

# A Comparative Study on Wavelets and Residuals in Deep Super-Resolution

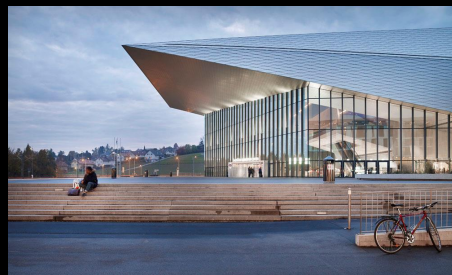
Ruofan Zhou, **Fayez Lahoud**, Majed El Helou, and Sabine Süsstrunk

Image and Visual Representation Lab



# Super-Resolution

- Obtaining a high-resolution image from a low-resolution image



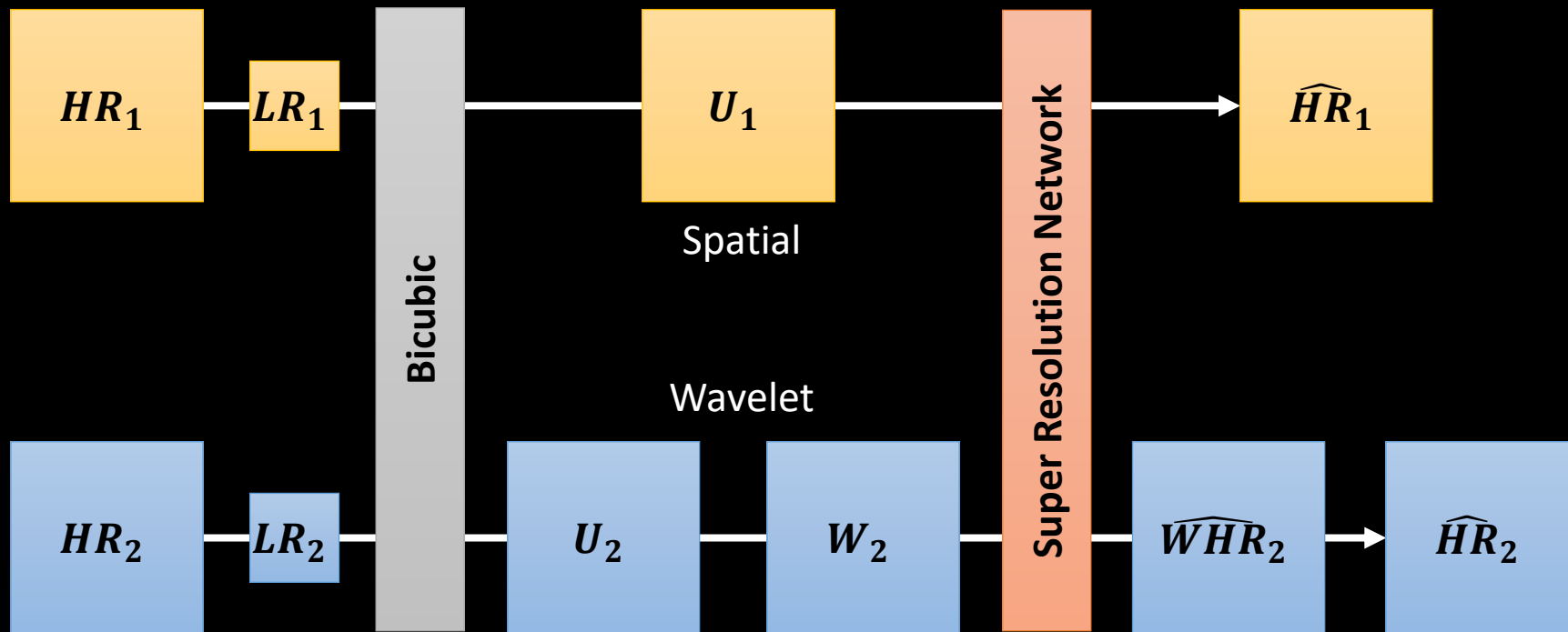
- Deep learning[1] comes in 2014

# Super-resolution architectures

- Multiple models
- Multiple inputs
- Unclear effects

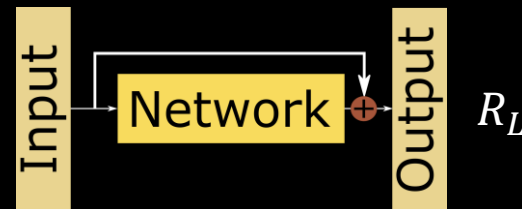
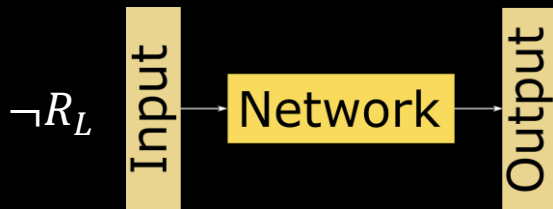


# Super-Resolution Networks



# Techniques used in Super-Resolution Networks

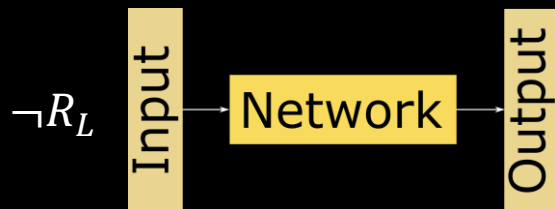
