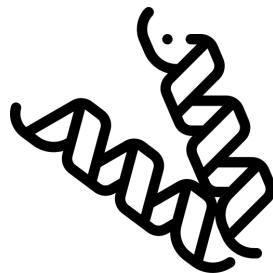


# Graph Neural Network Bandits

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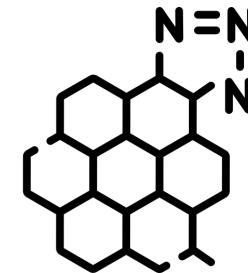
# Learning on Graph Structured Data



Protein  
Design

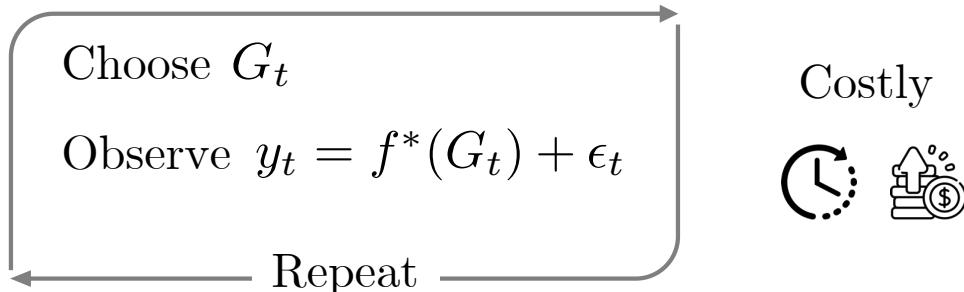


Drug  
Discovery



Molecule  
Synthesis

$$G^* \in \arg \max_{G \in \mathcal{G}} f^*(G)$$



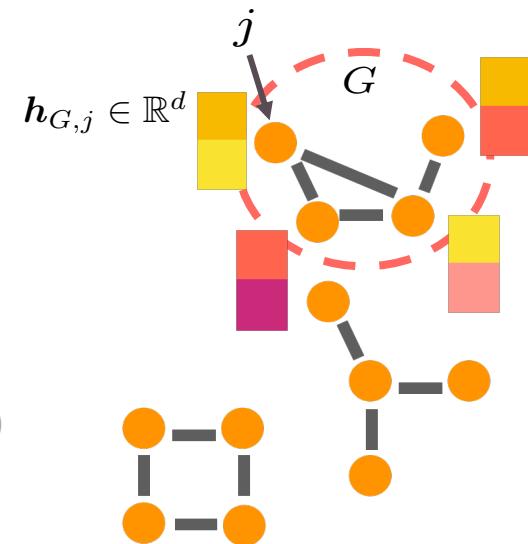
- Costly
- 
- Need to be sample efficient!
  - Model as a bandit problem

# Problem Setting

$\mathcal{G}$  Finite set of undirected graphs with  $N$  nodes  
Each graph has node features

$f^*$  Real-valued and regular (contained within an RKHS)  
Invariant to node permutations

$$f^*(c \cdot G) = f^*(G)$$



Can you use GNNs to efficiently maximize such functions on such domains?

Bandit Objective

$$R_T = \sum_{t=1}^T f^*(G^*) - f^*(G_t)$$

Sublinear if converges to maxima

Small if sample efficient

# How to use GNNs

1) Train  $f_{\text{GNN}}(G; \boldsymbol{\theta})$  to estimate  $f^*(G)$

$$\hat{\mu}_{t-1}(G) := f_{\text{GNN}}(G; \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{t-1})$$

run SGD on

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i < t} \left( f_{\text{GNN}}(G_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) - y_i \right)^2 + m\lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^0\|_2^2$$

2) Use  $\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} f_{\text{GNN}}$  to capture the uncertainty over these estimates

$$\hat{\sigma}_{t-1}^2(G) := \frac{\nabla f_{\text{GNN}}^T(G)}{\sqrt{m}} \left( \lambda \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \right)^{-1} \frac{\nabla f_{\text{GNN}}(G)}{\sqrt{m}}$$

gram matrix  $\mathbf{H}_{t-1}$

width  $m$

3) Use confidence sets as a guide to choose actions

$$\mathcal{C}_{t-1}(G, \delta) = [\hat{\mu}_{t-1}(G) \pm \beta_t \hat{\sigma}_{t-1}(G)]$$

Because:

## Theorem

*GNN confidence sets are valid if the used network is wide enough, i.e. with high probability*

$$f^*(G) \in \mathcal{C}_{t-1}(G, \delta), \quad \forall G \in \mathcal{G}$$

# Our algorithm

- GNN-PE**
- ▶ Has episodic structure
  - ▶ Uses  $\mathcal{C}_{t-1}(G, \delta)$ 
    - ▶ To maintain set of plausible maximizer graphs
    - ▶ To choose the next graph

