

## Overview

### Graph Neural Networks (GNN)

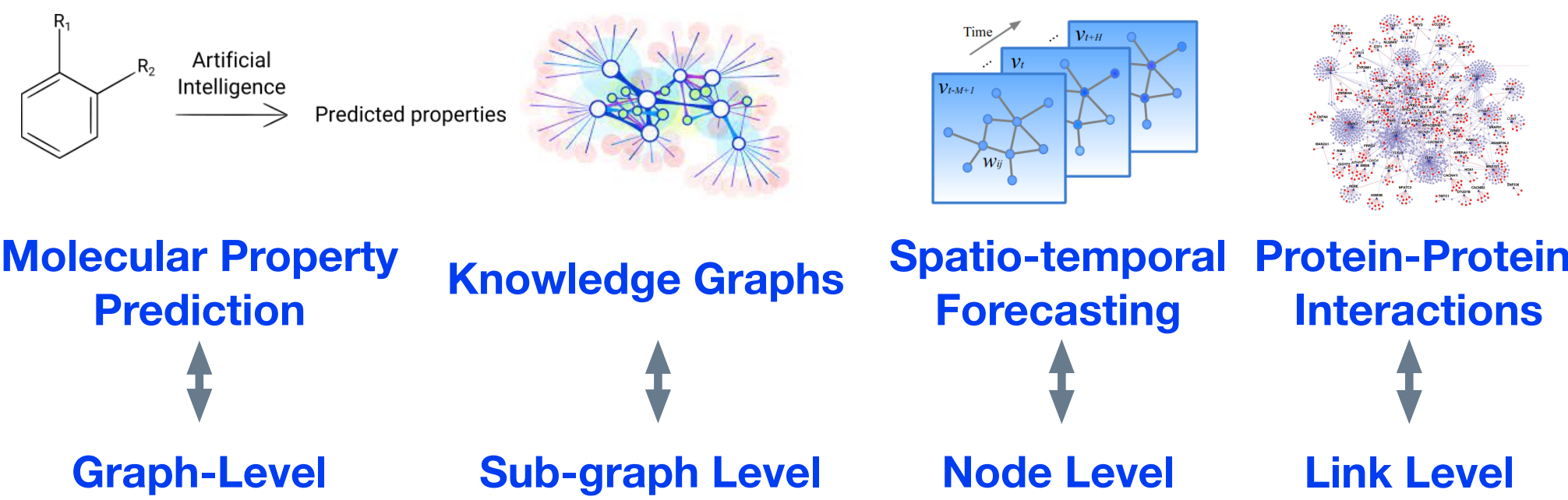
- SoTA methods for graph representations
- Many real-world graph data are **decentralized**

### Federated Learning (FL)

- Decentralized learning under privacy
- Federated GNNs are **ill-defined**.

## FedGraphNN

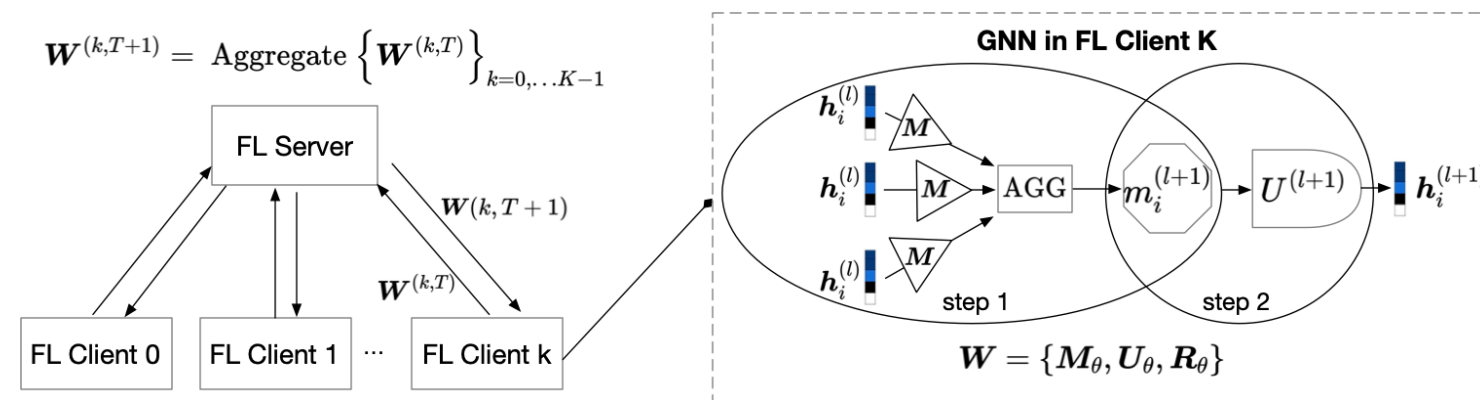
### Motivating Examples



### Contributions:

- An open-source federated learning system for GNNs, namely FedGraphNN
- A large-scale federated molecular dataset (hERG) for further research exploration.

