

# Graph Representation Learning for Drug Discovery

Jian Tang

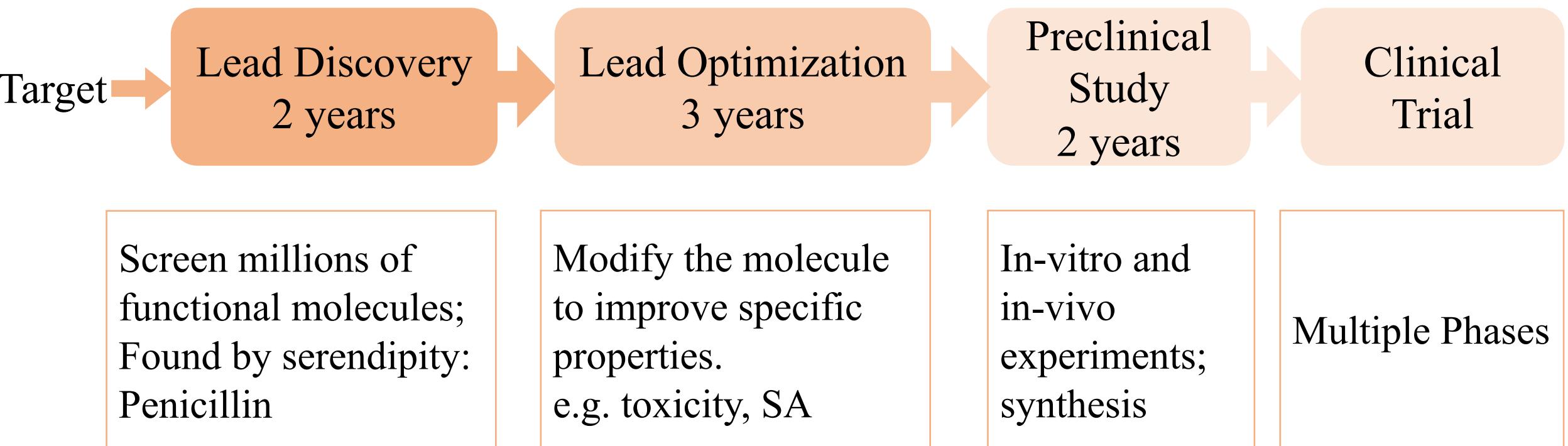
Mila-Quebec AI Institute  
HEC Montreal

[www.jian-tang.com](http://www.jian-tang.com)

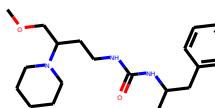
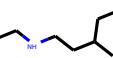
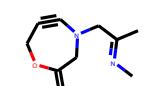
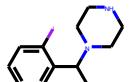
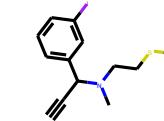
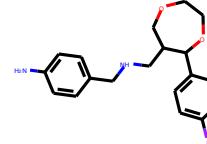
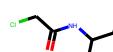
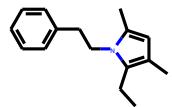
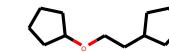
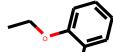
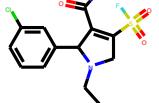
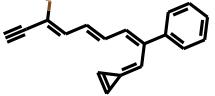
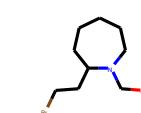
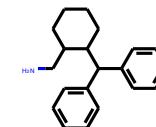
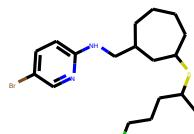
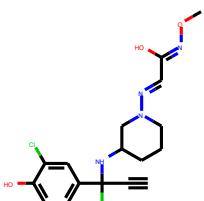
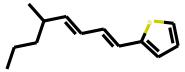
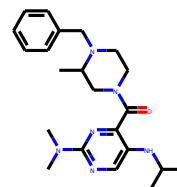
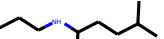


# The Process of Drug Discovery

- A very long and costly process
  - On average takes more than 10 years and \$2.5B to get a drug approved
- Big opportunities for AI to accelerate this process



