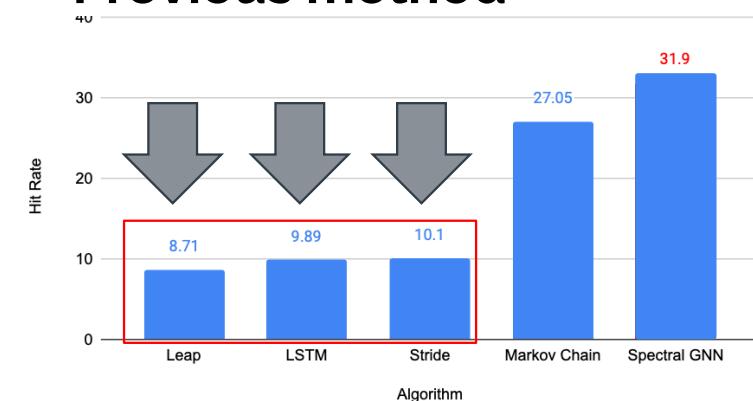
# Current problem

## Modern workload



Average hit rate on Alibaba, Tencent, and Microsoft traces

## Previous method

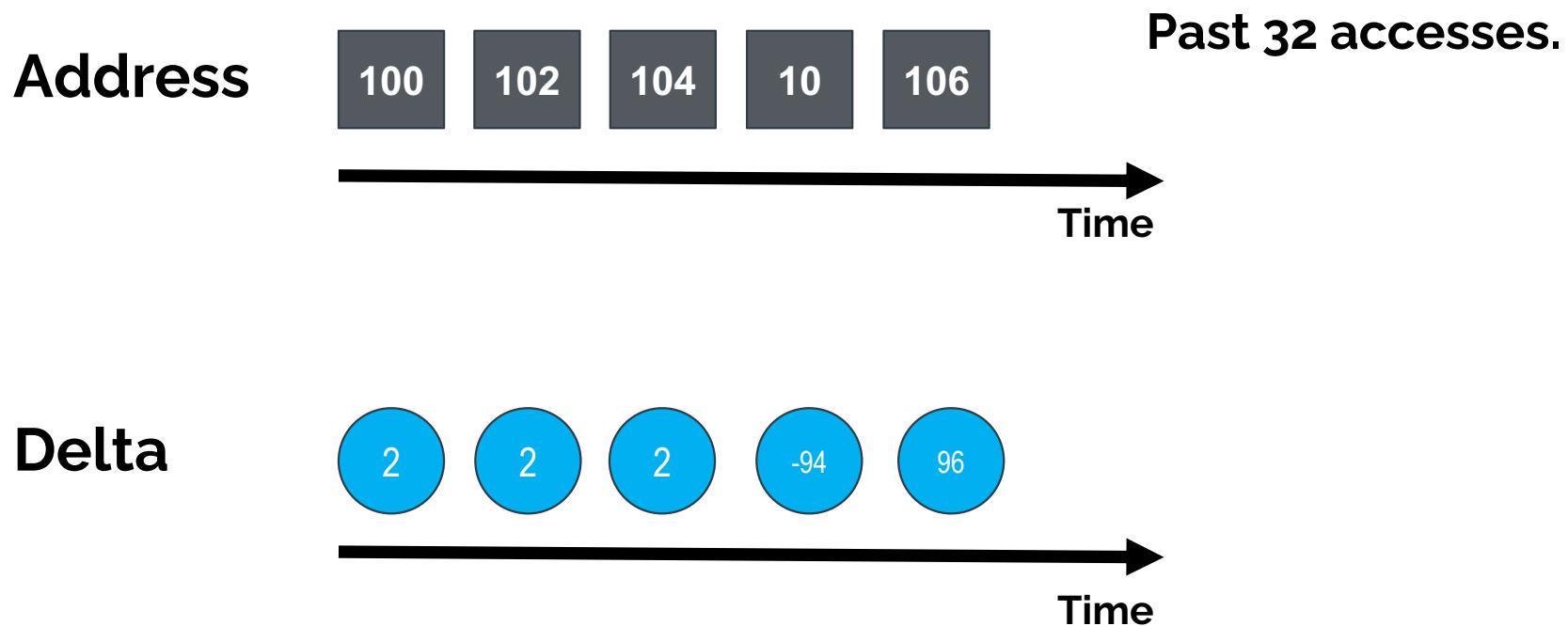


- 1) Not prone against short-term irregularities.
- 2) Can't see a global picture.

