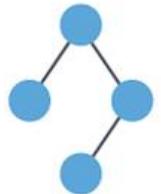
A faint, circular graphic of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) detector, showing its complex multi-layered structure.

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS AT THE LARGE HADRON COLLIDER

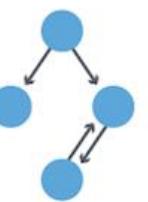
GAGE DEZOORT
7/14/2022

- Graphs represent relational data
 - Entities → Nodes: $u \in \mathcal{V}$
 - Node features: $x_u \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V}$
 - Relations → Edges: $(u, v) \in \mathcal{E}$
 - Edge features: $e_{uv} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_E}$

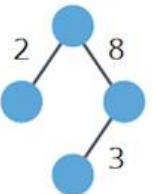
Undirected



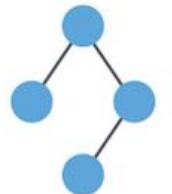
Directed



Weighted



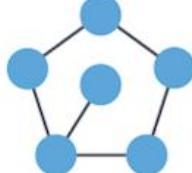
Unweighted



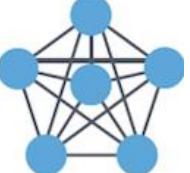
Directed edges specify
an incoming and
outgoing node

Edge features might be
weights or otherwise more
complicated attributes

Sparse



Dense



GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS GRAPH-STRUCTURED DATA

- Graphs represent relational data
 - Entities → Nodes: $u \in \mathcal{V}$
 - Node features: $x_u \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V}$
 - Relations → Edges: $(u, v) \in \mathcal{E}$
 - Edge features: $e_{uv} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_E}$

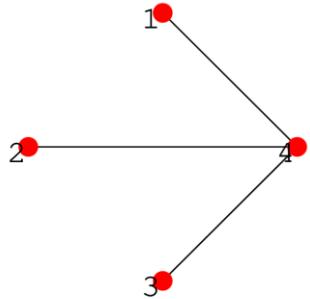
Edge Representations



Adjacency Matrices

$$A_{adjacency} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V \times d_V}$$

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



Incidence Matrices

$$A_{incidence} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V \times d_E}$$

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



PyTorch
geometric *optimized for sparse adjacency structure*

Sparse Index Lists (COO)

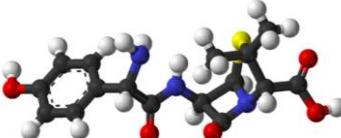
$$I_{coo} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times d_E}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} [1 & 2 & 3] \\ [4 & 4 & 4] \end{bmatrix}$$

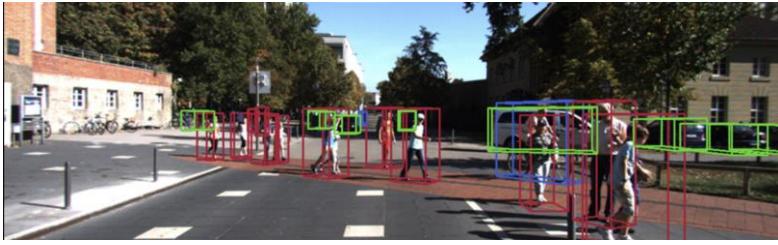
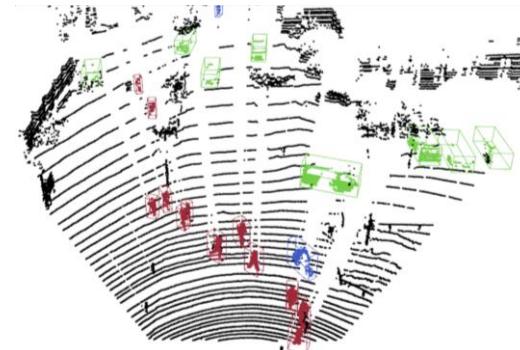
GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

GRAPH-STRUCTURED DATA

Drug Discovery

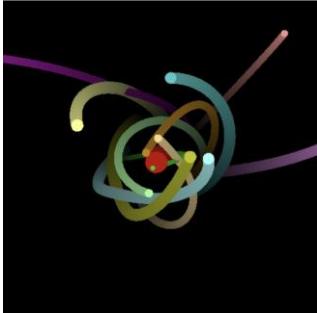
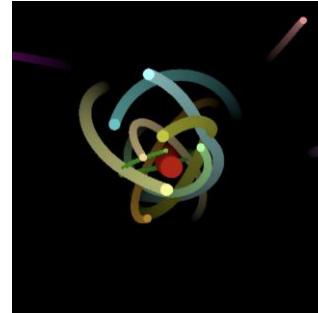
$GNN($  $) \rightarrow$ global molecular property

Instance Segmentation

$GNN($  $) \rightarrow$ 

[2003.01251.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2003.01251.pdf)

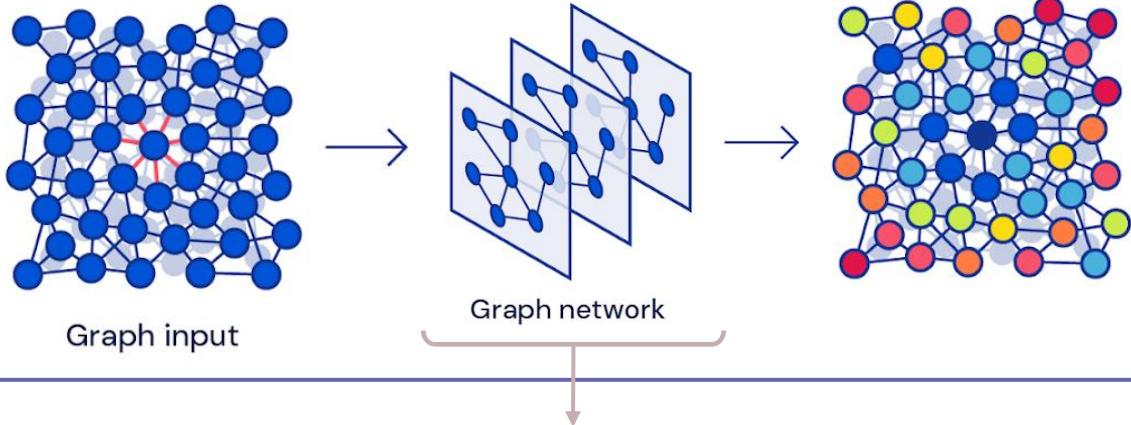
Physics Simulation

$GNN($  $) \rightarrow$ 

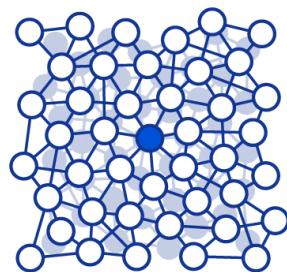
[\[1612.00222\] Interaction Networks for Learning about Objects, Relations and Physics \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1612.00222.pdf)

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS
HIGH-LEVEL EXAMPLES

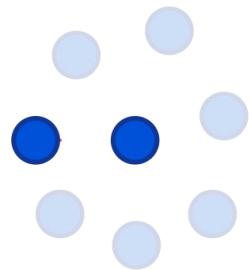
GNNs: High-Level View



Propagation Modules: Neural Message Passing



n 0 1 2 3



Edge update

"Messages" computed from each node's neighborhood are used to update graph features... k iterations → info from k -hop neighborhood

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS GNN OVERVIEW

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS LEARNING ON SETS

Set Learning

- Many real-world objects don't have a natural ordering
- Why not DNNs on sets? Many different orderings of the inputs to consider... need a permutation symmetric function of inputs!

Permutation invariance: $f(PX) = f(X)$

e.g. DeepSets: take a set X and two approximators (MLPs) ϕ, ψ

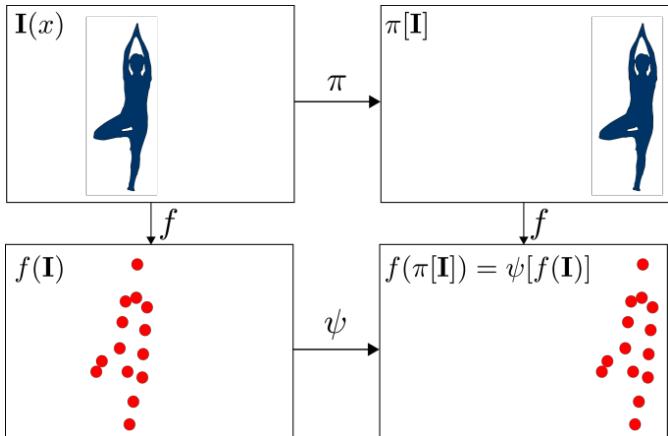
$$f(X) = \phi\left(\sum_{x \in X} \psi(x)\right)$$

any permutation invariant function of countable sets ↓
latent representation of each element
sum aggregation is permutation-invariant

- These are “global” predictions on a set (returns number(s) aggregated from the whole set)
- In graphs, we have more structure (edges) and might require per-node or per-edge predictions...

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS LEARNING ON GRAPHS

Equivariance Illustration



Graph Learning Template:

- Graphs support arbitrary pairwise relations between nodes
- Relational inductive bias: input graphs explicitly define relations for the learning model to leverage

Node Neighborhoods:

- Neighborhood of u : $N(u) = \{v : (u, v) \in E\}$
- Neighborhood node features: $X_{N(u)} = \{\{x_v : v \in N(u)\}\}$
- Neighborhood edge features: $E_{N(u)} = \{\{e_{uv} : (u, v) \in E\}\}$

Permutation invariance: $f(PX, PAP^T) = f(X, A) \rightarrow$ graph-level predictions

Permutation equivariance: $f(PX, PAP^T) = Pf(X, A) \rightarrow$ node-level predictions

Permutation equivariant function of graphs:

$$f(X, A) = \begin{pmatrix} - & g(\mathbf{x}_1, X_{N(1)}, E_{N(1)}) & - \\ - & g(\mathbf{x}_2, X_{N(2)}, E_{N(2)}) & - \\ \dots & & \dots \\ - & g(\mathbf{x}_{|V|}, X_{N(|V|)}, E_{N(|V|)}) & - \end{pmatrix}$$

