# PARAMETER-EFFICIENT FINE-TUNING VIA CIRCULAR CONVOLUTION

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Paper under double-blind review

### ABSTRACT

Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA) has gained popularity for fine-tuning large foundation models, leveraging low-rank matrices A and B to represent weight changes (*i.e.*,  $\Delta W = BA$ ). This method reduces trainable parameters and mitigates heavy memory consumption associated with full delta matrices by sequentially multiplying A and B with the activation. Despite its success, the intrinsic low-rank characteristic may limit its performance. Although several variants have been proposed to address this issue, they often overlook the crucial computational and memory efficiency brought by LoRA. In this paper, we propose <u>Circular Convolution</u> <u>Adaptation</u> (C<sup>3</sup>A), which not only achieves high-rank adaptation with enhanced performance but also excels in both computational power and memory utilization. Extensive experiments demonstrate that C<sup>3</sup>A consistently outperforms LoRA and its variants across various fine-tuning tasks.

### 1 INTRODUCTION

026 In recent years, Large Foundation Models (LFMs) have 027 witnessed a pronounced ascendance in both scholarly 028 and practical realms, attributable to their exceptional ef-029 ficacy across diverse tasks in natural language processing (NLP) (Brown et al., 2020; Touvron et al., 2023), computer vision (CV) (Radford et al., 2021; Kirillov 031 et al., 2023), and other domains (Li et al., 2024). Distinguished by an extensive parameter count and significant 033 computational requisites, these models have established 034 unprecedented benchmarks in both accuracy and versatility. Nonetheless, their considerable size and intricate structure present formidable obstacles for efficient 037 fine-tuning, especially within resource-constrained en-038 vironments (Malladi et al., 2023; Zhang et al., 2024b). To mitigate these challenges, parameter-efficient finetuning (PEFT) techniques (Mangrulkar et al., 2022), ex-040 emplified by Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA) (Hu et al., 041 2021), have emerged as highly effective solutions. 042

LoRA reduces the number of trainable parameters by
leveraging low-rank matrices to approximate alterations
in weights, thereby facilitating fine-tuning without degrading the model's efficacy. Specifically, LoRA can be
articulated mathematically as follows:

$$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{W}_0 + \Delta \mathbf{W})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{W}_0\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}),$$

**b** where  $\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{W}_0, \Delta \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2}$  are weight matrices, **b**  $\in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times r}, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d_2}$  are low-rank matrices formulated to construct  $\Delta \mathbf{W}$ , and  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$  are the activations. The number of trainable parameters is  $r(d_1+d_2)$ , thereby motivating the selection of  $r \ll \min(d_1, d_2)$ 



Figure 1: Relative comparison of C<sup>3</sup>A and baselines on RoBERTa-Base. The Pearson Correlation Coefficient (PCC) is evaluated on STS-B and the Matthew's Correlation Coefficient (MCC) on CoLA. Accuracies across SST-2, MRPC, QNLI, and RTE are averaged and reported as Acc. -#Param shows the reduced number of learnable parameters compared to LoRA, and -Memory indicates the decrease in peak GPU memory usage during training, also compared to LoRA. The metrics in blue pertain to performance-related values, whereas those shadowed in red correspond to values associated with resource consumption. All metrics are the higher the better. See Table 2 for more statistics.

054 (e.g., r = 8 for  $d_1 = d_2 = 1024$ ) to attain elevated parameter efficiency. Nonetheless, as elaborated 055 by Zeng & Lee (2023), the potential of LoRA to encapsulate a target model is inherently con-056 strained by r. In an effort to reconcile the dichotomy between performance and efficiency, Kopiczko 057 et al. (2023) introduced Vector Random Matrix Adaptation (VeRA). VeRA attains comparable per-058 formance with a markedly reduced count of trainable parameters via fixed random-matrix projections. However, despite its minimal parameter count, VeRA demands considerable computational resources and memory capacity due to the extensive nature of the random matrices employed for 060 projection. As depicted in Figure 1, other representative works share the same resource problem. 061 This precipitates the following open research question within the scope of PEFT: 062

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Beyond low parameter counts, how to achieve high-rank adaptation without incurring significant costs of time and memory?

066 To address this question, we introduce Circular Convolution Adaptation ( $C^{3}A$ ), which incorporates 067 the circular convolution operator (Bamieh, 2018). Circular convolution has garnered significant attention in both signal processing (Li et al., 2020) and cryptography (Dworkin et al., 2001) due to its 068 exceptional efficiency and compactness. This operator can be equivalently expressed as multiplica-069 tion by a circulant matrix, providing rank flexibility that is independent of the number of trainable parameters. Furthermore, by employing the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT), C<sup>3</sup>A achieves superior 071 time and memory efficiency compared to the direct multiplication of the circulant matrix (Bamieh, 072 2018), which makes it competitive with LoRA in terms of efficiency. 073

In addition, as explicated by Dosovitskiy et al. (2020), dense linear layers exhibit a deficiency of 074 inductive biases, engendering a complex optimization landscape. Consequently, this hampers the 075 effectiveness of transformers in comparison to Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) under con-076 ditions of limited data availability. Within the framework of a constrained training dataset for the 077 downstream task, we postulate that a robust inductive bias could potentially augment adaptiation performance. The circular pattern in  $C^{3}A$  serves precisely as such an inductive bias. 079

In summary, circular convolution presents a promising solution for circumventing the rank limitations of LoRA at minimal costs. Our contributions can be summarized as follows: 081

082  $\bullet$  We introduce C<sup>3</sup>A, a novel approach for PEFT. This method leverages the circular convolution 083 operation and its equivalent circulant matrix to provide a flexible rank, which is free of linear con-084 straint by the number of trainable parameters, for the delta matrix.

085 **2** Leveraging the elegant diagonalization of the circulant matrix, we implement both the forward pass and backpropagation using FFT. With the incorporation of FFT, the computation and memory 087 efficiency of  $C^3A$  excels.  $C^3A$  strikes a unique balance between performance an efficiency. 880

O To offer greater flexibility in controlling the number of trainable parameters, we extend  $C^{3}A$  by 089 incorporating block-circular convolution, which results in block-circulant matrices. This extension 090 allows  $C^{3}A$  to achieve fully customizable parameter counts as well as adaptable rank configurations. 091

• We validate C<sup>3</sup>A through comprehensive fine-tuning experiments across diverse tasks including 092 natural language understanding, instruction tuning and image classification. Experiments demonstrate C<sup>3</sup>A's outstanding accuracy and memory merits compared to existing state-of-the-art methods. 094

