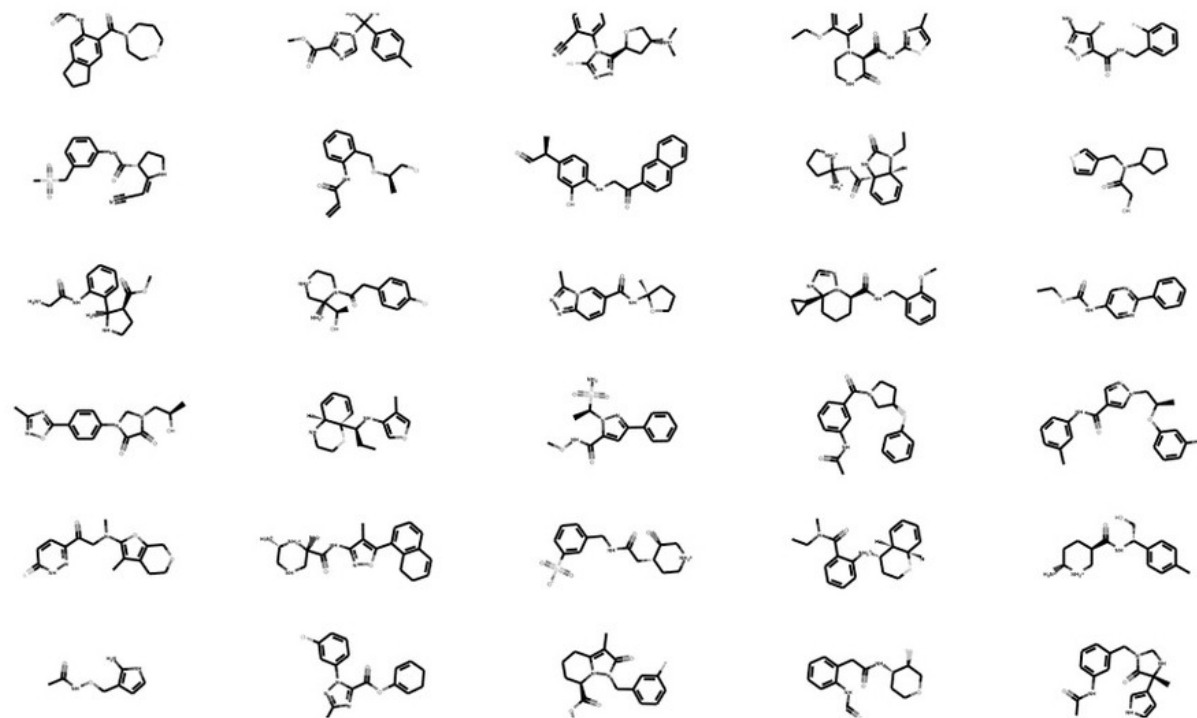
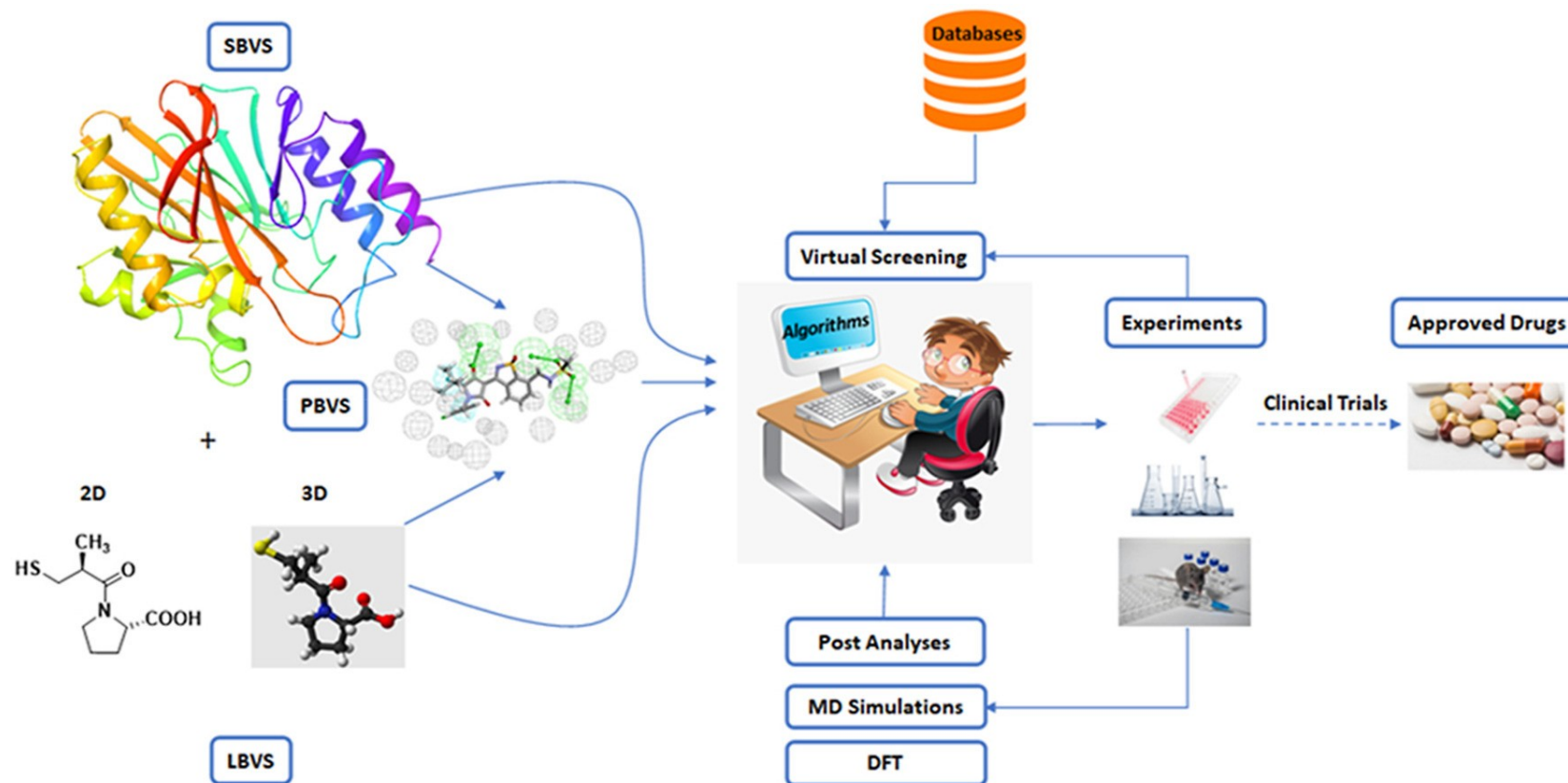


