

# Ai4science

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- Molecular Representation learning
  - Invariant Methods: SchNet
  - Equivariant Methods: EGNN, TFN, Painn, Equiformer
- Molecular Conformer Generation
  - Learn the Distribution of Low-Energy Geometries: Geodiff
  - Predict the Equilibrium Ground-State Geometry: GTMGC
- Molecule Generation from Scratch: GeoLDM

## Partial Summary of existing 3D graph neural networks for molecular representation learning

Equiformerv2 compared to Equiformer

- eSCN convolution

- three architectural improvements

## **Partial Summary of existing 3D graph neural networks for molecular representation learning**

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# Molecular Representation learning

each node has an order- $l$  SE(3)-equivariant node feature. From the perspective of tensor order, existing methods for 3D molecular representation learning can be categorized into:

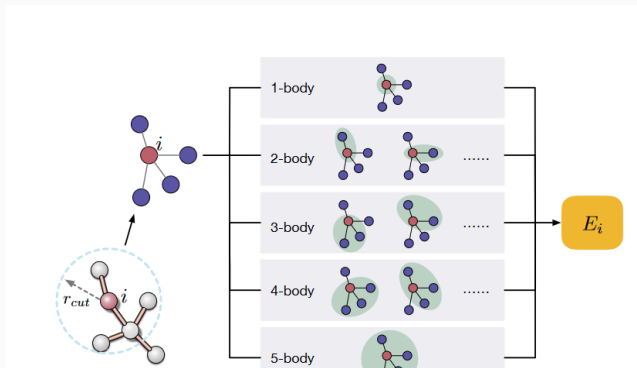
- Invariant Methods( $l = 0$  Scalar Features):  
SchNet, DimeNet, SphereNet
- Equivariant Methods( $l = 1$  Vector Features):  
EGNN, PaiNN
- Equivariant Methods( $l \geq 1$  Vector Features):  
TFN, SE(3)-Transformer, Equiformer, Equiformerv2

## the standard message passing and body order

the standard message passing:

$$m_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} M(h_i, h_j, h_{ij}) \quad (1)$$

$$h'_i = U(h_i, m_i)$$



## Invariant Methods ( $l = 0$ Scalar Features)



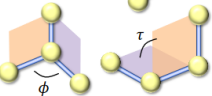
Invariant methods only maintain invariant node, edge, or graph features, which do not change if the input 3D molecule is rotated or translated.

- SchNet considers only **pairwise distances** as edge features  $h_{ji}$  in the node-centered message passing schema shown in Equation 1
- DimeNet further considers angles between each pair of edges with edge-centered message passing:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{m}_{ji} &= \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}(j) \setminus \{i\}} M(\mathbf{h}_{ji}, \mathbf{h}_{kj}, \mathbf{h}_{kji}) \\ \mathbf{h}'_{ji} &= U(\mathbf{h}_{ji}, \mathbf{m}_{ji}), \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

- GemNet further considers two-hop dihedral angles, increasing body order to 4 and complexity to  $O(nk^3)$
- SphereNet computes local 4-body angles between two planes.

# Invariant Methods ( $/ = 0$ Scalar Features)

Methods	Invariant Geometric Features	Body Order	Complexity
SchNet	 Pairwise distances $d$	2-body	$O(nk)$
DimeNet	 $d + \text{Angles between edges } \theta$	3-body	$O(nk^2)$
GemNet	 $d, \theta + \text{Angles between 4 nodes } \tau$	4-body	$O(nk^3)$
SphereNet	$d, \theta + \text{Angles between 4 nodes } \phi$	4-body	$O(nk^2)$
ComENet	$d, \theta, \phi, \tau$	4-body	$O(nk)$