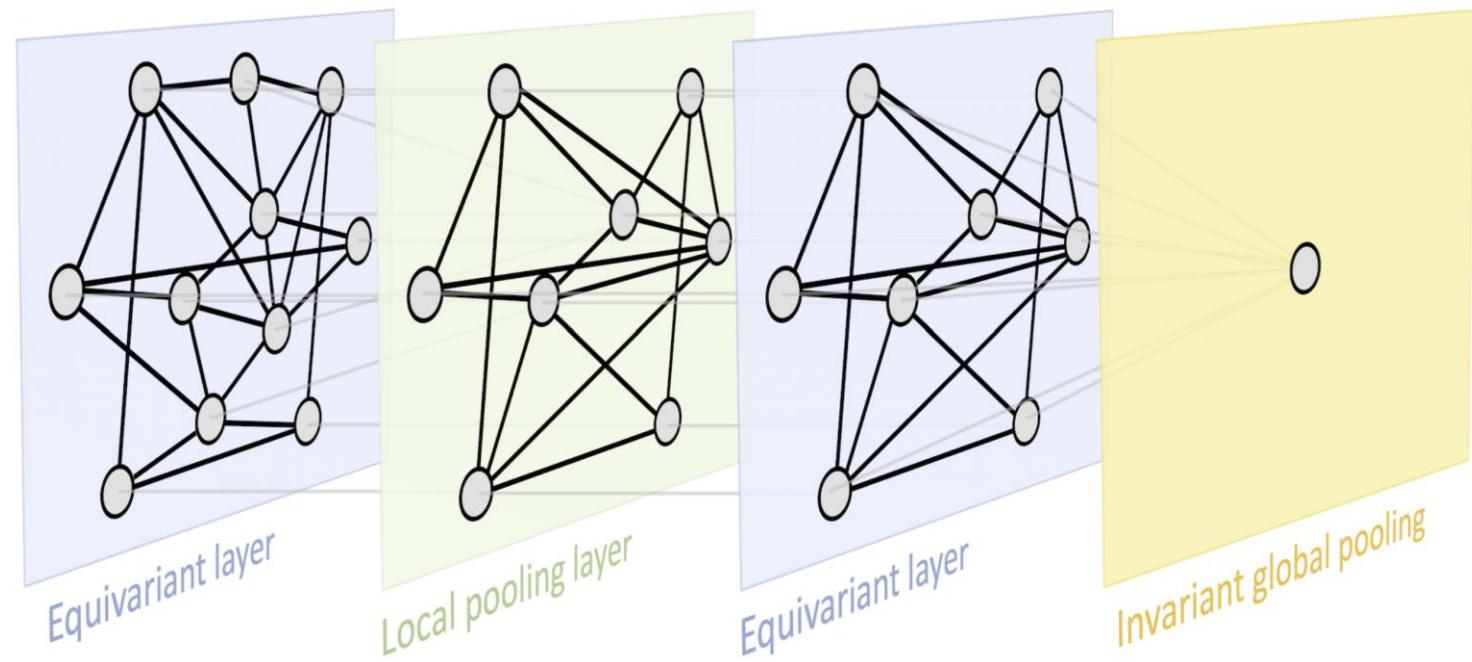
permutation equivariant
function of graphs

local function operating on each node's
neighborhood... needs to be permutation
invariant!

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS GNN LAYERS

Applying Equivariant Layers:

- Equivariant layers update the state of each node while preserving the structure of the graph
- Pooling layers subsample or otherwise combine graph nodes
 - Global pooling is used for graph-level predictions



GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

NEURAL MESSAGE PASSING

Message Passing (MPNN) Layers:

Framework for many equivariant graph updates

At each layer k , compute messages in each node's neighborhood:

$$\mathbf{m}_{uv}^{(k)} = \psi^{(k)} \left(\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right)$$

Aggregate messages in a permutation-invariant way:

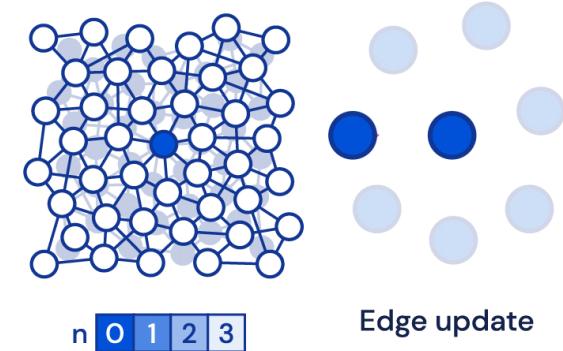
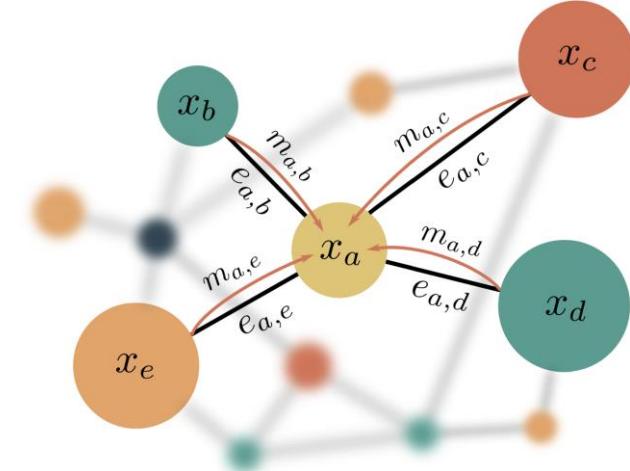
$$\mathbf{a}_u^{(k)} = \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \mathbf{m}_{uv}^{(k)}$$

Messages passed only from u's direct neighbors

Any permutation invariant operation (e.g. sum, mean, max)

Update the node's state based on the messages it received:

$$\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)}(\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{a}_u^{(k)})$$



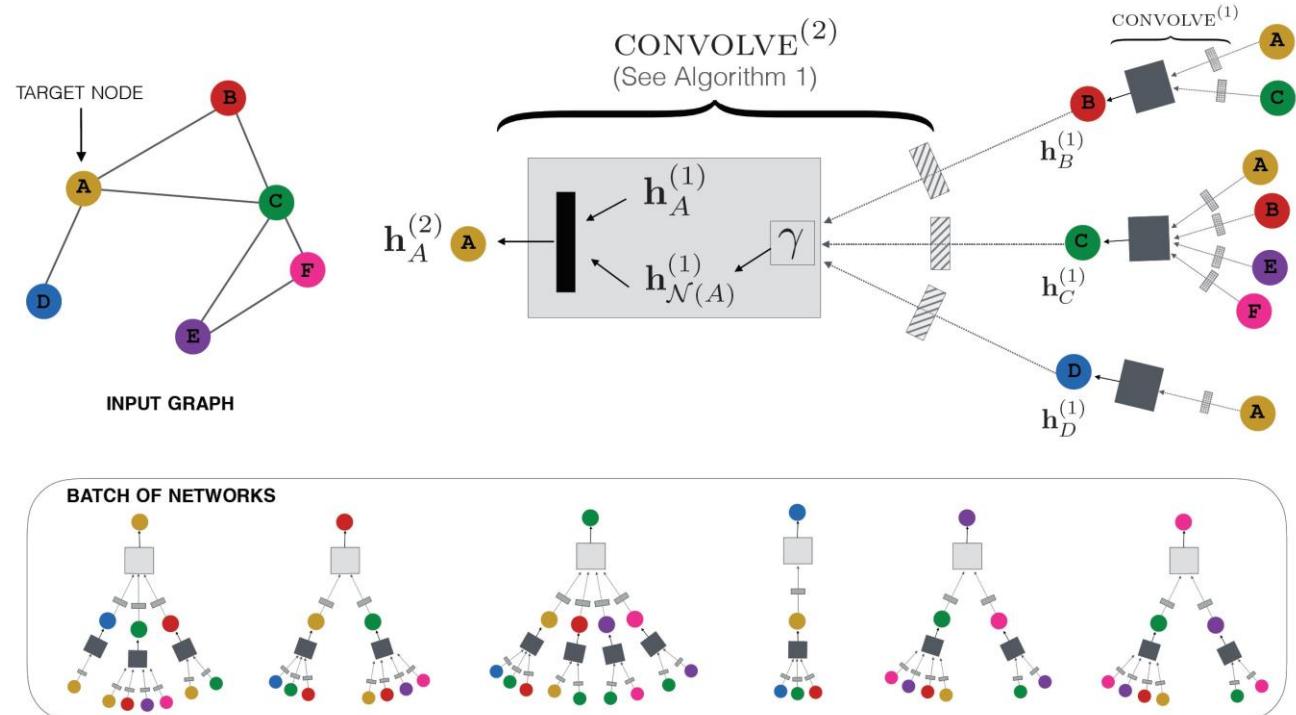
GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

REPEATED MESSAGE PASSING

Generic MPNN Layers:

$$\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)} \left[\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \psi^{(k)} \left(\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right) \right]$$

Node Updates: collecting info from each node's k -hop neighborhood at the k^{th} layer



<https://doi.org/10.1145/3219819.3219890>

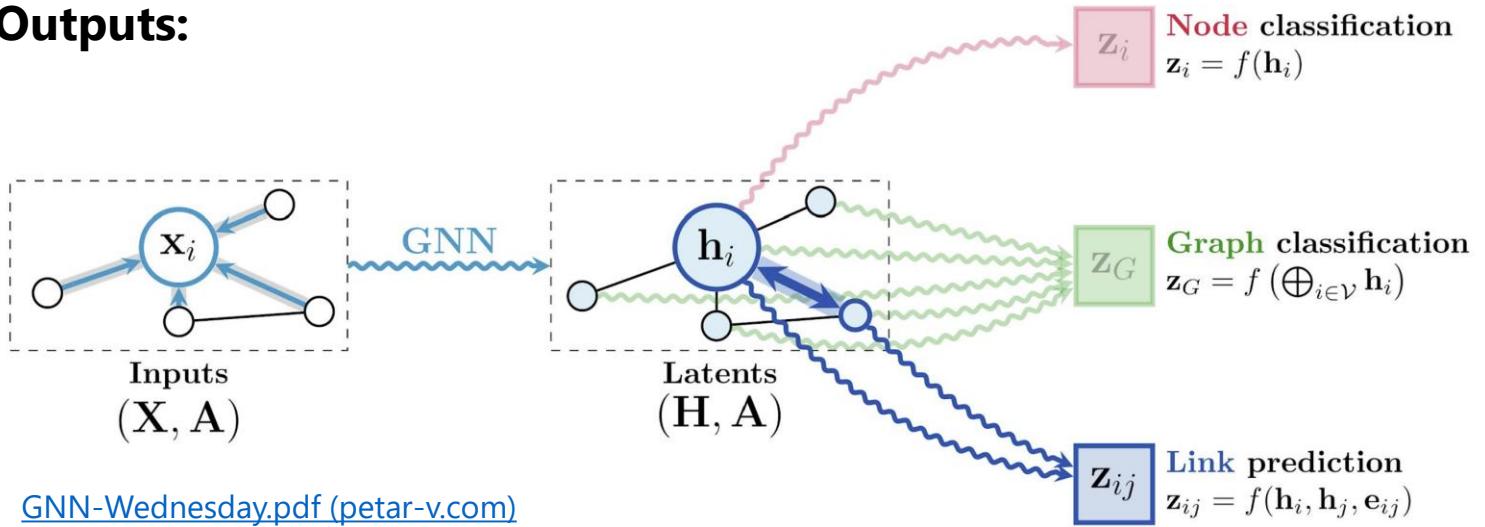
GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

PREDICTIONS, LIMITATIONS

Generic MPNN Layers:

$$\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)} \left[\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \psi^{(k)} \left(\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right) \right]$$

