Neural Networks with Hadamard Product: Separation on Extrapolation and Spectral Bias

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Abstract

Neural tangent kernel (NTK) is a powerful tool to analyze training dynamics of neural networks and their generalization bounds. The study on NTK has been devoted to typical neural network architectures, but is incomplete for neural networks with Hadamard products (NNs-Hp), e.g., StyleGAN and polynomial neural networks. In this work, we derive the finite-width NTK formulation for NNs-Hp, and prove their equivalence to the kernel regression predictor with the associated NTK, which expands the application scope of NTK. Based on our results, we elucidate the difference of NNs-Hp over standard neural networks with respect to spectral bias and extrapolation. Our two key insights are that when compared to standard neural networks, a) NNs-Hp admit a slower eigenvalue decay of the respective NTK; and b) are able to fit more complicated functions in the extrapolation regime. Our empirical results validate those two separations, which provide a good justification for a deeper understanding of neural architectures.

1 Introduction

In deep learning theory, neural tangent kernel (NTK) [Jacot et al., 2018] is a powerful analysis tool that bridges the gap among the training dynamics of neural networks (NNs) trained by gradient descent and kernel regression [Jacot et al., 2018, Arora et al., 2019]. NTK provides a tractable analysis for several phenomena in deep learning, e.g., the global convergence of gradient descent [Allen-Zhu et al., 2019, Chizat et al., 2019, Du et al., 2019a, 2018], the inductive bias behind NNs [Bietti and Mairal, 2019], the spectral bias toward different frequency components [Cao et al., 2019, Choraria et al., 2022], the extrapolation behavior [Xu et al., 2021], and the generalization ability [Huang et al., 2020]. The study on NTK has been devoted to typical NNs architectures, e.g., fully-connected NNs [Jacot et al., 2018], residual NNs [Tirer et al., 2020, Huang et al., 2020], convolutional NNs [Arora et al., 2019], graph NNs [Du et al., 2019b] and recurrent NNs [Alemohammad et al., 2021].

Recently, NNs with Hadamard products (NNs-Hp), e.g., StyleGAN [Karras et al., 2019] and Π-Nets [Chrysos et al., 2020], have received increasing attention due to their expressivity and efficiency over traditional NNs [Chrysos et al., 2021a, Campbell and Broun, 2000, Su et al., 2020]. There have been several works attempting to demystify the success of NNs-Hp. Fan et al. [2021] prove that second-degree multiplicative interactions allow NNs-Hp to enlarge the set of functions that can be represented exactly with zero error. Choraria et al. [2022] reveal that NNs-Hp with second-degree multiplicative interactions can yield faster learning of high-frequency information during training in NTK regime. Yet, the theoretical analysis of NNs-Hp with high-degree multiplicative interactions is still unclear. When using NTK for analysis, the complete and rigorous proof includes showing the stability of empirical NTK during training and giving the width requirement, which is crucial to allow NTK-based analysis of typical NNs Arora et al. [2019], Tirer et al. [2020] but is still missing for NNs-Hp.

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In this work, we derive the NTK for NNs-Hp with high-degree multiplicative interactions and present a rigorous proof for the equivalence to the kernel regression predictor. This analysis enables us to further examine NNs-Hp in a theoretical perspective. This NTK analysis can be useful for investigating properties, such as the extrapolation. StyleGAN and Π-Nets have demonstrated stellar in-distribution performance, however implementing networks for real-world applications requires the ability to extrapolate to unseen data, e.g., for medical imaging. Neural networks have demonstrated weaknesses in extrapolating simple arithmetic problems [Saxton et al., 2019] or learning simple functions [Haley and Soloway, 1992, Sahoo et al., 2018]. Early works demonstrate that fully-connected NNs are unable to achieve exact extrapolation when fitting low-degree polynomial functions [Haley and Soloway, 1992]. Xu et al. [2021] theoretically and empirically point out that 2-layer fully-connected NNs with ReLU can only extrapolate to linear functions. However, data in real-world scenarios usually lie in highly nonlinear manifolds [Van Der Maaten et al., 2009]. Our findings extend these result and highlight that NNs-Hp can extrapolate to unseen data in a non-linear way. What's more, studying the NTK of NNs-Hp also allows us to investigate its spectral bias.

Overall, our main contributions can be summarized as follows:

- We derive the NTK formulation for NNs-Hp with high-degree multiplicative interactions, and give a concrete bound of the widths requirement for convergence to the NTK at initialization, and stability during training, which allows us to bridge the gap among NNs-Hp trained via gradient descent and kernel regression predictor.
- We provably present the extrapolation behavior of NNs-Hp and empirically show its advantage over standard NNs in learning common used functions and performing arithmetic extrapolation in real-world dataset.
- We provide a detailed analysis for the decay rate of eigenvalues of the NTK of NNs-Hp with high-degree multiplicative interactions in the task of learning spherical harmonics and scrutiny that increasing the multiplicative interactions results in a faster learning towards high-frequency information.

2 Background

In this section, we establish the notations, provide an overview of NTK, and summarize the most closely related work in NNs-Hpas well as extrapolation.

