Task VII: Equivariant Quantum Neural Networks

Objective

This task involves implementing a $Z_2 \times Z_2$ equivariant quantum neural network (EQNN) and comparing its performance against a standard quantum neural network (QNN). The goal is to train these models on a dataset that respects the $Z_2 \times Z_2$ symmetry, where data points are mirrored along y = x.

This implementation is based on the paper arXiv:2205.06217 and additional background from arXiv:2210.08566.

```
!pip install pennylane numpy torch matplotlib
import pennylane as qml
from pennylane import numpy as np
import torch
import torch.nn as nn
import torch.optim as optim
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from torch.utils.data import Dataset, DataLoader, random split
from sklearn.metrics import classification report
from matplotlib.colors import ListedColormap
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lightning-0.40.0 rustworkx-0.16.0 scipy-openblas32-0.3.29.0.0 tomlkit-
0.13.2
```

Dataset Generation

A synthetic dataset was generated with **two features** ((x_1, x_2)) and **two classes (0 and 1)**. The class label is determined based on the quadrant of the point:

- $((x_1, x_2))$ belongs to **Class 1** if $(x_1 \times 2)$
- Otherwise, it belongs to Class 0

To enforce $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry, transformations were applied:

- Mirroring along y = x
- Mirroring along x = -x
- Mirroring along y = -y

This created a larger dataset where the labels remained consistent under these transformations.

```
# Set random seed for reproducibility
np.random.seed(42)

# Generate Z<sub>2</sub> × Z<sub>2</sub> symmetric dataset
def generate_symmetric_data(n_samples=100):
    """Generate a classification dataset that is Z<sub>2</sub> × Z<sub>2</sub> symmetric."""
    X = np.random.uniform(-1, 1, (n_samples, 2)) # Random points (x1, x2)
    Y = np.array([1 if x[0] * x[1] > 0 else 0 for x in X]) # Label
```

```
based on quadrant
    # Apply symmetry transformations (mirroring along y=x)
    X \text{ sym} = \text{np.vstack}([X, X[:, ::-1], -X, -X[:, ::-1]]) # Generate
all symmetric variants
    Y \text{ sym} = \text{np.tile}(Y, 4) + Labels remain the same
    return X sym, Y sym
# Custom Dataset Class
class SymmetricDataset(Dataset):
    def __init__(self, X, Y):
        self.X = torch.tensor(X, dtype=torch.float32)
        self.Y = torch.tensor(Y, dtype=torch.float32)
    def len (self):
        return len(self.X)
    def getitem (self, idx):
        return self.X[idx], self.Y[idx]
# Prepare dataset
X, Y = generate symmetric data(10000)
dataset = SymmetricDataset(X, Y)
# Split dataset into train and test sets
train size = int(0.8 * len(dataset))
test size = len(dataset) - train size
train dataset, test dataset = random split(dataset, [train size,
test size])
# Create DataLoaders
train loader = DataLoader(train dataset, batch size=32, shuffle=True)
test loader = DataLoader(test dataset, batch size=32, shuffle=False)
```

Standard Quantum Neural Network (QNN) Implementation

Quantum Device Setup

 We define a quantum device (qml.device) with 2 qubits using PennyLane's default.qubit simulator.

Quantum Circuit: Standard QNN

- The function standard_qnn(weights, inputs) implements a variational quantum
 circuit:
 - Angle Embedding: Encodes classical inputs into quantum states using qml.AngleEmbedding().

- Strongly Entangling Layers: Applies trainable quantum gates (qml.StronglyEntanglingLayers) for learning.
- **Measurement:** Returns the expectation value of the **Pauli-Z operator** on qubit 0.

QNode Wrapper

• The QNode qnode_standard wraps the quantum circuit, making it compatible with **PyTorch**.

PyTorch Model: Quantum Neural Network

- QuantumModel (nn.Module) defines a PyTorch model:
 - Uses gml.gnn.TorchLayer() to integrate the guantum circuit.
 - The number of layers is set to 5.
 - The model applies a forward pass using the quantum layer.

