# Natural Graph Convolutions

#### Taco Cohen

Sr. Staff Engineer, Qualcomm Al Research, Qualcomm Technologies Netherlands B.V.

### Outline

- Equivariant Networks: the story so far
  - General concepts
  - Overview of equivariant networks
- Natural Graph Networks
  - Graph CNNs intro
  - Limitations
  - Graph Symmetries
  - Equivariant Message Passing
- Category theoretic formulation

# **Equivariant Networks**

The story so far

### Symmetry

#### **Definition**

"A transformation of an object that leaves the object invariant"



- In ML: symmetries of distributions, label functions, parameter spaces
- Knowledge of symmetry provides a strong inductive bias
  - Example: Laws of physics are almost completely determined by a handful of symmetries

## Invariance vs Equivariance

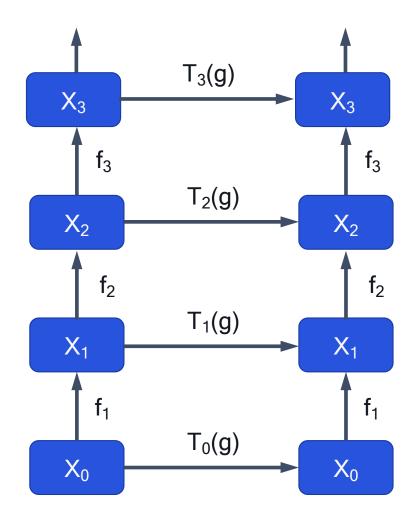


The "Picasso Problem":

Why invariance is not enough in DL

### **Equivariant Networks**

#### General setup



#### Ingredients:

- Feature spaces X<sub>i</sub>
- Maps f<sub>i</sub> between them ("Layers")
- A group G
- Group representations ("Transformation laws")
   T<sub>i</sub> of G for each feature space X<sub>i</sub>

#### Equivariance

$$f_i \circ T_{i-1}(g) = T_i(g) \circ f_i$$

### A Design Principle for Neural Network Architectures

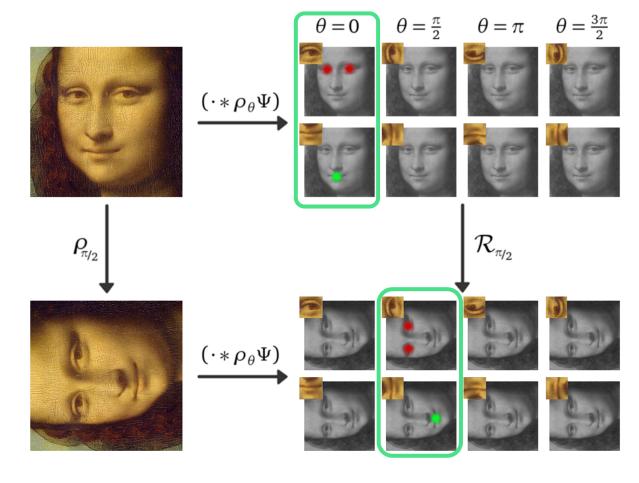
**Equivariance to Symmetry Transformations** 

#### Examples

Data	Images, Audio,	Signals on Graphs, Point Clouds	Signals on homogeneous space	Signals on manifolds / meshes
Symmetries	Translations; Rotations	Permutations	Global symmetries G	Structure group G & Gauge group Aut(P)
Architecture	CNNs; G-CNNs	Graph NNs, PointNet	Group-equivariant nets (G-CNNs)	Gauge CNNs

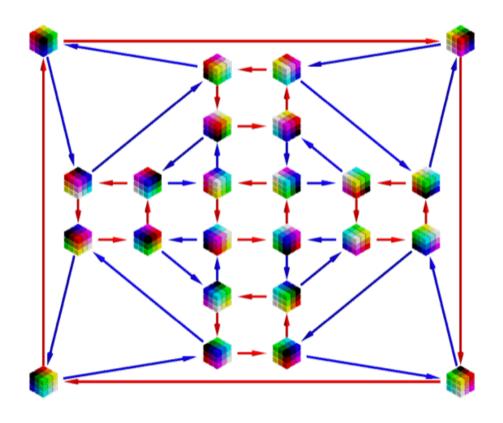
# Overview of Equivariant Nets

### Regular G-CNNs



### Regular G-CNNs in 3D

#### Application to pulmonary nodule detection in CT scans



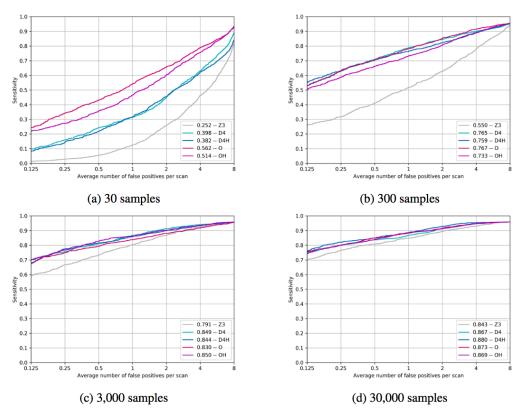
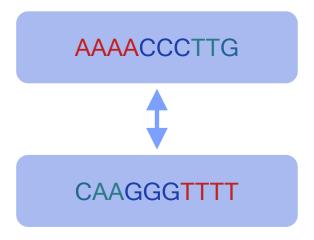


Figure 4: FROC curves for all groups per training set size.