# Molecular Graph Generation



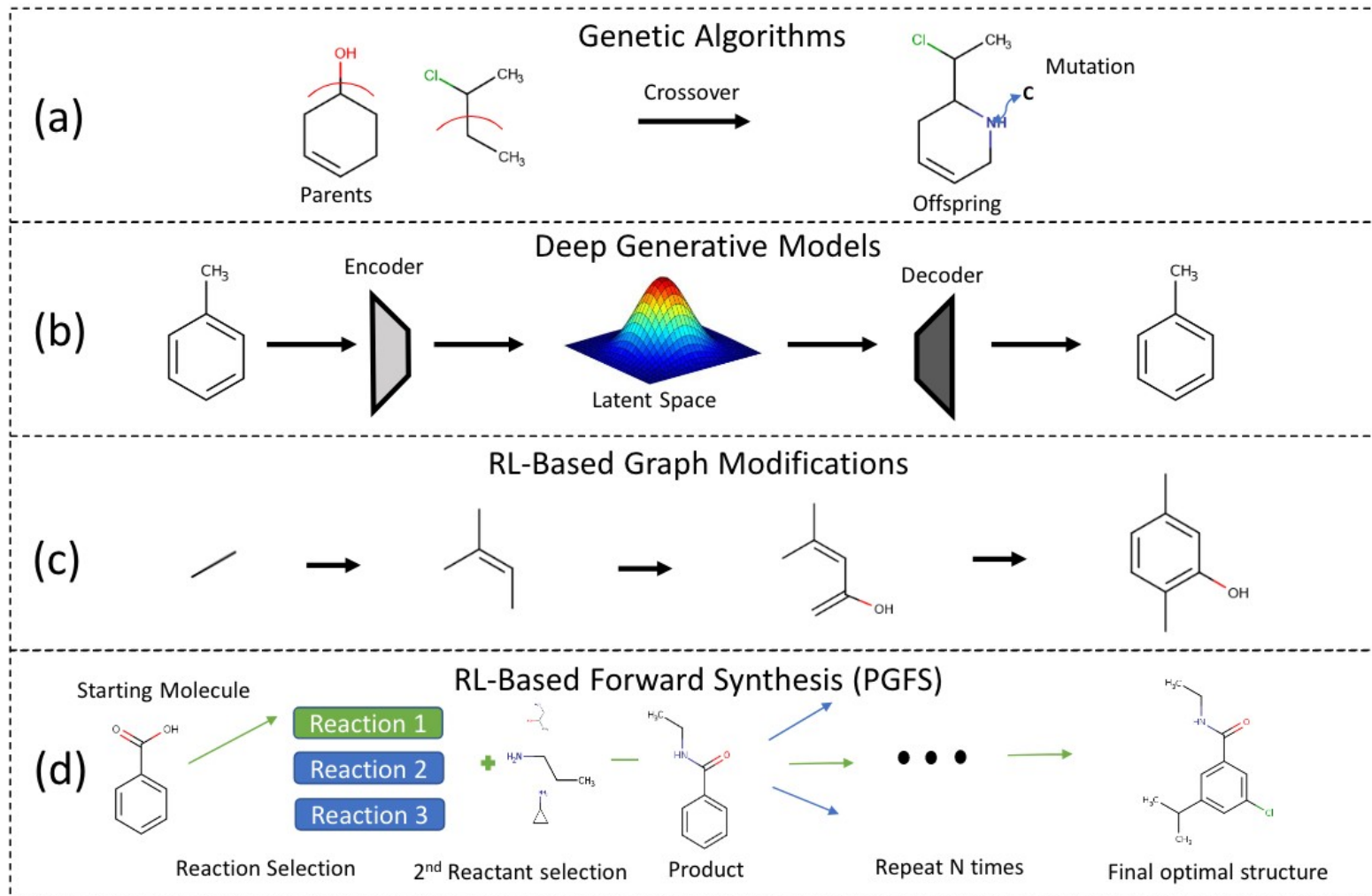
Problem:

Chemists take a significant amount of time **manually tweak** the structure of molecules,  
and still not produce molecules with desired properties...



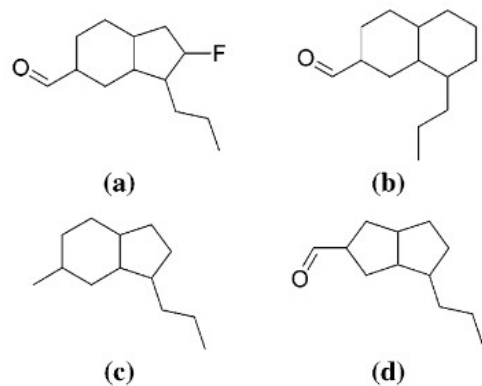
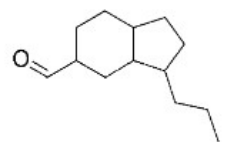
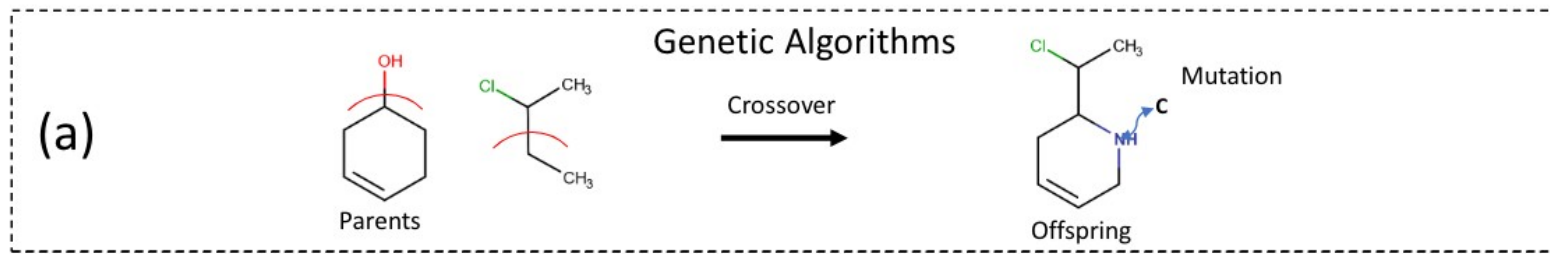
Solution:

## Use ML to Generate molecular graphs

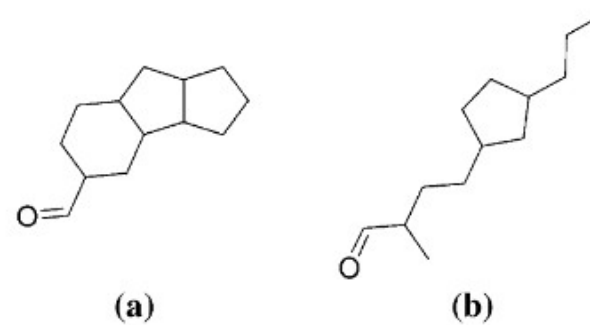


Various types of  
Generative Models

And also GFlowNets

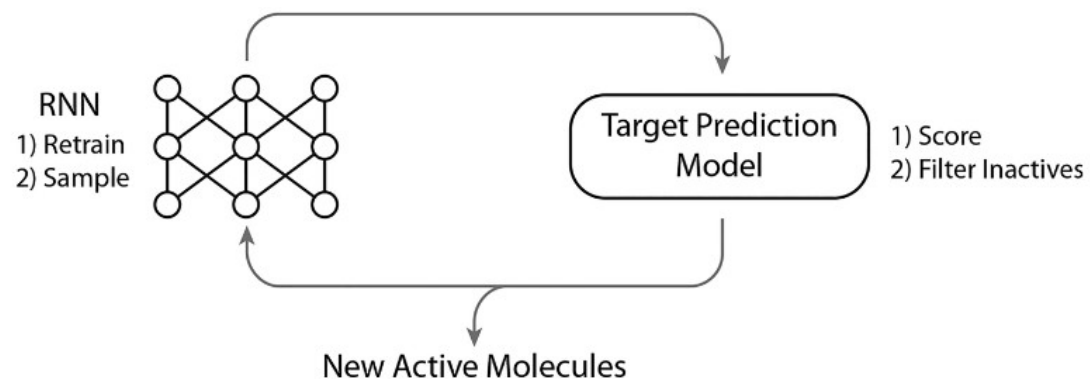
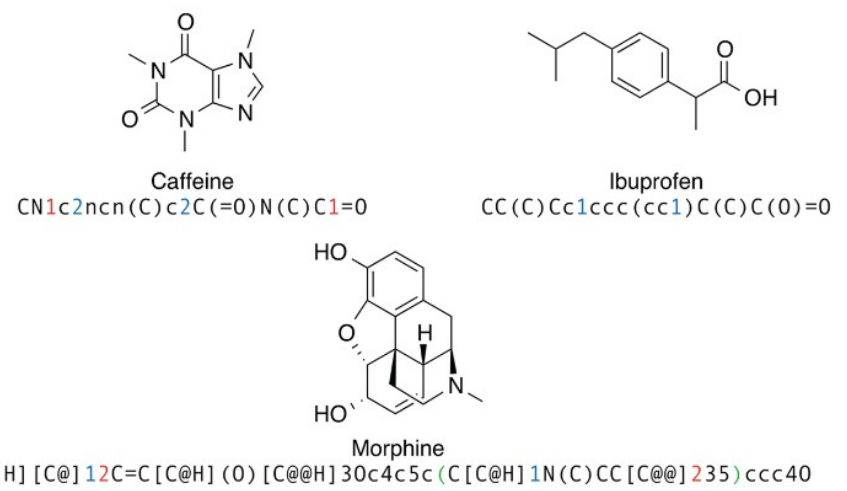
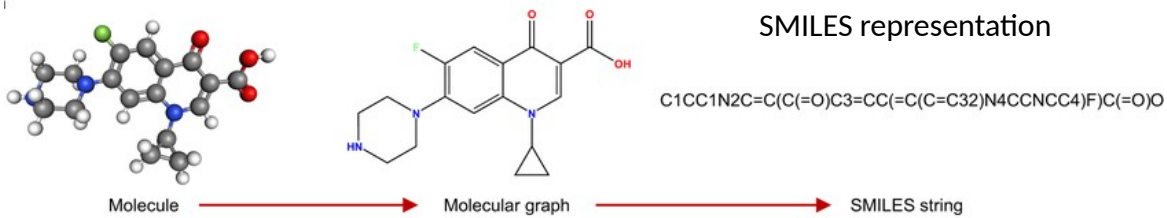
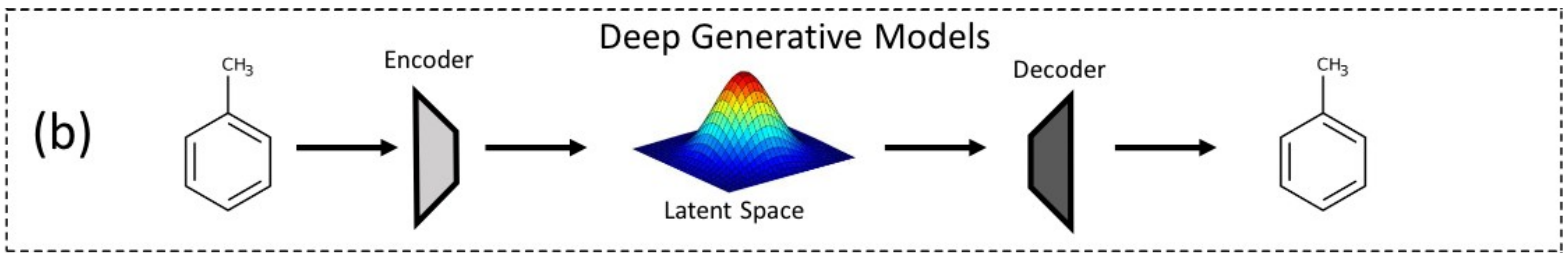


