

# Equivariant Neural Tangent Kernels

Learning on graphs and geometry meetup

by Philipp Misof

joint work with Jan Gerken, Pan Kessel

*Department of Mathematical Sciences, Division of Algebra and Geometry*

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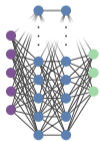
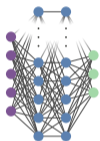


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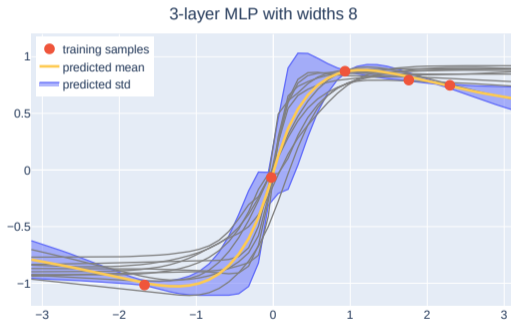
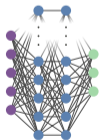
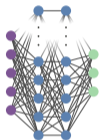
WASP | WALLENBERG AI,  
AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS  
AND SOFTWARE PROGRAM

What can we say about the dynamics of NNs without specifying their initial parameters?

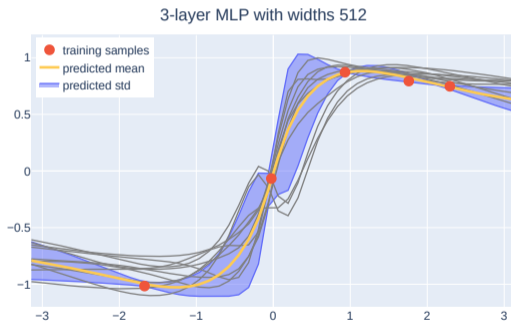
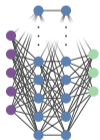
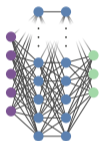
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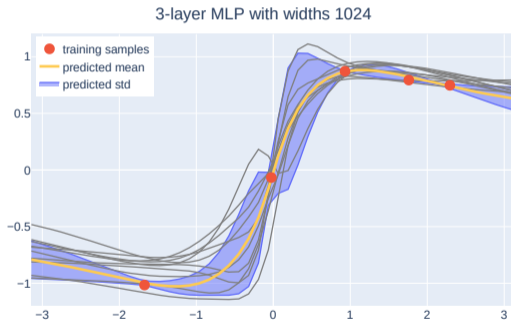
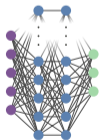
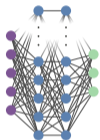
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# Training dynamics

*(Jacot, Gabriel, and Hongler 2018)*

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$$\frac{d\mathcal{N}}{dt} = -\eta \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \Theta_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_i)}$$



# Training dynamics

(Jacot, Gabriel, and Hongler 2018)

The diagram shows the equation for training dynamics with several labels and arrows pointing to specific parts of the equation:

- Neural Network output**: An arrow points from this label to the  $\mathcal{N}$  in the numerator of the derivative  $\frac{d\mathcal{N}}{dt}$ .
- Learning rate**: An arrow points from this label to the  $\eta$  in the equation.
- Loss**: An arrow points from this label to the  $\mathcal{L}$  in the numerator of the derivative  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathcal{N}(x_i)}$ .
- Neural Tangent Kernel**: An arrow points from this label to the  $\Theta_t(x, x_i)$  term in the equation.
- Training time**: An arrow points from this label to the  $t$  in the denominator of the derivative  $\frac{d\mathcal{N}}{dt}$ .