- M. Winkels, T.S. Cohen, *Pulmonary Nodule Detection in CT Scans with Equivariant CNNs,* Medical Image Analysis, 2019
- M. Winkels, T.S. Cohen, 3D G-CNNs for Pulmonary Nodule Detection. MIDL 2018.
- D. Worrall, G. Brostow, *CubeNet: Equivariance to 3D Rotation and Translation.* ECCV 2018

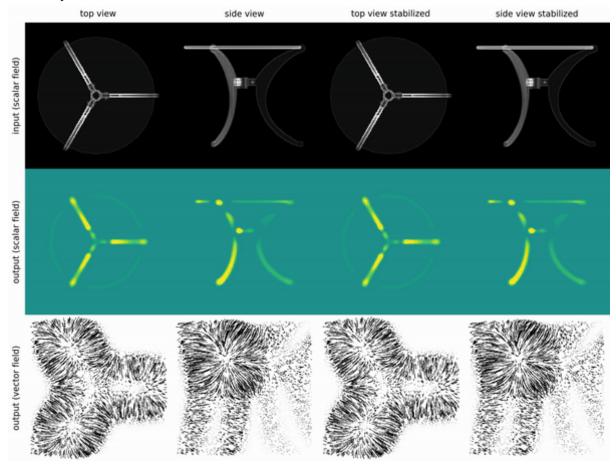
### **DNA Sequences**

Reverse-complement symmetry



- $\mathbb{Z} \rtimes C_2$  Equivariant CNN
  - Lunter, G., & Brown, R. *An Equivariant Bayesian Convolutional Network predicts recombination hotspots and accurately resolves binding motifs, Bioinformatics*, Volume 35, Issue 13, 2019

### Steerable CNNs, Harmonic & Tensor Field Networks



https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=ENLJACPHSEA

Cohen, T. S., & Welling, M. (2017). Steerable CNNs. In ICLR.

Worrall, D. E., Garbin, S. J., Turmukhambetov, D., & Brostow, G. J. (2017). Harmonic Networks: Deep Translation and Rotation Equivariance. In CVPR.

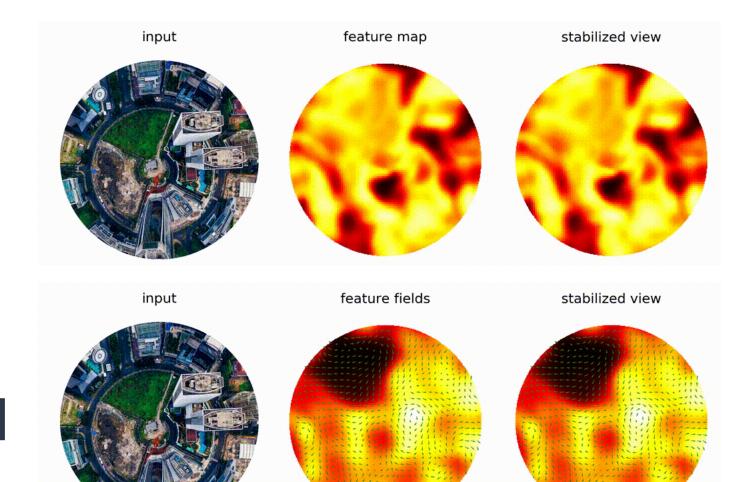
M. Weiler, W. Boomsma, M. Geiger, M. Welling, T.S. Cohen, 3D Steerable CNNs: Learning Rotationally Equivariant Features in Volumetric Data, NIPS, 2018

Thomas, N., Smidt, T., Kearnes, S., Yang, L., Li, L., Kohlhoff, K., & Riley, P. (2018). *Tensor Field Networks: Rotation- and Translation-Equivariant Neural Networks for 3D Point Clouds*. Kondor, R. (2018). *N-body Networks: a Covariant Hierarchical Neural Network Architecture for Learning Atomic Potentials. arXiv.* 

T. Son Hy, S. Trivedi, B.M. Anderson, R. Kondor (2018). *Predicting Molecular Properties with Covariant Compositional Networks,* JCP special issue on data enabled theoretical chemistry, https://atomicarchitects.github.io