2.1 Notation

The core operators and symbols are summarized in Table 2 at Appendix A. Vectors (matrices) are symbolized by lowercase (uppercase) boldface letters, e.g., $\boldsymbol{a}$, $\boldsymbol{A}$. We use $\{\boldsymbol{x}_i\}_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{X}|}$and $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{X}|}$ to present the input features and their labels of the training set $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$, where $|\mathcal{X}|$ denotes the cardinality. We symbolize by $K(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}')$ the neural tangent kernel with input $\boldsymbol{x}$ and $\boldsymbol{x}'$, $\boldsymbol{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{X}|\times|\mathcal{X}|}$, where $\boldsymbol{K}_{ij} = K(\boldsymbol{x}_i, \boldsymbol{x}_i)$. Next, we denote by $\boldsymbol{\theta}_t$ the parameter vector, $\|\mathbf{e}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)\|_2^2$ the training loss, and $\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_t$ the empirical NTK Gram matrix at time step t. The following notation is used:

$$\|\mathbf{e}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)\|_2^2 = \sum_{(\boldsymbol{x}_i, y_i)\in(\mathcal{X},\mathcal{Y})} (f(\boldsymbol{x}_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_t) - y_i)^2 \,, \quad f(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) = \mathrm{vec}(\{f(\boldsymbol{x}_i; \boldsymbol{\theta}_t)\}_{\boldsymbol{x}_i\in\mathcal{X}}) \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{X}|},$$

$$J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) = \frac{\partial f(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{X}|\times|\boldsymbol{\theta}|} \,, \qquad \hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_t = J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{X}|\times|\mathcal{X}|}.$$

2.2 Neural tangent kernel

Neural networks (NNs) are relevant to kernel method, under proper initialization [Daniely et al., 2016, de G. Matthews et al., 2018]. Jacot et al. [2018] provably demonstrate the equivalence between the training dynamics by gradient descent and kernel regression induced by NTK when employing the ℓ_2 loss. Below, we recall the exact formula regarding the NTK of N-layer ($N > 2$) fully-connected NNs with ReLU activation functions σ. The corresponding NTK $K(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = K_N(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}')$ could be computed recursively by:

$$K_0(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = \Sigma_0(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = \boldsymbol{x}^\top \boldsymbol{x}' \,, \quad K_n(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = \Sigma_n(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') + 2K_{i-1}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') \cdot \dot{\Sigma}_n(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') \,, \quad (1)$$

where the covariance Σ_n and its derivative $\dot{\Sigma}_n$ are defined as:

$$\Sigma_n(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = 2\mathbb{E}_{(u,v)\sim\mathcal{N}(0,\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_i)}[\sigma(u)\sigma(v)]\,, \quad \dot{\Sigma}_n(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = \mathbb{E}_{(u,v)\sim\mathcal{N}(0,\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_i)}[\sigma'(u)\sigma'(v)]$$
$$\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_i = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{i-1}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}) & \Sigma_{i-1}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') \\ \Sigma_{i-1}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') & \Sigma_{i-1}(\boldsymbol{x}', \boldsymbol{x}') \end{pmatrix},$$

for $i = 1, \ldots, N$. Furthermore, the aforementioned NTK is extended to residual NNs [Tirer et al., 2020, Huang et al., 2020], convolutional NNs [Arora et al., 2019], graph NNs [Du et al., 2019b], and recurrent NNs [Alemohammad et al., 2021]. One of the roles of such kernel is to analyze the training behavior of the neural network [Allen-Zhu et al., 2019, Chizat et al., 2019, Du et al., 2019a, 2018]. For instance, Lee et al. [2019] showcase that through NTK parameterization NNs trained via gradient descent of any depth evolve to linear models. Meanwhile, the inductive bias of convolutional networks, e.g., deformation stability of the images, has been studied in the NTK regime [Bietti and Mairal, 2019].

2.3 Neural networks with Hadamard product

The ideas of augmenting NNs with Hadamard products to allow multiplicative interactions can be traced back to at least to Ivakhnenko [1971] that investigate the learnable polynomial relationships. Most of early work e.g., Group Method of Data Handling [Ivakhnenko, 1971], pi-sigma network [Shin and Ghosh, 1991] do not scale well for high-dimensional signals. Chrysos et al. [2021c] factorize the weight of NNs-Hp based on tensor decompositions to reduce the number of parameters. They exhibit how to convert popular networks, such as residual networks, and convolutional NNs to the form of NNs-Hp. StyleGAN can be also considered as a special type of NN-Hp [Chrysos et al., 2019]. New efforts have recently emerged to improve the architecture of the network with Hadamard products [Chrysos et al., 2021b, Babiloni et al., 2021, Chrysos et al., 2021a]. In this work, we adopt complementary approach and focus on the extrapolation as well as the spectral bias from a theoretical perspective.

