Graph Neural Networks and their application in IceCube

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Neutrino interacts with medium

Charged lepton emits Cherenkov light

Cherenkov light is collected by Digital Optical Modules (DOMs)

6



Charged-current v_µ

Neutral-current / ve

(data)



Up-going track

Isolated energy deposition (cascade) with no track

Neutrino astronomy Finding source candidates that produce neutrinos, such as Active Galactic nuclei



Neutrino oscillations

Studying the particle's properties with neutrinos produced in atmospheric particle showers

Beyond the standard model

Looking for dark matter, SUSY particles, nonstandard interactions, etc.



- 120 optical strings
- 200 radio detection

stations

• 7.9x larger than current

IceCube

• 500 km² in area

- Expected to be deployed
 - 2034

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Bird's eye view of IceCube string configurations

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Pathfinder project for the Gen2

Testing of new optical modules

Includes dedicated calibration modules

Expands IceCube detection range towards lower energies

Expected to be deployed 2025/26





IceCube Upgrade

However:

Current baseline reconstruction method unfeasible with photomultiplier tubes pointing in multiple directions!

Alternative method greatly needed!

Graph neural networks





Edges: Connection between nodes



Message passing: Graph is convolved by aggregating the neighborhood of each node





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First application: Atmospheric neutrinos with DeepCore



(Some) variables of interest:

- Neutrino energy
- Arrival direction
- Interaction vertex
- Track- or cascade-like signature
- Neutrino / muon classification



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Challenges of neutrino oscillation

event reconstruction:

Comparatively low in energy

ightarrow Event information very sparse

 High number of events (>10⁸)
Current baseline algorithm takes ~40s per event reconstruction! Train network on neutrino oscillation MC and compare our GNN dynedge with baseline algorithms:

(Low energy event reconstruction in IceCube DeepCore. Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 807 (2022))

• Neutrino event parameter regression (energy, direction, vertex):

Retro

(non-ML likelihood-based algorithm)

• Track- vs cascade-like (T/C) signature &

Neutrino vs muon (ν/μ) classification (i.e., background rejection):

Boosted Decision Trees

(separate BDTs using summary statistics from pulses and/or reconstructed variables)

Regression



Regression





Classification

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Improvement of resolution and classification power in all tasks and at most neutrino energies!

Not only that, but also speed increase on the order of 10⁴! With ~30 kHz per reco variable, full realtime reconstruction is possible

Additional question: How stable is our algorithm to real-world variations?

Vary systematics:

Apply GNN (trained with baseline MC) on

simulations created with varied systematic

parameters, such as:

- Optical efficiency •
- Angular acceptance •
- Ice scattering and absorption •

Perturb input data:

Slightly vary certain input features by a random amount based on real-life measurement uncertainties

1) Applying the GNN on simulations with different systematics



Bias:

Shift in the median of predictions compared to truth

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Bias: Shift in the median of predictions compared to truth

Resolution:

-5% +5% ±10% -1.0

Optical

Efficiency

dynedge T

Energy Resolution Change (%)

15

10

5

0 -5 -10 -15

-20 -25

Width of the central 68% bands of the predictions

0.10

0.0

Angular

Acceptance (p1)

Retro T

-0.15

0.3

-0.5

Angular Acceptance (p0) Retro C

+10%

-10%

Bulk Ice

Absorpion

dynedge C

-10% +10%

Bulk Ice

Scattering





1) Applying the GNN on simulations with different systematics



Conclusions:

- Our GNN rivals and often surpasses the baseline algorithms in resolution
- Offers a speed-up on the order of 10⁴
- Behaves similar to our baseline reconstruction when faced with systematic variations
- Perturbation of input parameters according to measurement uncertainties show only marginal effect
- These results are from our paper, recently accepted by JINST

Graph Neural Networks for Low-Energy Event Classification & Reconstruction in IceCube arXiv:2209.03042



A look into the future: IceCube Upgrade





IceCube Upgrade (and Gen2) has additional strings with new detector modules, equipped with PMTs pointing in multiple directions

Current reconstruction algorithms would have to be greatly revamped and would still be too slow!

GNN does not have this problem: Simply introduce PMT angles as input features





Very early tests show that GNN are able reconstruct IceCube Upgrade events!

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Reconstruction of Neutrino Events in IceCube using Graph Neural Networks ICRC 2019 https://pos.sissa.it/395/1138/



Our GNN is already compatible with future IceCube extensions: Among the first to be able to reconstruct simulated events

Another strong message:

We're able to reconstruct neutrino events from two virtually different detectors using the same approach

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The development of our GNN led to the creation of GraphNeT

Idea: Provide an

easy-to-use framework for GNN development and application not only for IceCube, but for any other neutrino telescope

Currently a 10+ person team with its main locations at the Niels Bohr Institute Copenhagen and Technical University of Munich

Any interest in developing or using our algorithms is welcome!





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Rasmus Ørsøe (PhD)

Philipp Eller (PostDoc)

Martin Ha Minh (PhD)

github.com/graphnet-team/graphnet

and many more!

Martin Ha Minh (TUM)



GraphNeT

Graph Neural Networks for Neutrino Telescope Event Reconstruction





Training samples

Task	Total	v_e^{NC} (%)	v_e^{CC} (%)	$v^{NC}_{\mu}(\%)$	$v^{CC}_{\mu}(\%)$	v_{τ}^{NC} (%)	$v_{\tau}^{CC}(\%)$	μ (%)
ν/μ (Train)	215k	1.6	15.0	1.6	15.0	4.4	12.3	50.1
ν/μ (Test)	106k	1.6	15.1	1.5	15.3	4.5	12.2	49.8
Reconstruction (Train)	3.76M	3.2	30.0	3.1	30.3	9.0	24.4	
Reconstruction (Test)	4.37M	1.4	12.8	6.6	64.3	4.0	11.0	
\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{C} (Train)	731k	16.7	16.7	16.7	49.9			
\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{C} (Test)	7.4M	0.8	21.2	3.9	48.2	7.0	18.9	





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