### E(2) & E(3) Steerable CNN

**CNN** 

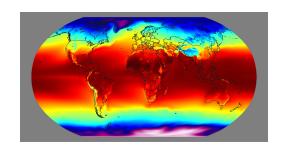


**G-CNN** 

https://github.com/QUVA-Lab/e2cnn https://github.com/e3nn/e3nn

### Spherical CNNs

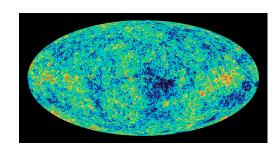
Earth sciences<sup>1</sup>



Omnidirectional vision

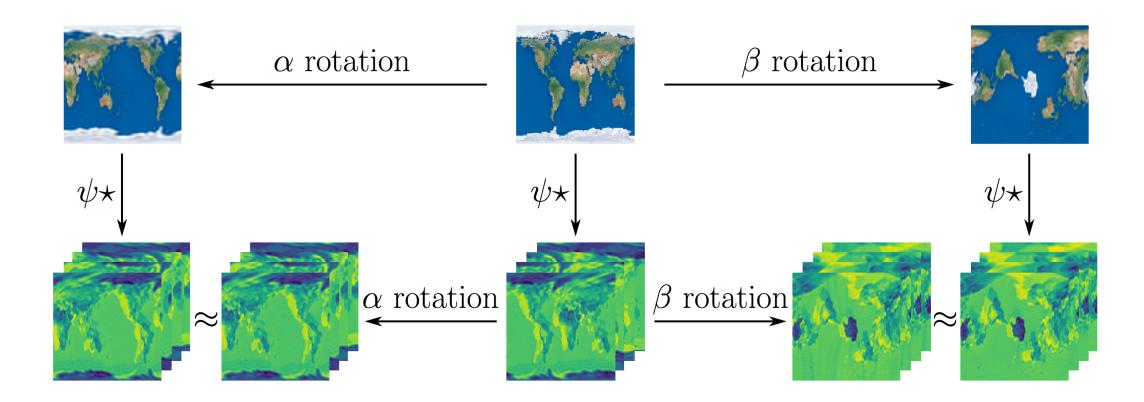




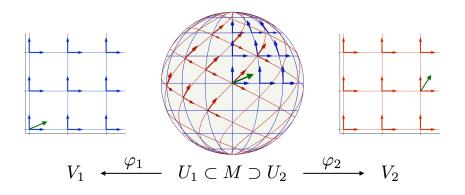


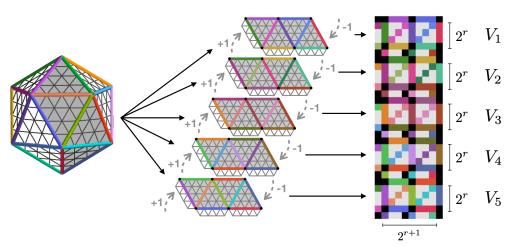
T.S. Cohen, M. Geiger, J. Koehler, M. Welling, Spherical CNNs. ICLR 2018. Esteves, C., Allen-Blanchette, C., Makadia, A., & Daniilidis, K. Learning SO(3) Equivariant Representations with Spherical CNNs, ECCV 2018. Kondor, R., Lin, Z., & Trivedi, S. Clebsch-Gordan Nets: A Fully Fourier Space Spherical Convolutional Neural Network. NeurlPS 2018 ... and many more

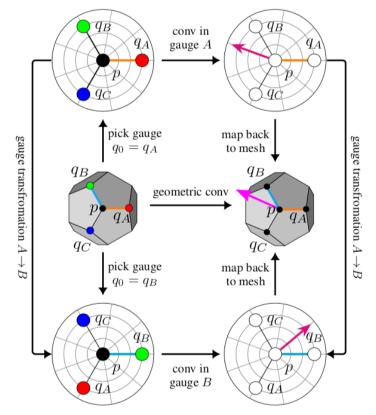
### **Equivariance of Spherical CNNs**



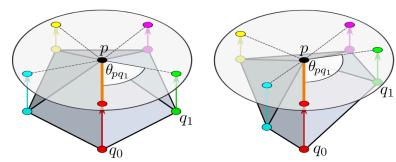
### Gauge, manifold & mesh CNNs







(b) Convolution from scalar to vector features.



D. Boscaini, J. Masci, S. Melzi, M.M. Bronstein, U. Castellani, and P. Vandergheynst, *Learning class-specific descriptors for deformable shapes using localized spectral convolutional networks.* CGF 2015 J. Masci, D. Boscaini, M.M. Bronstein, and P. Vandergheynst, *Geodesic convolutional neural networks on riemannian manifolds.* ICCVW, 2015

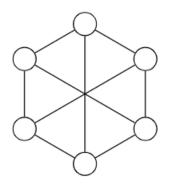
T.S. Cohen, M. Weiler, B. Kicanaoglu, M. Welling, Gauge Equivariant Convolutional Networks and the Icosahedral CNN, ICML 2019

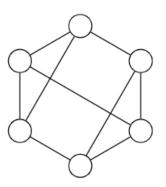
P. de Haan, M. Weiler, T. Cohen, M. Welling, Gauge Equivariant Mesh CNNs: Anisotropic convolutions on geometric graphs, 2020

B. Kicanaoglu, P. de Haan, T. Cohen, Gauge Equivariant Spherical CNNs, 2020

### **Graphs & Point Clouds**

- Point clouds are sets of points, so ordering of points is not meaningful
  - Point Nets are in/equivariant to permutations
- Graphs can be defined by a set of nodes and a set of edges, so again order is not meaningful
  - Many graph nets represent graph as a *linear structure*, i.e. adjacency matrix which can be added / scaled
  - Layers are permutation equivariant and **linear** in the node features & adjacency matrix





#### **General Theories**

#### Key questions:

- Classification of equivariant linear maps
- Universal approximation theorems

#### Homogeneous spaces:

- Kondor, R., & Trivedi, S. *On the Generalization of Equivariance and Convolution in Neural Networks to the Action of Compact Groups*. ICML 2018
- Cohen, T., Geiger, M., & Weiler, M. A General Theory of Equivariant CNNs on Homogeneous Spaces. NeurIPS 2019
- Mackey, G. W. (1968). Induced Representations of Groups and Quantum Mechanics.

#### General manifolds / Gauge CNNs:

Coming soon to an ArXiv near you

#### Graphs, sets & other discrete structures

- Maron, H., Fetaya, E., Segol, N., & Lipman, Y. On the Universality of Invariant Networks. ICML 2019
- Segol, N., & Lipman, Y. (2019). On Universal Equivariant Set Networks. *ArXiv:1910.02421*.
- Keriven, N., & Peyré, G. (2019). Universal Invariant and Equivariant Graph Neural Networks. NeurIPS 2019
- Ravanbakhsh, S. (2020). Universal Equivariant Multilayer Perceptrons. ArXiv:2002.02912
- Thiede, E. H., Hy, T. S., & Kondor, R. (2020). The general theory of permutation equivariant neural networks and higher order graph variational encoders. *ArXiv:2004.03990*.