Outputs:

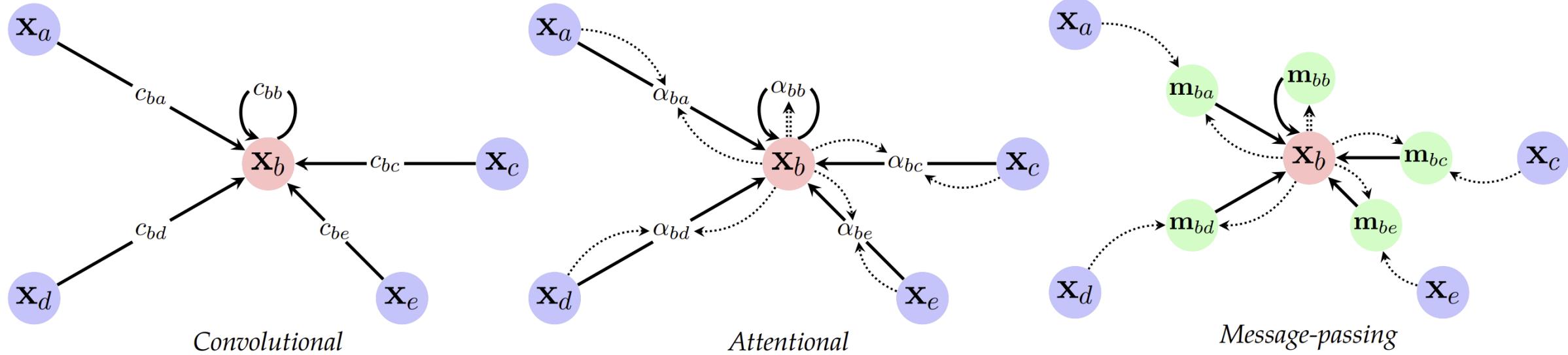


Limitations:

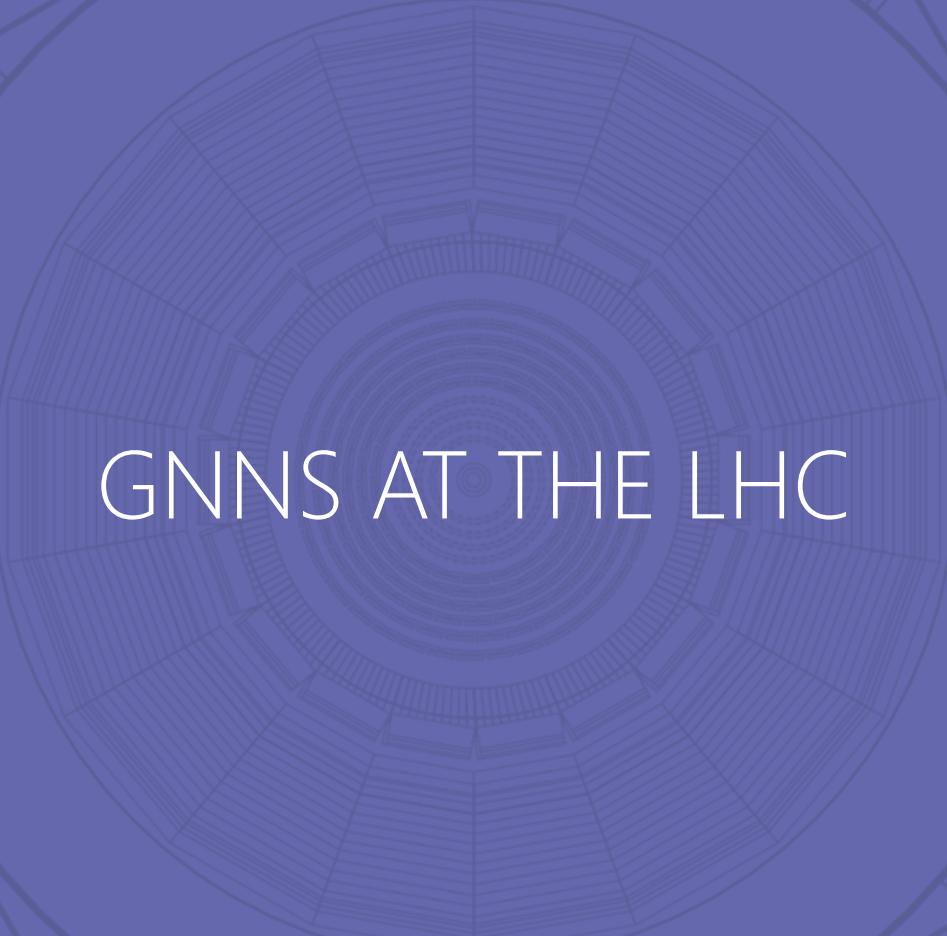
- Not every problem is easily mapped to a graph
- MPNNs aren't guaranteed to solve every problem
(e.g. discerning some non-isomorphic graphs, generic MPNN's representational power upper bounded by the 1-WL test)

Generic MPNN Layers: $\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)} \left[\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \psi^{(k)} \left(\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right) \right]$

Different Equivariant Node Updates:



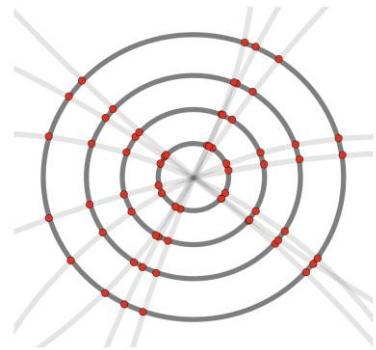
[2104.13478.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2104.13478.pdf)



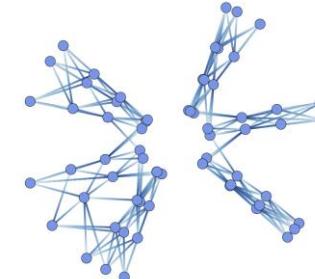
GNNS AT THE LHC

Low-Level Reconstruction Tasks

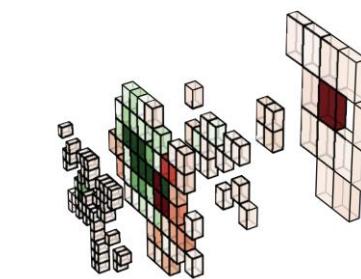
Combine detector signals to form “building blocks” for various particle types



Track Reconstruction

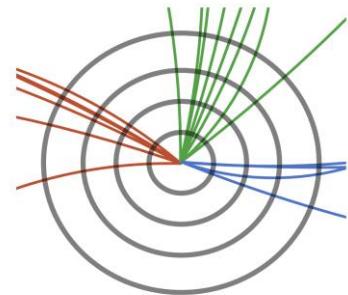


Calorimeter Segmentation

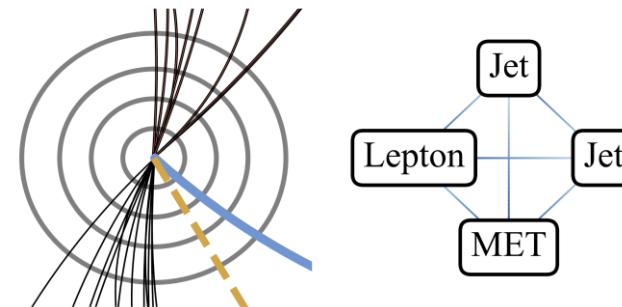
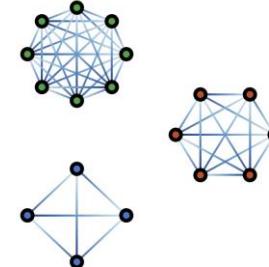


Higher Level Particle-based Tasks

Given a set of particles, can we combine them to represent a specific decay?
Can we identify a physics signal?



Jet Identification



Event Classification

GNNS AT THE LHC COMMON APPLICATIONS

GNNS AT THE LHC

WHY GNNS?

Common Justifications (task-dependent)

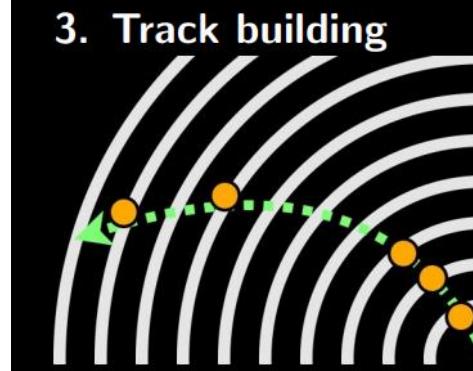
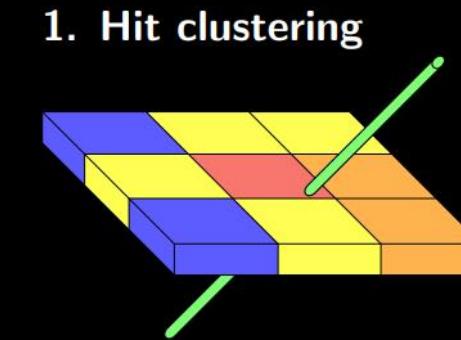
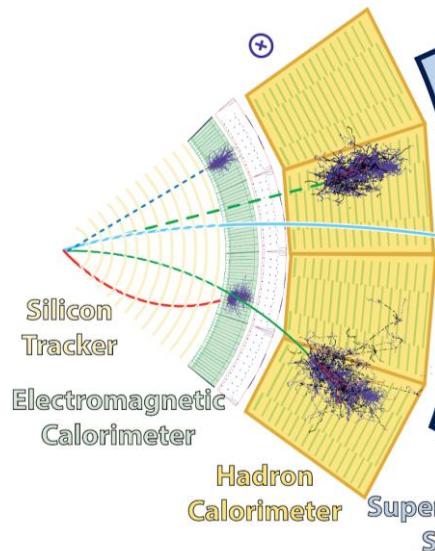
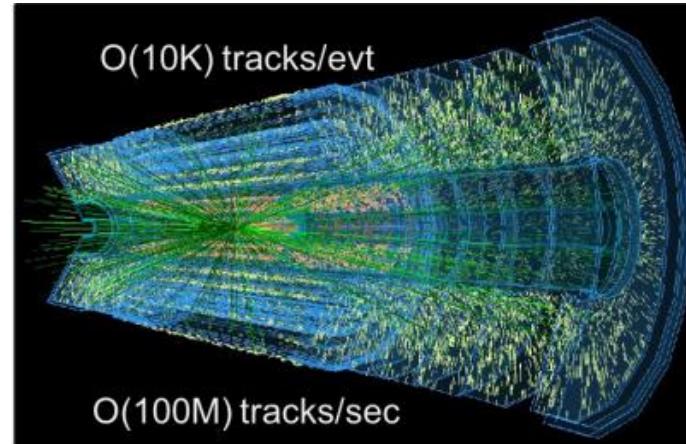
- Many LHC datasets have inherent relational structure and/or no inherent ordering
- Grids, sequences, etc. cannot naturally represent irregular detector geometries
 - A small fraction of sensors are activated in any given event → data is sparse
 - Many different data sizes (particle counts, sensor readings, etc.)
- LHC data is heterogeneous
 - Data recorded from multiple subdetectors
 - Different types of particles
- Excellent performance
 - Relational inductive bias
 - Message passing leverages low-level detector info in addition to global (or otherwise human-devised) info
 - Generally smaller architectures (qualitatively speaking)

Trackers are the innermost detector layers responsible for sampling particle trajectories

Tracks allow us to measure *momentum, direction, origin, and charge*

Challenge:

This is where we're headed... many, many tracks per event!



