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# QuatRE: Relation-Aware Quaternions for Knowledge Graph Embeddings

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## Abstract

We propose an effective embedding model, named QuatRE, to learn quaternion embeddings for entities and relations in knowledge graphs. QuatRE aims to enhance correlations between head and tail entities given a relation within the Quaternion space with Hamilton product. QuatRE achieves this goal by further associating each relation with two relation-aware quaternion vectors which are used to rotate the head and tail entities' quaternion embeddings, respectively. To obtain the triple score, QuatRE rotates the rotated embedding of the head entity using the normalized quaternion embedding of the relation, followed by a quaternion-inner product with the rotated embedding of the tail entity. Experimental results demonstrate that our QuatRE produces state-of-the-art performances on well-known benchmark datasets for knowledge graph completion. Our code is available at: <https://github.com/daiquocnguyen/QuatRE>.

## 1 Introduction

Knowledge graphs (KGs) are constructed to represent relationships between entities in the form of triples (*head*, *relation*, *tail*) denoted as  $(h, r, t)$ . A typical problem in KGs is the lack of many valid triples [37]; therefore, research approaches have been proposed to predict whether a new triple missed in KGs is likely valid [4, 3, 28]. These approaches often utilize embedding models to compute a score for each triple, such that valid triples have higher scores than invalid ones. For example, the score of the valid triple (Melbourne, city\_Of, Australia) is higher than the score of the invalid one (Melbourne, city\_Of, Germany).

Most of the aforementioned existing models focus on embedding entities and relations within the real-valued vector space [3, 36, 14, 39, 5, 18, 19]. Moving beyond real-valued vector space, ComplEx [33] and RotatE [29] consider the complex vector space, while MuRP [1] leverages the hyperbolic space. Recently the use of hyper-complex vector space has considered on the Quaternion space  $\mathbb{H}$  consisting of a real and three separate imaginary axes [41, 8, 25, 24]. The Quaternion space provides highly expressive computations through Hamilton product compared to the real-valued and complex vector spaces [31, 23]. QuatE [40] is proposed to embed entities and relations in KGs within the Quaternion space. QuatE uses a Hamilton product-based rotation followed by a quaternion-inner product to produce the triple score. QuatE is considered as one of recent state-of-the-art models as it outperforms up-to-date strong baselines for knowledge graph completion.

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QuatE, however, has a limitation in capturing the correlations between the head and tail entities. Addressing the problem, we propose an effective embedding model, named QuatRE, to learn the quaternion embeddings for entities and relations. QuatRE further utilizes two relation-aware quaternion vectors for each relation to rotate the head and tail embeddings through the Hamilton product, respectively. As a result, QuatRE strengthens the correlations between the head and tail entities. Experimental results demonstrate that our QuatRE obtains state-of-the-art performances on well-known benchmark datasets for the knowledge graph completion task; thus, it can act as a new strong baseline for future works.

## 2 The approach

### 2.1 Quaternion background

We provide key notations and operations related to quaternion space required for our model. Additional details can further be found in the appendix.

A quaternion  $q \in \mathbb{H}$  is a hyper-complex number consisting of a real and three separate imaginary components [10] defined as:  $q = q_r + q_i\mathbf{i} + q_j\mathbf{j} + q_k\mathbf{k}$ , where  $q_r, q_i, q_j, q_k \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$  are imaginary units that  $\mathbf{i}\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{i}^2 = \mathbf{j}^2 = \mathbf{k}^2 = -1$ , leads to noncommutative multiplication rules as  $\mathbf{i}\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{j}\mathbf{i} = -\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{j}\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{k}\mathbf{j} = -\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{k}\mathbf{i} = \mathbf{j}$ , and  $\mathbf{i}\mathbf{k} = -\mathbf{j}$ . Correspondingly, a  $n$ -dimensional quaternion vector  $q \in \mathbb{H}^n$  is defined as:  $q = q_r + q_i\mathbf{i} + q_j\mathbf{j} + q_k\mathbf{k}$ , where  $q_r, q_i, q_j, q_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Norm.** The normalized quaternion vector  $q^\triangleleft$  of  $q \in \mathbb{H}^n$  is computed as:  $q^\triangleleft = \frac{q_r + q_i\mathbf{i} + q_j\mathbf{j} + q_k\mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{q_r^2 + q_i^2 + q_j^2 + q_k^2}}$

**Hamilton product.** The Hamilton product of two vectors  $q$  and  $p \in \mathbb{H}^n$  is computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} q \otimes p &= (q_r \circ p_r - q_i \circ p_i - q_j \circ p_j - q_k \circ p_k) + (q_i \circ p_r + q_r \circ p_i - q_k \circ p_j + q_j \circ p_k)\mathbf{i} \\ &\quad + (q_j \circ p_r + q_k \circ p_i + q_r \circ p_j - q_i \circ p_k)\mathbf{j} + (q_k \circ p_r - q_j \circ p_i + q_i \circ p_j + q_r \circ p_k)\mathbf{k} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where  $\circ$  denotes the element-wise product. We note that the Hamilton product is not commutative, i.e.,  $q \otimes p \neq p \otimes q$ .

