

# Life after Message Passing: Local Equivariant Interatomic Potentials

Preprint: [arxiv.org/abs/2204.05249](https://arxiv.org/abs/2204.05249)

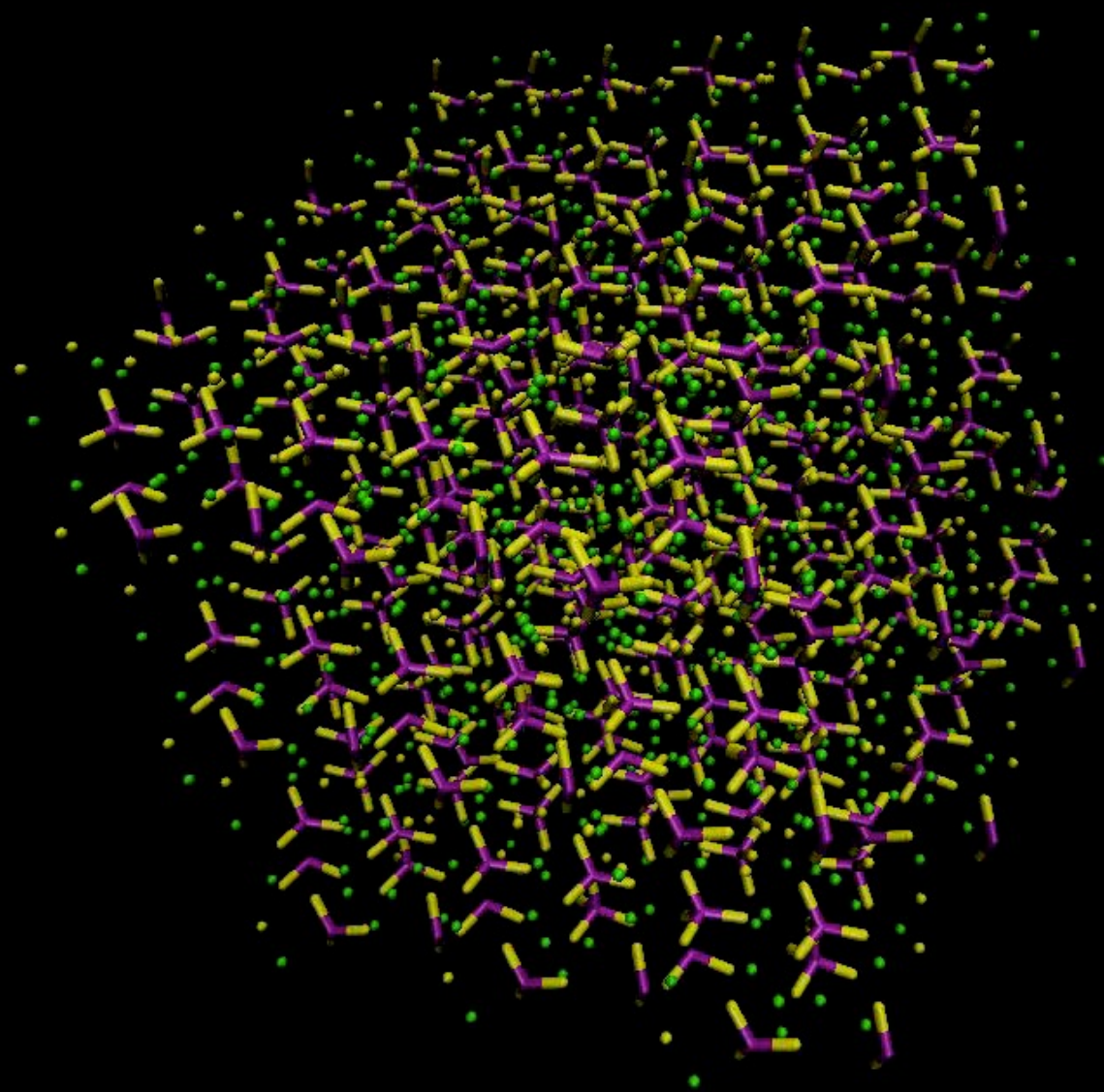
Albert Musaelian and Simon Batzner

Kozinsky Lab



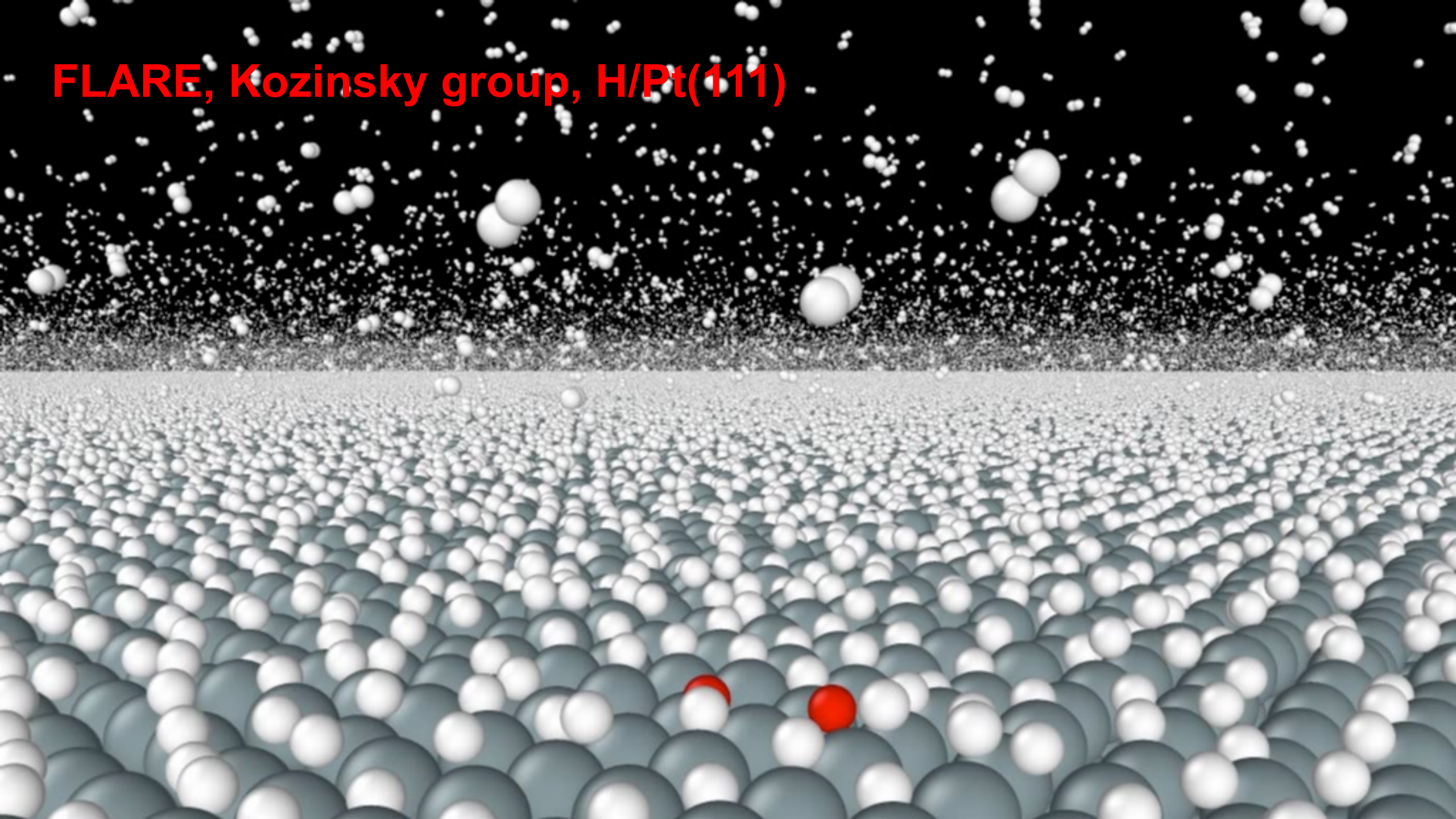
# Molecular Dynamics

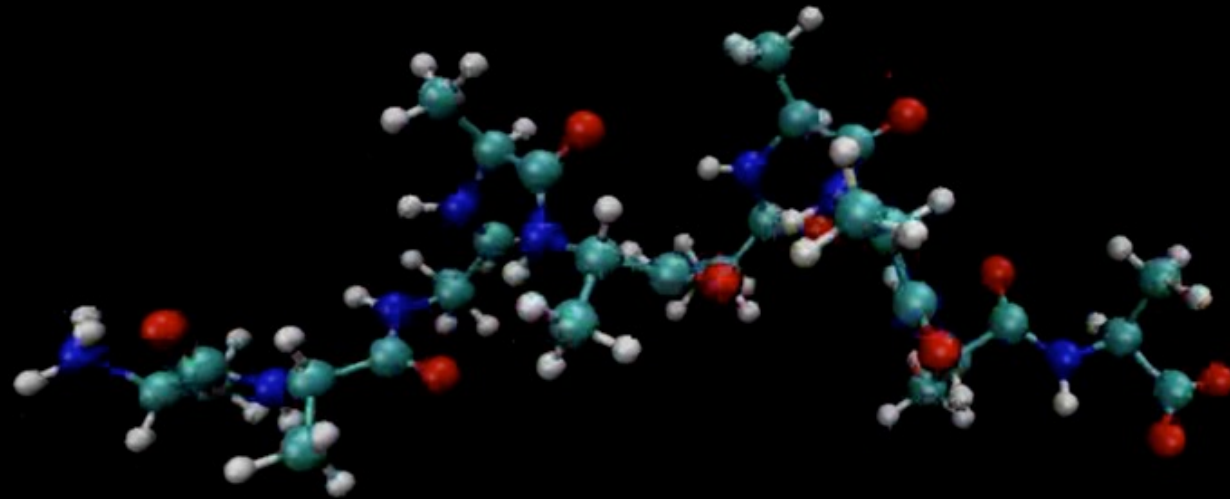
$$m_i \frac{d^2 \vec{r}_i}{dt^2} = \vec{F}_i(\vec{r}_1, \dots, \vec{r}_N) = - \frac{\partial E(\vec{r}_1, \dots, \vec{r}_N)}{\partial \vec{r}_i}$$



NequIP, Kozinsky group, LiPS

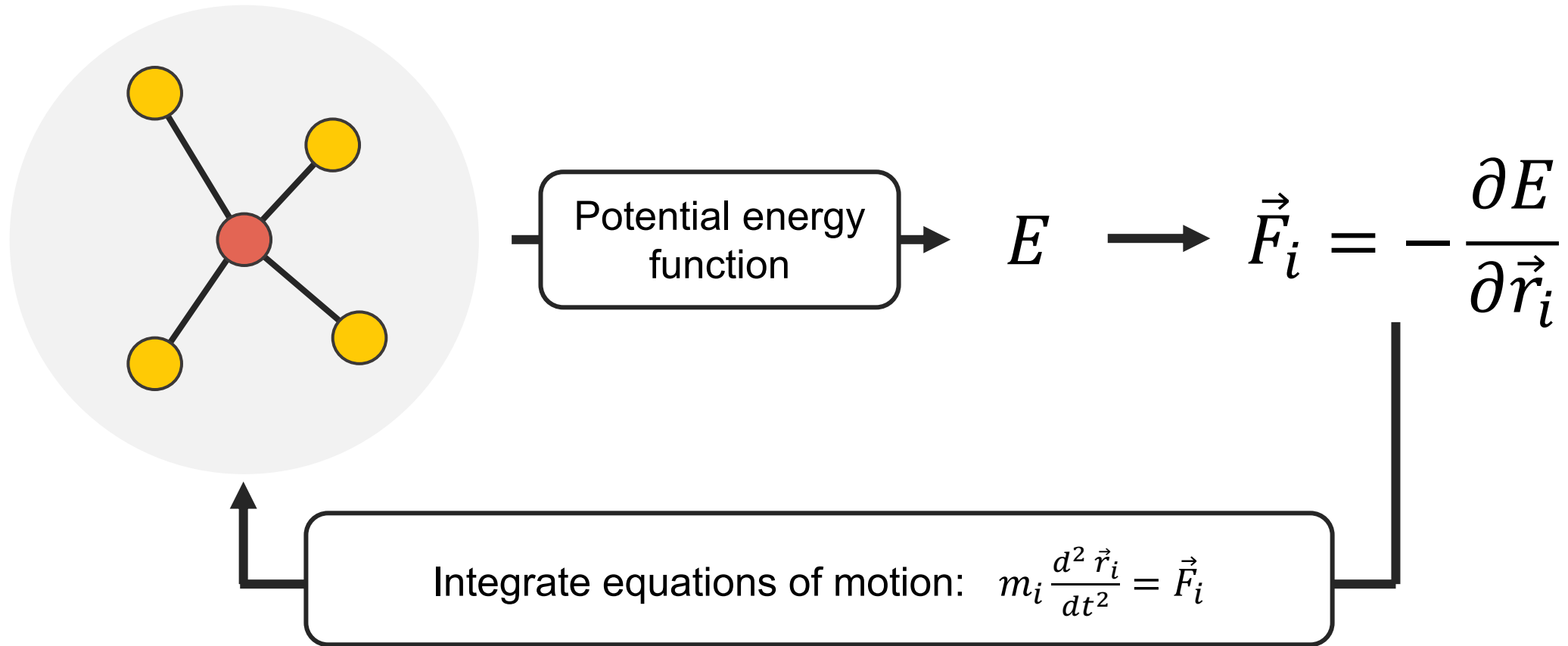
**FLARE, Kozinsky group, H/Pt(111)**



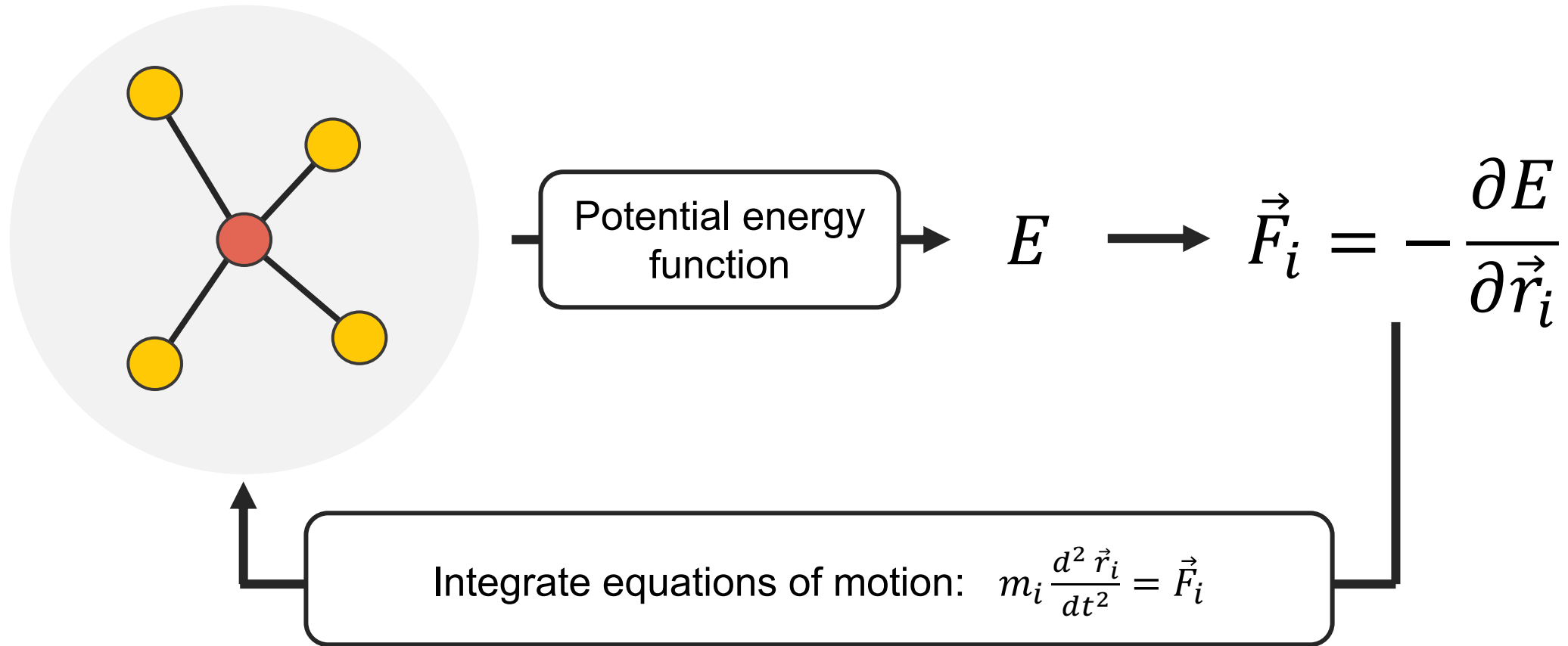


NequIP, Kozinsky group, Deca-Alanine

# Molecular dynamics

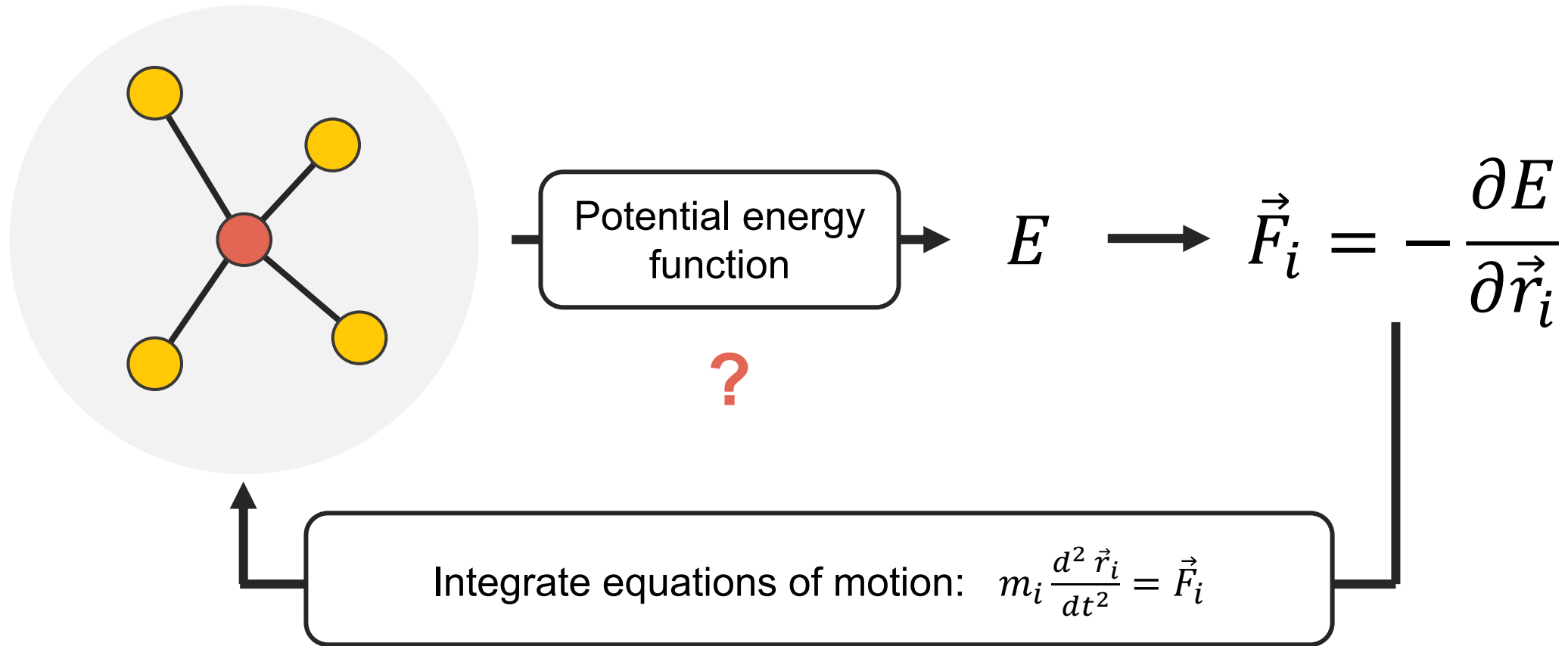


# Molecular dynamics



**Challenge: Have to integrate billions to trillions of times**

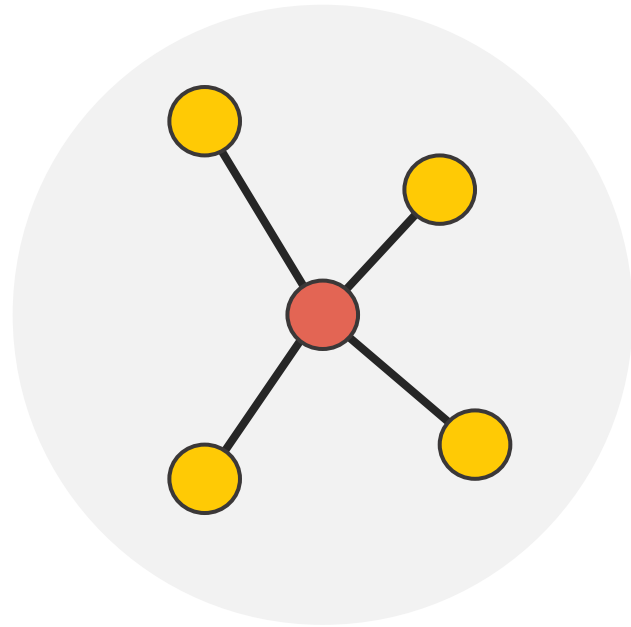
# Molecular dynamics





# Molecular dynamics

- Empirical
- Simple and fast
- Up to trillions of atoms
- Up to milliseconds of simulation