# Methodology

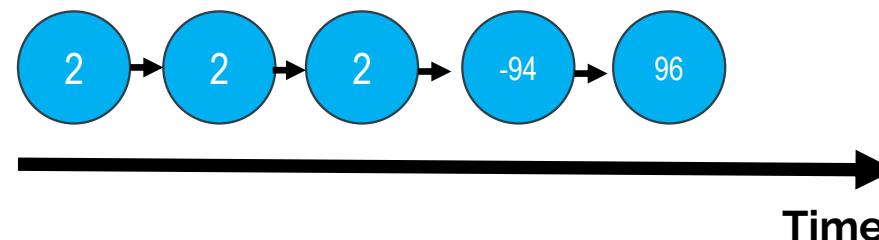
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## Step 1: Convert to deltas

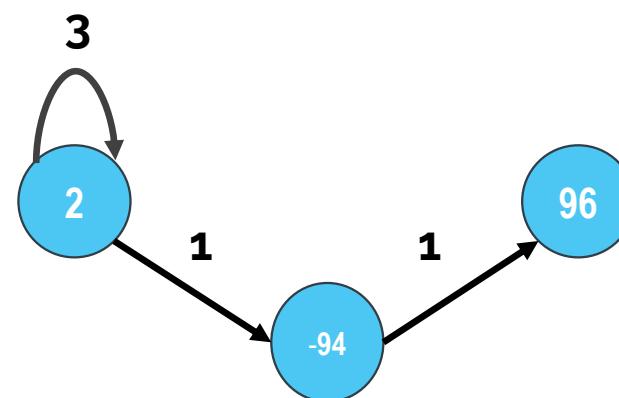


## Step 2: Build a graph

Delta

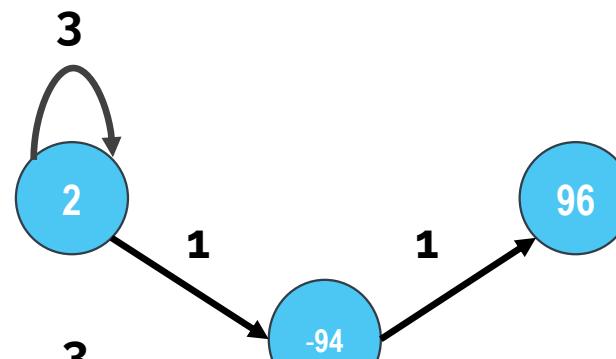


Graph

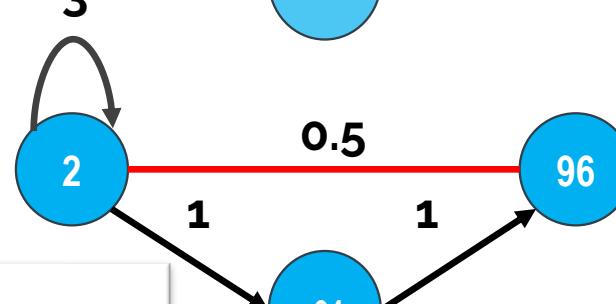


## Step 3: Add full connections

Graph



Fully-  
connected  
Graph

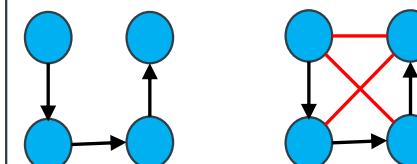


$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 96 & -94 \\ 3 & 0.5 & 1 \\ 96 & 0.5 & 0 \\ -94 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