**Quaternion-inner product.** The quaternion-inner product  $\bullet$  of two quaternion vectors  $q$  and  $p \in \mathbb{H}^n$  returns a scalar, which is computed as:  $q \bullet p = q_r^\top p_r + q_i^\top p_i + q_j^\top p_j + q_k^\top p_k$ .

**QuatE:** QuatE [40] computes the score of the triple  $(h, r, t)$  as:  $(v_h \otimes v_r^\triangleleft) \bullet v_t$ , where  $v_h, v_r, v_t \in \mathbb{H}^n$ . It is noted that only using the quaternion embeddings  $v_h, v_r, v_t$  to obtain the triple score might lead to the problem of struggling to strengthen the relation-aware correlations between the head and tail entities. Thus, arguably this could lower the performance of QuatE. Our key contribution is to overcome this limitation by integrating relation-aware quaternions to increase the correlations between the entities.

### 2.2 The proposed QuatRE

A knowledge graph (KG)  $\mathcal{G}$  is a collection of valid factual triples in the form of  $(head, relation, tail)$  denoted as  $(h, r, t)$  such that  $h, t \in \mathcal{E}$  and  $r \in \mathcal{R}$  where  $\mathcal{E}$  is a set of entities and  $\mathcal{R}$  is a set of relations. KG embedding models aim to embed entities and relations to a low-dimensional vector space to define a score function  $f$ . This function is to give an implausibility score for each triple  $(h, r, t)$ , such that the valid triples obtain higher scores than the invalid triples.

Given a triple  $(h, r, t)$ , QuatRE also represents the embeddings of entities and relations within the Quaternion space. QuatRE further associates each relation  $r$  with two quaternion vectors  $\mathbf{v}_{r,1}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_{r,2} \in \mathbb{H}^n$ . QuatRE then uses the Hamilton product to rotate  $v_h$  and  $v_t$  by the normalized vectors  $\mathbf{v}_{r,1}^\triangleleft$  and  $\mathbf{v}_{r,2}^\triangleleft$  respectively as:

$$v_{h,r,1} = v_h \otimes \mathbf{v}_{r,1}^\triangleleft \quad (2)$$

$$v_{t,r,2} = v_t \otimes \mathbf{v}_{r,2}^\triangleleft \quad (3)$$

After that, QuatRE also utilizes a Hamilton product-based rotation for  $v_{h,r,1}$  by the normalized quaternion embedding  $v_r^\triangleleft$ , then followed by a quaternion-inner product with  $v_{t,r,2}$  to produce the

triple score. The quaternion components of input vectors are shared during computing the Hamilton product, as shown in Equation 14. Therefore, QuatRE uses two rotations in Equations 2 and 3 for  $\mathbf{v}_h$  and  $\mathbf{v}_t$  to increase the correlations between the head  $h$  and tail  $t$  entities given the relation  $r$ , as illustrated in Figure 3.

Formally, we define the QuatRE score function  $f$  for the triple  $(h, r, t)$  as:

$$f(h, r, t) = (\mathbf{v}_{h,r,1} \otimes \mathbf{v}_r^\triangleleft) \bullet \mathbf{v}_{t,r,2} = ((\mathbf{v}_h \otimes \mathbf{v}_{r,1}^\triangleleft) \otimes \mathbf{v}_r^\triangleleft) \bullet (\mathbf{v}_t \otimes \mathbf{v}_{r,2}^\triangleleft)$$

**Proposition.** If we fix the real components of both  $\mathbf{v}_{r,1}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_{r,2}$  to  $\mathbf{1}$ , and fix the imaginary components of both  $\mathbf{v}_{r,1}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_{r,2}$  to  $\mathbf{0}$ , our QuatRE is simplified to QuatE. Hence the QuatRE’s derived formula might look simple as an extension of QuatE. However, to come with the extension, our original intuition is not straightforward, and this intuition has a deeper insight. Furthermore, given the same embedding dimension, QuatE and our QuatRE have comparable numbers of parameters.