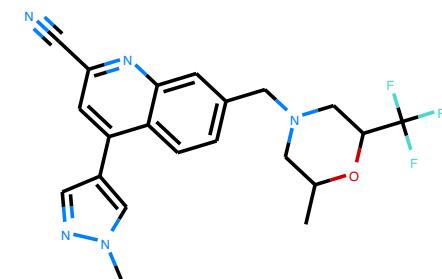
# Molecules



# Research Problems



Property Prediction

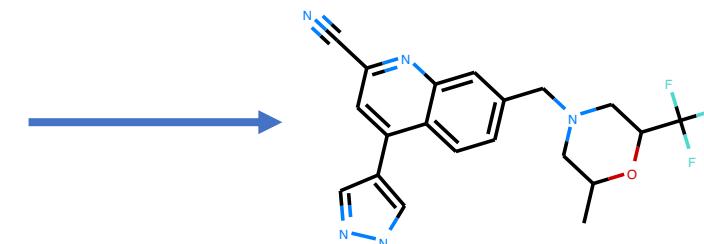


→

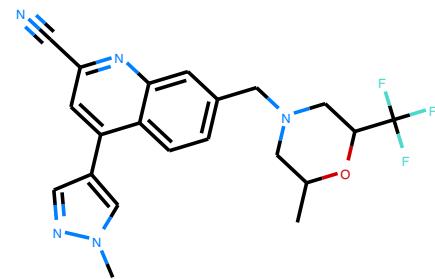
Property

Molecule Design and Optimization

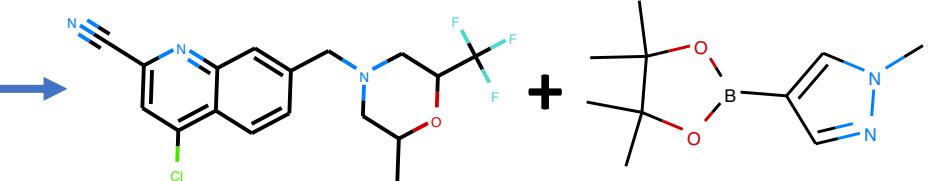
Property



Retrosynthesis Prediction

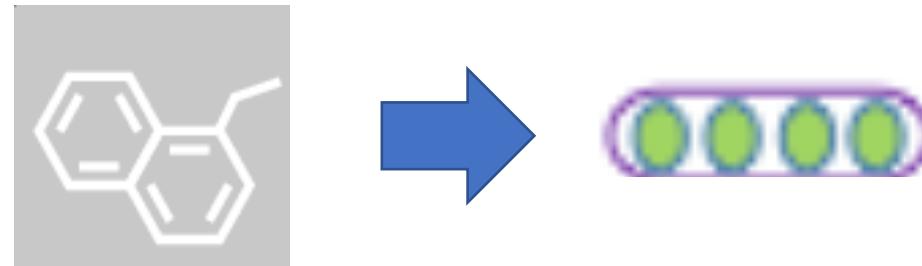


→



# Molecule Properties Prediction

- Predicting the properties of molecules or compounds is a fundamental problem in drug discovery
- Each molecule is represented as a graph
- The fundamental problem: how to represent a **whole molecule (graph)**



# Graph Neural Networks

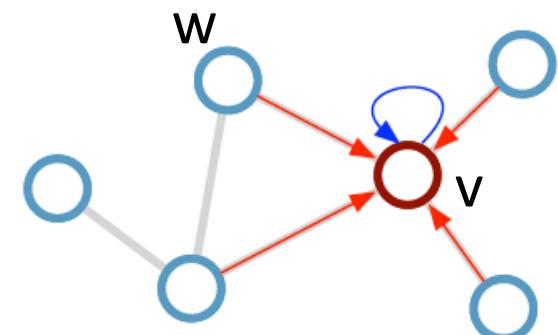
- Techniques for learning node/graph representations
  - Graph convolutional Networks (Kipf et al. 2016)
  - Graph attention networks (Veličković et al. 2017)
- Neural Message Passing (Gilmer et al. 2017)

**MESSAGE PASSING:**  $M_k(h_v^k, h_w^k, e_{vw})$

**AGGREGATE :**  $m_v^{k+1} = \text{AGGREGATE}\{M_k(h_v^k, h_w^k, e_{vw}): w \in N(v)\}$

**COMBINE :**  $h_v^{k+1} = \text{COMBINE}(h_v^k, m_v^{k+1})$

**READOUT:**  $g = \text{READOUT}\{h_v^K: v \in G\}$



# InfoGraph: Unsupervised and Semi-supervised Whole-Graph Representation Learning (Sun et al. ICLR'20)

- For supervised methods based on graph neural networks, a large number of labeled data are required for training
- In the domain of drug discovery, the number of labeled data are limited
  - A large amount of unlabeled data (molecules) are available
- This work: how to effectively learn whole graph representations in unsupervised or semi-supervised fashion

# InfoGraph: Unsupervised Whole-Graph Representation Learning (Sun et al. ICLR'20)

- Maximizing the *mutual information* between the whole graph representation  $H_\phi(G)$  and all the sub-structure representation  $h_\phi^i$ .
  - Ensure the graph representation capture the predominant information among all the substructures
- K-layer graph neural networks:

$$h_v^{(k)} = \text{COMBINE}^{(k)} \left( h_v^{(k-1)}, \text{AGGREGATE}^{(k)} \left( \left\{ \left( h_v^{(k-1)}, h_u^{(k-1)}, e_{uv} \right) : u \in \mathcal{N}(v) \right\} \right) \right)$$

- Summarize the local structure information at every node  $i$ :

$$h_\phi^i = \text{CONCAT}(\{h_i^{(k)}\}_{k=1}^K)$$

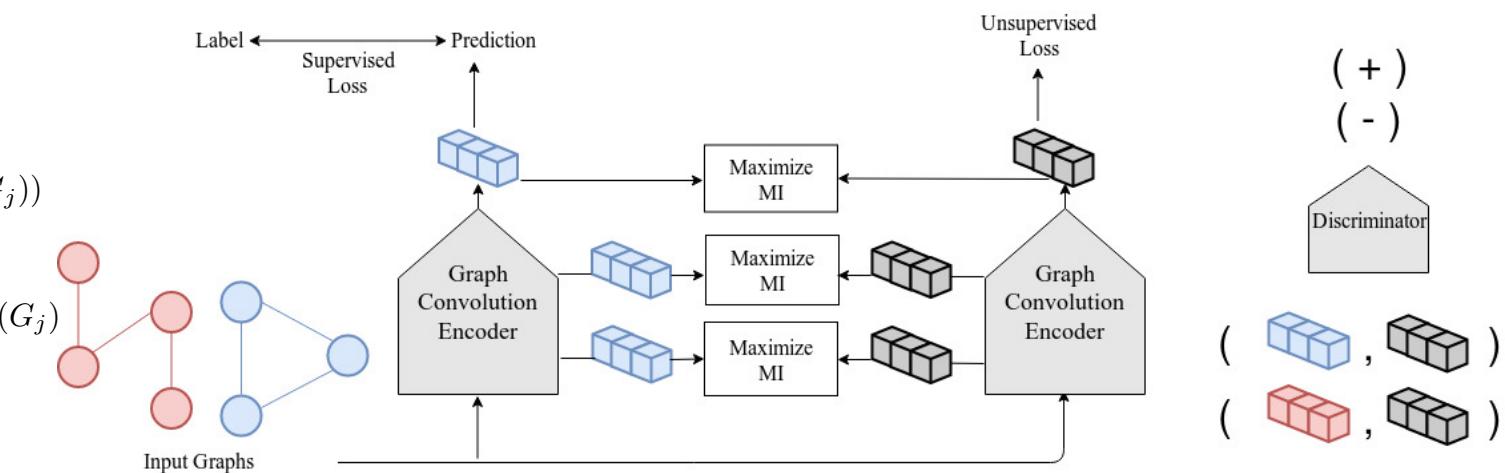
- Summarize the information of the whole graph:

$$H_\phi(G) = \text{READOUT}(\{h_\phi^i\}_{i=1}^N)$$

# InfoGraph\*: Semi-supervised Graph Representation Learning (Sun et al. ICLR'20)

- Two different encoders for the supervised and unsupervised tasks
- Maximize the *mutual information* of the representations learned by the two encoders at all levels (or layers)

$$L_{\text{total}} = \sum_{i=1}^{|G^L|} L_{\text{supervised}}(y_\phi(G_i), o_i) + \sum_{j=1}^{|G^L|+|G^U|} L_{\text{unsupervised}}(h_\varphi(G_j); H_\varphi(G_j)) - \lambda \sum_{j=1}^{|G^L|+|G^U|} \frac{1}{|G_j|} \sum_{k=1}^K I(H_\phi^k(G_j); H_\varphi^k(G_j))$$



