

M.S. Thesis Supplementary Information

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Respectfully
To School of Graduate Studies
August 26, 2024

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1 Cover letter

Letter of Explanation

Student: **Mohammadreza Ardestani**
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To: School of Graduate Studies
University of Lethbridge

Dear Graduate Programs Facilitator and Dean of Graduate Studies,

My Master's thesis defense was scheduled for August 19, leaving only two weeks for graduation as my study permit expires on August 31. To expedite the thesis review process, I have prepared this supplementary file elaborating on the copyright details of some figures in my thesis, based on the University's copyright guidelines.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the University's copyright guidelines and fully understand and agree to abide by all the terms and conditions stated therein. I also did seek guidance from the University's Copyright Advisor, Dr. Rumi Graham, through in-person meeting and online inquiries. I have also sought Dr. Marc Roussel's review of this supplementary document to ensure that I have adequately addressed the copyright concerns regarding the figures included in the document.

Kind Regards,
Reza,
August 26, 2024

2 Creative Commons licence

Figure 2.8 is a collage of eight images. The image of molecule cannot be licensed by anyone as it is an atomic part of science. The image of graph is licensed under Creative Commons¹ and the image of 3 is under Creative Commons². The other images in this collage are made by myself.

Figure 6.1, is from the GitHub repository³ of the cited paper, which is under Creative Commons licence.

3 Changing a Figure

Figure 2.9 is from a book⁴ with paid access. This was the only figure behind a paywall and I created a replacement for it myself.

4 Fair dealing

Fair dealing is an exception to infringement under the Canadian Copyright Act, granting users certain rights. It allows the use of a substantial part of a protected work for specific purposes enumerated in the Act, such as research, private study, and education, provided that the use is, on balance, fair. The Supreme Court has determined that when a use falls under a statutory fair dealing purpose, the fairness of that use should be assessed by considering factors such as the ultimate purpose of the new work, the character and amount of copying, and the impact of the use on the value of the original work.

Figures 2.2, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 3.1, 3.3, and 3.4 are either directly taken or adapted from other research papers. It was necessary to reuse the original diagrams to avoid potential confusion that might otherwise cause. This reuse falls under the fair dealing category for the following reasons.

The figures are short excerpts that does not constitute a substantial part of my work. Their use is solely academic and non-commercial. I am reusing these figures not to criticize or replace the original work but to better explain the concepts or architectures they developed. I believe that reusing these figures draws attention to the reference papers, potentially making their work more popular and widely recognized. Based on this reasoning, I argue that I have dealt with the figures fairly.

¹<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Atisane3.png>.

²<https://www.tensorflow.org/datasets/catalog/mnist>.

³<https://github.com/salesforce/simpletod>

⁴<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-01588-5>