**Learning process.** We employ the Adagrad optimizer [6] to train our proposed QuatRE by minimizing the following loss function [33] with the regularization on model parameters  $\theta$  as:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(h,r,t) \in \{\mathcal{G} \cup \mathcal{G}'\}} \log(1 + \exp(-l_{(h,r,t)} \cdot f(h, r, t))) + \lambda \|\theta\|_2^2 \quad (4)$$

$$\text{in which, } l_{(h,r,t)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } (h, r, t) \in \mathcal{G} \\ -1 & \text{for } (h, r, t) \in \mathcal{G}' \end{cases}$$

where we use  $l_2$ -norm with the regularization rate  $\lambda$ ; and  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}'$  are collections of valid and invalid triples, respectively.  $\mathcal{G}'$  is generated by corrupting valid triples in  $\mathcal{G}$ .

### 3 Experimental results

**Setup.** We present the statistics of the datasets, the evaluation protocol, the training protocol, the optimal hyper-parameters on the validation set for each dataset, and the conclusion in the appendix.

Table 1: Experimental results on the WN18RR and FB15k-237 test sets. Hits@ $k$  (H@ $k$ ) is reported in %. The best scores are in bold, while the second best scores are in underline. The results of TransE are taken from [18]. The results of DistMult and ComplEx are taken from [5].

We note that GC-OTE and RotatE<sub>Adv</sub> apply a self-adversarial negative sampling, which is different from the common negative sampling used in the previous baselines, QuatE and our QuatRE. Furthermore, GC-OTE, ReInceptionE, and R-GCN+ integrate information about relation paths. For a fair comparison, we do not compare our QuatRE with these models.

Method	WN18RR					FB15k-237				
	MR	MRR	H@10	H@3	H@1	MR	MRR	H@10	H@3	H@1
TransE [3]	3384	0.226	50.1	–	–	357	0.294	46.5	–	–
DistMult [39]	5110	0.430	49.0	44.0	39.0	254	0.241	41.9	26.3	15.5
ConvE [5]	5277	0.460	48.0	43.0	39.0	246	0.316	49.1	35.0	23.9
ConvKB [18]	2741	0.220	50.8	–	–	196	0.302	48.3	–	–
NKGE [35]	4170	0.450	52.6	46.5	42.1	237	0.330	51.0	36.5	24.1
InteractE [34]	5202	0.463	52.8	–	43.0	172	0.354	53.5	–	26.3
ComplEx [33]	5261	0.440	51.0	46.0	41.0	339	0.247	42.8	27.5	15.8
RotatE [29]	3277	0.470	56.5	48.8	42.2	185	0.297	48.0	32.8	20.5
MuRP [1]	–	0.481	56.6	49.5	<b>44.0</b>	–	0.335	51.8	36.7	24.3
QuatE [40]	<u>2314</u>	<u>0.488</u>	<u>58.2</u>	<u>50.8</u>	43.8	<b>87</b>	0.348	<u>55.0</u>	<u>38.2</u>	24.8
<b>QuatRE</b>	<b>1986</b>	<b>0.493</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<u>43.9</u>	<u>88</u>	<b>0.367</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>26.9</b>
GC-OTE [30]	–	0.491	58.3	51.1	44.2	–	0.361	55.0	39.6	26.7
ReInceptionE [38]	1894	0.483	58.2	–	–	173	0.349	52.8	–	–
RotatE <sub>Adv</sub> [29]	3340	0.476	57.1	49.2	42.8	177	0.338	53.3	37.5	24.1
R-GCN+ [27]	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.249	41.7	26.4	15.1

**Main results.** We report the experimental results on the benchmark datasets in Table 1. In general, QuatRE outperforms up-to-date baselines for all metrics except the second-best Hits@1 on WN18RR and the second-best MR on FB15k-237. Especially when comparing with QuatE, on WN18RR, QuatRE gains significant improvements of  $2314 - 1986 = 328$  in MR (which is about 14% relative improvement), and 1.0% and 1.1% absolute improvements in Hits@10 and Hits@3 respectively. Besides, on FB15k-237, QuatRE achieves improvements of  $0.367 - 0.348 = 0.019$  (which is 5.5% relative improvement) and obtains absolute gains of 1.3%, 2.2%, and 2.1% in Hits@10, Hits@3, and Hits@1 respectively.