# Results on Graph Classification and Regression

Dataset	MUTAG	PTC-MR	RDT-B	RDT-M5K	IMDB-B	IMDB-M
(No. Graphs)	188	344	2000	4999	1000	1500
(No. classes)	2	2	2	5	2	3
(Avg. Graph Size)	17.93	14.29	429.63	508.52	19.77	13.00

Graph Kernels						
RW [14]	$83.72 \pm 1.50$	$57.85 \pm 1.30$	OMR	OMR	$50.68 \pm 0.26$	$34.65 \pm 0.19$
SP [3]	$85.22 \pm 2.43$	$58.24 \pm 2.44$	$64.11 \pm 0.14$	$39.55 \pm 0.22$	$55.60 \pm 0.22$	$37.99 \pm 0.30$
GK [55]	$81.66 \pm 2.11$	$57.26 \pm 1.41$	$77.34 \pm 0.18$	$41.01 \pm 0.17$	$65.87 \pm 0.98$	$43.89 \pm 0.38$
WL [54]	$80.72 \pm 3.00$	$57.97 \pm 0.49$	$68.82 \pm 0.41$	$46.06 \pm 0.21$	$72.30 \pm 3.44$	$46.95 \pm 0.46$
DGK [68]	$87.44 \pm 2.72$	$60.08 \pm 2.55$	$78.04 \pm 0.39$	$41.27 \pm 0.18$	$66.96 \pm 0.56$	$44.55 \pm 0.52$
MLG [28]	$87.94 \pm 1.61$	<b><math>63.26 \pm 1.48</math></b>	> 1 Day	> 1 Day	$66.55 \pm 0.25$	$41.17 \pm 0.03$

Other Unsupervised Methods						
node2vec [17]	$72.63 \pm 10.20$	$58.58 \pm 8.00$	-	-	-	-
sub2vec [1]	$61.05 \pm 15.80$	$59.99 \pm 6.38$	$71.48 \pm 0.41$	$36.68 \pm 0.42$	$55.26 \pm 1.54$	$36.67 \pm 0.83$
graph2vec [38]	$83.15 \pm 9.25$	$60.17 \pm 6.86$	$75.78 \pm 1.03$	$47.86 \pm 0.26$	$71.1 \pm 0.54$	<b><math>50.44 \pm 0.87</math></b>
<b>InfoGraph</b>	<b><math>89.01 \pm 1.13</math></b>	$61.65 \pm 1.43$	<b><math>82.50 \pm 1.42</math></b>	<b><math>53.46 \pm 1.03</math></b>	<b><math>73.03 \pm 0.87</math></b>	$49.69 \pm 0.53$

Table 1: Graph classification accuracy with unsupervised methods

Target	Mu (0)	Alpha (1)	HOMO (2)	LUMO (3)	Gap (4)	R2 (5)	ZPVE(6)	U0 (7)	U (8)	H (9)	G(10)	Cv (11)
MAE	0.3201	0.5792	0.0060	0.0062	0.0091	10.0469	0.0007	0.3204	0.2934	0.2722	0.2948	0.2368

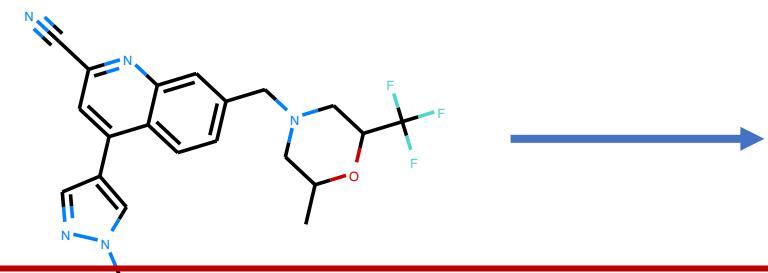
Semi-Supervised	Error Ratio											
Mean-Teachers	1.09	1.00	<b>0.99</b>	1.00	<b>0.97</b>	0.52	0.77	1.16	0.93	0.79	0.86	0.86
InfoGraph	1.02	0.97	1.02	<b>0.99</b>	1.01	0.71	0.96	0.85	0.93	0.93	0.99	1.00
InfoGraph*	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.99</b>	0.98	<b>0.49</b>	<b>0.52</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>0.54</b>	<b>0.83</b>

Table 2: Results of semi-supervised experiments on QM9 data set.