- Residual learning



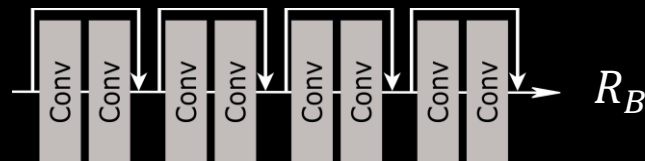
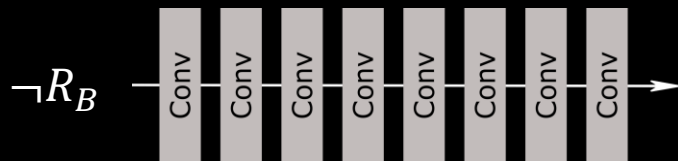
- Reduced and stable training
- Higher accuracy
- Easier than predicting a natural image

# Techniques used in Super-Resolution Networks

- Residual learning

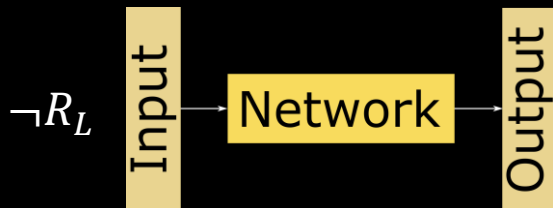


- Residual blocks

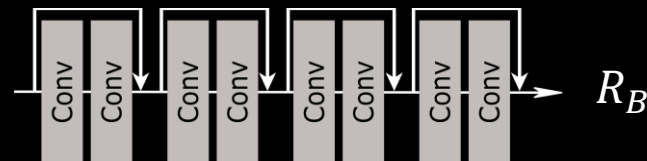
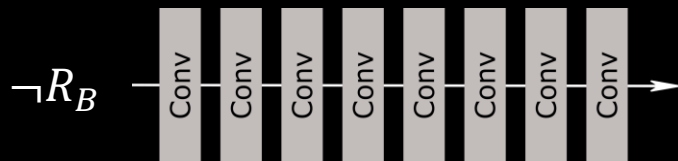


# Techniques used in Super-Resolution Networks

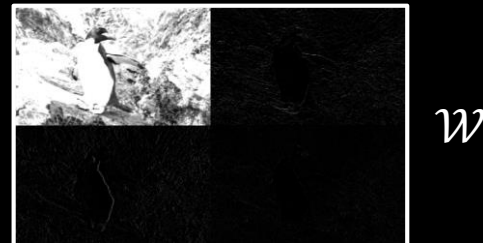
- Residual learning



- Residual blocks

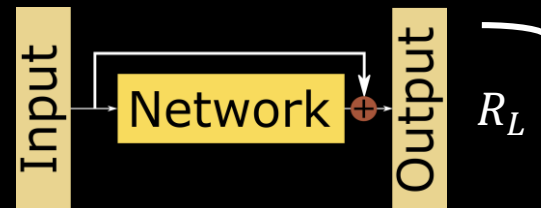
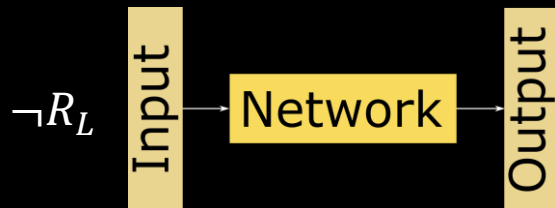