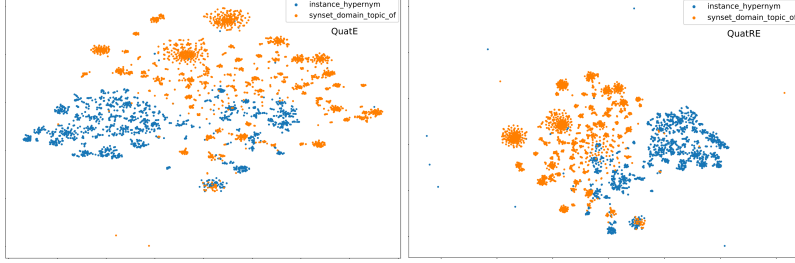


Figure 1: Visualization of the learned entity embeddings on WN18RR.

**Correlation analysis.** To qualitatively demonstrate the correlations between the entities, we use t-SNE [15] to visualize the learned quaternion embeddings of the entities on WN18RR for QuatE and QuatRE. We select all entities associated with two relations consisting of “instance\_hyponym” and “synset\_domain\_topic\_of”. We then vectorize each quaternion embedding using a vector concatenation across the four components; hence, we obtain a real-valued vector representation for applying t-SNE. The visualization in Figure 1 shows that the entity distribution in our QuatRE is denser than that in QuatE; hence this implies that QuatRE strengthens the correlations between the entities.

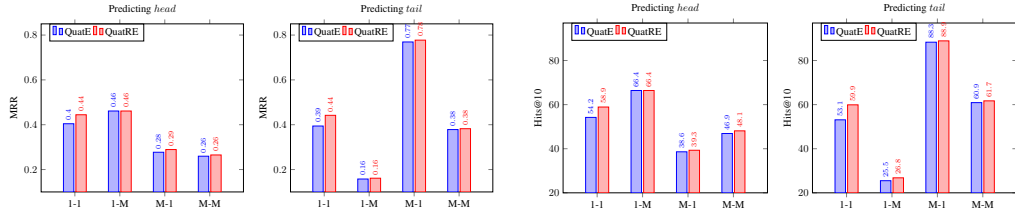


Figure 2: MRR and Hits@10 on the FB15k-237 test set for QuatE and our QuatRE with respect to each relation category.

**Relation analysis.** Following [3], for each relation  $r$ , we calculate the averaged number  $\eta_h$  of head entities per tail entity and the averaged number  $\eta_t$  of tail entities per head entity. If  $\eta_h < 1.5$  and  $\eta_t < 1.5$ ,  $r$  is categorized one-to-one (1-1). If  $\eta_h < 1.5$  and  $\eta_t \geq 1.5$ ,  $r$  is categorized one-to-many (1-M). If  $\eta_h \geq 1.5$  and  $\eta_t < 1.5$ ,  $r$  is categorized many-to-one (M-1). If  $\eta_h \geq 1.5$  and  $\eta_t \geq 1.5$ ,  $r$  is categorized many-to-many (M-M). Figure 2 shows the MRR and H@10 scores for predicting the head entities and then the tail entities with respect to each relation category on FB15k-237, wherein our QuatRE outperforms QuatE on these relation categories. Furthermore, we report the MRR scores for each relation on WN18RR in Table 2, which shows the effectiveness of QuatRE in modeling different types of relations.

Table 2: MRR score on the WN18RR test set with respect to each relation.

Relation	QuatE	QuatRE
hyponym	0.173	<b>0.190</b>
derivationally_related_form	<b>0.953</b>	0.943
instance_hyponym	0.364	<b>0.380</b>
also_see	0.629	<b>0.633</b>
member_meronym	0.232	<b>0.237</b>
synset_domain_topic_of	0.468	<b>0.495</b>
has_part	<b>0.233</b>	0.226
member_of_domain_usage	0.441	<b>0.470</b>
member_of_domain_region	0.193	<b>0.364</b>
verb_group	<b>0.924</b>	0.867
similar_to	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>

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Table 3: The score functions in previous models. The table is adapted from [21].