**Figure 1:** Invariant Methods. Here  $n$  and  $k$  denote the number of nodes and the average degree in a molecule.



## Equivariant Methods ( $l = 1$ vectors Features)

The first category of equivariant 3D GNNs uses order 1 vectors as intermediate features and propagates messages via a restricted set of operations that guarantee  $E(3)$  or  $SE(3)$  equivariance. Denote a scalar feature by  $s \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and a vector by  $v \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times 3}$ . operations on a vector  $v$  that can ensure equivariance include:

- scaling of vectors  $s \odot v$
- summation of vectors  $v_1 + v_2$
- linear transformation of vectors  $Wv$
- scalar product  $\|v\|^2, v_1 \cdot v_2$
- vector product  $v_1 \times v_2$

## Equivariant Methods ( $l = 1$ vectors Features)

take EGNN as an example: an EGNN layer updates node representation  $h_i$  and node coordinate  $c_i$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} m_{ij} &= \phi_e(\mathbf{h}_i, \mathbf{h}_j, \|\mathbf{c}_i - \mathbf{c}_j\|^2, \mathbf{h}_{ij}), \\ c'_i &= c_i + C \sum_{j \neq i} (c_i - c_j) \phi_c(m_{ij}), \\ h'_i &= \phi_h \left( \mathbf{h}_i, \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{m}_{ij} \right), \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

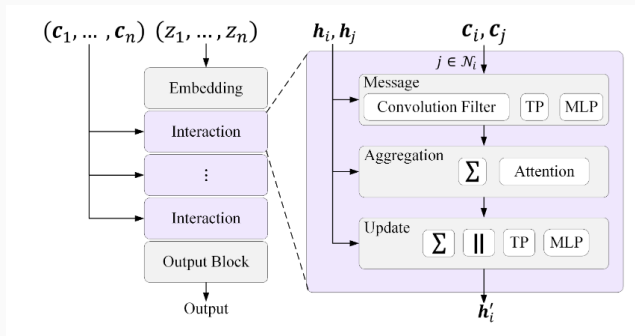
Methods	Scaling $\mathbf{s} \odot \mathbf{v}$	Summation $\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2$	Linear Transformation $W\mathbf{v}$	Scalar Product $\ \mathbf{v}\ ^2, \mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2$	Vector Product $\mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_2$
EGNN	✓	✓		✓	
ClofNet	✓	✓		✓	
PaiNN	✓	✓	✓	✓	
GVP-GNN	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Vector Neurons	✓	✓	✓	✓	

## Equivariant Methods ( $l \geq 1$ TensorFeatures)

Another category of equivariant methods considers higher-order  $l \geq 1$  features.

Most existing methods under this category use tensor products (TP) of higher-order spherical tensors to build equivariant representations and follow the general architecture in Figure to update features.

Methods: TFN, SE(3)-Transformer, Equiformer, Equiformerv2



## Equiformerv2 compared to Equiformer

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Equiformer2 works on how equivariant Transformers can be scaled up to higher degrees of equivariant representations. Equiformer2 first start by **replacing  $SO(3)$  convolutions in Equiformer with eSCN convolutions**, and then propose three architectural improvements to better leverage the power of higher degrees

- **attention re-normalization**
- **separable  $S^2$  activation**
- **separable layer normalization**

Message passing is used to update equivariant irreps features and is typically implemented as  $SO(3)$  convolutions. A traditional  $SO(3)$  convolution interacts input irrep features  $x_{m_i}^{(L_i)}$  and spherical harmonic projections of relative positions  $Y_{m_f}^{(L_f)}(\vec{r}_{ts})$  with an  $SO(3)$  tensor product with ClebschGordan coefficients  $C_{(L_i, m_i), (L_f, m_f)}^{(L_o, m_o)}$ . **Since tensor products are compute-intensive, the use of high degree  $L$  is limited.** eSCN convolutions are proposed to reduce the complexity of tensor products when they are used in  $SO(3)$  convolutions.