- Wavelet Decomposition

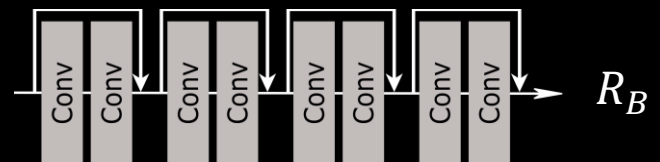
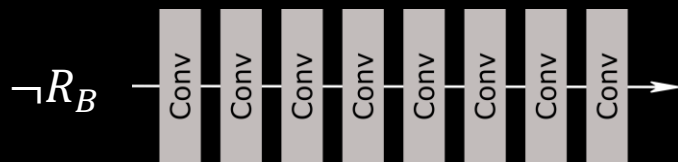


# Techniques used in Super-Resolution Networks

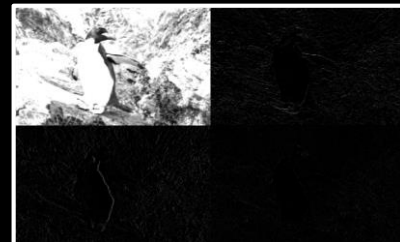
- Residual learning



- Residual blocks



- Wavelet Decomposition



Which one helps?



# Experiments

- Three parameters
  - Without | With residual learning  $(\neg R_L | R_L)$
  - Spatial input | Wavelet input  $(\mathcal{S} | \mathcal{W})$
  - Without | With residual blocks  $(\neg R_B | R_B)$
- Training dataset (at least 2K)
  - DIV2K[2]
  - Training 800 high-resolution images
  - Validation 100 high-resolution images

# DIV2K



# Experiments

- All networks
  - 12 convolutional layers
  - 64 kernels of 3 x 3
  - Patches 64 x 64
  - 100 epochs
  - Adam optimizer with  $lr = 0.001$ 
    - decayed by factor of 10 every 30 epochs
  - Same initialization (Xavier)
- Scales x2, x3, and x4 using MATLAB's *imresize* (bicubic)

# Experiments



Set5



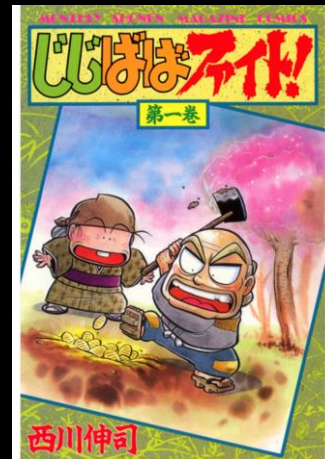
Set14



BSDS100



Urban100



Manga109

# Experiments

- Network configuration ( $\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B$ )
- Performance evaluation
  - PSNR
  - SSIM
- Statistical significance
  - T-test