3. Track building

A diagram showing a series of curved lines representing the path of a particle through a magnetic field, with orange dots indicating hit locations along the track.

4. Track fitting

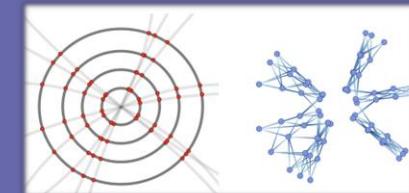
A diagram showing a final smooth curve representing the fitted track, which follows the general path of the individual hit points.

Tracking: rebuilding particle trajectories from spatial measurements, traditionally an iterative process
... doesn't scale with increasing detector activity!

[Connecting the dots: applying deep learning techniques in HEP | EP News \(cern.ch\)](#)

GNN TRACKING

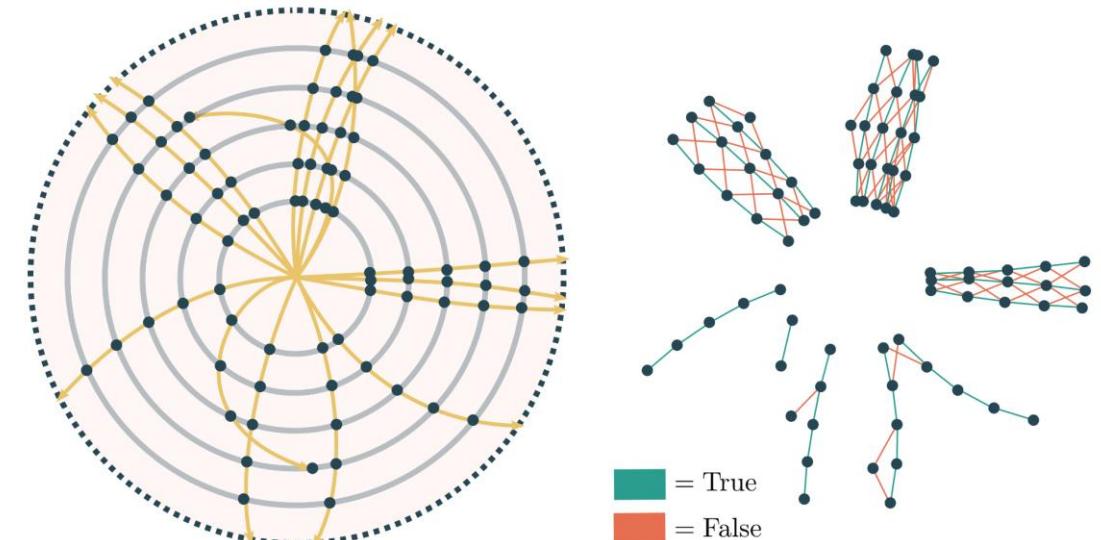
TRADITIONAL TRACKING METHODS



GNN TRACKING POSED AS AN ML TASK

Edge Classification Task

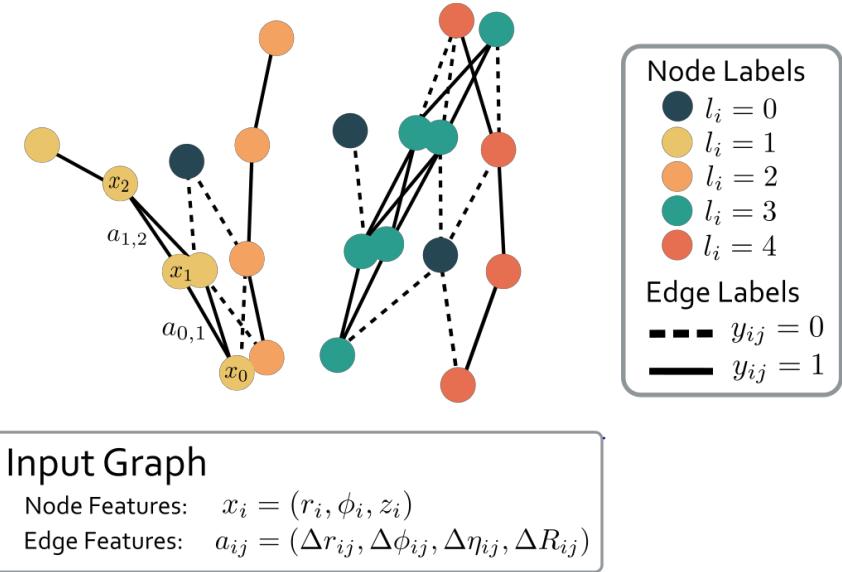
- Draw edges to hypothesize various particle trajectories, train a GNN to classify edges



Input data is a 3D
point cloud

Train on graphs with edge
truth labels

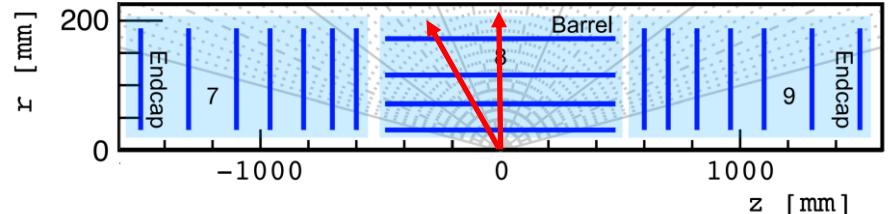
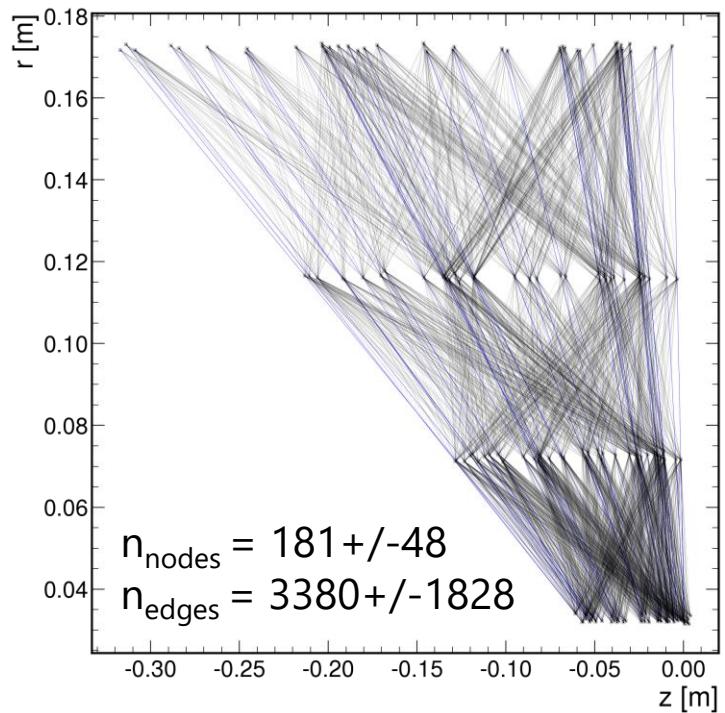
- **Key steps** (general to many GNN workflows)
 - 1) Graph construction from underlying data
 - 2) GNN inference
 - 3) Post-processing of GNN predictions