2.4 Extrapolation

The study of extrapolation properties of NNs dates at least back to the 90's [Barnard and Wessels, 1992, Kramer and Leonard, 1990]. Experimental results show poor performance of NNs in case of learning simple functions [Barnard and Wessels, 1992]. Browne [2002] also suggest that fully-connected NNs cannot extrapolate well and then illustrate how the representation of the input impact the extrapolation. Xu et al. [2021] provably present the extrapolation behavior of fully-connected NNs and Graph neural networks [Jacot et al., 2018]. Specifically, they show that 2-layer fully-connected NNs with ReLU activation function extrapolate to linear function in extrapolation region. Our work exhibits that NNs-Hp can learn high degree nonlinear function. Apart from fully-connected NNs, Martius and Lampert [2016], Sahoo et al. [2018] showcase a novel family of functions with linear mapping and a non-linear transformation, which allows to use sine and cosine as nonlinearities, enabling such networks to learn well in analytical expressions. Note that there exist multiplication units in EQL, which is similar to the multiplicative interactions in NNs-Hp. Lastly, extrapolation is often considered in the context of out-of-distribution (OOD). There are other types of OOD problems with specific setting among machine learning community [Shen et al., 2021]. Domain adaption assumes the source and the target domains lie in the same feature space but with different distributions [Kouw and Loog, 2019], which differs from extrapolation. Another category of methodology to solve the OOD generalization problem, called invariant learning, aims to discover high-level invariance feature from low-level observations through latent causal mechanisms [Arjovsky et al., 2019, Rosenfeld et al., 2021]. We believe our analysis can also encourage the usage of NNs-Hp in these OOD problems.

3 Analysis of NNs-Hp

Our analysis admits the following structure: we firstly study the NTK of NNs-Hp in Section 3.1, which allows us to conduct analysis towards extrapolation in Section 3.2, and spectral bias in Section 3.3.

3.1 Neural tangent kernel of NNs-Hp

We now develop the NTK for NNs-Hp, then we bridge the gap between the NNs-Hp trained by gradient descent with respect to squared loss and the kernel regression predictor involving the

NTK. Our analysis is conducted on a specific type of NNs-Hp called polynomial neural networks (PNNs) while we still use the term NN-Hp for consistency. The goal of such networks is to learn an N-degree ($N \geq 2$) polynomial expansion that outputs $f(\boldsymbol{x}) \in \mathbb{R}$ with respect to the input $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. For simplifying the proof, we consider the following formulation of NNs-Hp, which is a reparameterization version of PNNs [Zhu et al., 2022]. The output is given by:

$$\boldsymbol{y}_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}}\sigma(\boldsymbol{W}_1\boldsymbol{x}), \quad f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}}(\boldsymbol{W}_{N+1}\boldsymbol{y}_N), \quad \boldsymbol{y}_n = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}}\sigma\left(\boldsymbol{W}_i\boldsymbol{x}\right) * \boldsymbol{y}_{i-1}, \; n = 2, \ldots, N\,, \tag{2}$$

where each element in $\boldsymbol{W}_{N+1} \in \mathbb{R}^{1\times m}$ and $\boldsymbol{W}_n \in \mathbb{R}^{m\times d}$, for $n = 1, \ldots, N$ is independently sampled from $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Two remarks are in place: a) We multiply by the scaling factor $\sqrt{\frac{2}{m}}$ after each degree to ensure that the norm of the network output is preserved at initialization with infinite-width setting. b) ReLU is usually required to increase the performance of NNs-Hp in experiments [Chrysos et al., 2021c].

Lemma 1. *The NTK of N-degree NNs-Hp, denoted by $K(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}')$, can be derived as:*

$$K(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = 2N \cdot \langle \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}'\rangle \kappa_1(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}')(\kappa_2(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}'))^{N-1} + 2(\kappa_2(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}'))^N\,, \tag{3}$$

where κ_1 and κ_2 are defined by taking the random Gaussian vector $\boldsymbol{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\kappa_1 = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{w}\sim\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{0},\sqrt{\frac{2}{m}}\cdot\boldsymbol{I})}\left(\dot{\sigma}(\boldsymbol{w}^\top\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \dot{\sigma}(\boldsymbol{w}^\top\boldsymbol{x}')\right), \kappa_2 = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{w}\sim\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{0},\sqrt{\frac{2}{m}}\cdot\boldsymbol{I})}\left(\sigma(\boldsymbol{w}^\top\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \sigma(\boldsymbol{w}^\top\boldsymbol{x}')\right)\,. \tag{4}$$

The proof, which provided in Appendix B.1, is based on the standard NTK calculations. Differently from fully-connected NNs, the existence of multiplicative interaction in NNs-Hp induces the product form of multiple kernel.

Next, we provide the following theorem that gives a concrete requirement for the width of the networks that is sufficient for nonasymptotic convergence to the NTK at initialization,

Theorem 1. *(Convergence to the NTK). Consider N-degree NNs-Hp, and assume that the width $m \geq 2^{4N-2}\log^{2N-1}(2N/\delta)$ for any $\delta \in (0, 1)$. Then, given two inputs $\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}'$ on the unit sphere, with probability at least $1 - \delta$ over the randomness of initialization, we have that*

$$|\langle \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}), \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}')\rangle - K(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}')| \leq 4N\rho e\sqrt{\frac{\log(2N/\delta)}{m}},$$

where $\rho = \sqrt{2}^{2N-1}\sqrt{8}e^3(2\pi)^{1/4}e^{1/24}\left(e^{2/e}(2N-1)/2\right)^{(2N-1)/2}$.

Remark: This result exhibits that the inner product of the Jacobian converges to the NTK at initialization, which has not been studied before for NNs-Hp. This theorem allows us to further analyze the extrapolation of networks from the perspective of NTK. It should be noted that the term ρ and the width are exponential with respect to the degree N, but the degree N is not large in practice, e.g., at most 15 in Chrysos et al. [2021a]. Hence the bound is fair and reasonable.