Model	The score function $f(h, r, t)$
TransE	$-\ \mathbf{v}_h + \mathbf{v}_r - \mathbf{v}_t\ _p$ where $\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r$ , and $\mathbf{v}_t \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ; $\ \mathbf{v}\ _p$ denotes the $p$ -norm of vector $\mathbf{v}$
ConvE	$\mathbf{v}_t^\top g(\mathbf{W} \text{vec}(g(\text{concat}(\hat{\mathbf{v}}_h, \hat{\mathbf{v}}_r) * \Omega)))$ where $*$ denotes a convolution operator $\Omega$ denotes a set of filters; concat denotes a concatenation operator $g$ denotes a non-linear function; $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ denotes a 2D reshaping of $\mathbf{v}$
ConvKB	$\mathbf{w}^\top \text{concat}(g([\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r, \mathbf{v}_t] * \Omega))$
DistMult	$\langle \mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r, \mathbf{v}_t \rangle = \sum_i^n \mathbf{v}_{h,i} \mathbf{v}_{r,i} \mathbf{v}_{t,i}$ where $\langle \rangle$ denotes a multiple-linear dot product
ComplEx	$\text{Re}(\langle \mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r, \mathbf{v}_t^* \rangle)$ where $\text{Re}(c)$ denotes the real part of the complex $c$ $\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r$ , and $\mathbf{v}_t \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ; $\mathbf{v}^*$ denotes the conjugate of the complex vector $\mathbf{v}$
RotatE	$-\ \mathbf{v}_h \circ \mathbf{v}_r - \mathbf{v}_t\ _p$ where $\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r$ , and $\mathbf{v}_t \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ; and $\circ$ denotes the element-wise product
QuatE	$(\mathbf{v}_h \otimes \mathbf{v}_r^\triangleleft) \bullet \mathbf{v}_t$ where $\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r$ , and $\mathbf{v}_t \in \mathbb{H}^n$ ; $\bullet$ denotes a quaternion-inner product $\otimes$ denotes the Hamilton product; the superscript $\triangleleft$ denotes the normalized embedding
Our QuatRE	$((\mathbf{v}_h \otimes \mathbf{v}_{r,1}^\triangleleft) \otimes \mathbf{v}_r^\triangleleft) \bullet (\mathbf{v}_t \otimes \mathbf{v}_{r,2}^\triangleleft)$ where $\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r, \mathbf{v}_t, \mathbf{v}_{r,1}$ , and $\mathbf{v}_{r,2} \in \mathbb{H}^n$

## A Related work

Existing embedding models [3, 36] have been proposed to learn the vector representations of entities and relations for the knowledge graph completion task, where the goal is to score valid triples higher than invalid triples. As an example, Table 3 illustrates the score functions  $f(h, r, t)$  in previous state-of-the-art models as well as our proposed model.

Early translation-based approaches exploit a translational characteristic so that the embedding of tail entity  $t$  should be close to the embedding of head entity  $h$  plus the embedding of relation  $t$ . For example, TransE [3] defines a score function:  $f(h, r, t) = -\|\mathbf{v}_h + \mathbf{v}_r - \mathbf{v}_t\|_p$ , where  $\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{v}_r$ ,

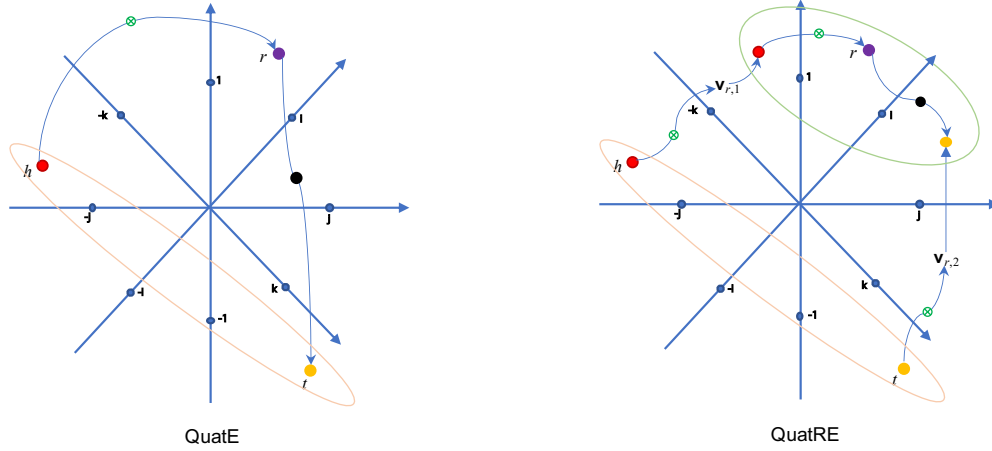


Figure 3: An illustration of QuatE versus our proposed QuatRE.

and  $\mathbf{v}_t \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are vector embeddings of  $h$ ,  $r$  and  $t$  respectively; and  $\|\mathbf{v}\|_p$  denotes the  $p$ -norm of vector  $\mathbf{v}$ . As a result, TransE is suitable for 1-to-1 relationships, but not well-adapted for Many-to-1, 1-to-Many, and Many-to-Many relationships. To this end, some translation-based methods have been proposed to deal with this issue such as TransH [36], TransR [14], TransD [12], and STTransE [22]. Notably, DistMult [39] employs a multiple-linear dot product to score the triples as:  $f(h, r, t) = \sum_i^n \mathbf{v}_{h_i} \mathbf{v}_{r_i} \mathbf{v}_{t_i}$ .