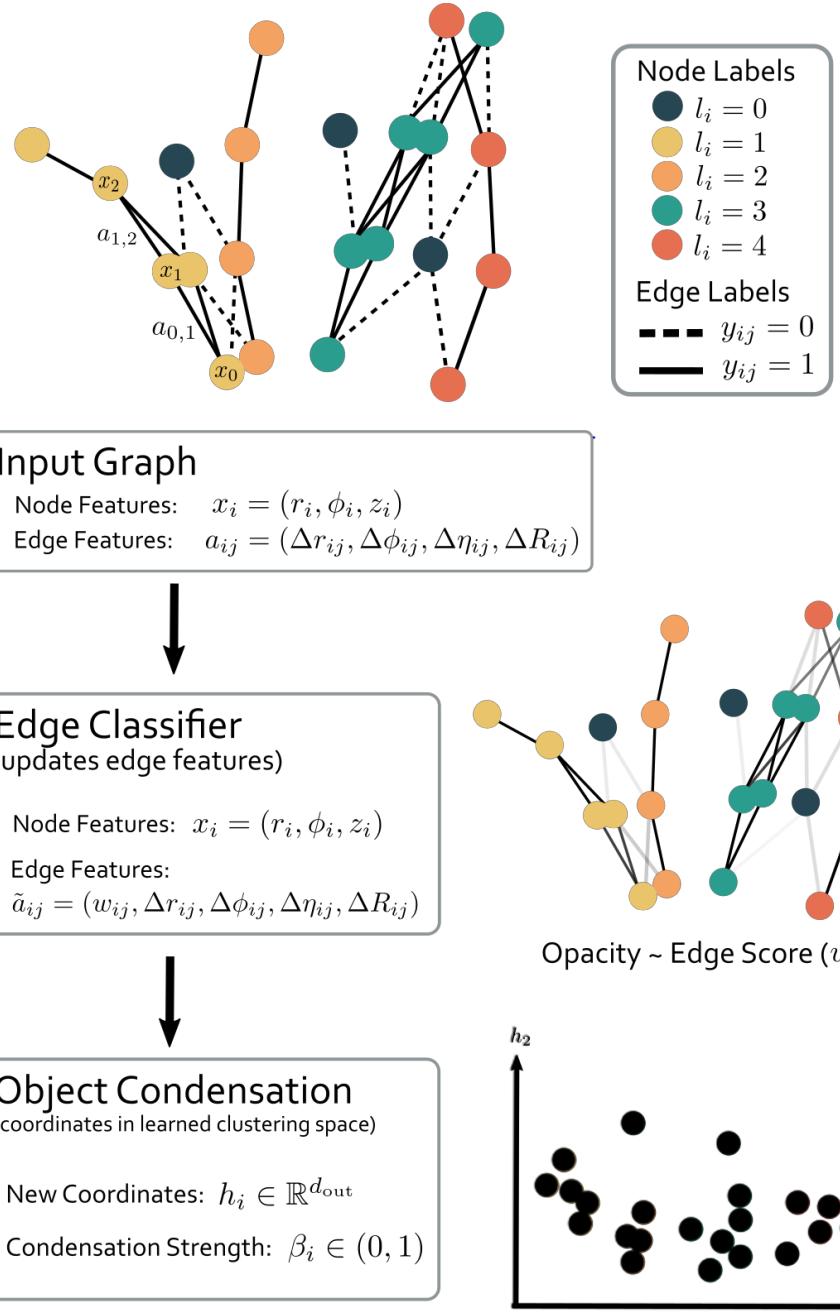


Example GNN-based tracking workflow

1) Graph Construction

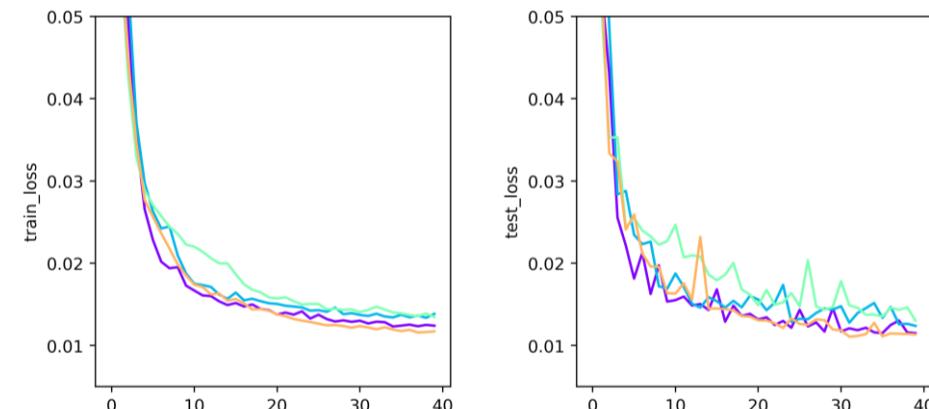
Draw edges between particles detector hits based on some initial constraints, clustering, etc.



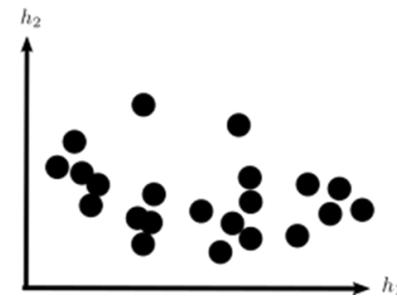


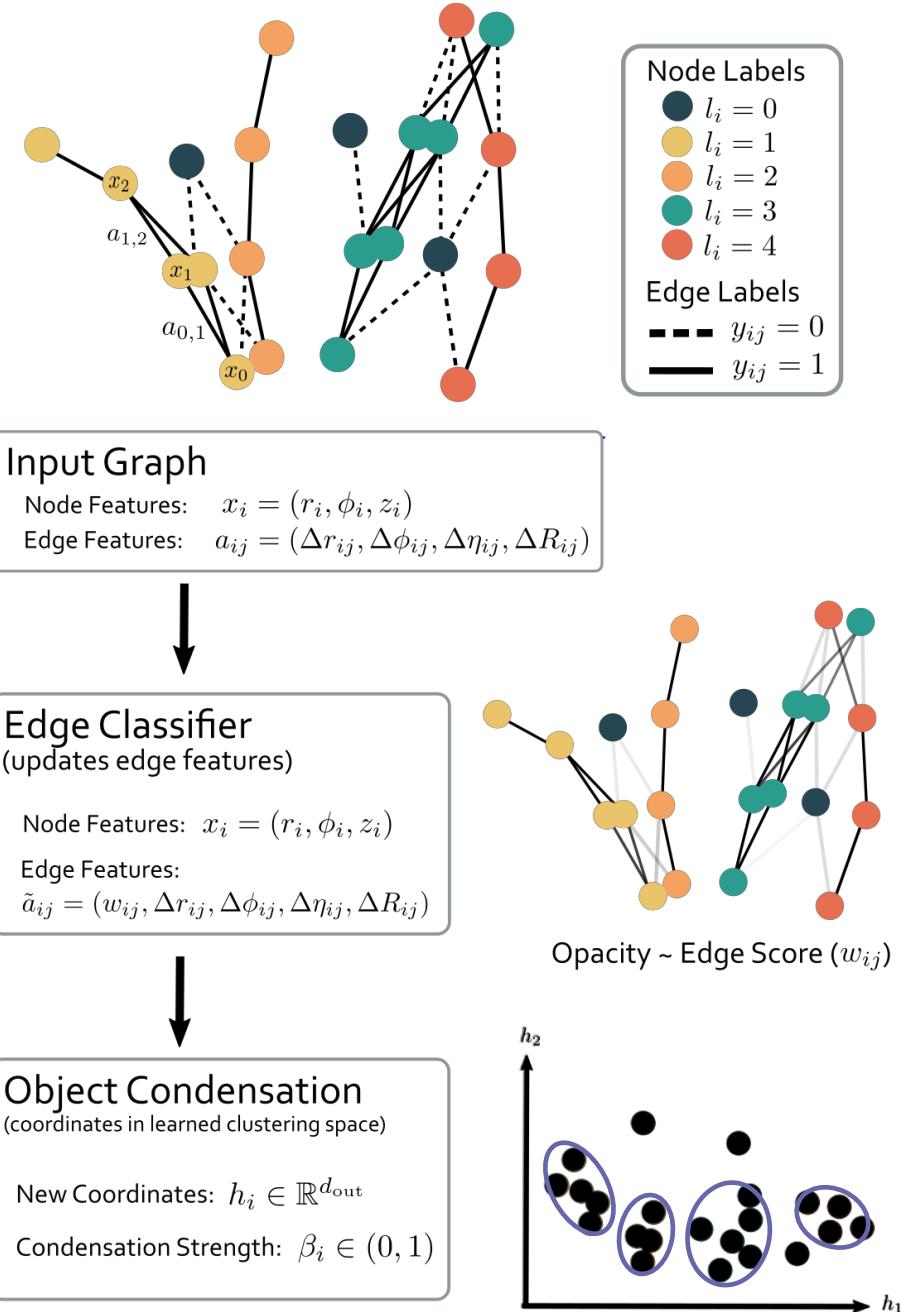
2) GNN Inference

Train a GNN to classify the edges (binary cross entropy) **and** cluster signals belonging to the same particle (object condensation)



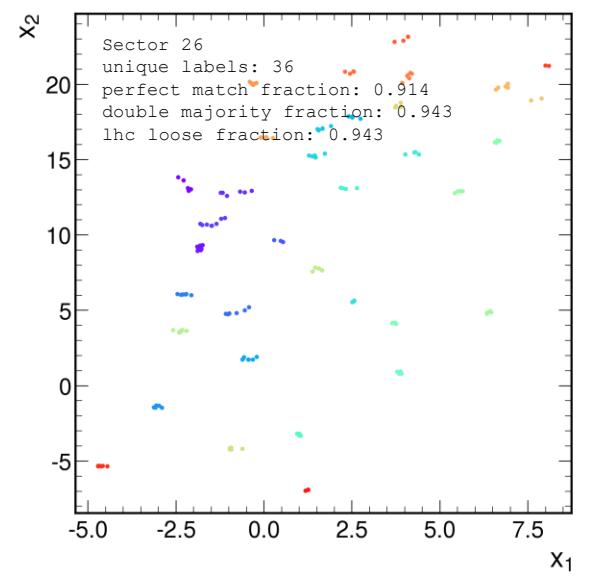
Output: track hit coordinates
in a learned clustering space



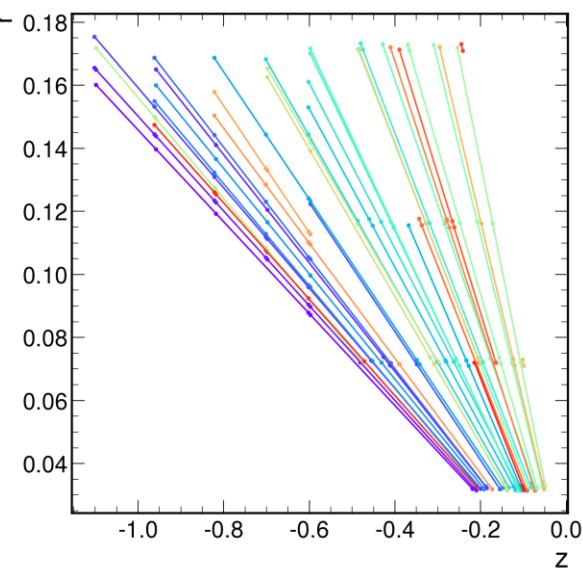


3) Postprocessing

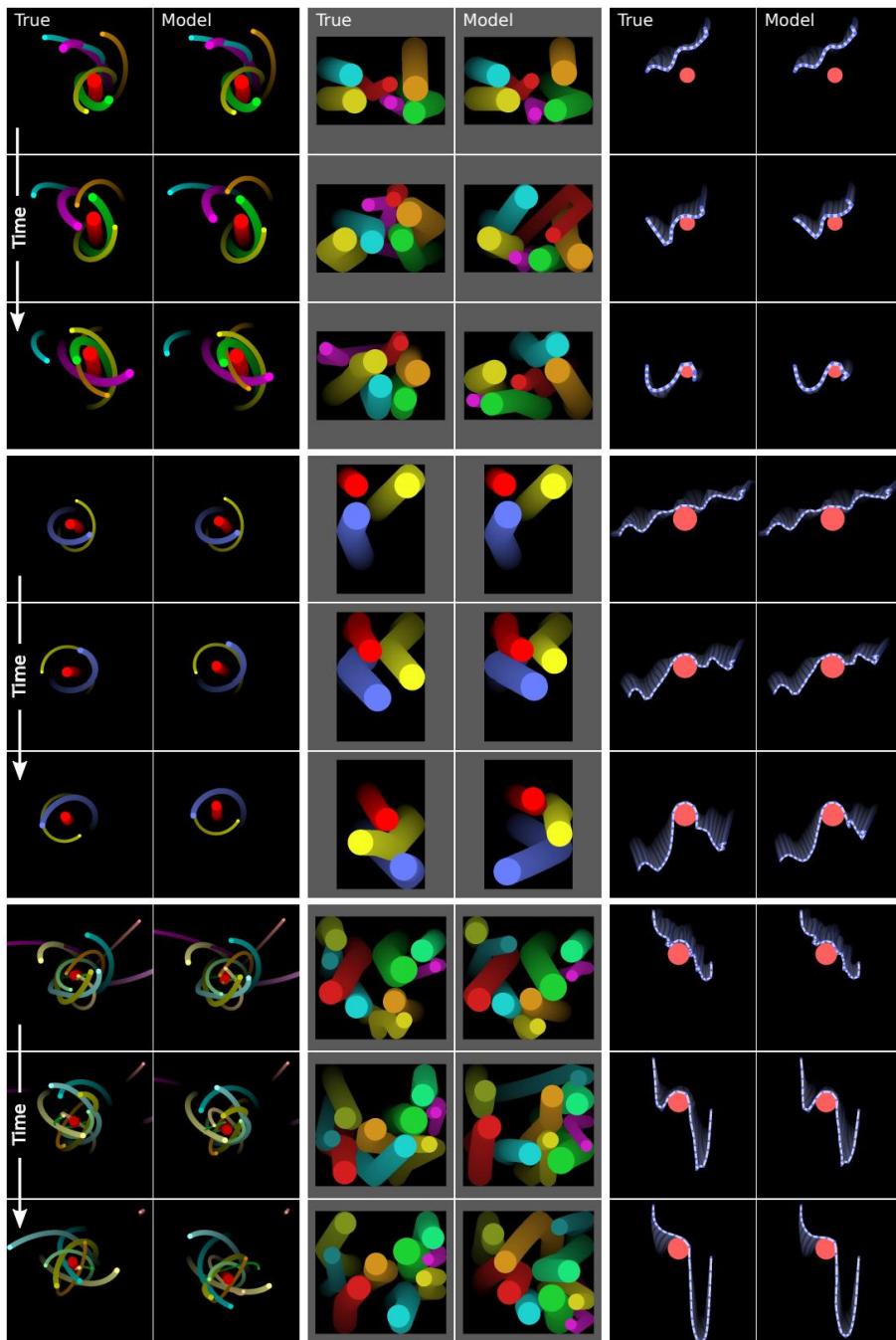
Cluster hits in the learned coordinate space to form track candidates!