20

# Natural Graph Networks

#### Collaboration



Pim de Haan
Qualcomm Al Research
Qualcomm Technologies Netherlands B.V.
University of Amsterdam



Taco Cohen
Qualcomm Al Research
Qualcomm Technologies Netherlands B.V.

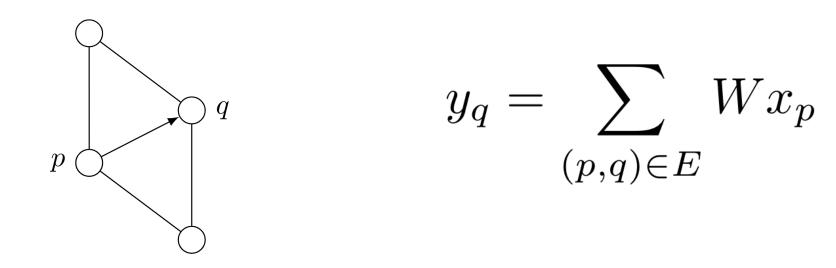


Max Welling
Qualcomm Al Research
QUVA, University of Amsterdam
CIFAR
Qualcomm Technologies Netherlands B.V.

### **Graph Neural Networks**

- Graphs are everywhere:
  - World wide web
  - Telecommunication networks
  - Social networks
  - Molecular graphs
  - Knowledge graphs
  - Road maps
  - Protein interaction networks
  - •
- Fully-connected Neural networks are good at processing vectors (no symmetry)
- (G-)CNNs are good at processing spatial *signals* (geometrical symmetries)
- For graphs, we need graph networks that respect the relevant symmetries

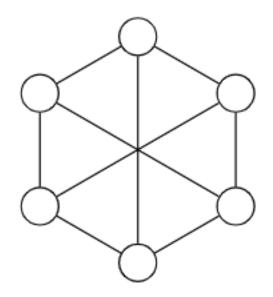
### **Graph Convolutional Neural Networks**

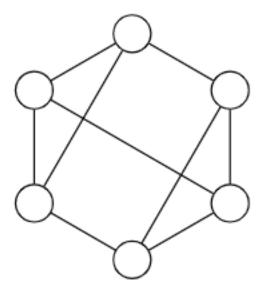


- Pass messages to neighbours on the graph
- Linear function

### Limits of conventional Graph CNNs

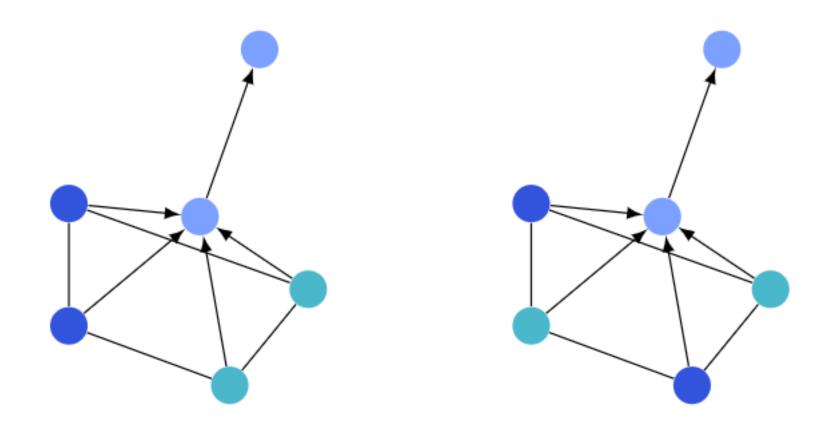
Fail on regular graphs





Xu et al: How Powerful are Graph Neural Networks? (2018)

#### Source-aware features



• Detecting difference requires feature to remember where message came from

#### **Conventional Graph CNNs**

$$y_q = \sum_{pq \in E} W x_p$$

Same kernel on each edge
Invariant under permutation of neighbours
Kernel independent on graph
Kernel restricted by permutation group
Limited expressivity

#### **Natural Graph Networks**

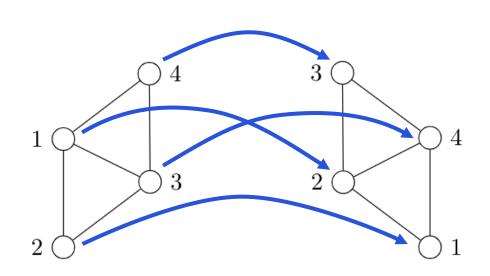
$$y_q = \sum_{pq \in E} K_{pq}^{\mathcal{G}} x_p$$

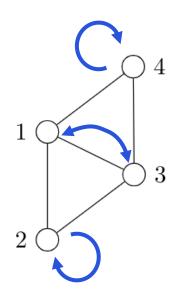
Different kernel on different edges
Sensitive to permutations of neighbours
Kernel depends on graph
Kernel restricted by symmetry of graph
Most general convolution