| Set                                 | Set5  |       |       | Set14 |       |       | BSDS100 |       |       | Urban100 |       |       | Manga109 |       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| Scale                               | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2      | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    |
| Bicubic                             | 31.79 | 26.95 | 26.69 | 28.00 | 24.44 | 23.81 | 26.11   | 24.66 | 22.38 | 25.43    | 21.30 | 21.70 | 26.79    | 24.61 | 22.05 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.52 | 27.77 | 28.43 | 29.36 | 24.58 | 24.47 | 25.93   | 24.72 | 21.91 | 28.25    | 21.13 | 22.93 | 27.22    | 25.99 | 22.28 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.94 | 27.99 | 28.81 | 29.58 | 24.66 | 24.64 | 25.99   | 24.73 | 21.86 | 28.65    | 21.13 | 23.24 | 27.47    | 26.21 | 22.37 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.99 | 28.02 | 28.89 | 29.62 | 24.66 | 24.66 | 25.89   | 24.73 | 23.17 | 28.67    | 21.14 | 23.22 | 27.38    | 26.31 | 22.45 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 27.99 | 28.88 | 29.51 | 24.64 | 24.67 | 25.91   | 24.70 | 21.82 | 28.51    | 21.10 | 23.24 | 27.35    | 26.23 | 22.35 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.42 | 27.80 | 28.75 | 29.23 | 24.58 | 24.57 | 26.25   | 24.71 | 21.89 | 27.96    | 21.09 | 23.13 | 27.50    | 26.04 | 22.36 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.89 | 27.95 | 28.85 | 29.57 | 24.61 | 24.70 | 26.46   | 24.70 | 21.98 | 28.51    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.18 | 22.62 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.84 | 27.96 | 28.94 | 29.51 | 24.62 | 24.74 | 26.35   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.42    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.19 | 22.46 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 28.00 | 28.93 | 29.54 | 24.64 | 24.69 | 26.33   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.43    | 21.07 | 23.30 | 27.90    | 26.20 | 22.47 |

| Set                                 | Set5  |       |       | Set14 |       |       | BSDS100 |       |       | Urban100 |       |       | Manga109 |       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| Scale                               | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2      | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    |
| Bicubic                             | 31.79 | 26.95 | 26.69 | 28.00 | 24.44 | 23.81 | 26.11   | 24.66 | 22.38 | 25.43    | 21.30 | 21.70 | 26.79    | 24.61 | 22.05 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.52 | 27.77 | 28.43 | 29.36 | 24.58 | 24.47 | 25.93   | 24.72 | 21.91 | 28.25    | 21.13 | 22.93 | 27.22    | 25.99 | 22.28 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.94 | 27.99 | 28.81 | 29.58 | 24.66 | 24.64 | 25.99   | 24.73 | 21.86 | 28.65    | 21.13 | 23.24 | 27.47    | 26.21 | 22.37 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.99 | 28.02 | 28.89 | 29.62 | 24.66 | 24.66 | 25.89   | 24.73 | 23.17 | 28.67    | 21.14 | 23.22 | 27.38    | 26.31 | 22.45 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 27.99 | 28.88 | 29.51 | 24.64 | 24.67 | 25.91   | 24.70 | 21.82 | 28.51    | 21.10 | 23.24 | 27.35    | 26.23 | 22.35 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.42 | 27.80 | 28.75 | 29.23 | 24.58 | 24.57 | 26.25   | 24.71 | 21.89 | 27.96    | 21.09 | 23.13 | 27.50    | 26.04 | 22.36 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.89 | 27.95 | 28.85 | 29.57 | 24.61 | 24.70 | 26.46   | 24.70 | 21.98 | 28.51    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.18 | 22.62 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.84 | 27.96 | 28.94 | 29.51 | 24.62 | 24.74 | 26.35   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.42    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.19 | 22.46 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 28.00 | 28.93 | 29.54 | 24.64 | 24.69 | 26.33   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.43    | 21.07 | 23.30 | 27.90    | 26.20 | 22.47 |

Closest net to bicubic  $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$

$$t_{psnr} = 3.92, p_{psnr} = 10^{-5} \mid t_{ssim} = 4.98, p_{ssim} = 7 \times 10^{-7}$$



