

Memory Layout of NumPy/PyTorch Tensors

Tensors: Multi-dimensional arrays stored in **contiguous memory**

Row-Major (C)

Default

Last dimension varies fastest

0,0

0,1

1,0

1,1

Column-Major (Fortran)

First dimension varies fastest

0,0

1,0

0,1

1,1

Stride

Number of bytes to jump to next element in each dimension

Contiguous Tensors ✓

- ✓ Faster operations
- ✓ Better cache locality
- ✓ Optimized GPU performance

Non-Contiguous ⚠

- ⚠ After transpose(), view()
- ⚠ May need .contiguous()
- ⚠ Slower memory access

Memory Layout Impact

- Cache hits efficiency
- Vectorization performance
- GPU operation speed

Check Methods

```
.is_contiguous()
```

```
.stride()
```