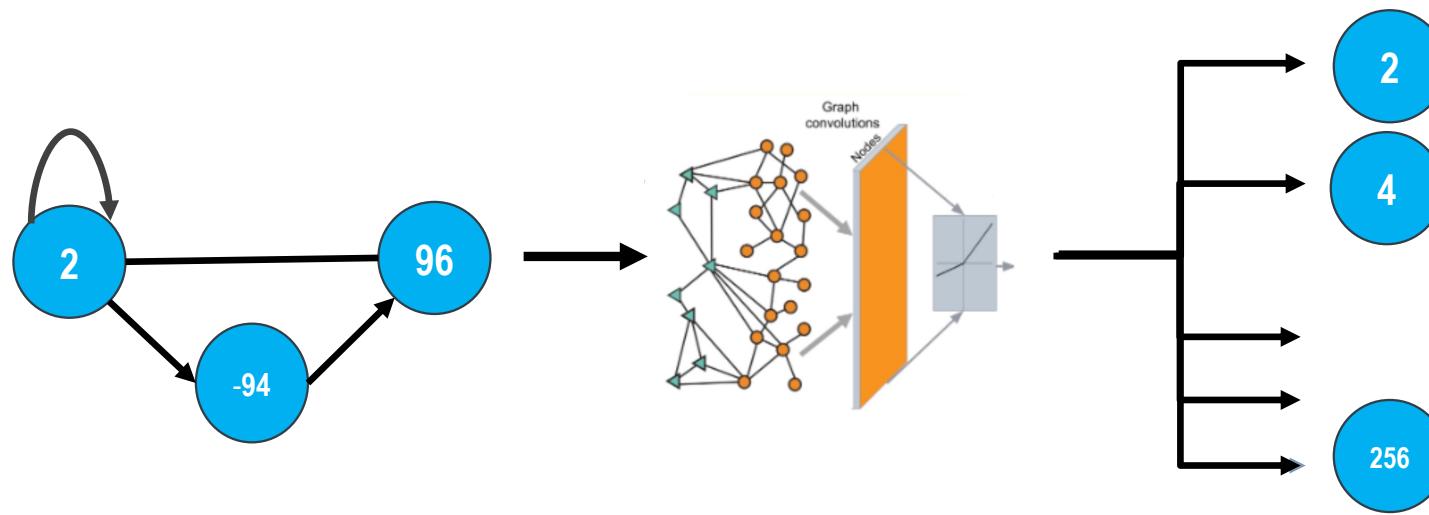
Directed edges  
capture temporal  
information.

Fully-connected  
edges reveal spatial  
pattern.

Another example



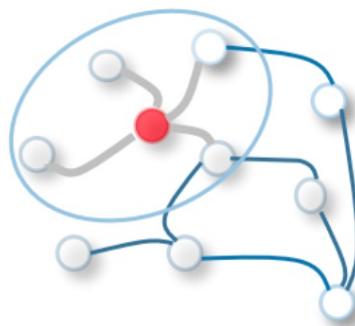
## Step 4: Feed into ML



$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 96 & -94 \\ 2 & 3 & 0.5 & 1 \\ 96 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ -94 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

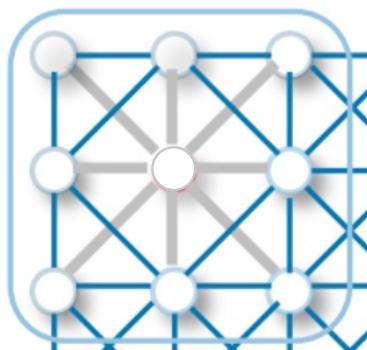
**1000 delta  
addresses.**

# What ML model



**[SGDP '23]**  
**Message**  
**passing**

Local patterns.  
Many iterations.



**[Ours]**  
**Spectral**  
**network**

Global structure.  
One pass.