GNN outputs 2D coordinates for each hit



Colors are cluster labels generated by DBSCAN (not the GNN)



Interaction Networks:

[\[1612.00222\] Interaction Networks for Learning about Objects, Relations and Physics \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1612.00222)

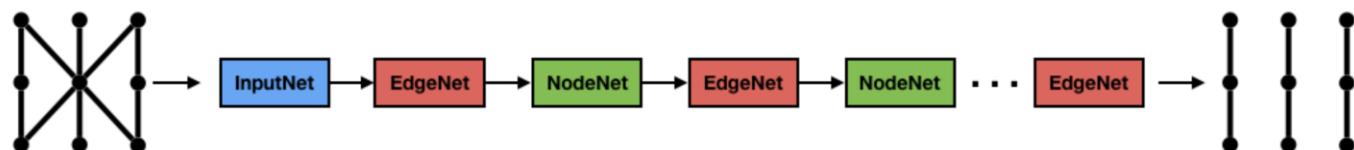
Physics-motivated MPNNs suitable for graphs with pre-constructed edges (originally applied to "next timestep" physics simulations)

- (**Edge Block**) compute an interaction between two entities:

$$e_{uv}^{(k)} = \text{MLP}_{\psi}^{(k)} \left([h_u^{(k-1)}, h_v^{(k-1)}, e_{u,v}^{(k-1)}] \right)$$

- (**Node Block**) use the interaction to update the state of the receiving node:

$$h_u^{(k)} = \text{MLP}_{\phi}^{(k)} \left(h_u^{(k-1)}, \sum_{v \in N(u)} e_{u,v}^{(k)} \right)$$

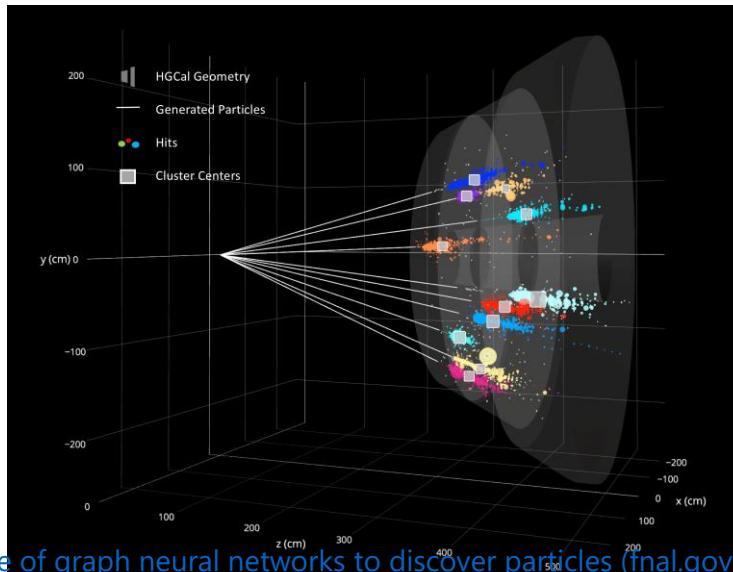
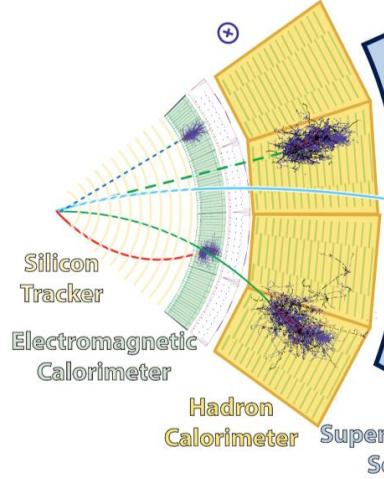


a common form for many GNN tracking architectures
[1810.06111.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.06111.pdf)

Calorimeters are designed to absorb particles by forcing them to shower

Calorimeter showers allow us to measure *position, ID, and energy*

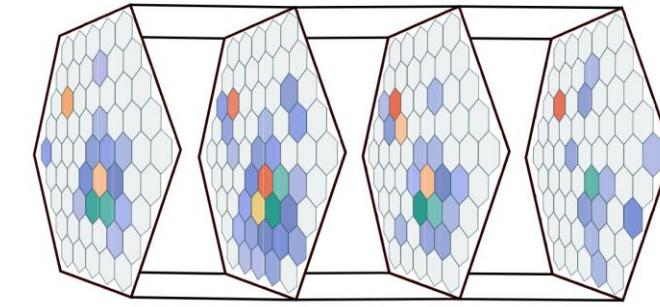
Challenge: disentangling showers, using them to predict energy / particle ID



[The next big thing: the use of graph neural networks to discover particles \(fnal.gov\)](http://fnal.gov)

Calorimeter Segmentation Tasks

Input data is a set of calorimeter hit cells (features are e.g. energy, position) → embed as graph nodes



- **Edge Classification:** pre-construct a graph and classify edges to form a mesh on the calorimeter hits representing the particle shower
- **Node Classification:** separate two calorimeter showers by predicting the fractional assignment of each hit
- **Object Condensation:** see next slides

GNN CALORIMETRY

OVERVIEW / TASKS

GNNS AT THE LHC IMPLICIT GRAPH LEARNING

Dynamic Graph Construction

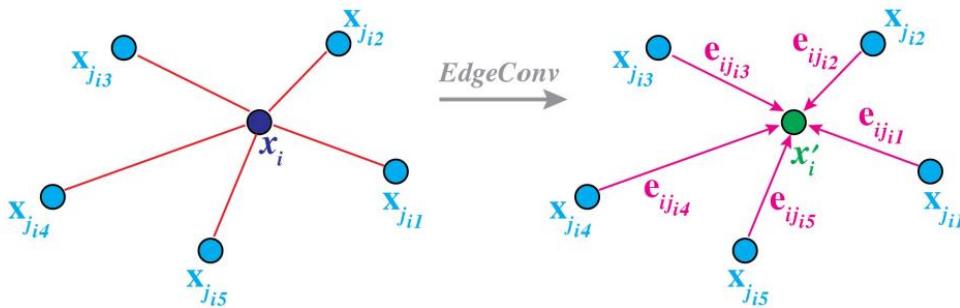
In many cases it is preferable *not* to precompute edges and, instead, form them as part of the learning algorithm

e.g. EdgeConv GNN Layers

During inference, draw edges between nodes clustered by k -NN; use these edges for subsequent message passing → local graph creation

$$h_u^{(k)} = \max_{v \in N(u)} MLP_{\phi}^{(k)}(h_u^{(k-1)}, h_v^{(k-1)} - h_u^{(k-1)})$$

global local

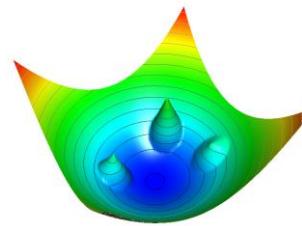


A lightweight version of this operation (GravNet) has been developed at the LHC and applied to calorimeter segmentation!

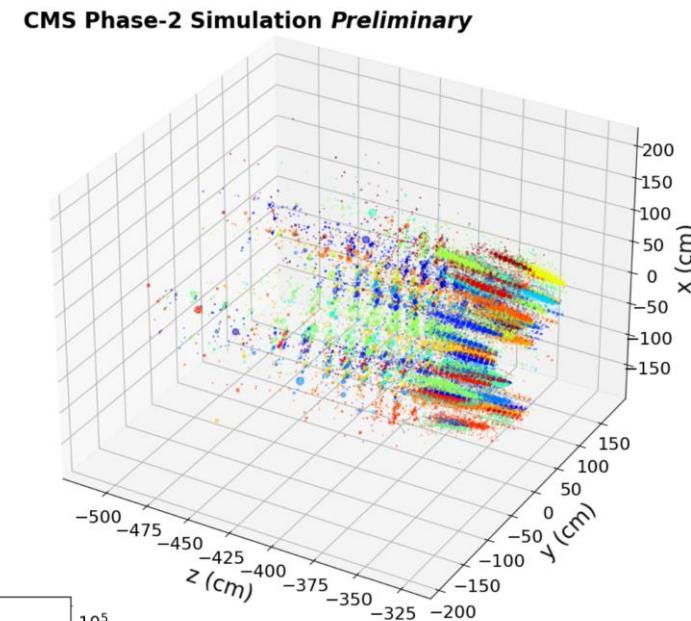
Object Condensation: a GNN learning strategy designed to 1) cluster nodes belonging to the same object (**segmentation**), 2) suppress noise, and 3) predict the properties of objects formed by graph nodes (**regression**)

- Applied GravNet layers to perform object condensation on calorimeter data and subsequent energy regression
- Up to 400 particle showers (each with up to 1600 hits) are considered per event
- GNN based on GravNet, a lightweight EdgeConv layer performing dynamic graph construction

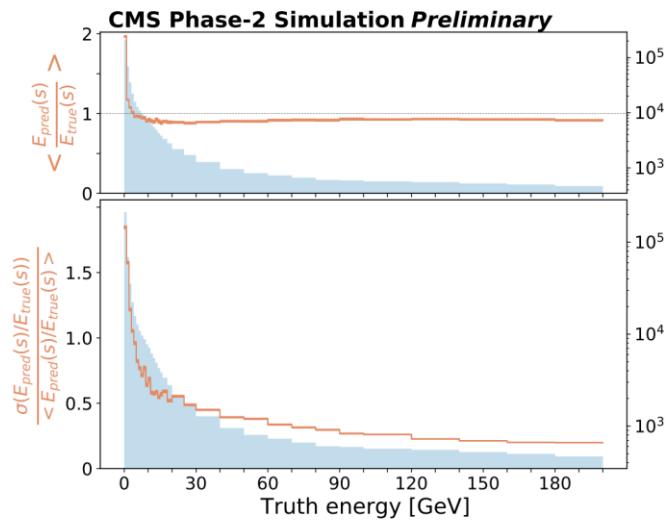
[Object Condensation 2002.03605.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.03605)



Showers are well-segmented



Predicted shower energies match truth



[Multi-particle reconstruction in the High Granularity Calorimeter using object condensation and graph neural networks](#)

GNN CALORIMETRY OBJECT CONDENSATION EXAMPLE

Particle flow (PF) algorithms combine tracks and calorimeter clusters to form physics objects (electrons, photons, muons, etc.)

