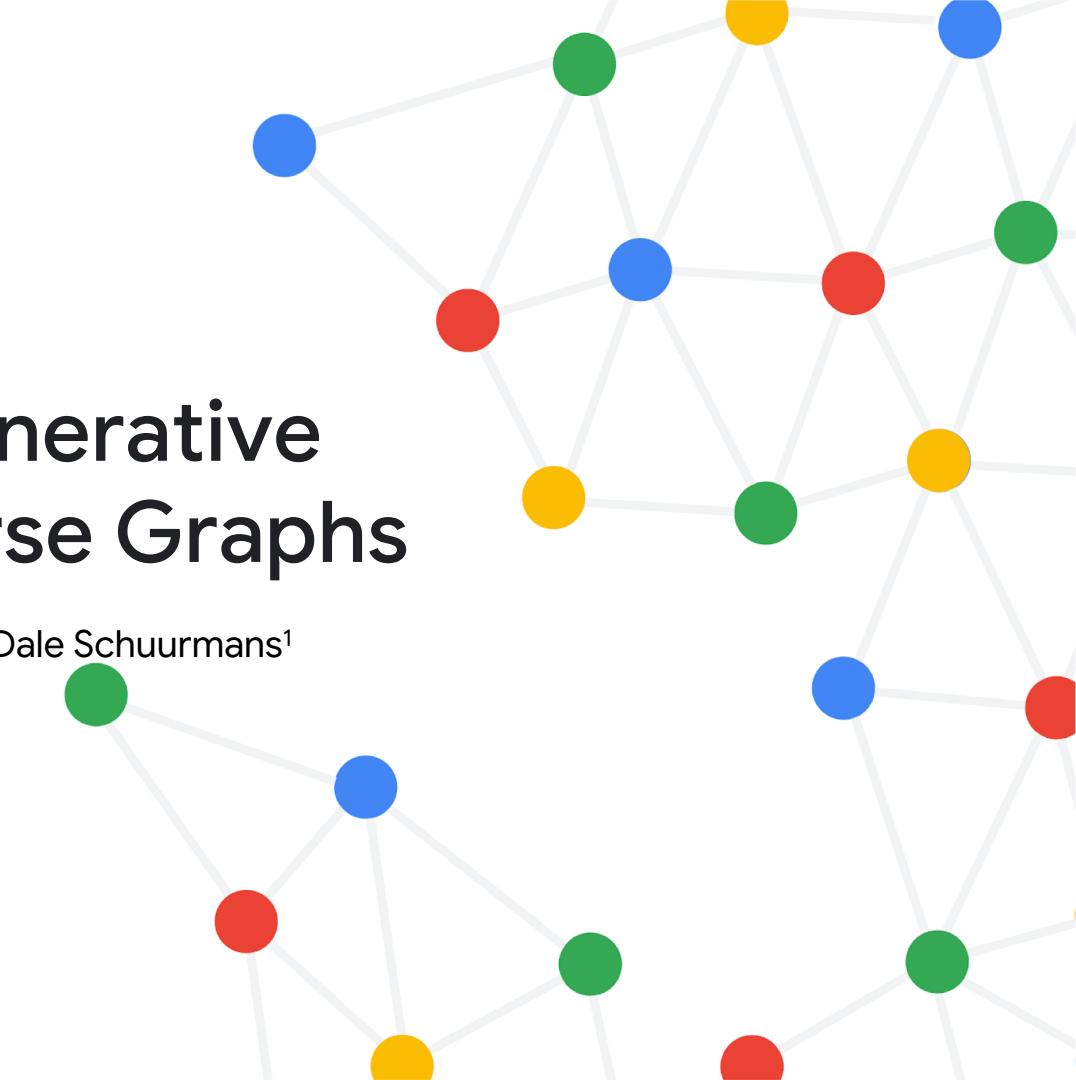


# Scalable Deep Generative Modeling for Sparse Graphs

Hanjun Dai<sup>1</sup>, Azadeh Nazi<sup>1</sup>, Yujia Li<sup>2</sup>, Bo Dai<sup>1</sup>, Dale Schuurmans<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Google Brain, <sup>2</sup>DeepMind

Google Research



# Graph generative models

Given a set of graphs  $\{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_N\}$ , fit a probabilistic model  $p(G)$  over graphs.

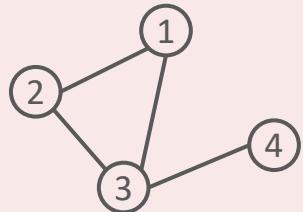
So that we can:

- sample from it to get new graphs:  $G \sim p(G)$
- complete a graph given parts:  $G_{\text{rest}} \sim p(G_{\text{rest}} \mid G_{\text{part}})$
- obtain graph representations

Can also be used for structured prediction  $p(G|z)$ .

# Types of deep graph generative models

Leverage the sparse  
structure of graphs

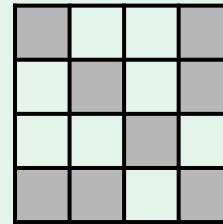


Junction-Tree VAE (Jin et al., 18)

NetGAN (Bojchevski et al., 18)

Deep GraphGen (Li et al., 18)

Modeling adjacency  
matrix directly  
⇒ like an image



VAE (Kipf et al 16,  
Simonovsky et al. 18)  
Autoregressive (You et al., 18;  
Liao et al., 19)

# Autoregressive graph generative models

Time complexity per graph during inference:

Model	Complexity (n nodes, m edges)	Scalability
Deep GraphGen (Li et al., 18)	$O((m + n)^2)$	~100 nodes
GraphRNN (You et al., 18)	$O(n^2)$	~2,000 nodes
GRAN (Liao et al., 19)	$O(n^2)$	~5,000 nodes
BiGG (Dai et al., 20)	$O((m + n) \log n)$	~100,000 nodes



This work



Or  $O(n^2)$  for fully connected graph

# Autoregressive graph generative models

Time/memory complexity per graph during training:

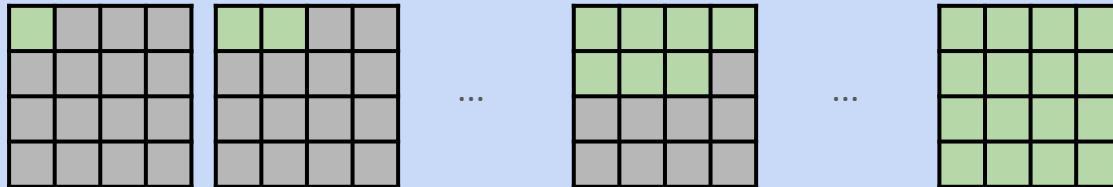
Model	# syncs during training	memory cost
Deep GraphGen (Li et al., 18)	$O(m)$	$O(m(m+n))$
GraphRNN (You et al., 18)	$O(n^2)$ or $O(n)$	$O(n^2)$
GRAN (Liao et al., 19)	$O(n)$	$O(n(m+n))$
BiGG (Dai et al., 20)	$O(\log n)$	$O(\sqrt{m \log n})$