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- **RELATED WORK** 2
- 098 PARAMETER-EFFICIENT FINE-TUNING 2.1

Research on PEFT has generally progressed along three main directions. The first direction involves 100 partially updating the pre-trained neural network (e.g., the layer norm (Basu et al., 2024) or the 101 biases (Zaken et al., 2021)). Traditional methods relied on hand-crafted heuristics (Raghu et al., 102 2019) to identify which parameters are crucial and should be fine-tuned. More advanced approaches 103 employ optimization techniques (Guo et al., 2020; Xu et al., 2021; Fu et al., 2023). For example, Guo 104 et al. (2020) reformulated such a discrete optimization problem into a continuous one by employing 105 Bernoulli masks and the Gumbel-softmax approximation (Jang et al., 2016). 106

The second direction emerged to maintain the integrity of the pre-trained model while enabling a 107 high degree of parameter sharing through adapter-based methods (He et al., 2021; Rebuffi et al., 2017; Rücklé et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2022; Lian et al., 2022). These works focus on integrating additional modules, termed adapters, to fit the downstream task, effectively decoupling the pre-trained model parameters from those specific to the downstream task. Prompt Tuning (Brown et al., 2020; Gao et al., 2020; Chen et al., 2023; Zhang et al., 2024a) and Prefix Tuning (Li & Liang, 2021; Jia et al., 2022) also fall into this category, despite ignoring potential semantic meanings.

113 The final direction is characterized by delta-weight-based methods, such as Low-Rank Adaptation 114 (LoRA) (Hu et al., 2021) and Orthogonal Fine-tuning (OFT) (Qiu et al., 2023). These methods 115 bridge the gap between the pre-trained model and the downstream task by adaptive delta weights, 116 which are stored separately while used in combination with the pre-trained weights. This unique 117 design enables disentanglement of the pretrained and downstream-specific weights. Namely, it 118 achieves parameter sharing and preserves the ability to integrate without additional inference cost. LoRA models the delta-weights by an additive matrix while OFT does it by a multiplicative one. 119 To further improve either parameter efficiency or performance, many variants has been proposed for 120 both of the methods (Kopiczko et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2024; 2023; Yuan et al., 2024; Hayou et al., 121 2024b; Gao et al., 2024). However, these methods can hardly achieve high parameter efficiency and 122 performance without incurring heavy computation and memory usage. 123

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### 2.2 CIRCULAR CONVOLUTION

Circular convolution has been extensively studied in signal processing (Rabiner et al., 1978;
McGillem & Cooper, 1984; Li et al., 2020) and cryptography (Dworkin et al., 2001; Gong et al., 2024). Owing to its computational advantages, circular convolution has also been explored in machine learning for generating long embeddings of high-dimensional data (Yu et al., 2014) and compressing heavily parameterized layers (Cheng et al., 2015; Ding et al., 2017). Remarkably, it achieves these efficiencies without significant performance degradation, which makes it a promising technique for fine-tuning applications.

Despite its success in small neural networks such as LeNet (Cheng et al., 2015), circular convolution has not demonstrated lossless performance in modern large foundational models (LFMs) or even in their base architecture, the transformer. This limitation may be attributed to the conflict between its high intrinsic bias (*i.e.*, the circulant pattern) and the vast amount of data required for training LFMs. Conversely, when fine-tuning LFMs, it is often impractical to collect as much data as needed for training from scratch. In such scenarios, the intrinsic bias of circular convolution could potentially serve as a regularization mechanism, thereby benefiting the optimization process of fine-tuning.

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### 3 Method

In this section, we present C<sup>3</sup>A (see an overview in Figure 2), a novel PEFT approach based on the circular convolution. C<sup>3</sup>A follows LoRA's setting of learning an additive linear operation over the original dense linear transformation. However, instead of using low-rank decomposition and the matrix multiplication operator, C<sup>3</sup>A resorts to circular convolution as this additive linear operation. Section 3.1 introduces the notations we use. Section 3.2 discusses the circular convolution operator, its equivalent circulant matrix, and its calculation in the frequency domain. Section 3.3 details an efficient method for backpropagation. Section 3.4 describes block-wise convolution for controlling the number of trainable parameters. Finally, Section 3.5 analyzes the computational complexity.

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3.1 NOTATIONS

154 The adapted weight matrix, the original weight matrix, and the delta matrix are denoted by W, 155  $\mathbf{W}_0$ , and  $\Delta \mathbf{W}$ , respectively  $(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{W}_0, \Delta \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2})$ . The activation vector of the previous layer 156 is denoted by  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$ . The post-transformation vector is  $\mathbf{z}$ , where  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$ , and the incremental part is denoted by  $\overline{\Delta}\mathbf{z}$ , where  $\Delta \mathbf{z} = \Delta \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$ . The matrices A and B are low-rank 157 matrices introduced by LoRA to represent  $\Delta W$ , with r being their rank.  $r_v$  specifies the rank of the 158 random projection matrix used in VeRA. The circular convolution kernel of  $C^3A$  is denoted by  $\Delta w$ 159 and the circular convolution operator by  $\star$ . The loss function is represented by  $\mathcal{L}$ . The Fast Fourier 160 Transform and its inverse are denoted by FFT and iFFT, respectively. The Hadamard product is 161 denoted by  $\circ$ .



Figure 2: Overview of LoRA (A) and our C<sup>3</sup>A (B,C) method. In LoRA, only low-rank matrices A and B are trained and the delta weight is represented by their product (*i.e.*,  $\Delta W = BA$ ). The total trainable parameter number is  $r(d_1 + d_2)$ , which is assosiated with the rank of the delta weight. In C<sup>3</sup>A, circular convolution kernels  $\Delta w$  are tuned to adapt to the downstream task and the delta weight is represented by the (block-)circular matrix they construct (*i.e.*,  $\Delta W = C_{(blk)}(\Delta w)$ ). The total trainable parameter count is  $\frac{d_1d_2}{b}$ , which disentangles with the rank of the delta weight. Here, *b* is the block size of the block-circular matrix and it should be a common divisor (CD) of  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ .

### 3.2 CIRCULAR CONVOLUTION

Firstly, for simplicity, we assume  $d_1 = d_2 = d$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . The circular convolution operator is defined as  $\Delta \mathbf{z} = \Delta \mathbf{w} \star \mathbf{x} = \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w})\mathbf{x}$ , where  $\mathcal{C}(\cdot)$  is a function which takes a vector and outputs the corresponding circulant matrix. Concretely, the first row of  $\mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w})$  is  $\Delta \mathbf{w}$  and the following rows are equal to the row above them periodically shifted to the right by one element. In math,

	$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta w_1 \\ \Delta w_d \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{array}{c} \Delta w_2 \\ \Delta w_1 \end{array}$	 	$\begin{array}{c} \Delta w_{d-1} \\ \Delta w_{d-2} \end{array}$	$\frac{\Delta w_d}{\Delta w_{d-1}}$
$\mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) =$		• • •	• • •	• • •	
	$\Delta w_3$	$\Delta w_4$		$\Delta w_1$	$\Delta w_2$
	$\Delta w_2$	$\Delta w_3$		$\Delta w_d$	$\Delta w_1$

Theoretically, the rank of  $C(\Delta \mathbf{w})$  is given by  $d - \text{Deg}(\text{gcd}(f(x), x^d - 1))$  (Ingleton, 1956), where Deg(·) denotes the degree of a polynomial, f(x) is the polynomial associated with  $\Delta \mathbf{w}$  (*i.e.*,  $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{d} \Delta w_i x^{i-1}$ ), and gcd(·) represents the greatest common divisor. Consequently, the theoretical upper bound on the rank of  $C(\Delta \mathbf{w})$  is d. By learning  $\Delta \mathbf{w}$  in the  $\mathbb{R}^n$  oracle, C<sup>3</sup>A automatically achieves dynamic rank selection, which is not linearly constrained by the number of learnable parameters, unlike LoRA.

