#### Gated Complex Recurrent Neural Networks

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## Motivation

- RNN and neural networks in general suffer from unstable gradients.
- Distribution over a sum using gating is one fix for vanishing gradients (GRU, LSTM, ...)
- Norm preserving matrices are another way to fix this.  $\|\mathbf{W}h\|_2 = \|h\|_2$
- Orthogonal (real) and unitary (complex) matrices are norm preserving.

## Motivation

- Unitary matrices are more expressive than orthogonal ones.
- Complex networks must be interoperable with real components.
- Mappings from  $\mathbb{C}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  are not complex differentiable.

# Wirtinger-Calculus [Wir27][MG09][KD09]

For a complex function f(z) = u(x, y) - iv(x, y) we have:

$$\mathbb{R}\text{-derivative} \triangleq \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}|_{\bar{z}=\text{const}} = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - i\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}), \quad (1)$$
$$\mathbb{R}\text{-derivative} \triangleq \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}}|_{z=\text{const}} = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + i\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}). \quad (2)$$

Based on these derivatives, one can define the chain rule for a function g(f(z)) as follows:

$$\frac{\partial g(f(z))}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial f} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial \bar{f}} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial z} \text{ where } \bar{f} = u(x, y) - iv(x, y). \quad (3)$$

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## Unitary Evolution matrix RNN-Motivation [ASB16][Pas13]

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{W}_{\mathsf{rec}} f(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}) + \mathbf{W}_{\mathsf{in}} \mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{b}. \tag{4}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \theta} = \sum_{1 \le t \le T} \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\partial \theta},\tag{5}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}_t}{\partial \theta} = \sum_{1 \le k \le t} \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\partial \mathbf{x}_t} \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_t}{\mathbf{x}_k} \frac{\partial^+ \mathbf{x}_k}{\partial \theta} \right),\tag{6}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{t}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{k}} = \prod_{t \ge i > k} \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{i}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{i-1}} = \prod_{t \ge i > k} W_{\mathsf{rec}}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{diag}(f'(\mathbf{x}_{i-1})).$$
(7)

Moritz Wolter, Angela Yao

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## Stiefel Manifold Weight Updates [WPH<sup>+</sup>16]

$$\mathbf{W}_{k+1} = (\mathbf{I} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{A}_k)^{-1} (\mathbf{I} - \frac{\lambda}{2} \mathbf{A}_k) \mathbf{W}_k, \qquad (8)$$

where 
$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{W} \overline{\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} F}^T - \overline{\mathbf{W}}^T \nabla_{\mathbf{w}} F.$$
 (9)



Figure: Fix the optimized matrix eigenvalues onto the unit circle. The key idea behind stiefel-manifold optimization.

## Unitary evolution network performance

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{U}_{\mathsf{rec}} f(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}) + \mathbf{W}_{\mathsf{in}} \mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{b}. \tag{10}$$



Figure: Current state of the art performance on memory and adding problem for T=250. Models have approximately 40k weights.

#### Complex equivalents of tanh and Relu



$$f_{\text{Hirose}}(z) = \tanh\left(\frac{|z|}{m^2}\right)e^{-i\cdot\theta_z} = \tanh\left(\frac{|z|}{m^2}\right)\frac{z}{|z|}, \quad (11)$$
$$f_{\text{modReLU}}(z) = \text{ReLU}(|z|+b)e^{-i\cdot\theta_z} = \text{ReLU}(|z|+b)\frac{z}{|z|}. \quad (12)$$

We will compare their performance as state-to-state non-linearities.

Moritz Wolter, Angela Yao

# Complex gated Recurrent Recurrent Nets

Gate equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{g}_r &= f_g(\mathbf{z}_r), & \text{where} & \mathbf{z}_r &= \mathbf{W}_r \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{V}_r \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{b}_r, \quad (13) \\ \mathbf{g}_z &= f_g(\mathbf{z}_z), & \text{where} & \mathbf{z}_z &= \mathbf{W}_z \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{V}_z \mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{b}_z, \quad (14) \end{aligned}$$

Update equations:

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_t = \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{g}_r \odot \mathbf{h}_{t-1}) + \mathbf{V}\mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{b}, \tag{15}$$

$$\mathbf{h}_t = \mathbf{g}_z \odot f_a(\widetilde{\mathbf{z}}_t) + (1 - \mathbf{g}_z) \odot \mathbf{h}_{t-1}, \tag{16}$$

 $\mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{R},$  mapping:

$$\mathbf{o}_r = \mathbf{W}_o[\Re(\mathbf{h}) \Im(\mathbf{h})] + \mathbf{b}_o. \tag{17}$$

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#### Complex gate activations

$$f_{\text{prod}}(\mathbf{z}) = \sigma(\Re(\mathbf{z})) \cdot \sigma(\Im(\mathbf{z})), \qquad (18)$$

$$f_{\text{gate hirose}} = \tanh(\frac{|z|}{m^2})\sigma(a\frac{z}{|z|}+b),$$
 (19)

$$f_{\text{mod sigmoid}}(\mathbf{z}) = \sigma(\alpha \Re(\mathbf{z}) + \beta \Im(\mathbf{z})).$$
(20)

With  $\alpha \in [0,1]$  and  $\beta = (1 - \alpha)$ .

Moritz Wolter, Angela Yao

#### Comparison to state of the art



Figure: Comparison of our complex gated RNN (cgRNN, blue,  $n_h=80$ ) with the unitary RNN [ASB16](uRNN, orange,  $n_h=140$ ) and standard GRU [CvMG<sup>+</sup>14](orange,  $n_h=112$ ) on the memory (left) and adding (right) problem for T=250.

# Stiefel optimization and activations



Figure: Comparison of non-linearities and norm preserving state transition matrices on the complex gated RNNs for the memory (a) and adding (b) problems for T=250. We use  $n_h = 80$  for all experiments.

# Motion prediction



Figure: Motion prediction Euler angle errors for the complex gated RNN (green) versus GRU (blue), where each line indicates a separate test sequence. The final error after 20,000 iterations is shown in the adjacent table.

#### Gates must be able to saturate to work!

In order to further stabilize the gradients we explored normalizing the recurrent matrices in the gate equations



Figure: Orthogonal recurrent gate matrices prevent the gates from functioning.

# Future Work

- Complex gate coupling. Just one complex gate equation,  $\mathbf{r} = \sigma(\Re(\mathbf{g})), \ \mathbf{z} = \sigma(\Im(\mathbf{g}))$ . Reduces complex overhead.
- Explore frequency domain networks using Hilbert or Fourier transformed input data.
- Explore dynamic mode decomposition as an alternative complex input representation.

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#### Feedback

# Thanks for your attention and feedback. Later: wolter@cs.uni-bonn.de