

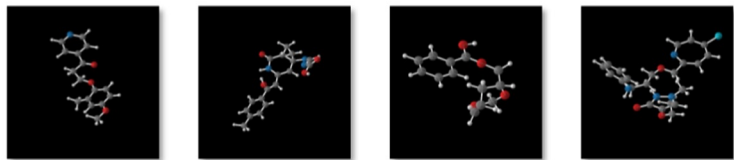
Geometric Latent Diffusion Models for 3D Molecule Generation

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Outline

- Invariance & Equivariance
- Molecule Generation in 3D
- Motivation
- Model Architecture
- Geometric Autoencoders
- Geometric Latent Diffusion
- Experiment

Invariance & Equivariance

Given a function $f: \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$ and transformations S_g, T_g , where g is an element of the group of transformations G .

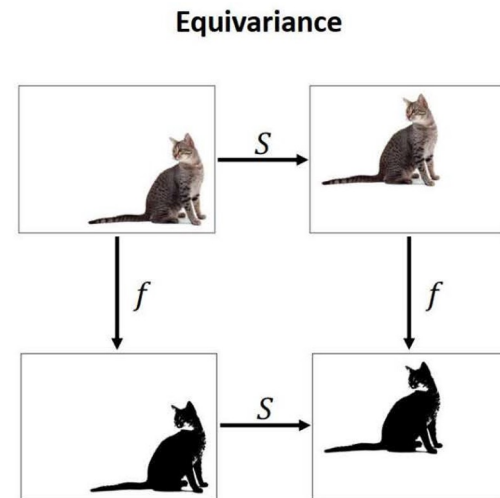
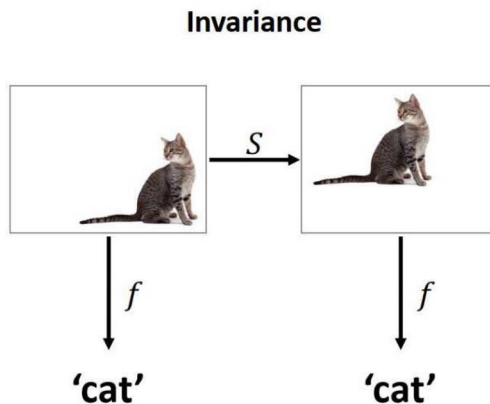
Invariance:

$$f \circ S_g(\mathbf{x}) = f(S_g(\mathbf{x})) = f(\mathbf{x})$$

Equivariance:

$$f \circ S_g(\mathbf{X}) = T_g \circ f(\mathbf{X})$$

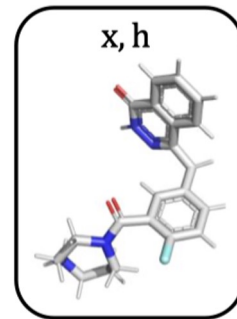
(Note that invariance is a special case of equivariance)



Credit: [\[1\]](#), [\[3\]](#)

Molecule Generation in 3D

Atomic Space



Credit: [\[2\]](#)

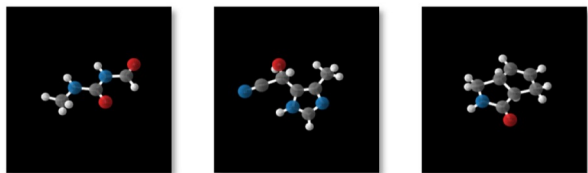
How to represent a **molecule in 3D**?

- Each molecule is represented as a **point cloud**: $\mathcal{G} = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h} \rangle$
- **Atom coordinates matrix**: $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times 3}$
- **Node feature matrix**: $\mathbf{h} = (\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_N) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}$ (e.g., atomic type and charges)

The **goal** is to learn a probability distribution p over the 3D molecule space with generative models and sample novel 3D molecules from p .

Molecule Generation in 3D

(I) **Unconditional generation:**
Give a collection of molecules \mathcal{G} ,
learn parameterized generative
models $p_{\theta}(\mathcal{G})$.



(II) **Controllable generation:**
With molecules \mathcal{G} **labeled with**
certain properties s (e.g., protein
target), learn conditional
generation models $p_{\theta}(\mathcal{G} \mid s)$.