To achieve high efficiency, enlightened by Ding et al. (2017), we leverage the beautiful circulant structure of  $C(\Delta \mathbf{w})$ , which makes it diagonalizable by the Fourier basis (**F**). In math, it can be described as  $C(\Delta \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{F} \frac{\Lambda}{d} \mathbf{F}^{-1}$  (Golub & Van Loan, 1996), where  $\Lambda$  is its eigenvalues and can be calculated by a Fourier transform of the first row (*i.e.*,  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\mathbf{F}\Delta \mathbf{w})$ ). Therefore, we can calculate  $\Delta \mathbf{w} \star \mathbf{x}$  as

$$\Delta \mathbf{w} \star \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{F} \operatorname{diag}(\frac{\mathbf{F} \Delta \mathbf{w}}{d}) \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{x}$$
  
= FFT(FFT( $\Delta \mathbf{w}$ )  $\circ$  iFFT( $\mathbf{x}$ )). (1)

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212 3.3 BACKPROPAGATION

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To effectuate backpropagation with optimal efficiency, it is imperative to obtain the analytical derivatives of the loss function  $\mathcal{L}$  with respect to  $\Delta \mathbf{w}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$ . Following the approach outlined in Ding et al. (2017), we aim to explain backpropagation using simpler language. By applying the chain rule, these

derivatives are delineated as follows:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}, \qquad \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{w}} = \frac{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{w}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}.$$
(2)

Given that  $\Delta \mathbf{z} = \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w})\mathbf{x}$ , it logically follows that  $\frac{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w})$ . Concerning  $\frac{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{w}}$ , we observe the commutative property of the circular convolution operation (*i.e.*,  $\mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w})\mathbf{x} = \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{x})\Delta \mathbf{w}$ ), which implies  $\frac{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{w}} = \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{x})$ . Substituting these findings into Equation 2, we derive:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}, \qquad \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{w}} = \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}.$$

5 These expressions can also be interpreted as circular convolutions:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \Delta \mathbf{w} \star \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}, \qquad \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{x} \star \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta \mathbf{z}}$$

By meticulously executing this derivative computation in accordance with Equation 1, backpropagation can harness the computational efficacy facilitated by the FFT algorithm.

### 233 3.4 BLOCK-CIRCULAR CONVOLUTION

Notwithstanding the elegance and efficiency of the circular convolution operator, it is subject to 235 two fundamental limitations stemming from the constraint that the convolution kernel must match 236 the dimensions of the activation vector: ① It is inapplicable to non-square weight matrices. ② 237 The count of learnable parameters remains fixed. The first restriction hampers its applicability in 238 scenarios such as fine-tuning a LLaMA3-8B model, where the weight matrix dimensions include 239  $4096 \times 1024$ . The second constraint diminishes the adaptability of C<sup>3</sup>A, presenting challenges in addressing complex downstream tasks that necessitate a greater number of learnable parameters. To 240 mitigate these limitations, we employ block-circular convolution (Ding et al., 2017). By partitioning 241 the activation vector x and the post-transformation vector  $\Delta z$  into blocks of identical size, unique 242 convolution kernels can be allocated to each pair of these blocks. Specifically, 243

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{x}_{\frac{d_2}{b}} \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \Delta \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{z}_1 & \Delta \mathbf{z}_2 & \cdots & \Delta \mathbf{z}_{\frac{d_1}{b}} \end{bmatrix},$$

where b is the block size and b need to be a common divisor of  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ . We will need  $\frac{d_1d_2}{b^2}$  convolution kernels to densely connect these blocks, which can be expressed in math as

$$\Delta \mathbf{z}_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{a_2}{b}} \Delta \mathbf{w}_{ij} \star \mathbf{x}_j, i \in \{1, 2, \cdots, \frac{d_1}{b}\}.$$

This calculation can be represented by a block-circular matrix:

$$\Delta \mathbf{z} = \mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{x}, \qquad \mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{11}) & \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{12}) & \cdots & \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{1\frac{d_2}{b}}) \\ \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{21}) & \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{22}) & \cdots & \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{2\frac{d_2}{b}}) \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{\frac{d_1}{b}1}) & \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{\frac{d_1}{b}2}) & \cdots & \mathcal{C}(\Delta \mathbf{w}_{\frac{d_1}{b}2}) \end{bmatrix}. \tag{3}$$

We refer our readers to Algorithm A1 in Appendix C for a Pytorch implementation. In this context,  $\Delta \mathbf{w}_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^b$ , and it follows that  $\frac{d_1d_2}{b^2}b = \frac{d_1d_2}{b}$  represents the number of learnable parameters. Notably, the parameter *b* serves as a hyperparameter modulating the quantity of learnable parameters, analogous to the role of *r* in LoRA. It is imperative to distinguish, however, that whereas *r* simultaneously governs the rank of the delta matrix and the number of learnable parameters, *b* exclusively influences the latter. This disentanglement of matrix rank and parameter count facilitates greater adaptability and potentially yields superior outcomes.

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### 3.5 COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS

We compare the time complexity and space complexity of LoRA, VeRA and  $C^{3}A$  in Table 1. Detailed analysis follows in this section.

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# 270 3.5.1 TIME COMPLEXITY

LoRA integrates low-rank matrices A and B, which are successively multiplied with the activation vector, resulting in a computational complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(r(d_1 + d_2))$ . Generally,  $r \ll \min(d_1, d_2)$ . In contrast, VeRA, despite its high-rank structure and relatively few trainable parameters, suffers from a prohibitive computational complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(r_v(d_1 + d_2))$ , where  $r_v$  can exceed  $\max(d_1, d_2)$ . Consequently, striking an optimal balance between high rank and computational efficiency remains an elusive task.

On GPUs, the cuFFT backend automatically parallelizes FFT operations along the axes not being transformed, with the degree of parallelism p determined by the available resources. Thanks to the  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$  complexity of the FFT algorithm used in Equation 1, C<sup>3</sup>A achieves a time complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(\frac{(d_1+d_2)}{p} \log b + \frac{d_1d_2}{b})$ . The first term is the time complexity for FFT and the second term is for aggregation. In practical scenarios, b is chosen as the greatest common divisor of  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  to achieve a high compression ratio. Given that, C<sup>3</sup>A is comparable to LoRA in time complexity.