The technical key issue of the proof is to provide probability estimates for the multiplication of several sub-exponential random variables. To this end, we rely on the concentration of sub-Weibull random variables [Zhang and Chen, 2020] to complete the proof, which is deferred to Appendix B.2.

Below, we show that under certain conditions, the limiting NTK of NNs-Hp stays constant when training with gradient descent using squared loss.

Theorem 2 (Stability of the NTK during training)**.** *Consider the NNs-Hp in Eq.* (2)*. Assume $\lambda_{\min}(\boldsymbol{K}) > 0$ and the training data $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$ is contained in some compact set $\boldsymbol{x} \neq \tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}$ for all $\boldsymbol{x}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} \in \mathcal{X}$. Then, there exist some constant $R_0 > 0$, $M > 1$, and $Q > 1$ such that for every $m > M$, when minimizing the squared loss with gradient descent and sufficient small learning rate $\eta_0 < 2(\lambda_{\min}(\boldsymbol{K}) + \lambda_{\max}(\boldsymbol{K}))^{-1}$, the following inequality holds with high probability over the*

random initialization of $\boldsymbol{\theta}$:

$$\|e(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)\|_2 \leq \left(1 - \frac{\eta_0}{3}\lambda_{\min}(\boldsymbol{K})\right)^t R_0 \,, \tag{5}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{t} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_j - \boldsymbol{\theta}_{j-1}\|_2 \leq \frac{3QR_0}{\lambda_{\min}(\boldsymbol{K})} \,, \tag{6}$$

$$\sup_t \|\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_t - \hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_0\|_F = \frac{6Q^3R_0}{\lambda_{\min}(\boldsymbol{K})\sqrt{m}} \,. \tag{7}$$

Regarding the proof, we firstly introduce the norm control of the Gaussian weight matrices and then derive the local boundness and local Lipschitzness. The last step is to apply the induction rules over different time steps. Details are presented in the Appendix B.3.

Remark: Eq. (5) bounds the training loss and Eq. (6) implies small perturbation of the weights. Eq. (7) shows that $\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_t \xrightarrow{m\to\infty} \hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_0$. Combining this with Theorem 1 that states $\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_0 \xrightarrow{m\to\infty} \boldsymbol{K}$, we have $\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_t \xrightarrow{m\to\infty} \boldsymbol{K}$. Thus, the equivalence to the kernel regression is established. Note that Theorem 2 is an extension from the corresponding theorem of NNs with residual connection [Tirer et al., 2020] to NNs with Hadamard product. This property allows us to characterize the training process as kernel regression.

3.2 Extrapolation behavior

The derived kernel above enables us to study how NNs-Hp with ReLU activation trained by gradient descent extrapolates in OOD regime.

Theorem 3 (γ-degree ($\gamma \leq N$) extrapolation of N-degree NNs-Hp)**.** *Suppose we train N-degree ($N \geq 2$) NNs-Hp $f : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ with Eq. (2) with infinite-width on $\{(\boldsymbol{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{X}|}$, and the network is optimized with squared loss in the NTK regime. For any direction $\boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ that satisfies $\|\boldsymbol{v}\|_2 = \max\{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_i^2\}$, let $\boldsymbol{x}_0 = t\boldsymbol{v}$ and $\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{x}_0 + h\boldsymbol{v}$ with $t > 1$ and $h > 0$ be the OOD data points, the output $f(\boldsymbol{x}_0 + h\boldsymbol{v})$ follows a γ-degree ($\gamma \leq N$) function with respect to h.*

Apart from NNs-Hp, we also consummate Xu et al. [2021] that considers the extrapolation of fully-connected NNs with only 2-layer. We provide the following generalized theorem for N-layer ($N > 2$) fully-connected NNs.

Theorem 4 (Linear extrapolation of N-layer fully-connected NNs)**.** *Suppose we train N-layer ($N \geq 2$) fully-connected NNs $f : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$ on $\{(\boldsymbol{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{X}|}$. For any direction $\boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ that satisfies $\|\boldsymbol{v}\|_2 = \max\{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_i^2\}$, $\boldsymbol{x}_0 = t\boldsymbol{v}$ and $\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{x}_0 + h\boldsymbol{v}$ with $t > 1$ and $h > 0$ are OOD data points , the output $f(\boldsymbol{x}_0 + h\boldsymbol{v})$ follows a linear function with respect to h.*

We have already shown that NNs-Hp extrapolate to a function with specific degree and is more flexible than fully-connected NNs. However, only knowing the information of degree of the extrapolation function is not enough. Naturally, we might ask under which condition NNs-Hp can achieve successful extrapolation. Below, we build our analysis in NTK regime and show how the geometry of the training set affects the behavior of NNs-Hp.