| Set                                 | Set5  |       |       | Set14 |       |       | BSDS100 |       |       | Urban100 |       |       | Manga109 |       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| Scale                               | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2      | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    |
| Bicubic                             | 31.79 | 26.95 | 26.69 | 28.00 | 24.44 | 23.81 | 26.11   | 24.66 | 22.38 | 25.43    | 21.30 | 21.70 | 26.79    | 24.61 | 22.05 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.52 | 27.77 | 28.43 | 29.36 | 24.58 | 24.47 | 25.93   | 24.72 | 21.91 | 28.25    | 21.13 | 22.93 | 27.22    | 25.99 | 22.28 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.94 | 27.99 | 28.81 | 29.58 | 24.66 | 24.64 | 25.99   | 24.73 | 21.86 | 28.65    | 21.13 | 23.24 | 27.47    | 26.21 | 22.37 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.99 | 28.02 | 28.89 | 29.62 | 24.66 | 24.66 | 25.89   | 24.73 | 23.17 | 28.67    | 21.14 | 23.22 | 27.38    | 26.31 | 22.45 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 27.99 | 28.88 | 29.51 | 24.64 | 24.67 | 25.91   | 24.70 | 21.82 | 28.51    | 21.10 | 23.24 | 27.35    | 26.23 | 22.35 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.42 | 27.80 | 28.75 | 29.23 | 24.58 | 24.57 | 26.25   | 24.71 | 21.89 | 27.96    | 21.09 | 23.13 | 27.50    | 26.04 | 22.36 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.89 | 27.95 | 28.85 | 29.57 | 24.61 | 24.70 | 26.46   | 24.70 | 21.98 | 28.51    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.18 | 22.62 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.84 | 27.96 | 28.94 | 29.51 | 24.62 | 24.74 | 26.35   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.42    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.19 | 22.46 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 28.00 | 28.93 | 29.54 | 24.64 | 24.69 | 26.33   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.43    | 21.07 | 23.30 | 27.90    | 26.20 | 22.47 |

No residuals, lowest performance



| Set                                 | Set5         |              |              | Set14        |              |              | BSDS100      |              |              | Urban100     |              |              | Manga109     |              |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Scale                               | x2           | x3           | x4           | x2           | x3           | x4           | x2           | x3           | x4           | x2           | x3           | x4           | x2           | x3           | x4           |
| Bicubic                             | 31.79        | 26.95        | 26.69        | 28.00        | 24.44        | 23.81        | 26.11        | 24.66        | 22.38        | 25.43        | <b>21.30</b> | 21.70        | 26.79        | 24.61        | 22.05        |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.52        | 27.77        | 28.43        | 29.36        | 24.58        | 24.47        | 25.93        | 24.72        | 21.91        | 28.25        | 21.13        | 22.93        | 27.22        | 25.99        | 22.28        |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.94        | 27.99        | 28.81        | 29.58        | <b>24.66</b> | 24.64        | 25.99        | <b>24.73</b> | 21.86        | 28.65        | 21.13        | 23.24        | 27.47        | 26.21        | 22.37        |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | <b>34.99</b> | <b>28.02</b> | 28.89        | <b>29.62</b> | <b>24.66</b> | 24.66        | 25.89        | <b>24.73</b> | <b>23.17</b> | <b>28.67</b> | 21.14        | 23.22        | 27.38        | <b>26.31</b> | 22.45        |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80        | 27.99        | 28.88        | 29.51        | 24.64        | 24.67        | 25.91        | 24.70        | 21.82        | 28.51        | 21.10        | 23.24        | 27.35        | 26.23        | 22.35        |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.42        | 27.80        | 28.75        | 29.23        | 24.58        | 24.57        | 26.25        | 24.71        | 21.89        | 27.96        | 21.09        | 23.13        | 27.50        | 26.04        | 22.36        |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.89        | 27.95        | 28.85        | 29.57        | 24.61        | 24.70        | <b>26.46</b> | 24.70        | 21.98        | 28.51        | 21.06        | 23.28        | 27.87        | 26.18        | <b>22.62</b> |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.84        | 27.96        | <b>28.94</b> | 29.51        | 24.62        | <b>24.74</b> | 26.35        | 24.70        | 21.93        | 28.42        | 21.06        | 23.28        | 27.87        | 26.19        | 22.46        |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80        | 28.00        | 28.93        | 29.54        | 24.64        | 24.69        | 26.33        | 24.70        | 21.93        | 28.43        | 21.07        | <b>23.30</b> | <b>27.90</b> | 26.20        | 22.47        |

$$t_{psnr} = 4.45, p_{psnr} = 5 \times 10^{-4} \mid t_{ssim} = 7.11, p_{ssim} = 5 \times 10^{-6}$$