**Node mutation** operators (a) append, (b) insert, (c) prune, and (d) delete



**Edge mutation** operators (a) add and (b) delete

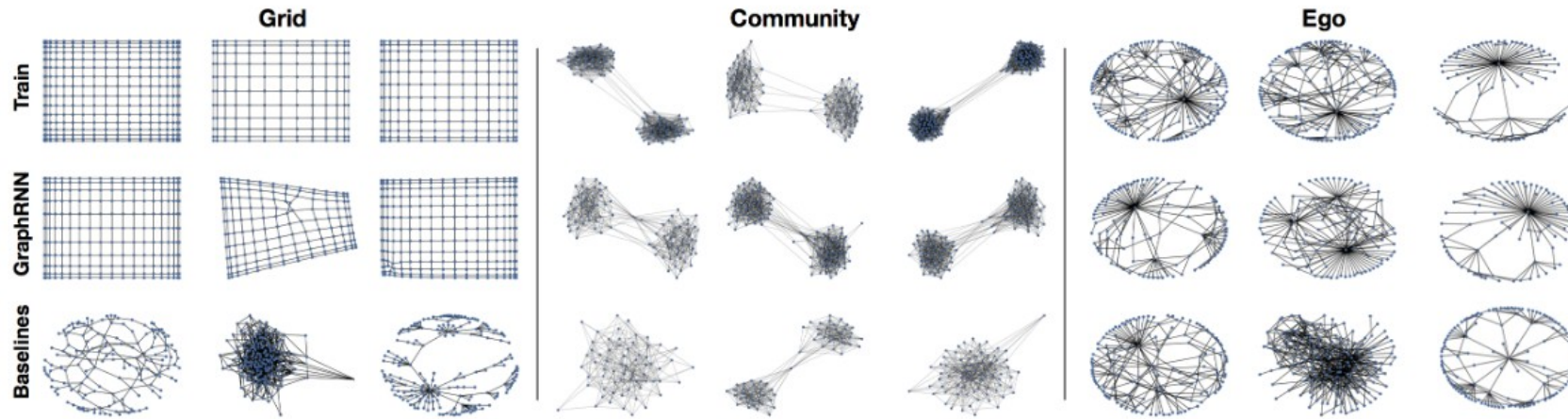
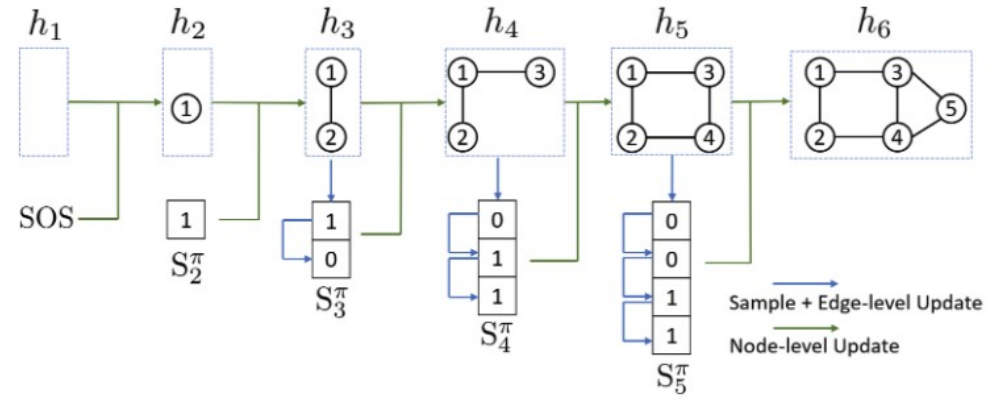
Then Crossover ...  
Subgraph Crossover ...

