

---

# $E(2)$ -Equivariant Vision Transformer (Supplementary Material)

---

Renjun Xu<sup>\*1</sup>

Kaifan Yang<sup>\*1,2</sup>

Ke Liu<sup>\*†1,2</sup>

Fengxiang He<sup>3,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>College of Computer Science and Technology, Zhejiang University

<sup>2</sup>JD Explore Academy, JD.com, Inc.

<sup>3</sup>AIAI, School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh

## A ERRORS IN GSA-NETS

In this part, we first review the proof of equivariance of the GSA-Nets [Romero and Cordonnier, 2020], and then point out the mistakes in the proof process using the positional encoding as:

$$\rho((i, \tilde{h}), (j, \hat{h})) = \rho^P(x(j) - x(i), \tilde{h}^{-1}\hat{h})$$

### A.1 DEFINITIONS AND NOTATIONS.

#### A.1.1 Definition of Group Equivariant Self-Attention.

If the group self-attention formulation  $m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[f, \rho](i, h)$  is  $\mathcal{G}$ -equivariant, if and only if it satisfies:

$$m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[\mathcal{L}_g[f], \rho](i, h) = \mathcal{L}_g[m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[f, \rho]](i, h), \quad g \in \mathcal{G}$$

#### A.1.2 Input under $g$ -Transformed

A  $g$ -transformed input can be expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_g[f](i, \tilde{h}) &= \mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\tilde{h}}[f](i, \tilde{h}) = f(\rho^{-1}(\tilde{h}^{-1}(\rho(i) - y)), \tilde{h}^{-1}\tilde{h}), \\ g &= (y, \tilde{h}), \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad \tilde{h} \in \mathcal{H}. \end{aligned}$$

## B PROOF OF GE-ViT

In this section, we prove that GE-ViT is group equivariant. For brevity, we also use the substitutions:

$$\bar{i} = x^{-1}(\tilde{h}^{-1}(x(i) - y)) \Rightarrow i = x^{-1}(\tilde{h}x(\bar{i}) + y), \tilde{h}' = \tilde{h}^{-1}\tilde{h}$$

and

$$\bar{j} = x^{-1}(\tilde{h}^{-1}(x(j) - y)) \Rightarrow j = x^{-1}(\tilde{h}x(\bar{j}) + y), \hat{h}' = \tilde{h}^{-1}\hat{h}$$

---

<sup>\*</sup>Contributed equally.

<sup>†</sup>Corresponding author: Ke Liu

The complete proof process is as follows:

$$m_G^r[\mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[f], \rho](i, \hat{h}) \quad (1)$$

$$= \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\bar{h} \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(j, \hat{h}) \in \mathcal{N}(i, \bar{h})} \sigma_{j, \hat{h}} \left( \langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(\mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[f](i, \tilde{h}), \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(\mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[f](j, \hat{h}) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[\rho]((i, \tilde{h}), (j, \hat{h})) \right) \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(\mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[f](j, \hat{h})) \right) \quad (2)$$

$$= \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\bar{h} \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(j, \hat{h}) \in \mathcal{N}(i, \bar{h})} \sigma_{j, \hat{h}} \left( \langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(f(x^{-1}(\bar{h}^{-1}(x(i) - y)), \bar{h}^{-1}\tilde{h}), \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(f(x^{-1}(\bar{h}^{-1}(x(j) - y)), \bar{h}^{-1}\hat{h}) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[\rho]((i, \tilde{h}), (j, \hat{h}))) \right) \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(f(x^{-1}(\bar{h}^{-1}(x(j) - y)), \bar{h}^{-1}\hat{h})) \right) \\ = \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\bar{h}\bar{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}')} \sigma_{x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}'} \left( \langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{i}, \tilde{h}'), \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[\rho]((x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i}) + y), \bar{h}\tilde{h}'), (x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j}) + y), \bar{h}\hat{h}')) \right) \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right) \quad (3)$$

By using the definition:

$$\rho((i, \tilde{h}), (j, \hat{h})) = \rho^P(x(j) - x(i), \tilde{h}\hat{h}^{-1}\tilde{h})$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[\rho]((i, \tilde{h}), (j, \hat{h})) = \rho^P(\hat{h}^{-1}(x(j) - x(i)), \tilde{h}\hat{h}^{-1}\tilde{h}).$$