Theorem 5 (Condition for exact extrapolation of NNs-Hp)**.** *Let $f_\rho(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}^\top\boldsymbol{\beta}\boldsymbol{x}$ be the target function with $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^{d\times d}$. Suppose that $\{\boldsymbol{x}_i\}_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{X}|}$ contains orthogonal basis $\{\boldsymbol{e}_i\}_{i=1}^d$ and $\{-\boldsymbol{e}_i\}_{i=1}^d$, then if we train 2-degree NNs-Hp f with ReLU activation function on $\{(\boldsymbol{x}_i, f_\rho(\boldsymbol{x}_i))\}_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{X}|}$ with the squared loss in the NTK regime, then we have $f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}^\top\boldsymbol{\beta}\boldsymbol{x}$ for all $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$.*

Remark: This result only considers quadratic functions as our proof heavily relies on the construction of the feature map of NTK, which is harder for high-degree case.

Due to constrained space, the proof of aforementioned theorems can be found in Appendix C.1 to C.3.

3.3 Spectral analysis

In this section, we characterize the approximation properties of N-degree NNs-Hp in the in-distribution regime. By studying the spectral analysis in the form of a Mercer decomposition, we explicitly show the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of NTK.

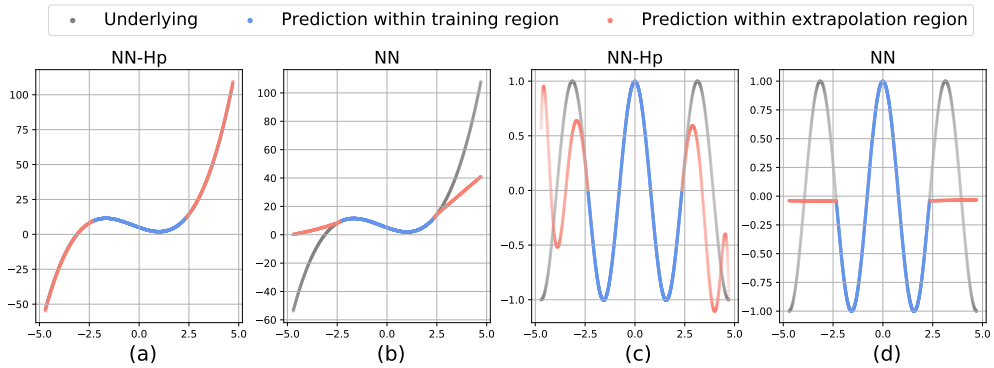


Figure 1: **Extrapolation function.** The blue curve indicates the training regime while the pink color symbolizes the extrapolation regime. (a) and (b) show the fitting results towards $f_\rho(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 10x + 5$. We can see that NN extrapolates linearly without the Hadamard product (Hp) while NN-Hp is able to extrapolate to the underlying non-linear function nearly. (c) and (d) present the fitting results towards $f_\rho(x) = \cos(2x)$. Notably, NN-Hp is more flexible to learn the non-linear function outsides the training region.

We firstly introduce some notation. Denote by $\{Y_{k,j}\}_{j=1}^{N(d,k)}$ the spherical harmonics of degree k in $d+1$ variables. $G_k^{(\gamma)}$ represents the Gegenbauer polynomials with respect to the weight function $x \mapsto (1-x^2)^{\gamma-\frac{1}{2}}$ and degree k. Finally, denote by $F(d,k) := \frac{2k+d-1}{k}\binom{k+d-2}{d-1}$.

The following lemma enables to connect spherical harmonics to Gegenbauer polynomials.

Lemma 2 (Eq. (24) in Choraria et al. [2022])**.** *For any dot product Mercer kernel K, when the data $\boldsymbol{x}$ and $\boldsymbol{x}'$ are uniform on the unit sphere, we can apply the following Mercer's decomposition in terms of spherical harmonics*

$$K(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mu_k \sum_{j=1}^{N(d,k)} Y_{k,j}(\boldsymbol{x}) Y_{k,j}(\boldsymbol{x}') = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mu_k F(d,k) G_k^{(\frac{d-1}{2})}(\langle \boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}' \rangle). \tag{8}$$

Theorem 6. *NNs-Hp with N-degree ($N \geq 2$) multiplicative interactions is considered. Denote by $\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots\}$ the eigenvalues associated to the NTK. Then for $k \gg d$, we have $\mu_k = \Omega((N^2 k)^{-d/2})$.*

The proof can be found in Appendix D. As a comparison, the decay rate for both deep fully-connected NNs and residual NNs is $\Omega((k)^{-d})$ [Belfer et al., 2021]. Thus, we can see a slower decay rate when inserting Hadamard product into standard NNs, which leads to a faster learning towards high-frequency information.

4 Experiments

Our experiment is organized as follows: We firstly showcase the extrapolation of NNs-Hp in learning some common functions in Section 4.1. Next, we assess the extrapolation performance on non-synthetic dataset in Section 4.2 and conduct the experiment in learning spherical harmonics in Section 4.3. Due to the constrained space, the extrapolation in visual analogy task and the spectral bias in image classification task are deferred to Appendix E.5 and Appendix E.6, respectively.

4.1 Extrapolation in learning simple functions

These experiments aim to examine the extrapolation behavior of NNs-Hp in regression tasks and validate Theorem 3 and Theorem 4. Our first experiment includes training the networks via the squared loss to fit several well-known and simple underlying functions. Unless specified otherwise, N-layer NNs is compared against NN-Hp with $N-1$ degree multiplicative interactions in each experiment, the reason is explained in Appendix E.1. During prediction, we sample data points beyond the training regime and observe the extrapolation performance. More details on implementation can be found in Appendix E.1.