Empirical

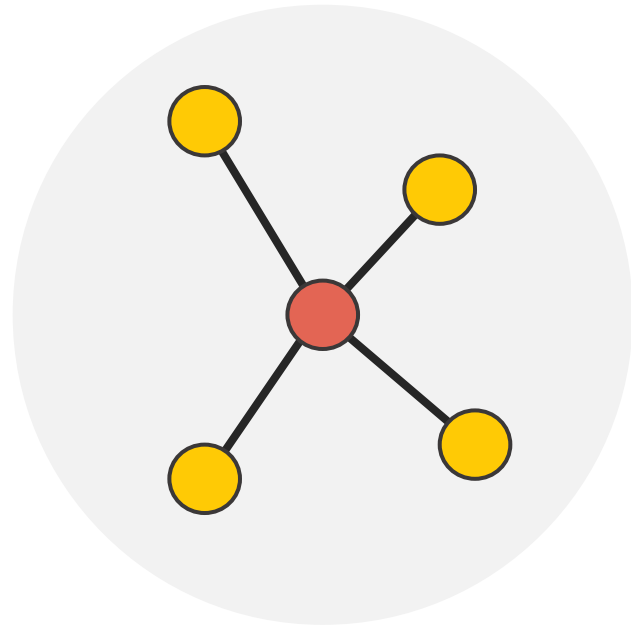
$E$

$$\vec{F}_i = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial \vec{r}_i}$$

Integrate equations of motion:  $m_i \frac{d^2 \vec{r}_i}{dt^2} = \vec{F}_i$

# Molecular dynamics

- From first principles
- Often good agreement with experiment without fitting
- Very expensive and prohibitive scaling
- Limited to hundreds of atoms and 100s ps of simulations



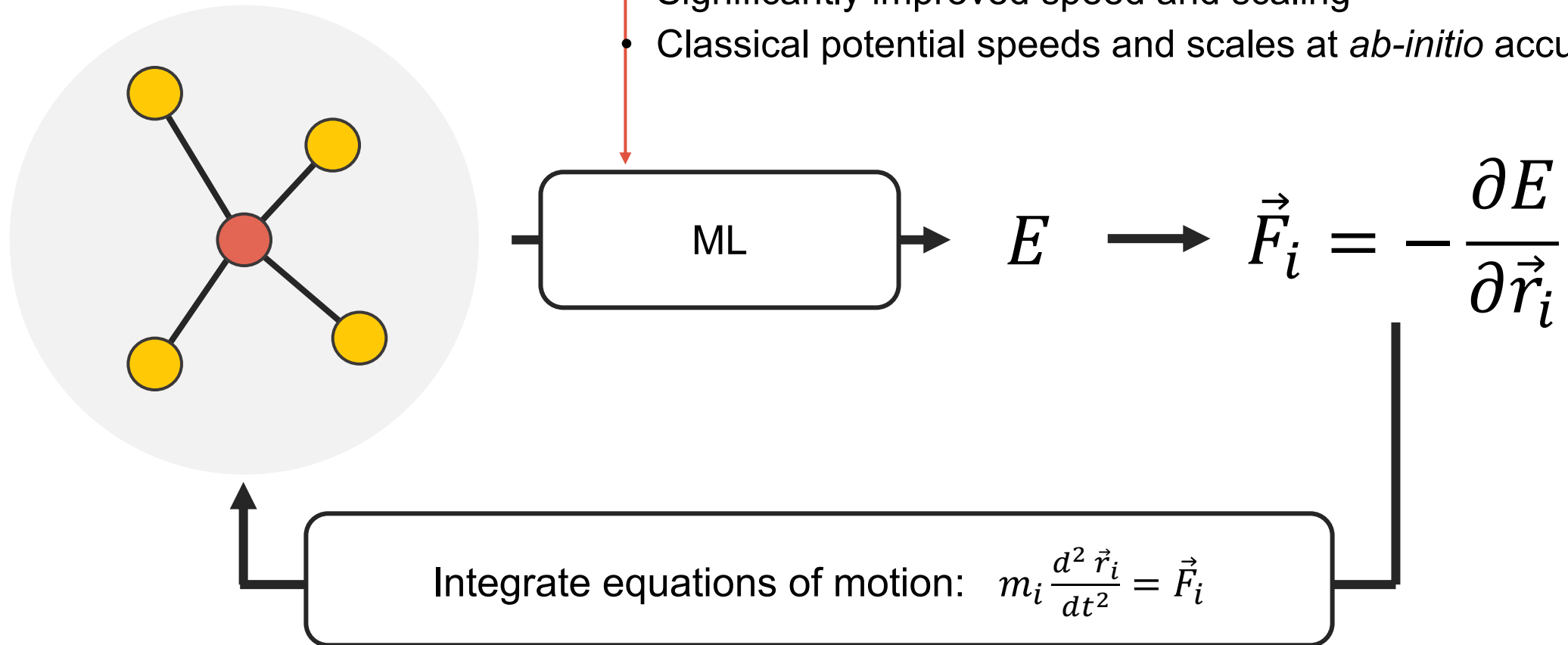
Quantum Mechanics

$$E \longrightarrow \vec{F}_i = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial \vec{r}_i}$$

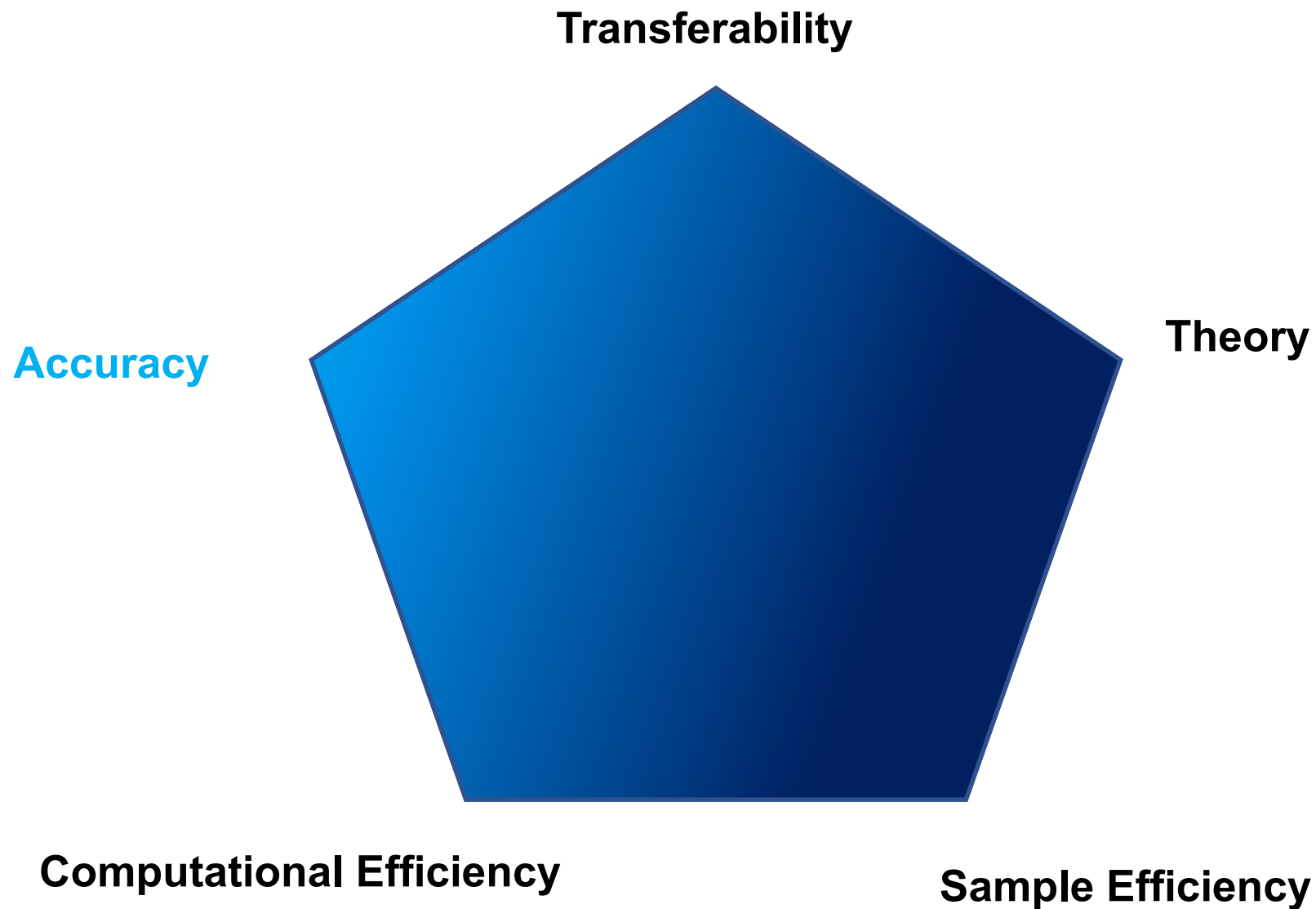
Integrate equations of motion:  $m_i \frac{d^2 \vec{r}_i}{dt^2} = \vec{F}_i$

# Molecular dynamics

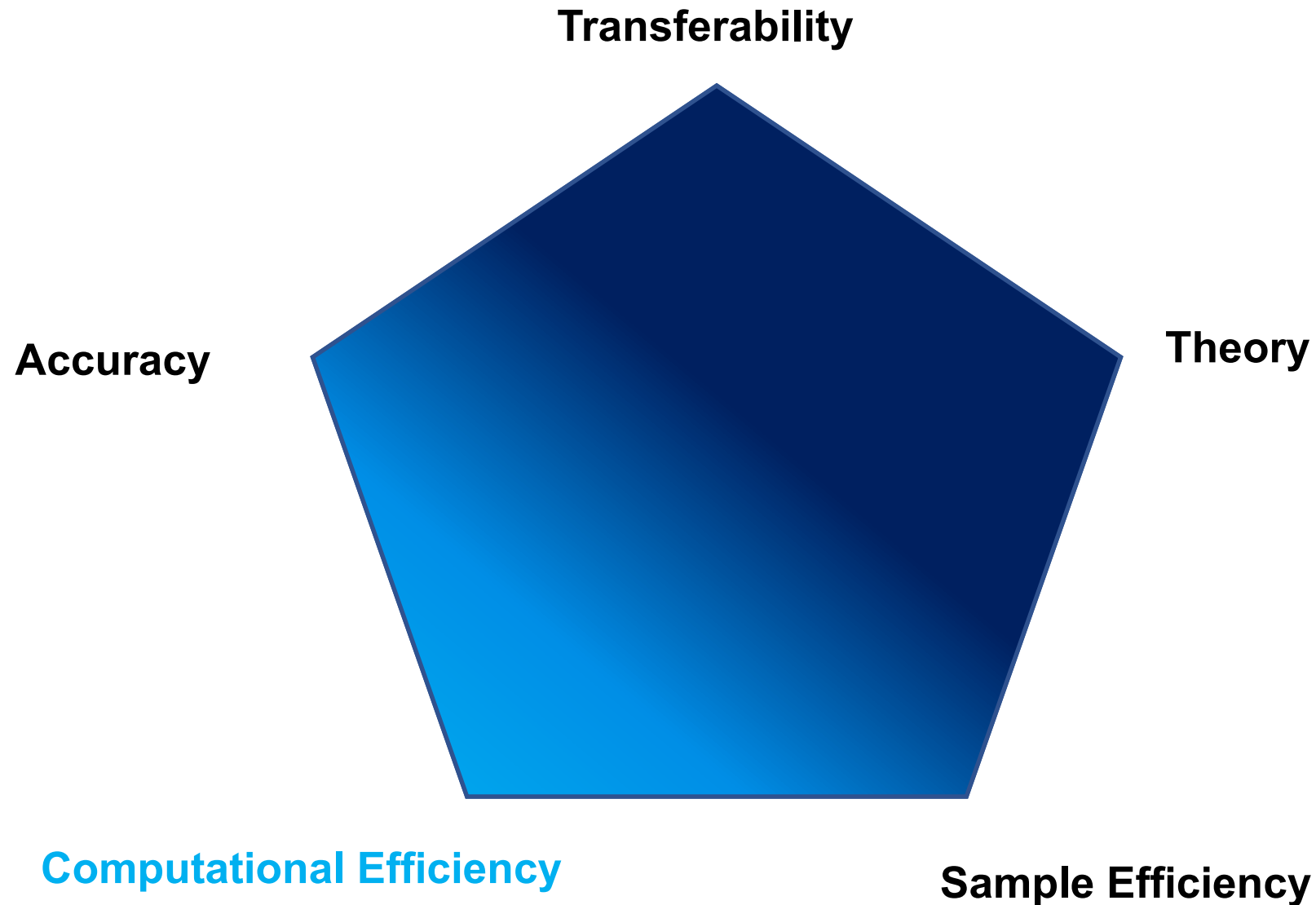
- Fit to a limited library of quantum calculations
- Promises near-quantum accuracy
- Significantly improved speed and scaling
- Classical potential speeds and scales at *ab-initio* accuracy?



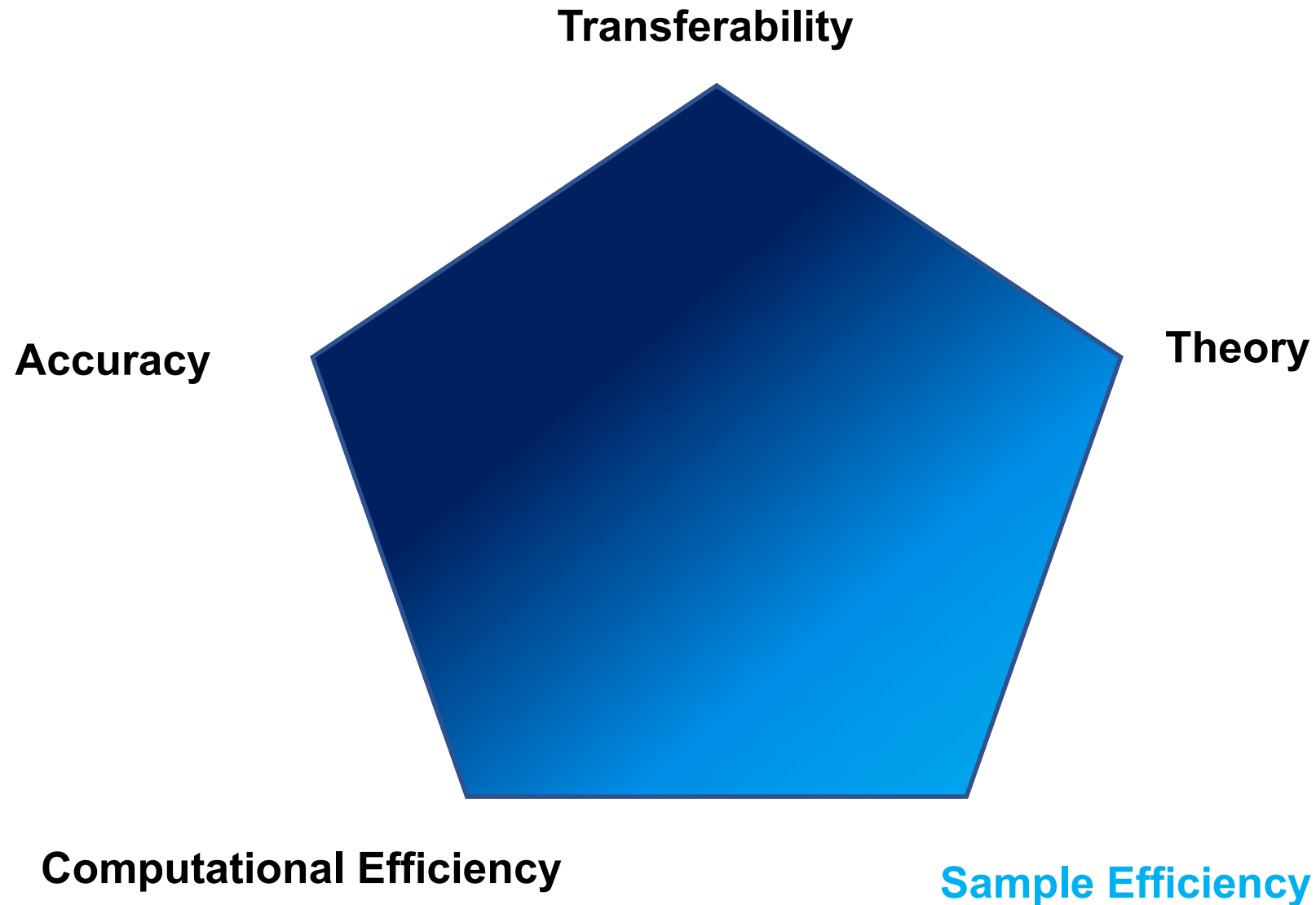
# Five Properties of successful Machine Learning Interatomic Potentials



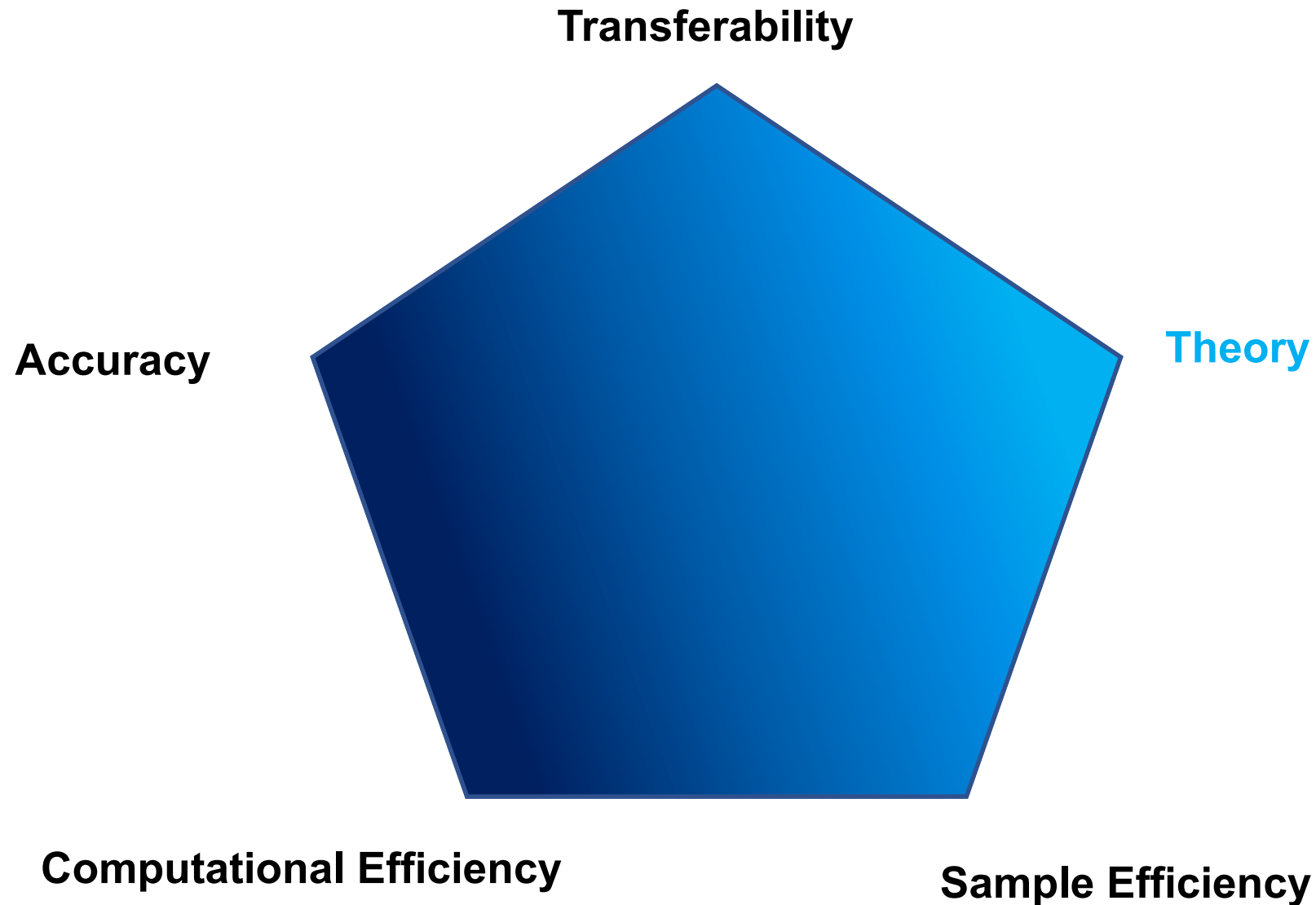
# Five Properties of successful Machine Learning Interatomic Potentials