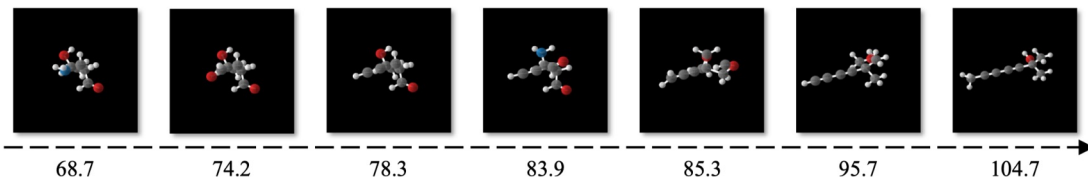


Figure 3. Molecules generated by conditional GEOLDM. We conduct controllable generation with interpolation among different Polarizability α values with the same reparametrization noise ϵ . The given α values are provided at the bottom.

Credit: [\[2\]](#)

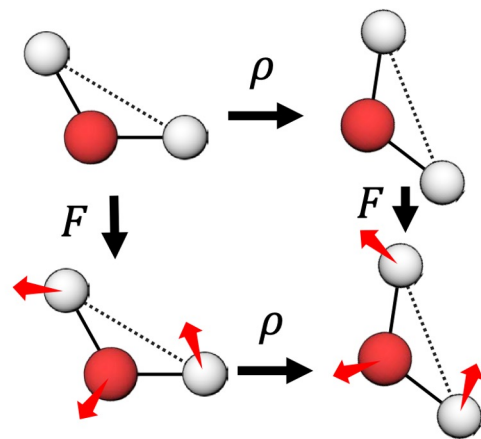
In- & Equivariance - Molecule Case

- **3D Special Euclidean Group SE(3)**: The group of rotation and translation in 3D space, where transformations can be represented by a **translation** t and an **orthogonal matrix rotation** R .^[2]
- When applying transformations $\in \text{SE}(3)$:
 - The node features \mathbf{h} are **SE(3)-invariant**
 - The coordinates \mathbf{x} are **affected** as: $R\mathbf{x} + t$
 - A function f is **SE(3)-equivariant** if

$$R\mathbf{z}_{\mathbf{x}} + t = f(R\mathbf{x} + t)$$

, where $\mathbf{z}_{\mathbf{x}} = f(\mathbf{x})$.

$$f \circ S_g(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})$$
$$f \circ S_g(\mathbf{X}) = T_g \circ f(\mathbf{X})$$



Visual explanation of the equivariance

Credit: [3]

Molecule Generation in 3D

- The **central challenge** in **generating 3D molecules from scratch** lies in **achieving SE(3)-invariance** when generating **3D atom positions**. [\[6\]](#)
- In other words, the generative model should **assign the same probability** to \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{M}' if \mathcal{M}' can be obtained by rotating or translating \mathcal{M} in 3D space.

Motivation

- **Diffusion models that satisfy the invariance constraint** have already been applied to 3D molecule generation (e.g., [4]) and show successful applications in downstream tasks like target drug generation, antibody design, and protein design.
- **However,**
 - Existing models **mainly still work on the original atomic space.**
 - Molecules are composed of both categorical (atom types, **discrete**) and **continuous** representations. However, **previous method directly learns Gaussian diffusions on both continuous and discrete features**, which is suboptimal.

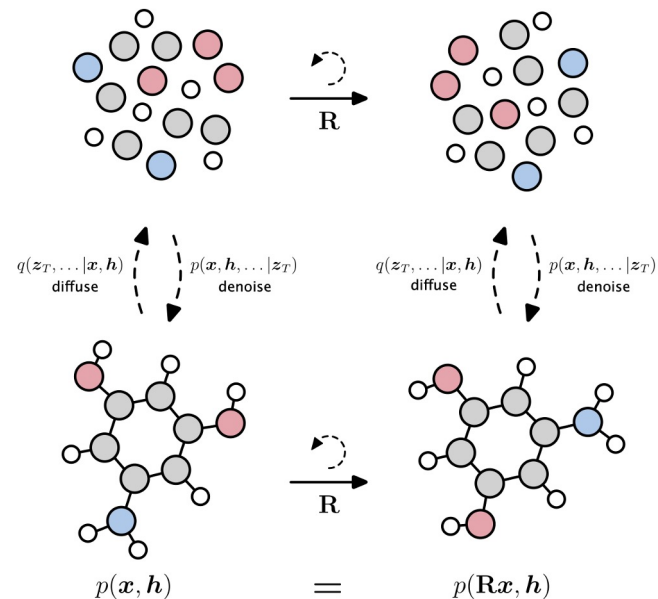


Figure 1. Overview of the EDM. To generate a molecule, a normal distributed set of points is denoised into a molecule consisting of atom coordinates \mathbf{x} in 3D and atom types \mathbf{h} . As the model is rotation equivariant, the likelihood is preserved when a molecule is rotated by \mathbf{R} .

