FOURIER NEURAL OPERATOR FOR PARAMETRIC PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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Challenges in Science and Engineering

Solving complicated partial differential equations (PDE) systems is extremely important

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Molecular dynamics, micro-mechanics, turbulent flows, etc.

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Molecular dynamics, micro-mechanics, turbulent flows, etc.



Examples

Solving PDEs

Conventional solvers vs data-driven methods

Conventional solvers

VS

Data-Driven methods



Data-Driven methods **Conventional solvers** VS

Conventional solvers

Examples:

Finite Element Methods (FEM) Finite Difference Methods (FDM)

VS

Trade-off:

Coarse Grids: Faster but less accurate Fine Grids: Accurate but slow

Challenge:

Complicated PDEs require fine discretization to capture the phenomenon

Data-Driven methods

Coarse grid



Conventional solvers

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Data-Driven methods

Direct Learning:

- Learn trajectories directly from data
- Better runtime

Challenge:

VS

Classical Neural Networks (NNs) still limited by discretization

Solution:

Develop discretization-invariant Neural Operators (NOs)



- New neural operator
- Parametrize the integral kernel in the Fourier space



PAPER'S WORK



- Three orders of magnitude faster
- Superior accuracy



- New neural operator

- Parametrize the integral kernel in the Fourier space



NEURAL OPERATORS

Key features

- Infinite-Dimensional Operator
- Unified Parameters
 - → Discretization-Invariance
 - → Solution Transfer
- Data-Driven





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FOURIER SPACE





Multiplication

FOURIER SPACE



Potentially a lot faster!





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Navier-Stokes equation

• Models fluid dynamics



• Models fluid dynamics



- Extremely useful
 - ☆ Airflow? → Planes, weather, etc.
 - ✤ Blood flow? → Medical diagnostics tools
 - Etc.



Models fluid dynamics



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• Can be tweaked to model non-Newtonian fluids and turbolence (Reynolds number)

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 $\begin{cases} \partial_t w(x,t) + u(x,t) \cdot \nabla w(x,t) = \nu \Delta w(x,t) + f(x) \\ \nabla \cdot u(x,t) = 0 \\ w(x,0) = w_0(x) \end{cases}$

 $\begin{aligned} \partial_t \mathbf{w}(x,t) + \mathbf{u}(x,t) \cdot \nabla \mathbf{w}(x,t) &= \mathbf{v} \Delta \mathbf{w}(x,t) + \mathbf{f}(x) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}(x,t) &= 0 \\ \mathbf{w}(x,0) &= \mathbf{w}_0(x) \end{aligned}$

𝔐: velocity field
𝔐: vorticity
𝔽: gradient
Δ: Laplacian
𝒱: viscosity coefficient
ƒ: forcing function

 $\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{w}(x,t) + \mathbf{u}(x,t) \cdot \nabla \mathbf{w}(x,t) = \mathbf{v} \Delta \mathbf{w}(x,t) + \mathbf{f}(x) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}(x,t) = 0 \\ \mathbf{w}(x,0) = \mathbf{w}_0(x) \end{cases}$

U: velocity field

W: vorticity

V: gradient

∆: Laplacian

 $\boldsymbol{\nu}$: viscosity coefficient

f: forcing function

OPERATOR LEARNING



Learn a mapping G^{\dagger} Inputs $\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_a})$ Outputs $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_u})$

GOAL


GOALLearn a mapping G^{\dagger} Inputs $a(x) \in \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_a})$ Outputs $u(x) \in \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_u})$



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GOAL

Learn a mapping G^{\dagger} Inputs $\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_a})$ Outputs $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_u})$



HOW Construct parametric map such that $G_{\theta^{\dagger}}$ is as close as possible to G^{\dagger} .