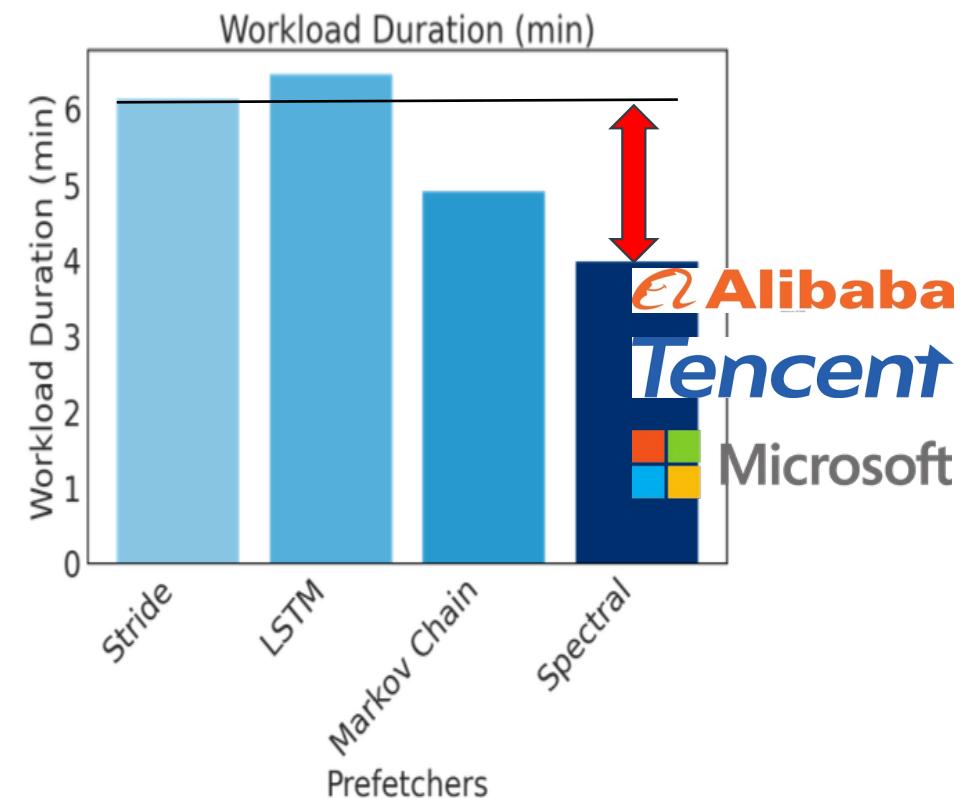
# Evaluations

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# Faster access speed

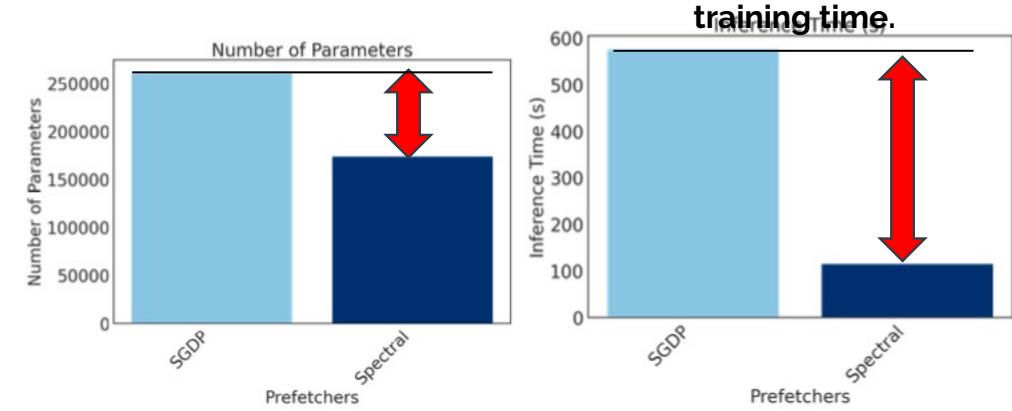
- ❑ Setup: python simulator.
- ❑ Respected arrival time of requests

**Saves 33%  
access time!**



# Saves memory and time

- ❑ Similar hit rate, but much smaller model and faster training and inference than state-of-the-art, [SGDP '23].



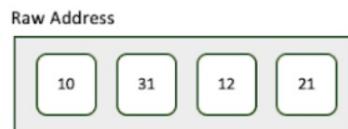
**Saves 33.4%  
model size.**

**Saves 79%  
training time.**

# Conclusion

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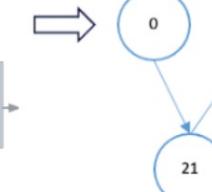
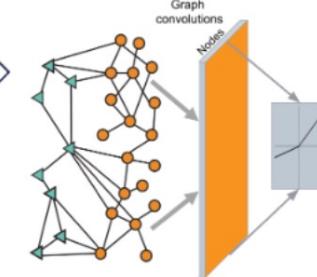
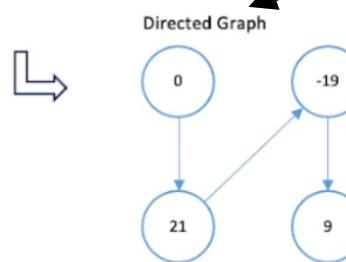
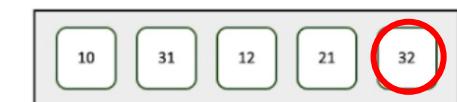
# Entire pipeline