Credit: [4]

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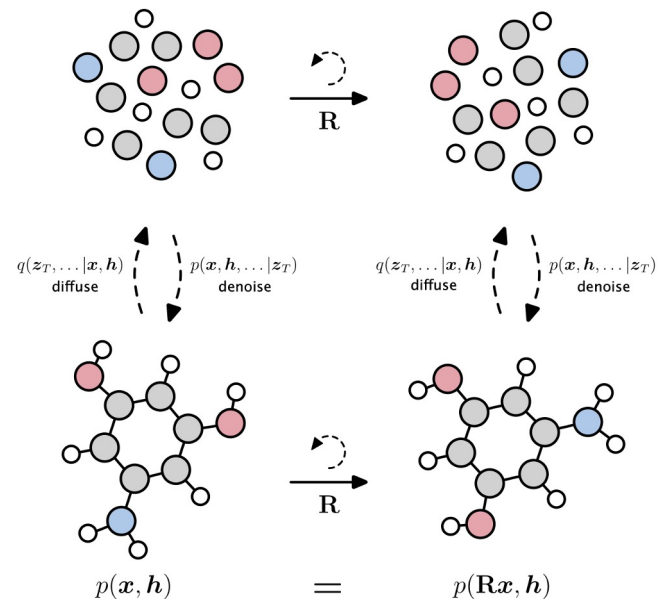


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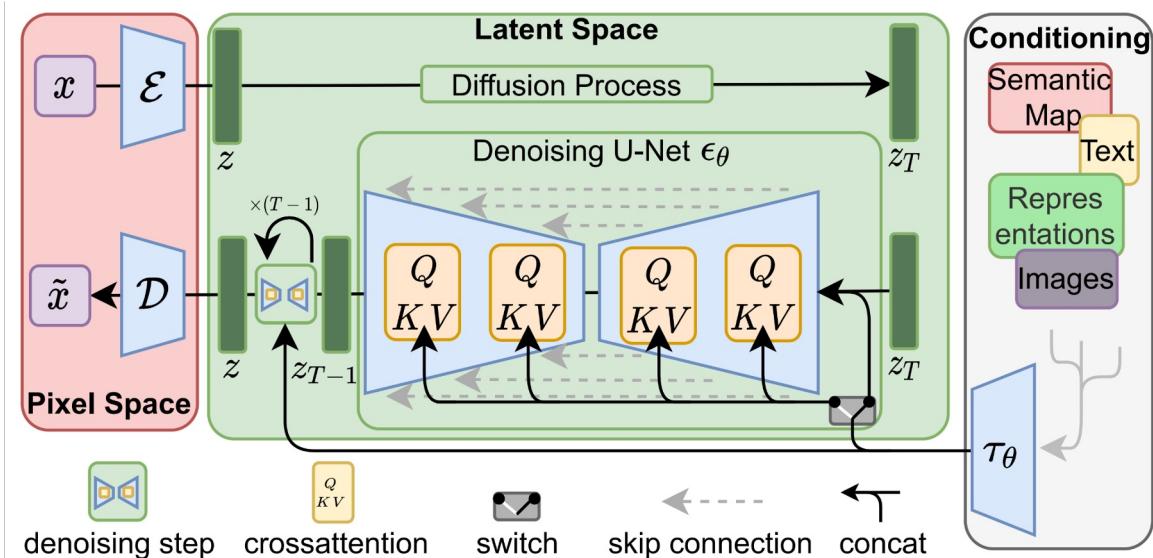
Credit: [4]