Lift input to higher dimension: $v_0(x) = P(a(x))$



$P: \mathbb{R}^{d_u} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{d_v}$, parametrized by a shallow fully-connected NN







Iteration:
$$v_t \mapsto v_{t+1}$$



The **output** $u(x) = Q(v_T(x)),$ $Q: \mathbb{R}^{d_v} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{d_u}$



Lift input to higher dimension: $v_0(x) = P(a(x))$

 $P: \mathbb{R}^{d_u} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{d_v}$, parametrized by a shallow fully-connected NN

Iterative architecture: $v_0(x) \mapsto \dots \mapsto v_T(x), x \in \mathbb{R}^{d_v}$

Iteration: $v_t \mapsto v_{t+1}$

The output $u(x) = Q(v_T(x))$, $Q: \mathbb{R}^{d_v} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{d_u}$

$v_{t+1}(x) \coloneqq \sigma(Wv_t(x) + (\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x)),$



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$v_{t+1}(x) := \sigma(Wv_t(x) + (\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x)),$

 $\sigma: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ Non-linear activation function Component-wise operations



$v_{t+1}(x) \coloneqq \sigma \big(W v_t(x) + (\mathcal{K}(a; \phi) v_t)(x) \big),$

$\forall x \in D$

$\sigma \colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$

Non-linear activation function

Component-wise operations

Fourier layer v(x)W

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 $\forall x \in D$

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Component-wise operations

 $W: \mathbb{R}^{d_{\mathcal{V}}} \to \mathbb{R}^{d_{\mathcal{V}}}$ Linear transformation Spatial domain



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Linear transformation Spatial domain



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$\sigma \colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$

Non-linear activation function

Component-wise operations

 $W: \mathbb{R}^{d_v} \to \mathbb{R}^{d_v}$ Linear transformation Spatial domain

$$\mathcal{K}: \mathcal{A} \times \Theta_{\mathcal{K}} \to \mathcal{L}\left(\mathcal{U}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_{v}}), \mathcal{U}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_{v}})\right)$$

Maps to operators on $\mathcal{U}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_{v}})$ parameterized by $\phi \in \Theta_{\mathcal{K}}$



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Component-wise operations

 $W: \mathbb{R}^{d_{v}} \to \mathbb{R}^{d_{v}}$ Linear transformation Spatial domain $\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mathcal{K}} &: \boldsymbol{\mathcal{A}} \times \boldsymbol{\Theta}_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{K}}} \to \\ \mathcal{L}\left(\mathcal{U}(D; \ \mathbb{R}^{d_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{V}}}}), \mathcal{U}(D; \ \mathbb{R}^{d_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{V}}}}) \right) \end{aligned}$

Maps to operators on $\mathcal{U}(D; \mathbb{R}^{d_v})$ parameterized by $\phi \in \Theta_{\mathcal{K}}$



KERNEL INTEGRAL OPERATOR

$$(\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x) \coloneqq \int_D \&(x, y, a(x), a(y); \phi)v_t(y) \, dy, \qquad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{2(d+d_a)} \to \mathbb{R}^{d_v \times d_v} \text{ is a NN parameterized by } \phi \in \Theta_{\mathcal{K}} \xrightarrow{\bullet} \text{ kernel function}$$

 $v_{t+1}(x) \coloneqq \sigma(Wv_t(x) + (\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x)),$

NEURAL OPERATOR

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NEURAL OPERATOR

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$$\coloneqq \int_D \mathscr{k}(x, y, a(x), a(y); \phi)v_t(y) \, dy$$



Linear integral operator

Neural Operator learns non-linear operators:

- Linear integral operators
 +
- Non-linear activation functions

NEURAL OPERATOR

$$v_{t+1}(x) \coloneqq \sigma (Wv_t(x) + (\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x))$$

$$(\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x) \coloneqq \int_D \mathscr{k}(x, y, a(x), a(y); \phi)v_t(y) \, dy$$

Removing dependence of a+ $k_{\phi}(x, y, a(x), a(y)) = k_{\phi}(x - y, a(x), a(y))$

