

Convolutional Layers in PyTorch

To create a convolutional layer in PyTorch, you must first import the necessary module:

```
import torch.nn as nn
```

Then, there is a two part process to defining a convolutional layer and defining the feedforward behavior of a model (how an input moves through the layers of a network. First you must define a Model class and fill in two functions.

init

You can define a convolutional layer in the `__init__` function of by using the following format:

```
self.conv1 = nn.Conv2d(in_channels, out_channels, kernel_size, stride=1, padding=0)
```

forward

Then, you refer to that layer in the forward function! Here, I am passing in an input image `x` and applying a ReLu function to the output of this layer.

```
x = F.relu(self.conv1(x))
```

Arguments

You must pass the following arguments:

- `in_channels` - The number of inputs (in depth), 3 for an RGB image, for example.
- `out_channels` - The number of output channels, i.e. the number of filtered "images" a convolutional layer is made of or the number of unique, convolutional kernels that will be applied to an input.
- `kernel_size` - Number specifying both the height and width of the (square) convolutional kernel.

There are some additional, optional arguments that you might like to tune:

- `stride` - The stride of the convolution. If you don't specify anything, `stride` is set to 1.
- `padding` - The border of 0's around an input array. If you don't specify anything, `padding` is set to 0.

NOTE: It is possible to represent both `kernel_size` and `stride` as either a number or a tuple.

There are many other tunable arguments that you can set to change the behavior of your convolutional layers. To read more about these, we recommend perusing the official [documentation](#).

Pooling Layers

Pooling layers take in a `kernel_size` and a `stride`. Typically the same value, the is the down-sampling factor. For example, the following code will down-sample an input's x-y dimensions, by a factor of 2:

```
self.pool = nn.MaxPool2d(2,2)
```

forward

Here, we see that pooling layer being applied in the forward function.

```
x = F.relu(self.conv1(x))x = self.pool(x)
```

Convolutional Example #1

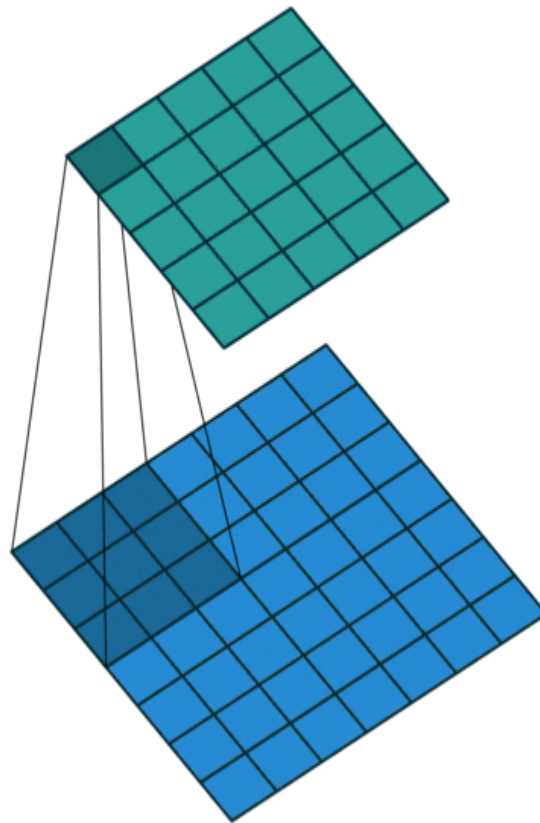
Say I'm constructing a CNN, and my input layer accepts grayscale images that are 200 by 200 pixels (corresponding to a 3D array with height 200, width 200, and depth 1). Then, say I'd like the next layer to be a convolutional layer with 16 filters, each with a width and height of 2. When performing the convolution, I'd like the filter to jump two pixels at a time. I also don't want the filter to extend outside of the image boundaries; in other words, I don't want to pad the image with zeros. Then, to construct this convolutional layer, I would use the following line of code:

```
self.conv1 = nn.Conv2d(1, 16, 2, stride=2)
```

Convolutional Example #2

Say I'd like the next layer in my CNN to be a convolutional layer that takes the layer constructed in Example 1 as input. Say I'd like my new layer to have 32 filters, each with a height and width of 3. When performing the convolution, I'd like the filter to jump 1 pixel at a time. I want this layer to have the same width and height as the input layer, so I will pad accordingly; the convolutional layer to see all regions of the previous layer, and I don't mind if the filter hangs over the edge of the previous layer when it's performing the convolution. Then, to construct this convolutional layer, I would use the following line of code:

```
self.conv2 = nn.Conv2d(16, 32, 3, padding=1)
```



Convolution with 3x3 window and stride 1

Image source: <http://iamaaditya.github.io/2016/03/one-by-one-convolution/>

Sequential Models

We can also create a CNN in PyTorch by using a `Sequential` wrapper in the `__init__` function. `Sequential` allows us to stack different types of layers, specifying activation functions in between!

```
def __init__(self):
    super(ModelName, self).__init__()
    self.features = nn.Sequential(
        nn.Conv2d(1, 16, 2, stride=2),
        nn.MaxPool2d(2, 2),
        nn.ReLU(True),
        nn.Conv2d(16, 32, 3, padding=1),
        nn.ReLU(True),
        nn.MaxPool2d(2, 2),
        nn.ReLU(True)
    )
```

Formula: Number of Parameters in a Convolutional Layer

The number of parameters in a convolutional layer depends on the supplied values of `filters/out_channels`, `kernel_size`, and `input_shape`. Let's define a few variables:

- K - the number of filters in the convolutional layer
- F - the height and width of the convolutional filters
- D_{in} - the depth of the previous layer

Notice that K = `out_channels`, and F = `kernel_size`. Likewise, D_{in} is the last value in the `input_shape` tuple, typically 1 or 3 (RGB and grayscale, respectively).

Since there are F*D_{in} weights per filter, and the convolutional layer is composed of K filters, the total number of weights in the convolutional layer is K*F*D_{in}. Since there is one bias term per filter, the convolutional layer has K biases. Thus, the **number of parameters** in the convolutional layer is given by $K*F*D_{in} + K$.

Formula: Shape of a Convolutional Layer

The shape of a convolutional layer depends on the supplied values of `kernel_size`, `input_shape`, `padding`, and `stride`. Let's define a few variables:

- K - the number of filters in the convolutional layer
- F - the height and width of the convolutional filters
- S - the stride of the convolution
- P - the padding
- W_{in} - the width/height (square) of the previous layer

Notice that K = `out_channels`, F = `kernel_size`, and S = `stride`. Likewise, W_{in} is the first and second value of the `input_shape` tuple.

The **depth** of the convolutional layer will always equal the number of filters K.

The spatial dimensions of a convolutional layer can be calculated as: $(W_{in}-F+2P)/S+1$

Flattening

Part of completing a CNN architecture, is to *flatten* the eventual output of a series of convolutional and pooling layers, so that **all** parameters can be seen (as a vector) by a linear classification layer. At this step, it is imperative that you know exactly how many parameters are output by a layer.

For the following quiz questions, consider an input image that is 130x130 (x, y) and 3 in depth (RGB). Say, this image goes through the following layers in order:

```
nn.Conv2d(3, 10, 3)nn.MaxPool2d(4, 4)nn.Conv2d(10, 20, 5, padding=2)nn.MaxPool2d(2, 2)
```