One of the recent trends is to apply deep neural networks to measure the triples [5, 27, 34, 17, 20]. For example, ConvE [5] uses a convolution layer on a 2D input matrix of reshaping the embeddings of both the head entity and relation to produce feature maps that are then vectorized and computed with the embedding of the tail entity to return the score. While most of the existing models have worked in the real-valued vector space, several works have moved beyond the real-valued vector space to the complex vector space such as ComplEx [33] and RotatE [29]. ComplEx extends DistMult to use the multiple-linear dot product on the complex vector embeddings of entities and relations. Besides, RotatE considers a rotation-based translation within the complex vector space.

Recently the use of hyper-complex vector space has considered on the Quaternion space consisting of a real and three separate imaginary axes. It provides highly expressive computations through the Hamilton product compared to the real-valued and complex vector spaces. [41] and [8] embed the greyscale and each of RGB channels of the image to the real and three separate imaginary axes of the Quaternion space and achieve better accuracies compared real-valued convolutional neural networks with same structures for image classification tasks. The Quaternion space has also been successfully applied to speech recognition [25, 24], and natural language processing [31]. Regarding knowledge graph embeddings, [40] has recently proposed QuatE, which aims to learn entity and relation embeddings within the Quaternion space with the Hamilton product. QuatE, however, has a limitation in capturing the correlations between the head and tail entities. Our key contribution is to overcome this limitation by integrating relation-aware quaternion vectors to increase the correlations between the entities as illustrated in Figure 3.

## B Quaternion background

For completeness, we briefly provide a background in quaternion, which has also similarly described in recent works [41, 24, 40, 31]. A quaternion  $q \in \mathbb{H}$  is a hyper-complex number consisting of a real and three separate imaginary components [10] defined as:

$$q = q_r + q_i \mathbf{i} + q_j \mathbf{j} + q_k \mathbf{k} \quad (5)$$

where  $q_r, q_i, q_j, q_k \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$  are imaginary units that  $\mathbf{i}\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{i}^2 = \mathbf{j}^2 = \mathbf{k}^2 = -1$ , leads to noncommutative multiplication rules as  $\mathbf{i}\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{j}\mathbf{i} = -\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{j}\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{k}\mathbf{j} = -\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{k}\mathbf{i} = \mathbf{j}$ , and  $\mathbf{i}\mathbf{k} = -\mathbf{j}$ . Correspondingly, a  $n$ -dimensional quaternion vector  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{H}^n$  is defined as:

$$\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}_r + \mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{q}_j \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{q}_k \mathbf{k} \quad (6)$$



where  $q_r, q_i, q_j, q_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . The operations for the Quaternion algebra are defined as follows:

**Conjugate.** The conjugate  $q^*$  of a quaternion  $q$  is defined as:

$$q^* = q_r - q_i \mathbf{i} - q_j \mathbf{j} - q_k \mathbf{k} \quad (7)$$

**Addition.** The addition of two quaternions  $q$  and  $p$  is defined as:

$$q + p = (q_r + p_r) + (q_i + p_i) \mathbf{i} + (q_j + p_j) \mathbf{j} + (q_k + p_k) \mathbf{k} \quad (8)$$

**Scalar multiplication.** The multiplication of a scalar  $\lambda$  and a quaternion  $q$  is defined as:

$$\lambda q = \lambda q_r + \lambda q_i \mathbf{i} + \lambda q_j \mathbf{j} + \lambda q_k \mathbf{k} \quad (9)$$

**Norm.** The norm  $\|q\|$  of a quaternion  $q$  is defined as:

$$\|q\| = \sqrt{q_r^2 + q_i^2 + q_j^2 + q_k^2} \quad (10)$$

The normalized or unit quaternion  $q^\triangleleft$  is defined as:

$$q^\triangleleft = \frac{q}{\|q\|} \quad (11)$$

And the normalized quaternion vector  $q^\triangleleft$  of  $q \in \mathbb{H}^n$  is computed as:

$$q^\triangleleft = \frac{q_r + q_i \mathbf{i} + q_j \mathbf{j} + q_k \mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{q_r^2 + q_i^2 + q_j^2 + q_k^2}} \quad (12)$$

