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# Supplementary Material for NIPS 2009 Paper #978, “On Invariance in Hierarchical Models”

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This supplementary appendix to the paper entitled “On Invariance in Hierarchical Models” (NIPS 2009) [1] contains all of the proofs omitted from the body of the paper. It is available online for downloading at [http://cbcl.mit.edu/publications/ps/978\\_supplement.pdf](http://cbcl.mit.edu/publications/ps/978_supplement.pdf).

The following definition is reproduced here for convenience:

**Definition 1** (Compatible Sets). *The subsets  $\tilde{R} \subset R$  and  $\tilde{T} \subset T$  are compatible if all of the following conditions hold:*

1. *For each  $r \in \tilde{R}$ ,  $r_v \tilde{T} = \tilde{T} r_u$ . When  $r_u = r_v$  for all  $r \in \tilde{R}$ , this means that normalizer of  $\tilde{T}$  in  $\tilde{R}$  is  $\tilde{R}$ .*
2. *Left transformations  $r_v$  never take a point in  $v$  outside of  $v$ , and right transformations  $r_u$  never take a point in  $u/v$  outside of  $u/v$  (respectively):*

$$\text{im} A_{r_v} \circ \iota_v \subseteq v, \quad \text{im} A_{r_u} \circ \iota_u \subseteq u, \quad \text{im} A_{r_u} \circ \iota_v \subseteq v,$$

*for all  $r \in \tilde{R}$ .*

3. *Translations never take a point in  $u$  outside of  $v$ :*

$$\text{im} A_t \circ \iota_u \subseteq v$$

*for all  $t \in \tilde{T}$ .*

**Theorem 1.** *Given any function  $\Psi : \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}_{++}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{++}$ , if the initial kernel satisfies  $\hat{K}_1(f, f \circ r) = 1$  for all  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $f \in \text{Im}(v_1)$ , then*

$$\hat{N}_m(f) = \hat{N}_m(f \circ r),$$

*for all  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $f \in \text{Im}(v_m)$  and  $m \leq n$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is by induction. The base case is true by assumption. The inductive hypothesis is that  $\hat{K}_{m-1}(u, u \circ r) = 1$  for any  $u \in \text{Im}(v_{m-1})$ . This means that  $F(H \circ r) = F(H)$ . Assumption 1 (in the full paper) states that  $r \circ H = \pi(H) \circ r = H \circ r$ , with  $\pi$  onto. Combining the inductive hypothesis and the Assumption, we see that for all  $q \in Q_{m-1}$ ,  $N_m(f \circ r)(q) = (\Psi \circ F)(r \circ H) = (\Psi \circ F)(H \circ r) = (\Psi \circ F)(H) = N_m(f)(q)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $\Gamma \subseteq T$  be a given set of translations, and assume the following: (1)  $G \cong T \times R$ , (2) For each  $r \in R$ ,  $r = r_u = r_v$ , (3)  $\tilde{R}$  is a subgroup of  $R$ . Then Condition (1) of Definition 1 is satisfied if and only if  $\tilde{T}$  can be expressed as a union of orbits of the form*

$$\tilde{T} = \bigcup_{t \in \Gamma} C_{\tilde{R}}(t). \tag{1}$$

*Proof.* We first show that for  $\tilde{T}$  of the form above, Condition (1) of Definition 1 is satisfied. Combining the first two assumptions, we have for all  $t \in T$ ,  $r \in \tilde{R}$  that  $r_v t r_u^{-1} = r t r^{-1} \in T$ . Then for

each  $r \in \tilde{R}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} r_v \tilde{T} r_u^{-1} &= r \tilde{T} r^{-1} = r \left( \bigcup_{t \in \Gamma} C_{\tilde{R}}(t) \right) r^{-1} = r \left( \bigcup_{t \in \Gamma} \{ \tilde{r} t \tilde{r}^{-1} \in T \mid \tilde{r} \in \tilde{R} \} \right) r^{-1} \\ &= \bigcup_{t \in \Gamma} \{ r \tilde{r} t \tilde{r}^{-1} r^{-1} \in T \mid \tilde{r} \in \tilde{R} \} = \bigcup_{t \in \Gamma} \{ r' t r'^{-1} \in T \mid r' \in \tilde{R} \} = \tilde{T} \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows since  $r' \equiv r \tilde{r} \in \tilde{R}$ , and  $gG = G$  for any group  $G$  and  $g \in G$  because  $gG \subseteq G$  combined with the fact that  $Gg^{-1} \subseteq G \Rightarrow Gg^{-1}g \subseteq Gg \Rightarrow G \subseteq Gg$  giving  $gG = G$ . So the condition is verified. Suppose now that Condition (1) is satisfied, but  $\tilde{T}$  is not a union of orbits for the action of conjugation. Then there is a  $t' \in \tilde{T}$  such that  $t'$  cannot be expressed as  $t' = rtr^{-1}$  for some  $t \in \tilde{T}$ . Hence  $r\tilde{T}r^{-1} \subset \tilde{T}$ . But this contradicts the assumption that Condition (1) is satisfied, so  $\tilde{T}$  must be of the form shown in Equation (1).  $\square$

**Lemma 1.** For each  $m \in M$ ,  $t_a \in T$ ,

$$mt_a = t_b m$$

for some unique element  $t_b \in T$ .

*Proof.* The group of isometries of the plane is generated by translations and orthogonal operators, so we can write an element  $m \in M$  as  $m = t_v \varphi$ . Now define the homomorphism  $\pi : M \rightarrow O_2$ , sending  $t_v \varphi \mapsto \varphi$ . Clearly  $T$  is the kernel of  $\pi$  and is therefore a normal subgroup of  $M$ . Furthermore,  $M = T \rtimes O_2$ . So we have that, for all  $m \in M$ ,  $mt_a m^{-1} = t_b$ , for some element  $t_b \in T$ . Denote by  $\varphi(v)$  the operation of  $\varphi \in O_2$  on a vector  $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$  given by the standard matrix representation  $R : O_2 \rightarrow \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{R})$  of  $O_2$ . Then  $\varphi t_a = t_b \varphi$  with  $b = \varphi(a)$  since  $\varphi \circ t_a(x) = \varphi(x + a) = \varphi(x) + \varphi(a) = t_b \varphi(x)$ . So for arbitrary isometries  $m$ , we have that

$$mt_a m^{-1} = (t_v \varphi) t_a (\varphi^{-1} t_{-v}) = t_v t_b \varphi \varphi^{-1} t_{-v} = t_b,$$

where  $b = \varphi(a)$ . Since the operation of  $\varphi$  is bijective,  $b$  is unique, and  $mTm^{-1} = T$  for all  $m \in M$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.** Let  $H$  be the set of translations associated to an arbitrary layer of the hierarchical feature map and define the injective map  $\tau : H \rightarrow T$  by  $h_a \mapsto t_a$ , where  $a$  is a parameter characterizing the translation. Set  $\Gamma = \{ \tau(h) \mid h \in H \}$ . Take  $G = M \cong T \rtimes O_2$  as above. The sets

$$\tilde{R} = O_2, \quad \tilde{T} = \bigcup_{t \in \Gamma} C_{\tilde{R}}(t)$$

are compatible.

*Proof.* We first note that in the present setting, for all  $r \in R$ ,  $r = r_u = r_v$ . In addition, Lemma 1 says that for all  $t \in T$ ,  $r \in O_2$ ,  $rtr^{-1} \in T$ . We can therefore apply Proposition 1 to verify Condition (1) in Definition 1 for the choice of  $\tilde{T}$  above. Since  $\tilde{R}$  is comprised of orthogonal operators, Condition (2) is immediately satisfied. Condition (3) requires that for every  $t_a \in \tilde{T}$ , the magnitude of the translation vector  $a$  must be limited so that  $x + a \in v$  for any  $x \in u$ . We assume that every  $h_a \in H$  never takes a point in  $u$  outside of  $v$  by definition. Then since  $\tilde{T}$  is constructed as the union of conjugacy classes corresponding to the elements of  $H$ , every  $t' \in \tilde{T}$  can be seen as a rotation and/or reflection of some point in  $v$ , and Condition (3) is satisfied.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.** Assume that the input spaces  $\{\text{Im}(v_i)\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$  are endowed with a norm inherited from  $\text{Im}(v_n)$  by restriction. Then at all layers, the group of orthogonal operators  $O_2$  is the only group of transformations to which the neural response can be invariant.

*Proof.* Let  $R$  denote a group of transformations to which we would like the neural response to be invariant. If the action of a transformation  $r \in R$  on elements of  $v_i$  increases the length of those elements, then Condition (2) of Definition 1 would be violated. So members of  $R$  must either decrease length or leave it unchanged. Suppose  $r \in R$  decreases the length of elements on which it acts by a factor  $c \in [0, 1)$ , so that  $\|A_r(x)\| = c\|x\|$ . Condition (1) says that for every  $t \in \tilde{T}$ , we must be able to write  $t = r't'r^{-1}$  for some  $t' \in \tilde{T}$ . Choose  $t_v = \arg \max_{\tau \in \tilde{T}} \|A_\tau(0)\|$ , the largest

magnitude translation. Then  $t = rt'r^{-1} \Rightarrow t' = r^{-1}t_v r = t_{r^{-1}(v)}$ . But  $\|A_{t'}(0)\| = c^{-1}\|v\| > \|v\| = \|A_t(0)\|$ , so  $t'$  is not an element of  $\tilde{T}$  and Condition (1) cannot be satisfied for this  $r$ . Therefore, we have that the action of  $r \in R$  on elements of  $v_i$ , for all  $i$ , must preserve lengths. The group of transformations which preserve lengths is the orthogonal group  $O_2$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $H$  be the set of translations associated to an arbitrary layer of the hierarchical feature map and define the injective map  $\tau : H \rightarrow T$  by  $h_a \mapsto t_a$ , where  $a$  is a parameter characterizing the translation. Set  $\Gamma = \{\tau(h) \mid h \in H\}$ . Take  $G = D_n \cong T \rtimes R$ , with  $T = C_n = \langle t \rangle$  and  $R = C_2 = \{r, 1\}$ . The sets*

$$\tilde{R} = R, \quad \tilde{T} = \Gamma \cup \Gamma^{-1}t^{-u}$$

are compatible.

*Proof.* Since  $r_u = r_v t^{-u} = t^u r_v$ , we have that for  $x \in T$ ,  $r_v x r_u^{-1} = r_v x t^u r_v^{-1}$ . By construction,  $T \triangleleft G$ , so for  $x \in T$ ,  $r_v x r_u^{-1} \in T$ . Since  $x t^u$  is of course an element of  $T$ , we thus have that  $r_v x r_u^{-1} \in T$ . In the paper, we found that:

$$x' = r_v x r_u = r_v x r_v t^{-u} = x^{-1} r_v r_v t^{-u} = x^{-1} t^{-u}. \quad (2)$$

This, together with the relation  $r_u = r_u^{-1}$ , gives that  $x^{-1} t^{-u} = r_v x r_u = r_v x r_u^{-1}$ . Therefore

$$\tilde{T} = \bigcup_{x \in \Gamma} \{x, x^{-1} t^{-u}\} = \bigcup_{x \in \Gamma} \{r_v x r_u^{-1} \mid r \in \{r, 1\}\} = \bigcup_{x \in \Gamma} \{r_v x t^u r_v^{-1} \mid r \in \tilde{R}\} = \bigcup_{x \in \Gamma'} C_{\tilde{R}}(x), \quad (3)$$

where  $\Gamma' = \Gamma t^u$ . Thus  $\tilde{T}$  is seen as a union of  $\tilde{R}$ -orbits with  $r' = r'_v = r'_u, r' \in \tilde{R}$ , and we can apply Proposition 1 with  $\Gamma'$  to confirm that Condition (1) is satisfied.

To confirm Conditions (2) and (3), one can consider permutation representations of  $r_u, r_v$  and  $t \in \tilde{T}$  acting on  $v$ . Viewed as permutations, we necessarily have that  $A_{r_u}(u) = u, A_{r_u}(v) = v, A_{r_v}(v) = v$  and  $A_t(u) \subset v$ .  $\square$

## References

- [1] J. Bouvrie, L. Rosasco, and T. Poggio. ‘‘On Invariance in Hierarchical Models’’, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 22*, 2009.