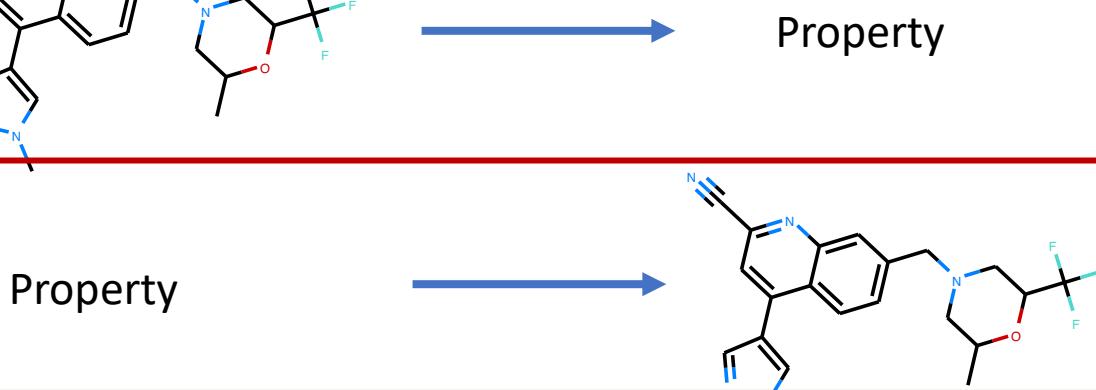
# Research Problems



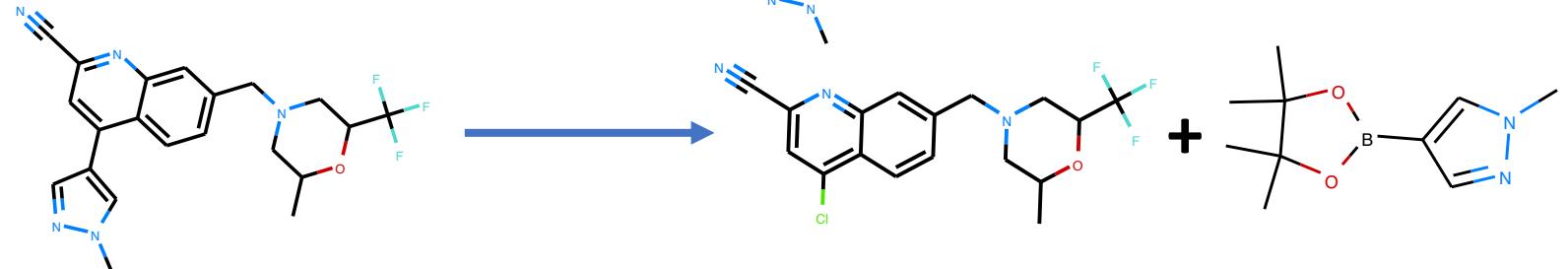
Property Prediction



Molecule Design and Optimization



Retrosynthesis Prediction



# Molecule Generation and Optimization

- Deep generative models for data generation



Image generation  
(by StyleGAN, From Internet)

SYSTEM PROMPT  
(HUMAN-WRITTEN)

*In a shocking finding, scientist discovered a herd of unicorns living in a remote, previously unexplored valley, in the Andes Mountains. Even more surprising to the researchers was the fact that the unicorns spoke perfect English.*

MODEL COMPLETION  
(MACHINE-WRITTEN, 10 TRIES)

The scientist named the population, after their distinctive horn, Ovid's Unicorn. These four-horned, silver-white unicorns were previously unknown to science.

Now, after almost two centuries, the mystery of what sparked this odd phenomenon is finally solved.

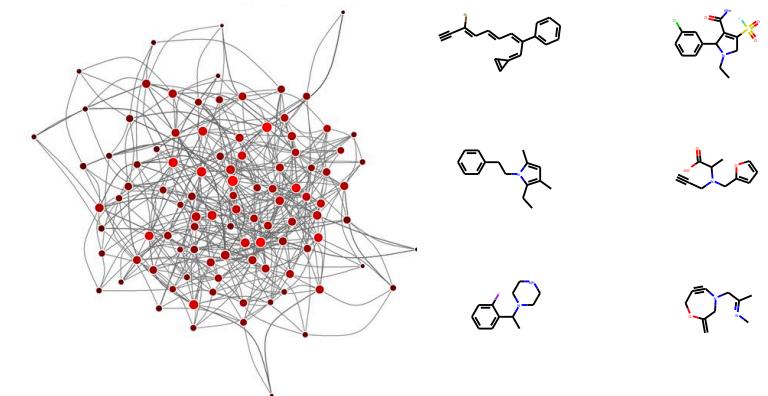
Dr. Jorge Pérez, an evolutionary biologist from the University of La Paz, and several companions, were exploring the Andes Mountains when they found a small valley, with no other animals or humans. Pérez noticed that the valley had what appeared to be a natural fountain, surrounded by two peaks of rock and silver snow.

Pérez and the others then ventured further into the valley. "By the time we reached the top of one peak, the water looked blue, with some crystals on top," said Pérez.

Pérez and his friends were astonished to see the unicorn herd. These creatures could be seen from the air without having to move too much to see them – they were so close they could touch their horns.

While examining these bizarre creatures the scientists discovered that the creatures also spoke some fairly regular English. Pérez stated, "We can see, for example, that they have a common 'language,' something like a dialect or dialectic."

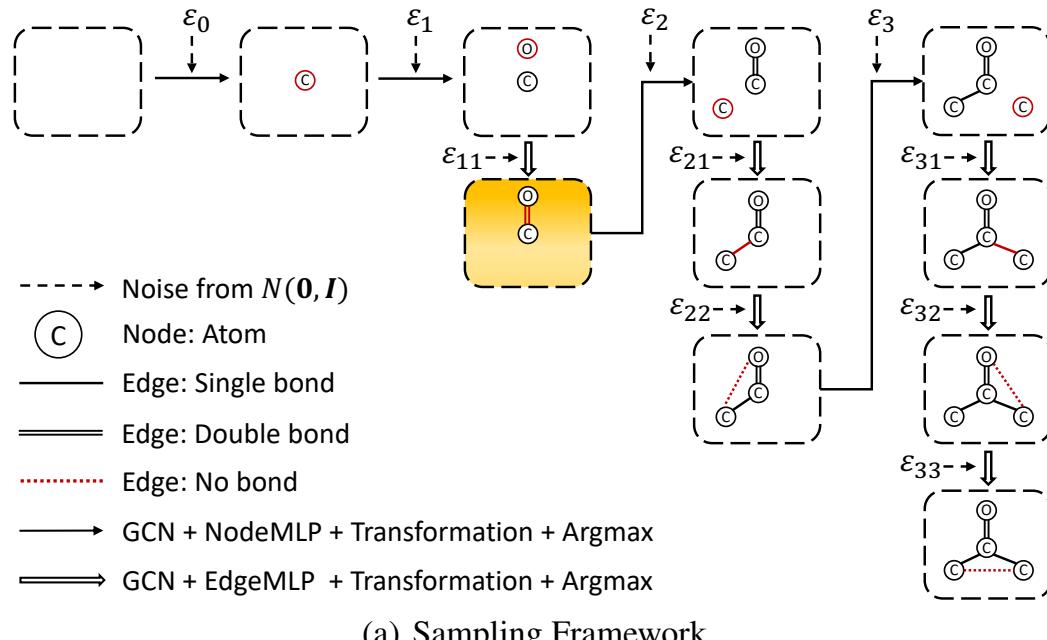
Text generated by GPT-2,  
Examples from Internet



Graphs?