real form of Spherical harmonics:

$$Y_{\ell}^m(\theta, \varphi) = \begin{cases} (-1)^m \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi} \frac{(\ell-|m|)!}{(\ell+|m|)!}} P_{\ell}^{|m|}(\cos \theta) \sin(|m|\varphi) & \text{if } m < 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi}} P_{\ell}^0(\cos \theta) & \text{if } m = 0 \\ (-1)^m \sqrt{2} \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi} \frac{(\ell-m)!}{(\ell+m)!}} P_{\ell}^m(\cos \theta) \cos(m\varphi) & \text{if } m > 0 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

At the north pole, where  $\theta = 0$  and  $\phi$  is undefined, all spherical harmonics except those with  $m = 0$  vanish:

$$Y_{\ell}^m(0, \varphi) = Y_{\ell}^m(\mathbf{z}) = \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi}} \delta_{m0} \quad (5)$$

$l$	$m$	$\Phi(\varphi)$	$\Theta(\theta)$		极坐标中的表达式	直角坐标中的表达式	量子力学中的记号
0	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$		$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}}$	s
1	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \cos \theta$		$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \cos \theta$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \frac{z}{r}$	$p_z$
1	+1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(i\varphi)$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin \theta$	{	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \sin \theta \cos \varphi$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \frac{x}{r}$	$p_x$
1	-1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-i\varphi)$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin \theta$		$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \sin \theta \sin \varphi$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{3}{\pi}} \frac{y}{r}$	$p_y$
2	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{5}{2}} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$		$\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{5}{\pi}} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$	$\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{5}{\pi}} \frac{2z^2 - x^2 - y^2}{r^2}$	$d_{3z^2-r^2}$
2	+1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(i\varphi)$	$\frac{\sqrt{15}}{2} \sin \theta \cos \theta$	{	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \sin \theta \cos \theta \cos \varphi$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \frac{zx}{r^2}$	$d_{zx}$
2	-1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-i\varphi)$	$\frac{\sqrt{15}}{2} \sin \theta \cos \theta$		$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \sin \theta \cos \theta \sin \varphi$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \frac{yz}{r^2}$	$d_{yz}$
2	+2	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(2i\varphi)$	$\frac{\sqrt{15}}{4} \sin^2 \theta$	{	$\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\varphi$	$\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{r^2}$	$d_{x^2-y^2}$
2	-2	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-2i\varphi)$	$\frac{\sqrt{15}}{4} \sin^2 \theta$		$\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \sin^2 \theta \sin 2\varphi$	$\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{15}{\pi}} \frac{xy}{r^2}$	$d_{xy}$

Figure 3: Spherical harmonics



Tensor products interact type- $L_i$  vector  $x^{(L_i)}$  and type- $L_f$  vector  $f^{(L_f)}$  to produce type- $L_o$  vector  $y^{(L_o)}$  with Clebsch-Gordan coefficients  $C_{(L_i, m_i), (L_f, m_f)}^{(L_o, m_o)}$ . Clebsch-Gordan coefficients  $C_{(L_i, m_i), (L_f, m_f)}^{(L_o, m_o)}$  are non-zero only when  $|L_i - L_o| \leq L_f \leq |L_i + L_o|$ . Each non-trivial combination of  $L_i \otimes L_f \rightarrow L_o$  is called a path, and each path is independently equivariant and can be assigned a learnable weight  $w_{L_i, L_f, L_o}$ . We consider the message  $m_{ts}$  sent from source node  $s$  to target node  $t$  in an  $SO(3)$  convolution. The  $L_o$ -th degree of  $m_{ts}$  can be expressed as:

$$m_{ts}^{(L_o)} = \sum_{L_i, L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} \left( x_s^{(L_i)} \otimes_{L_i, L_f}^{L_o} Y^{(L_f)}(\hat{r}_{ts}) \right) \quad (6)$$