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Simple ODE

**We extend this to equivariant NNs**

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Group Convolution

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Group Pooling

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Explicit expressions for

- **roto-translations**  $G = C_4 \times \mathbb{R}^2$  in the plane
- **3d-rotations**  $G = SO(3)$  on the sphere  $S^2$   
via **spherical convolutions**



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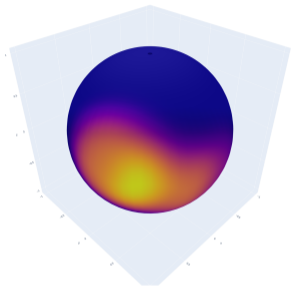
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Provide **implementations** in the `neural-tangents` library (Novak et al. 2020)

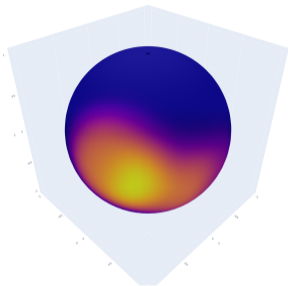
$\infty$ -width limit in practice: Molecular Energy Prediction on QM9

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Atoms' environments are represented as signals on the sphere (Esteves, Slotine, and Makadia 2023)

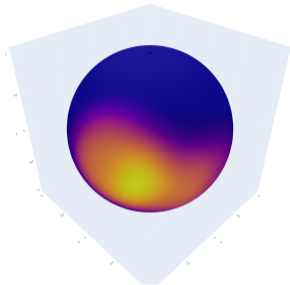
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MLP  
vs.  
SO(3) GCNN

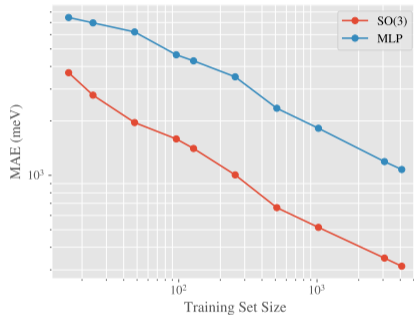
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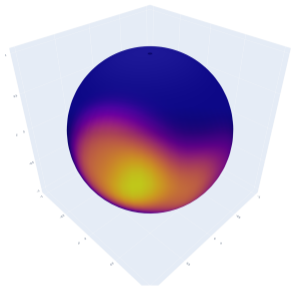


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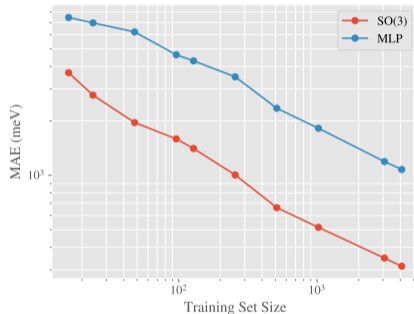


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➔ Performance boost due to 3d-rotation invariance extends to the  $\infty$ -width limit

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Similar result for data augmented CNN  $\leftrightarrow C_4 \times \mathbb{R}^2$  GCNN

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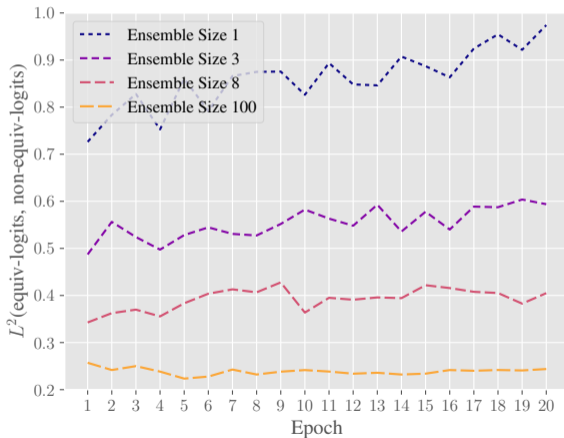
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- Trainability and generalization regimes of equivariant NNs (*Xiao, Pennington, and Schoenholz 2020*)
- Relations to Quantum Field Theory (*Banta et al. 2024*)

Do you want to know more?



arXiv:2406.06504