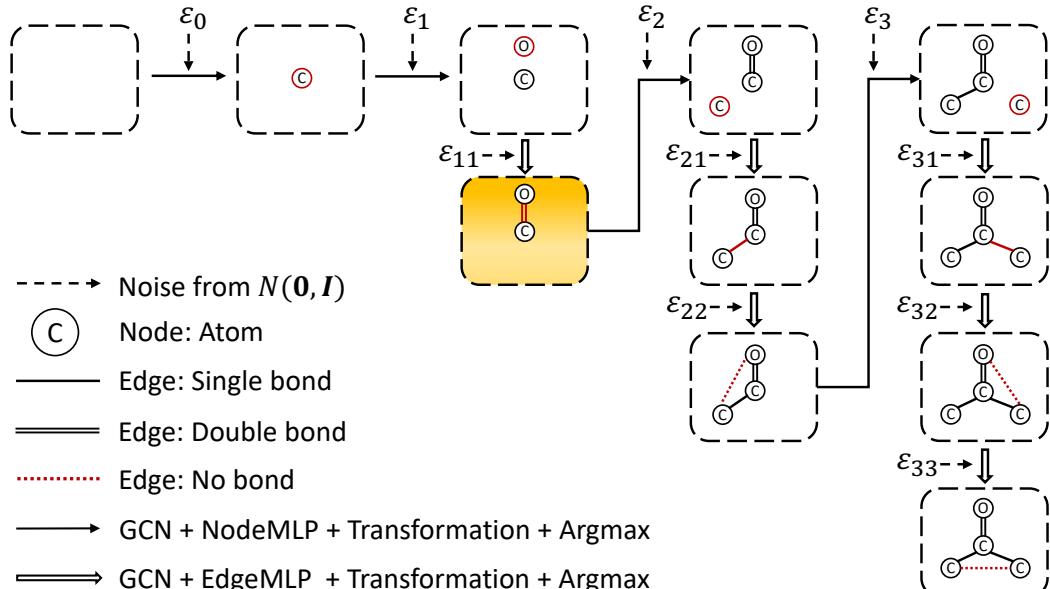
# GraphAF: an Autoregressive Flow for Molecular Graph Generation (Shi & Xu ICLR'20)

- Formulate graph generation as a sequential decision process
  - In each step, generate a new atom
  - Determine the bonds between the new atoms and existing atoms

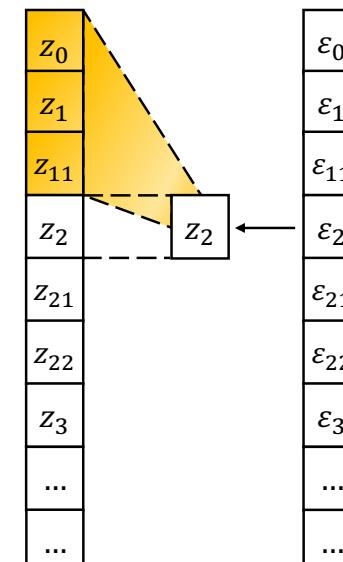


# GraphAF: an Autoregressive Flow for Molecular Graph Generation

- Traverse a graph through BFS-order
  - Transform each graph into a sequence of nodes and edges
- Defines an invertible mapping from a base distribution (Gaussian distribution) to the observations (graph nodes and edge sequences)



(a) Sampling Framework

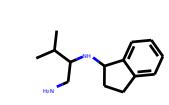
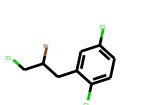
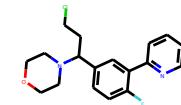
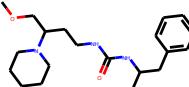
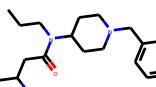
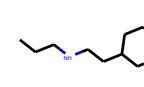
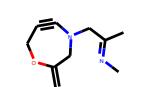
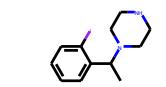
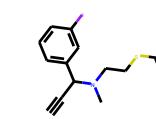
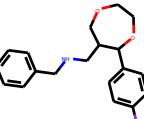
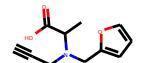
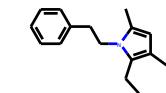
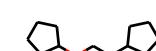
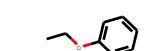
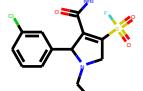
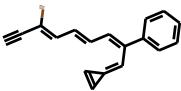
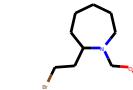
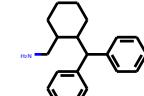
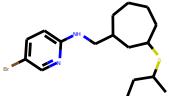
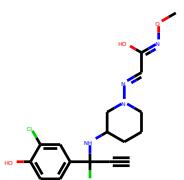
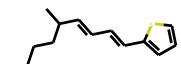
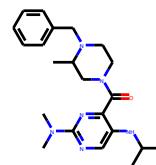
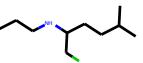
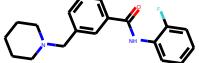


(b) Autoregressive Flow

# Molecule Generation

- Training Data: ZINC250K
  - 250K drug-like molecules with a maximum atom number of 38
  - 9 atom types and 3 edge types

Method	Validity	Validity w/o check	Uniqueness	Novelty	Reconstruction
JT-VAE	100%	—	100% <sup>‡</sup>	100% <sup>‡</sup>	76.7%
GCPN	100%	20% <sup>†</sup>	99.97% <sup>‡</sup>	100% <sup>‡</sup>	—
MRNN	100%	65%	99.89%	100%	—
GraphNVP	42.60%	—	94.80%	100%	100%
GraphAF	100%	68%	99.10%	100%	100%