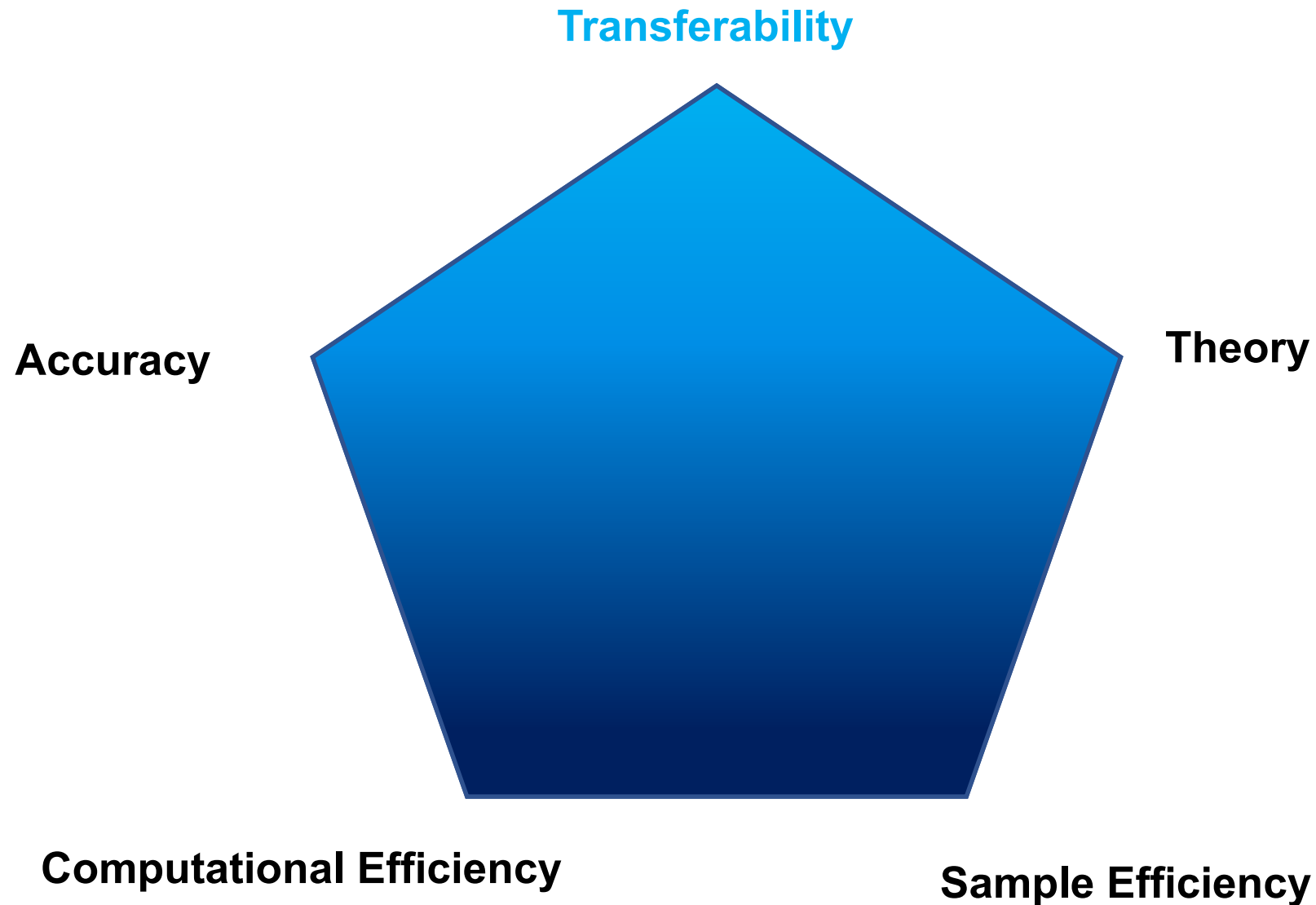
# Five Properties of successful Machine Learning Interatomic Potentials



# Five Properties of successful Machine Learning Interatomic Potentials



# Five Properties of successful Machine Learning Interatomic Potentials



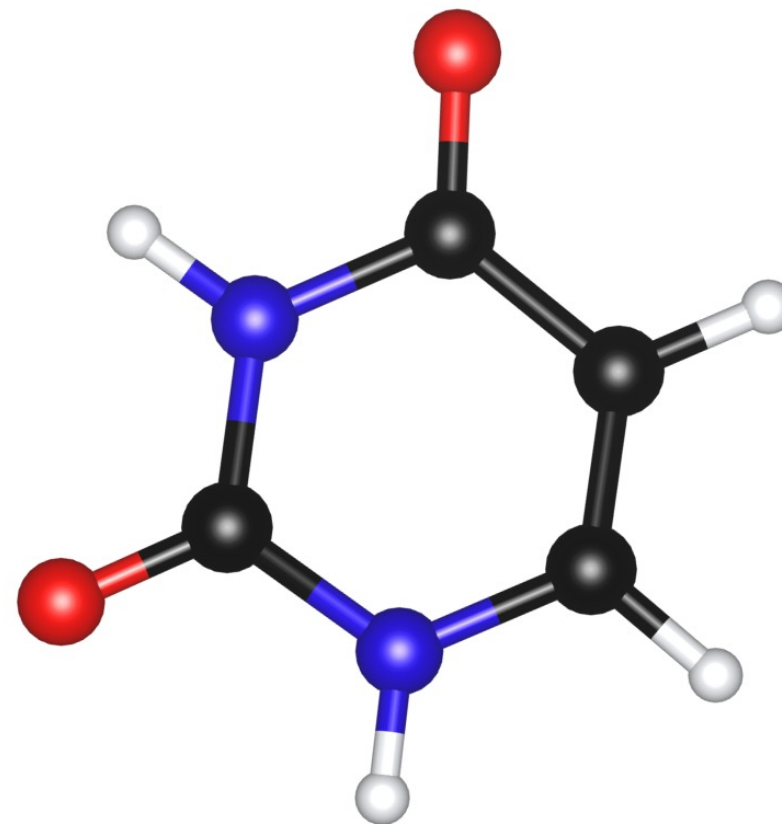


# How to represent atomistic systems?

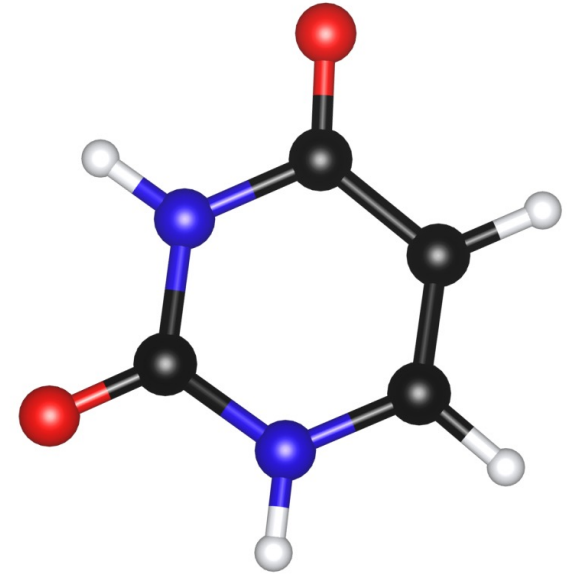
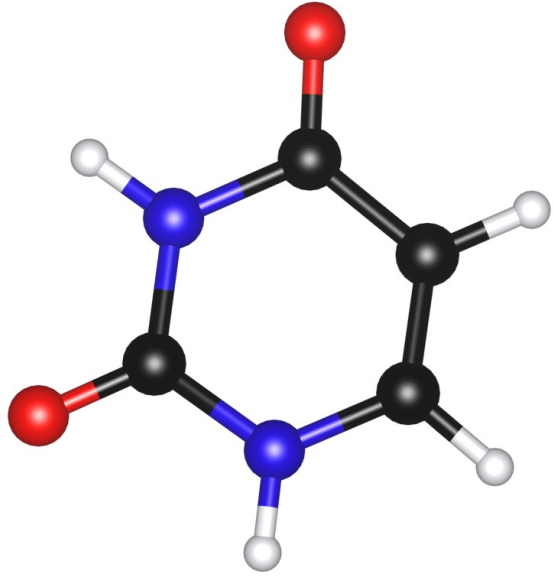
12

-260120.41022582943

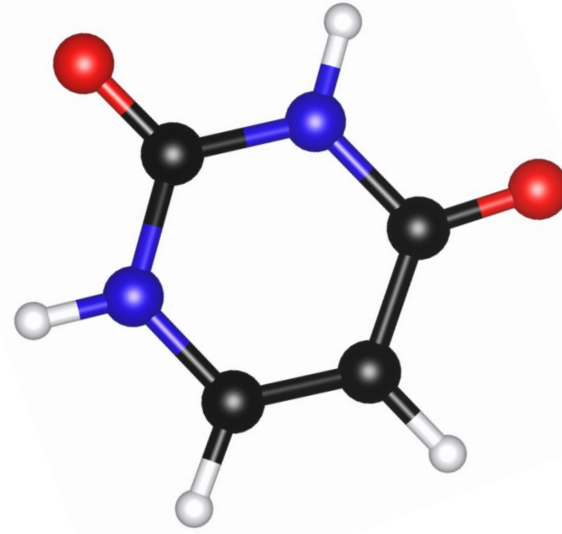
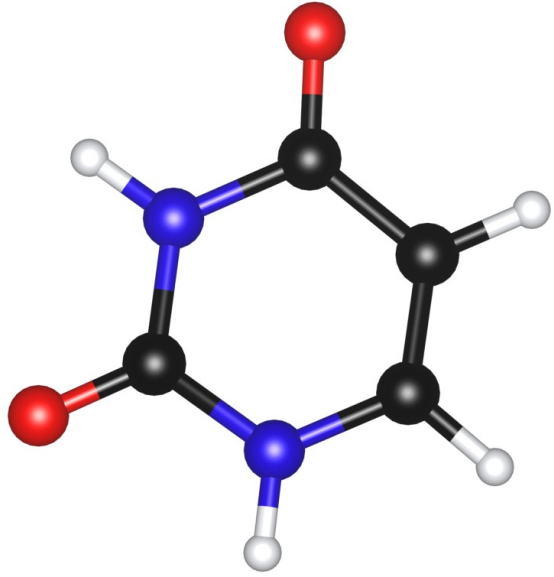
C	1.63438356	0.29588831	-0.06029892
C	1.44408771	-1.03792413	0.04112652
N	0.15607651	-1.58651275	0.11493441
C	-1.00154586	-0.75181433	0.08175814
N	-0.81072938	0.645473	-0.02477061
C	0.49544837	1.21779532	-0.11049406
O	-2.11299038	-1.2549146	0.14927307
O	0.54437819	2.43752091	-0.19898519
H	2.28646928	-1.74881243	0.07996217
H	0.04292334	-2.59002107	0.16531753
H	-1.62925491	1.21958722	-0.04033683
H	2.64457191	0.71408144	-0.09981888



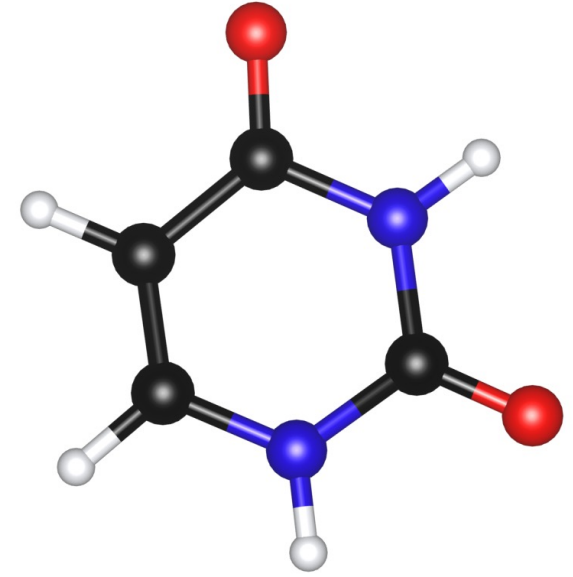
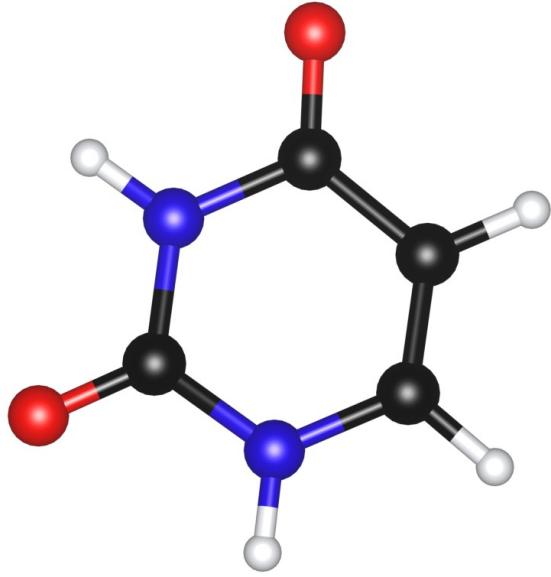
# 1. Translations



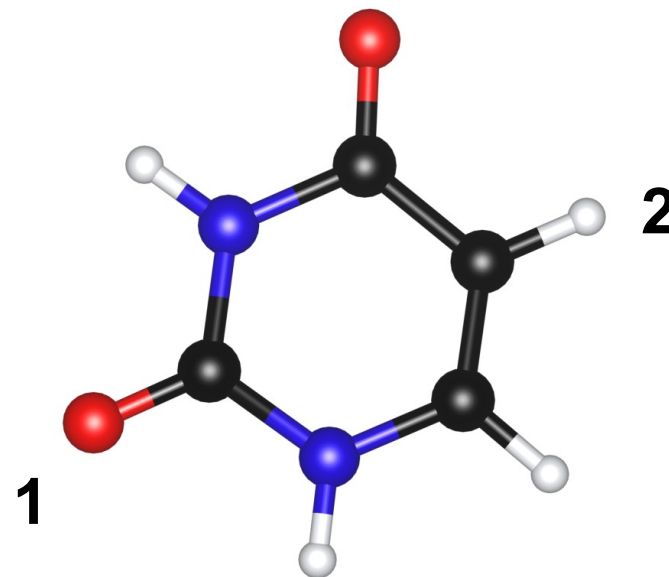
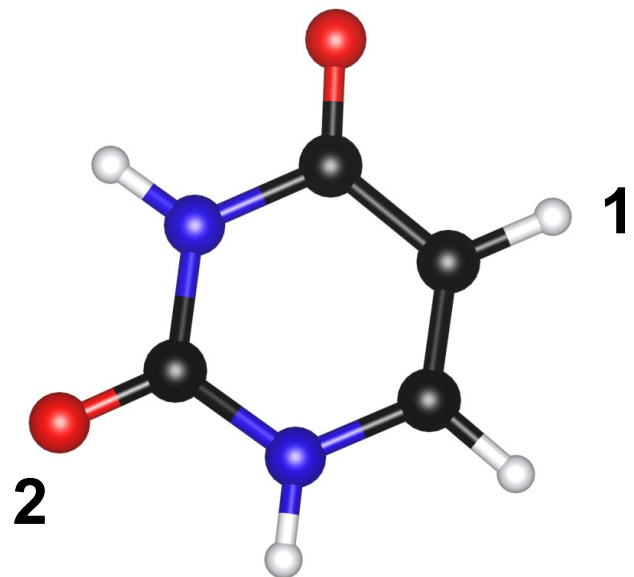
## 2. Rotations