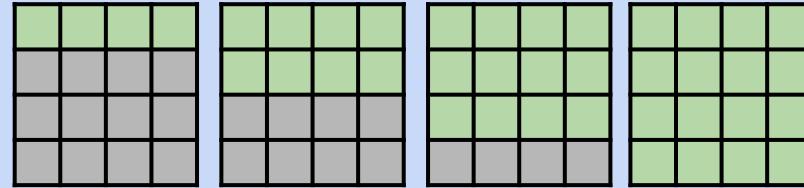
This work

# Saving computation for sparse graphs

GraphRNN  
 $O(n^2)$



GRAN, GraphRNN-S  
 $O(n^2)$



BiGG (this work)  
 $O((m + n) \log n)$



# Autoregressive Generation of adjacency matrix

01 Generating one cell

02 Generating one row

03 Generating rows

# Autoregressive Generation of adjacency matrix

**01** Generating one cell

**02** Generating one row

**03** Generating rows

# $O(\log n)$ procedure for generating one edge

**Naive approach:**

Given node  $u$ ,  
choose a neighbor  $v$ .

Choose 1 out of  $n$  using a softmax

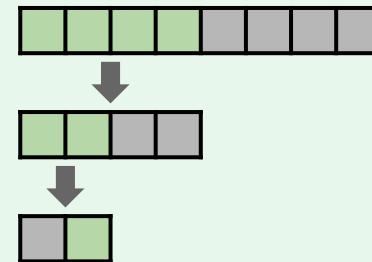
$O(n)$



**Efficient approach:**

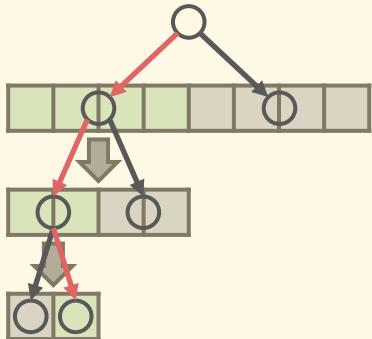
Recursively divide the range  $[1, n]$   
into two halves, choose one.

$O(\log n)$  decisions maximum



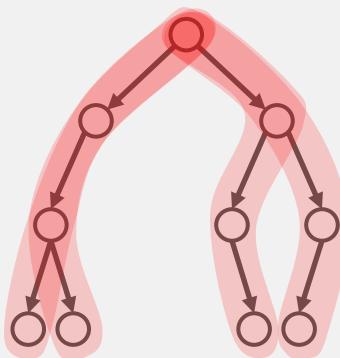
# Binary tree generation

Following a path from root



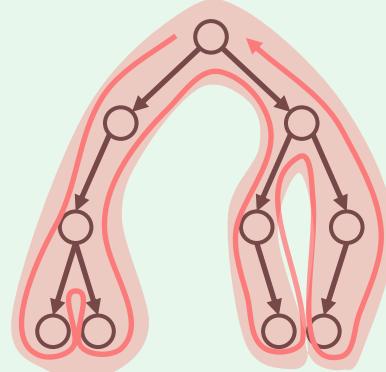
$O(\log n)$

Generating neighbors separately?



$O(N_u \log n)$   
 $N_u$  is the number of  
neighbors of node  $u$

Generating via DFS



$O(|T|)$   
 $|T|$  is the tree size.  
 $|T| < \min\{N_u \log n, 2n\}$

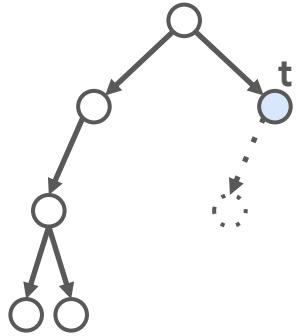
# Autoregressive Generation of adjacency matrix

01 Generating one cell

02 **Generating one row**

03 Generating rows

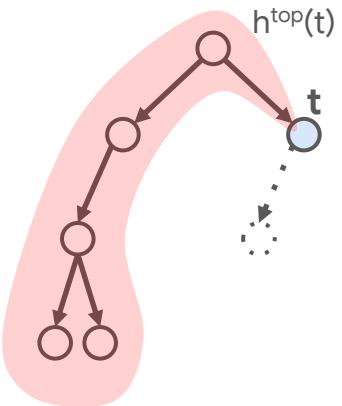
# Autoregressive row-binary tree generation



For node **t**, we first decide whether to generate left child.

```
def generate_tree(t):  
    should generate left child?
```

# Autoregressive row-binary tree generation



For node  $t$ , we first decide whether to generate left child.

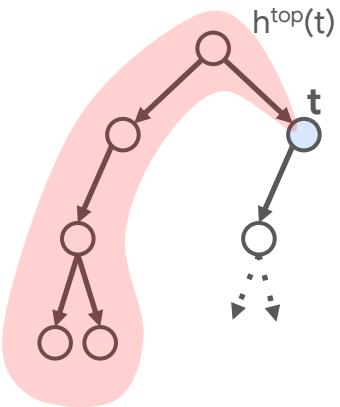
⇒ Generate left child:

Conditioning on  $h^{\text{top}}(t)$ , which summarizes existing tree (from top-down)

Has-left  $\sim \text{Bernoulli}(\circ | h^{\text{top}}(t))$

```
def generate_tree(t):\n    should generate left child?
```

# Autoregressive row-binary tree generation



For node  $t$ , we first decide whether to generate left child.

⇒ Generate left child:

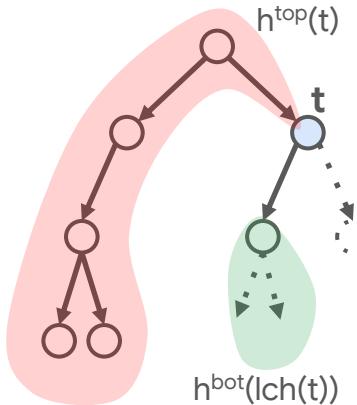
Conditioning on  $h^{\text{top}}(t)$ , which summarizes existing tree (from top-down)

Has-left  $\sim \text{Bernoulli}(\circ | h^{\text{top}}(t))$

Yes? ⇒ Recursively generate left subtree

```
def generate_tree(t):
    should generate left child?
    if yes:
        create left child
        generate_tree(lch(t))
```

# Autoregressive row-binary tree generation



For node  $t$ , we first decide whether to generate left child.