The above formula can be further derived:

$$= \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\bar{h}\bar{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}')} \sigma_{x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}'} \left( \langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{i}, \tilde{h}'), \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \rho^P(\hat{h}^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j}) + y - (\bar{h}x(\bar{i}) + y)), \hat{h}^{-1}(\tilde{h}\hat{h}')^{-1}(\tilde{h}\hat{h}')) \right) \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right) \quad (4)$$

$$= \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\bar{h}\bar{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}')} \sigma_{x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}'} \left( \langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{i}, \tilde{h}'), \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \rho^P(\hat{h}^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j}) + y - (\bar{h}x(\bar{i}) + y)), \hat{h}^{-1}\tilde{h}\hat{h}'\hat{h}'^{-1}\tilde{h}') \right) \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right) \quad (5)$$

$$= \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\bar{h}\bar{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}')} \sigma_{x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}'} \left( \langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{i}, \tilde{h}'), \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \rho^P(\hat{h}^{-1}\tilde{h}(x(\bar{j}) - x(\bar{i})), \tilde{h}\hat{h}'\hat{h}'^{-1}\tilde{h}') \right) \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right) \quad (6)$$

$$= \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\bar{h}\bar{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}')} \sigma_{x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}'} \left( \langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{i}, \tilde{h}'), \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}^{-1}\hat{h}}[\rho]((\bar{i}, \tilde{h}'), (\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right) \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right) \quad (7)$$

The subsequent proof is similar to the GSA-Nets [Romero and Cordonnier, 2020]. For unimodular groups, the area of summation remains equal for any transformation  $g \in \mathcal{G}$ , which means that:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i})+y), \bar{h}\hat{h}')} [\cdot] &= \sum_{(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{j})), \bar{h}\hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(\bar{h}x(\bar{i})), \bar{h}\hat{h}')} [\cdot] \\ &= \sum_{(x^{-1}(x(\bar{j})), \hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(x^{-1}(x(\bar{i})), \tilde{h}')} [\cdot] \\ &= \sum_{(\bar{j}, \hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(\bar{i}, \tilde{h}')} [\cdot]. \end{aligned}$$

and because of the basic properties of groups, we can get  $\sum_{\bar{h}\hat{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} [\cdot] = \sum_{\hat{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} [\cdot]$ . Consequently, the above formula can be further simplified as:

$$\begin{aligned}
m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[\mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[f], \rho](i, h) &= \varphi_{\text{out}} \left( \bigcup_{h \in [H]} \sum_{\hat{h}' \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{(\bar{j}, \hat{h}') \in \mathcal{N}(\bar{i}, \hat{h}')} \sigma_{\bar{j}, \hat{h}'} (\langle \varphi_{\text{qry}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{i}, \hat{h}')) \rangle, \right. \\
&\quad \left. \varphi_{\text{key}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}') + \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}^{-1}h}[\rho](\bar{i}, \hat{h}'), (\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \rangle \rangle \varphi_{\text{val}}^{(h)}(f(\bar{j}, \hat{h}')) \right) \\
&= m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[f, \rho](\bar{i}, \bar{h}^{-1}h) \\
&= m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[f, \rho](x^{-1}(\bar{h}^{-1}(x(i) - y)), \bar{h}^{-1}h) \\
&= \mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[f, \rho]](i, h).
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

From the above formula, it can be seen that:

$$m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[\mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[f], \rho](i, h) = \mathcal{L}_y \mathcal{L}_{\bar{h}}[m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[f, \rho]](i, h),$$

which is the same as:

$$m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[\mathcal{L}_g[f], \rho](i, h) = \mathcal{L}_g[m_{\mathcal{G}}^r[f, \rho]](i, h), \quad g \in \mathcal{G}.$$

Therefore, with the positional encoding we proposed:

$$\rho((i, \tilde{h}), (j, \hat{h})) = \rho^P(x(j) - x(i), \tilde{h} \hat{h}^{-1} \tilde{h}),$$

the group self-attention is group equivariant.

## References

David W Romero and Jean-Baptiste Cordonnier. Group equivariant stand-alone self-attention for vision. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2020.