| Set                                 | Set5  |       |       | Set14 |       |       | BSDS100 |       |       | Urban100 |       |       | Manga109 |       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| Scale                               | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2      | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    |
| Bicubic                             | 31.79 | 26.95 | 26.69 | 28.00 | 24.44 | 23.81 | 26.11   | 24.66 | 22.38 | 25.43    | 21.30 | 21.70 | 26.79    | 24.61 | 22.05 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.52 | 27.77 | 28.43 | 29.36 | 24.58 | 24.47 | 25.93   | 24.72 | 21.91 | 28.25    | 21.13 | 22.93 | 27.22    | 25.99 | 22.28 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.94 | 27.99 | 28.81 | 29.58 | 24.66 | 24.64 | 25.99   | 24.73 | 21.86 | 28.65    | 21.13 | 23.24 | 27.47    | 26.21 | 22.37 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.99 | 28.02 | 28.89 | 29.62 | 24.66 | 24.66 | 25.89   | 24.73 | 23.17 | 28.67    | 21.14 | 23.22 | 27.38    | 26.31 | 22.45 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 27.99 | 28.88 | 29.51 | 24.64 | 24.67 | 25.91   | 24.70 | 21.82 | 28.51    | 21.10 | 23.24 | 27.35    | 26.23 | 22.35 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 34.42 | 27.80 | 28.75 | 29.23 | 24.58 | 24.57 | 26.25   | 24.71 | 21.89 | 27.96    | 21.09 | 23.13 | 27.50    | 26.04 | 22.36 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 34.89 | 27.95 | 28.85 | 29.57 | 24.61 | 24.70 | 26.46   | 24.70 | 21.98 | 28.51    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.18 | 22.62 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 34.84 | 27.96 | 28.94 | 29.51 | 24.62 | 24.74 | 26.35   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.42    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.19 | 22.46 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B)$           | 34.80 | 28.00 | 28.93 | 29.54 | 24.64 | 24.69 | 26.33   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.43    | 21.07 | 23.30 | 27.90    | 26.20 | 22.47 |

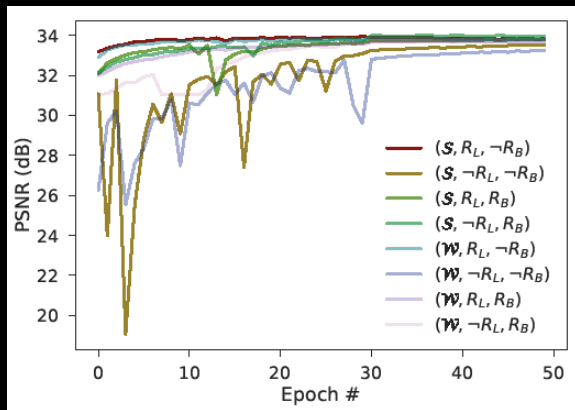
$$t_{psnr} = 1.91, p_{psnr} = 0.07$$

$$t_{ssim} = 1.02, p_{ssim} = 0.31$$

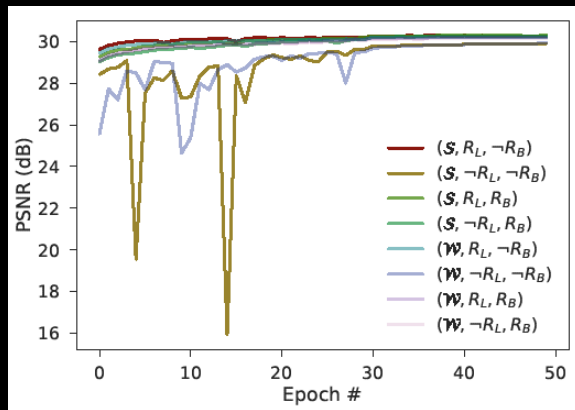
$$\overline{PSNR_{\mathcal{W}}} = 26.15 \mid \overline{PSNR_{\mathcal{S}}} = 26.09$$

$$\overline{SSIM_{\mathcal{W}}} = 0.798 \mid \overline{SSIM_{\mathcal{S}}} = 0.797$$

