

Convolutions Neural Networks

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1 Mathematical convolution

In mathematics, the *convolution* of two functions f and g is defined as:

$$(f * g)(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)g(t - \tau) d\tau \quad (1.1)$$

By a change of variables $\sigma = t - \tau$, we have $\tau = t - \sigma$, and therefore $d\tau/d\sigma = -1$. Therefore:

$$(f * g)(t) = \int_{\infty}^{-\infty} f(t - \sigma)g(\sigma)(-d\sigma) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t - \sigma)g(\sigma) d\sigma = (g * f)(t) \quad (1.2)$$

1.1 Discrete convolution

If f and g are only defined on evenly spaced lattice points the integral in the convolution turns into a sum. Without loss of generality, we can assume these lattice points to be the integers:

$$(f * g)(x) = \sum_{\Delta x \in \mathbb{Z}} f(\Delta x)g(x - \Delta x), \quad x \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (1.3)$$

2 Edge detection