PF via Node Classification:

A recent GNN-based PF algorithm considered *heterogeneous nodes* representing tracks, electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL) clusters, and hadronic calorimeter (HCAL) clusters

- Targets (per node):

$$y_j = [\text{PID}, p_T, E, \eta, \phi, q]$$

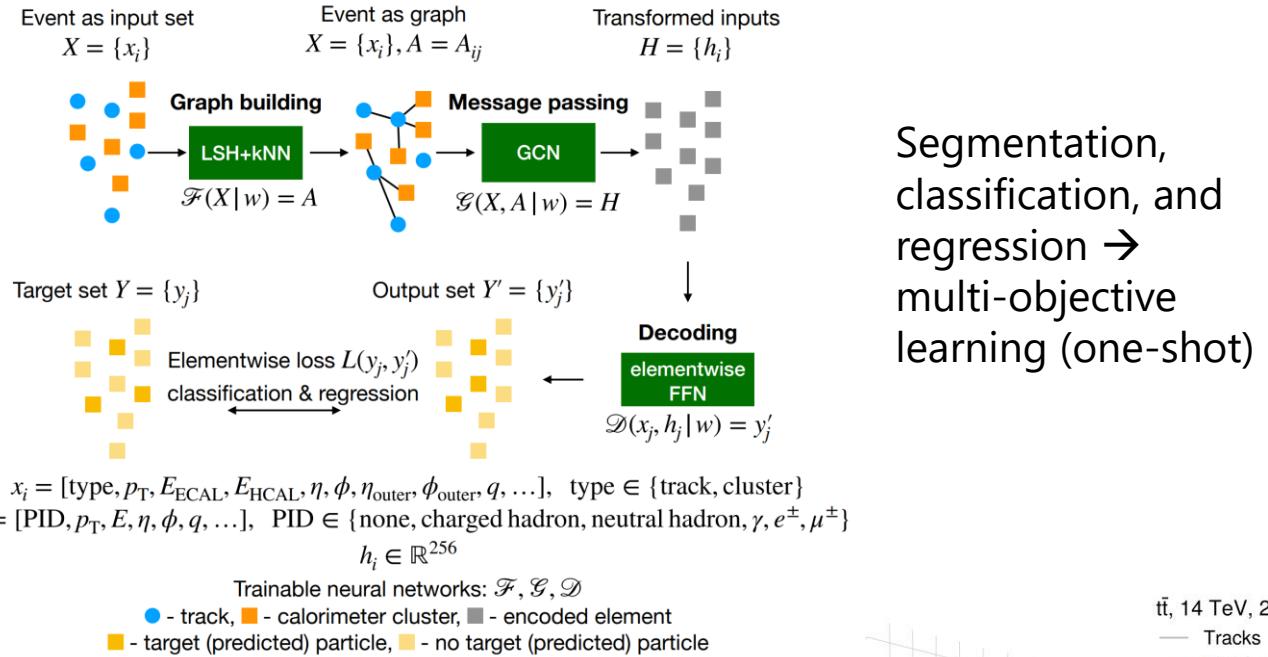
PID $\in \{\text{charged hadron, neutral hadron, } \gamma, e^\pm, \mu^\pm\}$

- Nodes:

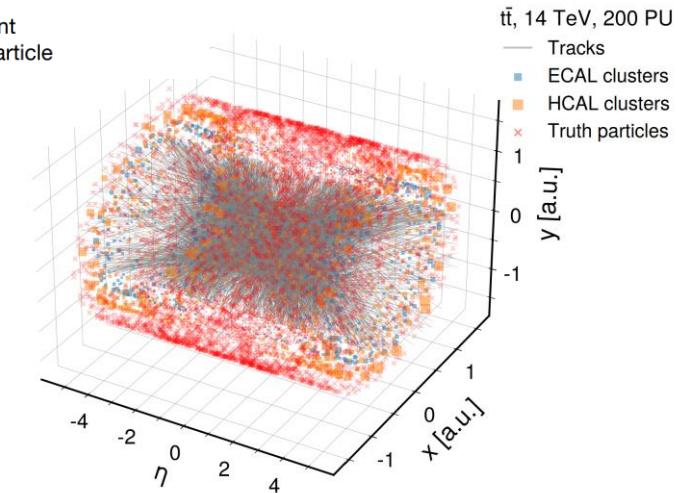
$$x_i = [\text{type}, p_T, E_{\text{ECAL}}, E_{\text{HCAL}}, \eta, \phi, \eta_{\text{outer}}, \phi_{\text{outer}}, q]$$

type $\in \{\text{track, cluster}\}$

[\[2101.08578\] MLPF: Efficient machine-learned particle-flow reconstruction using graph neural networks \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.08578)



Graph structure computed dynamically, not trained explicitly;
~5000 elements per graph

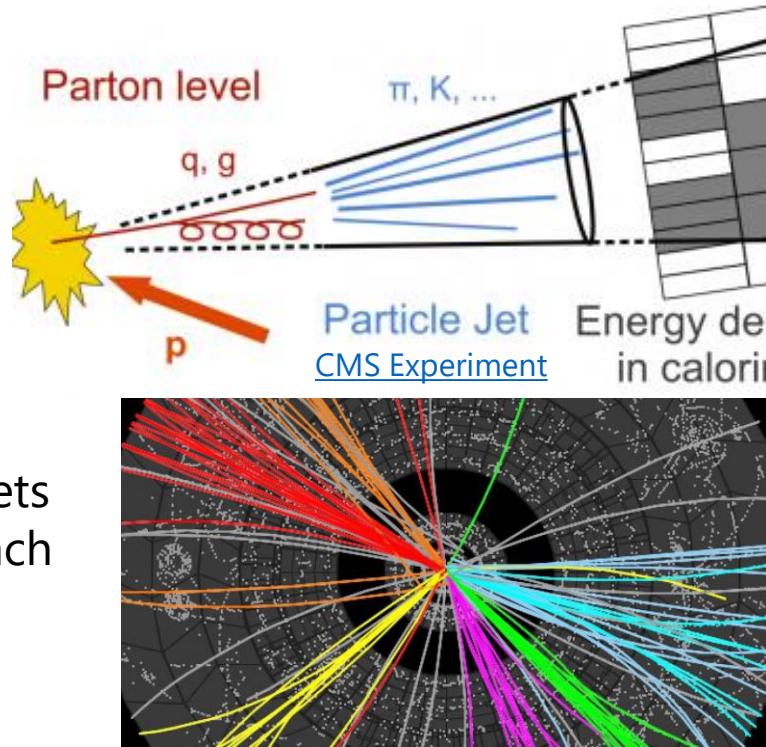


GNN EVENT RECONSTRUCTION

MLPF EXAMPLE

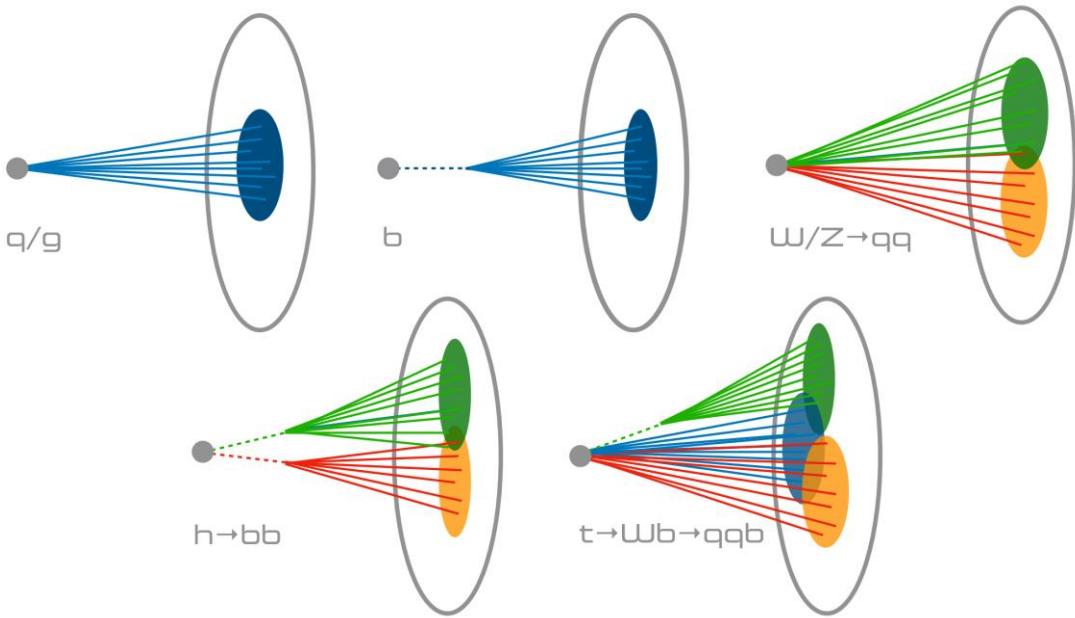
Jets are collimated sprays of particles produced when quarks or gluons are produced in isolation

Correctly reconstructing and classifying jets is critical for many important physics measurements (e.g. Higgs $\rightarrow b$ quarks)



O(1) to O(10) jets produced in each particle event

Jet Identification: what particle initiated the jet?



Isolated quarks and gluons form collimated jets; heavier objects decaying to multiple quarks that are reconstructed into larger jets

GNN JET IDENTIFICATION

JETS AND PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

GNN JET IDENTIFICATION SET-BASED APPROACHES

Set-based Architectures

Treat jets as *sets* of particles with kinematic features (energy, momentum, direction, mass)

- **Particle/Energy Flow Networks** apply the DeepSets result directly:

Observable Decomposition. An observable \mathcal{O} can be approximated arbitrarily well as:

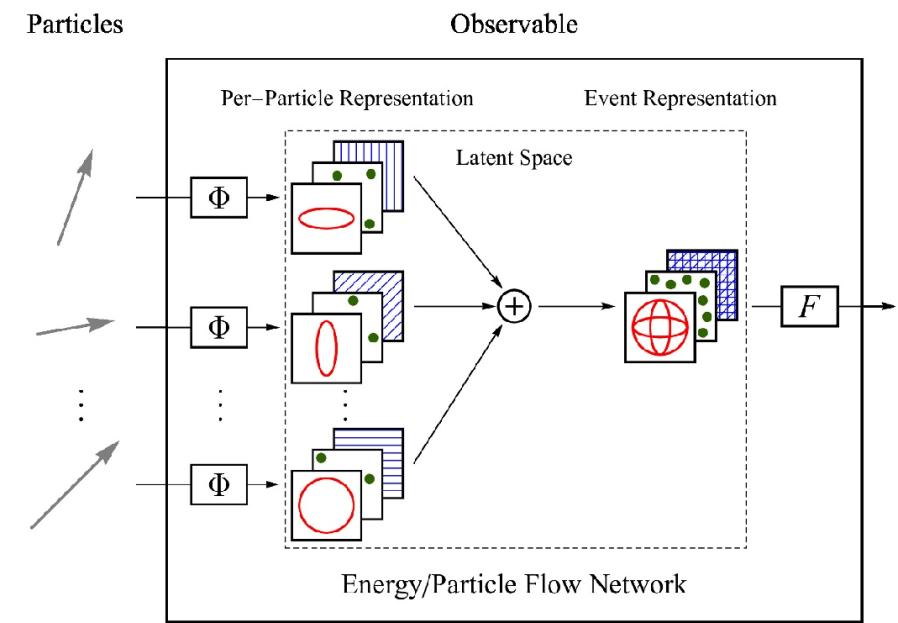
$$\mathcal{O}(\{p_1, \dots, p_M\}) = F \left(\sum_{i=1}^M \Phi(p_i) \right), \quad (1.1)$$

where $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\ell$ is a per-particle mapping and $F : \mathbb{R}^\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous function.

- **Direct Application:**

$$\text{PFN: } F \left(\sum_{i=1}^M \Phi(p_i) \right)$$

any corresponding
particle information



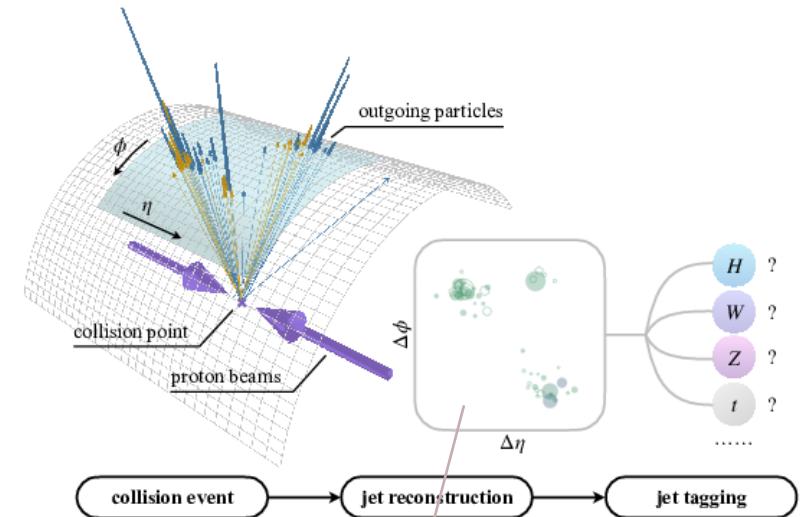
GNN JET IDENTIFICATION PARTICLE CLOUDS / PARTICLE GRAPHS

Particle Cloud GNNs

Apply GNNs w/ dynamic graph construction (EdgeConv) to make predictions on point clouds

e.g.

[\[1902.08570\] ParticleNet: Jet Tagging via Particle Clouds \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.08570)



Particles can be viewed as a “particle cloud” of kinematic features at different spatial locations

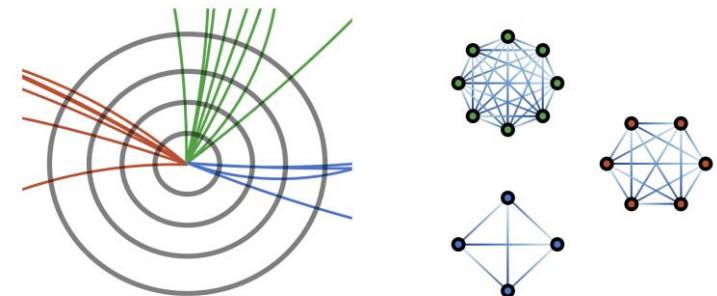
Particle Graph GNNs

Apply a GNN to a pre-constructed graph with particles as nodes

e.g.

[\[2001.05311\] ABCNet: An attention-based method for particle tagging \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.05311)

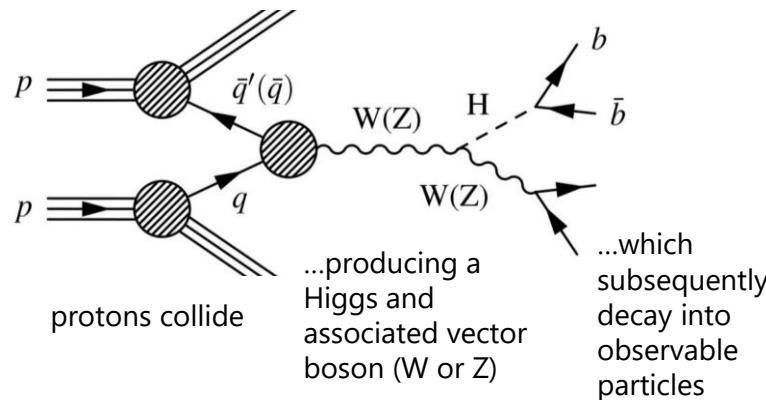
[\[1908.05318\] JEDI-net: a jet identification algorithm based on interaction networks \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.05318)



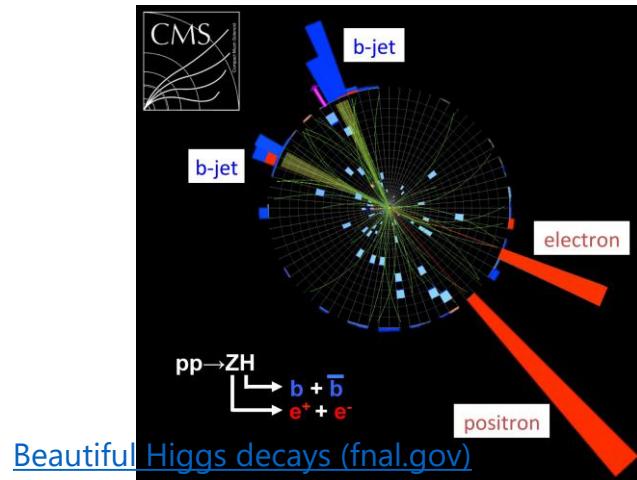
In this case, the particles comprising three jets have been embedded as nodes in fully connected graphs

Signals are collections of particles (topology + kinematics) produced by an interesting physics process

What happened:

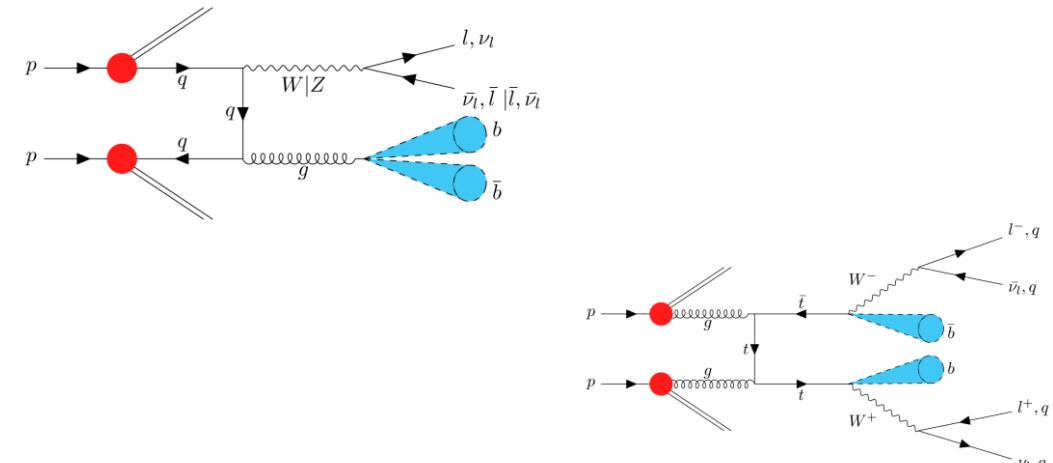


What we see:



Signal Identification: is this event really the signal we're looking for?

Background Rejection: lots of other processes look like the signal, and are often produced at a much higher rate

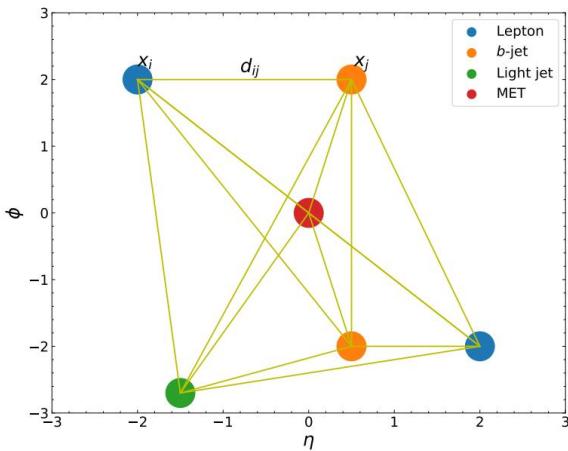


[Associated Production with a vector boson and decay into b-quarks using the ATLAS Run-2 dataset \(Dwayne Spiteri\) \(inspirehep.net\)](#)

GNN SIGNAL IDENTIFICATION PHYSICS SIGNALS

GNN JET IDENTIFICATION EVENT-LEVEL TASKS

Event (Graph-Level) Classification: heterogeneous nodes representing different particles / observables



x	photon	lepton charge	b -jet or light jet	MET	p_T (TeV)	E (TeV)	m (TeV)
1	0	1	0	0	0.132	0.135	0.000
2	0	-1	0	0	0.025	0.025	0.000
3	0	0	1	0	0.163	0.227	0.012
4	0	0	1	0	0.052	0.053	0.006
5	0	0	-1	0	0.047	2.485	0.011
6	0	0	0	1	0.078	0.078	0.000

nodes have explicit particle labels
→ heterogeneous structure

Use MPNNs to update node states to “agree” (global average pool them) on a graph-level classification of signal vs. background

- GNNs are being applied to a wide range of physics tasks at the LHC
 - Track and calorimeter reconstruction, energy regression, particle and signal identification
 - Topics not covered here: generative modeling, anomaly detection, detector calibration, algorithmic acceleration, interpretability
- A variety of graph-based learning approaches:
 - Pre-constructed vs. dynamically computed graphs
 - Node, edge, and graph-level predictions
 - One-shot (multi-objective) learning functions
 - Heterogeneous graph nodes
- GNN layers are quickly becoming one of the “standard building blocks” for LHC architectures

... thanks for listening!

CONCLUSIONS