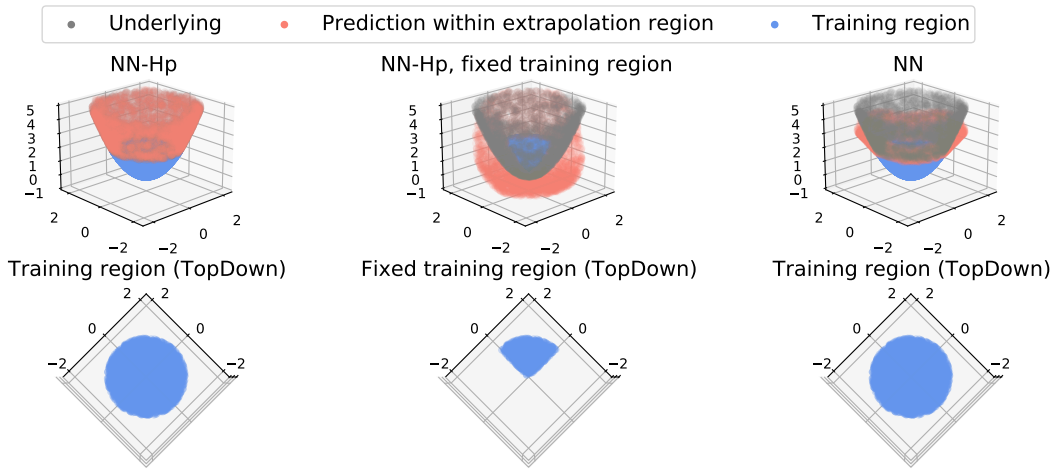


Figure 2: Fitting results for the underlying function $f_\rho(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}_{(1)}^2 + \boldsymbol{x}_{(2)}^2$, where $\boldsymbol{x}_{(1)}$ and $\boldsymbol{x}_{(2)}$ is the first and second dimension of $\boldsymbol{x} \in R^2$. Blue points indicate the training regime, pink points symbolize the extrapolation regime, gray points indicate the underlying function. **Left**: We train NNs-Hp with the training set contains support in all directions, the network is able to extrapolate successfully. **Middle**: We train NN-Hp with the training set wherein two dimensions of the data are fixed to be positive , NN-Hp fails to extrapolate. **Right**. We remove the Hadamard product of the network, which leads to linear extrapolation.

We set the target function as $f_\rho(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 10x + 5$ and use 4-layer fully-connected NN. As presented in Figure 1(a) and Figure 1(b) fully-connected NN extrapolates linearly while NN-Hp approximates better the out-of-distribution part of the underlying non-linear function, which are consistent with Theorem 3 and Theorem 4.

Learning $f_\rho(x) = \cos(2x)$. We choose 11-layer fully-connected NN. The training set and testing set are the same as in the previous experiment. Observing Figure 1(c) and Figure 1(d), we find that NN-Hp is more flexible to learn the non-linear function outside the training region while fully-connected NN still extrapolates linearly.

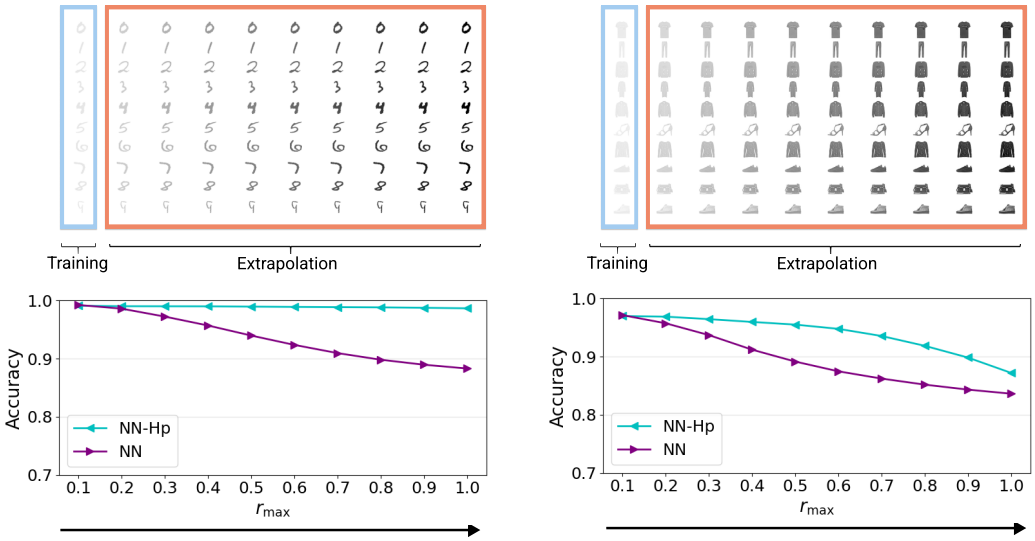
Learning $f_\rho(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}_{(1)}^2 + \boldsymbol{x}_{(2)}^2$, where $\boldsymbol{x}_{(1)}$ and $\boldsymbol{x}_{(2)}$ is the first and second dimension of $\boldsymbol{x} \in R^2$. In this task, we choose 3-layer NNs. Each model is trained with different data distribution, i.e., the training set contains support in all directions in the first case while two dimension of the training set are fixed to be positive in the second case. The result is visually depicted in Figure 2, which shows that NN-Hp can achieve exact extrapolation if the training set contains support in all directions and thereby validates Theorem 5. On the other hand, NN without the Hadamard product fails to extrapolate to the underlying function due to its linear extrapolation.