**Therefore, By choosing a specific  $R$ , we can reduce the cost of computing equation above substantially.**

Specifically, if select a rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}_{ts}$  so that  $\mathbf{R}_{ts} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ts} = (0, 0, 1)$ , the  $\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{R}_{st} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{st})$  become sparse:

$$\mathbf{Y}_m^{(l)}(\mathbf{R}_{ts} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ts}) \propto \delta_m^{(l)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq 0 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} m_{ts}^{(L_o)} &= \left( D^{(L_o)}(R_{ts}) \right)^{-1} \sum_{L_i, L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} \left( D^{(L_i)}(R_{ts}) x_s^{(L_i)} \otimes_{L_i, L_f}^{L_o} Y^{(L_f)}(R_{ts} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ts}) \right) \\ &= \left( D^{(L_o)} \right)^{-1} \sum_{L_i, L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} \bigoplus_{m_o} \left( \sum_{m_i, m_f} \left( D^{(L_i)} x_s^{(L_i)} \right)_{m_i} C_{(L_i, m_i), (L_f, m_f)}^{(L_o, m_o)} \left( Y^{(L_f)}(R_{ts} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ts}) \right)_{m_f} \right) \\ &= \left( D^{(L_o)} \right)^{-1} \sum_{L_i, L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} \bigoplus_{m_o} \left( \sum_{m_i} \left( \tilde{x}_s^{(L_i)} \right)_{m_i} C_{(L_i, m_i), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Additionally, given  $m_f = 0$  Clebsch-Gordan coefficients  $C_{(L_i, m_i), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)}$  are sparse and are non-zero only when  $m_i = \pm m_o$ , this further simplifies equation 8:

$$m_{ts}^{(L_o)} = \left(D^{(L_o)}\right)^{-1} \sum_{L_i, L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} \bigoplus_{m_o} \left( \left(\tilde{x}_s^{(L_i)}\right)_{m_o} C_{(L_i, m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)} + \left(\tilde{x}_s^{(L_i)}\right)_{-m_o} C_{(L_i, -m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)} \right) \quad (9)$$

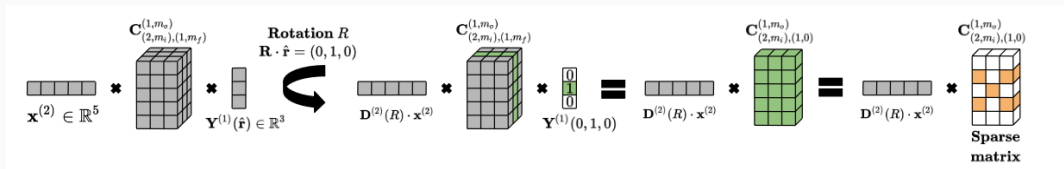
re-ordering the summations and concatenation:

$$\left(D^{(L_o)}\right)^{-1} \sum_{L_i} \bigoplus_{m_o} \left( \left(\tilde{x}_s^{(L_i)}\right)_{m_o} \sum_{L_f} \left( w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} C_{(L_i, m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)} \right) + \right. \\ \left. \left(\tilde{x}_s^{(L_i)}\right)_{-m_o} \sum_{L_f} \left( w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} C_{(L_i, -m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)} \right) \right) \quad (10)$$

Instead of using learnable parameters for  $w_{L_i, L_f, L_o}$ , eSCN proposes to parametrize  $\tilde{w}_{m_o}^{(L_i, L_o)}$  and  $\tilde{w}_{-m_o}^{(L_i, L_o)}$  as below:

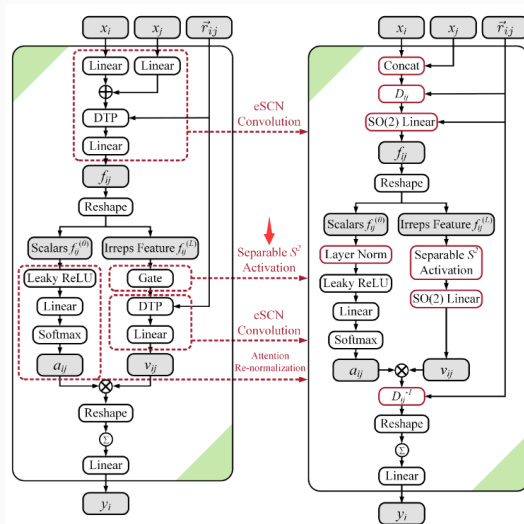
$$\tilde{w}_{m_o}^{(L_i, L_o)} = \sum_{L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} C_{(L_i, m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)} = \sum_{L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} C_{(L_i, -m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, -m_o)} \quad \text{for } m \geq 0$$