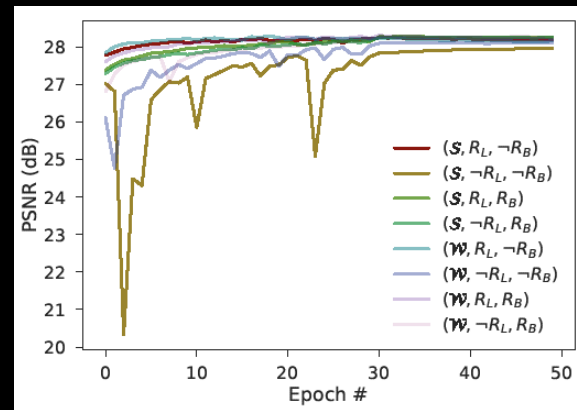
# Stability in training



Scale=2

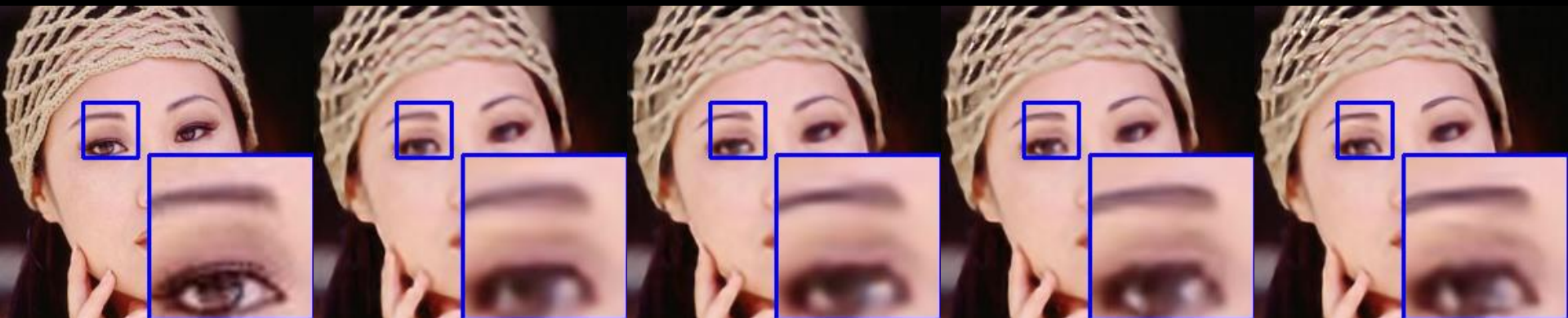


Scale=3



Scale=4

# Qualitative Results



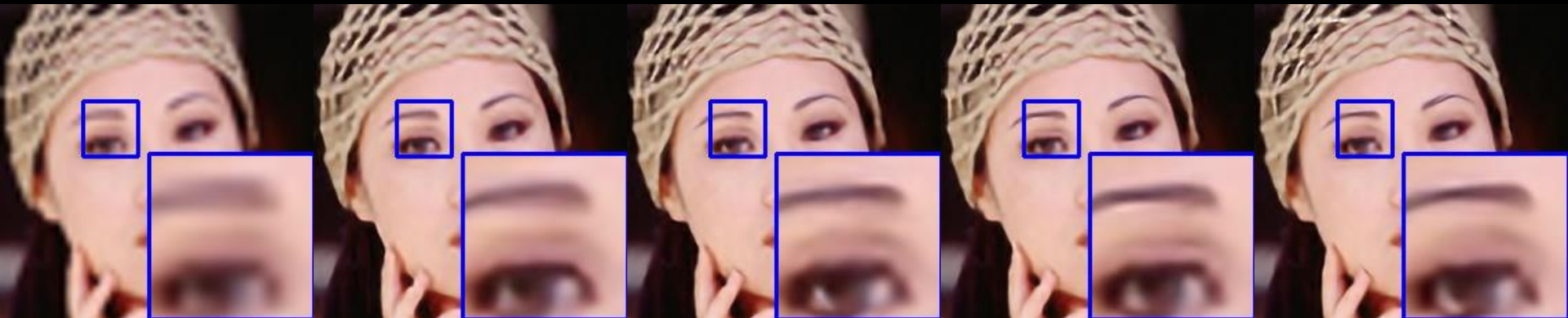
Reference | PSNR

$(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B) | 27.34$

$(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B) | 27.44$

$(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B) | 27.60$

$(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B) | 27.50$



Bicubic | 25.11

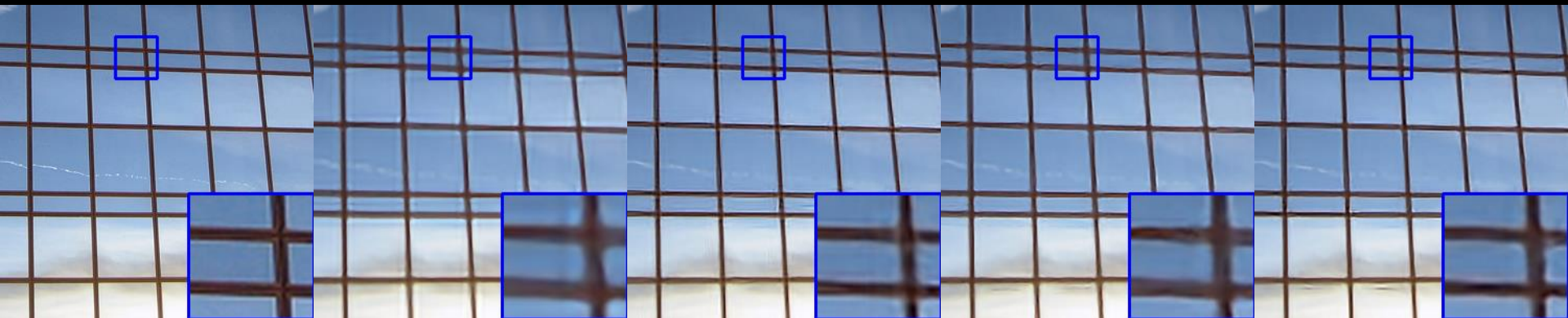
$(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B) | 27.72$

$(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B) | 27.81$