## Problem Formulation: Federated GNN's



Say,  $k^{th}$  client owns a dataset  $\mathcal{D}^{(k)} := \left\{ \left( G_i^{(k)}, y_i^{(k)} \right) \right\}_{i=1}^{N^{(k)}}$ , where  $G_i^{(k)} = (\mathcal{V}_i^{(k)}, \mathcal{E}_i^{(k)})$  is the  $i^{th}$

graph sample in  $\mathcal{D}^{(k)}$  with node & edge feature sets  $X^{(k)} = \{x_m^{(k)}\}_{m \in \mathcal{V}_i^{(k)}}$  &  $Z^{(k)} = \{z_{m,n}^{(k)}\}_{m,n \in \mathcal{E}_i^{(k)}}$ ,

$y_i^{(k)}$  is the multi-class label of  $G_i^{(k)}$ . Each client also owns a L-layer MPNN formalized as :

$$m_i^{(k,\ell+1)} = \text{AGG} \left( \left\{ M_\theta^{(k,\ell+1)} \left( h_i^{(k,\ell)}, h_j^{(k,\ell)}, e_{i,j} \right) \mid j \in \mathcal{N}_i \right\} \right)$$

$$h_i^{(k,\ell+1)} = U_\theta^{(k,\ell+1)} \left( h_i^{(k,\ell)}, m_i^{(k,\ell+1)} \right)$$

$$\hat{y}_i^{(k)} = R_\theta \left( \left\{ h_j^{(k,L)} \mid j \in \mathcal{V}_i^{(k)} \right\} \right)$$

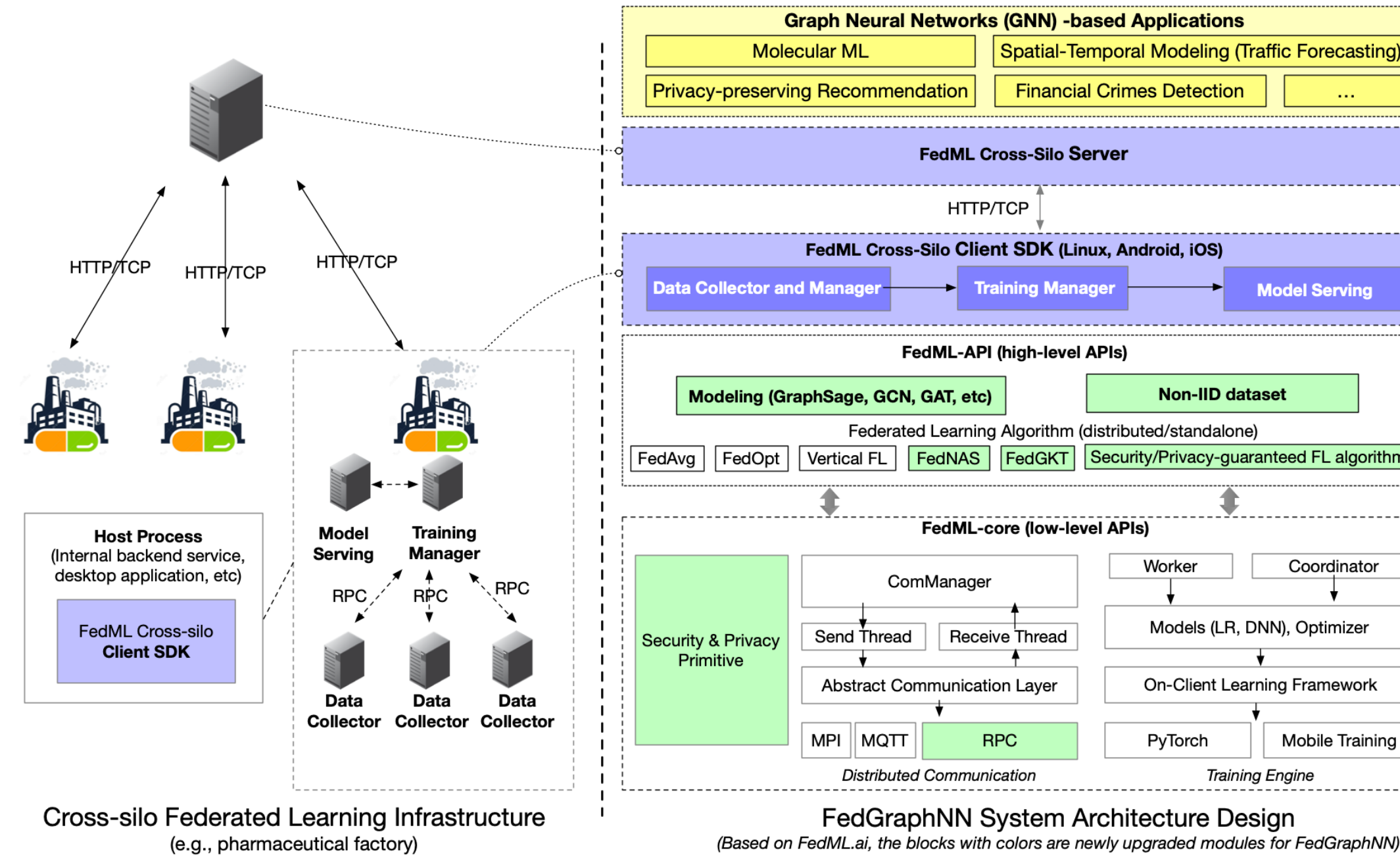
We formulate GNN-based FL as a distributed optimization problem as follows:

$$\min_W F(W) = \min_W \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{N^{(k)}}{N} \cdot f^{(k)}(W),$$

where  $f^{(k)}(W) = \frac{1}{N^{(k)}} \sum_{i=1}^{N^{(k)}} \mathcal{L}(W; X_i^{(k)}, Z_i^{(k)}, y_i^{(k)})$  is the  $k^{th}$  client's local objective function

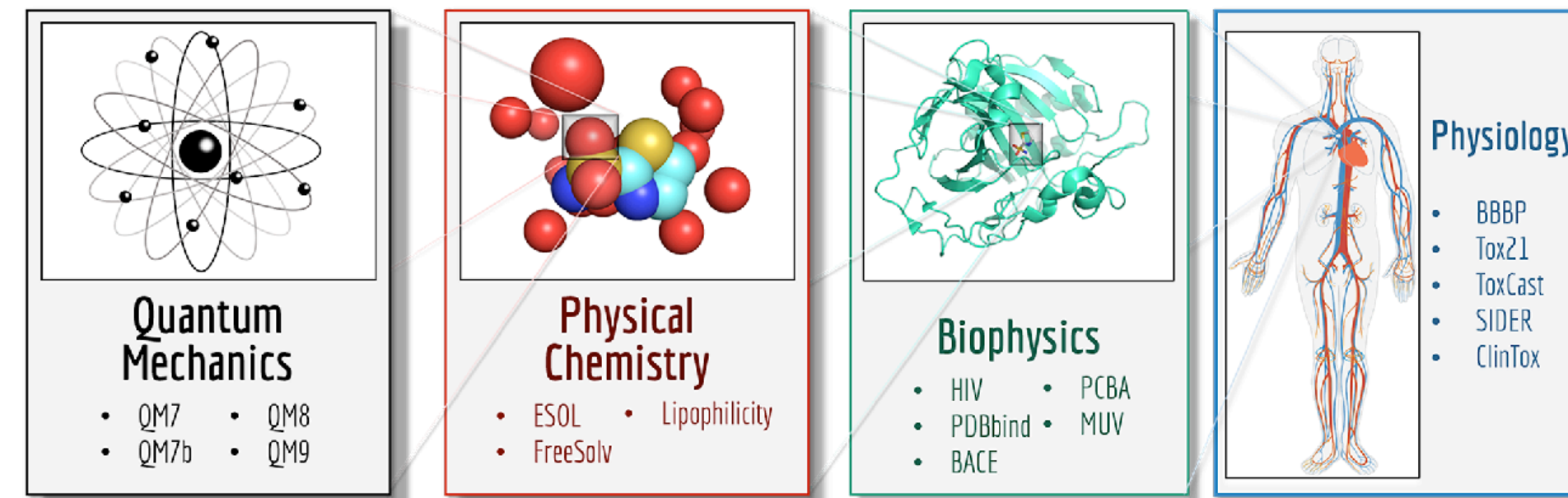
measuring the local empirical risk over dataset  $\mathcal{D}^{(k)}$ .