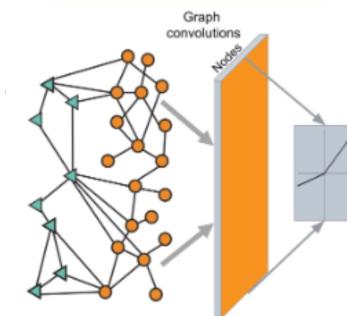
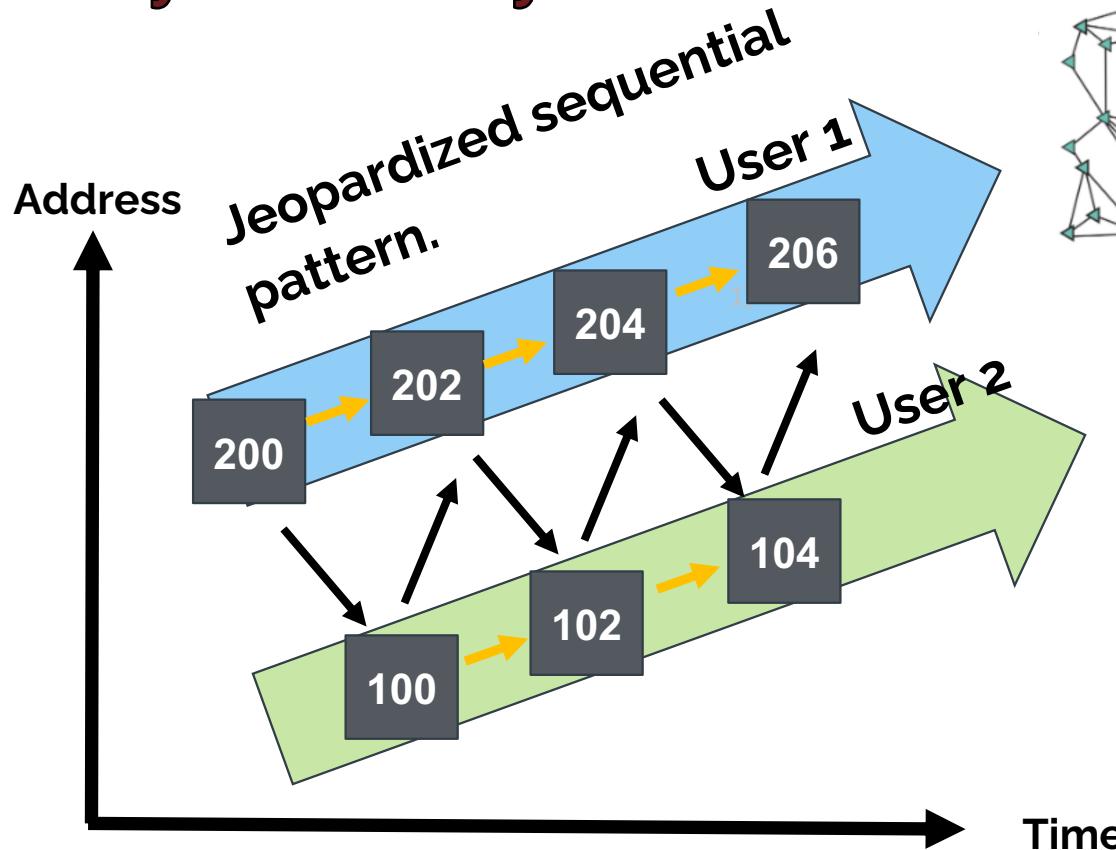
**Build a  
distilled  
graph.**



**Predict a  
new node.**



# Key takeaway



Use **graph** to  
detect a global  
pattern.