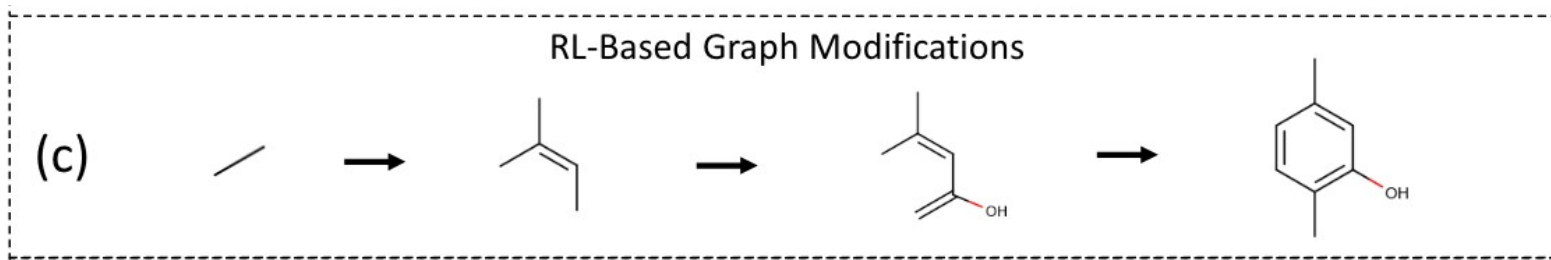


Segler, M. H. S., Kogej, T., Tyrchan, C., & Waller, M. P. (2018). SMILES\_Generating Focused Molecule Libraries for Drug Discovery with Recurrent Neural Networks. *ACS Central Science*, 4(1), 120–131. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acscentsci.7b00512>

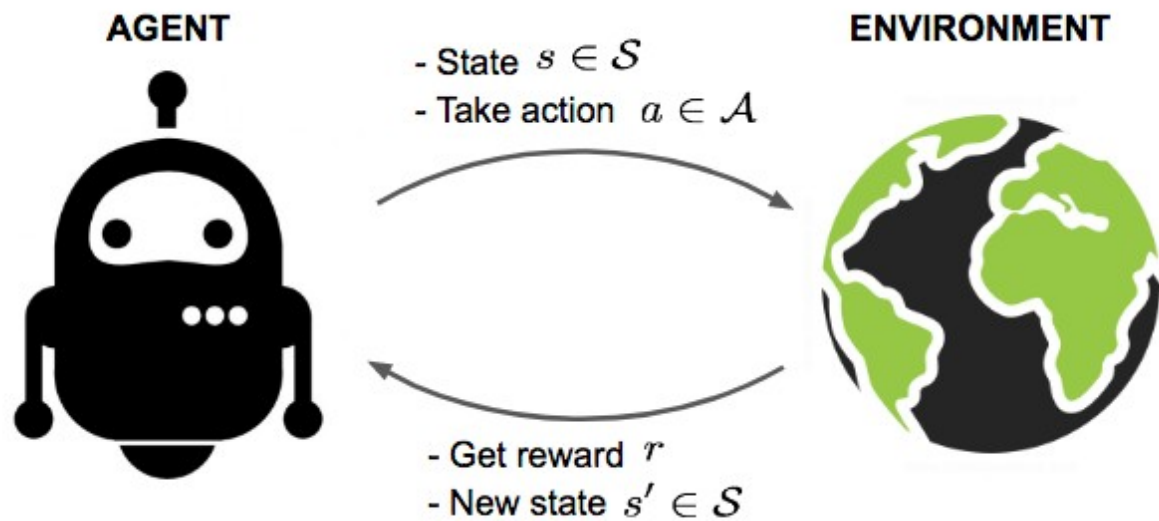
Popova, M., Shvets, M., Oliva, J., & Isayev, O. (2019). *MolecularRNN: Generating realistic molecular graphs with optimized properties* (arXiv:1905.13372). arXiv. <http://arxiv.org/abs/1905.13372>

# GraphRNN: Deep Generative Models for Graphs

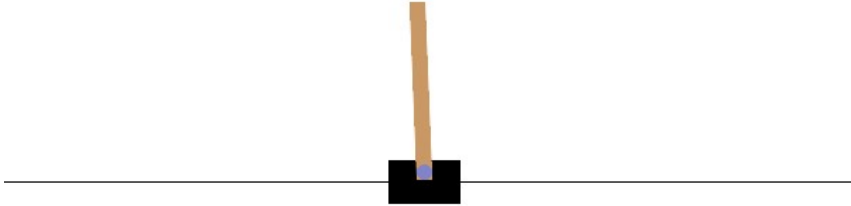




Brief intro of RL



e.g. Cart  
Pole



Action:

- 0: Push cart to the left
- 1: Push cart to the right

State:

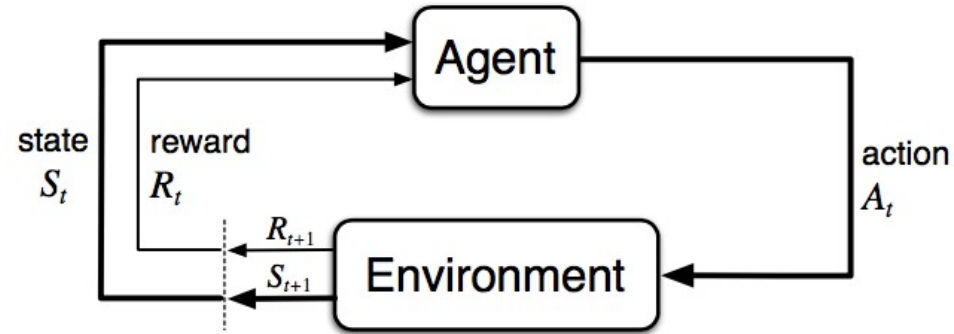
Cart Position
Cart Velocity
Pole Angle
Pole Angular Velocity

Rewards:

Since the goal is to keep the pole upright for as long as possible, a reward of +1 for every step taken.

So What is a RL Model?

Markov Decision Processes  
(mathematical formalism)



More formally, almost all the RL problems can be framed as **Markov Decision Processes (MDP)**

$$\mathbb{P}[S_{t+1}|S_t] = \mathbb{P}[S_{t+1}|S_1, \dots, S_t]$$

one **transition** step:  $(s, a, s', r)$

A Markov decision process consists of five elements  $M = \langle S, A, P, R, \gamma \rangle$ ,

- $S$  - a set of states
- $A$  - a set of actions

- $P$  - transition probability function

$$P_{ss'}^a = P(s'|s, a) = \mathbb{P}[S_{t+1} = s' | S_t = s, A_t = a] = \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}} P(s', r | s, a)$$

- $R$  - reward function

$$R(s, a) = \mathbb{E}[R_{t+1} | S_t = s, A_t = a] = \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}} r \sum_{s' \in \mathcal{S}} P(s', r | s, a)$$

- $\gamma$  - discounting factor for future rewards. (0 ~ 1, importance to the current state)

(In an **unknown environment**, we do not have perfect knowledge)

And What is the model Learning?

The **policy function**  $\pi$  is what we try to learn in reinforcement learning. (also, the value function  $V(s)$ )  
 $\pi(s) = a$

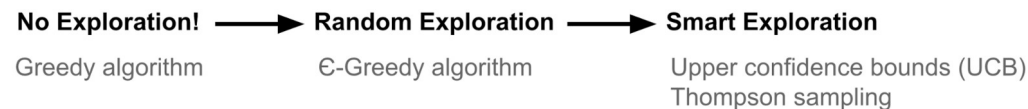
We'd like to find a **optimal policy**  $\pi(s)$  that provides the guideline on what is the optimal action to take in a certain state with **the goal to maximize the total rewards**.

How to update the policy during each episode?

How to evaluate the Policy, and improve the policy iteratively?

Can we Improve the policy greedily ? (go to the state w probable highest value)

trade-off between **Exploitation** and **Exploration**



Common Approaches:

$$\pi_0 \xrightarrow{\text{evaluation}} V_{\pi_0} \xrightarrow{\text{improve}} \pi_1 \xrightarrow{\text{evaluation}} V_{\pi_1} \xrightarrow{\text{improve}} \pi_2 \xrightarrow{\text{evaluation}} \dots \xrightarrow{\text{improve}} \pi_* \xrightarrow{\text{evaluation}} V_*$$