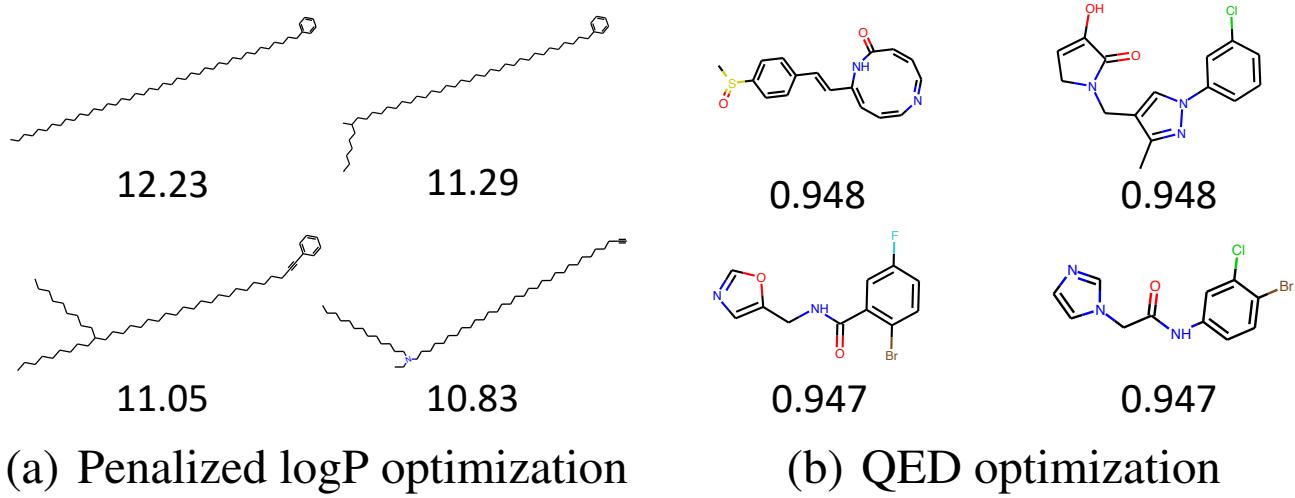
# Goal-Directed Molecule Generation with Reinforcement Learning

- Fine tune the generation policy with reinforcement learning to optimize the properties of generated molecules
- **State:** current subgraph  $G_i$
- **Action:** generating a new atom (i.e.  $p(X_i|G_i)$ ) or a new edge ( $p(A_{ij}|G_i, X_i, A_{i,1:j-1})$ ).
- **Reward Design:** the properties of molecules (final reward) and chemical validity (intermediate and final reward)

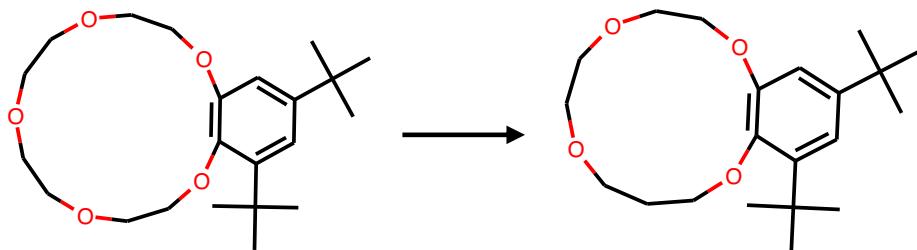
# Molecule Optimization

- Properties
  - Penalized logP
  - QED (druglikeness)

Method	Penalized logP			Validity	QED			Validity
	1st	2nd	3rd		1st	2nd	3rd	
ZINC (Dataset)	4.52	4.30	4.23	100.0%	0.948	0.948	0.948	100.0%
JT-VAE (Jin et al., 2018)	5.30	4.93	4.49	100.0%	0.925	0.911	0.910	100.0%
GCPN (You et al., 2018a)	7.98	7.85	7.80	100.0%	<b>0.948</b>	0.947	0.946	100.0%
MRNN <sup>1</sup> (Popova et al., 2019)	8.63	6.08	4.73	100.0%	0.844	0.796	0.736	100.0%
GraphAF	<b>12.23</b>	<b>11.29</b>	<b>11.05</b>	100.0%	<b>0.948</b>	<b>0.948</b>	<b>0.947</b>	100.0%

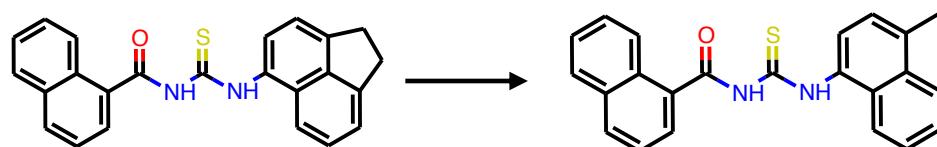


# Constrained Optimization



-30.21

-22.87



-14.32

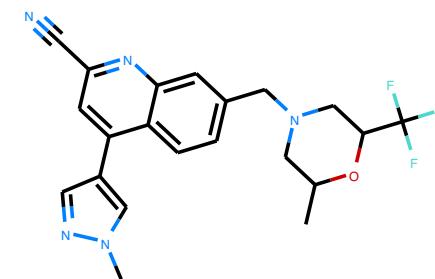
3.58

(c) Constrained optimization

# Research Problems



Property Prediction

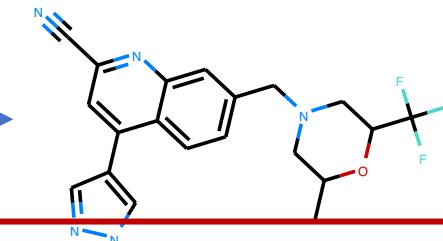


Property

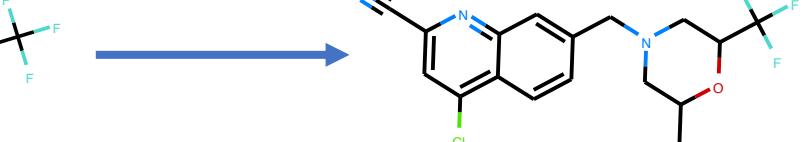
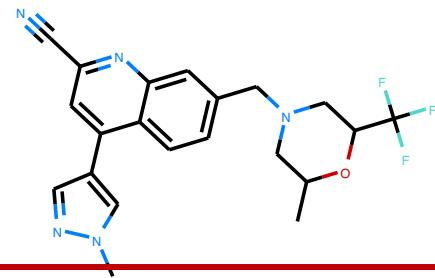
Molecule Design and Optimization