→ Convolution operator



Removing dependence of a
+
$$k_{\phi}(x, y) = k_{\phi}(x - y)$$



Fourier transform convolution \rightarrow pointwise product Fourier transforms

Removing dependence of a
+
$$k_{\phi}(x, y) = k_{\phi}(x - y)$$



$$r(x) = \{u * v\}(x) = \int u(x - \tau)v(\tau) d\tau$$

Removing dependence of a
+
$$k_{\phi}(x, y) = k_{\phi}(x - y)$$



$$r(x) = \{u * v\}(x) = \int u(x - \tau)v(\tau) d\tau$$

Theorem

$$r(x) = \{u * v\}(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{U \cdot V\}$$

Where $U(f) \triangleq \mathcal{F}\{u\}(f); V(f) \triangleq \mathcal{F}\{v\}(f)$

Removing dependence of a
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$$k_{\phi}(x, y) = k_{\phi}(x - y)$$

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Theorem $r(x) = \{u * v\}(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{U \cdot V\}$ Where $U(f) \triangleq \mathcal{F}\{u\}(f); V(f) \triangleq \mathcal{F}\{v\}(f)$

$$(\mathcal{F}f)_j(k) = \int_D f_j(x) e^{-2i\pi \langle x,k \rangle} dx$$

$$(\mathcal{F}^{-1}f)_j(x) = \int_D f_j(k) e^{2i\pi \langle x,k\rangle} dk$$

APPLICATION

Removing dependence of a
+
$$k_{\phi}(x, y) = k_{\phi}(x - y)$$



Theorem

$$r(x) = \{u * v\}(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\{U \cdot V\}$$
Where $U(f) \triangleq \mathcal{F}\{u\}(f); V(f) \triangleq \mathcal{F}\{v\}(f)$

J

$$(\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x) = \int_D \&(x - y; \phi)v_t(y) \, dy$$
$$\forall x \in D$$

APPLICATION

Removing dependence of a
+
$$k_{\phi}(x, y) = k_{\phi}(x - y)$$





$$(\mathcal{K}(a; \phi)v_t)(x) = \int_D \&(x - y; \phi)v_t(y) \, dy = \int u(x - \tau)v(\tau) \, d\tau,$$
$$\forall x \in D$$

APPLICATION

Removing dependence of a
+
$$k_{\phi}(x, y) = k_{\phi}(x - y)$$





$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{K}(a;\,\phi)v_t)(x) &= \int_D \, \, \&(x-y;\,\phi)v_t(y)\,dy = \,\mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(\&_\phi)\cdot\mathcal{F}(v_t))(x), \\ &\quad \forall x \in D \end{aligned}$$

FOURIER INTEGRAL OPERATOR

$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(k_{\phi}) \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$

 \rightarrow directly parameterize k_{ϕ} in Fourier space

FOURIER INTEGRAL OPERATOR

$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)\nu_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathbf{R}_{\phi} \cdot \mathcal{F}(\nu_t))(x)$
$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathbf{R}_{\phi} \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$



$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(-R_{\phi} - \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$



$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)\nu_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(-R_{\phi} - \mathcal{F}(\nu_t))(x)$$



$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(-R_{\phi} - \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$



$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(\mathscr{k}_{\phi})\cdot\mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(R_{\phi}\cdot\mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$

$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(k_{\phi}) \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(R_{\phi} \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$

Assumed k_{ϕ} periodic

$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{k}_{\phi}) \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(R_{\phi} \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$

$$(\mathcal{F}f)_{j}(k) = \int_{D} f_{j}(x) e^{-2i\pi \langle x,k \rangle} dx$$

$$\downarrow$$
Fourier series expansion
$$\downarrow$$
Work with the discrete modes $\mathscr{K}_{\phi} \in \mathbb{Z}^{d}$

$$(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(R_\phi \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$$

 $(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(-R_{\phi} \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$

 R_{ϕ} Fourier transform of periodic function κ

Finite-dimensional parameterization \rightarrow Truncating at k_{max}





$(\mathcal{H}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(k_{\phi}) \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$



DISCRETE FOURIER TRANSFORM

 $(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(\mathscr{k}_{\phi}) \cdot$ $\mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$ $(\mathcal{K}(a;\phi)v_t)(x)$ $= \mathcal{F}^{-1}(R_{\phi} \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t))(x)$ **Finite-dimensional** parameterization \rightarrow Truncating at k_{max}

 $R_{\phi} \cdot \mathcal{F}(v_t)$ **Point-wise multiplication** Lying in different dimensions Truncate higher modes of $\mathcal{F}(v_t)$ $(R \cdot (\mathcal{F}_{v_t}))_{k,l} = \sum_{i=1}^{l} R_{k,l,j} (\mathcal{F}_{v_t})_{k,l}$

DISCRETE FOURIER TRANSFORM

$$(\mathcal{F}f)_{j}(k) = \int_{D} f_{j}(x) e^{-2i\pi \langle x,k \rangle} dx$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(\mathcal{F}f)_{j}[k] = \sum_{x=0}^{n-1} f_{j}[x] e^{-2i\pi \frac{\langle x,k \rangle}{n}}$$
where: $k \in \left[-\frac{k_{max}}{2}, ..., \frac{k_{max}}{2}\right]$

FAST FOURIER TRANSFORM

$$(\hat{\mathcal{F}}f)_{l}(k) = \sum_{x_{1}}^{s_{1}} \dots \sum_{x_{d}}^{s_{d}-1} f_{l}(x_{1}, \dots, x_{d})e^{-2i\pi \sum_{j=1}^{d} x_{j}k_{j}}$$

where: $l = 1, \dots, d_{v}$

INVARIANCE TO DISCRETIZATION

• The Fourier layers are discretization-invariant

INVARIANCE TO DISCRETIZATION

• The Fourier layers are discretization-invariant

Parameters learned in Fourier space \downarrow Projecting on the basis $e^{2\pi i \langle x,k \rangle}$ \rightarrow Physical space \downarrow Well-defined everywhere on \mathbb{R}^d + Consistent error at any resolution

INVARIANCE TO DISCRETIZATION





• Inner multiplication has complexity $O(k_{max})$ • Fourier transforms have complexity $O(nk_{max})$



• Inner multiplication has complexity $O(k_{max})$ • Fourier transforms have complexity $O(nk_{max})$

FFT has complexity O(nlog(n)) \downarrow Uniform discretization is required

NUMERICAL EXPERIMENTS



- 4 Fourier layers
- + ReLU
- + Batch normalization
- 500 epochs
- Learning rate: 0.001, halved every 100 epochs



TESTS

- 1-d Burgers' equation
- 2-d Darcy Flow problem
- 2-d Navier-Stokes equation
- Bayesian Inverse Problem



• Compared against other popular solvers



- Compared against other popular solvers
- Two different Fourier Neural Operators:

FNO-2D learns spatial relation between time steps to predict next step

2DConv

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FNO-3D learns full space-time relation of whole interval

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- Two different Fourier Neural Operators:

FNO-2D learns spatial relation between time steps to predict next step

FNO-3D learns full space-time relation of whole interval

2DConv

▶ 3DConv



• With sufficient data:



• With sufficient data:

FNO-3D



• With sufficient data:





• With sufficient data:



• With insufficient data:

FNO-2D



• With sufficient data:

FNO-3D

• With insufficient data:





FOURIER NEURAL OPERATOR WINS!





KEY FEATURES

Speed and Accuracy:

- Speedy & no accuracy degradation
- Effective in downstream applications

Approximates:

Highly non-linear operators with high frequency modes and slow energy decay





KEY FEATURES

Resolution-Invariant Solution Operator:

 First for Navier-Stokes equations in the turbulent regime



• Maintains same learned network parameters

Capable of zero-shot super-resolution:

Training lower resolution
 → Evaluated higher resolution



Figure 1: top: The architecture of the Fourier layer; bottom: Example flow from Navier-Stokes.

KEY FEATURES



Capable of zero-shot super-resolution:

Training lower resolution
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