Exercise Sheet Equivariant Neural Networks

Exercise 1: Rotational equivariance (40 P)

In this excercise, we will derive an equivariant function given a function $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ that is invariant to the rotation group, i.e.

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f(g\mathbf{x})$$

for any $g \in SO(n)$.

Hint: Use the fact that g is orthogonal.

(a) Show that f(x) = ||x|| is invariant under SO(n).

$$||g\boldsymbol{x}|| = \sqrt{\boldsymbol{x}^T g^T g \, \boldsymbol{x}}$$
$$= \sqrt{\boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{x}}$$
$$= ||\boldsymbol{x}||$$

(b) Show that the derivative of any f is equivariant under SO(n):

$$g\nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \nabla f(g\boldsymbol{x})$$

for any $g \in SO(n)$.

Take the derivative on both sides of invariance relation:

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}}(\boldsymbol{x}) &= \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}) \\ \frac{\partial f \circ g}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}}(\boldsymbol{x}) &= g^T \nabla f(g \boldsymbol{x}) \\ \Rightarrow \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}) &= g^T \nabla f(g \boldsymbol{x}) \\ \Rightarrow g \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}) &= g g^T \nabla f(g \boldsymbol{x}) = \nabla f(g \boldsymbol{x}) \end{split}$$

(c) Calculate the gradient $u(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla \|\mathbf{x}\|$ to obtain an equivariant function $u : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$.

$$u(\boldsymbol{x}) = \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{x}{\|x\|}$$

(d) Analog to (c), derive an equivariant function $v: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

$$v(\boldsymbol{x}) = H_f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}} \frac{x}{\|x\|} = \frac{I \|\boldsymbol{x}\|^2 - xx^T}{\|x\|^3}$$

Exercise 2: Programming (60 P)

Download the programming files on ISIS and follow the instructions.