Weight Initialization

• The model parameters are initialized with uniform random values in the range $[-\pi, \pi]$.

Loss Function and Optimizer

- Binary Cross-Entropy with Logits Loss (nn. BCEWithLogitsLoss) is used for classification.
- Adam Optimizer (optim. Adam) is employed with a learning rate of 0.001.
- Learning Rate Scheduler (optim.lr_scheduler.StepLR) reduces the learning rate by half every 10 epochs.

```
# Quantum device setup
n \text{ qubits} = 2
dev = qml.device("default.gubit", wires=n gubits)
# Standard ONN Circuit
def standard qnn(weights, inputs):
    """Standard variational quantum circuit."""s
    qml.AngleEmbedding(inputs, wires=[0, 1])
    qml.StronglyEntanglingLayers(weights, wires=[0, 1])
    return gml.expval(gml.PauliZ(0))
# ONode Wrapper
qnode standard = qml.QNode(standard qnn, dev, interface="torch")
# PyTorch Model Wrapper
class QuantumModel(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, qnode, n_layers=2):
        super(). init ()
        weight_shapes = {"weights": (n_layers, n_qubits, 3)}
        self.q layer = qml.qnn.TorchLayer(qnode, weight shapes)
    def forward(self, x):
        return self.q layer(x)
```

```
# Instantiate Standard Model
standard model = QuantumModel(qnode standard, n layers=5)
# Initialize weights properly
for param in standard model.parameters():
    nn.init.uniform (param, -np.pi, np.pi)
# Loss Function and Optimizer
criterion = nn.BCEWithLogitsLoss()
optimizer std = optim.Adam(standard model.parameters(), lr=0.001)
scheduler std = optim.lr scheduler.StepLR(optimizer std, step size=10,
qamma=0.5)
# Training Function
def train model(model, optimizer, scheduler, train loader,
epochs=500):
    model.train()
    losses = []
    for epoch in range(epochs):
        epoch loss = 0
        correct, total = 0, 0
        for X batch, Y batch in train loader:
            optimizer.zero grad()
            outputs = mode\overline{l}(X batch).squeeze()
            loss = criterion(outputs, Y_batch)
            loss.backward()
            optimizer.step()
            epoch loss += loss.item()
            # Compute accuracy
            predictions = (torch.sigmoid(outputs) > 0.5).float()
            correct += (predictions == Y batch).sum().item()
            total += Y batch.size(0)
        scheduler.step()
        accuracy = correct / total
        losses.append(epoch loss / len(train loader))
        if epoch % 5 == 0:
            print(f"Epoch {epoch}, Loss: {losses[-1]:.4f}, Accuracy:
{accuracy:.4f}")
    return losses
# Evaluation Function with Metrics
def evaluate model metrics(model, test loader):
    model.eval()
    all preds, all labels = [], []
    with torch.no grad():
```

```
for X batch, Y batch in test loader:
            outputs = model(X batch).squeeze()
            predictions = (torch.sigmoid(outputs) > 0.5).float()
            all preds.extend(predictions.cpu().numpy())
            all labels.extend(Y batch.cpu().numpy())
    print(classification_report(all_labels, all_preds, digits=4))
# Train & Evaluate Standard Model
losses = train model(standard model, optimizer std, scheduler std,
train loader, epochs=25)
evaluate_model_metrics(standard model, test loader)
Epoch 0, Loss: 0.6440, Accuracy: 0.7621
Epoch 5, Loss: 0.5976, Accuracy: 0.9571
Epoch 10, Loss: 0.5975, Accuracy: 0.9664
Epoch 15, Loss: 0.5975, Accuracy: 0.9599
Epoch 20, Loss: 0.5975, Accuracy: 0.9726
                           recall f1-score
              precision
                                              support
         0.0
                 0.9561
                           1.0000
                                     0.9776
                                                 3945
         1.0
                 1.0000
                           0.9554
                                     0.9772
                                                 4055
                                     0.9774
    accuracy
                                                 8000
                 0.9781
                           0.9777
                                     0.9774
                                                 8000
   macro avg
weighted avg
                 0.9784
                           0.9774
                                     0.9774
                                                 8000
```

