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# **Sparse Kolmogorov-Arnold Networks**

**Gary Nan Tie, August 25, 2024**

## **Abstract**

Kolmogorov-Arnold Networks (KAN) are concatenated layers of univariate function matrices. We introduce two structured DCD matrix forms to sparsify layers, and learn the univariate functions (e.g. B-splines or wavelets).

# Sparse Kolmogorov-Arnold Networks

## KAN architecture

The shape of a Kolmogorov-Arnold Network (KAN) is represented by an integer array:

$$[n_0, n_1, \dots, n_L]$$

where  $n_i$  is the number of nodes in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  layer of the computational graph. We denote the  $i^{\text{th}}$  neuron in the  $L^{\text{th}}$  layer by  $(L, i)$ , and the activation value of  $(L, i)$  neuron by  $x_{L,i}$ . Between layer  $L$  and layer  $L+1$ , there are  $n_L n_{L+1}$  activation functions.

The activation function that connects  $(L, i)$

and  $(L+1, j)$  is denoted by  $\varphi_{L,j,i}$ ,

$$L = 0, \dots, L-1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n_L, \quad j = 1, \dots, n_{L+1}$$

The pre-activation of  $\varphi_{l,j,i}$  is  $x_{l,i}$  and  
 the post-activation of  $\varphi_{l,j,i}$  is  $\tilde{x}_{l,j,i} \triangleq \varphi_{l,j,i}(x_{l,i})$ .

The activation value of the  $(L+1, j)$  neuron is the  
 sum of all incoming post-activations:

$$x_{L+1,j} \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^{n_L} \tilde{x}_{L,j,i} = \sum_{i=1}^{n_L} \varphi_{L,j,i}(x_{L,i}), \quad j=1, \dots, n_{L+1}$$

In matrix form, this reads

$$x_{L+1} = \Phi_L x_L \quad \text{where} \quad \Phi_L = [\varphi_{L,j,i}]$$

is the matrix of univariate functions corresponding  
 to the  $L^{\text{th}}$  KAN layer. A general KAN network  
 is a composition of  $L$  layers: given an input vector  
 $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n_0}$ , the output of KAN is

$$\text{KAN}(x) = (\Phi_{L-1} \circ \Phi_{L-2} \circ \dots \circ \Phi_1 \circ \Phi_0) x$$

## Sparse structured $\Phi_l$ matrices

Let filter  $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n)$  and circulant matrix

$$C(h) \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} h_1 & \cdot & \cdot & h_{n-1} & h_n \\ h_n & h_1 & & & h_{n-1} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & \cdot \\ \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ h_2 & \cdot & \cdot & h_n & h_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let gate  $g = (g_1, \dots, g_n)$  and diagonal matrix

$$D(g) \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} g_1 & & \bigcirc \\ & g_2 & \\ \bigcirc & & \cdot \\ & & \cdot \\ & & & g_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Two observations:

- (1) If matrix  $A$  has rank  $r$ , then  $A$  can be written as a sum of  $r$  rank-1 matrices. Now any rank-1 matrix is a DCD, so any matrix  $A$  of rank  $r$  is the sum of  $r$  DCD matrices.

(2) Observe that any Toeplitz matrix, often arising in signal processing, is the sum of a pair of DCDs, because any Toeplitz matrix can be decomposed into the sum of a circulant matrix  $C$  and a skew circulant matrix  $S$ ; now note both  $C$  and  $S$  are DCD matrices. Moreover, any matrix  $A$  can be written as a product of Toeplitz matrices. Hence any matrix  $A$  can be written as a concatenation of  $(DCD + DCD)$  operators.

For these reasons, we are interested in DCD operators to sparsify  $\Phi_L$ . We now propose two sparse structured matrix forms for the univariate function matrices  $\Phi_L$  when  $n_i = n \ \forall i=1, \dots, L-1$ . \*

Unstructured  $\Phi_L$  has  $n^2$  functions to learn.

In the following, the filters  $h, r, s$  and gates  $f, g, p, q$  are B-splines or wavelets to be learned.

$$(1) \text{ TriAd } \Phi_L \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^N D(f^i) C(h^i) D(g^i)$$

has  $N3n$  functions to learn

$$(2) \text{ Centipede } \Phi_L \triangleq T_N \dots T_2 T_1$$

$$\text{where } T_i = [D(p^i) C(r^i) D(q^i) + D(f^i) C(s^i) D(g^i)]$$

has  $N6n$  functions to learn.

So if hyperparameter  $N$  is chosen so that  $N \ll n$  then  $N6n < n^2$  and  $\Phi_L$  is relatively sparse.

□

\* Sparse KAN has shape  $[n_0, n, \dots, n, n_L]$ .

## References

KAN:Kolmogorov–Arnold Networks

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TriAd Hierarchy: Actually, signal processing is all you need

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