$$\tilde{w}_{-m_o}^{(L_i, L_o)} = \sum_{L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} C_{(L_i, m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, -m_o)} = - \sum_{L_f} w_{L_i, L_f, L_o} C_{(L_i, -m_o), (L_f, 0)}^{(L_o, m_o)} \quad \text{for } m > 0 \quad (11)$$



**Figure 4:** Visual representation of the simplified tensor product

# attention re-normalization



(b) Equivariant Graph Attention

## separable $S^2$ activation

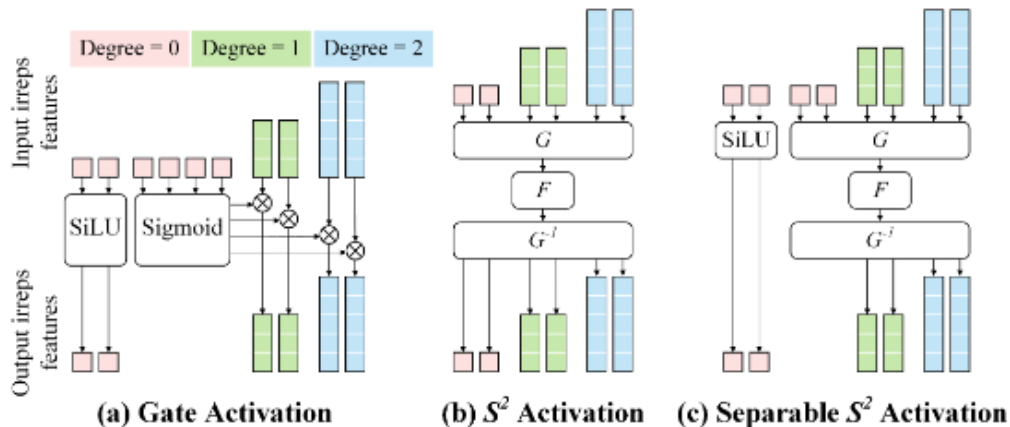
The gate activation used by Equiformer:

- applies sigmoid activation to scalar features to obtain non-linear weights and then multiply irreps features of degree  $>0$  with nonlinear weights
- only accounts for the interaction from vectors of degree 0 to those of degree  $>0$  and can be sub-optimal when we scale up  $L_{max}$

$S^2$  activation:

- first converts vectors of all degrees to point samples on a sphere for each channel, applies unconstrained functions  $F$  to those samples, and finally convert them back to vectors
- given an input irreps feature  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{(L_{max}+1)^2 \times C}$ , the output is  $y = G^{-1}(F(G(x)))$

## separable $S^2$ activation



**Figure 6:** Illustration of different activation functions.  $G$  denotes conversion from vectors to point samples on a sphere,  $F$  can typically be a SiLU activation or MLPs, and  $G^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $G$ .



## separable layer normalization

Equivariant layer normalization used by Equiformer:

- normalizes vectors of different degrees independently
- potentially ignores the relative importance of different degrees since the relative magnitudes between different degrees become the same after the normalization

propose separable layer normalization (SLN), motivated by the separable  $S^2$  activation:

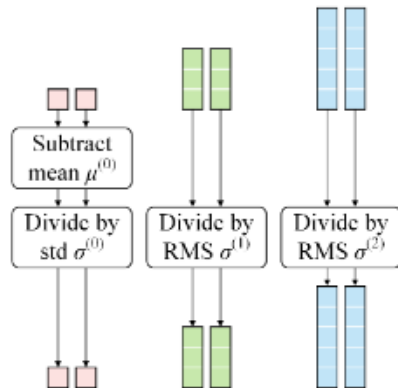
- separates normalization for vectors of degree 0 and those of degrees  $> 0$
- For  $L = 0$ ,  $y^{(0)} = \gamma^{(0)} \circ \left( \frac{x^{(0)} - \mu^{(0)}}{\sigma^{(0)}} \right) + \beta^{(0)}$

$$\mu^{(0)} = \frac{1}{C} \sum_{i=1}^C x_{0,i}^{(0)} \text{ and } \sigma^{(0)} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{C} \sum_{i=1}^C (x_{0,i}^{(0)} - \mu^{(0)})^2}$$

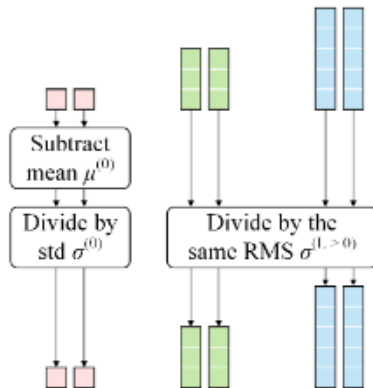
- For  $L > 0$ ,  $y^{(L)} = \gamma^{(L)} \circ \left( \frac{x^{(L)}}{\sigma^{(L>0)}} \right)$ ,  $\sigma^{(L>0)} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{L_{max}} \sum_{L=1}^{L_{max}} (\sigma^{(L)})^2}$  and

$$\sigma^{(L)} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{C} \sum_{i=1}^C \frac{1}{2L+1} \sum_{m=-L}^L \left( x_{m,i}^{(L)} \right)^2}$$

## separable layer normalization



**(a) Equivariant Layer Normalization**



**(b) Separable Layer Normalization**

**Figure 7:** Illustration of how statistics are calculated in different normalizations. “std” denotes standard deviation, and “RMS” denotes root mean square.

# some results

Attention						
Index	re-normalization	Activation	Normalization	Epochs	forces	energy
1	✗	Gate	LN	12	21.85	286
2	✓	Gate	LN	12	21.86	279
3	✓	$S^2$	LN	12	didn't converge	
4	✓	Sep. $S^2$	LN	12	20.77	285
5	✓	Sep. $S^2$	SLN	12	20.46	285
6	✓	Sep. $S^2$	LN	20	20.02	276
7	✓	Sep. $S^2$	SLN	20	19.72	278
8	eSCN baseline			12	21.3	294

(a) Architectural improvements. Attention re-normalization improves energies, and separable  $S^2$  activation (“Sep.  $S^2$ ”) and separable layer normalization (“SLN”) improve forces.

$L_{max}$	eSCN		EquiformerV2	
	forces	energy	forces	energy
4	22.2	291	21.37	284
6	21.3	294	20.46	285
8	21.3	296	20.46	279

(c) Degrees  $L_{max}$ . Higher degrees are consistently helpful.

$M_{max}$	eSCN		EquiformerV2	
	forces	energy	forces	energy
2	21.3	294	20.46	285
3	21.2	295	20.24	284
4	21.2	298	20.24	282
6	-	-	20.26	278

(d) Orders  $M_{max}$ . Higher orders mainly improve energy predictions.

$L_{max}$	Epochs	eSCN		EquiformerV2	
		forces	energy	forces	energy
6	12	21.3	294	20.46	285
6	20	20.6	290	19.78	280
6	30	20.1	285	19.42	278
8	12	21.3	296	20.46	279
8	20	-	-	19.95	273

(b) Training epochs. Training for more epochs consistently leads to better results.

Layers	eSCN		EquiformerV2	
	forces	energy	forces	energy
8	22.4	306	21.18	293
12	21.3	294	20.46	285
16	20.5	283	20.11	282

(e) Number of Transformer blocks. Adding more blocks can help both force and energy predictions.