**Hamilton product.** The Hamilton product  $\otimes$  (i.e., the quaternion multiplication) of two quaternions  $q$  and  $p$  is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} q \otimes p &= (q_r p_r - q_i p_i - q_j p_j - q_k p_k) \\ &+ (q_i p_r + q_r p_i - q_k p_j + q_j p_k) \mathbf{i} \\ &+ (q_j p_r + q_k p_i + q_r p_j - q_i p_k) \mathbf{j} \\ &+ (q_k p_r - q_j p_i + q_i p_j + q_r p_k) \mathbf{k} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

The Hamilton product of two quaternion vectors  $q$  and  $p \in \mathbb{H}^n$  is computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} q \otimes p &= (q_r \circ p_r - q_i \circ p_i - q_j \circ p_j - q_k \circ p_k) \\ &+ (q_i \circ p_r + q_r \circ p_i - q_k \circ p_j + q_j \circ p_k) \mathbf{i} \\ &+ (q_j \circ p_r + q_k \circ p_i + q_r \circ p_j - q_i \circ p_k) \mathbf{j} \\ &+ (q_k \circ p_r - q_j \circ p_i + q_i \circ p_j + q_r \circ p_k) \mathbf{k} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where  $\circ$  denotes the element-wise product. We note that the Hamilton product is not commutative, i.e.,  $q \otimes p \neq p \otimes q$ .

**Quaternion-inner product.** The quaternion-inner product  $\bullet$  of two quaternion vectors  $q$  and  $p \in \mathbb{H}^n$  returns a scalar, which is computed as:

$$q \bullet p = q_r^\top p_r + q_i^\top p_i + q_j^\top p_j + q_k^\top p_k \quad (15)$$

## C Experimental setup

In the knowledge graph completion task [3], the goal is to predict a missing entity given a relation with another entity, for example, inferring a head entity  $h$  given  $(r, t)$  or inferring a tail entity  $t$  given  $(h, r)$ . The results are calculated by ranking the scores produced by the score function  $f$  on triples in the test set.

### C.1 Datasets

We evaluate our proposed QuatRE on four benchmark datasets: WN18, FB15k [3], WN18RR [5], and FB15k-237 [32]. WN18 and FB15k are derived from the lexical KG WordNet [16] and the real-world KG Freebase [2] respectively. As mentioned in [32], WN18 and FB15k contains many reversible relations, which makes the prediction task become trivial and unrealistic. As shown in [5], recent state-of-the-art results on WN18 are still obtained by using a simple reversal. Therefore, their subsets WN18RR and FB15k-237 are derived to eliminate the reversible relation problem to create more realistic and challenging prediction tasks.

### C.2 Evaluation protocol

Following [3], for each valid test triple  $(h, r, t)$ , we replace either  $h$  or  $t$  by each of other entities to create a set of corrupted triples. We use the “Filtered” setting protocol [3], i.e., not including any corrupted triples that appear in the KG. We rank the valid test triple and corrupted triples in descending order of their scores. We employ evaluation metrics: mean rank (MR), mean reciprocal rank (MRR), and Hits@ $k$  (the proportion of the valid triples ranking in top  $k$  predictions). The final scores on the test set are reported for the model which obtains the highest Hits@10 on the validation set. Lower MR, higher MRR, and higher Hits@ $k$  indicate better performance. We follow [11, 40] to report our QuatRE for a fair comparison with QuatE.

### C.3 Training protocol

**Parameter initialization.** For the fairness, similar to previous works, we apply the standard Glorot initialization [9] for parameter initialization in our QuatRE instead of utilizing a specialized initialization scheme used in QuatE [40].

**Negative sampling.** We use the Bernoulli negative sampling [36, 14] when sampling invalid triples in  $\mathcal{G}'$ . More formally, for each relation  $r$ ,  $\eta_h$  denotes the averaged number of head entities per tail entity whilst  $\eta_t$  denotes the averaged number of tail entities per head entity. Given a valid triple  $(h, r, t)$  of relation  $r$ , we then generate a new head entity  $h'$  with probability  $\frac{\eta_t}{\eta_h + \eta_t}$  to form an invalid triple  $(h', r, t)$  and a new tail entity  $t'$  with probability  $\frac{\eta_h}{\eta_h + \eta_t}$  to form an invalid triple  $(h, r, t')$ . The Bernoulli negative sampling is very commonly used in the translation-based models and later embedding models, and also implemented in both QuatE and our QuatRE for a fair comparison.