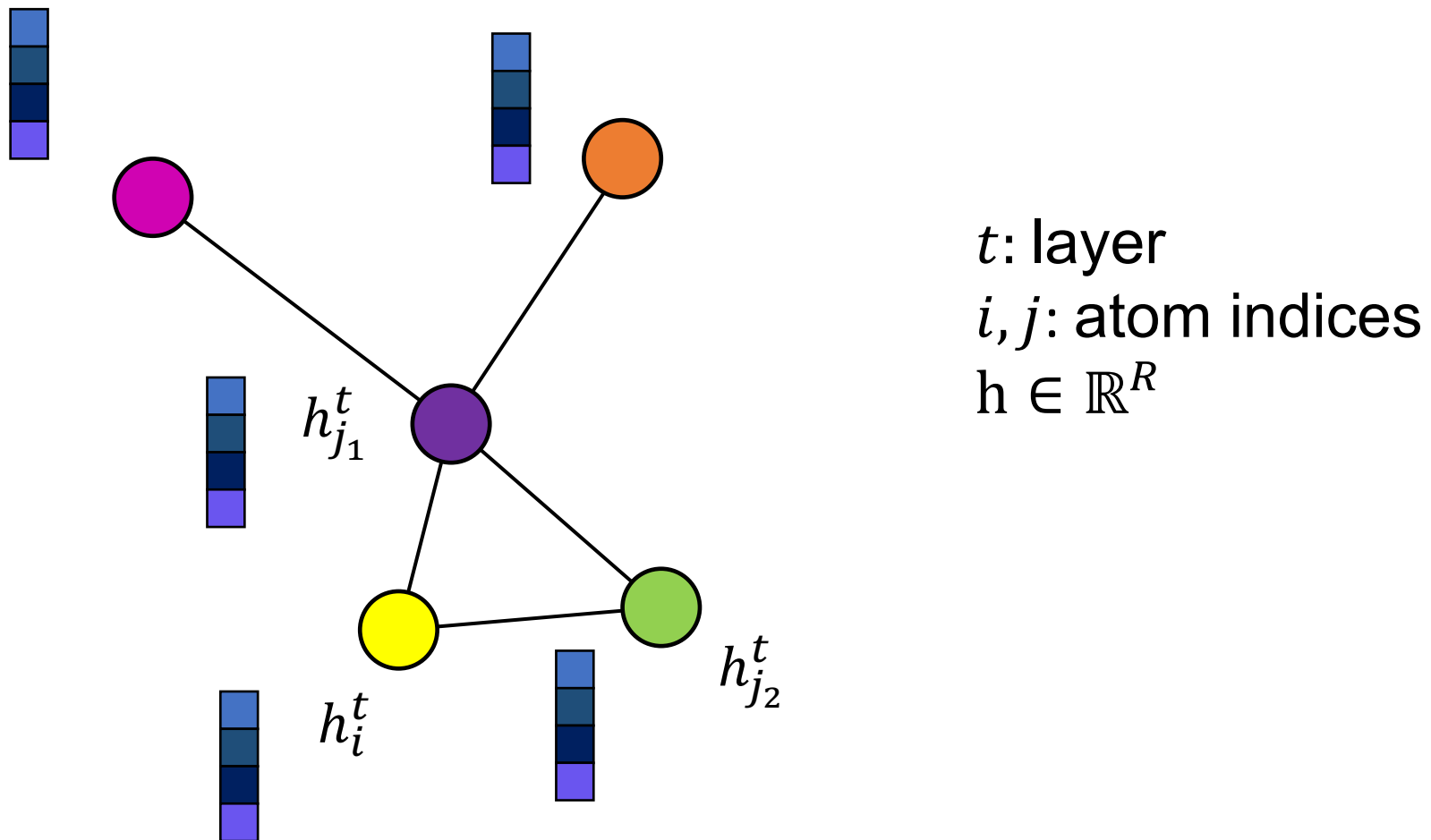
### 3. Reflections



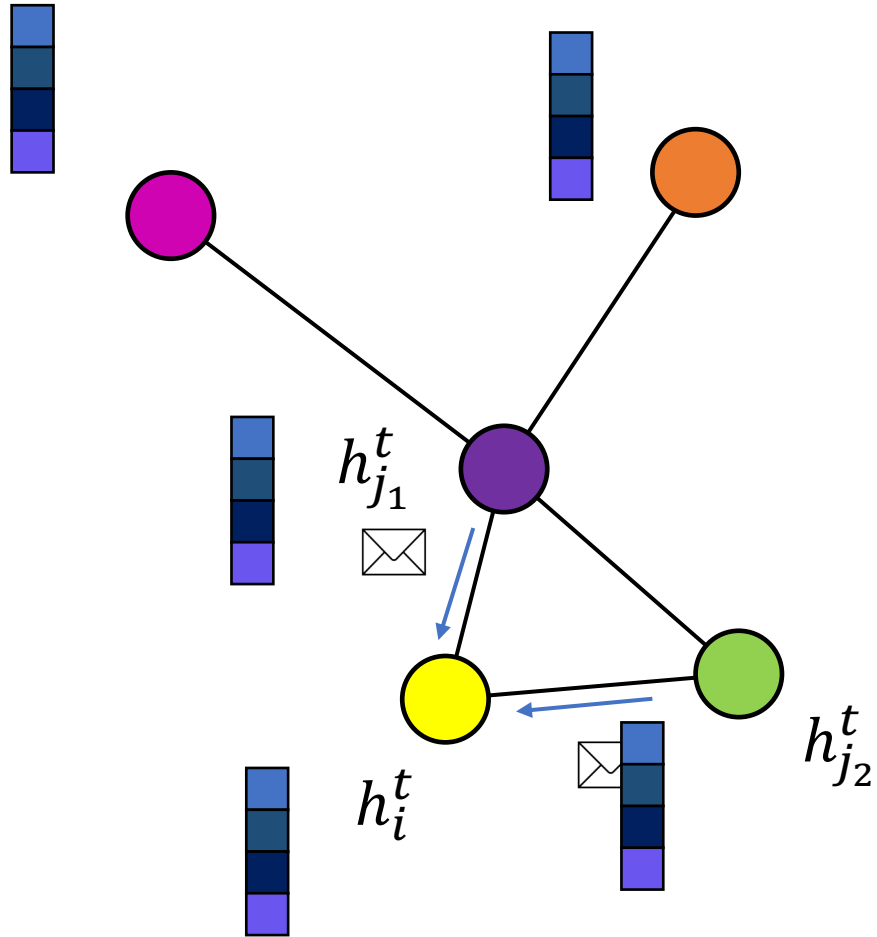
## 4. Permutation of atom indexing



# Message Passing Neural Networks

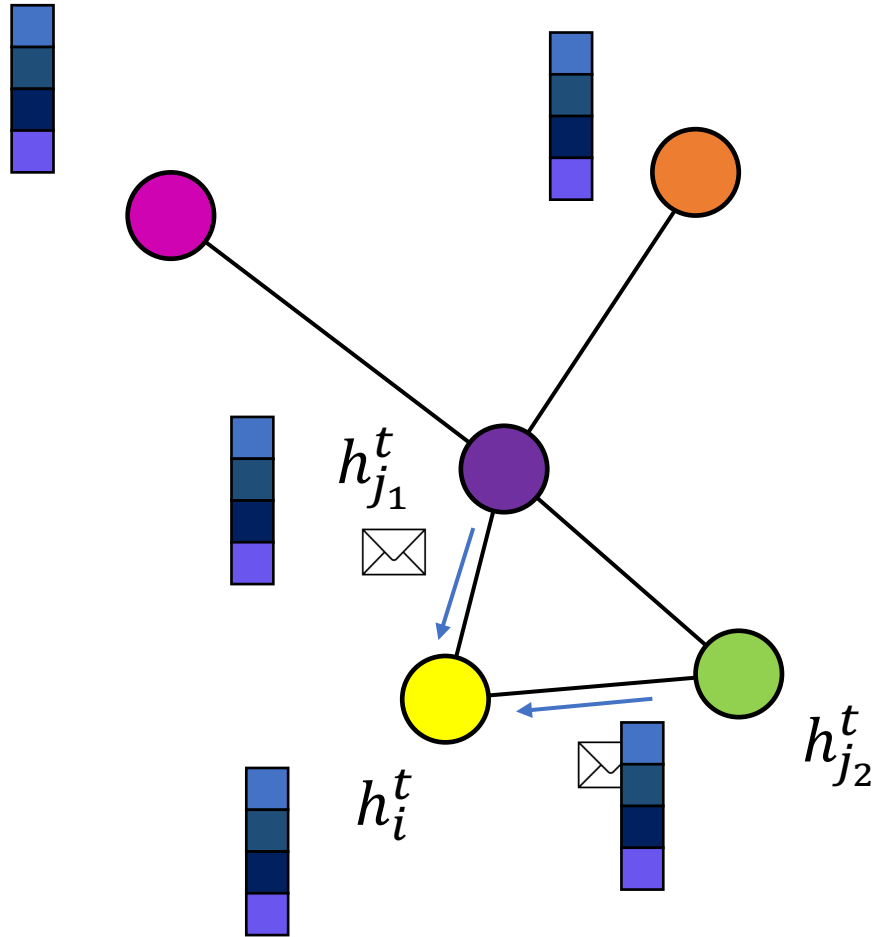


# Message Passing Neural Networks



$$m_i^{t+1} = \sum_{j \in N(i)} M_t(h_i^t, h_j^t, e_{ij})$$

# Message Passing Neural Networks

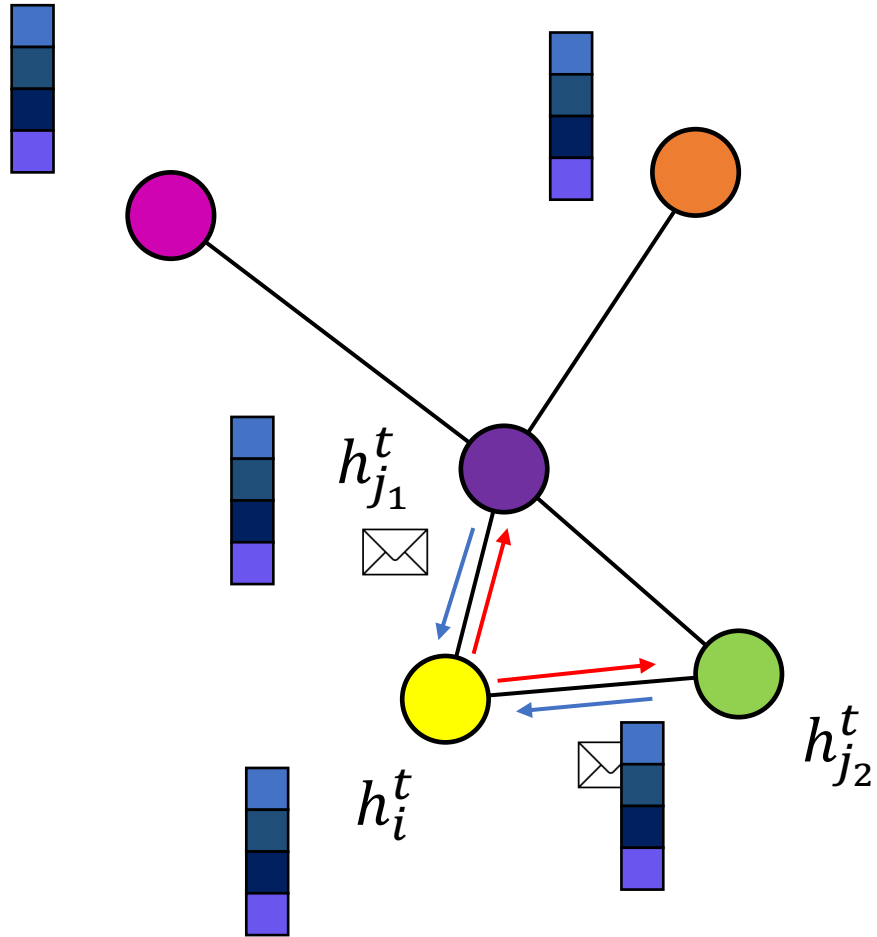


$$m_i^{t+1} = \sum_{j \in N(i)} M_t(h_i^t, h_j^t, e_{ij})$$

$$h_i^{t+1} = U_t(h_i^t, m_i^{t+1})$$



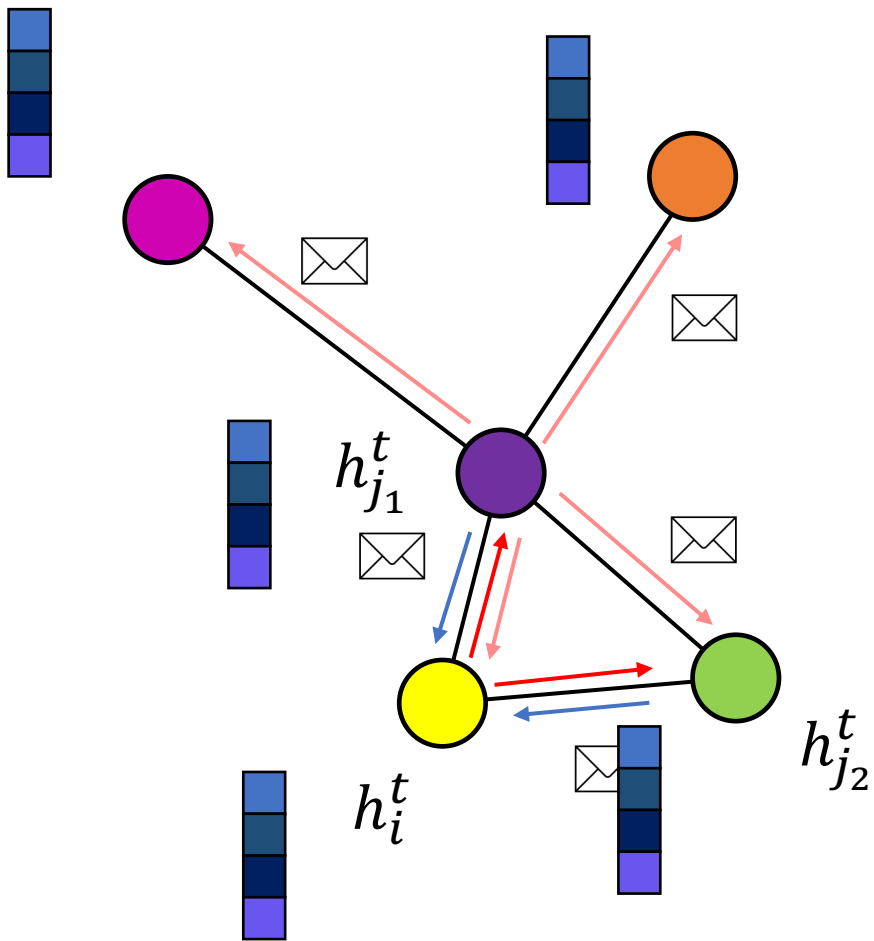
# Message Passing Neural Networks



$$m_i^{t+1} = \sum_{j \in N(i)} M_t(h_i^t, h_j^t, e_{ij})$$

$$h_i^{t+1} = U_t(h_i^t, m_i^{t+1})$$

# Message Passing Neural Networks



$$m_i^{t+1} = \sum_{j \in N(i)} M_t(h_i^t, h_j^t, e_{ij})$$

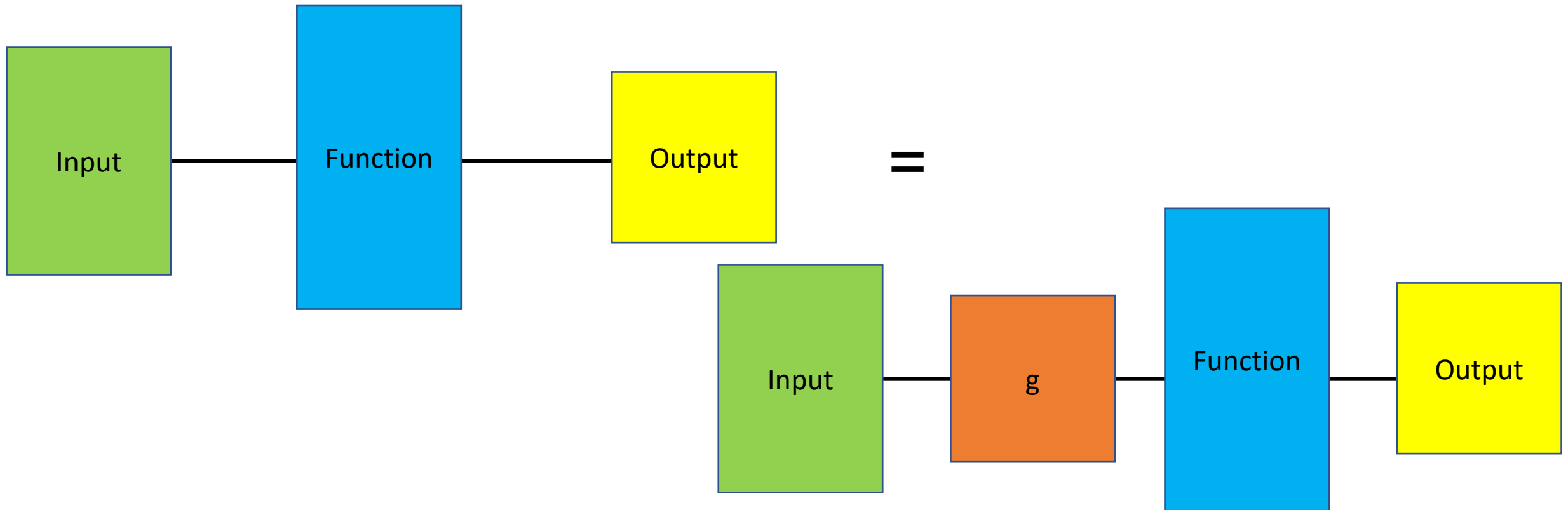
$$h_i^{t+1} = U_t(h_i^t, m_i^{t+1})$$

Existing Message Passing Neural Networks (SchNet, DimeNet, PhysNet, ...) are invariant to E(3)

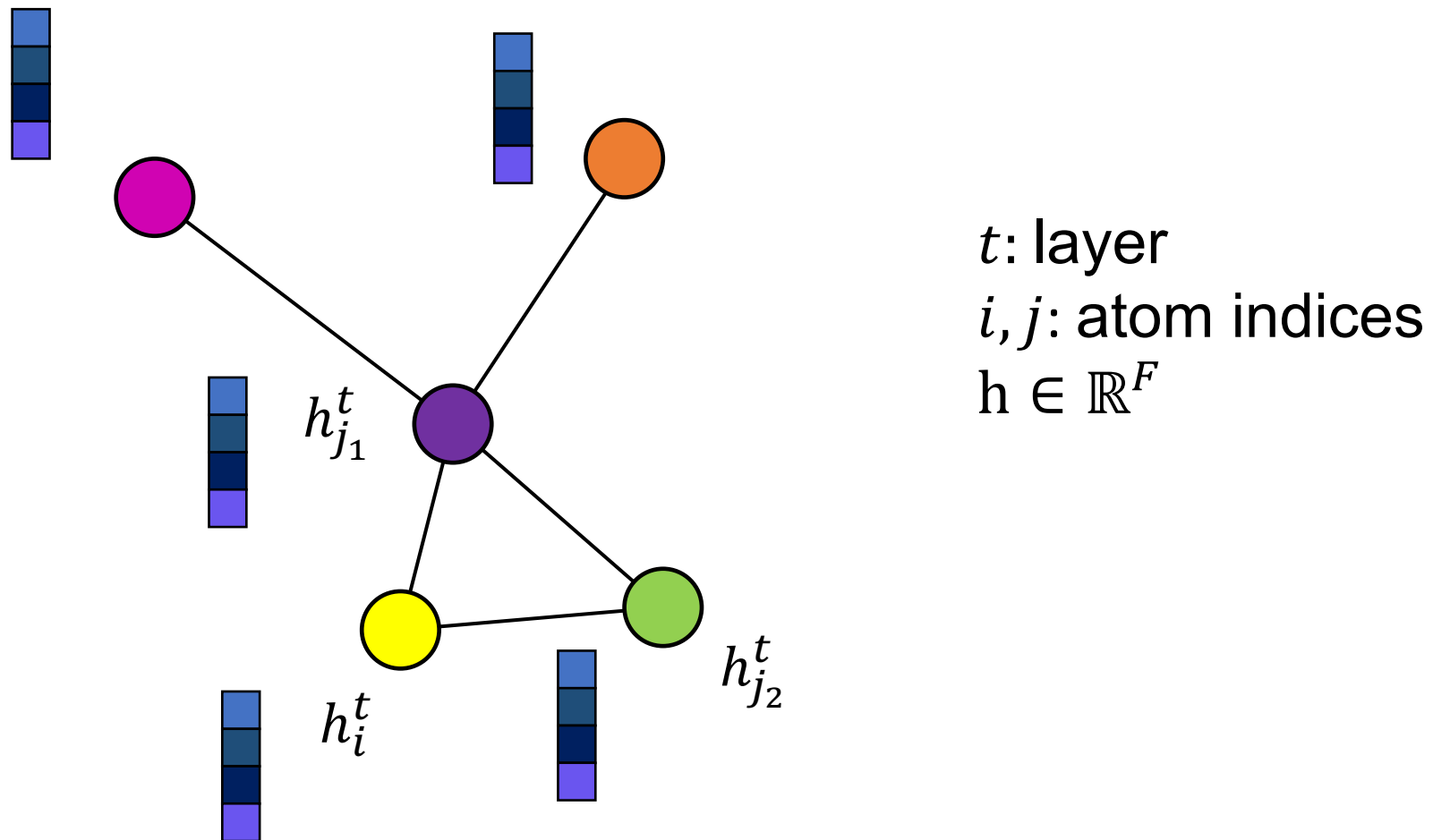
# Invariance

$f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be **invariant** w.r.t. the action of the group  $G$ , if  $\forall g \in G$  and  $\forall x \in X$ :

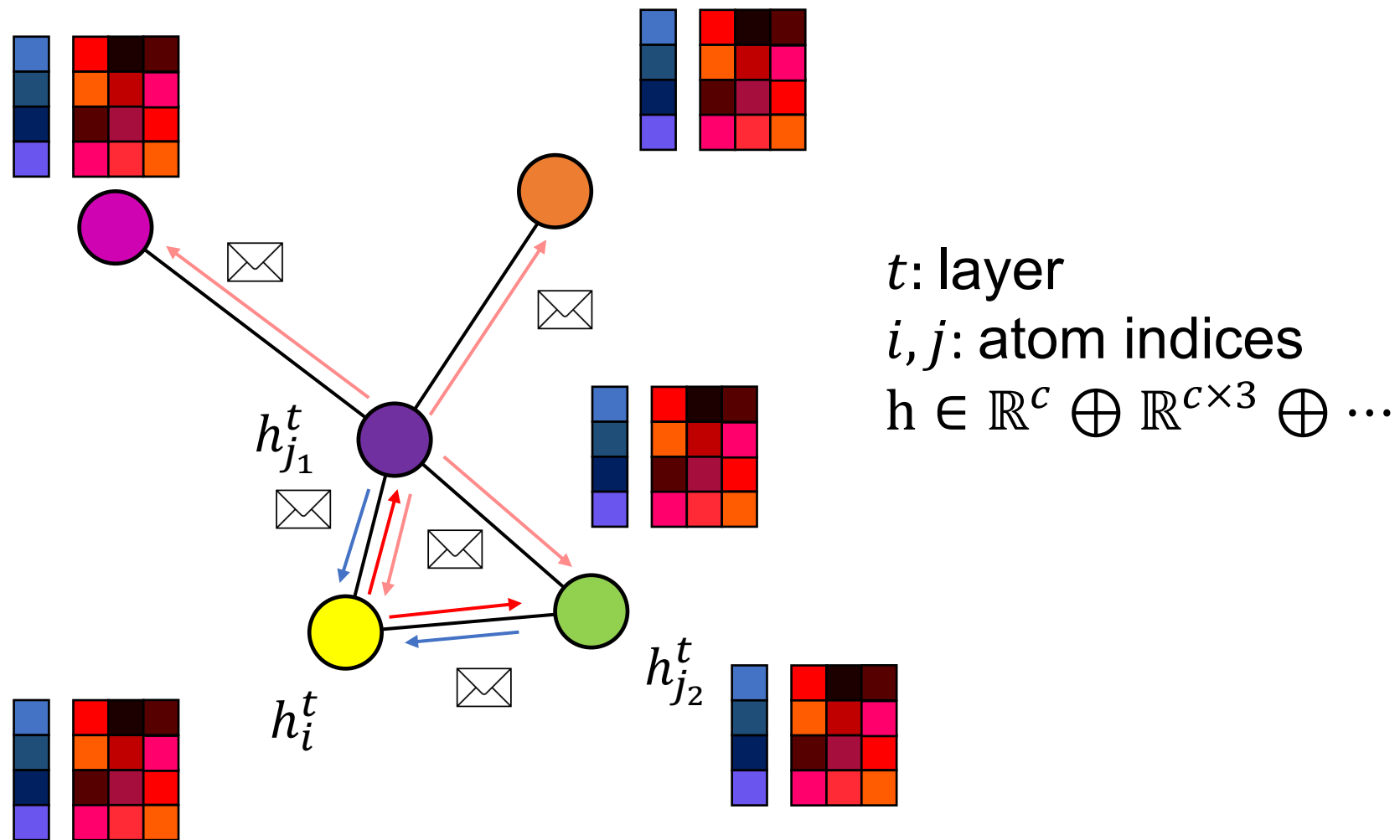
$$f(D_X(g)x) = If(x)$$



# Message Passing Neural Networks



# Equivariant Message Passing Neural Networks [1, 2, 3]



[1] Thomas, N., Smidt, T., et al. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1802.08219*.

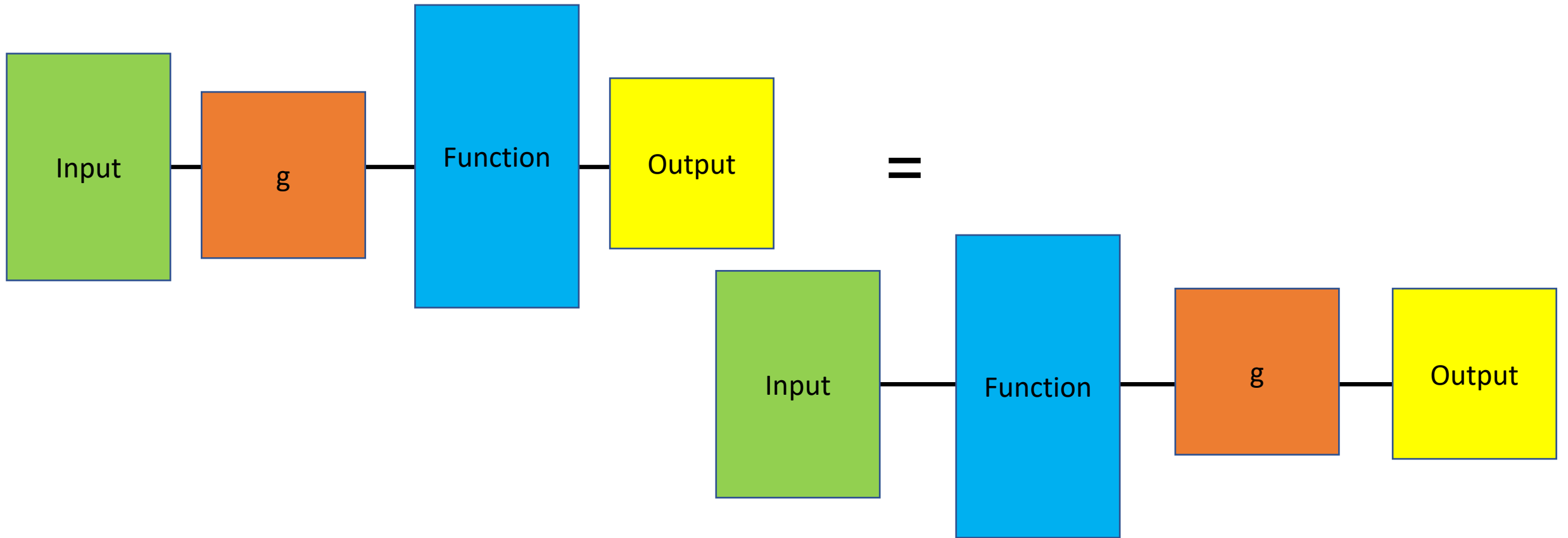
[2] Weiler, M., Geiger, M., et al. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 31

[3] Kondor, R., Lin, Z., & Trivedi, S. (2018) *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 31.

