

Symmetric neural networks

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1 General case for $y = Ax$

$$\boxed{\text{original}} \quad y_j = \sum_i a_{ij} x_i. \quad (1)$$

Equivariance implies:

$$\begin{aligned} \boxed{\text{swapped}} \quad y_j \cdot \sigma(x_j \ x_k) &= y_k \quad \boxed{\text{original}} \\ \sum_i \square + a_{kj} x_j + a_{jj} x_k &= \sum_i \square + a_{jk} x_j + a_{kk} x_k \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where \square denotes “the rest of the elements”.

This gives us a set of equations:

$$a_{kj} x_j + a_{jj} x_k = a_{jk} x_j + a_{kk} x_k \quad \forall x_j, x_k \quad (3)$$

for $(j \ k) \in \mathfrak{S}_n$.

By setting x_j and x_k to zero, this yields:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{kj} &= a_{jk} & \forall j, k \\ a_{jj} &= a_{kk} & \forall j, k. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

In other words, the matrix A is of the form:

$$A = \alpha I + \beta 11^T. \quad (5)$$

2 Case for $y_k = A_k x \cdot x$

The general form of a “quadratic” vector function is:

$$y = (Ax) \cdot x + Bx + C. \quad (6)$$

We just focus on the quadratic term $(Ax) \cdot x$:

$$\boxed{\text{original}} \quad y_k = \sum_j \left[\sum_i a_{ij}^k x_i \right] x_j. \quad (7)$$

Equivariance implies:

$$\boxed{\text{swapped}} \quad y_k \cdot \sigma(x_k \ x_h) = y_h \quad \boxed{\text{original}} \quad (8)$$

$$\sum_{j \neq h, k} \sum_{i \neq h, k} a_{ij}^k x_i x_j + a_{hh}^k x_k^2 + a_{kh}^k x_h x_k + a_{hk}^k x_k x_h + a_{kk}^k x_h^2 = \sum_{j \neq h, k} \sum_{i \neq h, k} a_{ij}^h x_i x_j + a_{hh}^h x_h^2 + a_{kh}^h x_k x_h + a_{hk}^h x_h x_k + a_{kk}^h x_k^2$$

which yields:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{ij}^h &= a_{ij}^k & \forall h, k, (i, j) \neq (h, k) \\ a_{hh}^h &= a_{kk}^k & \forall h, k \\ a_{hh}^k &= a_{kk}^h & \forall h, k \\ a_{kh}^k + a_{hk}^k &= a_{kh}^h + a_{hk}^h & \forall h, k. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$