

GLAM: An adaptive graph learning method for automated molecular interactions and properties predictions

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1 **GLAM: An adaptive graph learning method for automated**
2 **molecular interactions and properties predictions**

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19

Abstract

Improving drug discovery efficiency is a core and long-standing challenge in drug discovery. For this purpose, many graph learning methods have been developed to search potential drug candidates with fast speed and low cost. In fact, the pursuit of high prediction performance on a limited number of datasets has crystallized them, making them lose advantage in repurposing to new data generated in drug discovery. Here we propose a flexible method that can adapt to any dataset and make accurate predictions. The proposed method employs an adaptive pipeline to learn from a dataset and output a predictor. Without any manual intervention, the method achieves far better prediction performance on all tested datasets than traditional methods, which are based on hand-designed neural architectures and other fixed items. In addition, we found that the proposed method is more robust than traditional methods and can provide meaningful interpretability. Given the above, the proposed method can serve as a reliable method to predict molecular interactions and properties with high adaptability, performance, robustness and interpretability. This work would take a solid step forward to the purpose of aiding researchers to design better drugs with high efficiency.

1 **1 Introduction**

2 Drug discovery is a lengthy, costly, and complex process that plays a crucial role in human
3 health and well-being^{1,2}. At present, experimental assays³ remain the most reliable approach to
4 screen compounds but cost too much. Although many computational methods⁴ are proposed to
5 estimate molecular interactions and properties and improve drug discovery efficiency, it is still a
6 tricky process.

7 Graph learning methods have the potential to improve drug discovery efficiency dramatically
8 for their ability to amplify insights available from existing drug-related datasets⁵. Using the insights
9 to predict molecular interactions and properties^{6,7} is a key to finding potential drug candidates from
10 the vast chemical space with extremely fast speed and low cost. On the other hand, molecular
11 generation^{8,9} based on the insights can more efficiently traverse the vast chemical space to find
12 potential drug candidates. Accordingly, graph learning is becoming a rising area of interest within
13 the field of drug discovery¹⁰.

14 However, the pursuit of high prediction performance on a limited number of existing datasets
15 has crystallized them¹¹⁻¹³, making them lose advantage in repurposing to new data generated in
16 drug discovery. In practice, a graph learning method tends to be made with a fixed architecture and
17 a fixed hyperparameter set to get the best performance on a dataset¹⁴. This heavily limits them in
18 repurposing to new data generated in drug discovery, which tend to be increasingly complex¹⁵.
19 Besides, most graph learning methods rely heavily on expert knowledge of deep learning to achieve
20 their claimed state-of-the-art results, or even cannot be reproduced¹⁶. Therefore, they are not
21 flexible and reliable enough.

22 More recently, a few works have been reported to address these problems above. MolMapNet
23 introduced an out-of-the-box deep learning method based on broadly learning knowledge-based

1 representations to get reliable prediction performance on more datasets⁷. A recent work introduced
2 a neural architecture search based method to design neural architecture for molecular property
3 predictions¹¹.

4 In this work, we proposed **Graph Learning based Adaptive Machine (GLAM)**, a flexible
5 method that can adapt to any dataset and make accurate predictions without human intervention.
6 We fairly compared our proposed method with previously reported methods in terms of
7 adaptability and prediction performance. The results show that our proposed method can adapt to
8 all tested datasets exceptionally well and obtain far better prediction performance than reported
9 methods. On the other hand, we also investigated the robustness and interpretability of our
10 proposed method. We found that the proposed method is more robust than tested methods and can
11 provide meaningful interpretability, making the proposed method a more reliable method.

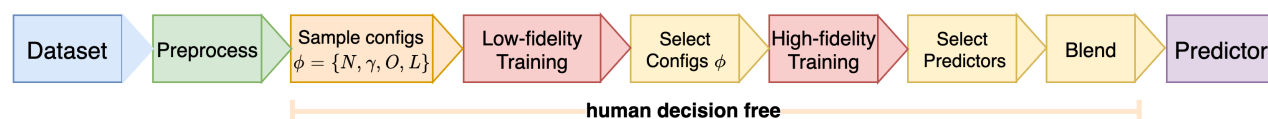
12

13 **2 Results**

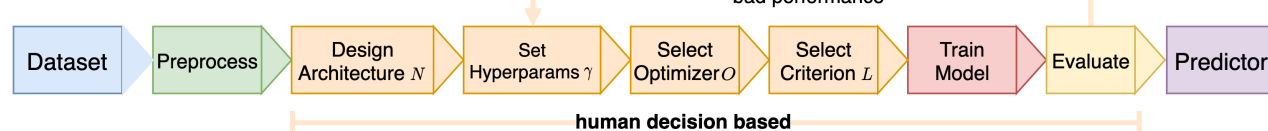
14 **Method Overview**

15 Our method utilizes an automated pipeline to learn from datasets and build a predictor, as
16 shown in **Figure 1**. Our method is mainly different from previous graph learning methods¹⁷⁻²²,
17 which rely heavily on human experts to design architecture, tune model hyperparameters, select
18 the optimizer, and select the loss function. We creatively combine these four items into a
19 configuration and put potential configurations into a configuration space. Starting from this
20 configuration space, we perform configuration sampling, low-fidelity training based on sampled
21 configurations, configuration selection, high-fidelity training based on selected configurations,
22 predictor selection, and predictor blending to build a predictor.