Motivation

Stable (Latent) Diffusion

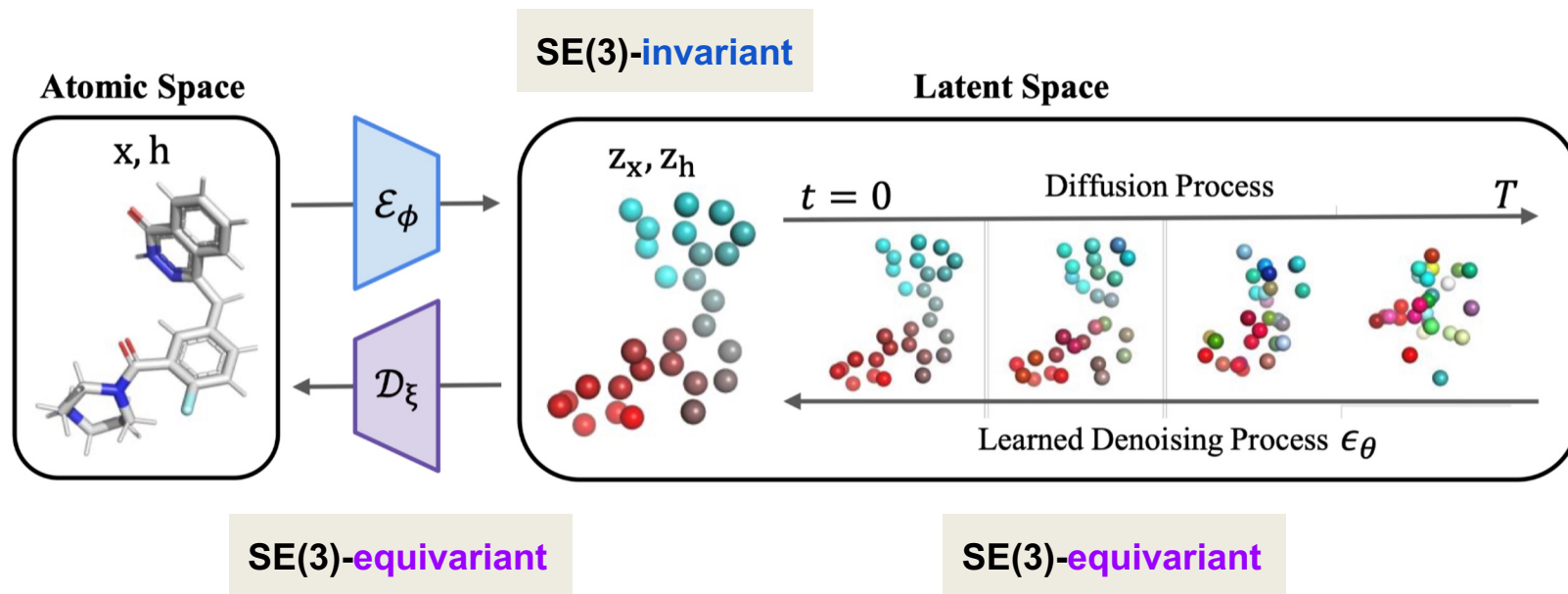
Compared with DDPM (we learned last week):

- Perform denoising diffusion in **the latent space** rather than the data space.
- **Better fidelity** and **controllable generation**.



Credit: [5]

Model Architecture

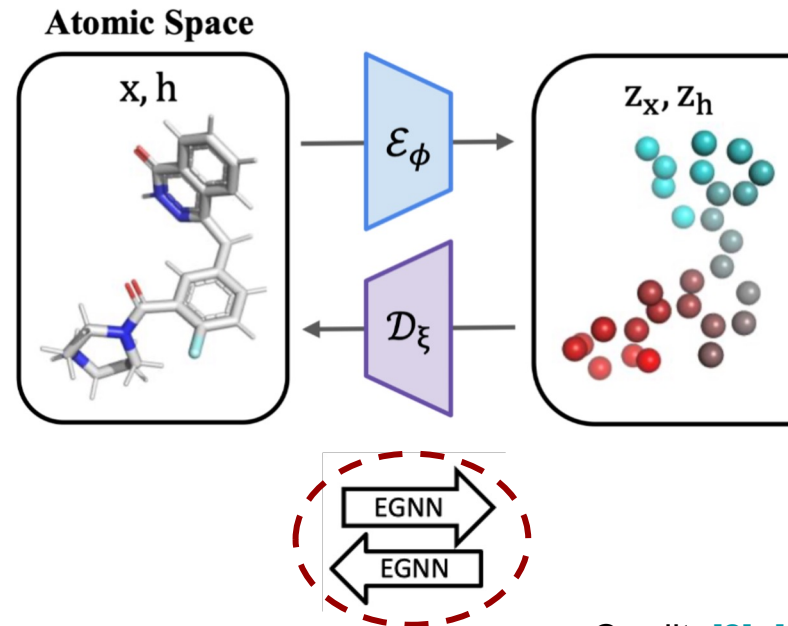


Geometric **Latent** Diffusion

Credit: [\[2\]](#)

