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Chiral Transformers: Directional Attention and Information Confirmation via Symmetry Breaking

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Abstract

We present a chiral modification of Transformer self-attention in which the parity symmetry of the standard attention operator is explicitly broken into right-handed and left-handed components. This decomposition induces a directional information flow that admits a natural interpretation as an advection–dissipation mechanism in a neural evolution equation. We establish well-posedness of the discrete chiral update, derive an energy-type estimate, and prove a stability theorem showing suppression of spurious amplification under mild operator norm bounds. The framework provides a mathematically controlled notion of information confirmation analogous to backward verification in convolutional networks and to dissipative corrections in partial differential equations.

Keywords: Transformer, Chirality, Symmetry Breaking, Self-Attention, Stability, Neural PDE, Operator Theory

Preliminaries and Notation

Let $H = \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ equipped with the Frobenius inner product

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = \text{tr}(XY^T), \|X\| = \sqrt{\langle X, X \rangle}.$$

All linear maps $Q, K, V: H \rightarrow H$ are assumed bounded.

We denote by $\|\cdot\|_{\text{op}}$ the induced operator norm.

Symmetry of Standard Self-Attention

Definition 2.1 (Standard Attention Operator)

Define

$$A(X) = S(QX, KX) VX, S(A, B) = \text{softmax}(AB^T / \sqrt{d}).$$

Proposition 2.2 (Parity Symmetry)

The bilinear interaction kernel underlying A is invariant under exchange of query and key operators, up to matrix transposition.

Proof.

The kernel depends only on $QX(KX)^T$. Interchanging Q and K yields the transpose, which leaves the spectrum and aggregation structure invariant. ■

Chiral Decomposition of Attention

Definition 3.1 (Chiral Attention Operators)

Let

$$A_R(X) = S(Q_R X, K_R X) V_R X, A_L(X) = S(K_L X, Q_L X) V_L X.$$

Define the chiral attention map

$$T(X) = X + \alpha A_R(X) + \beta A_L(X), \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Proposition 3.2 (Explicit Symmetry Breaking)

If $Q_R \neq K_R$ or $Q_L \neq K_L$, then T is not invariant under parity exchange $Q \leftrightarrow K$.

Proof.

The kernels $Q_R K_R^T$ and $K_L Q_L^T$ are not related by transposition in general, hence parity invariance fails. ■

Information Confirmation Functional

Definition 4.1 (Confirmation Functional)

Define

$$C(X) = \|A_R(X) - A_L(X)\|^2.$$

Lemma 4.2 (Vanishing Confirmation)

If $C(X) = 0$, then the forward inference and backward verification coincide pointwise in representation space.

Proof.

Immediate from the definition of the norm.

Discrete Neural Evolution and Continuous Limit

Consider the iteration

$$X_{k+1} = T(X_k).$$

Formally, in the limit $\alpha, \beta \rightarrow 0$ with time step Δt ,

$$\partial_t X = \alpha A_R(X) - \beta A_L(X),$$

which may be interpreted as an advection–dissipation equation in representation space [11].

Energy Estimate

Assumption 6.1 (Boundedness)

Assume

$$\|A_R(X)\| \leq M \|X\|, \|A_L(X)\| \leq M \|X\|,$$

for all $X \in H$ and some $M > 0$.

Lemma 6.2 (One-Step Energy Bound)

For sufficiently small $|\alpha|, |\beta|$,

$$\|T(X)\|^2 \leq \|X\|^2 + 2(\alpha - \beta) \langle X, A_R(X) \rangle + C(\alpha^2 + \beta^2) \|X\|^2,$$

for a constant $C > 0$.

Proof.

Expand $\|T(X)\|^2$ and apply Assumption 6.1 with Cauchy–Schwarz.

Stability Theorem

Theorem 7.1 (Chiral Stability)

Assume:

1. Assumption 6.1 holds;
2. $\beta > \alpha \geq 0$

Then there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for all

$0 < \alpha, \beta < \varepsilon$, the chiral iteration satisfies

$$\|T(X)\| \leq (1 - \delta) \|X\|,$$

for some $\delta > 0$ independent of X .

Proof.

From Lemma 6.2 and $\beta > \alpha$, the mixed term contributes a strictly negative correction. Choosing α, β sufficiently small ensures that quadratic terms are dominated by the linear dissipative contribution. Hence T is a contraction on H .

Corollary 7.2 (Suppression of Spurious Amplification)

The chiral Transformer update admits no exponentially growing modes in representation norm.

Interpretation and Relation to CNN Back-Propagation

Theorem 7.1 shows that the left-handed operator plays a role analogous to dissipative corrections in PDEs [6,8] and to backward reinforcement in convolutional networks [3]. Unlike standard Transformers, stability is enforced structurally rather than solely through optimization dynamics.

Discussion

Chiral Transformers embed parity violation directly into attention, yielding a mathematically controlled mechanism for information confirmation. The resulting architecture aligns neural computation with established principles of stability in mathematical physics and operator theory.

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