# Thank you!

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Prefetcher**

# Backup Slides

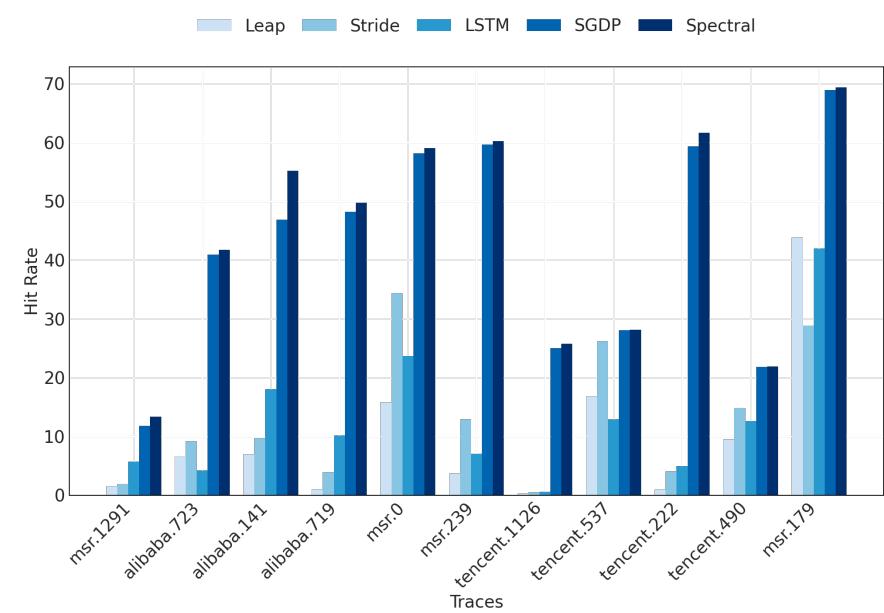
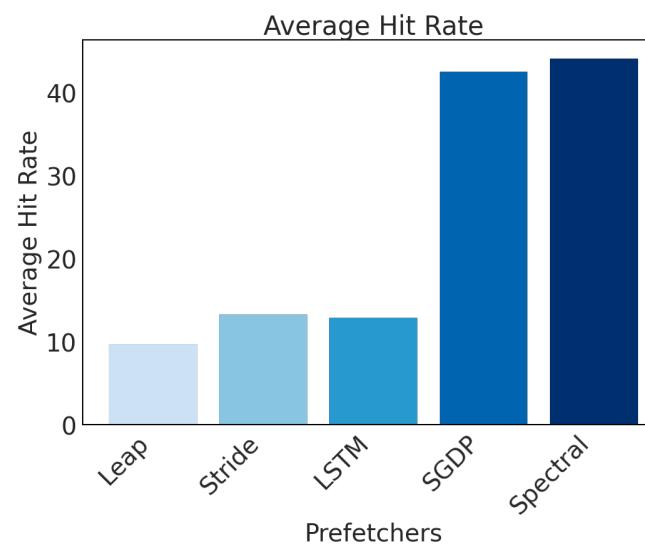
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# Is graph building too costly

- ❑ Only putting 32 integers into a matrix.
- ❑ Main Bottleneck is disk access (20ms), then inference (2ms), then graph building (1ms).
- ❑ Spectral < SGDP < LSTM < transformer.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Higher hit rate



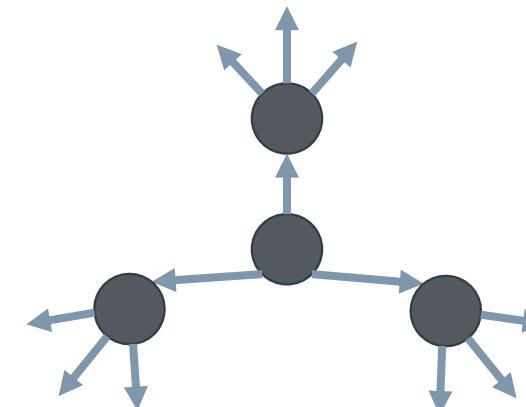
# Why spectral method

## Message passing

$$m_v^{(t+1)} = \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} M^{(t)} \left( h_v^{(t)}, h_u^{(t)}, e_{uv} \right)$$

$$h_v^{(t+1)} = U^{(t)} \left( h_v^{(t)}, m_v^{(t+1)} \right)$$

Many iterations



## Spectral method

$$H^{(2)} = \sigma_2 \left( \hat{A} \sigma_1 \left( \hat{A} X W^{(0)} \right) W^{(1)} \right)$$

One go