## FedGraphNN System Design



## FedGraphNN Benchmark

FedGraphNN supports the MoleculeNet datasets:



FedGraphNN currently supports the following GNN models & FL optimizers:

- GCN
- GAT
- GraphSage
- FedAvg
- Split Learning
- FedOpt
- FedNova

```
# load data
dataset, feat_dim, num_cats = load_data(args, args.dataset)
[train_data_num, val_data_num, test_data_num, train_data_global, val_data_global, test_data_global,
data_local_num_dict, train_data_local_dict, val_data_local_dict, test_data_local_dict] = dataset

# create model.
model, trainer = create_model_and_trainer(args, args.model, feat_dim, num_cats, output_dim=None)

# start "federated averaging (FedAvg)"
FedML_FedAvg_distributed(process_id, worker_number, device, comm,
model, train_data_num, train_data_global, test_data_global,
data_local_num_dict, train_data_local_dict, test_data_local_dict, args,
trainer)
```

Figure 3: Example code for benchmark evaluation with FedGraphNN

## Experimental Results

Table 2. Classification results (higher is better)

Dataset (samples)	Non-I.I.D. Partition Method	GNN Model	Federated Optimizer	Performance Metric	MoleculeNet Results	Score on Centralized Training	Score on Federated Training
SIDER (1427)	LDA with $\alpha = 0.2$ 4 clients	GCN GAT GraphSAGE	FedAvg	ROC-AUC	0.638	0.6476 0.6639 0.6669	0.6266 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0210) 0.6591 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0048) 0.6700 ( $\uparrow$ 0.0031)
BACE (1513)	LDA with $\alpha = 0.5$ 4 clients	GCN GAT GraphSAGE	FedAvg	ROC-AUC	0.806	0.7657 0.9221 0.9266	0.6594 ( $\downarrow$ 0.1063) 0.7714 ( $\downarrow$ 0.1507) 0.8604 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0662)
Clintox (1478)	LDA with $\alpha = 0.5$ 4 clients	GCN GAT GraphSAGE	FedAvg	ROC-AUC	0.832	0.8914 0.9573 0.9716	0.8784 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0130) 0.9129 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0444) 0.9246 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0470)
BBBP (2039)	LDA with $\alpha = 2$ 4 clients	GCN GAT GraphSAGE	FedAvg	ROC-AUC	0.690	0.8705 0.8824 0.8930	0.7629 ( $\downarrow$ 0.1076) 0.8746 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0078) 0.8935 ( $\uparrow$ 0.0005)
Tox21 (7831)	LDA with $\alpha = 3$ 8 clients	GCN GAT GraphSAGE	FedAvg	ROC-AUC	0.829	0.7800 0.8144 0.8317	0.7128 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0672) 0.7186 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0958) 0.7801 ( $\downarrow$ 0.0516)

\*Note: to reproduce the result, please use the same random seeds we set in the library.

Table 4. Training time with FedAvg on GNNs (Hardware: 8 x NVIDIA Quadro RTX 5000 GPU (16GB/GPU); RAM: 512G; CPU: Intel Xeon Gold 5220R 2.20GHz).

		SIDER	BACE	Clintox	BBBP	Tox21	FreeSolv	ESOL	Lipo	hERG	QM9
Wall-clock Time	GCN	5m 58s	4m 57s	4m 40s	4m 13s	15m 3s	4m 12s	5m 25s	16m 14s	35m 30s	6h 48m
	GAT	8m 48s	5m 27s	7m 37s	5m 28s	25m 49s	6m 24s	8m 36s	25m 28s	58m 14s	9h 21m
Average FLOP	GCN	697.3K	605.1K	466.2K	427.2K	345.8K	142.6K	231.6K	480.6K	516.6K	153.9K
	GAT	703.4K	612.1K	470.2K	431K	347.8K	142.5K	232.6K	485K	521.3K	154.3K
Parameters	GCN	15.1K	13.5K	13.6K	13.5K	14.2K	13.5K	13.5K	13.5K	13.5K	14.2K
	GAT	20.2K	18.5K	18.6K	18.5K	19.2K	18.5K	18.5K	18.5K	18.5K	19.2K
	GraphSAGE	10.6K	8.9K	18.2K	18.1K	18.8K	18.1K	18.1K	269K	18.1K	18.8K

\*Note that we use the distributed training paradigm where each client's local training uses one GPU. Please refer our code for details.

## Research Questions & Future Directions

Our key findings:

1. **How to mitigate the accuracy gap** on graph datasets with non-I.I.D.ness?
  1. Can we personalize the model for each user?
2. **How to deal with limited labels** for real-world graph data?
  1. **How to leverage** semi or self-supervised learning into GNN-based FL?
  2. **What if we do not have labels at the edge?**
3. **How to design** efficient GNN-based FL algorithms for sub-graph, node and edge levels?

Future Directions:

1. **Integrate more domains:**
  1. Recommendation Systems
  2. Spatiotemporal Forecasting
  3. Knowledge Graphs
2. **Enable GNN models with edge information**

## Code Release