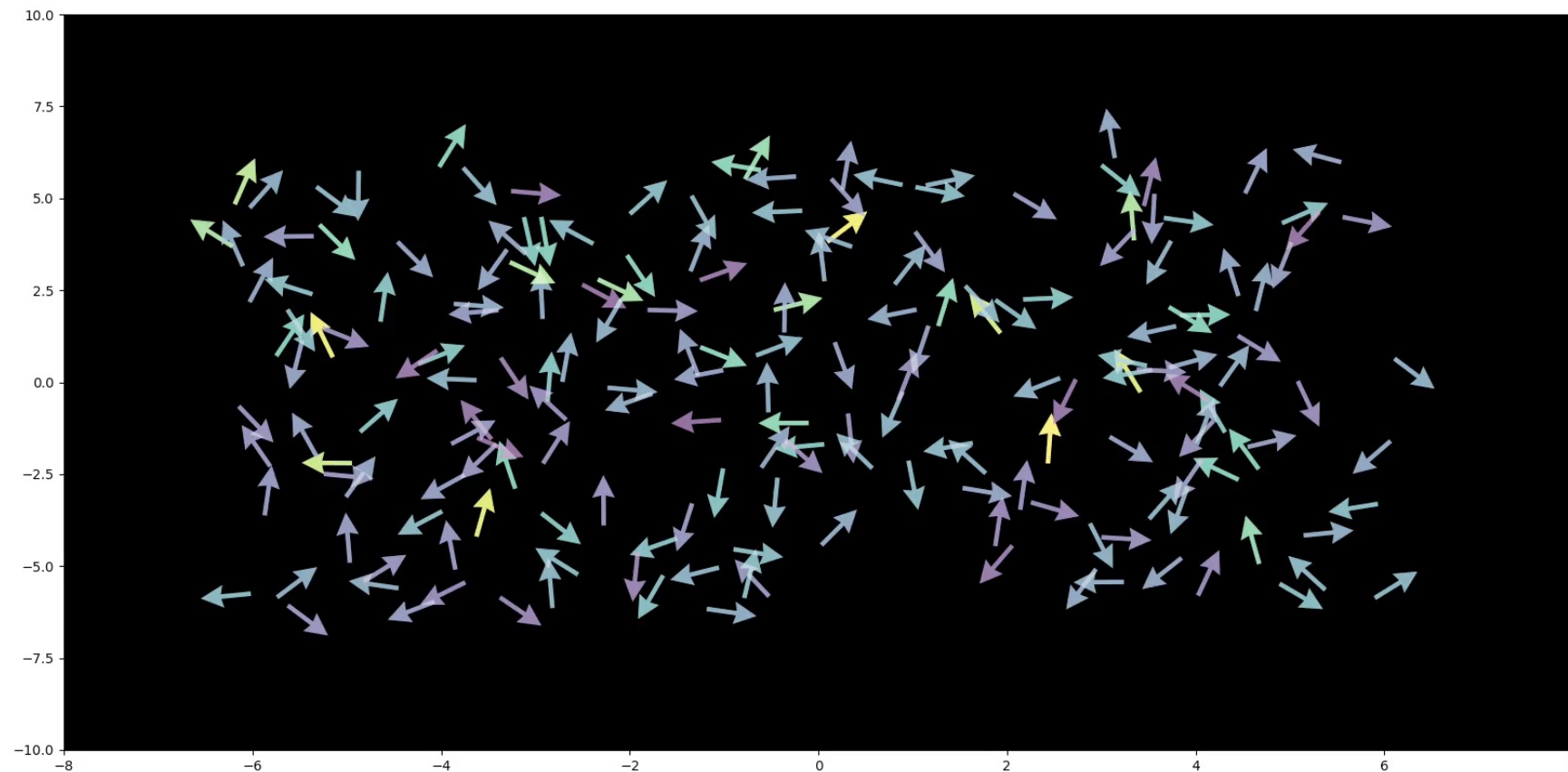
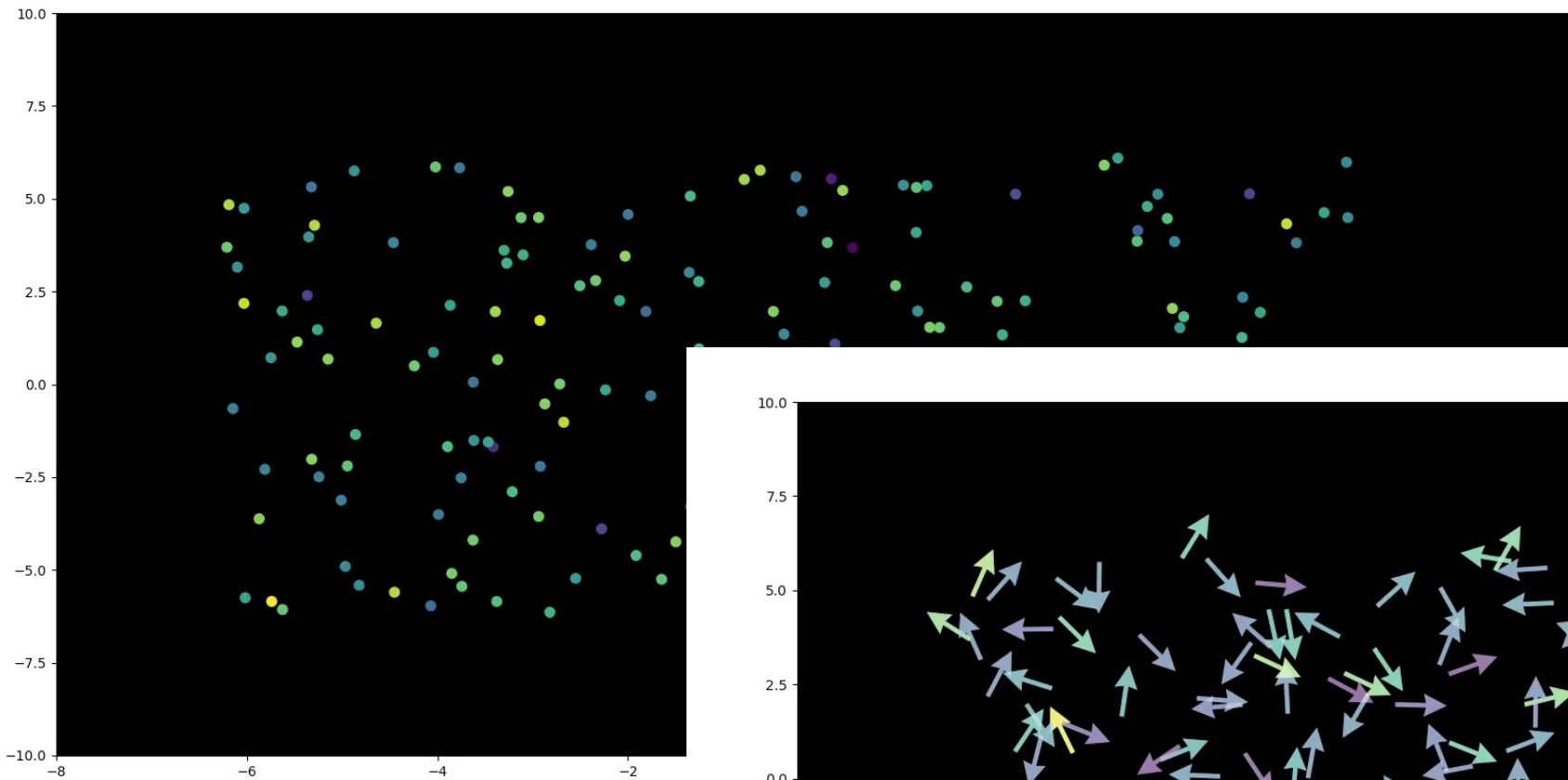
# Equivariance

$f: X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be **equivariant** w.r.t. the action of the group  $G$ , if  $\forall g \in G$  and  $\forall x \in X$ :

$$f(D_X(g)x) = D_Y(g)f(x)$$

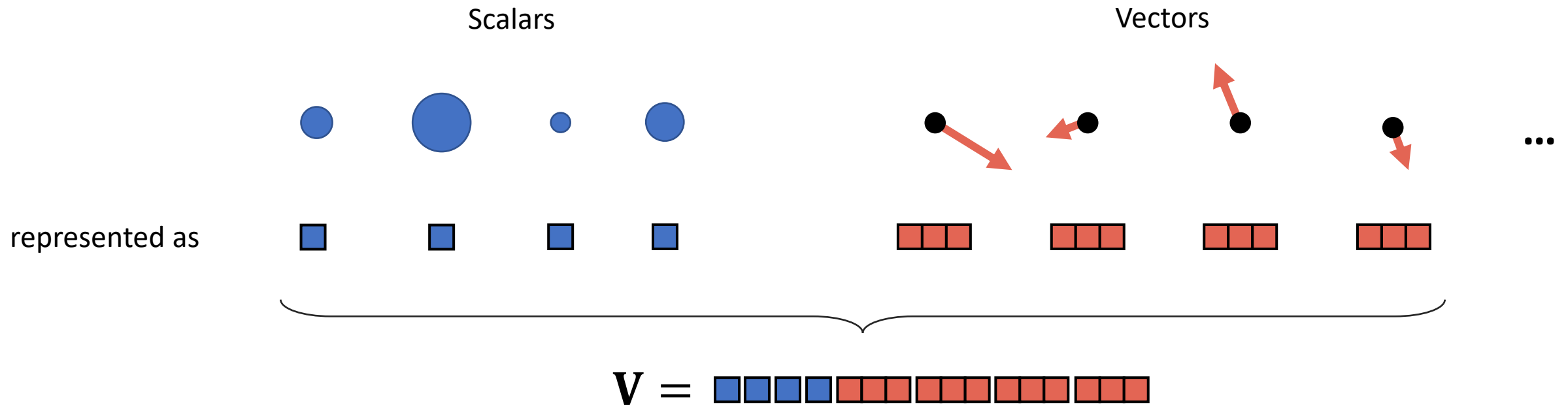


# Tensor Features transform with the geometry under E(3) group actions



# Equivariance: tensor features

The inputs, internal features, and outputs of the model are collections of individual geometric tensors that transform variously under  $O(3)$





## Equivariance: tensor features

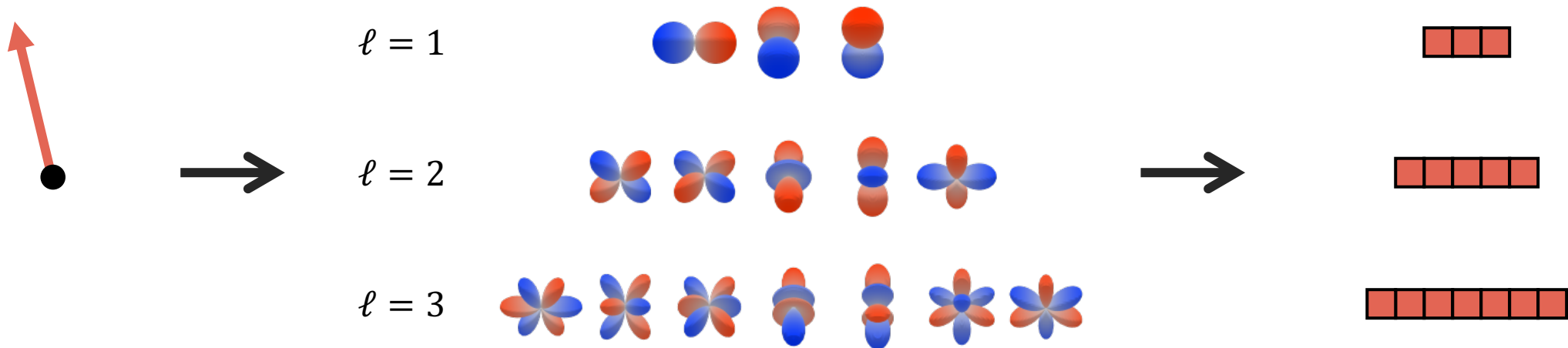
- Formally, each tensor inhabits an irreducible representation (irrep) of  $O(3)$
- The irreps are indexed by:
  - Rotation order  $\ell \geq 0$ :
    - $\ell = 0$ : scalar
    - $\ell = 1$ : vector
    - $\ell \geq 2$ : tensor
  - Parity  $p = \pm 1$ :
    - $p = 1$ : invariant under inversion
    - $p = -1$ : changes sign under inversion
- A tensor of order  $\ell$  has dimension  $2\ell + 1$

[1] Thomas et al., “Tensor field networks: Rotation- and translation-equivariant neural networks for 3D point clouds”

[2] Geiger et al., e3nn documentation, e3nn.org

# Equivariance: tensor features from spherical harmonics

- How can we encode data in these tensors?
- Spherical harmonics  $Y_\ell^m$  are a basis for functions on the sphere
- They decompose functions into tensors of various  $\ell$  and  $p = (-1)^\ell$



# Equivariance: tensor features

- An entire feature array

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \ell = 0 & & \ell = 1 & & & & \ell = 2 & & \dots \\ \hline p = 1 & & p = -1 & & & & p = 1 & & \dots \\ \hline \end{array}$$

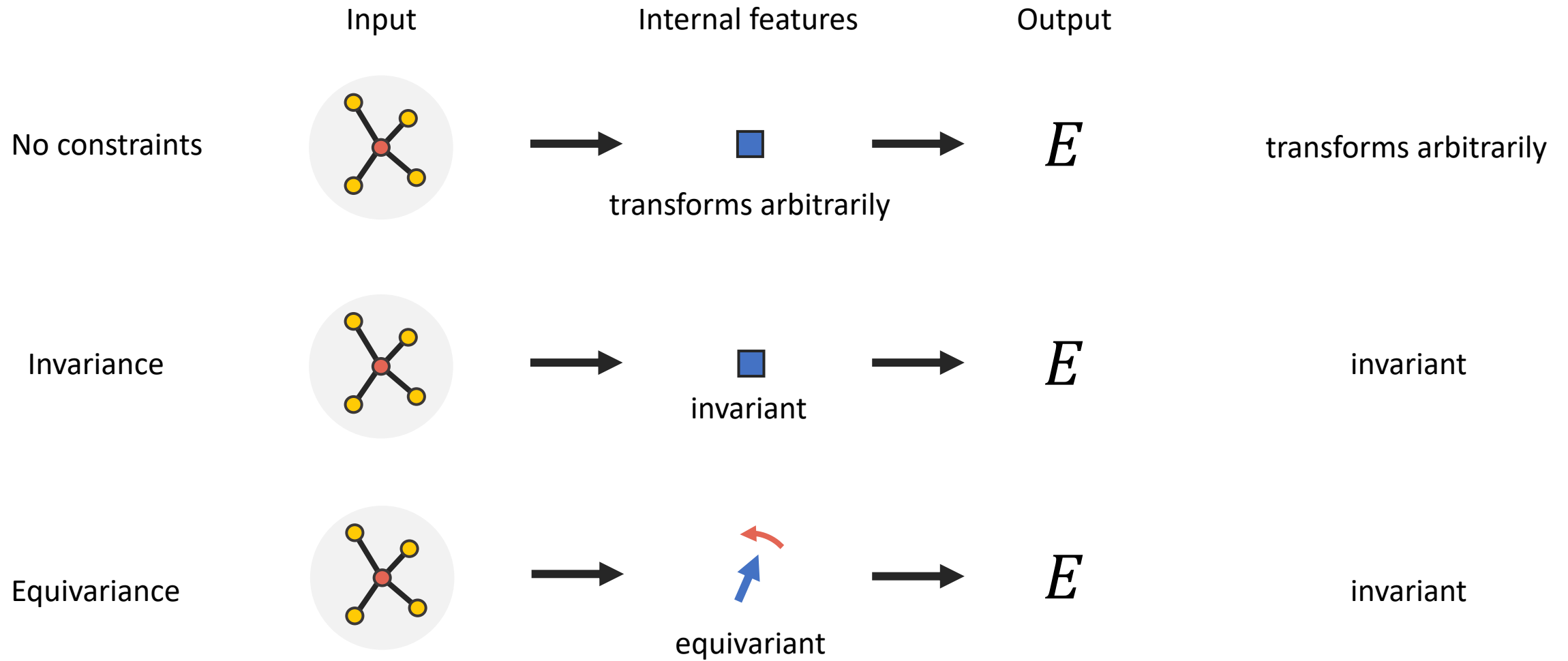
inhabits a direct sum of irreps

$$(\ell = 0, p = 1) \oplus (\ell = 1, p = -1) \oplus (\ell = 2, p = 1)$$

Very general:

- Any physical quantity transforms with a representation of  $O(3)$
- Any representation of  $O(3)$  decomposes into such a direct sum of irreps

# No constraints, invariance, equivariance



## Tensor product

- A **bilinear, equivariant** operation combining two tensors

$$(\mathbf{x} \otimes \mathbf{y})_{\ell_{\text{out}}, m_{\text{out}}} = \sum_{m_1, m_2} \begin{pmatrix} \ell_1 & \ell_2 & \ell_{\text{out}} \\ m_1 & m_2 & m_{\text{out}} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{\ell_1, m_1} \mathbf{y}_{\ell_2, m_2}$$



Wigner 3j coefficients

- The Wigner 3j are a change of basis from the product back into irreps
- Can produce any  $|\ell_1 - \ell_2| \leq \ell_{\text{out}} \leq |\ell_1 + \ell_2|$  and  $p_{\text{out}} = p_1 p_2$

## Tensor product: examples

Scalar multiplication:

$$(\ell = 0, p = 1) \otimes (\ell = 0, p = 1) \rightarrow (\ell = 0, p = 1)$$

Vector-vector dot product:

$$(\ell = 1, p = -1) \otimes (\ell = 1, p = -1) \rightarrow (\ell = 0, p = 1)$$

Vector-vector cross product:

$$(\ell = 1, p = -1) \otimes (\ell = 1, p = -1) \rightarrow (\ell = 1, p = 1)$$

# Equivariance dramatically improves MLIPs

- Examples: **NequIP** [0], PaiNN [1], UNiTE [2], EGNN [3], etc.
- All existing equivariant neural network MLIPs are message-passing

[0] Batzner et al. "SE(3)-Equivariant Graph Neural Networks for Data-Efficient and Accurate Interatomic Potentials"

[1] K.T. Schutt, O.T. Unke, M. Gastegger. "Equivariant message passing for the prediction of tensorial properties and molecular spectra"

[2] Z. Qiao, A.S. Chirstensen, M. Welborn, F.R. Manby, A. Anandkumar, T.F. Miller III. "UNiTE: Unitary N-body Tensor Equivariant Network with Applications to Quantum Chemistry"

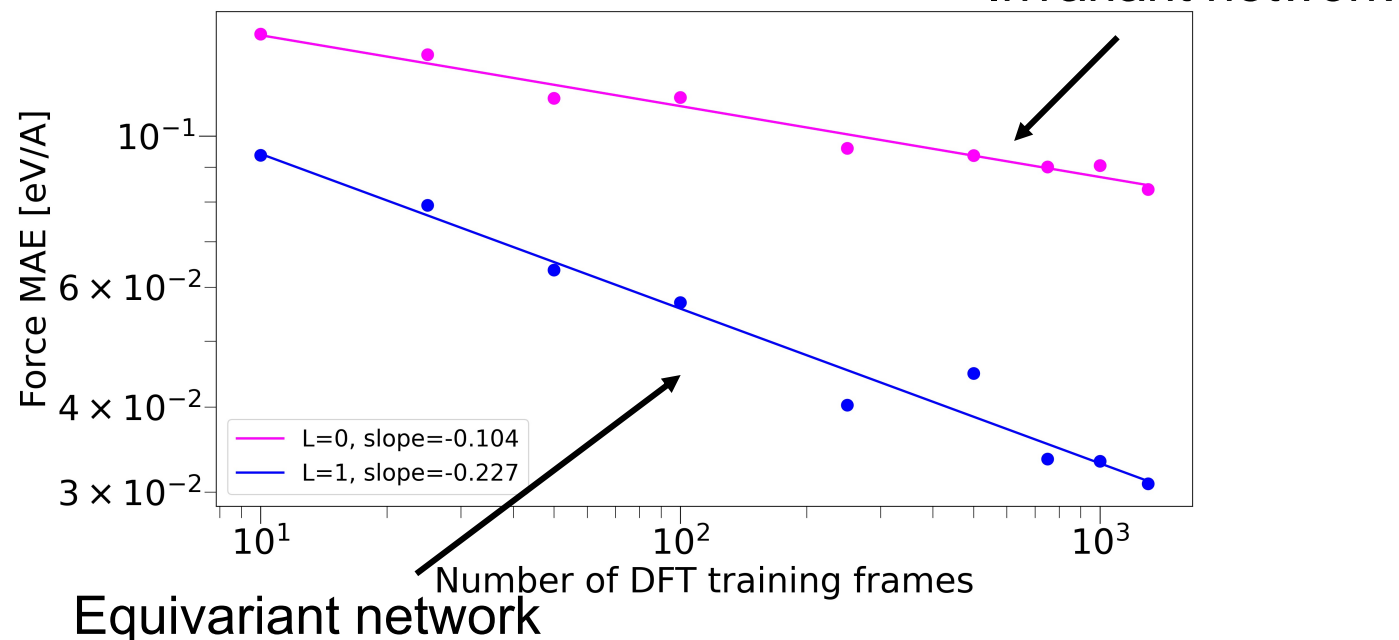
[3] V.G. Satorras, E. Hoogeboom, M. Welling. "E(n) Equivariant Graph Neural Networks"