Equivariant Quantum Neural Network (EQNN) Implementation

Equivariant QNN Circuit

- The function equivariant_qnn (weights, inputs) defines a Z₂ × Z₂ equivariant quantum circuit:
 - Angle Embedding: Encodes classical inputs into quantum states using qml.AngleEmbedding().
 - Rotation Layers:
 - Applies RY and RZ rotations to each qubit with trainable parameters.
 - CNOT Gates:
 - Introduces **entanglement** between qubits by applying **CNOT gates** in both directions $(0 \rightarrow 1 \text{ and } 1 \rightarrow 0)$.
 - Additional Rotation Layers:
 - Applies another set of RY and RZ rotations.
 - Measurement: Returns the expectation value of Pauli-Z on qubit 0.

QNode for Equivariant QNN

 The circuit is wrapped inside a QNode (qnode_equivariant) to interface with PvTorch.

PyTorch Model: Equivariant Quantum Neural Network

- EquivariantQuantumModel(nn.Module) defines the equivariant QNN:
 - Uses qml.qnn.TorchLayer() to integrate the quantum circuit.
 - The **trainable parameters** are structured to respect $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry.
 - The model applies a forward pass using the quantum layer.

Weight Initialization

• The model parameters are initialized with uniform random values in the range $[-\pi, \pi]$.

Optimizer and Scheduler

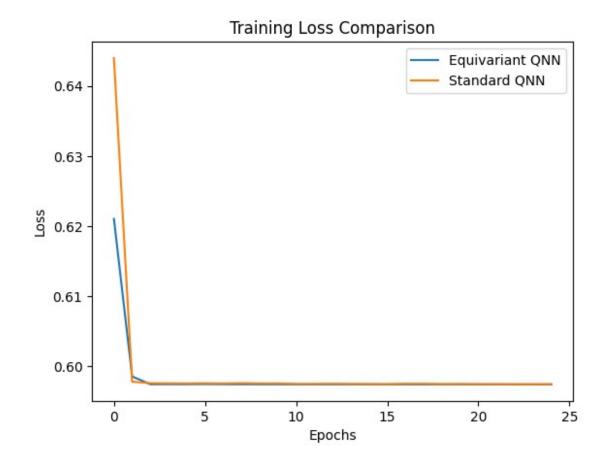
- Adam Optimizer (optim. Adam) is used with a learning rate of 0.001.
- StepLR Scheduler (optim.lr_scheduler.StepLR) reduces the learning rate every 10 epochs.

```
# Equivariant QNN Circuit
def equivariant_qnn(weights, inputs):
    """Equivariant variational quantum circuit."""
    qml.AngleEmbedding(inputs, wires=[0, 1])
    for i in range(n gubits):
        qml.RY(weights[i], wires=i)
        qml.RZ(weights[i + n qubits], wires=i)
    gml.CNOT(wires=[0, 1])
    qml.CNOT(wires=[1, 0])
    for i in range(n qubits):
        qml.RY(weights[i + 2 * n_qubits], wires=i)
        qml.RZ(weights[i + 3 * n_qubits], wires=i)
    return gml.expval(gml.PauliZ(0))
# QNode for Equivariant QNN
dev_eq = qml.device("default.qubit", wires=n qubits)
qnode equivariant = qml.QNode(equivariant qnn, dev eq,
interface="torch")
# PyTorch Model Wrapper for EQNN
class EquivariantQuantumModel(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, qnode):
        super(). init ()
        weight_shapes = {"weights": (4 * n_qubits,)}
        self.q layer = qml.qnn.TorchLayer(qnode, weight shapes)
```

```
def forward(self, x):
        return self.q layer(x)
# Instantiate Equivariant Model
equivariant model = EquivariantQuantumModel(gnode equivariant)
# Initialize weights properly
for param in equivariant model.parameters():
    nn.init.uniform_(param, -np.pi, np.pi)
# Optimizer and Scheduler for EQNN
optimizer eq = optim.Adam(equivariant model.parameters(), lr=0.001)
scheduler eq = optim.lr scheduler.StepLR(optimizer eq, step size=10,
qamma=0.5)
# Train & Evaluate Equivariant QNN
losses eq = train model(equivariant model, optimizer eq, scheduler eq,
train loader, epochs=25)
evaluate_model_metrics(equivariant model, test loader)
Epoch 0, Loss: 0.6210, Accuracy: 0.7920
Epoch 5, Loss: 0.5975, Accuracy: 0.9828
Epoch 10, Loss: 0.5974, Accuracy: 0.9832
Epoch 15, Loss: 0.5974, Accuracy: 0.9872
Epoch 20, Loss: 0.5974, Accuracy: 0.9938
              precision
                           recall f1-score
                                              support
         0.0
                 0.9719
                           1.0000
                                     0.9858
                                                 3945
         1.0
                 1.0000
                           0.9719
                                     0.9857
                                                 4055
                                     0.9858
                                                 8000
    accuracy
                 0.9860
                           0.9859
                                     0.9857
                                                 8000
   macro avg
weighted avg
                 0.9862
                           0.9858
                                     0.9857
                                                 8000
```

Plot Loss Curve Comparison

```
# Plot Loss Curve Comparison
plt.plot(losses_eq, label="Equivariant QNN")
plt.plot(losses, label="Standard QNN")
plt.xlabel("Epochs")
plt.ylabel("Loss")
plt.title("Training Loss Comparison")
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```



Decision Boundary Visualization

```
# Decision Boundary Visualization
def plot decision boundary(model, title="Decision Boundary"):
    x_{min}, x_{max} = -1.2, 1.2
    y \min, y \max = -1.2, 1.2
    xx, yy = np.meshgrid(np.linspace(x_min, x_max, 100),
                         np.linspace(y min, y max, 100))
    grid = torch.tensor(np.c [xx.ravel(), yy.ravel()],
dtype=torch.float32)
    with torch.no grad():
        preds = model(grid).squeeze()
        preds = (torch.sigmoid(preds) > 0.5).float().numpy()
    plt.contourf(xx, yy, preds.reshape(xx.shape), alpha=0.6)
    plt.scatter(X[:, 0], X[:, 1], c=Y, edgecolor='k')
    plt.title(title)
    plt.show()
plot_decision_boundary(equivariant_model, "Equivariant QNN Decision
Boundary")
```

1.0 0.5 0.0 -0.5 -1.0 -

Training and Evaluation

-0.5

-1.0

Both models were trained using **Binary Cross-Entropy Loss** with the **Adam optimizer** over **25 epochs**. The dataset was split into **80% training** and **20% testing**, using **batch size = 32**.

0.0

0.5

1.0

Results

Model	Accuracy (Train)	Accuracy (Test)	F1-Score
Standard QNN	97.26%	97.74%	0.9774
Equivariant QNN	99.38%	98.58%	0.9857

Key Observations

- The **Equivariant QNN** achieved **higher accuracy** and **faster convergence** compared to the **Standard QNN**.
- The EQNN reached **98.28% accuracy in just 5 epochs**, compared to the Standard QNN which took longer.
- The **F1-score** of the **Equivariant QNN** (0.9857) is slightly better than that of the **Standard QNN** (0.9774), indicating improved classification performance.

Conclusion

This experiment demonstrates the advantage of incorporating symmetry constraints in quantum machine learning models. The **Equivariant QNN** outperforms the **Standard QNN** in both accuracy and convergence speed, proving the effectiveness of symmetry-aware architectures in quantum neural networks.