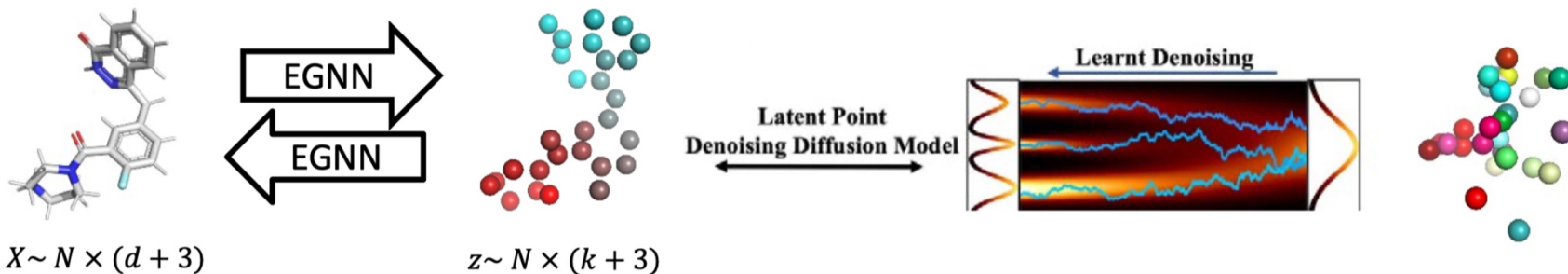
Geometric Autoencoders

- **Geometry consistency:** the latent features should faithfully represent the geometry (can be decoded back to the original structures). This requires the **latent variable should also hold both invariant and equivariant features**.
$$\mathbf{z} = \langle \mathbf{z}_x, \mathbf{z}_h \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times (3+k)}$$
- **SE(3)-equivariance:** given the fact that AE itself is also generative models, it should also be SE(3)-invariant, which requires **the encoding and decoding transformations should be SE(3)-equivariant**. [3]



Credit: [2], [3]

Geometric Latent Diffusion



$$\mathcal{L}_{AE} = \mathcal{L}_{recon} + \mathcal{L}_{reg},$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{recon} = -\mathbb{E}_{q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}_x, \mathbf{z}_h | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h})} p_{\xi}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h} | \mathbf{z}_x, \mathbf{z}_h),$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{LDM} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{G}), \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}), t} [w(t) \|\epsilon - \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}_x, t, \mathbf{z}_h, t, t)\|^2]$$

$$\mathcal{L} := \mathcal{L}_{recon} + \mathcal{L}_{LDM}$$

- **Model architecture:** **equivariant** autoencoders (utilizing EGNNs) **encodes** geometric data \mathbf{x} into latent space \mathbf{z} **with scalar and tensor variables**; latent **equivariant** diffusion (parameterized as time-conditional EGNNs) learns to **generate** latent variables \mathbf{z} .
- **Training:**
 - **First stage:** learn autoencoders by reconstruction objective
 - **Second stage:** learn denoising diffusion models in latent space
- **Sampling:**
 - Denoising from prior Gaussian noise \mathbf{z}_T to generate latent variables \mathbf{z}
 - Decoder decodes \mathbf{z} back to \mathbf{x}

Credit: [3]

Geometric Latent Diffusion

GEO LDM is parameterized and optimized in an SE(3)-invariant fashion. Detailed proof in [\[2\]](#).

- Learn **equivariant** diffusions in the regularized and **lower-dimensional** latent space, enabling **better generation quality and efficiency**;
- Building upon the concept of stable diffusion, we can achieve improved **controllable generation** in the latent space by conditioning it on desired properties.

$$\epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}, t) \rightarrow \epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}, t, s)$$

$$\epsilon_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}), \mathcal{D}_{\xi}(\mathbf{z}_{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{z}_{\mathbf{h}}) \rightarrow \epsilon_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}, s), \mathcal{D}_{\xi}(\mathbf{z}_{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{z}_{\mathbf{h}}, s)$$

Credit: [\[3\]](#)

Experiment

Datasets

- **QM9**: 130k small molecules, limited to 9 heavy atoms
- **GEOM-DRUG**: 37 million molecular conformations for around 450k molecules, up to 181 atoms and 44.2 atoms on average