**Hyper-parameters.** We implement our QuatRE based on Pytorch [26] and test on a single GPU. We set 100 batches for all four datasets. We then vary the learning rate  $\alpha$  in  $\{0.02, 0.05, 0.1\}$ , the number  $s$  of negative triples sampled per training triple in  $\{1, 5, 10\}$ , the embedding dimension  $n$  in  $\{128, 256, 384\}$ , and the regularization rate  $\lambda$  in  $\{0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.5\}$ . We train our QuatRE up to 8,000 epochs on WN18 and WN18RR, and 2,000 epochs on FB15k and FB15k-237. We monitor the Hits@10 score after each 400 epochs on WN18 and WN18RR, and each 200 epochs on FB15k and FB15k-237. We select the hyper-parameters using grid search and early stopping on the validation set with Hits@10. We present the statistics of the datasets in Table 4 and the optimal hyper-parameters on the validation set for each dataset in Table 5.

Table 4: Statistics of the experimental datasets.

Dataset	$ \mathcal{E} $	$ \mathcal{R} $	#Triples in train/valid/test		
WN18	40,943	18	141,442	5,000	5,000
FB15k	14,951	1,345	483,142	50,000	59,071
WN18RR	40,943	11	86,835	3,034	3,134
FB15k-237	14,541	237	272,115	17,535	20,466

## D Conclusion

In this paper, we propose QuatRE – an advantageous knowledge graph embedding model – to learn the embeddings of entities and relations within the Quaternion space with the Hamilton product. QuatRE further utilizes two relation-aware quaternion vectors for each relation to strengthen the

Table 5: The optimal hyper-parameters on the validation sets.

Dataset	$\alpha$	$n$	$\lambda$	$s$
WN18	0.1	256	0.1	10
FB15k	0.02	384	0.05	5
WN18RR	0.1	256	0.5	5
FB15k-237	0.1	384	0.5	10

Table 6: Experimental results on the WN18 and FB15k test sets. Hits@ $k$  ( $H@k$ ) is reported in %. The best scores are in bold, while the second best scores are in underline. RotatE<sub>Adv</sub> uses a self-adversarial negative sampling. QuatE<sub>N3Rec</sub> applies N3 regularization and reciprocal learning. R-GCN+ exploits information about relation paths.

Method	WN18					FB15k				
	MR	MRR	H@10	H@3	H@1	MR	MRR	H@10	H@3	H@1
TransE [3]	–	0.495	94.3	88.8	11.3	–	0.463	74.9	57.8	29.7
DistMult [39]	655	0.797	94.6	–	–	42	<u>0.798</u>	89.3	–	–
ComplEx [33]	–	0.941	94.7	94.5	93.6	–	0.692	84.0	75.9	59.9
ConvE [5]	374	0.943	95.6	94.6	93.5	51	0.657	83.1	72.3	55.8
Simple [13]	–	0.942	94.7	94.4	93.9	–	0.727	83.8	77.3	66.0
NKGE [35]	336	<u>0.947</u>	95.7	94.9	94.2	56	0.730	87.1	79.0	65.0
TorusE [7]	–	<u>0.947</u>	95.4	95.0	<u>94.3</u>	–	0.733	83.2	77.1	67.4
RotatE [29]	184	<u>0.947</u>	<u>96.1</u>	<u>95.3</u>	93.8	32	0.699	87.2	78.8	58.5
QuatE [40]	<u>162</u>	<b>0.950</b>	95.9	<b>95.4</b>	<b>94.5</b>	<b>17</b>	0.782	<b>90.0</b>	<u>83.5</u>	<u>71.1</u>
<b>QuatRE</b>	<b>116</b>	0.939	<b>96.3</b>	<u>95.3</u>	92.3	<u>23</u>	<b>0.808</b>	<u>89.6</u>	<b>85.1</b>	<b>75.1</b>
RotatE <sub>Adv</sub> [29]	309	0.949	95.9	95.2	94.4	40	0.797	88.4	83.0	74.6
QuatE <sub>N3Rec</sub> [40]	–	0.950	96.2	95.4	94.4	–	0.833	90.0	85.9	80.0
R-GCN+ [27]	–	0.819	96.4	92.9	69.7	–	0.696	84.2	76.0	60.1

correlations between the head and tail entities. Experimental results show that QuatRE outperforms up-to-date embedding models and produces state-of-the-art performances on well-known benchmark datasets for the knowledge graph completion task.