### Graph Equivalences & Symmetries

Graph isomorphism

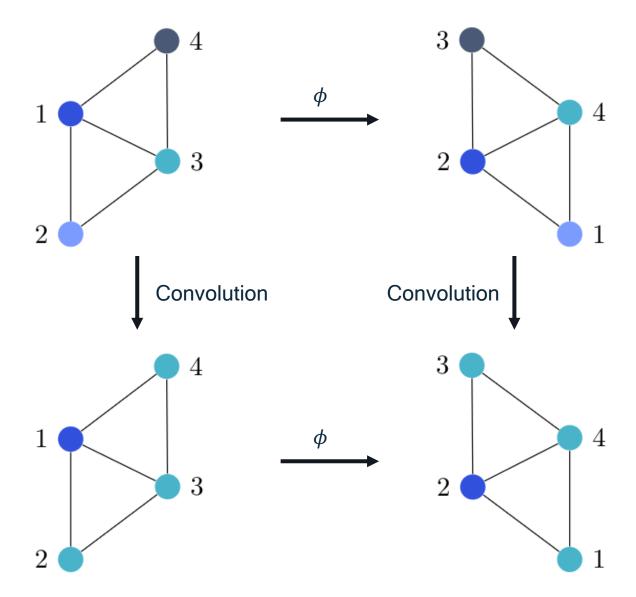
$$\phi: \mathcal{G} \to \mathcal{G}', \ \phi: V \xrightarrow{\sim} V' \text{ s.t. } (p,q) \in E \Leftrightarrow (\phi(p), \phi(q)) \in E'$$



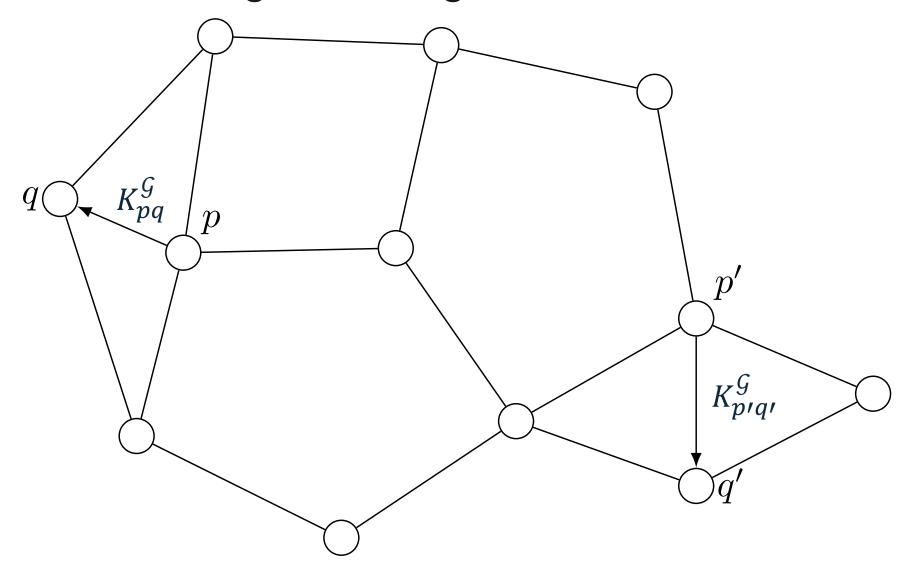


Automorphism = Symmetry

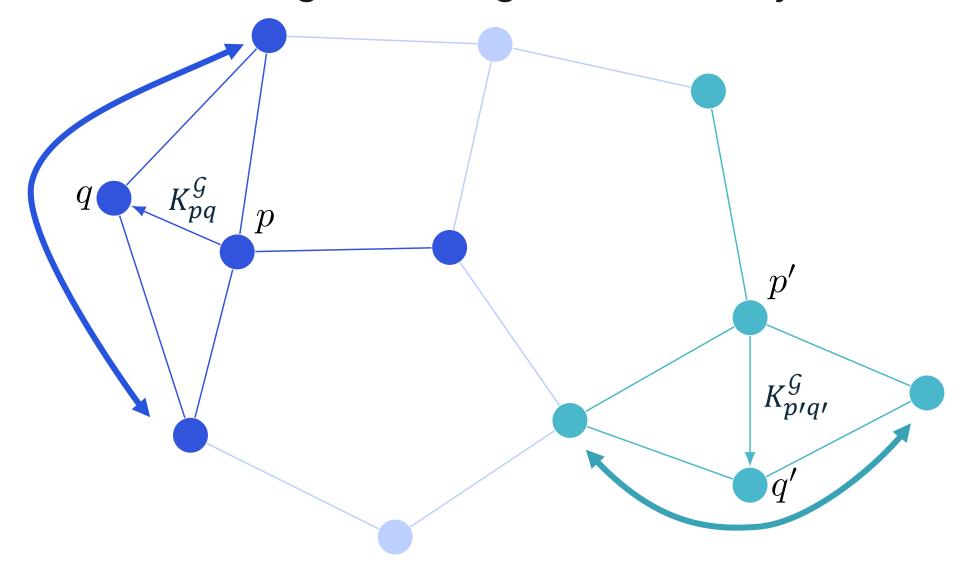
# Equivariance



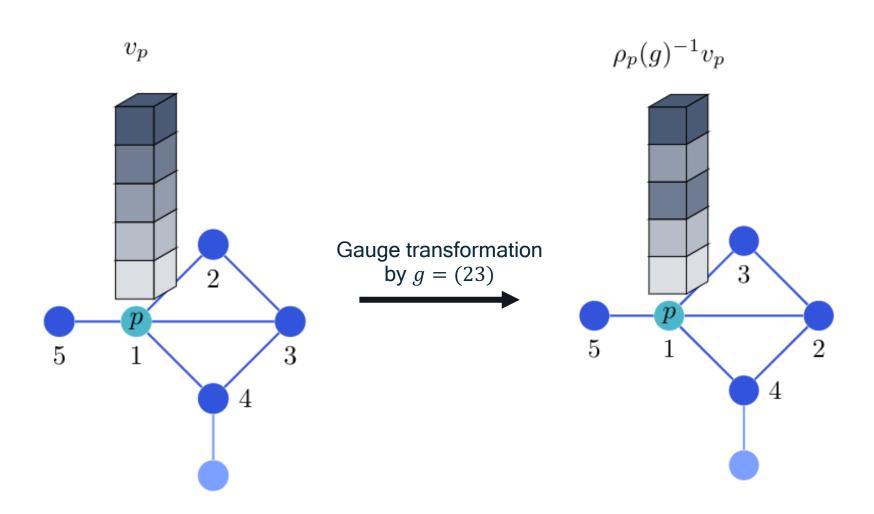
## **Equivariant Message Passing**



### Equivariant Message Passing with Local Symmetries



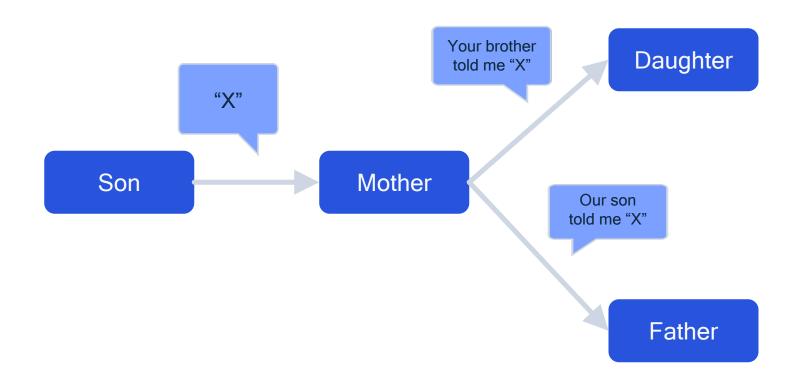
### Feature space: neighbourhood gauges

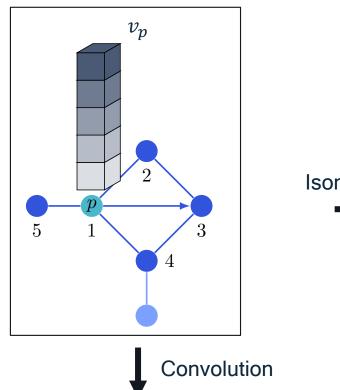


Kondor et al: Covariant Compositional Networks For Learning Graphs (2018)

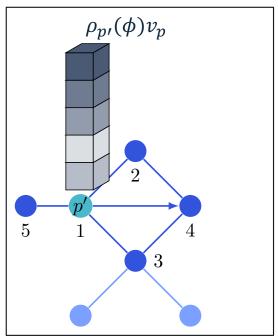
Cohen et al: Gauge Equivariant CNNs (2019)

# Analogy

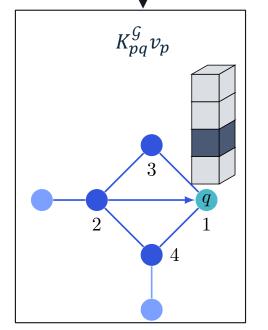




### Isomorphism

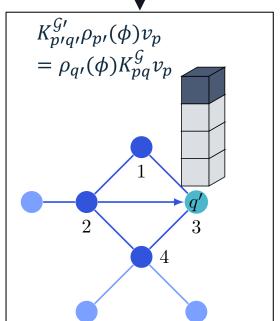


# Isomorphism: Weight sharing

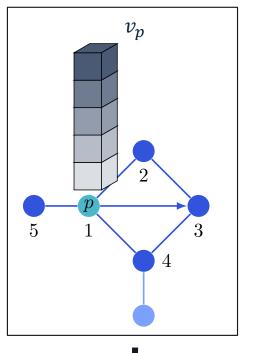




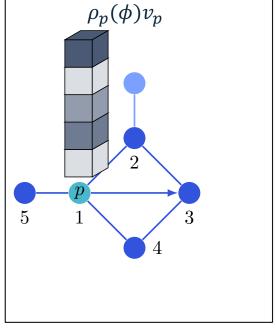




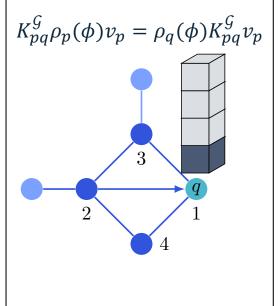
$$K_{p'q'}^{\mathcal{G}'} = \rho_{q'}(\phi) K_{pq}^{\mathcal{G}} \rho_{p'}(\phi)^{-1}$$



### Automorphism



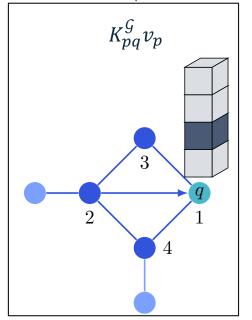




### Automorphism: Kernel Constraint

$$K_{pq}^{\mathcal{G}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & z \\ \cdot & x & \cdot & y & z \\ \cdot & y & \cdot & x & z \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & z \end{pmatrix}$$





Automorphism

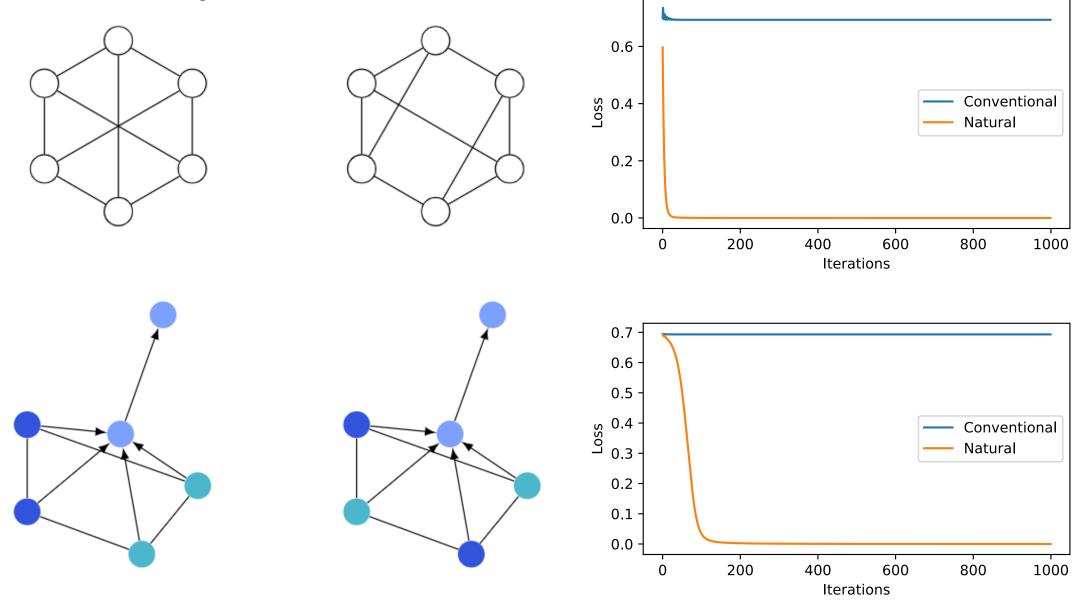
### Algorithm

- Precompute:
- 1. Define node and edge neighbourhoods
- 2. Classify edge neighbourhood isomorphism classes
- 3. Compute edge automorphisms
- 4. Solve kernel constraint, initialise params
- During training:
- 1. Linearly combine kernel solutions using parameters
- 2. Transport kernels by isomorphisms
- 3. Compute convolution

### Relation to prior work

- Node neighbourhood trivial ⇒ graph CNN
- Rectangular grid / icosahedral graph ⇒ planar / icosahedral equivariant CNN
  - Cohen & Welling: Group Equivariant Convolutional Networks (2016)
  - Cohen et al: Gauge Equivariant Convolutional Networks and the Icosahedral CNN (2019)
- Kondor et al: Covariant Compositional Networks For Learning Graphs (2018)
  - Node neighbourhood size increases by depth
  - Kernel constrained by permutation group, instead of automorphism group
- Maron et al: Invariant and Equivariant Graph Networks (2019)
  - Represents entire graph as linear structure with permutation equivariance
  - Not message passing algorithm

## Synthetic experiments



# Preliminary Experiment: QM9 molecule predictions

	ENN-S2S Gilmer et al (2017)	CCN Kondor et al (2018)	IncidenceNet Albooyeh et al (2019)	Ours
CV	0.040	0.23	0.019	0.027
G	0.019	0.29	0.001	0.010
gap	0.069	0.54	0.073	0.07
H	0.017	0.30	0.001	0.012
LUMO	0.037	0.53	0.049	0.05
R2	0.180	0.19	0.010	0.040
U	0.019	0.29	0.001	0.012
U0	0.019	0.29	0.001	0.009
ZPVE	0.0015	0.39	0.006	0.0075
Average rank	2.3	4	1.4	2.2

### Natural Graph Networks: Summary

- Graph networks must respect graph symmetries
- Graph symmetries = autmomorphisms ≠ permutation of nodes
- Exploting local symmetries leads to more powerful graph networks

# Mathematical Theory

Category Theory: The Future of Deep Learning & Al

## **Category Theoretic Formulation**

#### General description of:

- Natural Graph Networks
- Homogeneous G-CNNs
- Gauge CNNs

#### Basic ingredients:

- Category C of node neighbourhoods
  - Objects: "points with associated data", arrows: "ways of transporting data between (some) points"
- Category D of edge neighbourhoods
  - Objects: "messages", arrows: "local symmetry / weight sharing"
- Functors F0, F1 : D -> C, that map edge to source/target
  - Maps message to source/target, maps arrows in D to arrows in C
- Principal groupoid P and category A of associated feature spaces on nodes
  - Functor T: C -> P (equivariant path lifting)
  - Functor R: P -> A (associated vector bundle functor; defines representation space)
- Network layer is a natural transformation  $K: R \circ T \circ F_0 \Rightarrow R \circ T \circ F_1$

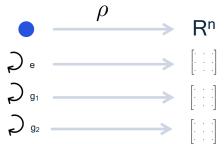
#### Category

- Objects Ob(C)
- Morphisms / arrows f : a -> b
- Associative composition rule
- Identity morphisms

# Equivariance: it's only natural

Group: a category with one object in which each morphism is an isomorphism

Linear representation: a functor from group G to the category of vector spaces



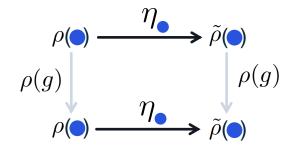
Associates to each object of G an object of Vec

Associates to each arrow of G an arrow of Vec, such that composition is preserved:

$$\rho(g)\rho(g') = \rho(gg')$$

• Equivariant linear map: natural transformation between functors (representations)

Associates to each object of G an arrow of Vec, such that for every morphism g in G, we have:





### The category of node neighbourhoods

- Given graph G = (V, E)
- Define a category C:
  - Ob( C ) = V
    - With each node, associate a neighbourhood (chosen in a consistent manner)
  - Introduce an arrow x -> y for each isomorphism from the neighbourhood of x to the neighbourhood of y that maps x to y.
    - "Rooted isomorphisms"
    - For given objects x, y, there could be n >= 0 such arrows.

#### Note:

- Arrows must be composable; in this case this is defined as composition of graph isomorphisms.
- The category includes at least one arrow x -> x for each node x (the identity).
  - Additionally, when the neighbourhood has symmetries, it includes arrows x -> x for each neighbourhood automorphism
- The category C is a groupoid, because all arrows are isomorphisms

### The category of edge neighbourhoods

- Given graph G = (V, E)
- Define a category D:
  - Ob( D ) = E
    - With each edge, associate a neighbourhood (chosen in a consistent manner)
  - Introduce an arrow e -> e' for each isomorphism from the neighbourhood of e to the neighbourhood of e'.
    - For given e, e', there could be n >= 0 such arrows.

#### Note:

- Arrows must be composable; in this case this is defined as composition of graph isomorphisms.
- The category includes at least one arrow e -> e for each edge e (the identity).
  - Additionally, when the neighbourhood has symmetries, it includes arrows e -> e for each neighbourhood automorphism
- The category D is a groupoid, because all arrows are isomorphisms

# Source & Target Functors

- Define two functors  $F_0, F_1: D \to C$
- Functor maps both objects and arrows: Let  $e:x\to y$  and  $e':x'\to y'$  be isomorphic objects in D (i.e. edges with iso neighbourhoods)

	F <sub>0</sub>	F <sub>1</sub>
Map on objects	$F_0(e) = x$	$F_1(e) = y$
Map on arrows	$F_0(e \to e') = x \to x'$	$F_1(e \to e') = y \to y'$

- Check functor axioms:
  - Maps objects of D to objects of C (edge neighbourhoods to node neighbourhoods)
  - Maps morphisms of D to morphisms of C (edge isos tot node isos), such that:
    - $F(f \circ g) = F(f) \circ F(g)$
    - F(id e) = id F(e)
- Node neighbourhood should be a subset of edge neighbourhood, so that there is a natural definition of  $F_0$ ,  $F_1$  by restriction of graph isomorphism.

#### Principal and Associated Bundles

- Principal bundle groupoid P:
  - Ob(P) =  $(P_x, G_x)$  for x in ob(C).  $P_x$  contains all neighbourhood labelings.  $G_x$  permutes labels.
  - Morphisms are equivariant maps  $P_x \rightarrow P_{x'}$  plus group homomorphisms  $G_x \rightarrow G_{x'}$
- Transport functor T : C -> P
  - Lifts edges to equivariant maps
- Associated bundle A:
  - Associates with each node x in ob(C) a feature space V<sub>x</sub>, acted on by a representation rho of G<sub>x</sub>
- Representation functor R : P -> A

## **Network Layer: Natural Transformations**

- Kernel is a natural transformation between functors:
  - Source feature space:  $Q_0 = R \circ T \circ F_0$
  - Target feature space:  $Q_1 = R \circ T \circ F_1$
  - Natural transformation:  $K:Q_0\Rightarrow Q_1$
- Definition of natural transformation:
  - K assigns to each object e = (x, y) of D a morphism (linear map)  $K_e:Q_0(e) o Q_1(e)$
  - Such that the following diagram commutes (naturality)

$$Q_0(e) \xrightarrow{K_e} Q_1(e)$$

$$\downarrow^{Q_0\xi} \qquad \downarrow^{Q_1\xi}$$

$$Q_0(e') \xrightarrow{K_{e'}} Q_1(e')$$

• For all edge isomorphisms  $\xi: e 
ightarrow e'$ 

# Application to Homogeneous & Gauge CNNs

- The same framework describes homogeneous G-CNNs and Gauge CNNs
  - Choice of C determines where the data lives
  - Choice of D determines how messages are passed (objects) and how weights are shared (morphisms)

#### Homogeneous case:

- C : points x in a manifold with morphisms x -> gx for g in G
- D: pairs (x, y), with morphisms (x, y) -> (gx, gy)
- R : induced representation functor
- K: natural transformation = intertwiner between induced representation (= conv layer)

#### Gauge CNN case:

- C : points x in a manifold with morphisms x -> y paths
- D : geodesics x -> y
- R, T: associated vector bundle, parallel transport
- K: natural transformation = gauge invariant linear map

#### Conclusions

- Equivariance is a natural design principle for neural networks
  - Applicable to planar images, signals on homogeneous spaces & manifolds, graphs, etc.
- New framework: natural graph networks
  - Fundamentally more flexible than invariant message passing methods
- Mathematical theory
  - Categorical formulation
  - Opens up a large design space for natural networks
  - Covers graphs, homogeneous spaces, general manifolds, and more in a uniform manner



www: ta.co.nl

Twitter: @TacoCohen

# Thank you

Follow us on: **f y** in **©** 

For more information, visit us at:

www.qualcomm.com & www.qualcomm.com/blog

Nothing in these materials is an offer to sell any of the components or devices referenced herein.

©2018-2020 Qualcomm Technologies, Inc. and/or its affiliated companies. All Rights Reserved.

Qualcomm is a trademark of Qualcomm Incorporated, registered in the United States and other countries. Other products and brand names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners.

References in this presentation to "Qualcomm" may mean Qualcomm Incorporated, Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., and/or other subsidiaries or business units within the Qualcomm corporate structure, as applicable. Qualcomm Incorporated includes Qualcomm's licensing business, QTL, and the vast majority of its patent portfolio. Qualcomm Technologies, Inc.,

a wholly-owned subsidiary of Qualcomm Incorporated, operates, along with its subsidiaries, substantially all of Qualcomm's engineering, research and development functions, and substantially all of its product and services businesses, including its semiconductor business, QCT.