Property

Property

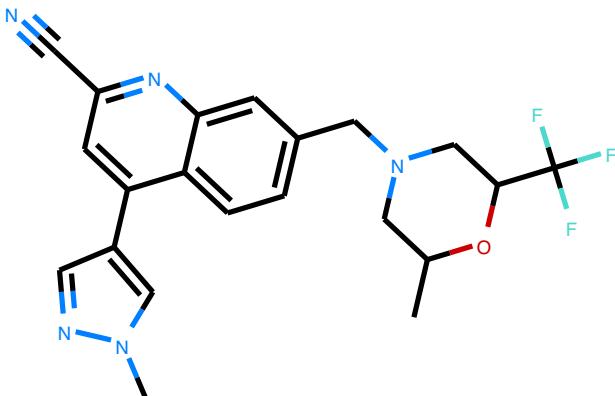


Retrosynthesis Prediction



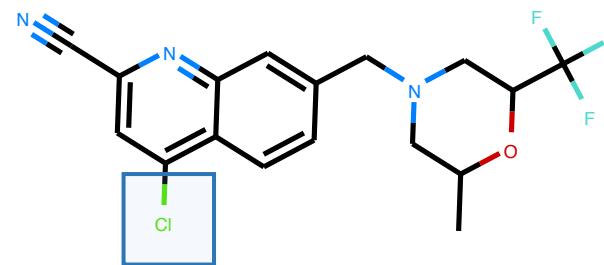
# Retrosynthesis Prediction

- Once a molecular structure is designed, how to synthesize it?
- Retrosynthesis planning/prediction
  - Identify a set of reactants to synthesize a target molecule

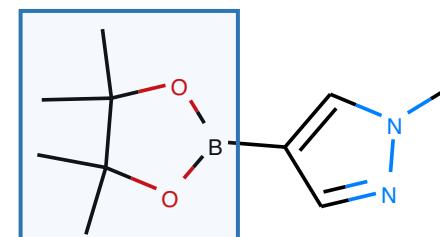


Product (Given)

Predict Reactants  
→  
Reaction Type  
(optional)



Reactant A



Reactant B

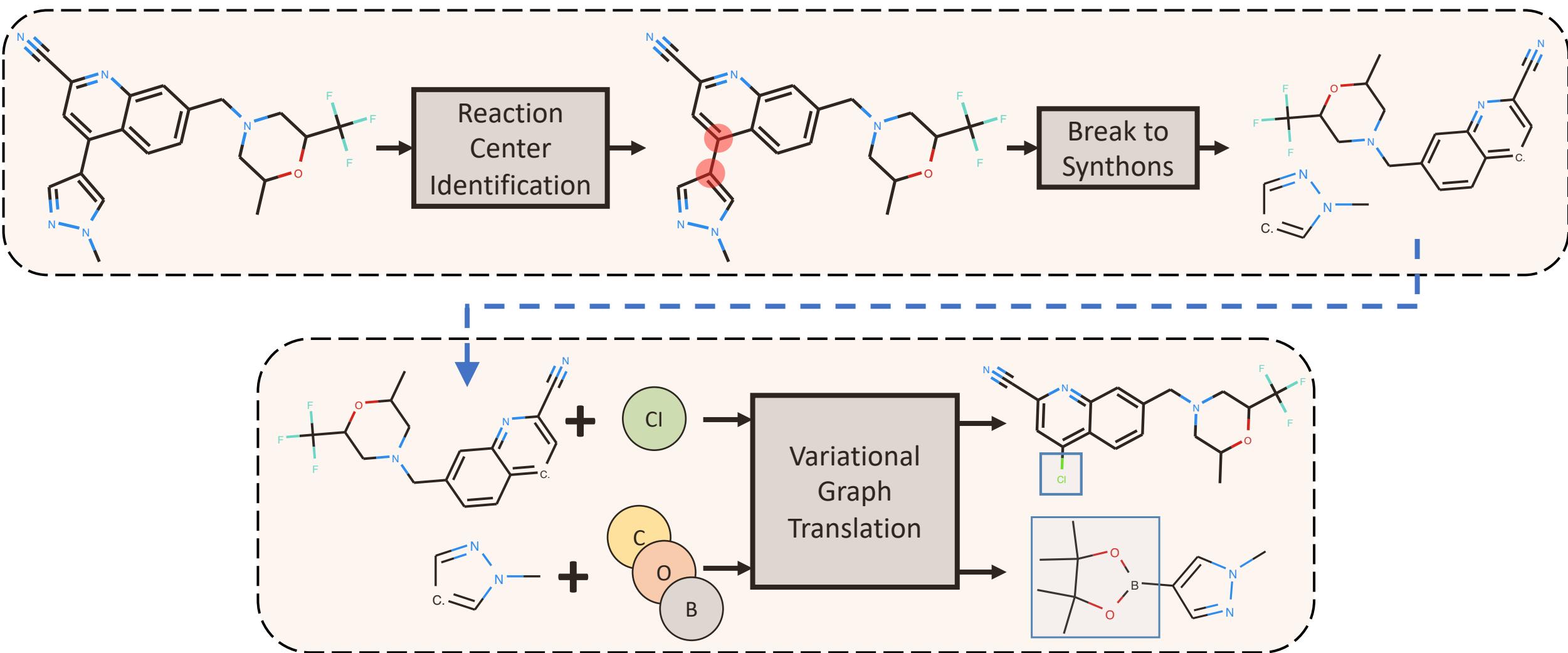
...

...

# A Graph to Graphs Framework for Retrosynthesis Prediction (Shi et al. 2020)

- Each molecule is represented as a molecular graph
- Formulate the problem as a graph (**product molecule**) to a set of graphs (**reactants**)
- The whole framework are divided into two stages
  - Reaction center identification
  - Graph Translation

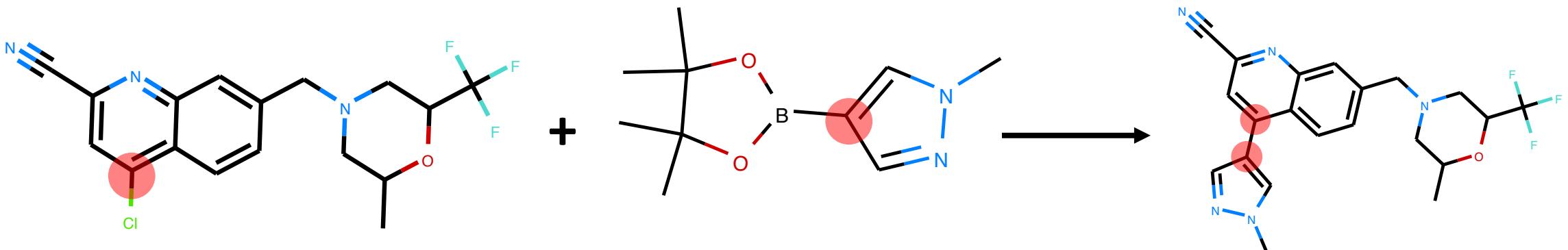
# The G2Gs Framework (Shi et al. 2020)



# Reaction Center Prediction

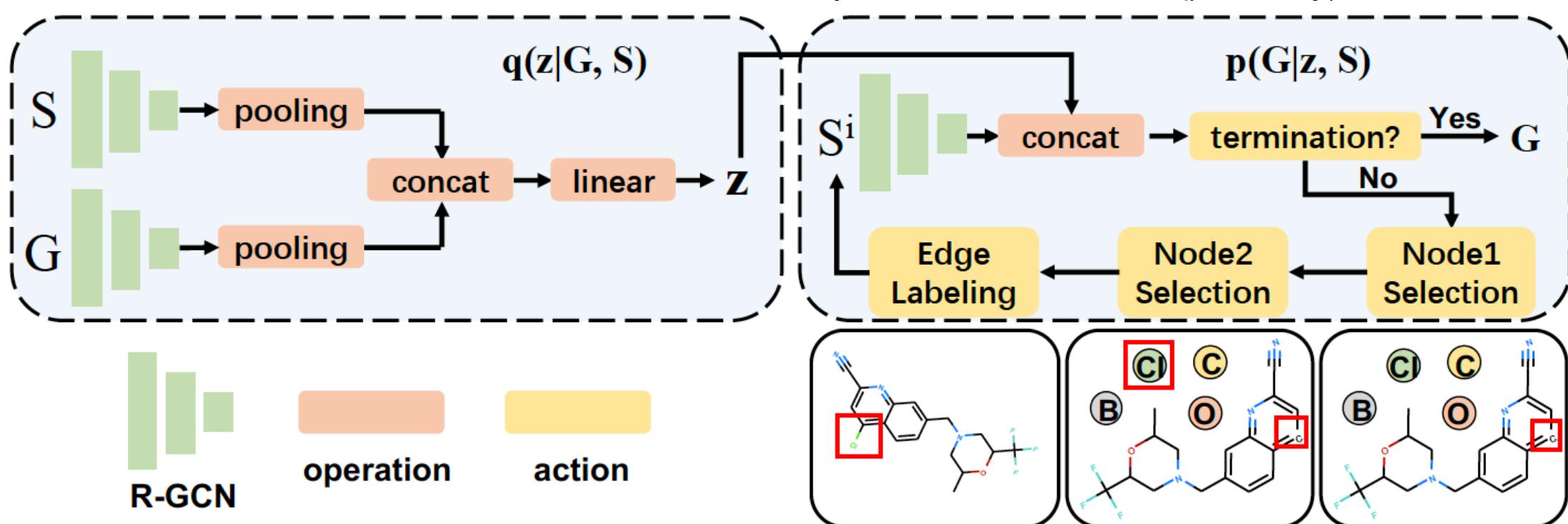
An atom pair  $(i, j)$  is a reaction center if:

- There is a bond between atom  $i$  and atom  $j$  in product
- There is no bond between atom  $i$  and atom  $j$  in reactants



# Graph Translation

- Translate the incomplete synthon to the final reactant
- A variational graph to graph framework
  - A latent variable  $z$  is introduced to capture the uncertainty during translation



# Experiments

- Experiment Setup
  - Benchmark data set USPTO-50K, containing 50k atom-mapped reactions
  - Evaluation metrics: top- $k$  exact match (based on canonical SMILES) accuracy

Table 1. Top- $k$  exact match accuracy when reaction class is given. Results of all baselines are directly taken from (Dai et al., 2019).

Methods	Top- $k$ accuracy %			
	1	3	5	10
Template-free				
Seq2seq	37.4	52.4	57.0	61.7
G2Gs	<b>61.0</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>88.7</b>
Template-based				
Retrosim	52.9	73.8	81.2	88.1
Neuralsym	55.3	76.0	81.4	85.1
GLN	<b>64.2</b>	<b>79.1</b>	<b>85.2</b>	<b>90.0</b>

Table 2. Top- $k$  exact match accuracy when reaction class is unknown. Results of all baselines are taken from (Dai et al., 2019).

Methods	Top- $k$ accuracy %			
	1	3	5	10
Template-free				
Transformer	37.9	57.3	62.7	/
G2Gs	<b>48.9</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>75.5</b>
Template-based				
Retrosim	37.3	54.7	63.3	74.1
Neuralsym	44.4	65.3	72.4	78.9
GLN	<b>52.5</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>83.7</b>

# Conclusion

- Drug discovery is slow and expensive
  - Great potential for AI in accelerating the process
- Great representation learning for drug discovery
  - Properties prediction
  - De novo molecule design and optimization
  - Retrosynthesis
- Next Step: Drug Discovery with Limited Labeled Data
  - Self-supervised Learning
  - Multi-task/Transfer Learning, Few-shot Learning

# Thanks!

- Current Students
  - Meng Qu
  - Zhaocheng Zhu
  - Andreea Deac
  - Louis-Pascal Xhonneux
  - Shengchao Liu
  - Chence Shi
  - Minkai Xu
- Collaborators and previous students:,  
Yoshua Bengio, Pietro Liò, Fanyun Sun,  
Hongyu Guo, Jordan Hoffmann, Vikas  
Verma,....



Microsoft®  
**Research**