Building a Predictor by GLAM Automatically



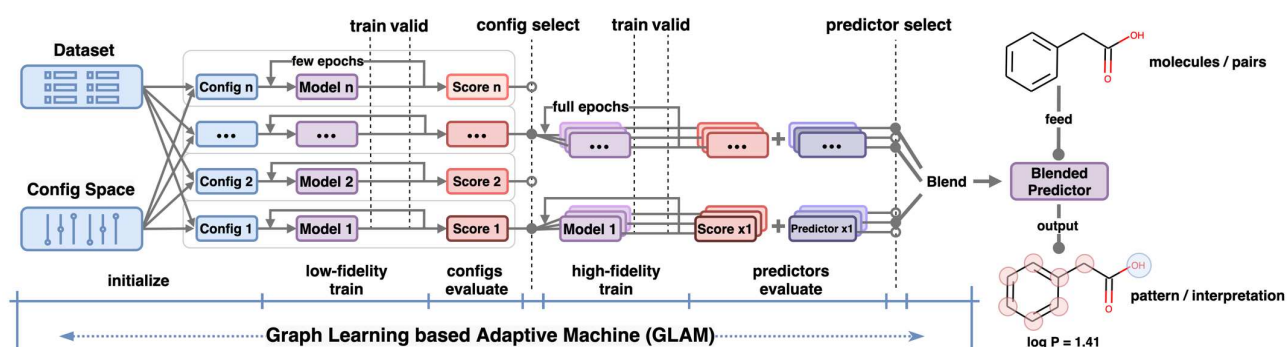
Building a Predictor by Human Expert



1

2

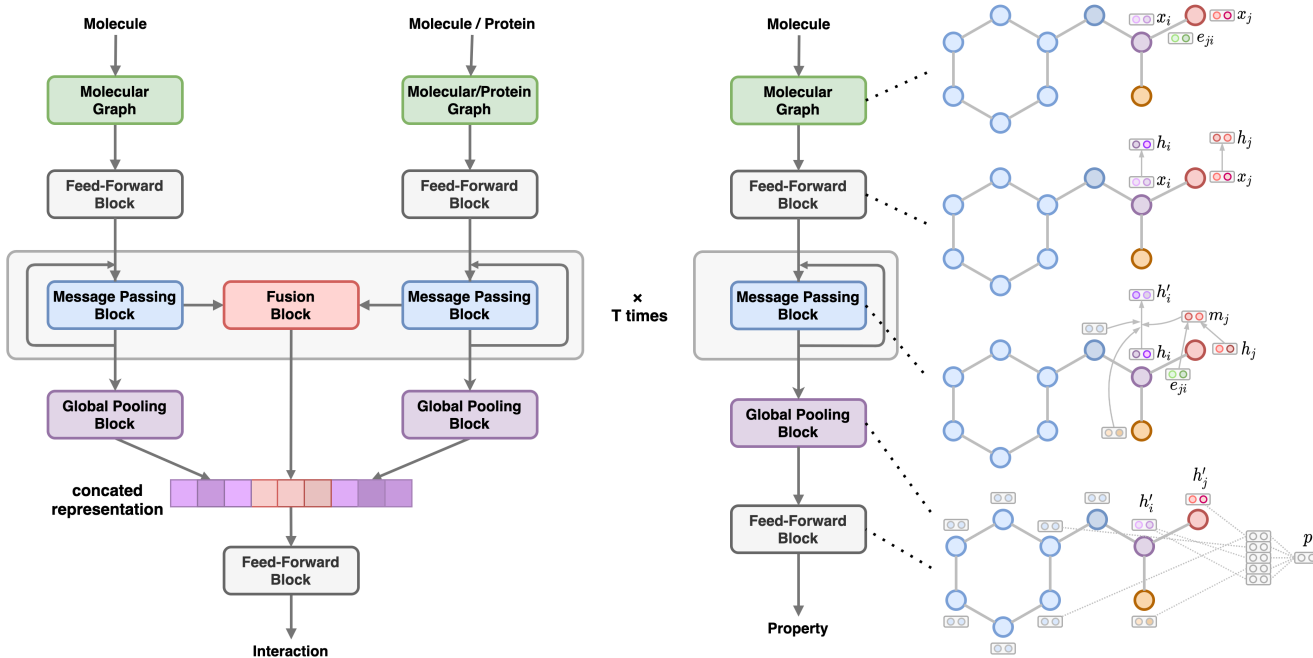
Figure 1. Overview of GLAM and traditional method.



3

4

Figure 2. GLAM pipeline details.



5

Figure 3. the general architectures for molecular interactions and properties prediction in GLAM.

1 In detail, the method has a well-designed pipeline that is to achieve high adaptability,
2 prediction performance, and acceptable speed, as shown in **Figure 2**. Initially, GLAM samples a
3 lot of configurations from the configuration space. Then the dataset is fed to these configurations
4 for low-fidelity training, which produces evaluation scores to select the high-performance
5 configurations. In the next high-fidelity training, each previously selected configuration is fed with
6 the dataset to perform full epochs training with three different random seeds. Accordingly, the
7 evaluation scores of the high-fidelity training are used to select high-performance predictors.
8 Finally, all selected predictors are blended into a predictor.

9 We have designed two general architectures, one for molecular interaction and another for
10 molecular property, as shown in **Figure 3**. In practice, the input data are mapped to output by five
11 steps: (1) preprocess a molecule to a molecular graph, (2) linear transformation by feed-forward
12 block, (3) iterated convolution by message-passing block for T time-steps, (4) node reduction by
13 global pooling block, (5) linear transformation by final feed-forward block. Each block in the
14 general architecture is created with its own design space, as shown in **Extended Data Figure 1**.

15 **Adapt to any dataset for high performance**

16 GLAM was created to adapt to any dataset to obtain high prediction performance. To
17 investigate the adaptability and performance of our method, we compared its performance on 14
18 datasets with a range of representative traditional methods^{7,17-21,23-25}. The types of tested datasets
19 include drug-protein interactions, drug-drug interactions, physical-chemistry property, bioactivity,
20 pharmacokinetics, and toxicity. Considering that different splits of datasets cause different
21 performances, we let all methods share the same splits of datasets for a fair evaluation. We also try
22 our best to adjust the parameters of all methods manually to achieve the best performance. Finally,
23 we run benchmarks on molecular interaction and molecular property datasets.

1 Compared to all traditional methods, our proposed methods can adapt to datasets well and
2 achieve promising prediction performance, as shown in **Table 1**, **Table 2** and **Extended Data**
3 **Table 1**. (All tables can be found at the end of this manuscript.) Given the above, GLAM sets a
4 new state-of-the-art on both molecular interactions and properties prediction. Relative to the best
5 scores of reported results, the proposed method got an average 18.7% decrease of prediction error
6 on 14 datasets than the best of traditional methods. In addition, GLAM can consistently achieve
7 the best scores without human intervention. Therefore, GLAM is poised to be a flexible, reliable,
8 and trustworthy method that works well across a wide range of activities in drug design.

9 **High robustness against molecular structure perturbation**

10 The following essential issue is about the robustness²⁶ of the proposed method. Graph
11 learning methods usually are susceptible to outliers, and it can be disastrous if data is contaminated
12 with outliers. In fact, some safe-sensitive domains (such as healthcare) require more robustness of
13 a method as even a slight perturbation will lead to a wrong result with serious consequence³⁵.
14 Admittedly, the robustness of a graph learning method is also an essential issue.

15 To evaluate the robustness of our proposed method, we first introduce an algorithm named
16 **property-slightly-affected structure perturbation (PASP)**. The PASP works by iteratively mutating
17 the molecular structure with small perturbations that do not significantly affect the properties of
18 the molecules.

19 Then we perform the PASP algorithm on a dataset named PhysProp²⁸, consisting of 14,176
20 molecules structures with their corresponding properties $\log P$. To estimate the potential change of
21 $\log P$ upon mutations, we use RDKit²⁹ to calculate the $\log P$ values before and after PASP as an
22 observer. Moreover, we limit an acceptable change (value change < 0.2 before and after the PASP),
23 which can ensure that the PASP does not significantly affect the $\log P$ of molecules. In this

1 experiment, The molecular structures whose similarity (before and after the mutation) of
2 fingerprint in the scale of 0.8-1.0, 0.5-0.8, and 0.3-0.5 are marked as levels 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

3 **Table 3** shows that GLAM is less affected by the PASP and manifests higher robustness than
4 conventional methods. We first run GLAM on the unperturbed train and validation sets to get a
5 predictor. Then, we feed the test set to the predictor and migrate the testing to the three perturbed
6 test sets. Compared with conventional methods, including GCN¹⁸, GAT¹⁹, GIN^{20,22}, MPNN, the
7 results show that all these methods suffer a significant performance drop, as shown in **Table 3**. In
8 contrast, our method is less affected by PASP than conventional methods on all three levels of
9 PASP. The robustness of the GLAM is most likely due to the model blending at the end of the
10 pipeline. The main idea of blending is to train several models and draw a final prediction from
11 averaging. So, perturbing the molecular structure may cause a molecule misclassified by a predictor
12 but not by all predictors.

13 **Interpretation cases**

14 To better understand the models in the predictor, we investigate its decision-making process
15 and interpret its learned knowledge. In the past, most machine learning models have long been
16 considered as black boxes. Previous works adopt attention mechanisms^{21,30,31} to aid interpretation
17 of the model. Here we explain the model from the hidden states by averaging and visualizing it,
18 which can directly utilize the information provided by the models in the predictor.

19 **Extended Data Figure 2a** shows some case studies of solubility prediction, which are
20 consistent with the intuition of chemists. Generally, hydroxyl and amino groups are considered to
21 be more hydrophilic and alkyl and halogen groups are considered to be more lipophilic. We select
22 and visualize some representative molecules from the PhysProp dataset. The atoms in the
23 hydrophilic group tend to be bluer in our visualization, which means their weights are closer to 1.

1 In contrast, the atoms in the lipophilic group tend to be redder in our visualization, which means
2 their weights are closer to -1. These observations are consistent with the intuition of chemists,
3 indicating that the models in predictor can detect essential atomic groups with clear interpretability
4 of results of solubility.

5 In the same way, we visualize some cases of drug-drug interaction identification as shown in
6 **Extended Data Figure 2b**. We consider the interactions between sildenafil/udenafil and
7 nitrates(nicorandil/ isosorbide dinitrate) as cases. They are combined into four pairs of drug-drug
8 interactions and fed into models in predictor to visualize the decision process. (Typically, the
9 sildenafil/udenafil can selectively inhibit the phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) targets in the human
10 body. The N-methyl groups in the pyrazolopyrimidone rings of sildenafil/udenafil are important
11 for the activity and selectivity of the PDE5. For the reasons above, combining sildenafil/udenafil
12 with nitrate drugs may lead to serious blood pressure reduction and heart diseases.) The
13 visualization results show the models in predictor pay more attention to the nitrates of isosorbide
14 dinitrate and nicorandil, and pay more attention to the N-methyl of sildenafil and udenafil. Thus,
15 Our visualization results are consistent with previous findings of drug interaction, indicating that
16 models in the predictor can provide deep insights into molecular interactions.

17

18 **3 Discussion**

19 We have shown that GLAM can adapt to all tested datasets well and make accurate
20 predictions automatically. In the past, the adaptability for new data has largely been ignored as
21 most researchers pay almost all attention to getting high prediction performance. Our well-designed
22 method can serve as a reliable method to predict molecular interactions and properties with high
23 adaptability, prediction performance, robustness and interpretability. Furthermore, the automated

1 pipeline of our proposed method enables more researchers, even those who lack machine learning
2 experience, to make full use of the power of machine learning. These advantages of our proposed
3 method will greatly increase the acceptance of machine learning aided drug discovery.

4 **4 Limitations and frontiers**

6 Adaptive feature input can help the models in our proposed method to extract important and
7 sufficient representations. In this work, we only provide the graph model with the basic node
8 features, such as atomic/residual number. Adaptive feature input can be of great help to some
9 particular prediction jobs. Adding the feature decisions to configuration space might improve our
10 proposed method. An strategy that provides neither too little information nor too redundant
11 information would contribute a lot to the representation extraction process.

13 **5 Outlook**

14 Our proposed method is expected to advance and evolve the automated drug design^{1,32}.
15 Recent advances such as chemical retrosynthesis predictions^{33,34} and molecular generations³⁵⁻³⁷
16 have laid the foundation for an automated drug design pipeline in the future. Automated drug
17 design or semi-automatic drug design will become a trend. The proposed method can serve as a
18 predictor generator contributing to the automated drug design. For further applications, our
19 proposed method can be repurposed to more scientific discovery fields, such as agrochemicals and
20 materials design.

1 **Methods**

2 **Details of datasets**

3 We use LIT-PCBA³⁸, BindingDB³⁹, and DrugBank⁴⁰ to evaluate our proposed method for
4 molecular interaction prediction. In LIT-PCBA, we selected four datasets of representative protein
5 based on the number of positive and negative samples. On the other hand, we used datasets in
6 MoleculeNet⁴¹ to evaluate the proposed method for molecular property prediction. MoleculeNet⁴¹
7 is a set of benchmarking datasets for molecular machine learning to achieve a fair performance
8 comparison.

9 LIT-PCBA is a virtual screening dataset consisting of fourteen targets, 7844 confirmed
10 active, and 407,381 confirmed inactive compounds³⁸. BindingDB dataset contains 39,747 positive
11 examples and 31,218 negative examples from a public database³⁹. DrugBank includes 1,850
12 approved drugs with 221,523 DDI positive labels⁴⁰. The blood-brain barrier penetration (BBBP)
13 contains 2053 molecules on their permeability properties⁴¹. SIDER is a database of marketed drugs
14 and adverse drug reactions, which grouped into system organ classes for 1427 approved drugs⁴¹.
15 The BACE is a database consisting of binding results for a set of inhibitors of human β -secretase
16 1 with 1522 compounds⁴¹. Tox21 contains qualitative toxicity measurements for 8014 compounds
17 on 12 different targets, including stress response pathways and nuclear receptors⁴¹. ToxCast is
18 another toxicity database that contains qualitative results of 617 experiments on 8615 compounds
19 ⁴¹. The Free Solvation Database (FreeSolv) provides experimental and calculated hydration free
20 energy of 643 small molecules in water⁴¹. ESOL is a small dataset consisting of water solubility
21 data for 1128 compounds⁴¹. Lipophilicity is an important feature of drug molecules that affects
22 both membrane permeability and solubility of 4200 compounds⁴¹. PhysProp consists of 14,176
23 molecules and their corresponding *Log P* values²⁸.

24 **Configuration space**

1 The Configuration space of GLAM consists of two parts: architecture decisions and training
2 decisions. The architecture decisions decide how to build an architecture of a model. The general
3 architectures of pairs- and single-molecule contain 8 and 4 blocks with their independent design
4 space, respectively, as shown in Figure 1. The training decisions decide how to train the model,
5 including batch size, number of epochs, type of loss, type of optimizer, learning rate, reduce rate
6 of learning rate, reduce patience of learning rate, early-stop patience.

7 **Graph learning in architectures**

8 Given a molecular graph G with x_i denoting node features of node i and e_{ji} denoting edge
9 features from node j to node i , the feed-forward block can be described as

$$10 \qquad h_i = f_{nn}(x_i) \qquad (1.)$$

11 , where h_i denote the hidden node features and f_{nn} denote a feed-forward neural network. And
12 the message-passing block can be described as

$$13 \qquad h'_i = f_u(h_i, \sum_{j \in N_i} f_i(h_j, e_{ji})) \qquad (2.)$$

14 where f_u denote the update function and f_i denote the interaction function. The output property p
15 are transformed by the global pooling block and final feed-forward block can be described as

$$16 \qquad p = f_{nn}(f_{pool}(h'_i)) \qquad (3)$$

17 where f_{nn} denote a feed-forward neural network and f_{pool} denote the global pooling layer.

18 **Design spaces of blocks**

19 Each block is created with its own design space, as show in **Extended Data Figure 1**. The
20 feed-forward block consists of a normalization layer, a dropout layer, a feed-forward layer, and an

1 activation layer. The normalization layer, dropout layer, and activation layer can be chosen to be
2 empty in this block. Most parts of the message-passing block are the same as the feed-forward
3 block, but the core is changed to a message-passing layer with a choice of five possible types. The
4 fusion block is designed to extract information on a pair of interacting molecules. Global pool block
5 consists of one layer of graph pool layer with a choice of three types of pooling layers.

6 **Preparing for both molecular interactions and properties prediction**

7 We prepare two general architectures for both molecular interactions and properties
8 prediction, as shown in the **Figure 3**. The pair-graph architecture for molecular interactions accepts
9 a pair of molecules as input and outputs their interaction. The single-graph architecture for
10 molecular properties accepts a molecule as input and outputs one or multiple properties of the
11 molecule. Some essential tasks in drug discovery are molecular interactions, such as protein-ligand
12 interactions. All molecules are processed to graphs with basic node attributes as input of the
13 architectures. Small molecules are processed into atom-level molecular graphs, where the edge
14 information is provided by chemical bonds. Proteins are processed into residue-level graphs, where
15 the edge information is provided by contact maps predicted by RaptorX46.

16 **Multi-GPU parallel**

17 GLAM works in parallel with multiple graphics cards. The most time-consuming parts of a
18 graph learning process are the training, validation, and test. The proposed method have lots of
19 independent graph learning processes. Subsequently, we let them work in parallel to utilize the
20 computational source fully. In detail, we build a queue and insert all these processes as jobs into it.
21 If a graphics card is free, a job will be popped up and be assigned to the card until all the jobs are
22 popped up.

23 **Robustness experiments using molecular structure perturbations**

24 Molecular structure perturbation experiment aims to investigate the robustness of a model. If

1 the accuracy of a method is not greatly affected by some perturbations, the method is robust
2 enough. A dataset is first divided into training set, validation set and test set. Among them, the
3 training set is used to train a model of the method, the verification set is used to decide when to
4 save the model weights, and the test set is used for robustness experiment.

5 Given a molecule set of $M = \{m_i | 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ and a method f , we can predict the property
6 set $P = \{p_i | 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ by equation (4). Given a property observer function o , we can calculate a
7 property observer set $Q = \{q_i | 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ by equation (5).

$$8 \quad P = f(M) \quad (4)$$

$$9 \quad Q = o(M) \quad (5)$$

10 Applying an algorithm g to M , we can obtain a perturbed test set $M' = \{m'_i | 1 \leq i \leq N'\}$,
11 where N' is the size of molecules that have been applied g successfully. We also predict the
12 property set $P' = \{p'_i | 1 \leq i \leq N'\}$ by equation (6). Using the observer function o above, we can
13 calculate a property observer set $Q' = \{q'_i | 1 \leq i \leq N'\}$ of M' by equation (7).

$$14 \quad P' = f(M') \quad (6)$$

$$15 \quad Q' = o(M') \quad (7)$$

16 By observing the perturbation Effect score of the model after perturbation, we get to know
17 the robustness of a model. Given a loss function L , if $L(P, P') > L(Q, Q')$, the model is not robust,
18 that is, the perturbation will have an essential impact on performance of the model. If $L(P, P') \leq$
19 $L(Q, Q')$, the model is robust and the perturbation will have less impact. We define a perturbation
20 Effect score by equation (8), where the $\Delta(f, g)$ represents the perturbation Effect score of method
21 f on the perturbation function g .

$$22 \quad \Delta(f, g) = L(P, P') - L(Q, Q') \quad (8)$$

23 **Property-slightly-affected structural perturbation**

1 **Property-slightly-affected structural perturbation (PASP)** works by iteratively mutating the
2 molecular structure with small perturbations that do not significantly affect the properties of the
3 molecules. In each iteration, PASP mutate the structure of a molecule by modifying/adding a
4 random atom. If the mutated molecule can meet two conditions at the same time in this number of
5 perturbations during the iterations, we got a new perturbed molecular x'_i . The first condition is that
6 the molecular fingerprint similarity $S(x_i, x'_i) \in [\gamma_{min}, \gamma_{max})$, where $[\gamma_{min}, \gamma_{max})$ is a preset
7 similarity area. The second condition is that the loss $L(q_i, q'_i) < \epsilon_2$, where ϵ_1 is a preset maximum
8 loss. Finally, we combine all the perturbed molecules into a set $M' = \{m'_i | 1 \leq i \leq N'\}$, where N'
9 is the size of all molecules that be perturbed successfully.

10 **Node-level interpretation**

11 We extract the output of the message-passing block, which is a matrix $X = \{x_{ij} | 1 \leq i \leq$
12 $N, 1 \leq j \leq M\}$. N is the number of atoms, and M is the dimension of the outputs. Then we obtain
13 the weight $W = \{w_i | 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ of each atom according to $w_i = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M x_{ij}$, and visualize the
14 molecule with the weights. In some cases, the weight w_i may be scaled to $[-1, 1]$ or $[0, 1]$.

15

16

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21 Xu, the author of RaptorX. We thank the help from Mingjian Jiang, the author of DGraphDTA.

22 **Author Contributions**

1 Y.L., C.H. and X. Y. conceived the project, Y.L., C.H., R.L., X.G., X.W., and P.L. designed
2 and conducted the experiments. C.H., S.L. , Y.T. , D.J., J.Y., Q.B., and H.L. evaluated the
3 experiments and contributed ideas. S.Z., C.H. and X.Y. managed and supervised the project. All
4 authors co-wrote the manuscript.

5 **Competing Interests Statement**

6 The authors declare no competing interests.

7 **Data availability**

8 All data used in this paper are publicly available and can be accessed at
9 <http://drugdesign.unistra.fr/LIT-PCBA/> for LIT-PCBA dataset. [https://github.com/lifanchen-](https://github.com/lifanchen-simm/transformerCPI)
10 [simm/transformerCPI](https://github.com/lifanchen-simm/transformerCPI) for BindingDB dataset, <https://github.com/kexinhuang12345/CASTER> for
11 the DrugBank dataset, and <http://moleculenet.ai/datasets-1> for all molecules datasets.

12 **Code availability**

13 All code of GLAM is available at <https://github.com/yvquanli/GLAM>.

14

15

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41

1 **Table 1.** Performance comparison on datasets of molecular interactions

Dataset	ALDH1	ESR1_ant	KAT2A	MAPK1	BindingDB	Params adjust on
Metrics	AUC(higher is better)					
Glide (SP)	0.607(-)	0.590(-)	0.474(-)	0.592(-)	-	-
Glide (XP)	0.582(-)	0.540(-)	0.441(-)	0.579(-)	-	-
RFScore V3	0.556(-)	0.562(-)	0.511(-)	0.640(-)	-	-
DGraphDTA	0.679(0.007)	0.603(0.022)	0.633(0.017)	0.654(0.020)	0.914(0.027)	ALDH1
	0.673(0.013)	0.610(0.011)	0.599(0.032)	0.665(0.031)	0.921(0.023)	BindingDB
TransformerCPI	0.694(0.008)	0.590(0.010)	0.633(0.022)	0.683(0.008)	0.926(0.017)	ALDH1
	0.665(0.008)	0.616(0.032)	0.650(0.042)	0.662(0.012)	0.937(0.016)	BindingDB
GLAM	0.761 (0.006)	0.666 (0.012)	0.709 (0.033)	0.730 (0.016)	0.954 (0.008)	None

2 Note: (a) All datasets are split randomly. (b) Glide⁴³ docking scores are obtained on Schrödinger version
3 2015 with the precision of SP and XP. (c) DGraphDTA¹⁷, TransformerCPI²⁴ are implemented from their
4 open-source code. Their hyper-parameters have been adjusted to obtain the best performance. (d) All deep
5 learning methods are run with three different split seeds, and then we take the average score and the standard
6 deviation (in parentheses). (e) the highlight text with bold-black style means the best.

7 **Table 2.** Performance comparison on datasets of molecular properties

Task	Physical chemistry			Bioactivity	Pharmacokinetics		Toxicity		Params adjust on
Dataset	ESOL	Lipophilicity	FreeSolv	BACE	BBBP	SIDER	Tox21	ToxCast	
Metrics	RMSE (lower is better)			AUC (higher is better)					
GCN	1.017(0.064)	0.807(0.044)	2.307(0.147)	0.772(0.050)	0.830(0.057)	0.619(0.028)	0.762(0.026)	0.678(0.007)	ESOL
	1.056(0.096)	0.799(0.062)	2.858(0.524)	0.797(0.018)	0.792(0.083)	0.612(0.030)	0.752(0.030)	0.663(0.024)	BACE
GAT	1.079(0.080)	0.925(0.031)	2.491(0.465)	0.716(0.033)	0.815(0.067)	0.606(0.053)	0.769(0.033)	0.675(0.013)	ESOL
	1.188(0.058)	0.834(0.037)	2.343(0.272)	0.759(0.019)	0.842(0.042)	0.613(0.023)	0.713(0.022)	0.687(0.017)	BACE
GIN	0.704(0.078)	0.948(0.058)	2.662(0.289)	0.812(0.032)	0.858(0.035)	0.595(0.031)	0.793(0.026)	0.671(0.019)	ESOL
	0.742(0.058)	0.864(0.044)	2.098(0.272)	0.831(0.040)	0.875(0.019)	0.605(0.040)	0.732(0.019)	0.672(0.016)	BACE
MPNN	0.755(0.077)	0.769(0.031)	1.897(0.092)	0.820(0.047)	0.831(0.036)	0.626(0.038)	0.752(0.011)	0.697(0.023)	ESOL
	0.884(0.061)	0.825(0.047)	2.038(0.421)	0.816(0.042)	0.816(0.057)	0.641(0.014)	0.803(0.031)	0.686(0.017)	BACE
AttentiveFP	0.726(0.032)	0.724(0.030)	1.775(0.392)	0.815(0.072)	0.856(0.023)	0.654(0.027)	0.763(0.022)	0.726(0.020)	ESOL
	0.738(0.059)	0.783(0.036)	1.371(0.446)	0.850(0.017)	0.872(0.024)	0.621(0.033)	0.740(0.039)	0.680(0.024)	BACE
MolMapNet	0.752(0.040)	0.731(0.012)	1.398(0.312)	0.868(0.094)	0.911(0.013)	0.634(0.015)	0.813(0.021)	0.703(0.025)	None
GLAM	0.592 (0.036)	0.596 (0.025)	1.319 (0.346)	0.888 (0.033)	0.932 (0.015)	0.659 (0.017)	0.841 (0.010)	0.744 (0.008)	None

8 Note: (a) All datasets are split by scaffold. (b) GCN¹⁸, GAT¹⁹, GIN²², MPNN²⁰ are implemented with
9 PyTorch Geometric⁴⁴. AttentiveFP²¹ is implemented from its open-source code. Their hyper-parameters
10 have been adjusted to obtain the best performance. (c) All methods are run with three different split seeds,

1 and then we take the average score and the standard deviation (in parentheses). (d) the highlight text with
2 bold-black style means the best.

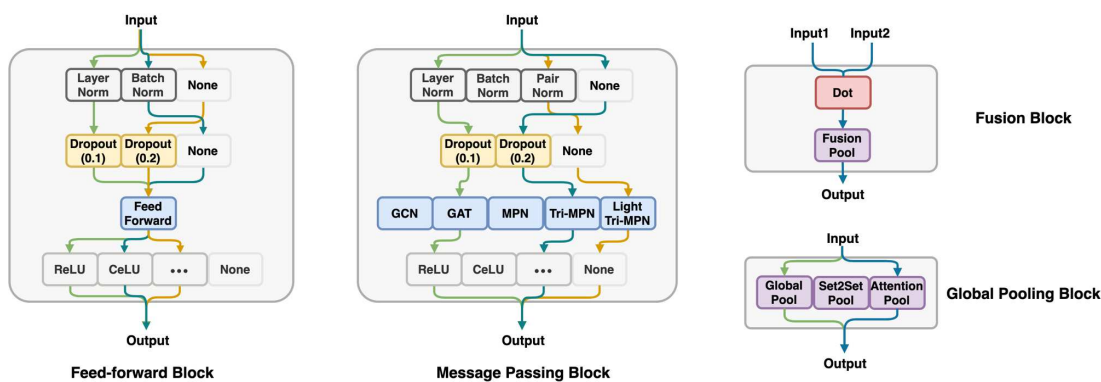
3
4

Table 3. Effect score of molecular structure perturbation test

Perturbation Level	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Fingerprint Similarity	0.8-1.0	0.5-0.8	0.3-0.5
Metrics	Effect score (lower is better)		
GCN	0.728(\pm 0.019)	0.929(\pm 0.015)	1.092(\pm 0.009)
GAT	0.750(\pm 0.022)	0.985(\pm 0.118)	1.149(\pm 0.124)
GIN	0.695(\pm 0.064)	0.953(\pm 0.100)	1.087(\pm 0.074)
MPNN	0.598(\pm 0.018)	0.820(\pm 0.069)	0.998(\pm 0.083)
GLAM	0.360(\pm0.014)	0.469(\pm0.019)	0.632(\pm0.013)

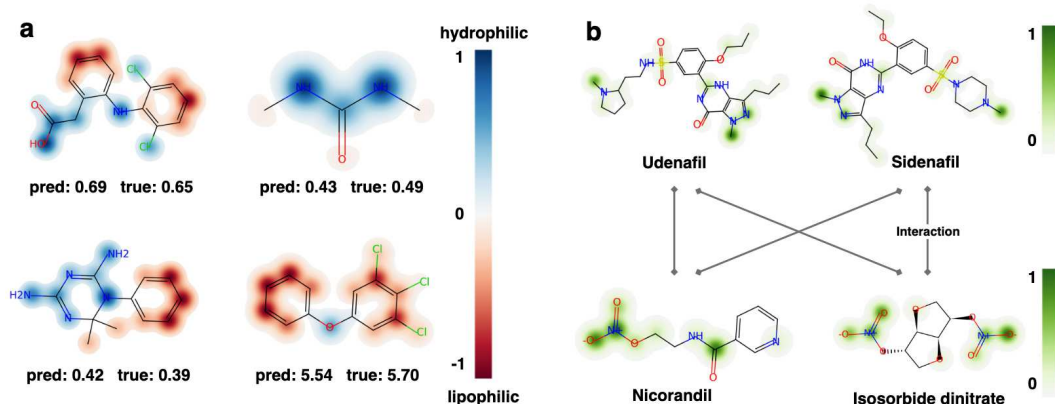
5 Note: (a)All baselines above are all implemented with PyTorch Geometric⁴⁴, and their hyper-parameters have been manually
6 adjusted for several rounds. (b) The losses between P and P' of level 1,2,3 perturbed test sets are 0.0624, 0.0593, 0.0578,
7 respectively.

8



1

2 **Extended Data Figure 1.** design space for blocks of the architectures.



3

4 **Extended Data Figure 2. Node-level interpretation.** **a**, case studies of solubility prediction. **b** case
5 studies of drug-drug interactions.

6 **Extended Data Table 1.** Performance comparison on drug-drug interaction datasets

Dataset	DrugBank	
	ROC-AUC	PR-AUC
LR	0.774(±0.003)	0.745(±0.005)
Nat.Prot	0.786(±0.003)	0.753(±0.003)
Mol2Vec	0.849(±0.004)	0.828(±0.006)
MOLVAE	0.852(±0.006)	0.828(±0.009)
DeepDDI	0.844(±0.003)	0.828(±0.002)
CASTER	0.861(±0.005)	0.829(±0.003)
GLAM	0.911(±0.017)	0.899(±0.019)

7 Note (a) In the drug-drug interaction task, scores of all baselines are taken from CASTER²⁵. (b) the highlight
8 score with bold-black style means this method got the highest score. (c) all scores of GLAM are run under
9 the same default configuration setting.