⇒ Generate left child:

Conditioning on  $h^{\text{top}}(t)$ , which summarizes existing tree (from top-down)

Has-left  $\sim \text{Bernoulli}(\circ | h^{\text{top}}(t))$

Yes? ⇒ Recursively generate left subtree

⇒ Generate right child:

Conditioning on  $h^{\text{top}}(t)$ , and  $h^{\text{bot}}(\text{lch}(t))$ , which summarizes the left subtree of  $t$  (from bottom-up)

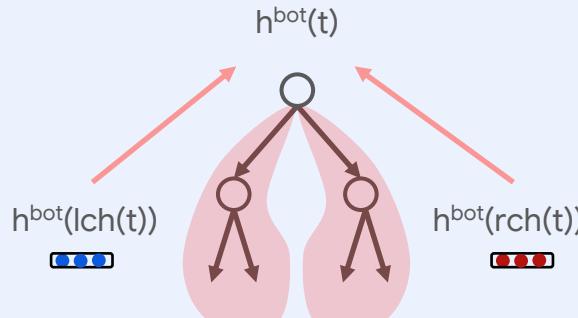
Has-right  $\sim \text{Bernoulli}(\circ | h^{\text{top}}(t), h^{\text{bot}}(\text{lch}(t)))$

Yes? ⇒ Recursively generate right subtree

```
def generate_tree(t):
    should generate left child?
    if yes:
        create left child
        generate_tree(lch(t))
    should generate right child?
    if yes:
        create right child
        generate_tree(rch(t))
```

# Realize top-down and bottom-up recursion

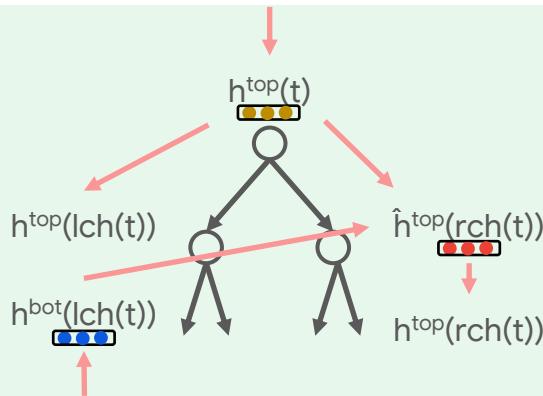
$$h^{bot}(t) = \text{TreeLSTMCell}(\text{blue dots}, \text{red dots})$$



$$h^{top}(lch(t)) = \text{LSTMCell}(\text{yellow dots}, \overrightarrow{e_{left}})$$

$$\hat{h}^{top}(rch(t)) = \text{TreeLSTMCell}(\text{yellow dots}, \text{blue dots})$$

$$h^{top}(rch(t)) = \text{LSTMCell}(\text{red dots}, \overrightarrow{e_{right}})$$



# Autoregressive Generation of adjacency matrix

01 Generating one cell

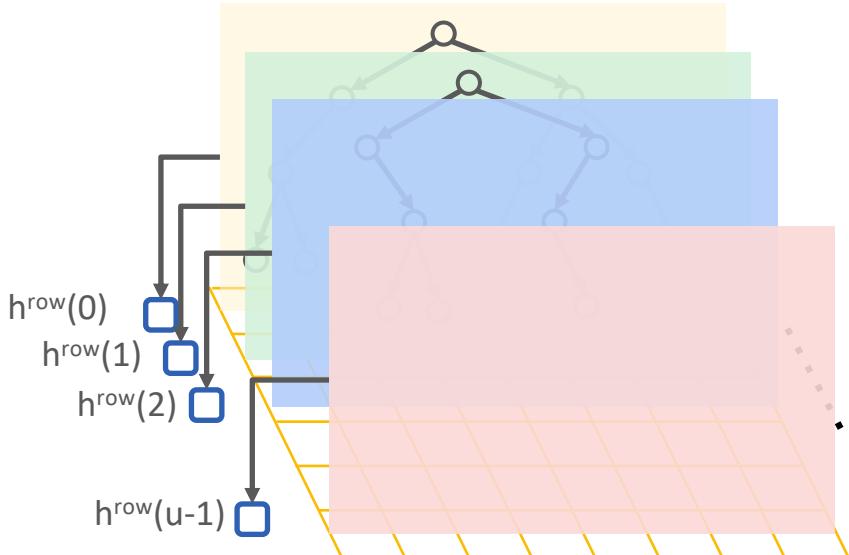
02 Generating one row

03 **Generating rows**

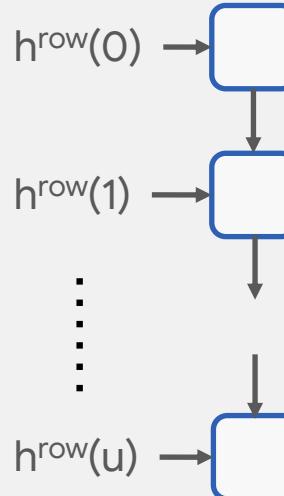
# Autoregressive conditioning between rows

To generate neighbors of node  $u$ , (i.e.,  $u$ -th row)

How to summarize row<sub>0</sub> to row<sub>u-1</sub>?



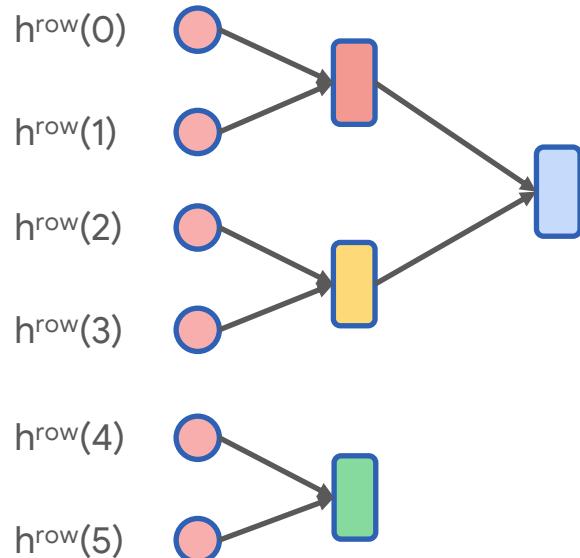
Use LSTM? – not efficient



$O(n)$  dependency length

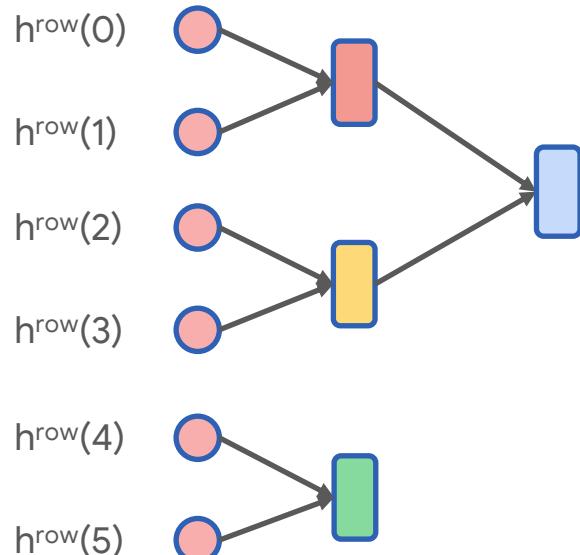
# Fenwick tree for prefix summarization

Fenwick tree: data structure that supports prefix sum and single modification



# Fenwick tree for prefix summarization

Fenwick tree: data structure that supports prefix sum and single modification

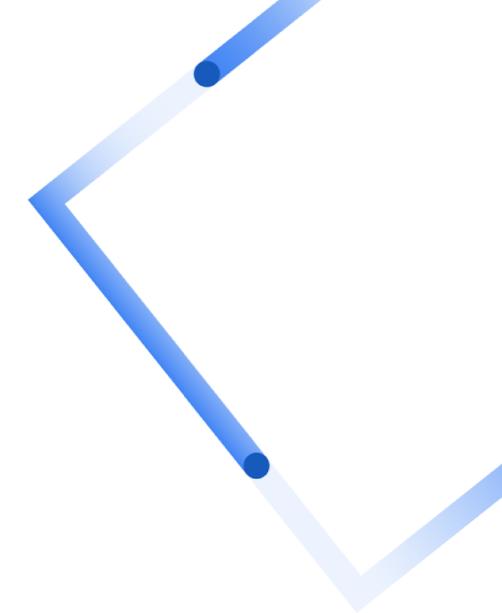


Obtaining “prefix sum” using low-bit query

Current row u	Required Context
$u = 3$	+ $h^{\text{row}}(2)$
$u = 5$	+ $h^{\text{row}}(4)$
$u = 6$	+