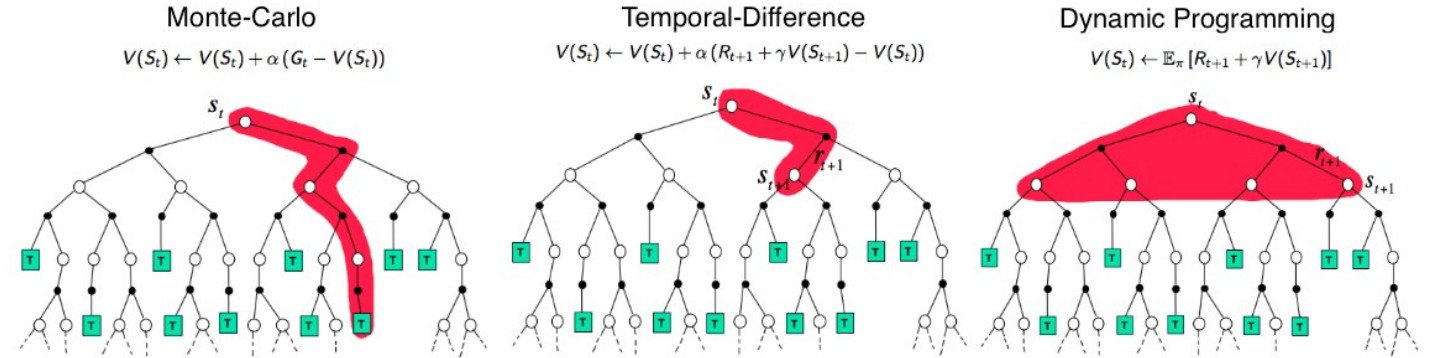
Dynamic Programming

Monte-Carlo Methods

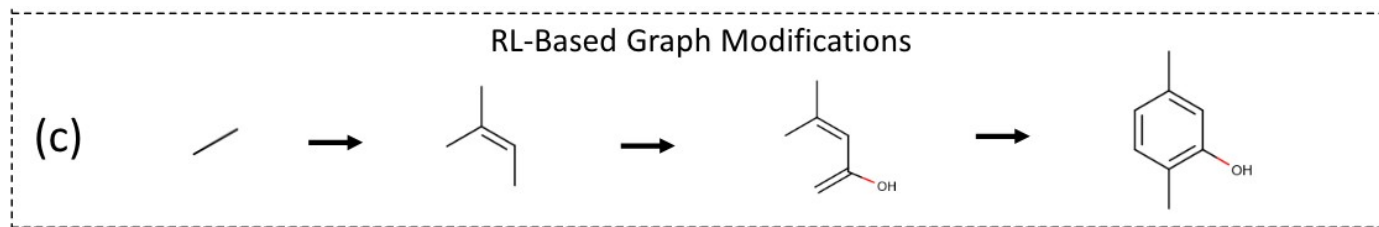
Temporal-Difference (TD Learning) (Q-Learning)

Policy Gradient (gradient ascent)

Evolution Strategies

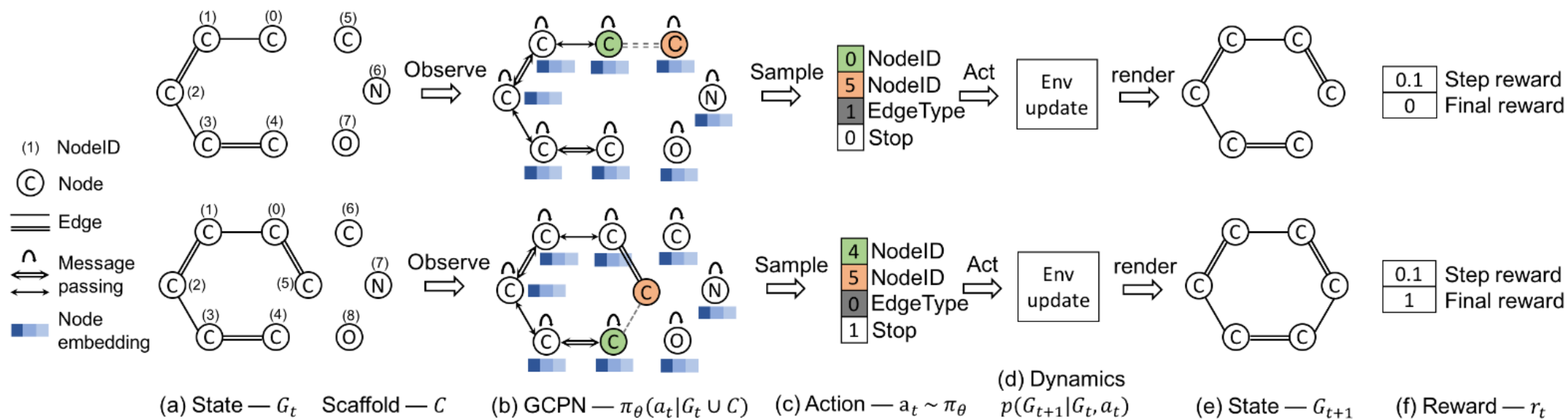


# Molecular Graph Generation by RL



Compared to the previous methods,

RL allows active exploration of the molecule space beyond samples in a dataset



scaffold subgraphs  $\{C_1, \dots, C_s\}$

---

link prediction

---

$G_t \cup C$

You, J., Liu, B., Ying, Z., Pande, V., & Leskovec, J. (2018).

GCPN\_Graph Convolutional Policy Network for Goal-Directed Molecular Graph Generation.

*Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 31. [https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper\\_files/paper/2018/hash/d60678e8f2ba9c540798ebbde31177e8-Abstract.html](https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper_files/paper/2018/hash/d60678e8f2ba9c540798ebbde31177e8-Abstract.html)

Zhou, Z., Kearnes, S., Li, L., Zare, R. N., & Riley, P. (2019).

MolDQN\_Optimization of Molecules via Deep Reinforcement Learning. *Scientific Reports*, 9(1), 10752. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-47148-x>

# GRN