4.2 Extrapolation in real-world dataset

In this section, we assess the extrapolation performance beyond synthetic datasets.

Variation of brightness. This experiment is conducted on two well-known grayscale image datasets: MNIST dataset [LeCun et al., 1998] and Fashion-MNIST dataset Xiao et al. [2017]. For these two datasets, the original range of the pixel of each image is $[0, 1]$, we divided it by 10 for the raw training set to construct the new one where the pixels range from 0 to 0.1. During extrapolation, we limit the range of the original testing set to $[0, r_{\text{max}}]$ through division, where $r_{\text{max}} \in \{0.1, 0.2, 0.3, ..., 1.0\}$, as illustrated in the top two panels in Figure 3. Then we feed these images into the trained network and evaluate the accuracy. More details on the implementation can be found in Appendix E.2. The accuracy is summarized in the two bottom plots of Figure 3. We find that both networks achieve similar accuracy in the case $r_{\text{max}} = 0.1$ while inserting Hadamard product (Hp) into NN improves the performance during extrapolation.

Arithmetic extrapolation. Now we turn to a more challenging task. As human we can usually extrapolate to arbitrarily large numbers in arithmetic. How do the neural networks perform during extrapolation? Following the setup of Bloice et al. [2020], we use MNIST dataset, where there are 100 different 2-image combinations of the digits $0 \sim 9$. We randomly pick up 90 combinations as the training set and the remaining 10 combinations as the extrapolation set. This problem is treated as regression instead of classification for higher error tolerance following Bloice et al. [2020]. In addition, if we design the network as a classifier, the number of the class will vary as the change of the splitting for the training set and testing set. The network only outputs one single discrete value. However, we still measure the accuracy by rounding the network output. 5-layer fully-connected NNs and convolution NNs are chosen as the baselines. For comparison, we implement NN-Hp with dense layers and NN-Hp with convolution layers, respectively. More details on the implementation can be found in the Appendix E.3. The results obtained by a three-fold cross validation are summarized in Table 1, where we can see NN-Hp has a better extrapolation behavior in such more difficult task.



(a) Examples and results on MNIST dataset.

(b) Examples and results on Fashion-MNIST dataset.

Figure 3: The top two panels shows the examples of extrapolation in MNIST dataset and Fashion-MNIST dataset. $r_{\max}$ varies from 0.1 to 1.0. from left to right, indicating the variation of the darkness of the image. The bottom two panels shows the accuracy as $r_{\max}$ increasing. Both networks achieve similar accuracy in the case $r_{\max} = 0.1$ while inserting Hadamard product (Hp) into NN improves the performance during extrapolation.

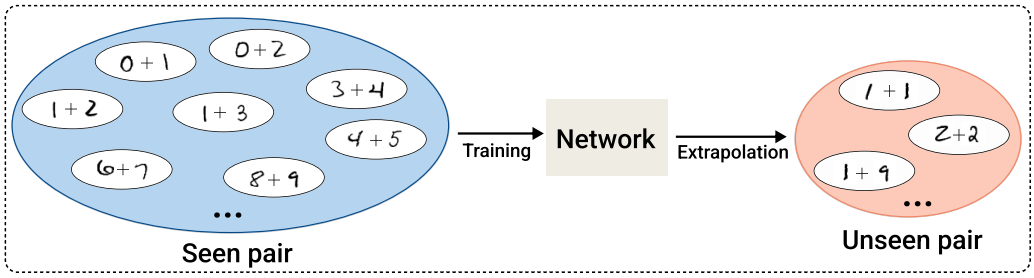


Figure 4: A schematic illustration for the task of arithmetic extrapolation.

4.3 Spectral bias in learning spherical harmonics

This experiment is to learn the linear combinations of spherical Harmonics where inputs are sampled from the uniform distribution on the unit sphere. The target function is defined by: $f^*(\boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{1}{N(\mathcal{K})} \sum_{k \in K} A_k P_k(\langle \boldsymbol{x}, \zeta_k \rangle), \quad \mathcal{K} = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12\}$, where $P_k(t)$ denotes the k -degree

Table 1: Results in the task of arithmetic extrapolation, which aims to predict the target label with regression. 'Interpolation' indicates the accuracy in the seen pairs during training while 'Extrapolation' indicates the accuracy tested in those unseen pairs. Three ways are used for the network output: (a) Rounding, the output is rounded to the nearest integer. (b) Floor/ceiling, A floor and ceiling function is applied for the output and if one of those equal to the ground truth label, we treat it as correct prediction. (c) ± 1. An error of ± 1 is allowed. We can observe that NN-Hp has a better extrapolation behavior compared with the baselines.