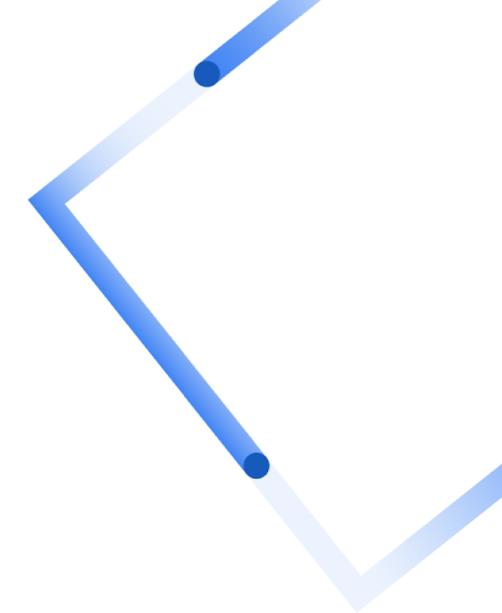
At most  $O(\log n)$  dependencies per row

# Optimizing BiGG



- 01 Training with  $O(\log n)$  synchronizations
- 02 Model parallelism & sublinear memory cost

# Optimizing BiGG



**01 Training with  $O(\log n)$  synchronizations**

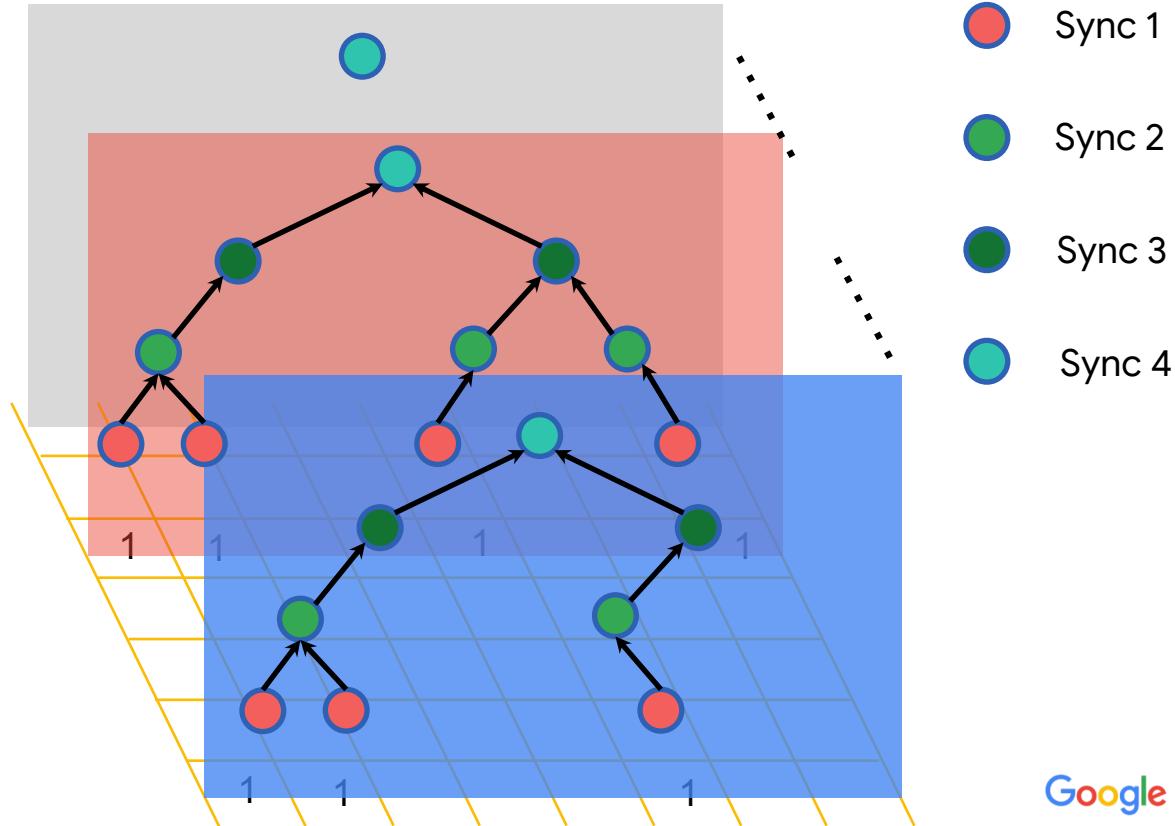
**02 Model parallelism & sublinear memory cost**