# NequIP demonstrated that equivariance leads **fundamentally better molecular ML!**

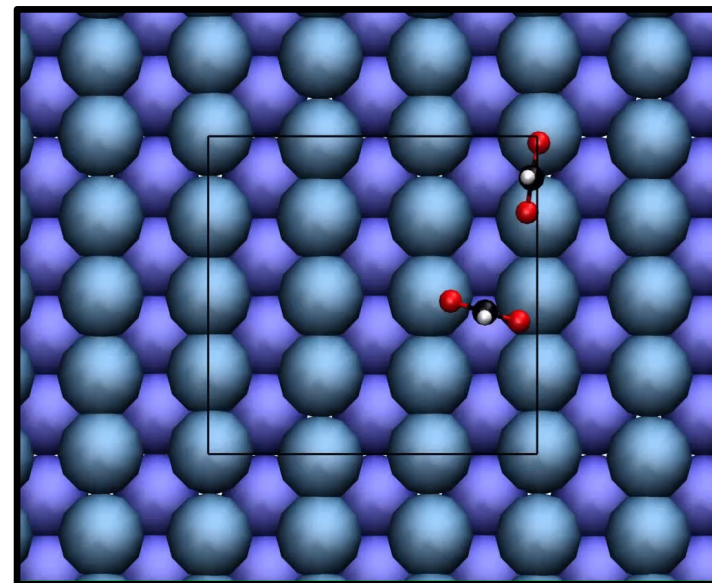
**1000x fewer data**

System	NequIP, trained on 133 structures	DeepMD, trained on 133,500 structures
Liquid Water	<b>11.9</b>	40.4
Ice Ih (b)	<b>10.2</b>	43.3
Ice Ih (c)	<b>12.0</b>	26.8
Ice Ih (d)	<b>9.8</b>	25.4

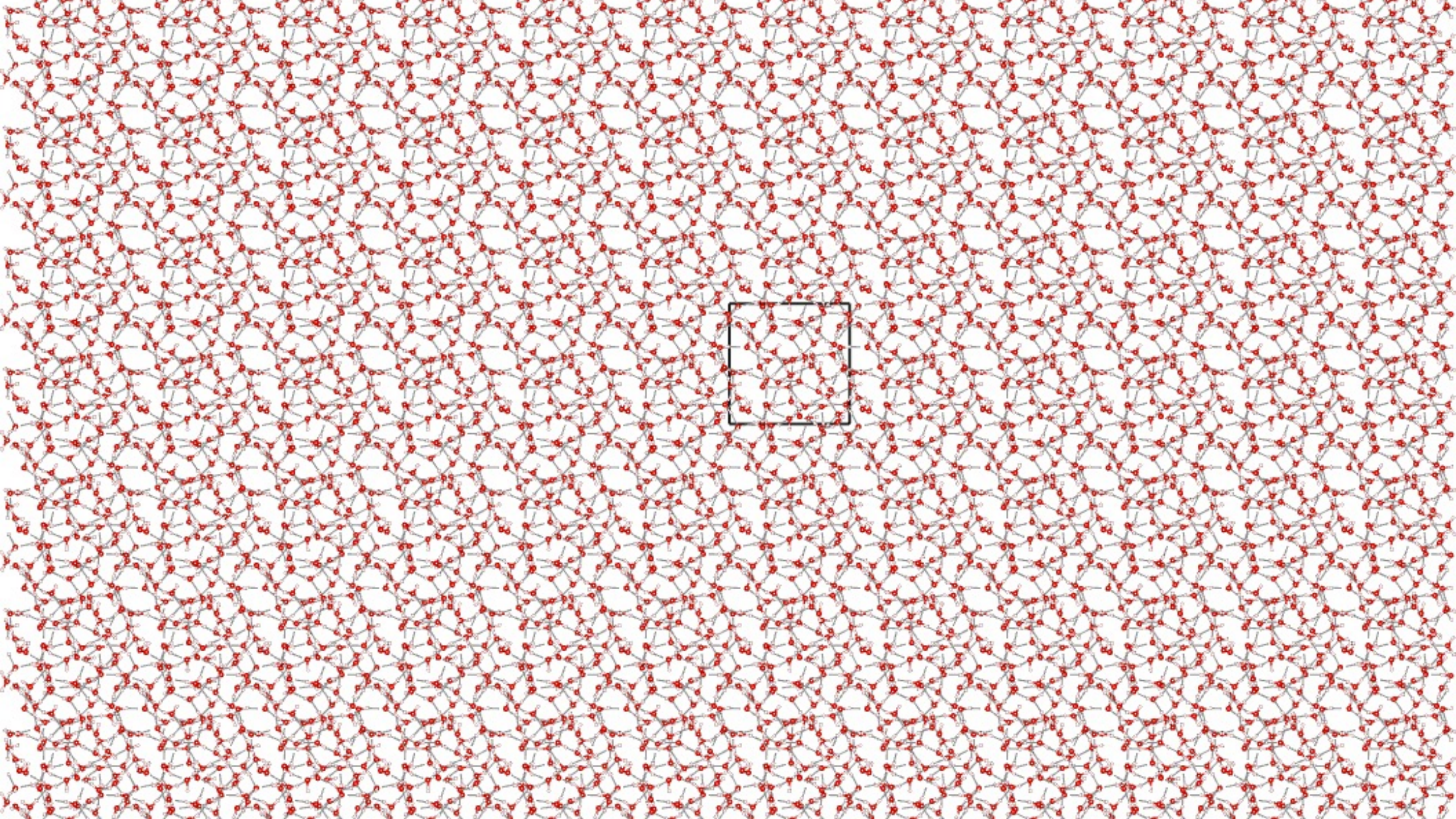
## Different Scaling Laws



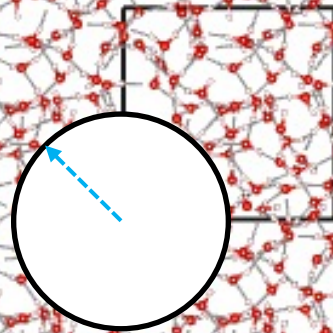
## Complex, reactive systems







$r=6$  Angstrom  
96 atoms





The image displays a dense network of red spheres (atoms) connected by thin grey lines (bonds). A large black circle highlights a specific region of the network. Within this circle, a smaller black circle is centered on a single atom, and a blue dashed line extends from this center to the outer boundary of the large circle. A white rectangular box with a black border is positioned in the upper right, containing text that specifies the radius and atom count of the highlighted region.

$r=36$  Angstrom  
20,834 atoms

**Equivariance**

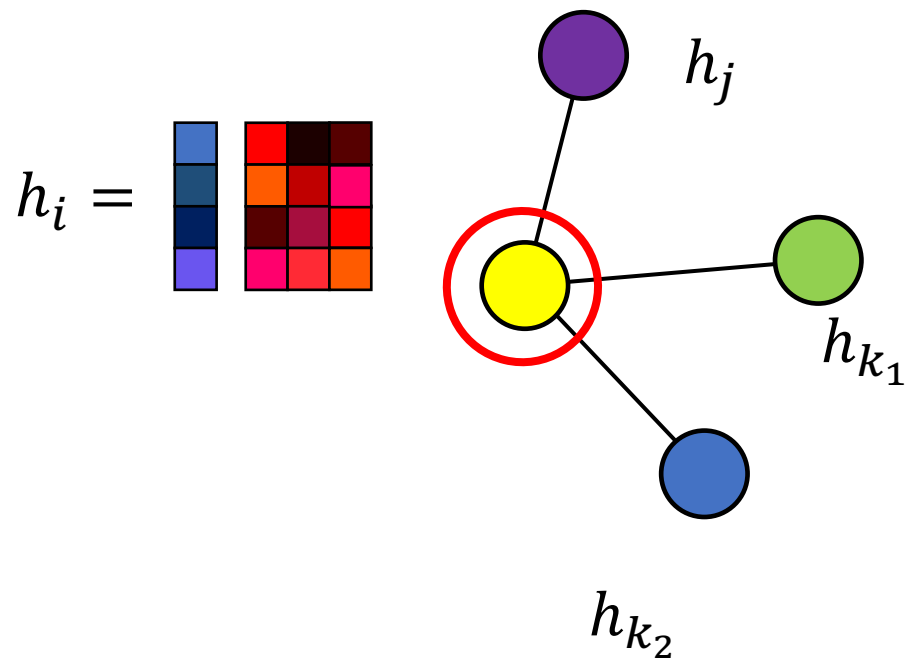


**Message Passing**



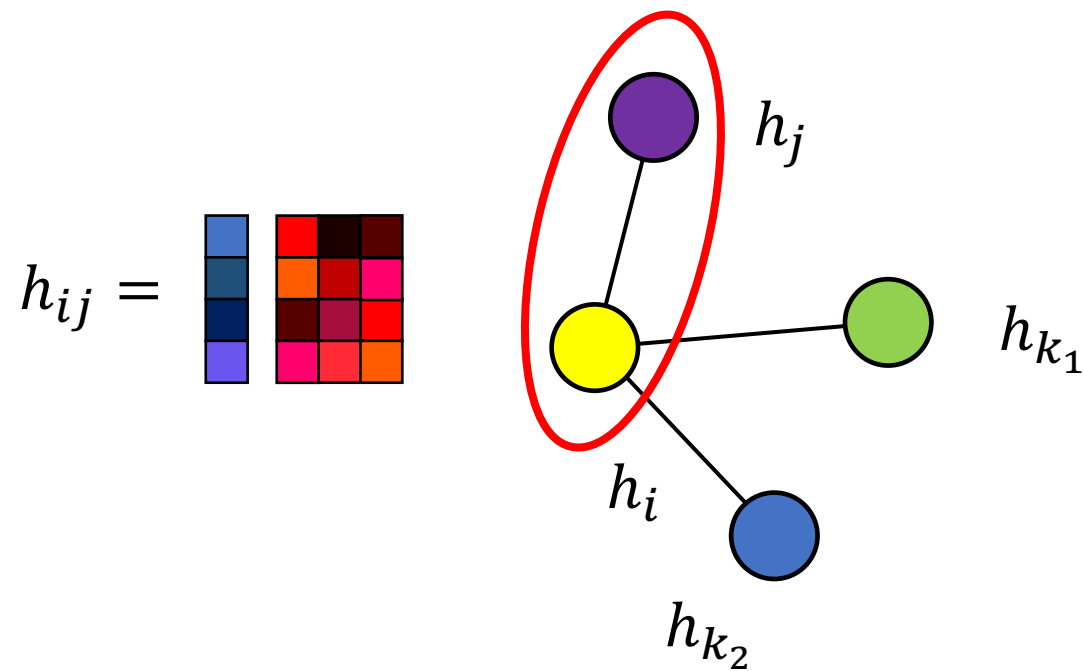
## Conventional GNN per-atom

$$E = \sum_i E_i$$



## Allegro per-pair

$$E = \sum_i \sum_{j \in N(i)} E_{ij}$$



# The Two-Track Architecture

Invariants

Equivariants



$(Z_i, Z_j, \|\vec{r}_{ij}\|)$

$\vec{Y}_{\ell,p}^{ij}$

Two-body MLP

Embed

Layer

Layer

...

Scalar / invariant track:  $\mathbf{x}^{ij}$

Tensor / equivariant track:  $\mathbf{v}^{ij}$

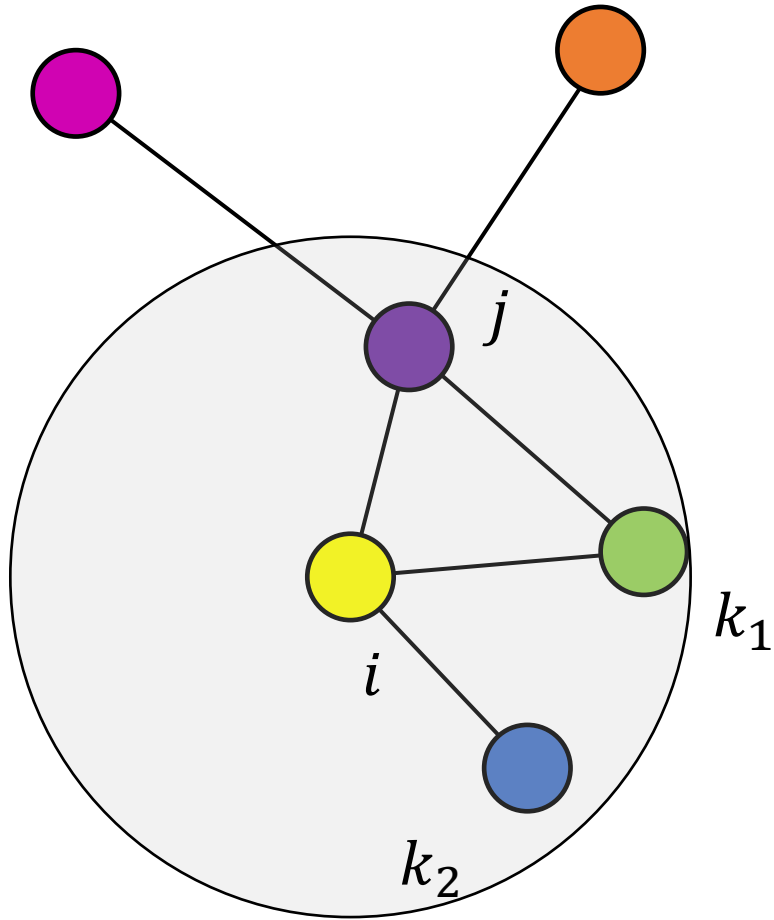
All operations allowed

Only E(3)-equivariant operations

Reasoning: scalars are cheap, tensors are expensive

Let large set of scalars control a small set of tensor operations!

# Iterated tensor product increases correlation order

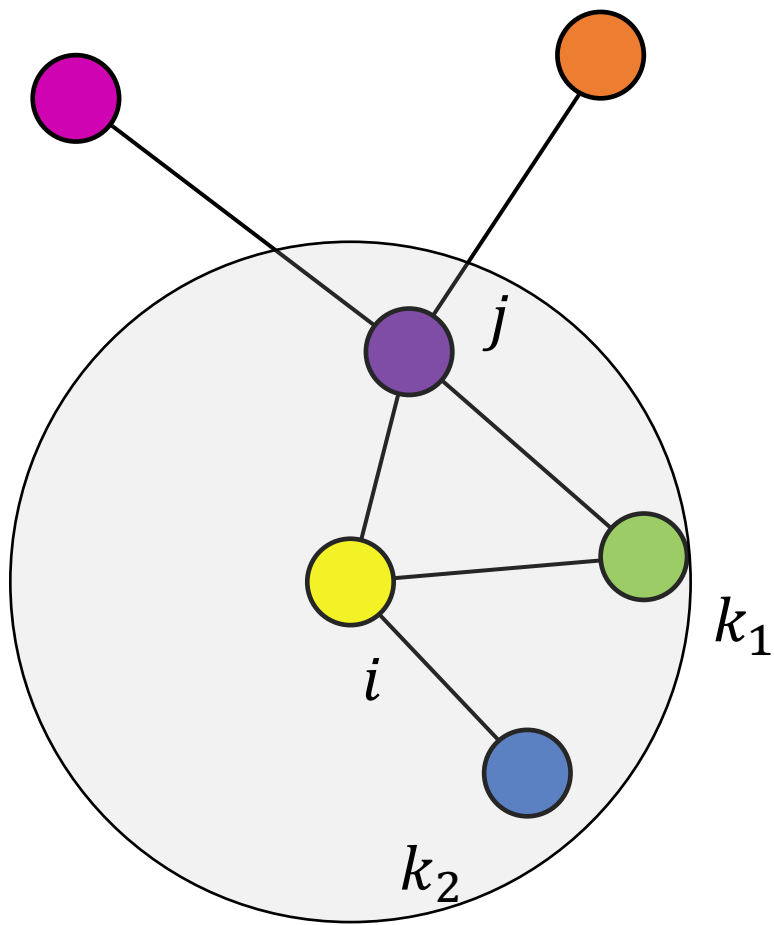


$$h_{i,j}^L = \sum_{k \in N(i)} w_{i,k}^L (h_{i,j}^{L-1} \otimes \vec{Y}_{i,k})$$

*This induces a 3-body interaction  $(i, j) \otimes (i, k) \rightarrow (i, j, k)$*

*Naively, this gives exponential scaling!*

# Density Trick<sup>1</sup> removes exponential scaling



$$\begin{aligned}
 h_{i,j}^L &= \sum_{k \in N(i)} w_{i,k}^L (h_{i,j}^{L-1} \otimes \vec{Y}_{i,k}) \\
 &= \sum_{k \in N(i)} h_{i,j}^{L-1} \otimes w_{i,k}^L \vec{Y}_{i,k} \\
 &= h_{i,j}^{L-1} \otimes \sum_{k \in N(i)} w_{i,k}^L \vec{Y}_{i,k}
 \end{aligned}$$

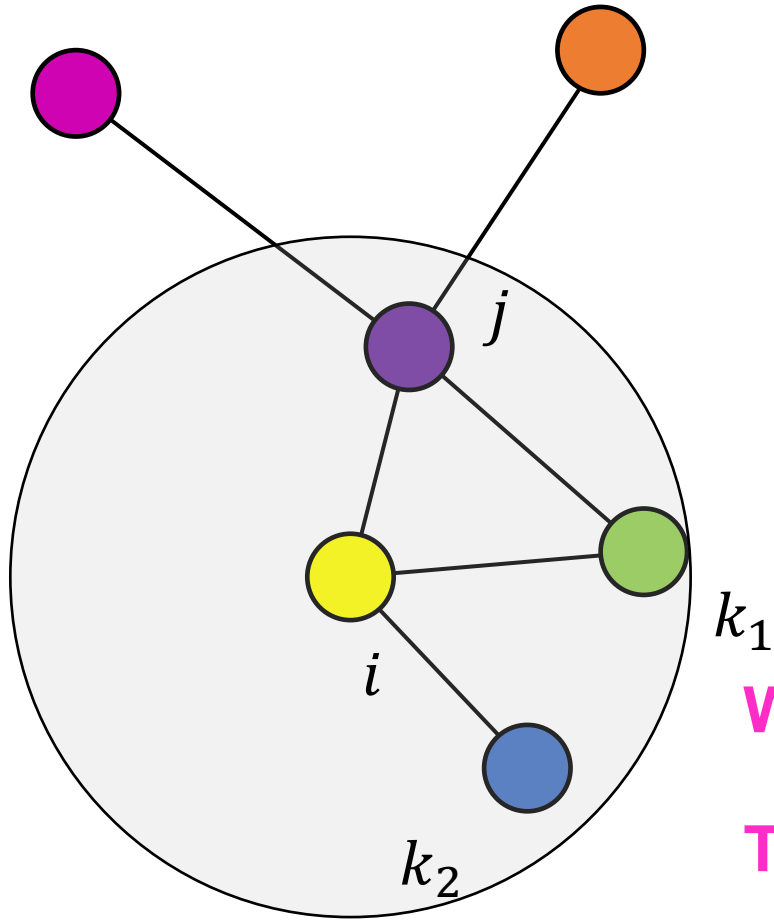
Pair Feature      Pair Feature

Pair Feature      Environment Feature

[1] Bartók, et al: On representing chemical environments. Phys. Rev. B: Condens. Matter Mater. Phys. 2013, 87, 1–16