Evaluation Metrics

- **Atom Stability**: Percentage of atoms with correct valency
- **Molecule Stability**: Percentage of molecules in which all atoms are stable.
- **Validity and Uniqueness**: Percentage of valid and unique molecules as determined by RDKit

Experiment

Table 1. Results of atom stability, molecule stability, validity, and validity \times uniqueness. A higher number indicates a better generation quality. Metrics are calculated with 10000 samples generated from each model. On QM9, we run the evaluation for 3 times and report the derivation. Note that, for DRUG dataset, molecule stability and uniqueness metric are omitted since they are nearly 0% and 100% respectively for all the methods. Compared with previous methods, the latent space with both invariant and equivariant variables enables GEOLDM to achieve up to 7% improvement for the validity of large molecule generation.

# Metrics	QM9				DRUG	
	Atom Sta (%)	Mol Sta (%)	Valid (%)	Valid & Unique (%)	Atom Sta (%)	Valid (%)
Data	99.0	95.2	97.7	97.7	86.5	99.9
ENF	85.0	4.9	40.2	39.4	-	-
G-Schnet	95.7	68.1	85.5	80.3	-	-
GDM	97.0	63.2	-	-	75.0	90.8
GDM-AUG	97.6	71.6	90.4	89.5	77.7	91.8
EDM	98.7	82.0	91.9	90.7	81.3	92.6
EDM-Bridge	98.8	84.6	92.0*	90.7	82.4	92.8*
GRAPHLDM	97.2	70.5	83.6	82.7	76.2	97.2
GRAPHLDM-AUG	97.9	78.7	90.5	89.5	79.6	98.0
GEOLDM	98.9 \pm 0.1	89.4 \pm 0.5	93.8 \pm 0.4	92.7 \pm 0.5	84.4	99.3

*Results obtained by our own experiments. Other results are borrowed from recent studies ([Hoogeboom et al., 2022](#); [Wu et al., 2022](#)).

Experiment

Table 2. Mean Absolute Error for molecular property prediction. A lower number indicates a better controllable generation result. Results are predicted by a pretrained EGNN classifier ω on molecular samples extracted from individual methods.

Property Units	α Bohr ³	$\Delta\varepsilon$ meV	$\varepsilon_{\text{HOMO}}$ meV	$\varepsilon_{\text{LUMO}}$ meV	μ D	C_v $\frac{\text{cal}}{\text{mol}} \text{K}$
QM9*	0.10	64	39	36	0.043	0.040
Random*	9.01	1470	645	1457	1.616	6.857
N_{atoms}	3.86	866	426	813	1.053	1.971
EDM	2.76	655	356	584	1.111	1.101
GEO LDM	2.37	587	340	522	1.108	1.025

*The results of *QM9* and *Random* can be viewed as lower and upper bounds of MAE on all properties.

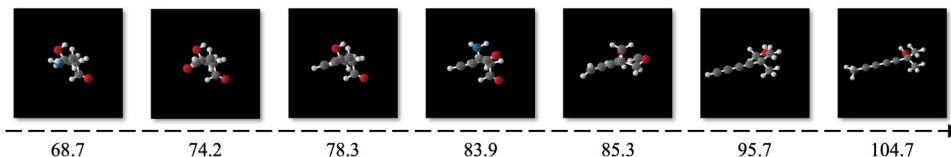


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References

- [1] <https://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/~bkainz/teaching/DL/notes/equivariance.pdf>
- [2] Xu, Minkai, et al. "Geometric latent diffusion models for 3d molecule generation." International Conference on Machine Learning. PMLR, 2023.
- [3] Xu, Minkai, et al. "Graph and Geometry Generative Modeling for Drug Discovery." Proceedings of the 29th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining. 2023.
- [4] Hoozeboom, Emiel, et al. "Equivariant diffusion for molecule generation in 3d." International conference on machine learning. PMLR, 2022.
- [5] Rombach, Robin, et al. "High-resolution image synthesis with latent diffusion models." Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF conference on computer vision and pattern recognition. 2022.
- [6] Zhang, Xuan, et al. "Artificial intelligence for science in quantum, atomistic, and continuum systems." arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.08423 (2023).

Quiz

Q1: Why is it important to ensure invariance when representing molecules in 3D?

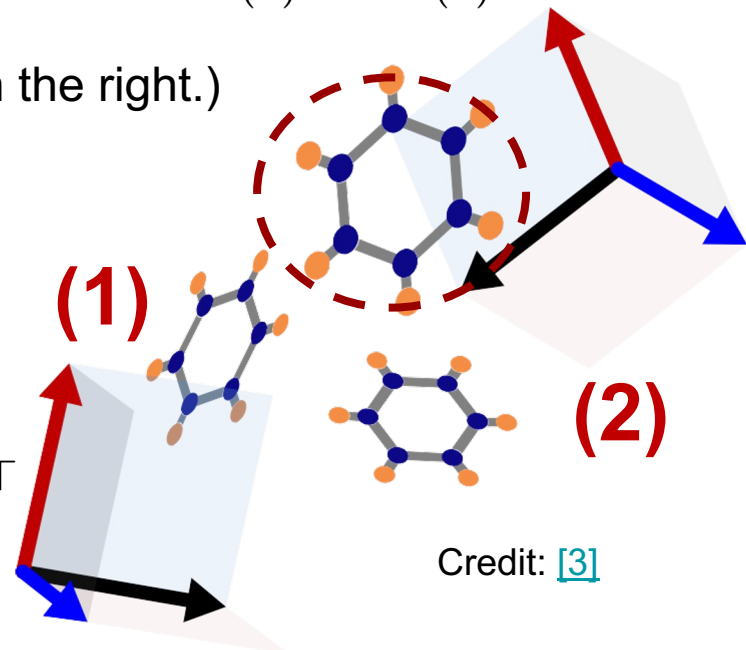
(Please answer the question based on the image on the right.)

$$\mathbf{x}_{(2)} = [-1, -2, -3]^T$$

$$\mathbf{h}_{(2)} = \mathbf{h}_{(1)}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{(1)} = [1, 2, 3]^T$$

$$\mathbf{h}_{(1)} = \mathbf{h}_{(2)}$$



Credit: [3]

Quiz

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(Please answer the question based on the image on the right.)

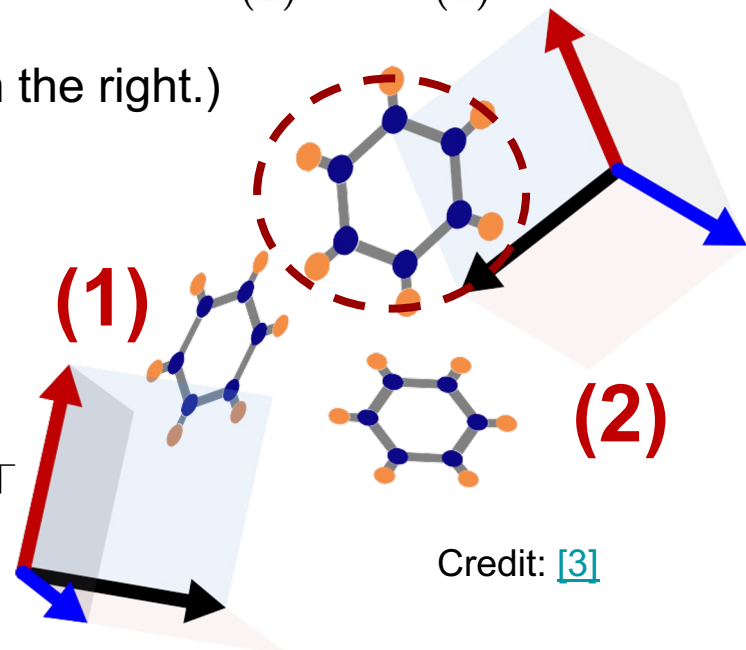
- (1) & (2) use different coordinate systems to describe the **same** molecular geometry. But output of some models like traditional GNNs given (1) and (2) as completely different!

$$\mathbf{x}_{(1)} = [1, 2, 3]^T$$

$$\mathbf{h}_{(1)} = \mathbf{h}_{(2)}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{(2)} = [-1, -2, -3]^T$$

$$\mathbf{h}_{(2)} = \mathbf{h}_{(1)}$$



Quiz

Q2: What is **not** the benefit of modeling molecular geometries in a regularized latent space compared to directly in the atomic feature space?

- a) Latent space is lower dimensional
- b) Allow for better control over the generation process
- c) Removes the need to enforce geometric constraints
- d) Learn to model a much smoother distribution

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Thank you!