- 285 3.5.2 SPACE COMPLEXITY
- 286 We analyze the space 287 complexity of LoRA, 288 VeRA, and  $C^{3}A$  during 289 training. The differences 290 among these methods 291 primarily arise from the 292 trainable parameters and 293 the auxiliary tensors 294 required for the forward pass and backpropaga-295 tion. LoRA does not 296 rely on auxiliary tensors, 297

Table 1: Time and space complexity comparison of LoRA, VeRA and C<sup>3</sup>A. We split the space complexity into Parameter number and Other auxiliary tensors to help better understand the differences. We highlight that in practice, to achieve similar performance,  $\frac{\max(d_1, d_2)}{b} \leq r \ll r_v$ .

Method	Time	# Param	# Other	# Total
LoRA VeRA C <sup>3</sup> A	$ \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{O}(r(d_1+d_2)) \\ \mathcal{O}(r_v(d_1+d_2)) \\ \mathcal{O}(\frac{d_1+d_2}{p}\log b + \frac{d_1d_2}{b}) \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} r(d_1+d_2) \\ r_v+d_1 \\ \frac{d_1d_2}{b} \end{array}$	$egin{array}{c} 0 \ r_v(d_1+d_2) \ pb \end{array}$	$r(d_1 + d_2) + r_v + d_1 \\ \frac{d_1 d_2}{b} + pb$

while VeRA necessitates 2 random projection matrices, with a total size of  $r_v(d_1 + d_2)$ . Since  $r_v$  is by no means negligible, the memory usage of VeRA is significantly larger than that of LoRA.

In terms of C<sup>3</sup>A, the only additional auxiliary tensor would be of size  $pb \le \min(d_1, d_2)$ , which is reserved by the FFT algorithm. By selecting an appropriate *b*, which is often close to the greatest common divisor of  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ , the space complexity of C<sup>3</sup>A is optimized. Furthermore, because *p* scales with the available resources, the algorithm inherently manages dynamic memory consumption without additional effort.

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### 4 EXPERIMENT

We first experiment on a synthetic dataset to show C<sup>3</sup>A's superior expressiveness over LoRA. Next,
we evaluate C<sup>3</sup>A in both NLP and CV. For NLP, we show C<sup>3</sup>A's effectiveness using the GLUE
benchmark with RoBERTa-Base and RoBERTa-Large, and fine-tune the LLaMA family models.
For CV, we test classification tasks using Vision Transformers (ViTs) on various datasets. Finally,
we perform ablation studies on C<sup>3</sup>A kernel initialization.

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314 4.1 Synthetic Data

Settings. We distribute 8 points evenly on a 2D plane as cluster centers and randomly sample 30 points from the 8 corresponding multivariate Gaussian distributions. A 3-layer MLP is then used to classify these point clusters. To compare the expressiveness of 2 types of layers, we replace the middle layer with either a low-rank layer or a circulant layer, ensuring that both layers have the same number of trainable parameters for a fair comparison.

**Results.** The results are presented in Figure 3. We observe that  $LoRA_{r=1}$  struggles with this simple classification task. In contrast,  $C^3A_{b=128/2}$ , despite using the same number of parameters, achieves a perfect classification, comparable to a standard linear layer. This demonstrates the high expressiveness of  $C^3A$  given the same parameter budget.



Figure 3: Expressiveness test on synthetic data. The left figure shows the synthetic data used for the experiment, while the right figure illustrates the training accuracy curves of a 3-layer MLP, incorporating C<sup>3</sup>A, LoRA, and standard linear layers, respectively.

### 4.2 NATURAL LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDING

**Baselines.** We compare our  $C^3A$  with several representative PEFT methods, including BitFit (Zaken et al., 2021), (IA)<sup>3</sup> (Liu et al., 2022), LoRA (Hu et al., 2021), VeRA (Kopiczko et al., 2023), and BOFT (Liu et al., 2023). BitFit selectively fine-tunes existing parameters, specifically the biases. (IA)<sup>3</sup> is the state-of-the-art method that adds additional adapters. LoRA is a widely known PEFT method that employs low-rank decomposition to compress additive delta matrices. VeRA is a recent approach that focuses on further reducing trainable parameters of LoRA while preserving a high rank. BOFT is another innovative method in PEFT research, compressing multiplicative delta matrices using orthogonal decomposition and butterfly factorization.

Table 2: Performance of different PEFT methods on the GLUE benchmark. We fine-tune pre-trained
RoBERTa-Base and -Large models on 6 datasets. We report the Matthew's Correlation Coefficient
(MCC) for CoLA, Pearson Correlation Coefficient (PCC) for STS-B, and accuracy (Acc.) for all the
remaining tasks. For each metric, a higher score indicates better performance. "Avg." denotes the
average score of each method across all datasets. The best results for each dataset are highlighted in **bold**. # Trainable parameters does not include the classification head since each method uses a head
of the same size. Memory Cost is measured on fixed length (*i.e.*, 256) data with a batchsize of 64.

	Method	# Trainable Parameters	Memory   Cost (GB)	SST-2	MRPC	CoLA	QNLI	RTE	STS-B	Avg.
_	Full	124M	17.19	94.01 <sub>±0.39</sub>	$87.10_{\pm 0.79}$	$62.00_{\pm 1.16}$	$92.40_{\pm 0.28}$	$77.33_{\pm 2.68}$	<b>90.70</b> ±0.14	83.92
	BitFit	0.102M	12.60	$93.30_{\pm 0.30}$	$85.80_{\pm 0.21}$	$59.21_{\pm 1.74}$	$91.96_{\pm 0.18}$	$73.07_{\pm 1.34}$	$90.18_{\pm 0.17}$	82.25
	$(IA)^3$	0.111M	19.86	$92.98 \pm 0.34$	$85.86 \pm 0.59$	$60.49_{\pm 1.09}$	$91.56 \pm 0.17$	$69.10_{\pm 1.18}$	$90.06 \pm 0.21$	81.67
	$LoRA_{r=8}$	0.295M	13.75	<b>94.50</b> ±0.41	$85.68_{\pm 0.74}$	$60.95_{\pm 1.57}$	$92.54_{\pm 0.20}$	$76.68_{\pm 1.42}$	$89.76_{\pm 0.39}$	83.35
	$\mathbf{M}$ VeRA <sub>r=1024</sub>	0.043M	15.51	93.97 <sub>±0.17</sub>	$86.23_{\pm 0.41}$	$62.24_{\pm 1.91}$	$91.85_{\pm 0.17}$	$75.74_{\pm 1.56}$	$90.27_{\pm 0.25}$	83.38
	$BOFT_{b=8}^{m=2}$	0.166M	14.11	$93.23 \pm 0.50$	$84.37_{\pm 0.54}$	$59.50_{\pm 1.25}$	$91.69_{\pm 0.12}$	$74.22 \pm 0.84$	$89.63 \pm 0.37$	82.11
	$C^{3}A_{b=768/1}$	0.018M	12.83	$93.42_{\pm 0.26}$	$86.33_{\pm 0.32}$	$61.83_{\pm 0.96}$	$91.83_{\pm 0.04}$	$76.17_{\pm 1.39}$	$90.46_{\pm 0.29}$	83.34
_	$C^3A_{b=768/6}$	0.111M	12.72	94.20 $\pm 0.16$	$86.67_{\pm 0.54}$	$62.48_{\pm 1.20}$	$92.32_{\pm0.25}$	$77.18_{\pm 1.41}$	$90.16_{\pm0.42}$	83.84
_	Full	354M	43.40	95.75 <sub>±0.45</sub>	$88.35_{\pm 0.64}$	$64.87_{\pm 1.25}$	$92.40_{\pm 0.28}$	$84.48_{\pm 1.14}$	$91.65_{\pm 0.14}$	86.25
	BitFit	0.271M	30.65	95.09 <sub>±0.27</sub>	$88.10_{\pm 0.76}$	$65.40_{\pm 0.76}$	$94.06_{\pm 0.14}$	$82.60_{\pm 1.15}$	$91.73_{\pm 0.20}$	86.16
	(IA) <sup>3</sup>	0.295M	48.81	$95.32_{\pm 0.20}$	$87.06_{\pm 0.57}$	$66.52_{\pm 1.10}$	$94.18_{\pm 0.15}$	$84.33_{\pm 2.38}$	$91.58_{\pm 0.39}$	86.50
	5 LoRA <sub>r=8</sub>	0.786M	34.12	95.53 <sub>±0.35</sub>	$86.12_{\pm 0.86}$	$65.16_{\pm 0.76}$	$93.73_{\pm 0.30}$	$83.75_{\pm 0.51}$	$91.46_{\pm 0.21}$	85.96
	$\overline{Z}$ VeRA <sub>r=256</sub>	0.061M	34.16	95.83 <sub>±0.43</sub>	$87.72_{\pm 0.55}$	$63.66_{\pm 1.45}$	$94.11_{\pm 0.20}$	$83.03_{\pm 1.65}$	$91.12_{\pm 0.37}$	85.91
	BOFT $_{b=8}^{m=2}$	0.442M	34.98	95.76 <sub>±0.41</sub>	$88.28_{\pm 0.33}$	$64.72_{\pm 2.37}$	$93.89_{\pm 0.14}$	$82.82_{\pm 1.40}$	$91.03_{\pm 0.32}$	86.08
	$C^3A_{b=1024/1}$	0.049M	31.83	$95.78 \pm 0.05$	$88.02 \pm 0.62$	$66.59 \pm 1.20$	$94.22 \pm 0.25$	$82.89 \pm 0.67$	<b>91.86</b> ±0.14	86.56
	$C^3A_{b=1024/8}$	0.393M	31.79	95.78 <sub>±0.15</sub>	$88.09_{\pm0.47}$	$67.18{\scriptstyle \pm 1.92}$	$94.26{\scriptstyle \pm 0.19}$	$\textbf{84.62}_{\pm 1.36}$	$91.81{\scriptstyle\pm0.36}$	86.96

Settings. We evaluate our proposed C<sup>3</sup>A on the General Language Understanding Evaluation (GLUE) benchmark (Wang et al., 2018), which encompasses a wide range of natural language understanding (NLU) tasks, including single-sentence classification, similarity and paraphrase, and natural language inference. More dataset specifications can be found in Table A1 in Appendix A. To
enhance practicality, we split these datasets following the train-validation-test approach. The best-performing model is selected based on validation set performance across the fine-tuning epochs, and the reported performance corresponds to its performance on the test set. For this evaluation, we fine-tune the pre-trained RoBERTa-Base and RoBERTa-Large models (Liu et al., 2019). For the unique

378 hyperparameters of different baselines, we adopt the values suggested in the original papers (e.g., 379 VeRA's r and BOFT's b and m). The number of trainable parameters excludes the classification 380 head, as each method uses one of the same size. The shared hyperparameters (*i.e.*, the learning rate 381 for classification head and for other trainable parameters, separately) are found by hyperparameter 382 search. For the memory cost, to ensure fairness and consistency, we fix the length of input data to 256 tokens and use a batchsize of 64. 383

384 **Results.** The results are presented in Table 2. Overall,  $C^3A_{b=768/1}$  and  $C^3A_{b=1024/1}$  achieve superior or comparable performance to baseline methods, despite using an exceptionally small number of 386 trainable parameters. As the number of trainable parameters increases, models like  $C^{3}A_{b=768/6}$  and 387  $C^{3}A_{b=1024/8}$  significantly outperform the baselines. Moreover, compared to (IA)<sup>3</sup>, LoRA, VeRA, 388 and BOFT,  $C^{3}A$  distinguishes itself with remarkable memory efficiency. The only method demon-389 strating better memory efficiency is BitFit, which serves as an upper bound since it introduces no 390 new parameters. Additionally, most of the circulant delta matrices identified by  $C^{3}A$  are of full 391 rank, indicating maximal capacity (Zeng & Lee, 2023) and providing a theoretical basis for the 392 outstanding performance.

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#### 4.3 INSTRUCTION TUNING

Settings. For a comprehensive comparison, we further conduct instruction tuning on LLaMA 397 families, the prevalent large language models. Specifically, we evaluate  $C^{3}A$  against LoRA and 398 DoRA (Liu et al., 2024), a variant of LoRA sensitive to learning direction. Specifically, we fine-tune 399 LLaMA2-7B/13B (Touvron et al., 2023) and LLaMA3-8B (Dubey et al., 2024) among 7 datasets 400 covering 3 prevalent tasks: <sup>①</sup> Arithmetic reasoning on GSM8k (Cobbe et al., 2021) and MATH 401 (Hendrycks et al., 2020); <sup>(2)</sup> Functional representation generation on ViGGO (Juraska et al., 2019), 402 and SQL (Zhong et al., 2017); and <sup>(3)</sup> Commonsense reasoning on BoolQ (Clark et al., 2019), PIQA 403 (Bisk et al., 2020) and SIQA (Bisk et al., 2020). For the SQL dataset, we preprocess it by selecting 404 25% of the data and apply a 4:1 train-test split, resulting in a training set of 16K samples. To ensure 405 a fair comparison, we maintain LoRA parameters with r = 32,  $\alpha = 32$ , and a dropout rate of 0.05, 406 while exploring various learning rates as suggested by (Hu et al., 2021). Please refer to Table A4 in 407 Appendix B for more details.

408 **Results.** In Table 3, our principal experimental observations are summarized. The  $C^{3}A$  framework 409 consistently surpasses LoRA within the LLaMA series, with particular efficacy demonstrated in 410 the most recent model, LLaMA3-8B. Noteworthy is the significant enhancement in the efficacy of 411 LLaMA3-8B as a foundational model following the implementation of more sophisticated post-412 training techniques. This underscores the criticality of optimizing the fine-tuning protocols for this 413 advanced model. It is also remarkable that  $C^{3}A$  achieves such results while employing less than half 414 the parameter count of LoRA. Taken together, the findings robustly underscore the superior efficacy of the  $C^{3}A$  methodology. We refer readers to Appendix D for examples of models after different 415 tuning methods. 416

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Table 3: Comparison of C<sup>3</sup>A and LoRA on fine-tuning LLaMA2 and LLaMA3 models in terms of accuracy and trainable parameters. The best results for each dataset are highlighted in **bold**. "Avg." denotes the average accuracy of each method across all datasets.

Model	Method	# Trainable Parameters	GSM8k	MATH	ViGGO	SQL	BoolQ	PIQA	SIQA	Avg.
	LoRA <sub><math>r=32</math></sub>	16.8M	39.57	5.65	96.48	79.66	75.60	85.26	82.09	66.33
LLaMA2-7B	$DoRA_{r=32}$	17.0M	39.05	6.00	96.85	79.66	75.41	85.64	81.93	66.36
	$C^3A_{b=4096/32}$	8.4M	40.18	6.00	97.05	79.28	75.02	85.53	81.62	66.38
	LoRA <sub>r=32</sub>	26.2M	49.02	8.55	97.10	79.97	77.09	87.36	83.21	68.90
LLaMA2-13B	DoRA <sub>r=32</sub>	26.6M	50.02	9.00	97.32	79.66	77.16	87.70	82.60	69.07
EEalvin 12 15D	$C^{3}A_{b=5120/32}$	13.1M	49.66	8.85	97.34	80.12	76.91	87.98	83.05	69.13
	LoRA <sub>r=32</sub>	13.6M	62.80	21.05	96.50	80.61	77.37	89.72	82.19	72.89
LLaMA3-8B	$DoRA_{r=32}$	13.8M	62.95	22.15	96.54	81.22	77.09	90.21	82.44	73.24
	$C^{3}A_{b=4096/32}$	5.2M	64.22	21.60	96.58	80.73	77.04	90.33	82.60	73.30

# 432 4.4 IMAGE CLASSIFICATION

434 Settings. In this study, we concentrate on the task of image classification leveraging Vision Transformer (ViT) models. Specifically, we employ both the Base and Large variants of this prominent 435 foundational computer vision model, as delineated by (Dosovitskiy et al., 2020). These ViT mod-436 els undergo pre-training on the expansive ImageNet-21K dataset (Ridnik et al., 2021). During the 437 fine-tuning phase, we use an eclectic array of datasets encompassing Pets (Parkhi et al., 2012), Cars 438 (Krause et al., 2013), DTD (Cimpoi et al., 2014), EuroSAT (Helber et al., 2019), FGVC (Maji et al., 439 2013), and RESISC (Cheng et al., 2017). Comprehensive statistics for these datasets are provided 440 in Table A2 in Appendix A. 441

Table 4: Fine-tuning results with ViT-Base and ViT-Large models on various image classification datasets. The models are fine-tuned for 10 epochs, and the best-performing model, based on validation set accuracy, is selected. The reported accuracy corresponds to the performance on the test set. The best results between LoRA and C<sup>3</sup>A for each dataset are highlighted in **bold**. "Avg." denotes the average accuracy of each method across all datasets.

	Method	# Trainable Parameters	Pets	Cars	DTD	EuroSAT	FGVC	RESISC	Avg.
VSE	Head Full	85.8M	$\begin{array}{ c c c c } 90.28_{\pm 0.43} \\ 92.82_{\pm 0.54} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 25.76_{\pm 0.28} \\ 85.10_{\pm 0.21} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 69.77_{\pm 0.67} \\ 80.11_{\pm 0.56} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 88.72_{\pm 0.13} \\ 99.11_{\pm 0.07} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 17.44_{\pm 0.43} \\ 61.60_{\pm 1.00} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 74.22_{\pm 0.10} \\ 96.00_{\pm 0.23} \end{array}$	61.03 85.79
B∕	$\frac{\text{LoRA}_{r=16}}{\text{C}^3\text{A}_{b=768/12}}$	0.59M 0.22M	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c } 93.76_{\pm 0.44} \\ \textbf{93.88}_{\pm 0.22} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 78.04_{\pm 0.33} \\ \textbf{79.05}_{\pm 0.35} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 78.56_{\pm 0.62} \\ \textbf{80.57}_{\pm 0.53} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 98.84_{\pm 0.08} \\ \textbf{98.88}_{\pm 0.07} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{56.64}_{\pm 0.55} \\ \textbf{54.31}_{\pm 0.79} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{94.66}_{\pm 0.17} \\ \textbf{94.54}_{\pm 0.23} \end{array}$	83.42 <b>83.54</b>
RGE	Head Full	303M	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c } 91.11_{\pm 0.30} \\ 94.30_{\pm 0.31} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 37.91_{\pm 0.27} \\ 88.15_{\pm 0.50} \end{array}$	$73.33_{\pm 0.26}\\80.18_{\pm 0.66}$	$\begin{array}{c} 92.64_{\pm 0.08} \\ 99.06_{\pm 0.10} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 24.62_{\pm 0.24} \\ 67.38_{\pm 1.06} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 82.02_{\pm 0.11} \\ 96.08_{\pm 0.20} \end{array}$	66.94 87.53
LA	$\frac{\text{LoRA}_{r=16}}{\text{C}^3\text{A}_{b=1024/16}}$	1.57M 0.79M	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c } \textbf{94.62}_{\pm 0.47} \\ \textbf{94.48}_{\pm 0.30} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{86.11}_{\pm 0.42} \\ \textbf{84.94}_{\pm 0.39} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 80.09_{\pm 0.42} \\ \textbf{82.62}_{\pm 0.52} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{98.99}_{\pm 0.03} \\ \textbf{98.75}_{\pm 0.19} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 63.64_{\pm 0.83} \\ \textbf{63.80}_{\pm 0.37} \end{array}$	$95.52_{\pm 0.21} \\ \textbf{95.94}_{\pm 0.16}$	86.56 <b>86.69</b>

**Results.** Table 4 delineates a comprehensive summary of the outcomes derived from six distinct image classification datasets employing the ViT Base and Large models. The LoRA and C<sup>3</sup>A techniques exhibit significant enhancements in performance relative to Head Tuning, thereby underscoring their efficacy within the realm of image classification. Remarkably, our methodology demonstrates a performance on par with LoRA while necessitating only half of the parameter count.

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4.5 INITIALIZATION STUDY

LoRA is known to be sensitive to initial-465 ization, primarily due to the distinct roles 466 of its matrices A and B (Hayou et al., 467 2024a). In contrast,  $C^{3}A$  possesses a sim-468 pler structure based on circulant matrices, 469 which may reduce sensitivity to initializa-470 tion. To investigate this, we focused on the 471 initialization strategies for the convolution 472 kernels that define the circulant matrices in 473 C<sup>3</sup>A. We conducted experiments compar-474 ing four initialization methods: zero ini-475 tialization, Gaussian initialization, Kaiming uniform, and Xavier uniform. We observe 476 that the variations across different initializa-477

Table 5: Performance of  $C^3A$  with Different Initialization Strategies. The tasks on CoLA and STS-B were performed using the RoBERTa-Base model, while those on Cars and DTD utilized the ViT-Base model. All other settings are consistent with those in Table 2 and Table 4.

Task	Zero	Gaussian	Kaiming	Xavier	Range
CoLA STS-B Cars	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	$\begin{array}{c} 61.07_{\pm 1.09} \\ 90.13_{\pm 0.16} \\ 78.64_{\pm 0.67} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 60.82_{\pm 1.48} \\ 90.19_{\pm 0.34} \\ 79.18_{\pm 0.37} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 62.48_{\pm 0.74} \\ 90.31_{\pm 0.31} \\ 78.96_{\pm 0.25} \end{array}$	1.66 0.18 0.54
DTD	$80.82_{\pm 0.86}$	$79.58_{\pm 0.41}$	$79.76_{\pm 1.14}$	$79.95_{\pm 0.72}$	1.24

tion points are mostly within the intrinsic standard deviations, highlighting the robustness of  $C^3A$  to initialization strategies. Our findings indicate that  $C^3A$  maintains robust performance across these different initialization strategies, highlighting its resilience to initialization points.

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5 CONCLUSION

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In this manuscript, we present  $C^{3}A$ , a novel method for Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning (PEFT). In contrast to LoRA, which employs low-rank decomposition,  $C^{3}A$  leverages circular convolution and its equavelent circulant matrix to represent the delta weight matrix. This methodology aims to independently control the rank of the delta weight matrix and the number of trainable parameters, facilitating high-rank adaptation while preserving a constrained parameter size. Using the Fast
Fourier Transform (FFT) during both the forward and backward propagation phases, C<sup>3</sup>A attains
notable computational and memory efficiency. In short, C<sup>3</sup>A emerges as a persuasive alternative to
LoRA for model fine-tuning.

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#### DATASET DETAILS А

APPENDIX

Table A1: Task descriptions and dataset statistics of the GLUE benchmark (Wang et al., 2018).

Corpus	Task	# Train	# Val	# Test	# Labels	Metrics	Domain		
			Sin	gle-Sente	nce Tasks				
CoLA	Acceptability	8.55k	1.04k	1.06k	2	Matthews Corr.	misc.		
SST-2	Sentiment	67.3k	872	1.82k	2	Accuracy	Movie reviews		
Similarity and Paraphrase Tasks									
MRPC	Paraphrase	3.67	408	1.73k	2	Accuracy/F1	News		
STS-B	Sentence similarity	5.75k	1.5k	1.38k	1	Pearson/Spearman Corr.	misc.		
QQP	Paraphrase	364k	40.4k	391k	2	Accuracy/F1	Social QA		
				Inference	Tasks				
MNLI	NLI	393k	19.65k	19.65k	3	Accuracy	misc.		
QNLI	QA/NLI	105k	5.46k	5.46k	2	Accuracy	Wikipedia		
RTE	ŇLI	2.49k	277	3k	2	Accuracy	News & Wikipedia		

Table A2: Details about the vision datasets.

Dataset	#Train	#Validation	#Test	#Class	Rescaled resolution
Pets (Parkhi et al., 2012)	3,312	368	3,669	37	
Cars (Krause et al., 2013)	7,329	815	8,041	196	
DTD (Cimpoi et al., 2014)	4,060	452	1,128	47	004 + 004
EuroSAT (Helber et al., 2019)	16,200	5,400	5,400	10	$224 \times 224$
FGVC (Maji et al., 2013)	3,000	334	3,333	100	
RESISC (Cheng et al., 2017)	18,900	6,300	6,300	45	

#### В HYPERPARAMETERS

Table A3: Hyperparameter setup of  $C^3A$  for the GLUE benchmark.

Model	Hyperparameter	SST-2	MRPC	CoLA	QNLI	RTE	STS-B
	Optimizer						
Ч	LR Schedule			Line	ear		
3ot	Warmup Ratio			0.0	6		
	C <sup>3</sup> A Initialization		Xavier U	niform			
	Max Seq. Len			51	2		
	Epochs	40	80	80	40	80	80
Ise	Batch Size	128	128	128	64	64	128
B	Learning Rate ( $C^3A_{b=768/6}$ )	2E-1	3E-1	2E-1	7E-2	3E-1	2E-1
	Learning Rate (Head)	2E-4	4E-6	3E-2	8E-6	6E-3	4E-2
	Epochs	10	80	70	30	60	40
1ge	Batch Size	128	128	128	32	64	128
La	Learning Rate ( $C^3A_{b=1024/8}$ )	9E-2	3E-1	2E-1	7E-2	5E-2	2E-1
	Learning Rate (Head)	2E-4	5E-6	3E-3	8E-6	3E-3	5E-4

Model	Hyperparameter	GSM8k	MATH	ViGGO	SQL	BoolQ	PIQA	SIQA	
	Optimizer	AdamW							
	LR Scheduler			C	osine				
Batch Size 16									
Warmup Ratio 0.05									
	Dropout				0.05				
	Epoch				3				
	Learning Rate (LoRA)	5E-4	5E-4	5E-4	6E-4	5E-4	4E-4	6E-4	
LLaMA2-7B	Learning Rate (DoRA)	4E-4	5E-4	4E-4	6E-4	4E-4	5E-4	5E-4	
	Learning Rate (C <sup>3</sup> A)	8E-1	5E-1	5E-1	9E-1	7E-1	4E-1	3E-1	
	Learning Rate (LoRA)	5E-4	6E-4	5E-4	6E-4	5E-4	5E-4	4E-4	
LLaMA2-13B	Learning Rate (DoRA)	4E-4	6E-4	5E-4	6E-4	4E-4	4E-1	5E-1	
	Learning Rate (C <sup>3</sup> A)	6E-1	4E-1	8E-1	1	4E-1	4E-1	8E-1	
	Learning Rate (LoRA)	5E-4	5E-4	4E-4	5E-4	4E-4	4E-4	5E-4	
LLaMA2-8B	Learning Rate (DoRA)	6E-4	2E-4	5E-4	5E-4	4E-4	4E-4	4E-4	
	Learning Rate ( $C^{3}A$ )	5E-1	3E-1	6E-1	4E-1	3E-1	3E-1	4E-1	

Table A4. Hv	nernarameter setur	$\mathbf{r}$ of LoRA and $\mathbf{C}^3 A$	A for instruction tuning
10010 114. 11y	perparameter setup		1 IOI monuction tuning.

Table A5: Hyperparameter setup of C<sup>3</sup>A for image classification tasks.

Model	Hyperparameter	Pets	Cars	DTD	EuroSAT	FGVC	RESISC
Both	Optimizer LR Schedule C <sup>3</sup> A Initialization Epochs Batch Size	AdamW None Xavier Uniform 10 64					
Base	Learning Rate ( $C^3A_{b=768/12}$ )	4E-1	4E+0	2E+0	2E+0	7E+0	2E+0
	Learning Rate (Head)	1E-2	1E-2	2E-2	8E-3	1E-2	2E-2
	Weight Decay	3E-4	5E-4	6E-5	2E-5	1E-5	2E-5
Large	Learning Rate ( $C^3A_{b=1024/16}$ )	7E-1	4E+0	2E+0	2E+0	4E+0	3E+0
	Learning Rate (Head)	3E-3	8E-3	7E-3	2E-2	1E-1	4E-3
	Weight Decay	4E-3	1E-5	2E-4	5E-4	2E-5	9E-5

# <sup>810</sup> C IMPLEMENTATIONS

### 

### Algorithm A1 Block-Circular Convolution PyTorch Implementation

```
import torch
815
          from torch.autograd import Function
816
          from torch.fft import fft, ifft
817
          class BlockCircularConvolution(Function):
               @staticmethod
818
               def forward(ctx, x, w):
                    m, n, b = w.shape
x = x.reshape(*x.shape[:-1], n, b)
819
820
                    ctx.save_for_backward(x, w)
x = torch.einsum( "...nb,mnb->...mb", ifft(x), fft(w) )
821
                    x = fft(x).real
822
                    x = x.reshape(*x.shape[:-2], -1)
                    return x
823
               @staticmethod
824
               def backward(ctx, grad_output):
825
                    x, w = ctx.saved_tensors
                    m, n, b = w.shape
                    grad_output = grad_output.reshape(*grad_output.shape[:-1], m, b)
                    grad_output_fft = fft(grad_output)
grad_output_fft = fft(grad_output)
x_grad = fft(torch.einsum("...mb,mnb->...nb", grad_output_fft, ifft(w))).real
827
                    %_grad = x_grad.reshape(*x_grad.shape[:-2], -1)
w_grad = fft(torch.einsum("...mb,...nb->mnb", grad_output_fft, ifft(x))).real
828
829
                    return x_grad, w_grad
830
```

We present the PyTorch implementation of Block-Circular Convolution in Algorithm A1. Furthermore, due to the inefficiency of directly assigning entries (as shown in Equation 3), we derive an alternative algorithm to compute the  $\Delta W$  more efficiently. Rather than direct assignment, we employ a forward process on the Identity matrix. Mathematically, this can be expressed as

$$\begin{split} \Delta \mathbf{W} &= \mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \\ &= \mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \cdot \mathbf{I}_{d_2} \\ &= \mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \cdot [\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{e}_{d_2}] \\ &= [\mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{e}_1, \mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{e}_2, \cdots, \mathcal{C}_{\text{blk}}(\Delta \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{e}_{d_2}] \\ &= [\Delta \mathbf{w} \star \mathbf{e}_1, \Delta \mathbf{w} \star \mathbf{e}_2, \cdots, \Delta \mathbf{w} \star \mathbf{e}_{d_2}]. \end{split}$$

Where  $I_{d_2} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2 \times d_2}$  represents an Identity matrix and  $\mathbf{e}_i$  is the *i*th column of it. In pytorch, we can efficiently compute the iFFT of  $\{\mathbf{e}_i\}_{i=1,2,\cdots,d_2}$  by a column-wise iFFT of  $I_{d_2}$ . We present the Pytorch implementation in Algorithm A2 as well.

### Algorithm A2 Fast Algorithm of Getting $\Delta W$

```
import torch
from torch.fft import fft, ifft

def get_circulant_fast(w):
    m, n, b = w.shape
    x = torch.eye(n*b, dtype=w.dtype, device=w.device)
    x = x.reshape(*x.shape[:-1], n, b)
    x = torch.einsum( "...h,mb->...mb", ifft(x), fft(w) )
    x = fft(x).real.flatten(start_dim=1).T
    return x
```

### D INSTRUCTION TUNING EXAMPLES

### LLaMA3-8B (MATH)

Find the number of square units bounded by the x-axis, the y-axis and the line x + y = 6. Answer the above question. First think step by step and then answer the final number.

Response	
Methods LoRA	<b>Response</b> The line $x + y = 6$ intersects the x-axis at $x = 6$ and the y-axis at $y = 6$ . So, the line divides the square with side length 6 into two triangles. The area of each triangle is $\frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times 6 = 18$ .
	So, the area of the square is $2 \times 18 = 36$ . The final answer is: 36
C <sup>3</sup> A	The line $x + y = 6$ intersects the x-axis at $(6, 0)$ and the y-axis at $(0, 6)$ . Thus, the line divides the first quadrant into two triangles, one with base 6 and height 6 and the other with base 6 and height 0. The area of the first triangle is $(6 \times 6)/2 = 18$ square units, and the area of the second triangle is $(6 \times 0)/2 = 0$ square units.
	Thus, the total area is $18 + 0 = 18$ square units. The final answer is: 18

### LLaMA3-8B (GSM8K)

Tim makes a special honey and jam mix. To make 1 jar of the mixture it takes 2 pounds of passion fruit and 1.5 pounds of jackfruit. It also takes 2 pounds of special honey. The passion fruit costs \$6 per pound, the jackfruit is \$8 per pound, and the honey is \$10 per pound. He sells each jar for \$50. How much profit does he make selling 10 jars?

Answer the above question. First think step by step and then answer the final number.

Response

Methods	Response	
LoRA	The passion fruit costs $6 \times 2 = 12$ .	
	The jackfruit costs $8 \times 1.5 = 12$ .	
	The honey costs $10 \times 2 = 20$ .	
	So the total cost is $12 + 12 + 20 = 44$ .	
	So he makes a profit of $50 \times 10 - 44 = 460$ .	
	The final answer is: 460	
<b>C</b> <sup>3</sup> •		
C°A	The passion fruit costs $6 \times 2 = 12$ .	
	The jackfruit costs $8 \times 1.5 = 12$ .	
	So the fruit costs $12 + 12 = 24$ .	
	The honey costs $10 \times 2 = 20$ .	
	So the total cost per jar is $24 + 20 = 44$ .	
	So he makes a profit of $50 - 44 = 6$ per jar.	
	So he makes a profit of $6 \times 10 = 60$ .	
	The final answer is: 60	