# Density Trick<sup>1</sup> removes exponential scaling



$$h_{i,j}^L = h_{i,j}^{L-1} \otimes \sum_{k \in N(i)} w_{i,k}^L \vec{Y}_{i,k}$$

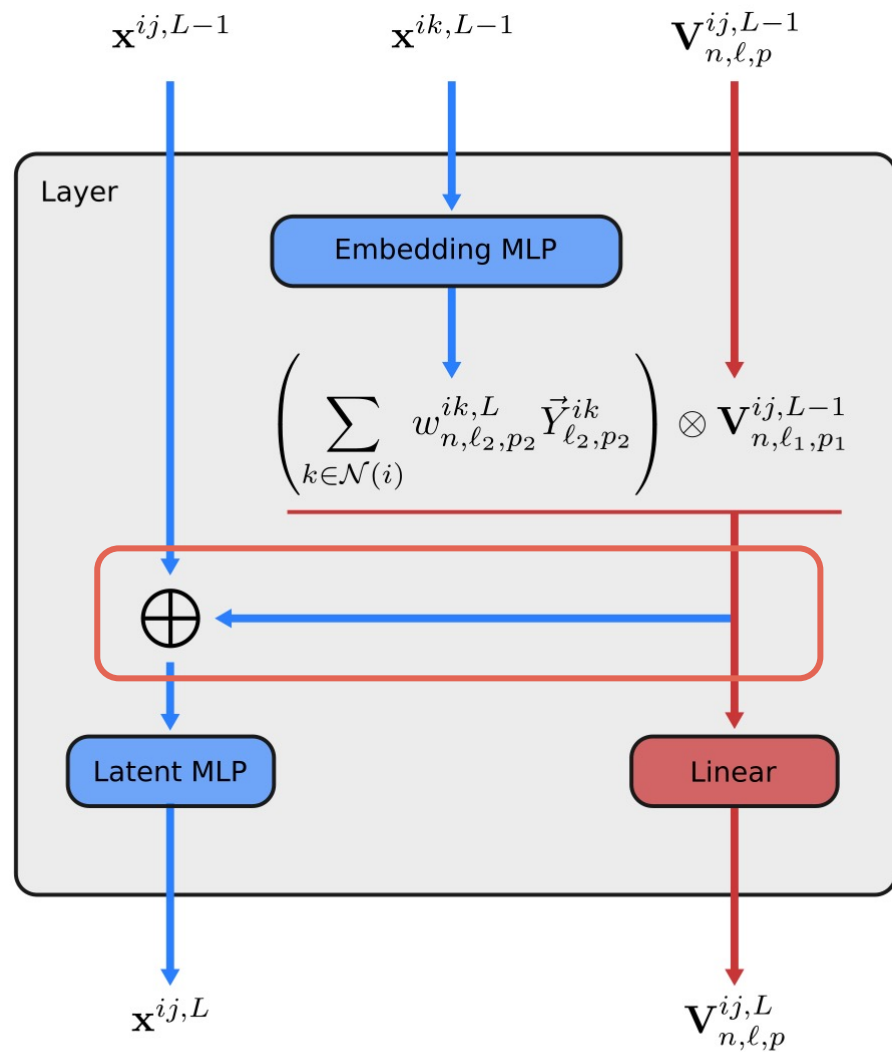
Pair Feature

Environment Feature

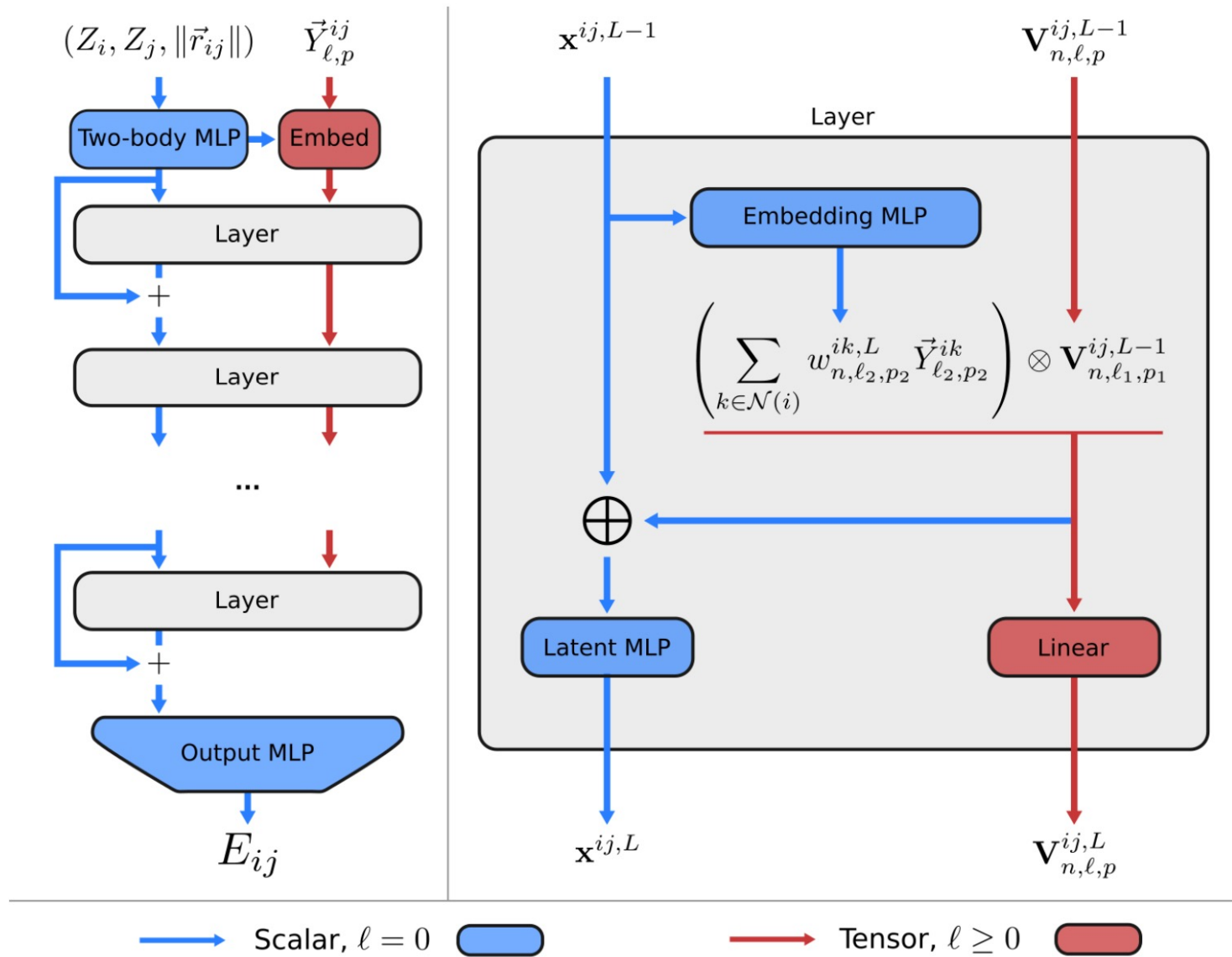
We exploit the bilinearity of the tensor product

This gives linear scaling with the correlation order!

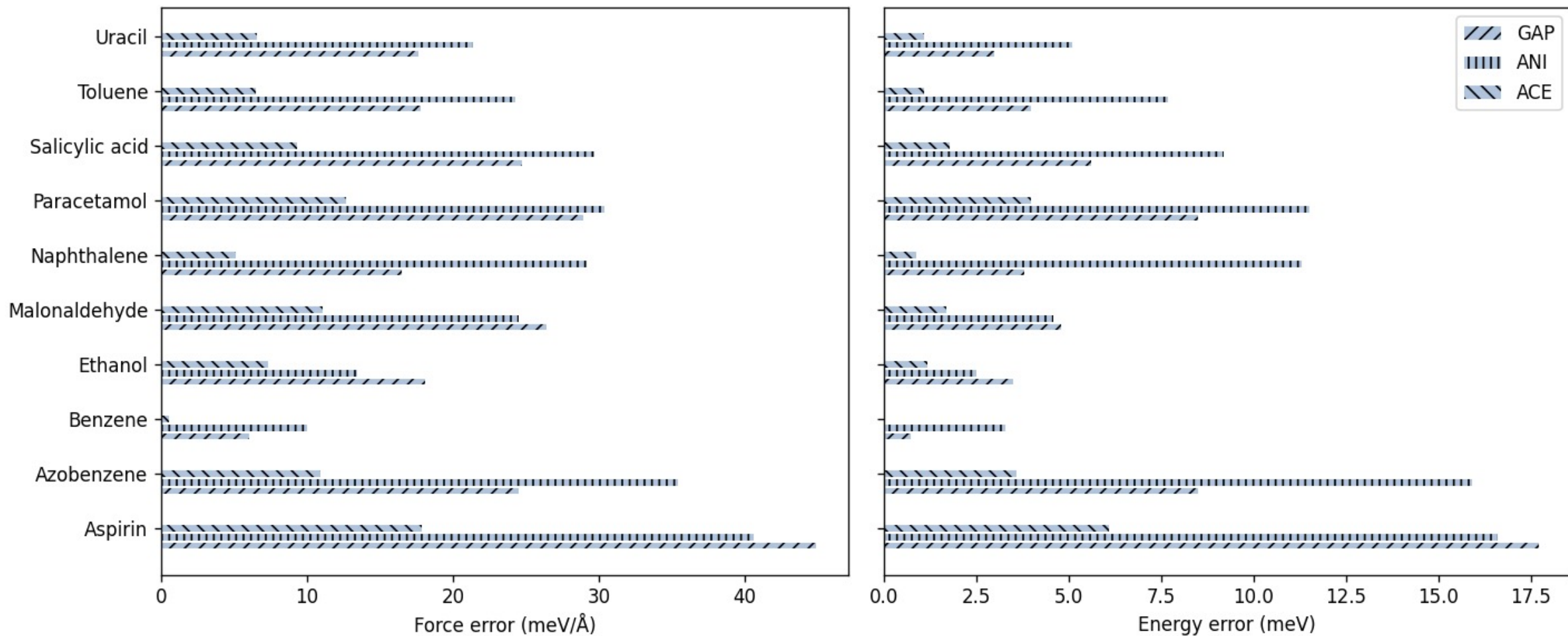
# The full Tensor Product Layer



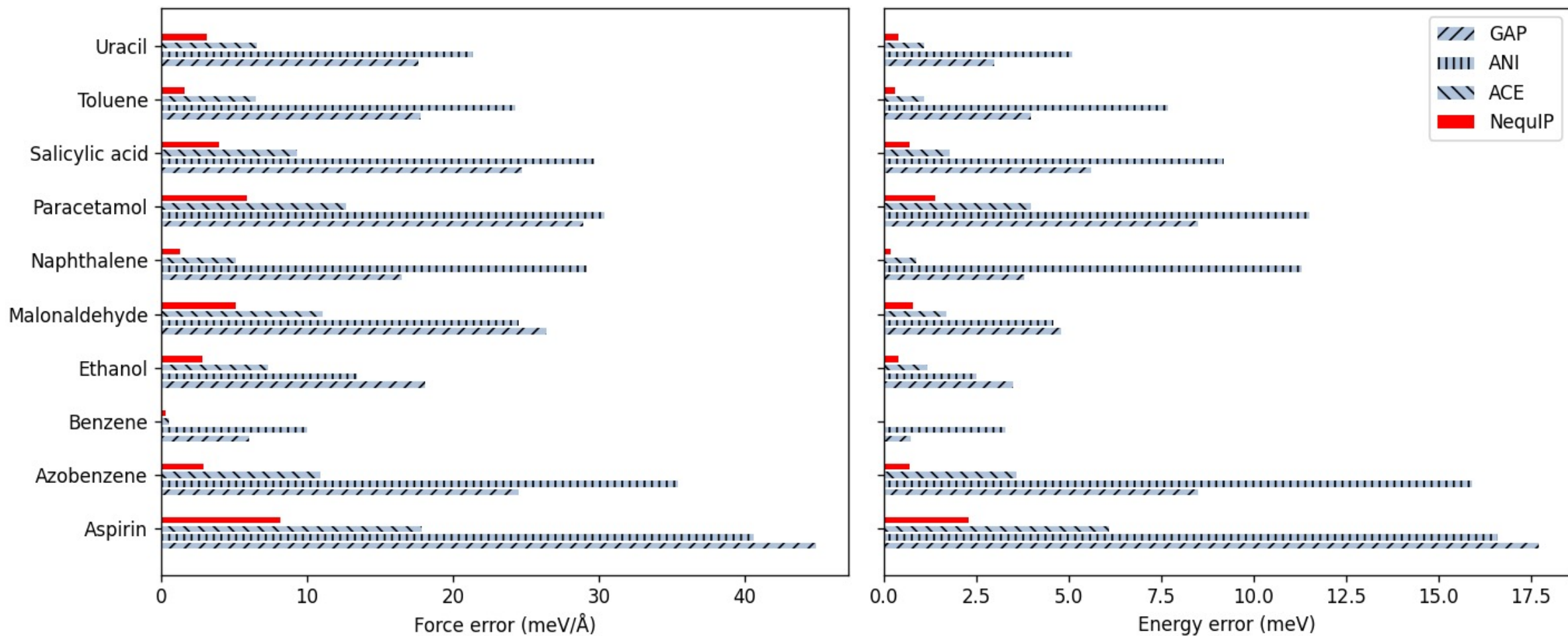
# The full Allegro model



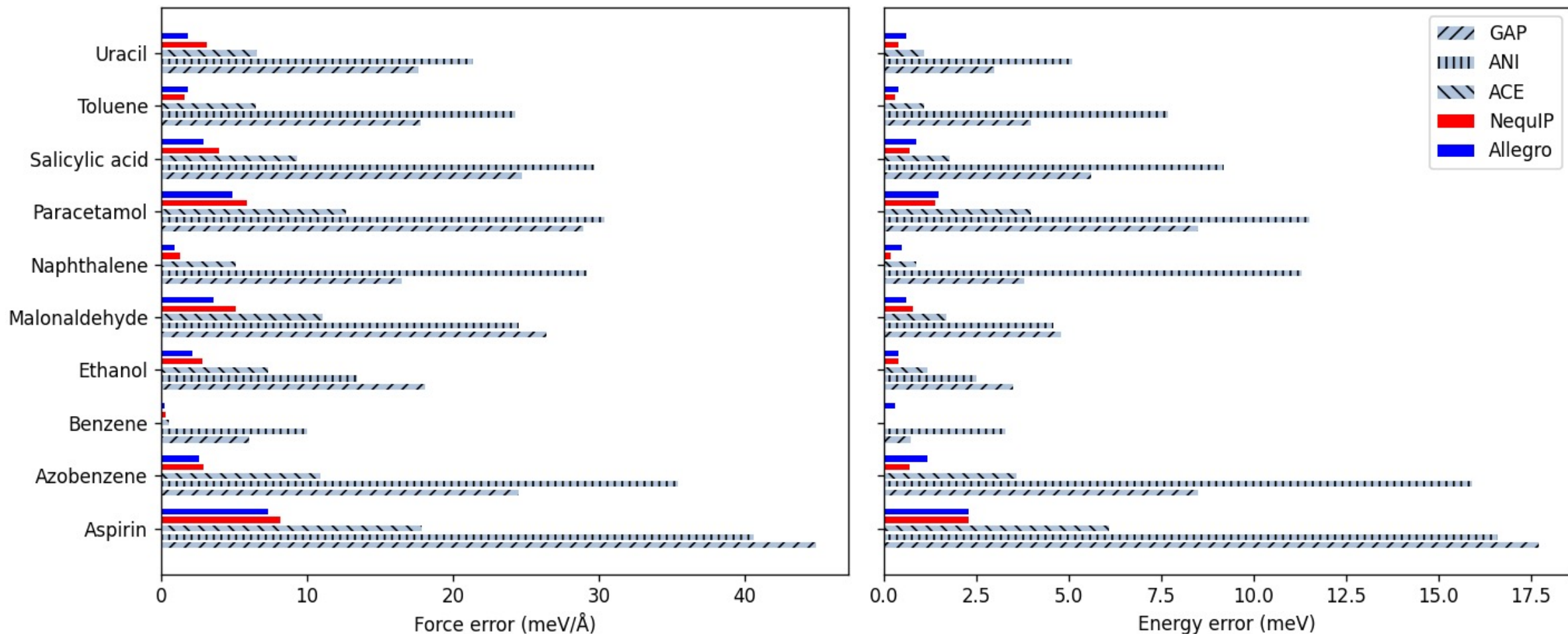
# Allegro obtains state-of-the-art accuracy on revMD-17



# Allegro obtains state-of-the-art accuracy on revMD-17



# Allegro obtains state-of-the-art accuracy on revMD-17



# Learning across compositional space, QM9

Model	$U_0$	$U$	$H$	$G$
Schnet [25]	14	19	14	14
DimeNet++ [54]	6.3	6.3	6.5	7.6
Cormorant [23]	22	21	21	20
LieConv [55]	19	19	24	22
L1Net [56]	13.5	13.8	14.4	14.0
SphereNet [57]	6.3	7.3	6.4	8.0
EGNN [32]	11	12	12	12
ET [40]	6.2	6.3	6.5	7.6
NoisyNodes [58]	7.3	7.6	7.4	8.3
PaiNN [27]	5.9	5.7	6.0	7.4
Allegro, 1 layer	<u>5.7</u> (0.2)	<u>5.3</u>	<u>5.3</u>	<u>6.6</u>
Allegro, 3 layers	<b>4.7</b> (0.2)	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>5.7</b>

**1 layer** 

# Beyond accuracy: benchmarking the transferability of Allegro

## Temperature Transferability

Test	—————	T = 1200K
Test	—————	T = 600K
Train	—————	T = 300K

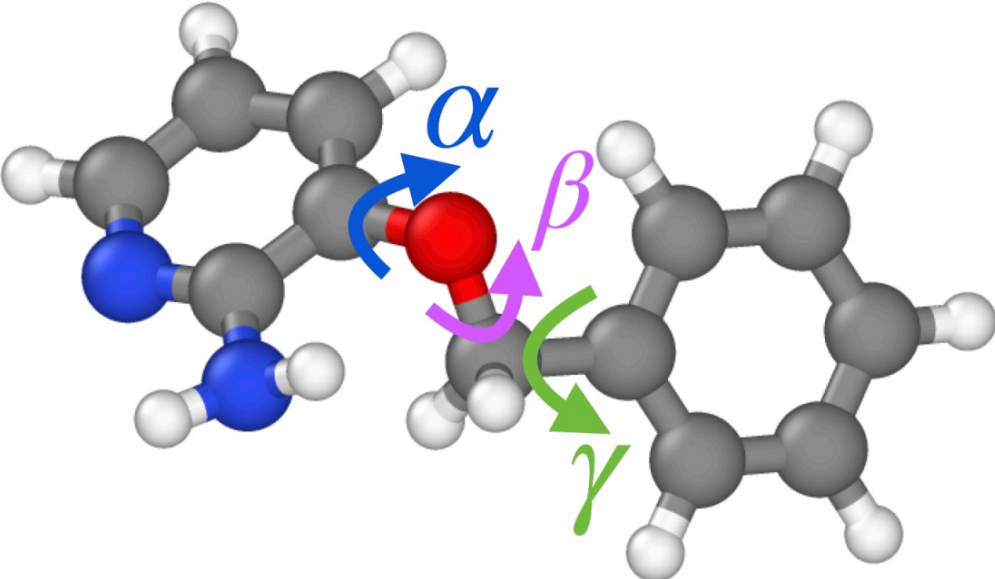


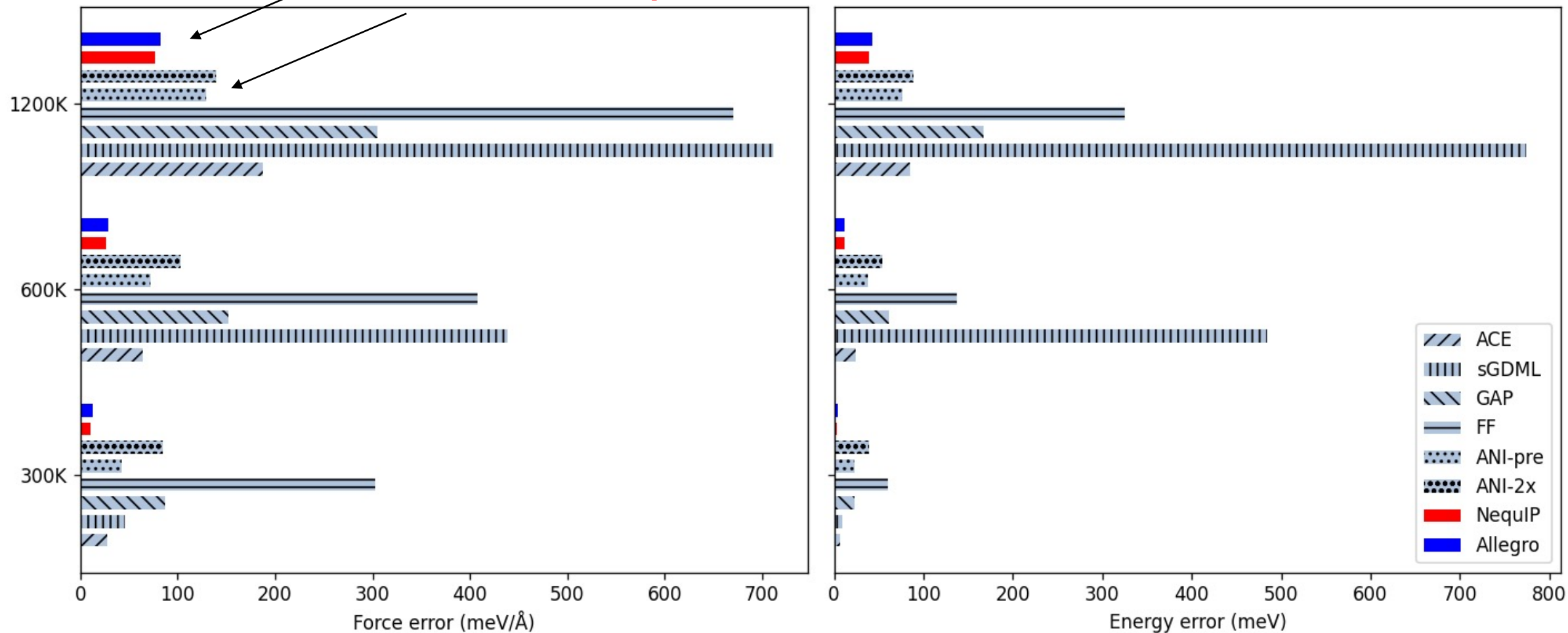
Figure from: Kovacs et al., 2021, *JCTC*