# Training with $O(\log n)$ synchronizations

## Stage 1:

Compute all bottom-up summarizations for all rows

$O(\log n)$  steps

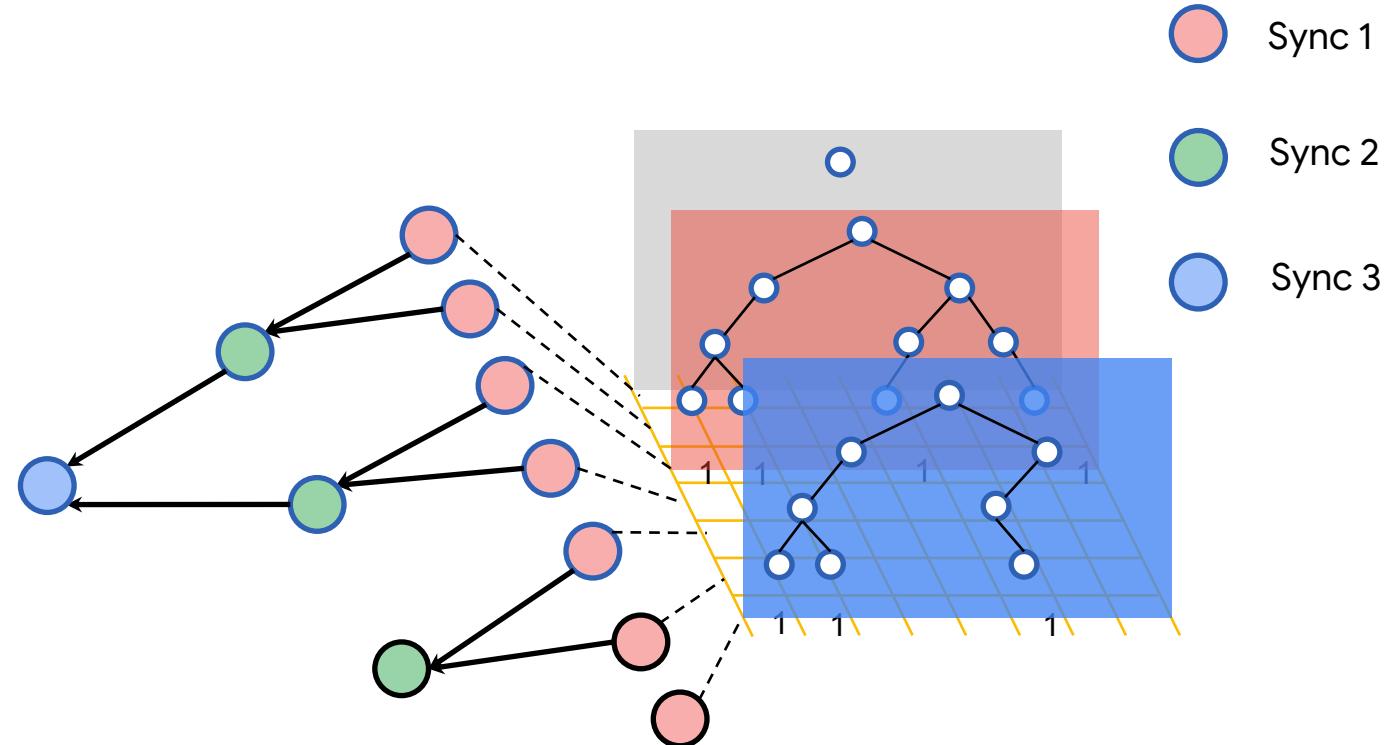


# Training with $O(\log n)$ synchronizations

Stage 2:

Construct  
entire  
Fenwick Tree

$O(\log n)$  steps

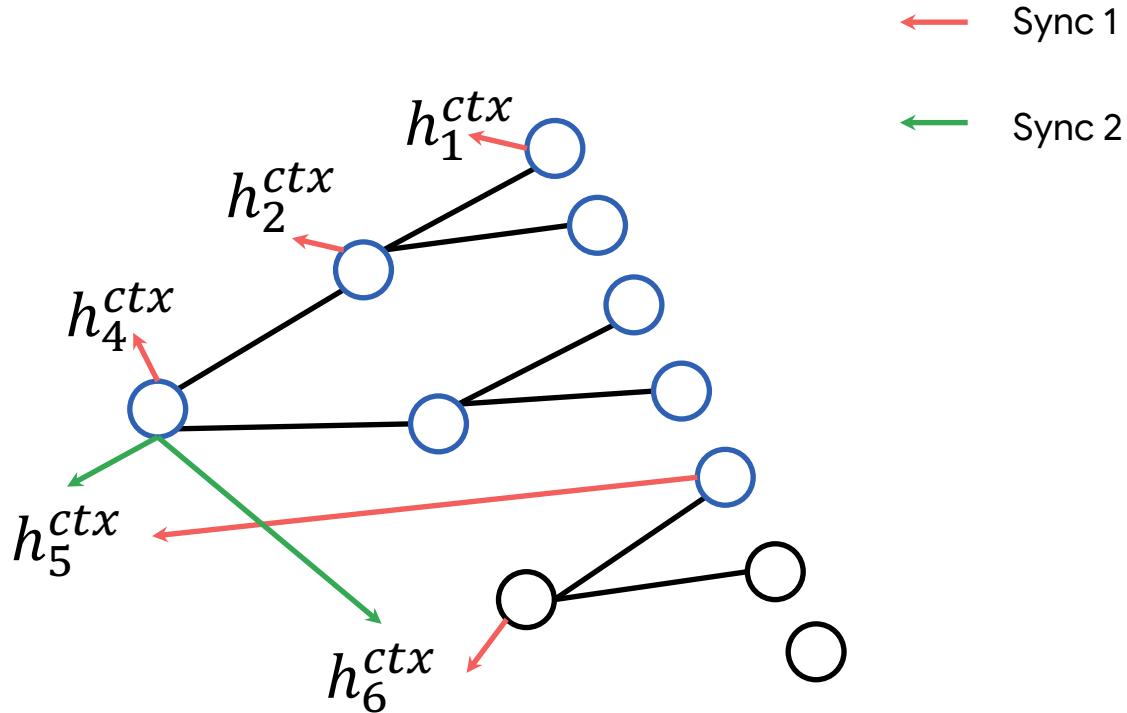


# Training with $O(\log n)$ synchronizations

Stage 3:

Retrieve all the prefix context

$O(\log n)$  steps

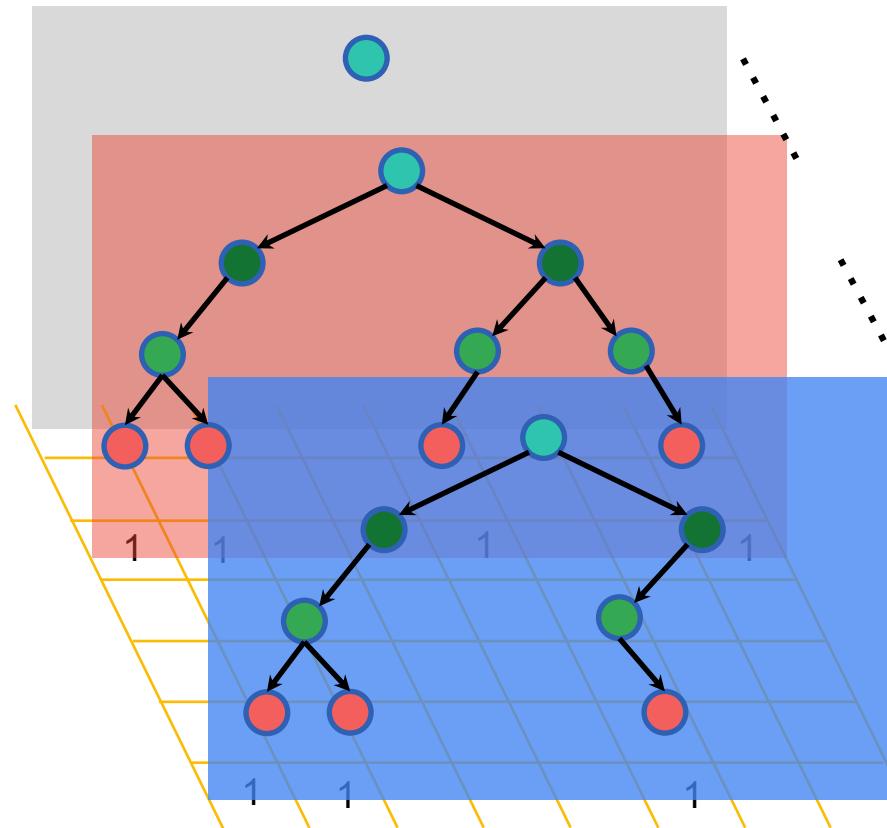


# Training with $O(\log n)$ synchronizations

Stage 4:

Compute  
Cross-Entropy

$O(\log n)$  steps



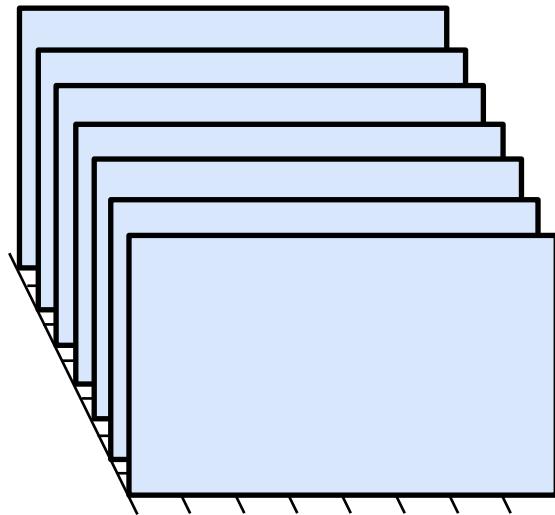
- Sync 1
- Sync 2
- Sync 3
- Sync 4

# Optimizing BiGG

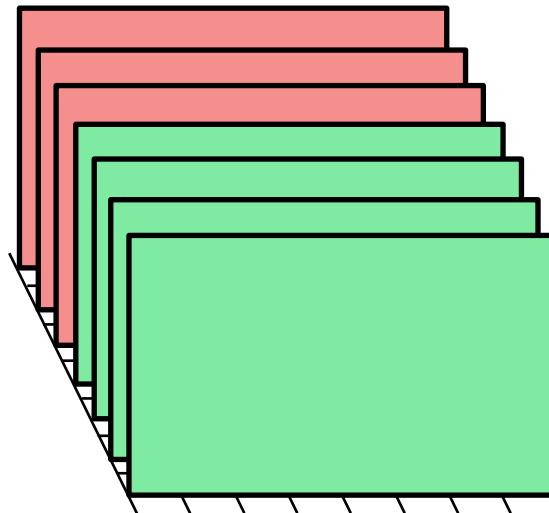
01 Training with  $O(\log n)$  synchronizations

02 **Model parallelism & sublinear memory cost**

# Model parallelism

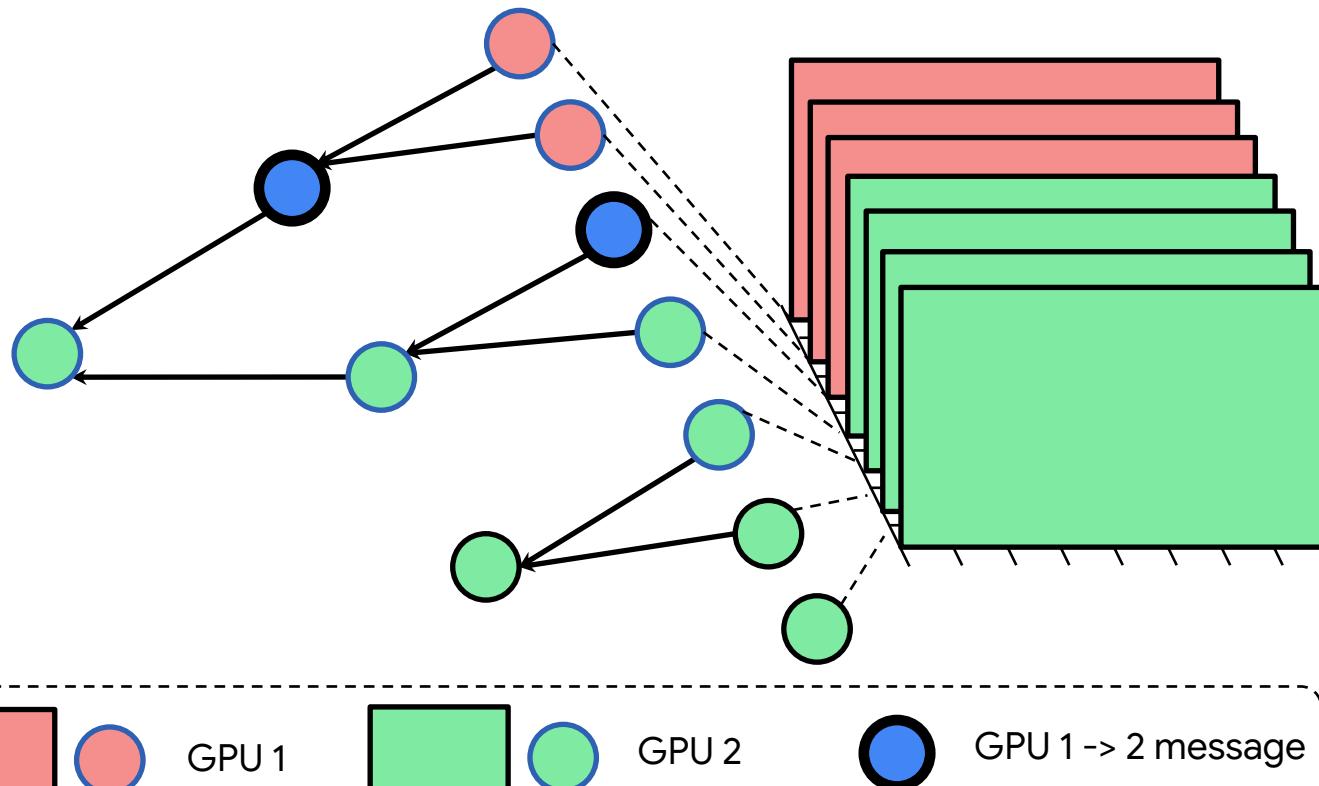


# Model parallelism

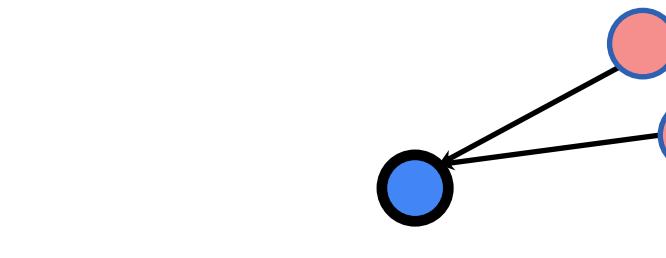


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# Model parallelism



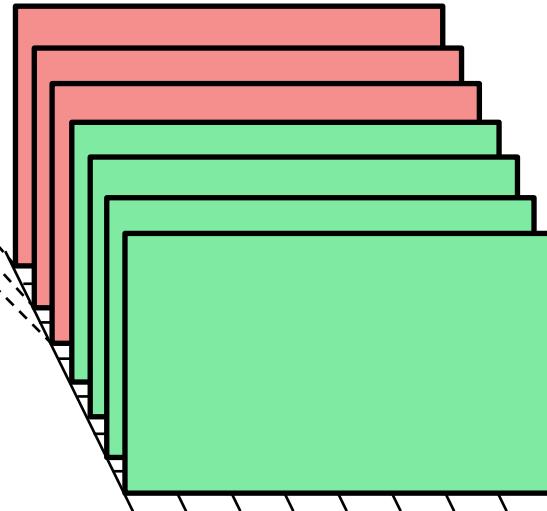
# Sublinear memory cost



Run 2x forward + 1x backward

Memory cost during training:

$$O(\sqrt{m \log n})$$



Pass-1



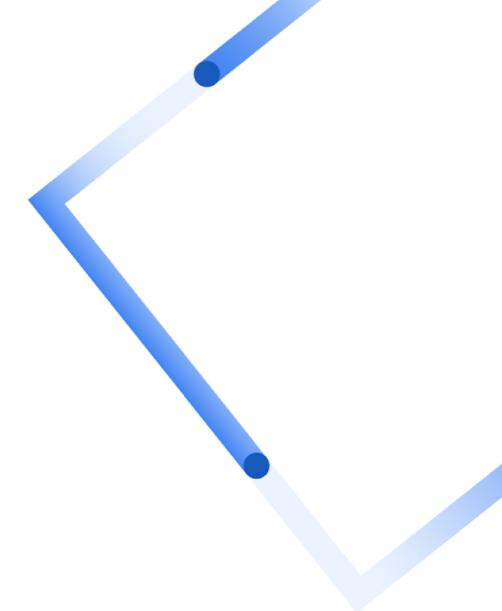
Pass-2



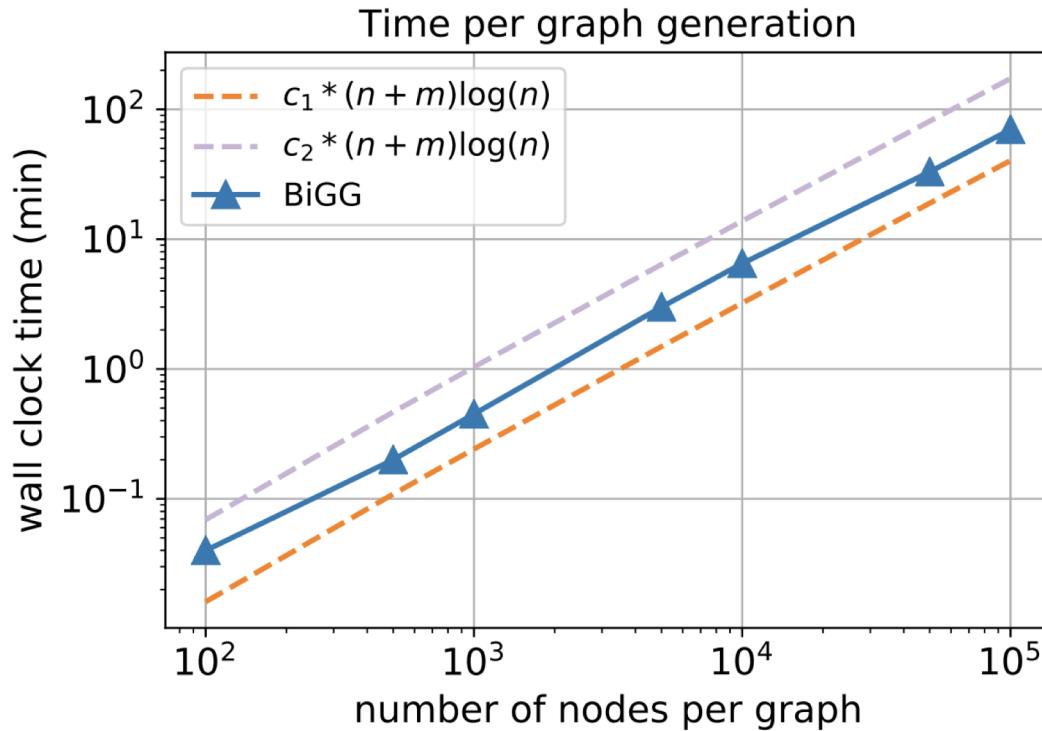
pass-1 to pass-2

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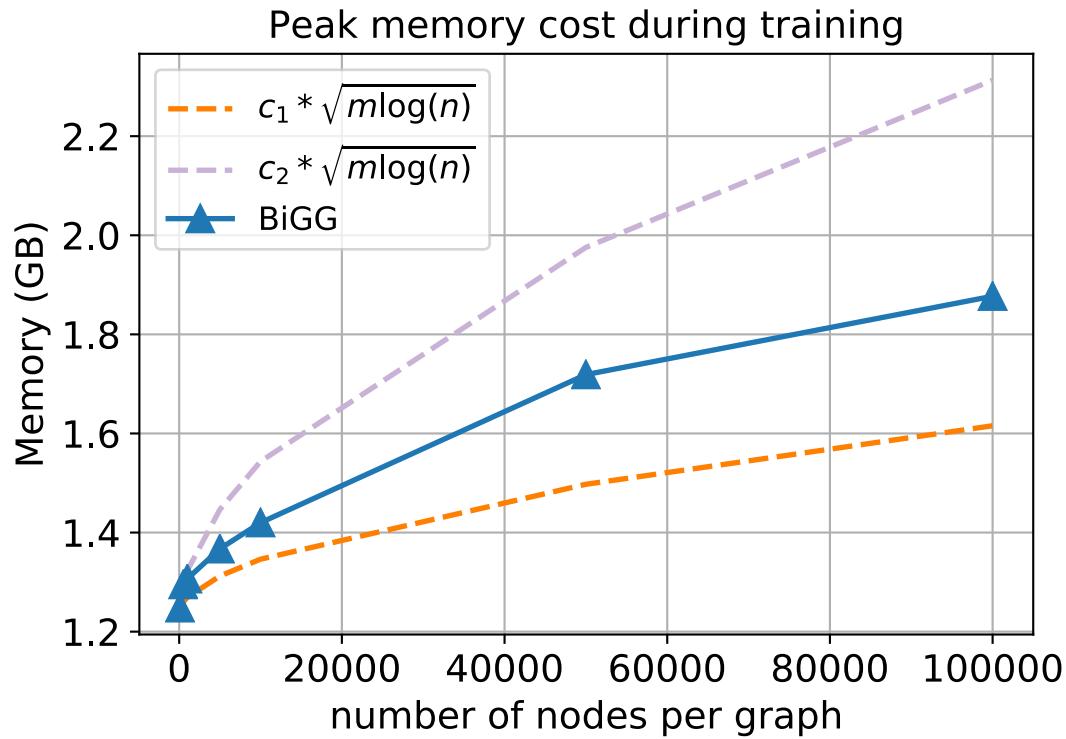
# Experiments