## Theorem

Suppose  $f^* \in \mathcal{H}_{k_{\text{GNN}}}$  and has a bounded norm.  
If the used GNN is wide enough, then with high probability

$$R_T = \tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left( T^{\frac{2d-1}{2d}} \log^{\frac{1}{2d}} T \right)$$

$\log(N)$  and  $\sqrt{\log(|\mathcal{G}|)}$  dependency

Naively using Neural UCB gives

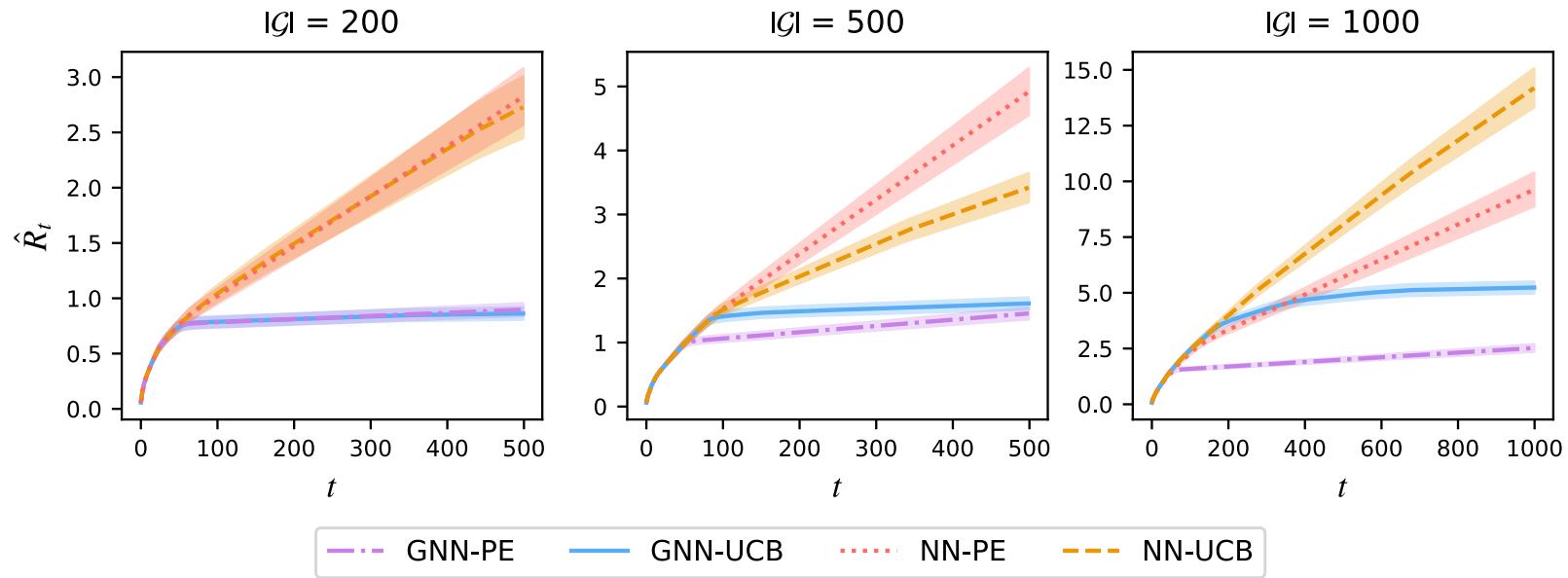
$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \left( T^{\frac{2Nd-1}{2Nd}} \log^{\frac{1}{2Nd}} T \right)$$

T: the bandit horizon,  
N: the number of nodes in each graph,  
d: the dimension of node features

# Experiments

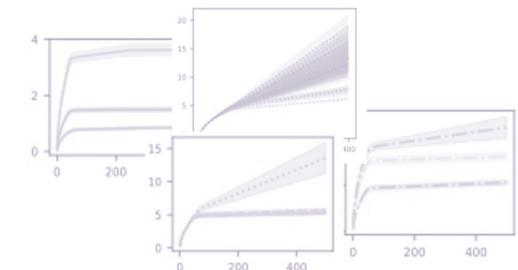
Domain: Erdos-Renyi random graphs

Objective: Sampled from  $\text{GP}(0, k_{\text{GNN}})$



- ✓ Outperforms NN methods
- ✓ Scales well to domains of large graphs
- ✓ Scales well to large domains of graphs

Checkout the paper for more



Thank you.