Method		Rounding	Floor/ceiling	± 1
NN(Dense)	Interpolation	0.980 ± 0.002	0.999 ± 0.000	0.999 ± 0.000
	Extrapolation	0.436 ± 0.065	$\mathbf{0.805 \pm 0.042}$	0.887 ± 0.011
NN-Hp (Dense)	Interpolation	0.926 ± 0.031	0.996 ± 0.001	0.999 ± 0.000
	Extrapolation	$\mathbf{0.554 \pm 0.011}$	0.802 ± 0.010	$\mathbf{0.889 \pm 0.008}$
NN(Conv)	Interpolation	0.945 ± 0.983	0.983 ± 0.021	0.994 ± 0.007
	Extrapolation	0.617 ± 0.103	0.918 ± 0.016	0.953 ± 0.006
NN-Hp (Conv)	Interpolation	0.991 ± 0.002	0.998 ± 0.000	0.999 ± 0.000
	Extrapolation	$\mathbf{0.825 \pm 0.109}$	$\mathbf{0.948 \pm 0.006}$	$\mathbf{0.963 \pm 0.007}$

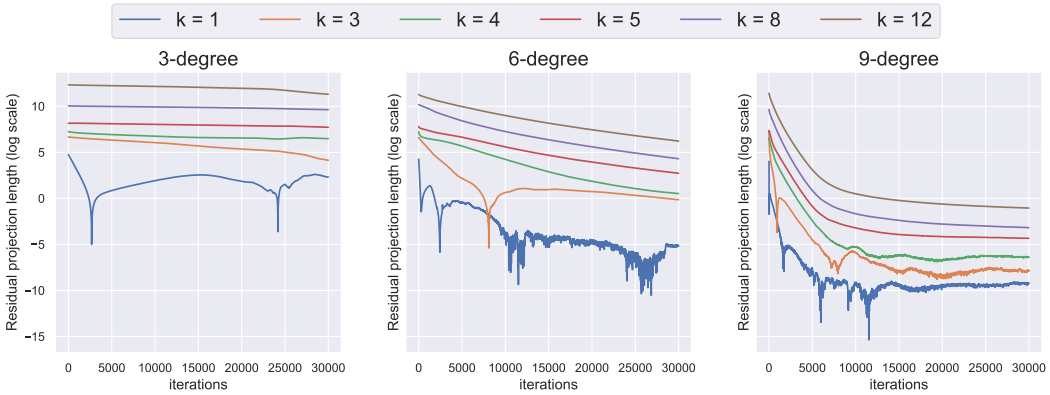


Figure 5: Comparison of convergence curve of error projection lengths for NNs-Hp with N order multiplicative interactions, where $N \in \{3, 6, 9\}$ for different order harmonics with $K \in \{1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12\}$ We can see the improvement for high-degree interactions in the rate of convergence of error.

Gegenbauer polynomial, ζ_k are fixed vectors that are independently sampled from uniform distribution on unit sphere, and $N(\mathcal{K})$ is the normalizing constant. The error residuals with different $\mathcal{K}$ are compared during the training process. Implementation details are deferred to Appendix E.4. In this experiment, we show that increasing the number of multiplicative interactions can improve the rate of convergence of error, as presented in Figure 5.

5 Conclusion

This paper examines a specific type of neural network with Hadamard product, called, NNs-Hp, from a theoretical perspective. The analysis of the NTK paves the way for knowing interesting properties of the networks, such as extrapolation behavior and spectral bias. Experimental results in learning simple functions validate our hypothesis. We further conduct several experiments in real-world datasets and demonstrate the advantage of inserting Hadamard product into standard neural networks. We believe not only our framework provides a good justification for a deeper understanding of neural architecture, but it also lays the foundations to investigate other more complicated OOD problems such as domain adaption and invariant learning in future work.

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Checklist

1. For all authors...
   (a) Do the main claims made in the abstract and introduction accurately reflect the paper's contributions and scope? [Yes]
   (b) Did you describe the limitations of your work? [Yes] See Appendix G
   (c) Did you discuss any potential negative societal impacts of your work? [Yes] See Appendix F
   (d) Have you read the ethics review guidelines and ensured that your paper conforms to them? [Yes]
2. If you are including theoretical results...
   (a) Did you state the full set of assumptions of all theoretical results? [Yes]
   (b) Did you include complete proofs of all theoretical results? [Yes] We provide detailed derivations in the appendix.
3. If you ran experiments...
   (a) Did you include the code, data, and instructions needed to reproduce the main experimental results (either in the supplemental material or as a URL)? [No] The datasets we use are all publicly available and commonly used in image-related tasks. We intend to release the source code upon the acceptance of the paper, which should enable interested practitioners to further improve our framework and verify our results.
   (b) Did you specify all the training details (e.g., data splits, hyperparameters, how they were chosen)? [Yes] See Appendix E
   (c) Did you report error bars (e.g., with respect to the random seed after running experiments multiple times)? [Yes] We conduct three runs in our quantitative experiments, e.g., Table 1.
   (d) Did you include the total amount of compute and the type of resources used (e.g., type of GPUs, internal cluster, or cloud provider)? [Yes] All our experiments are conducted on a single GPU, which is part of our cluster.
4. If you are using existing assets (e.g., code, data, models) or curating/releasing new assets...
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5. If you used crowdsourcing or conducted research with human subjects...
   (a) Did you include the full text of instructions given to participants and screenshots, if applicable? [N/A]
   (b) Did you describe any potential participant risks, with links to Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals, if applicable? [N/A]
   (c) Did you include the estimated hourly wage paid to participants and the total amount spent on participant compensation? [N/A]