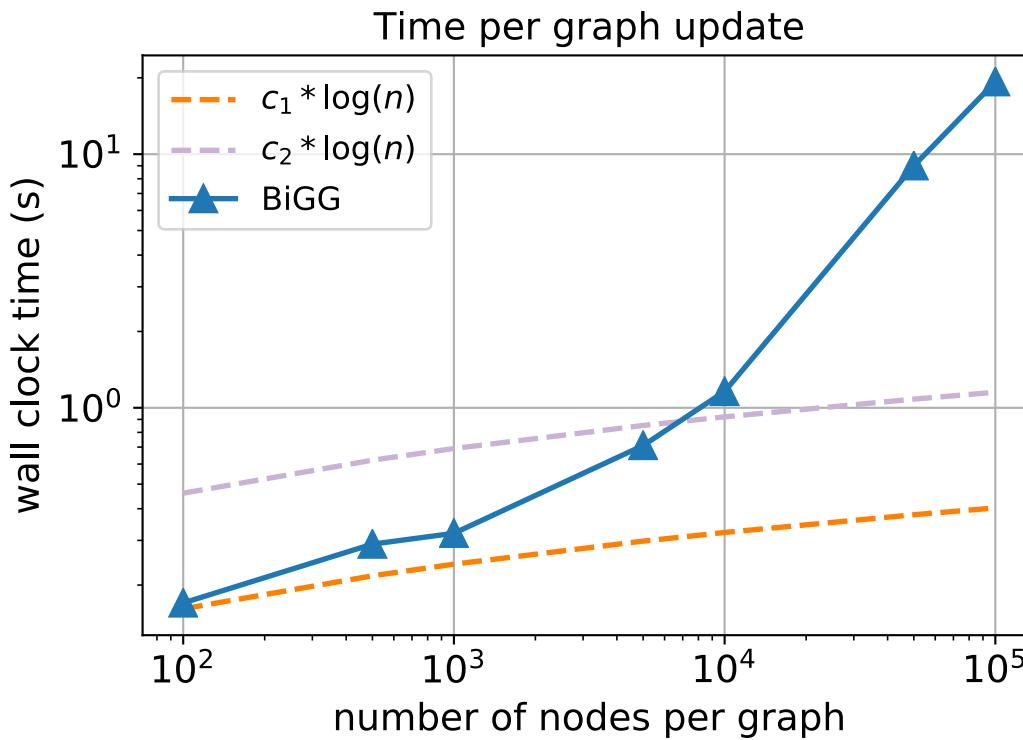
# Inference speed



# Training memory



# Training time



Main reason: # GPU cores is limited

# Sample quality on benchmark datasets

Datasets		Methods					
		Erdos-Renyi	GraphVAE	GraphRNN-S	GraphRNN	GRAN	BiGG
Grid   V  <sub>max</sub> = 361,  V  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 210  E  <sub>max</sub> = 684,  E  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 392	Deg.	0.79	7.07e <sup>-2</sup>	0.13	1.12e <sup>-2</sup>	8.23e <sup>-4</sup>	<b>3.60e<sup>-4</sup></b>
	Clus.	2.00	7.33e <sup>-2</sup>	3.73e <sup>-2</sup>	7.73e <sup>-5</sup>	3.79e <sup>-3</sup>	<b>2.15e<sup>-5</sup></b>
	Orbit	1.08	0.12	0.18	1.03e <sup>-3</sup>	1.59e <sup>-3</sup>	<b>4.43e<sup>-4</sup></b>
	Spec.	0.68	1.44e <sup>-2</sup>	0.19	1.18e <sup>-2</sup>	1.62e <sup>-2</sup>	<b>1.07e<sup>-2</sup></b>
Protein   V  <sub>max</sub> = 500,  V  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 1575  E  <sub>max</sub> = 258,  E  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 646	Deg.	5.64e <sup>-2</sup>	0.48	4.02e <sup>-2</sup>	1.06e <sup>-2</sup>	1.98e <sup>-3</sup>	<b>1.02e<sup>-3</sup></b>
	Clus.	1.00	7.14e <sup>-2</sup>	4.79e <sup>-2</sup>	0.14	4.86e <sup>-2</sup>	<b>2.24e<sup>-2</sup></b>
	Orbit	1.54	0.74	0.23	0.88	0.13	<b>2.73e<sup>-2</sup></b>
	Spec.	9.13e <sup>-2</sup>	0.11	0.21	1.88e <sup>-2</sup>	5.13e <sup>-3</sup>	<b>3.89e<sup>-3</sup></b>
3D Point Cloud   V  <sub>max</sub> = 5037,  V  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 1377  E  <sub>max</sub> = 10886,  E  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 3074	Deg.	0.31	OOM	OOM	OOM	1.75e <sup>-2</sup>	<b>2.34e<sup>-3</sup></b>
	Clus.	1.22	OOM	OOM	OOM	0.51	<b>0.23</b>
	Orbit	1.27	OOM	OOM	OOM	0.21	<b>5.87e<sup>-3</sup></b>
	Spec.	4.26e <sup>-2</sup>	OOM	OOM	OOM	7.45e <sup>-3</sup>	<b>5.11e<sup>-3</sup></b>
Lobster   V  <sub>max</sub> = 100,  V  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 53  E  <sub>max</sub> = 99,  E  <sub>avg</sub> ≈ 52	Deg.	0.24	2.09e <sup>-2</sup>	3.48e <sup>-3</sup>	9.26e <sup>-5</sup>	3.73e <sup>-2</sup>	<b>8.49e<sup>-5</sup></b>
	Clus.	3.82e <sup>-2</sup>	7.97e <sup>-2</sup>	4.30e <sup>-2</sup>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
	Orbit	2.42e <sup>-2</sup>	1.43e <sup>-2</sup>	2.48e <sup>-4</sup>	2.19e <sup>-5</sup>	7.67e <sup>-4</sup>	<b>7.43e<sup>-6</sup></b>
	Spec.	0.33	3.94e <sup>-2</sup>	6.72e <sup>-2</sup>	1.14e <sup>-2</sup>	2.71e <sup>-2</sup>	<b>7.39e<sup>-3</sup></b>
	Err.	1.00	0.91	1.00	<b>0.00</b>	0.12	<b>0.00</b>

# Sample quality as graph size grows

	0.5k	1k	5k	10k	50k	100k
Erdős–Rényi	0.84	0.86	0.91	0.93	0.95	0.95
GRAN	$2.95e^{-3}$	$1.18e^{-2}$	0.39	1.06	N/A	N/A
BiGG	<b><math>3.47e^{-4}</math></b>	<b><math>7.94e^{-5}</math></b>	<b><math>1.57e^{-6}</math></b>	<b><math>6.39e^{-6}</math></b>	<b><math>6.06e^{-4}</math></b>	<b><math>2.54e^{-2}</math></b>

# Summary

Advantages:

- Improve inference speed to  $O(\min\{ (m + n) \log n, n^2 \})$
- Enables parallelized training with sublinear memory cost
- Did not sacrifice the sample quality

Limitations:

- Limited by the parallelism of existing hardware
- Good capacity, but limited extrapolation ability

# Thank You

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[hadai@google.com](mailto:hadai@google.com)