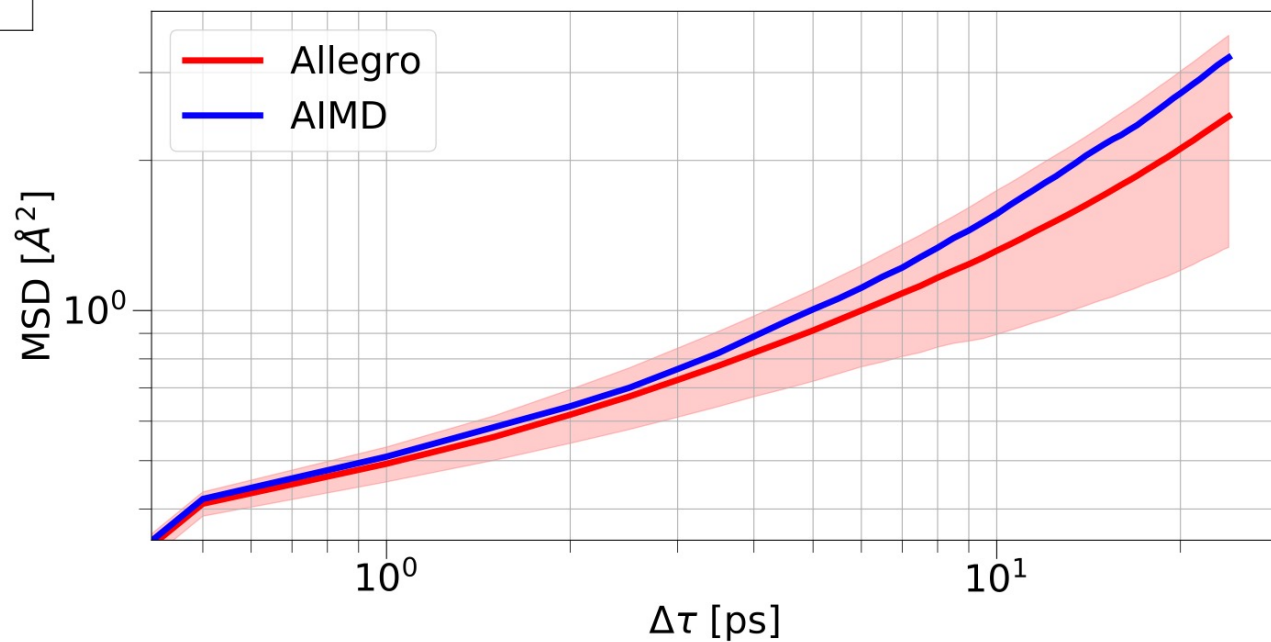
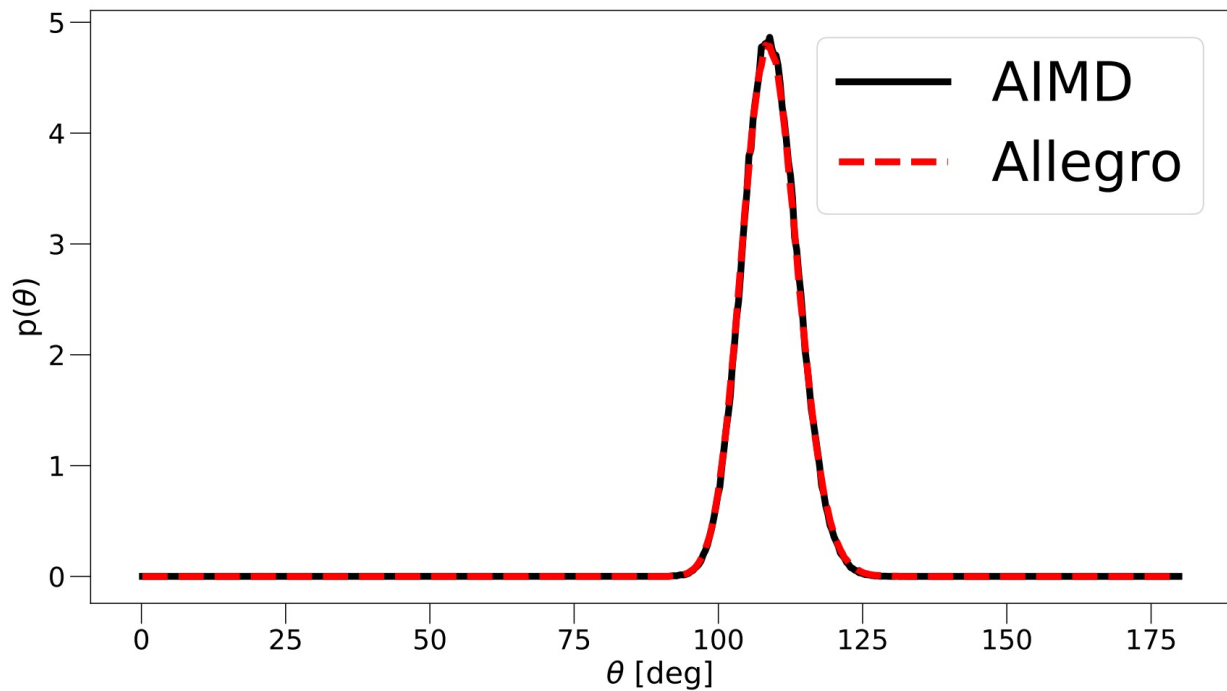
# Allegro shows strong OOD-generalization

Allegro/NequIP models trained on 500 structures

ANI models, pretrained on 8.9 million structures



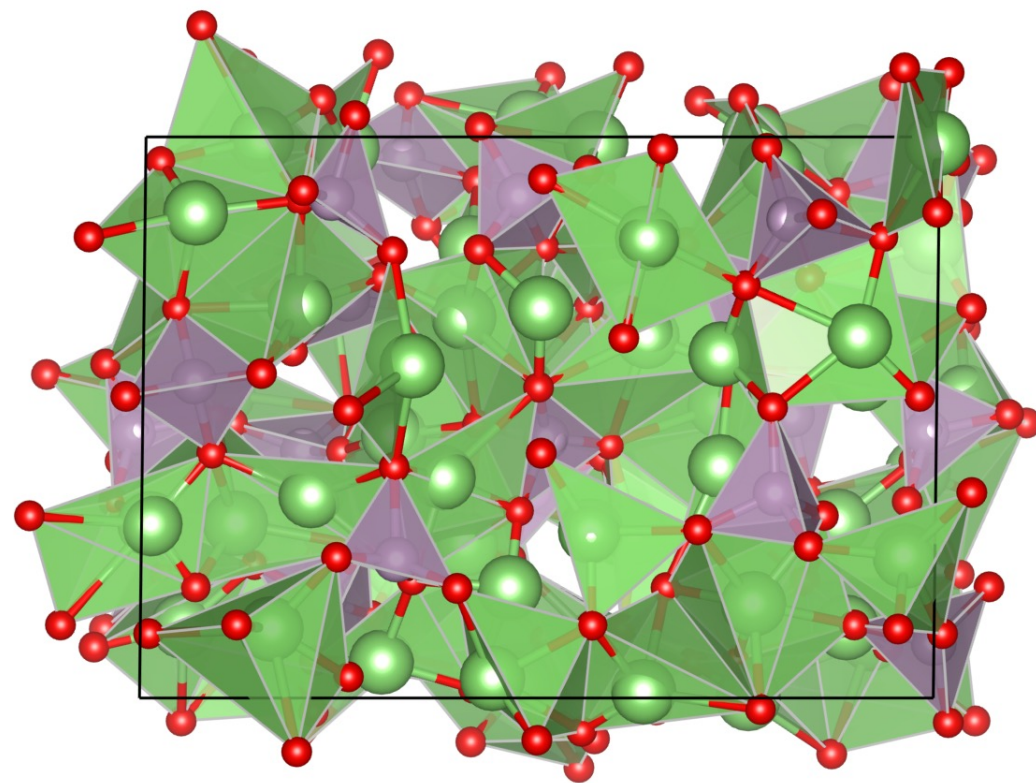
# Allegro predicts the structures + kinetics of complex materials



Li<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, quenched at T=600K  
Top: tetrahedral ADF  
Bottom: Li MSD

**Allegro: speed**

**32.4 ns/day** on a DFT sized system  
(192 atoms)



# Allegro's accuracy scales...

- **$O(N)$  in the number of atoms**

contrast:  $O(N^2)$  global descriptors such as sGDML<sup>1</sup>

- **$O(M)$  in the number of neighbors/atom**

contrast: some  $O(M^2)$  deep learning approaches such as DimeNet<sup>2</sup> or Equivariant Transformers<sup>3</sup>

- **$O(1)$  in the number of chemical species**

contrast: local descriptors like SOAP —  $O(S^2)$  — and ACE<sup>4</sup>:  $O(S^{\text{body order} - 1})$

[1] Chmiela, S., Sauceda, H. E., Muller, K.-R. & Tkatchenko, A. Towards exact molecular dynamics simulations with machine-learned force fields. Nature Communications 9, 3887 (2018).

[2] Klicpera, J., Groß, J. & Gunnemann, S. Directional message passing for molecular graphs. arXiv preprint arXiv:2003.03123 (2020).

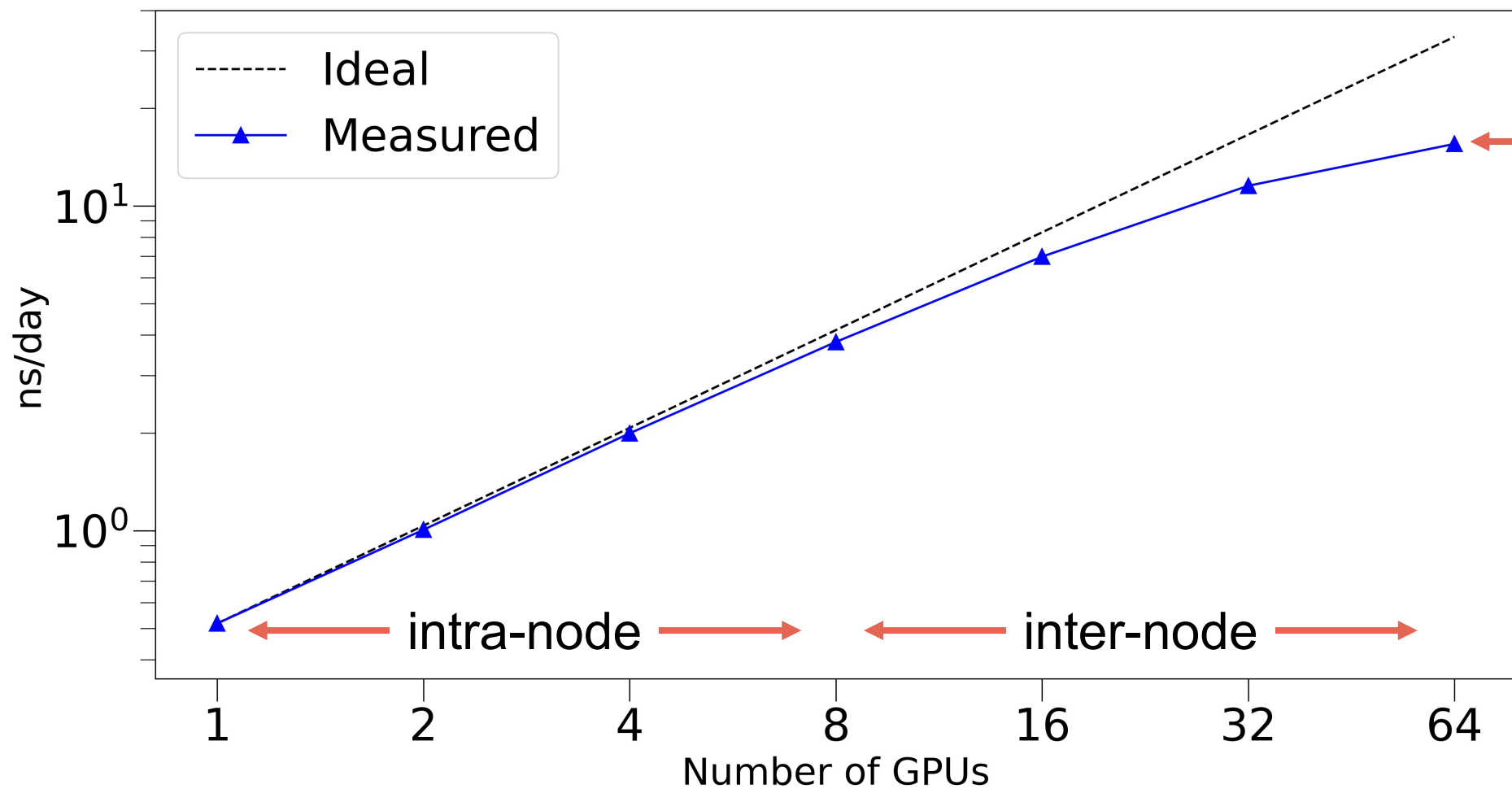
[3] Tholke, P. & De Fabritiis, G. Torchmd-net: Equivariant transformers for neural network based molecular potentials. arXiv preprint arXiv:2202.02541 (2022).

[4] Drautz, R. Atomic cluster expansion for accurate and transferable interatomic potentials. Physical Review B 99, 014104 (2019).

Allegro can **practically** scale...

...for a fixed system size

# Allegro: strong scaling on 421,824 atoms



~**16 ns/day**  
6,591 atoms/GPU  
0.018  $\mu$ s/atom/step

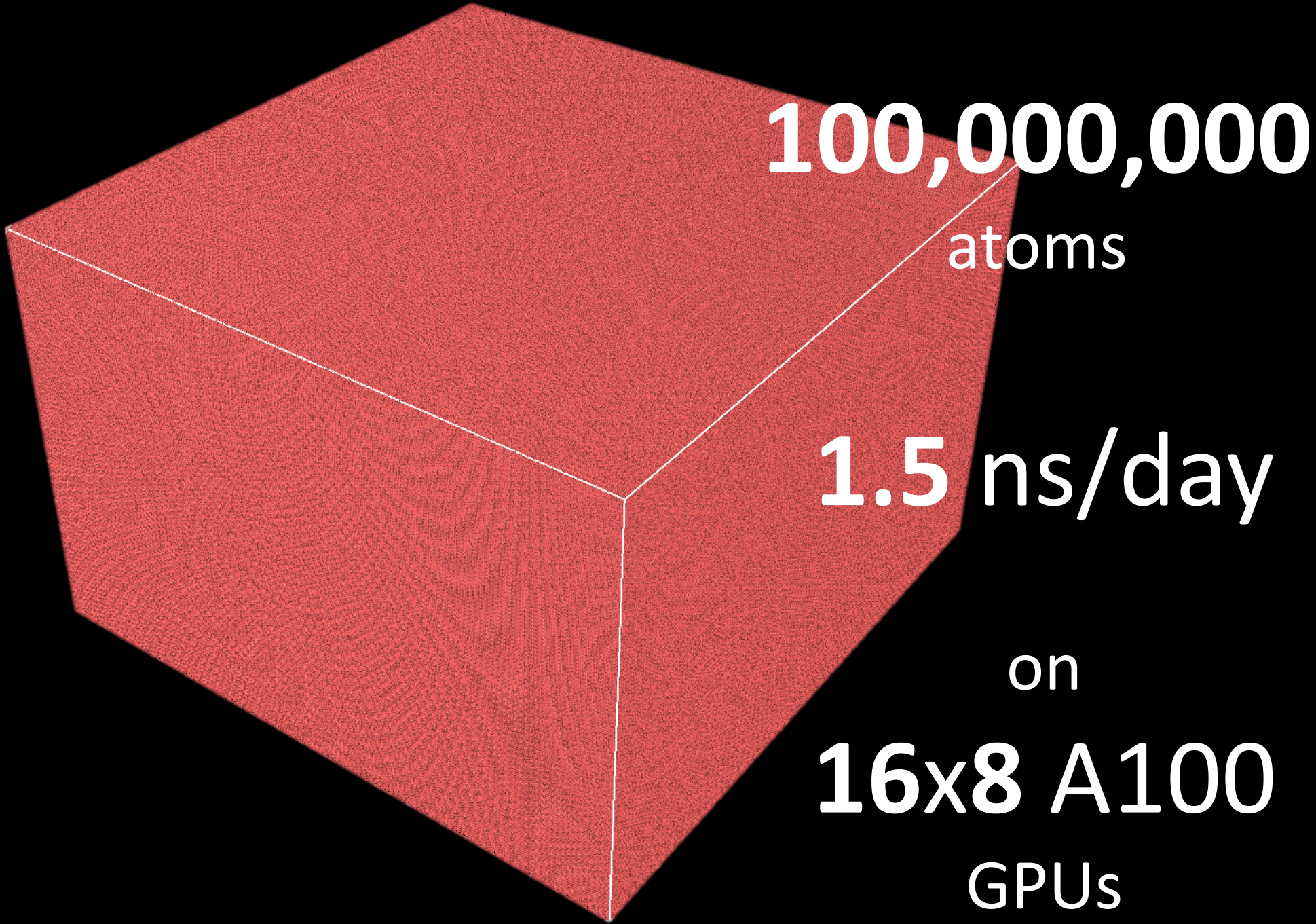


Anders Johansson

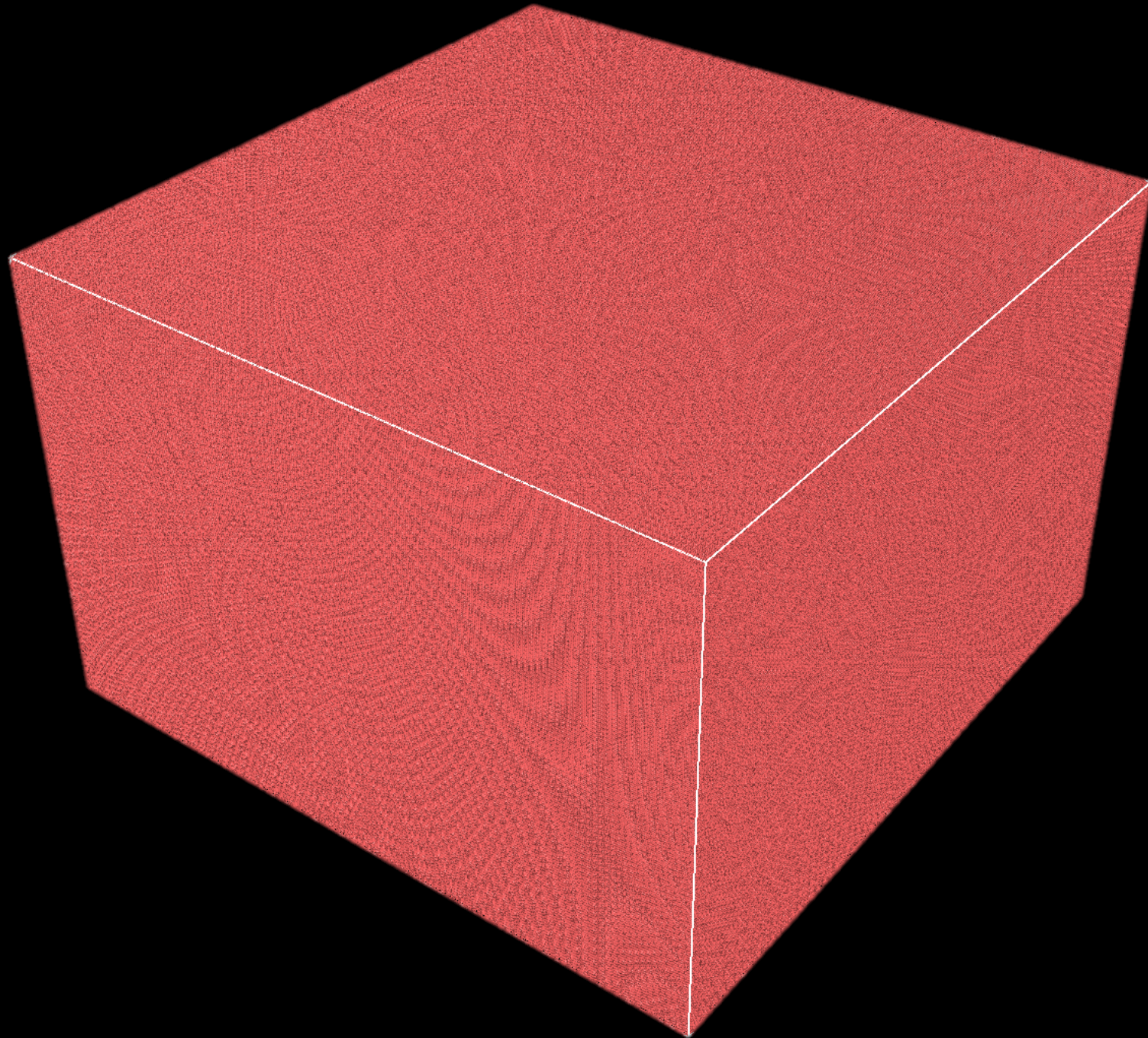
Simulations run in LAMMPS on NVIDIA A100 GPUs; 8 GPUs / node. Timestep: 2fs.

Allegro can **practically** scale...

...to extremely large systems



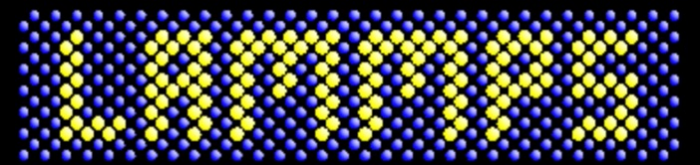




**100,000,000**  
atoms

**1.5 ns/day**

integration with



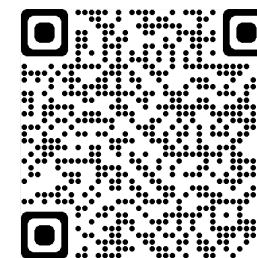


# Neural Equivariant Interatomic Potentials

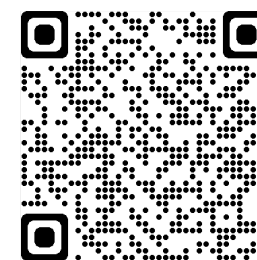
[github.com/mir-group/nequip](https://github.com/mir-group/nequip)

[github.com/mir-group/allegro](https://github.com/mir-group/allegro)

- Modular open-source framework for designing, training, testing, and deploying equivariant MLIPs
- Allegro is implemented as an extension package
- Optimized for GPUs with PyTorch
- Full TorchScript support for Python-free deployment, including to our LAMMPS plugin `pair_allegro`



NequIP



Allegro

Is our community there yet?

Transferability



Accuracy



Theory

Computational Efficiency

Sample Efficiency

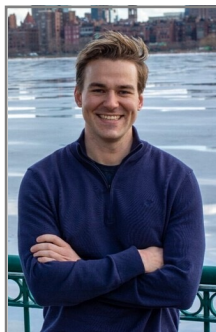


Scale: Yes

Speed: Not quite... (Allegro: 32.4 ns/day)



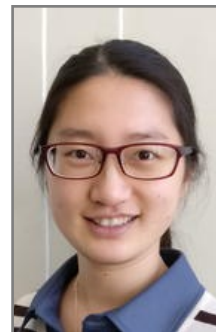
Albert Musaelian



Simon Batzner



Anders Johansson



Lixin Sun



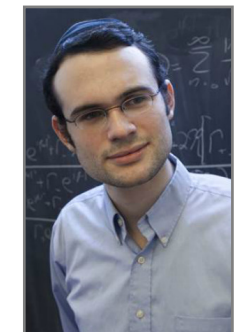
Cameron Owen



Nicola Molinari



Boris Kozinsky



Mordechai Kornbluth

**BOSCH**



Compute



Funding



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science



**BOSCH**



**Thank you!**



**Harvard** John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences