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# Chapter 0

## Draft to be distilled in 1 and 2

TODO: brief intro of chapter

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## 0.1 Presentation of the domains

In this section, we recall or rigorously redefine notions related to tensors, neural networks and graphs. Vector spaces considered below are assumed to be finite-dimensional and over the field of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ .

### 0.1.1 Tensors

Intuitively, tensors in the field of deep learning are defined as a generalization of vectors and matrices, as if vectors were tensors of rank 1 and matrices were tensors of rank 2. That is, they are objects in a linear space and their dimensions are indexed using as many indices as their rank, so that they can be represented by multidimensional arrays. In mathematics, a tensor is usually defined as a special class of multilinear functions. As such, a mathematical tensor is entirely defined on the cartesian product of the canonical bases onto which its outputs can be represented by a multidimensional array. In that sense, both definitions rejoin on their representation, but the underlying objects are different. In particular, mathematical tensors enjoy a more intrinsic definition as they neither depend on their multidimensional array representation nor on a change of basis.

Our definition of tensors is such that they are a bit more than multidimensional arrays but not as much as mathematical tensors, for that they are embedded in a linear space and any deep learning object can be later defined rigorously.

#### Definition 0.1.1. Tensor space

We define a *tensor space*  $\mathbb{T}$  of rank  $r$  as a cartesian product of  $r$  vector spaces under the coordinate-wise sum and the mono-linear outer product.

Its *shape* is denoted  $n_1 \times n_2 \times \cdots \times n_r$ , where the  $\{n_k\}$  are the dimensions of the vector spaces.

Hence, a tensor space is a linear space. Note that for naming convenience, we distinguish between the terms *linear space* and *vector space*. That is, we abusively use the term *vector space* only to refer to a linear space that can be seen as a tensor space of rank 1. If there is no notion of rank defined, we rather use the term *linear space*. We also make a clear distinction between the term *dimension* (that is, for a tensor space it is equal to  $\prod_{k=1}^r n_k$ ) and the term *rank* (equal to  $r$ ).

**Definition 0.1.2. Tensor**

A *tensor*  $t$  is an object of a tensor space. The *shape* of  $t$ , which is the same as the shape of the tensor space it belongs to, is denoted  $n_1^{(t)} \times n_2^{(t)} \times \cdots \times n_r^{(t)}$ .

**Definition 0.1.3. Indexing**

An *entry* of a tensor  $t$  is a scalar denoted  $t[i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r]$ .

A *subtensor*  $t'$  is a tensor of same rank composed of entries of  $t$  that are contiguous in the indexing, with at least one entry per rank. We denote  $t' = t[l_1:u_1, l_2:u_2, \dots, l_r:u_r]$ , where the  $\{l_p\}$  and the  $\{u_p\}$  are the lower and upper bounds of the indices used by the entries that compose  $t'$ .

When using an index  $i_k$  for an entry of a tensor  $t$ , we implicitly assume that  $i_k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_k^{(t)}\}$  if nothing is precised. For subtensor indexings, we don't necessarily write the lower bound index if it is equal to 1, neither the upper bound index if it is equal to  $n_p^{(t)}$ .

**Definition 0.1.4. Slicing**

A *slice* operation, along the last ranks  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_s\}$ , and indexed by  $(i_{r_1}, i_{r_2}, \dots, i_{r_s})$ ,

is a morphism  $s : \mathbb{T} = \prod_{k=1}^r \mathbb{V}_k \rightarrow \prod_{k=1}^{r-s} \mathbb{V}_k$ , such that:

$$\begin{aligned} s(t)[i'_1, i'_2, \dots, i'_{r-s}] &= t[i'_1, i'_2, \dots, i'_{r-s}, i_{r_1}, i_{r_2}, \dots, i_{r_s}] \\ \text{i.e. } s(t) &:= t[:, :, \dots, :, i_{r_1}, i_{r_2}, \dots, i_{r_s}] \end{aligned}$$

where  $:=$  means that values of the right operand are assigned to the left operand. We denote  $t_{i_{r_1}, i_{r_2}, \dots, i_{r_s}}$  and call it the *slice* of  $t$ . Slicing along a subset of ranks that are not the lasts is defined similarly.  $s(\mathbb{T})$  is called a *sliced subspace*.

**Definition 0.1.5. Flattening**

A *flatten* operation is an isomorphism  $f : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{V}$ , between a tensor space  $\mathbb{T}$  of rank  $r$  and an  $n$ -dimensional vector space  $\mathbb{V}$ , where  $n = \prod_{k=1}^r n_k$ . It is char-

acterized by a bijection in the index spaces  $g : \prod_{k=1}^r \{1, \dots, n_k\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{T}, f(t)[g(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r)] = f(t)[i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r]$$

An inverse operation is called a *de-flatten* operation.



**Remark 0.1.1. Row major ordering**

The choice of  $g$  determines in which order the indexing is made.  $g$  is reminiscent of how data of multidimensional arrays or tensors are stored internally by programming languages. In most tensor manipulation languages, incrementing the memory address (*i.e.* the output of  $g$ ) will increment only  $i_r$  if  $i_r < n_r$  (and then ranks are ordered in reverse lexicographic order to decide what index is also incremented). This is called *row major ordering*, as opposed to *column major ordering*. That is, in row major,  $g$  is defined as

$$g(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r) = \sum_{p=1}^r \left( \prod_{k=p+1}^r n_k \right) i_p \quad (1)$$

**Definition 0.1.6. Reshaping**

A *reshape* operation is an isomorphism defined on a tensor space  $\mathbb{T} = \prod_{k=1}^r \mathbb{V}_k$  such that some of its basis vector spaces  $\{\mathbb{V}_k\}$  are de-flattened and some of its sliced subspaces are flattened.

**Definition 0.1.7. Contraction**

A *tensor contraction* between two tensors, along ranks of same dimensions, is defined by natural extension of the dot product operation to tensors.

More precisely, let  $\mathbb{T}_1$  a tensor space of shape  $n_1^{(1)} \times n_2^{(1)} \times \dots \times n_{r_1}^{(1)}$ , and  $\mathbb{T}_2$  a tensor space of shape  $n_1^{(2)} \times n_2^{(2)} \times \dots \times n_{r_2}^{(2)}$ , such that  $\forall k \in \{1, 2, \dots, s\}, n_{r_1-(s-k)}^{(1)} = n_k^{(2)}$ , then the tensor contraction between  $t_1 \in \mathbb{T}_1$  and  $t_2 \in \mathbb{T}_2$  is defined as:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} t_1 \otimes t_2 = t_3 \in \mathbb{T}_3 \text{ of shape } n_1^{(1)} \times \dots \times n_{r_1-s}^{(1)} \times n_{s+1}^{(2)} \times \dots \times n_{r_2}^{(2)} \text{ where} \\ t_3[i_1^{(1)}, \dots, i_{r_1-s}^{(1)}, i_{s+1}^{(2)}, \dots, i_{r_2}^{(2)}] = \\ \sum_{k_1=1}^{n_1^{(2)}} \dots \sum_{k_s=1}^{n_s^{(2)}} t_1[i_1^{(1)}, \dots, i_{r_1-s}^{(1)}, k_1, \dots, k_s] t_2[k_1, \dots, k_s, i_{s+1}^{(2)}, \dots, i_{r_2}^{(2)}] \end{array} \right.$$

For the sake of simplicity, we omit the case where the contracted ranks are not the last ones for  $t_1$  and the first ones for  $t_2$ . But this definition still holds in the general case subject to a permutation of the indices.

**Definition 0.1.8. Covariant and contravariant indices**

Given a tensor contraction  $t_1 \otimes t_2$ , indices of the left hand operand  $t_1$  that are not contracted are called *covariant* indices. Those that are contracted are

called *contravariant* indices. For the right operand  $t_2$ , the naming convention is the opposite. The set of covariant and contravariant indices of both operands are called the *transformation laws* of the tensor contraction.

**Remark 0.1.2. Transformation law independency**

Contrary to mathematical definitions, tensors in deep learning are independent of any transformation law, so that they must be specified for tensor contractions.

**Remark 0.1.3. Einstein summation convention**

Using subscript notation for covariant indices and superscript notation for contravariant indices, the previous tensor contraction can be written using the Einstein summation convention as:

$$t_{1_{i_1^{(1)} \dots i_{r_1-s}^{(1)}}}^{k_1 \dots k_s} t_{2_{k_1 \dots k_s}}^{i_{s+1}^{(2)} \dots i_{r_2}^{(2)}} = t_{3_{i_1^{(1)} \dots i_{r_1-s}^{(1)}}}^{i_{s+1}^{(2)} \dots i_{r_2}^{(2)}} \quad (2)$$

Dot product  $u_k v^k = \lambda$  and matrix product  $A_i^k B_k^j = C_i^j$  are common examples of tensor contractions.

**Remark 0.1.4. Matrix product equivalence**

Using reshaping that groups all covariant indices into a single index and all contravariant indices into another single index, any tensor contraction can be rewritten as a matrix product.

*Proof.* Using notation of (2), with the reshaping  $t_1 \mapsto T_1$ ,  $t_2 \mapsto T_2$  and  $t_3 \mapsto T_3$  defined as suggested in the remark, we can rewrite

$$T_{1_{g_i(i_1^{(1)} \dots i_{r_1-s}^{(1)})}}^{g_k(k_1, \dots, k_s)} T_{2_{g_k(k_1, \dots, k_s)}}^{g_j(i_{s+1}^{(2)} \dots i_{r_2}^{(2)})} = T_{3_{g_i(i_1^{(1)} \dots i_{r_1-s}^{(1)})}}^{g_j(i_{s+1}^{(2)} \dots i_{r_2}^{(2)})}$$

where  $g_i$ ,  $g_k$  and  $g_j$  are bijections defined similarly as in (1).  $\square$

**Definition 0.1.9. Convolution**

The  $n$ -dimensional convolution, denoted  $*_n$ , between  $t_1 \in \mathbb{T}_1$  and  $t_2 \in \mathbb{T}_2$ , where  $\mathbb{T}_1$  and  $\mathbb{T}_2$  are of the same rank  $n$  such that  $\forall p \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, n_p^{(1)} \geq n_p^{(2)}$ , is defined as:

$$\begin{cases} t_1 *_n t_2 = t_3 \in \mathbb{T}_3 \text{ of shape } n_1^{(3)} \times \dots \times n_n^{(3)} \text{ where} \\ \forall p \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, n_p^{(3)} = n_p^{(1)} - n_p^{(2)} + 1 \\ t_3[i_1, \dots, i_n] = \sum_{k_1=1}^{n_1^{(2)}} \dots \sum_{k_n=1}^{n_n^{(2)}} t_1[i_1 + n_1^{(2)} - k_1, \dots, i_n + n_n^{(2)} - k_n] t_2[k_1, \dots, k_n] \end{cases}$$

**Definition 0.1.10. Pooling**

TODO: Use indexing, maybe add stride in this subsection rather than in the next

## 0.1.2 Neural Networks

### 0.1.2.1 Description

We denote by  $I_f$  the *domain of definition* of a function  $f$  ("I" for "input") and by  $O_f = f(I_f)$  its *image* ("O" for "output"), and we represent it as  $I_f \xrightarrow{f} O_f$ .

#### Definition 0.1.11. Neural network (simply connected)

Let  $F$  be a function such that  $I_f$  and  $O_f$  are vector or tensor spaces.  $F$  is a *functional formulation* of a *simply connected neural network* if there are a series of linear or affine functions  $(g_k)_{k=1,2,\dots,L}$  and a series of non-linear derivable univariate functions  $(h_k)_{k=1,2,\dots,L}$  such that:

$$\begin{cases} \forall k \in \{1, 2, \dots, L\}, f_k = h_k \circ g_k, \\ I_F = I_{f_1} \xrightarrow{f_1} O_{f_1} \cong I_{f_2} \xrightarrow{f_2} \dots \xrightarrow{f_L} O_{f_L} = O_F, \\ F = f_L \circ \dots \circ f_2 \circ f_1 \end{cases}$$

The couple  $(g_k, h_k)$  is called the *k-th layer* of the neural network. For  $x \in I_f$ , we denote by  $x_k = f_k \circ \dots \circ f_2 \circ f_1(x)$  the *activations* of the *k-th* layer.

TODO: introduce what is their purpose ie classifiers, why is training, and make a little plan of what follows

TODO: remarks on universal approximators and refs, overfitting, generalization

#### Definition 0.1.12. Activation function

Let a layer  $(g, h)$ .  $h$  is called the *activation function* of the layer. It is non-linear, derivable and univariate. Of common use for univariate functions is the functional notation  $h(v)[i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r] = h(v[i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r])$ .

#### Remark 0.1.5. Example of activation functions

TODO: blabla: refs activation functions

#### Definition 0.1.13. Layer

A couple  $(g, h)$ , where  $g$  is an affine or linear function, and  $h$  is an activation function is called a *layer*. The set of layers is denoted  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Remark 0.1.6. Bias**

Affine functions  $\tilde{g}$  can be written as a sum between a linear function  $g$  and a constant vector  $b$  which is called the *bias*. Its role is to augment the expressivity of the neural network's family of functions. For notational convenience, we will omit the biases in the rest of this section and thus only consider linear functions.

**Definition 0.1.14. Connectivity matrix**

Let  $g$  a linear function. Without loss of generality subject to a flattening, let's suppose  $I_g$  and  $O_g$  are vector spaces. Then there exists a *connectivity matrix*  $W_g$ , such that:

$$\forall x \in I_g, g(x) = W_g x$$

We denote  $W_k$  the connectivity matrix of the  $k$ -th layer.

**Remark 0.1.7. Biological inspiration**

A (*computational*) *neuron* is a computational unit that is biologically inspired. Each neuron should be capable of:

1. receiving modulated signals from other neurons and aggregate them,
2. applying to the result a derivable activation,
3. passing the signal to other neurons.

That is to say, each domain  $\{I_{f_k}\}$  and  $O_F$  can be interpreted as a layer of neurons, with one neuron for each dimension. The connectivity matrices  $\{W_k\}$  describe the connexions between each successive layers. A neuron is illustrated on Figure 1.

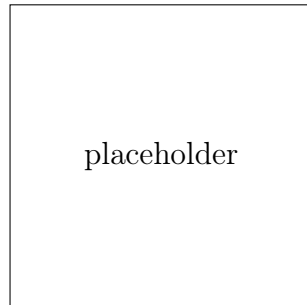


Figure 1: A neuron

The former neural networks are said to be *simply connected* because each layer only takes as input the output of the previous one. We'll give a more general definition after first defining branching operations.

**Definition 0.1.15. Branching**

A *binary branching operation* of a neural network is an operation between two activations,  $x_{k_1} \bowtie x_{k_2}$ , that outputs, subject to shape compatibility, either their addition, either their concatenation along a rank, or their concatenation as a list.

A *branching operation* of a neural network between  $n$  activations,  $x_{k_1} \bowtie x_{k_2} \bowtie \dots \bowtie x_{k_n}$ , is a composition of binary branching operations, or is the identity function  $Id$  if  $n = 1$ .

**Definition 0.1.16. Neural network (generic definition)**

The set of *neural network functions*  $\mathcal{N}$  is defined inductively as follow

1.  $Id \in \mathcal{N}$
2.  $f \in \mathcal{N} \wedge (g, h) \in \mathcal{L} \wedge O_f \subset I_g \Rightarrow h \circ g \circ f \in \mathcal{N}$
3. for all shape compatible branching operations:  
 $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n \in \mathcal{N} \Rightarrow f_1 \bowtie f_2 \bowtie \dots \bowtie f_n \in \mathcal{N}$

TODO: blabla: residual connections, skip connections, branching layers

### 0.1.2.2 Training

**Definition 0.1.17. Weights**

Let consider the  $k$ -th layer of a neural networks. We define its weights as coordinates of a vector  $\theta_k$ , called the *weight kernel*, such that:

$$\forall(i, j), \begin{cases} \exists p, W_k[i, j] := \theta_k[p] \\ \text{or } W_k[i, j] = 0 \end{cases}$$

A weight  $p$  that appears multiple times in  $W_k$  is said to be *shared*. Two parameters of  $W_k$  that share a same weight  $p$  are said to be *tied*. The number of weights of the  $k$ -th layer is  $n_1^{(\theta_k)}$ .

**Remark 0.1.8. Learning**

A *loss* function  $\mathcal{L}$  penalizes the output  $x_L = F(x)$  relatively to what can be expected. Gradient w.r.t.  $\theta_k$ , denoted  $\vec{\nabla}_{\theta_k}$ , is used to update the weights via an optimization algorithm based on gradient descent and a learning rate  $\alpha$ , that is:

$$\theta_k^{(\text{new})} = \theta_k^{(\text{old})} - \alpha \cdot \vec{\nabla}_{\theta_k} \left( \mathcal{L} \left( x_L, \theta_k^{(\text{old})} \right) + R \left( \theta_k^{(\text{old})} \right) \right) \quad (3)$$

where  $\alpha$  can be a scalar or a vector,  $\cdot$  can denote outer or pointwise product, and  $R$  is a regularizer. They depend on the optimization algorithm.

**TODO: examples of optimizations**

**Remark 0.1.9. Linear complexity**

The complexity of computing the gradients is linear with the number of weights.

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, we assume that the neural network is simply connected. Thanks to the chain rule,  $\vec{\nabla}_{\theta_k}$  can be computed using gradients that are w.r.t.  $x_k$ , denoted  $\vec{\nabla}_{x_k}$ , which in turn can be computed using gradients w.r.t. outputs of the next layer  $k+1$ , up to the gradients given on the output layer.

That is:

$$\vec{\nabla}_{\theta_k} = J_{\theta_k}(x_k) \vec{\nabla}_{x_k} \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla}_{x_k} &= J_{x_k}(x_{k+1}) \vec{\nabla}_{x_{k+1}} \\ \vec{\nabla}_{x_{k+1}} &= J_{x_{k+1}}(x_{k+2}) \vec{\nabla}_{x_{k+2}} \\ &\dots \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\vec{\nabla}_{x_{L-1}} = J_{x_{L-1}}(x_L) \vec{\nabla}_{x_L}$$

Obtaining,

$$\vec{\nabla}_{\theta_k} = J_{\theta_k}(x_k) \left( \prod_{p=k}^{L-1} J_{x_p}(x_{p+1}) \right) \vec{\nabla}_{x_L} \quad (6)$$

where  $J_{\text{wrt}}(\cdot)$  are the respective jacobians which can be determined with the layer's expressions and the  $\{x_k\}$ ; and  $\vec{\nabla}_{x_L}$  can be determined using  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $R$  and  $x_L$ .  $\square$

This allows to compute the gradients with a complexity that is linear with the number of weights (only one computation of the activations), instead of being quadratic if it were done with the difference quotient expression of the derivatives (one more computation of the activations for each weight).

**Remark 0.1.10. Back propagation**

We can remark that (5) rewrites as

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla}_{x_k} &= J_{x_k}(x_{k+1})\vec{\nabla}_{x_{k+1}} \\ &= J_{x'_k}(h(x'_k))J_{x_k}(W_k x_k)\vec{\nabla}_{x_{k+1}}\end{aligned}\tag{7}$$

where  $x'_k = W_k x_k$ , and these jacobians can be expressed as:

$$J_{x'_k}(h(x'_k))[i, j] = \delta_i^j h'(x'_k[i])\tag{8}$$

$$\begin{aligned}J_{x'_k}(h(x'_k)) &= I h'(x'_k) \\ J_{x_k}(W_k x_k) &= W_k^T\end{aligned}\tag{9}$$

That means that we can write  $\vec{\nabla}_{x_k} = (\widetilde{h}_k \circ \widetilde{g}_k)(\vec{\nabla}_{x_{k+1}})$  such that the connectivity matrix  $\widetilde{W}_k$  is obtained by transposition. This can be interpreted as gradient calculation being a *back-propagation* on the same neural network, in opposition of the *forward-propagation* done to compute the output.

### 0.1.2.3 Example of layers

**Definition 0.1.18. Connections**

The set of *connections* of a layer  $(g, h)$ , denoted  $C_g$ , is defined as:

$$C_g = \{(i, j), \exists p, W_g[i, j] := \theta_g[p]\}$$

We have  $0 \leq |C_g| \leq n_1^{(W_g)} n_2^{(W_g)}$ .

**Definition 0.1.19. Dense layer**

A *dense layer*  $(g, h)$  is a layer such that  $|C_g| = n_1^{(W_g)} n_2^{(W_g)}$ , i.e. all possible connections exist. The map  $(i, j) \mapsto p$  is usually a bijection, meaning that there is no weight sharing.

**Definition 0.1.20. Partially connected layer**

A *partially connected layer*  $(g, h)$  is a layer such that  $|C_g| < n_1^{(W_g)} n_2^{(W_g)}$ .

A *sparsely connected layer*  $(g, h)$  is a layer such that  $|C_g| \ll n_1^{(W_g)} n_2^{(W_g)}$ .



**Definition 0.1.21. Convolutional layer**

A  $n$ -dimensional convolutional layer  $(g, h)$  is such that the weight kernel  $\theta_g$  can be reshaped into a tensor  $w$  of rank  $n + 2$ , and such that

$$\begin{cases} I_g \text{ and } O_g \text{ are tensor spaces of rank } n + 1 \\ \forall x \in I_g, g(x) = (g(x)_q = \sum_p x_p *_n w_{p,q})_{\forall q} \end{cases}$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  index slices along the last ranks. The slices  $g(x)_q$  are typically called *feature maps*.

*Remark 0.1.11. Geometric shape* **TODO: blabla**

**Definition 0.1.22. Padding**

A layer  $(g, h)$  with padding is such that  $\exists(g_{\text{pad}}, g'), g = g_{\text{pad}} \circ g'$  where  $g_{\text{pad}}$  is a padding operation.

A convolutional layer with padding  $(g_{\text{pad}} \circ g', h)$  is such that  $g_{\text{pad}}$  **TODO: TODO: rewrite**

**TODO: blabla padding**

**Proposition 0.1.1. Connectivity matrix of a convolution with padding**

A convolutional layer with padding  $(g, h)$  is equivalently defined as  $W_g$  being a  $n_{n+1}^{(I_g)} \times n_{n+1}^{(O_g)}$  block matrix such that its blocks are Toeplitz matrices.

*Proof.* Let's consider the slices indexed by  $p$  and  $q$ , and to simplify the no-

tations, let's drop the subscripts  $p, q$ . We recall from Definition 0.1.9 that

$$\begin{aligned}
y &= (x *_n w)[j_1, \dots, j_n] \\
&= \sum_{k_1=1}^{n_1^{(w)}} \cdots \sum_{k_n=1}^{n_n^{(w)}} x[j_1 + n_1^{(w)} - k_1, \dots, j_n + n_n^{(w)} - k_n] w[k_1, \dots, k_n] \\
&= \sum_{i_1=j_1}^{j_1+n_1^{(w)}-1} \cdots \sum_{i_n=j_n}^{j_n+n_n^{(w)}-1} x[i_1, \dots, i_n] w[j_1 + n_1^{(w)} - i_1, \dots, j_n + n_n^{(w)} - i_n] \\
&= \sum_{i_1=1}^{n_1^{(x)}} \cdots \sum_{i_n=1}^{n_n^{(x)}} x[i_1, \dots, i_n] \tilde{w}[i_1, j_1, \dots, i_n, j_n] \\
&\text{where } \tilde{w}[i_1, j_1, \dots, i_n, j_n] = \\
&\quad \begin{cases} w[j_1 + n_1^{(w)} - i_1, \dots, j_n + n_n^{(w)} - i_n] & \text{if } \forall t, 0 \leq i_t - j_t \leq n_t^{(w)} - 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

Using Einstein summation convention as in (2) and permuting indices, we recognize the following tensor contraction

$$y_{j_1 \dots j_n} = x_{i_1 \dots i_n} \tilde{w}^{i_1 \dots i_n}_{j_1 \dots j_n} \quad (10)$$

Following Remark 0.1.4, we reshape (10) as a matrix product. To reshape  $y \mapsto Y$ , we use the row major order bijections  $g_j$  as in (1) defined onto  $\{(j_1, \dots, j_n), \forall t, 1 \leq j_t \leq n_t^{(y)}\}$ . To reshape  $x \mapsto X$ , we use the same row major order bijection  $g_j$ , however defined on the indices that support non zero-padded values, so that zero-padded values are lost after reshaping. That is, we use a bijection  $g_i$  such that  $g_i(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n) = g_j(i_1 - o_1, i_2 - o_2, \dots, i_n - o_n)$  defined if and only if  $\forall t, 1 + o_t \leq i_t \leq n_t^{(y)}$ , where the  $\{o_t\}$  are the starting offsets of the non zero-padded values.  $\tilde{w} \mapsto W$  is reshaped by using  $g_j$  for its covariant indices, and  $g_i$  for its contravariant indices. The entries lost by using  $g_i$  do not matter because they would have been nullified by the resulting matrix product. We remark that  $W$  is exactly the block  $(p, q)$  of  $W_g$  (and not of  $W_{g'}$ ). Now let's prove that it is a Toeplitz matrix.

Thanks to the linearity of the expression (1) of  $g_j$ , by denoting  $i'_t = i_t - o_t$ , we obtain

$$g_i(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n) - g_j(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_n) = g_j(i'_1 - j_1, i'_2 - j_2, \dots, i'_n - j_n) \quad (11)$$

To simplify the notations, let's drop the arguments of  $g_i$  and  $g_j$ . By bijectivity of  $g_j$ , (11) tells us that  $g_i - g_j$  remains constant if and only if  $i'_t - j_t$  remains constant for all  $t$ . Recall that

$$W[g_i, g_j] = \begin{cases} w[j_1 + n_1^{(w)} - i'_1, \dots, j_n + n_n^{(w)} - i'_n] & \text{if } \forall t, 0 \leq i'_t - j_t \leq n_t^{(w)} - 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

Hence, on a diagonal of  $W$ ,  $g_i - g_j$  remaining constant means that  $W[g_i, g_j]$  also remains constants. So  $W$  is a Toeplitz matrix.

The converse is also true as we used invertible functions in the index spaces through the proof.  $\square$

TODO: remark when no padding

TODO: below

### Definition 0.1.23. Convolutional layer with stride

Let  $g$  the linear part of a convolution layer with *stride*  $s_p > 1$  along the  $p$ -th rank, and  $\tilde{g}$  the same linear part if it was a regular convolutional layer as defined above. Then  $g$  is defined as

$$\forall i_p \in \{1, \lfloor \frac{n_p^{(g(x))}}{s_p} \rfloor\}, \forall x \in I_g, g(x)_{i_p} = \tilde{g}(x)_{s_p i_p}$$

where  $i_p$  and  $s_p i_p$  index slices along the  $p$ -th rank.

TODO: below

### Definition 0.1.24. Pooling

A layer with *pooling*  $(g, h)$  is such that  $g = g_1 \circ g_2$ , where  $(g_1, h)$  is a layer and  $g_2$  is a pooling operation.

A layer with *dropout*  $(g, h)$  is such that  $h = h_1 \circ h_2$ , where  $(g, h_2)$  is a layer and  $h_1$  is a dropout operation (Srivastava, Hinton, Krizhevsky, et al., 2014). When dropout is used, a certain number of neurons are randomly set to zero during the training phase, compensated at test time by scaling down the whole layer. This is done to prevent overfitting.

#### 0.1.2.4 Example of architectures

TODO: rephrase

A multilayer perceptron (MLP) (Hornik, Stinchcombe, and White, 1989) is a neural network composed of only dense layers. A convolutional neural network (CNN) (LeCun, Bottou, Bengio, et al., 1998) is a neural network composed of convolutional layers.

Neural networks are commonly used for machine learning tasks. For example, to perform supervised classification, we usually add a dense output layer  $s = (g_{L+1}, h_{L+1})$  with as many neurons as classes. We measure the error between an output and its expected output with a discriminative loss function  $\mathcal{L}$ . During the training phase, the weights of the network are adapted for the classification task based on the errors that are back-propagated (Hornik, Stinchcombe, and White, 1989) via the chain rule and according to a chosen optimization algorithm (*e.g.* Bottou, 2010).

### 0.1.3 Graphs

TODO: check this subsection

A graph  $G$  is defined as a couple  $(V, E)$  where  $V$  represents the set of nodes and  $E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$  is the set of edges connecting these nodes.

TODO: Example of figure

We encounter the notion of graphs several times in deep learning:

- Connections between two layers of a deep learning model can be represented as a bipartite graph, coined *connectivity graph*. It encodes how the information is propagated through a layer to another. See Section 0.1.3.1.
- A computation graph is used by deep learning frameworks to keep track of the dependencies between layers of a deep learning models, in order to compute forward and back-propagation. See Section 0.1.3.2.
- A graph can represent the underlying structure of an object (often a vector), whose nodes represent its features. See Section 0.1.3.3.
- Datasets can also be graph-structured, where the nodes represent the objects of the dataset. See Section 0.1.3.4.

#### 0.1.3.1 Connectivity graph

A Connectivity graph is the bipartite graph whose adjacency matrix is the connectivity matrix of a layer of neurons. Formally, given a linear part of a layer, let  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  be the input and output signals,  $n$  the size of the set of input neurons  $N = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ , and  $m$  the size of the set of output neurons  $M = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$ . This layer implements the equation  $y = \Theta x$  where  $\Theta$  is a  $n \times m$  matrix.

**Definition 0.1.25.** The *connectivity graph*  $G = (V, E)$  is defined such that  $V = N \cup M$  and  $E = \{(u_i, v_j) \in N \times M, \Theta_{ij} \neq 0\}$ .

I.e. the connectivity graph is obtained by drawing an edge between neurons for which  $\Theta_{ij} \neq 0$ . For instance, in the special case of a complete bipartite graph, we would obtain a dense layer. Connectivity graphs are especially useful to represent partially connected layers, for which most of the  $\Theta_{ij}$  are

0. For example, in the case of layers characterized by a small local receptive field, the connectivity graph would be sparse, and output neurons would be connected to a set of input neurons that corresponds to features that are close together in the input space. Figure 2 depicts some examples.

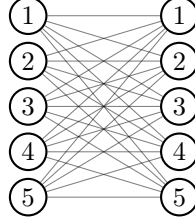


Figure 2: Examples

TODO: Figure 2. It's just a placeholder right now

Connectivity graphs also allow to graphically modelize how weights are tied in a neural layer. Let's suppose the  $\Theta_{ij}$  are taking their values only into the finite set  $K = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_\kappa\}$  of size  $\kappa$ , which we will refer to as the *kernel of weights*. Then we can define a labelling of the edges  $s : E \rightarrow K$ .  $s$  is called the *weight sharing scheme* of the layer. This layer can then be formulated as  $\forall v \in M, y_v = \sum_{u \in N, (u,v) \in E} w_{s(u,v)} x_u$ . Figure 3 depicts the connectivity graph of

a 1-d convolution layer and its weight sharing scheme.

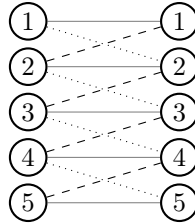


Figure 3: Depiction of a 1D-convolutional layer and its weight sharing scheme.

TODO: Add weight sharing scheme in Figure 3

**0.1.3.2 Computation graph**

**0.1.3.3 Underlying graph structure**

**0.1.3.4 Graph-structured dataset**

transductive vs inductive

**0.1.4 Special classes of graphs**

**0.1.4.1 Grid graphs**

**0.1.4.2 Spatial graphs**

**0.1.4.3 Projections of spatial graphs**

## 0.2 Subject disambiguation

TODO: Rework 1.1

### 0.2.1 Naming conventions

#### 0.2.1.1 Basic notions

Let's recall the naming conventions of basic notions.

A *function*  $f : E \rightarrow F$  maps objects  $x \in E$  to objects  $y \in F$ , as  $y = f(x)$ .

Its *definition domain*  $\mathcal{D}_f = E$  is the set of objects onto which it is defined.

We will often just use the term *domain*.

We also say that  $f$  is *taking values* in its *codomain*  $F$ .

The *image per*  $f$  of the subset  $U \subset E$ , denoted  $f(U)$ , is  $\{y \in F, \exists x \in U, y = f(x)\}$ .

The *image of*  $f$  is the image of its domain. We denote  $\mathcal{I}_f$ .

A vector space  $E$ , which we will always assume to be finite-dimensional in our context, is defined as  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and is equipped with pointwise addition and scalar multiplication.

A *signal*  $s$  is a function taking values in a vector space. In other words, a signal can also be seen as a *vector* with an *underlying structure*, where the vector is composed from its image, and the underlying structure is defined by its *domain*.

For example, images are signals defined on a set of pixels. Typically, an image  $s$  in RGB representation is a mapping from pixels  $p$  to a 3d vector space, as  $s_p = (r, g, b)$ .

TODO?: figure

#### 0.2.1.2 Graphs and graph signals

TODO: more defs on grid graphs and other graphs

A *graph*  $G = (V, E)$  is defined as a set of nodes  $V$ , and a set of edges  $E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$ . The words *node* and *vertex* will be used equivalently, but we will rather use the first.

A *graph signal*, or *graph-structured signal* is a signal defined on the nodes of a graph, for which the underlying structure is the graph itself. A *node signal*



is a signal defined on a node, in which case it is a *node embedding* in a vector space.

Although this is rarely seen, a signal can also be defined on the edges of a graph, or on an edge. We then coin it respectively *dual graph signal*, or *edge signal* / *edge embedding*.

*Graph-structured data* can refer to any of these type of signals.

### 0.2.1.3 Data and datasets

A dataset of signals is said to be *static* if all its signals share the same underlying structure, it is said to be *non-static* otherwise.

For image datasets, being non-static would mean that the dataset contains images of different sizes or different scales. For graph signal datasets, it would mean that the underlying graph structures of the signals are different.

The point in specifying that objects of a dataset of a machine learning task are signals is that we can hope to leverage their underlying structure.

TODO: figure

## 0.2.2 Disambiguation of the subject

This thesis is entitled *Deep learning models for data without a regular structure*. So either the data of interest in this manuscript do not have any structure, or either their structure is not regular.

### 0.2.2.1 Irregularly structured data

By structured data, we mean that there exists an underlying structure over which the data is defined. This kind of data are usually modeled as signals defined over a domain. These domains are then composed of objects that are related together by some sort of structural properties. For example, pixels of images can be seen as located on a grid with integer spatial coordinates (a 2d cartesian grid graph).

It then come in handy to define the notions of structure and regularity with the help of graph signals.

#### Definition 0.2.1. Structure

Let  $s : D \rightarrow F$  be a signal defined over a finite domain.

An *underlying structure* of the signal  $s$  is a graph  $G$  that has the domain of  $s$  for nodes.

A dataset is said to be *structured*, if its objects can be modeled as signals with an underlying structure.

It is said to be *static* if all its objects share the same underlying structure, and *non-static* otherwise.

In other words, we chose to define “structured data” as “graph-structured data” by some graph. Hence we need to specify for which graphs this structure would be said to be regular, and for which it would not.

**Definition 0.2.2.** Regularity

An underlying structure is said to be *regular*, if it is a regular grid graph. It is said to be *irregular* otherwise.

A dataset is said to be *regularly structured*, if the underlying structures of its objects are regular. It is said to be *irregularly structured* otherwise.

TODO: examples

#### 0.2.2.2 Unstructured data

Data can also be unstructured. If the data is not yet embedded into a finite dimensional vector space, then we will be interested in embedding techniques used in representation learning. In the other case, it is often possible to fall back to the case of irregularly structured data. For example, vectors can be seen as signals defined over the canonical basis of the vector space, and the vectors of this basis can be related together by their covariances through the dataset. It is typical to use the graph structure that has the canonical basis for nodes, with edges obtained by covariance thresholding.

TODO: examples

What follows is a draft

### 0.2.3 Datasets

### 0.2.4 Tasks

### 0.2.5 Goals

### 0.2.6 Invariance

In order to be observed, invariances must be defined relatively to an observation. Let’s give a formal definition to support our discussion.

...

### 0.2.7 Methods



# Contents

*Index terms*— Deep learning, representation learning, propagation learning, visualization, structured, unstructured regular, irregular, covariant, invariant, equivariant, tensor, scheme, weight sharing, graphs, manifold, euclidean, signal processing, graph signal processing, time series, time series database, distributed application, spatial-time series, geo time series, industrial applications, warp 10, warpscript, ...

## Temptative titles

- Learning propagational representations of irregular and unstructured data
- Learning representations of unstructured or irregularly structured datasets
- Propagational learning of unstructured or irregularly structured datasets
- Learning tensorial representation of irregular and unstructured data
- Tensorial representation of propagation in deep learning for irregular and unstructured dataset
- Structural representation learning for irregular or unstructured data
- Word for both “irregularly structured” + “unstructured” = ? (maybe “unorthodox” ?)
- Unorthodox deep learning
- ...

- Deep learning of unstructured or irregularly structured datasets
- Deep learning models for data without a regular structure
- On structures in deep learning

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