$(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B) | 27.67$

$(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B) | 27.71$

# Qualitative Results



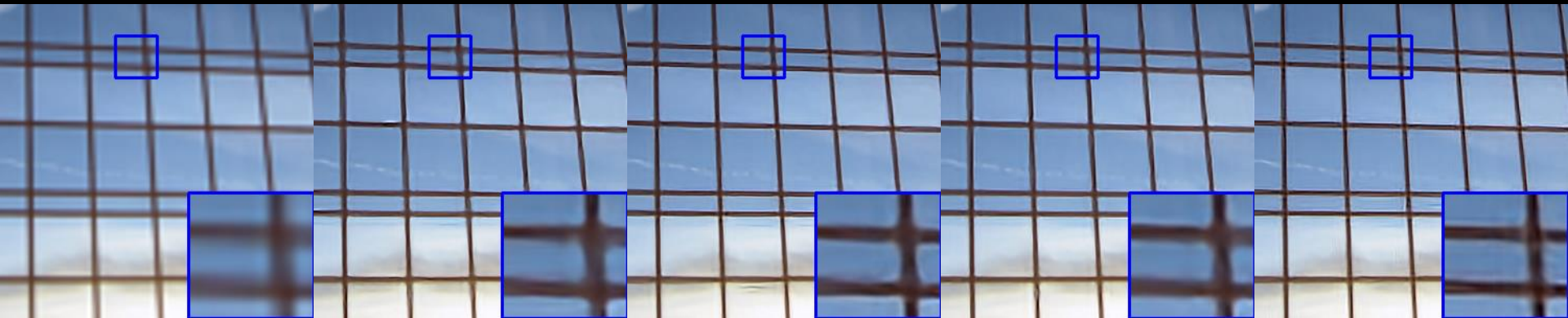
Reference | PSNR

$(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B) \mid 26.09$

$(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B) \mid 26.60$

$(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B) \mid 26.93$

$(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B) \mid 27.60$



Bicubic | 23.25

$(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B) \mid 26.68$

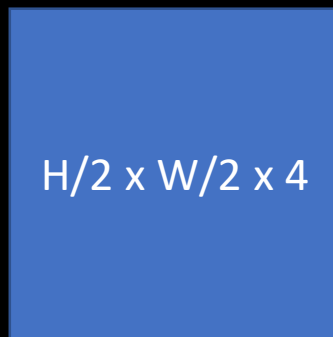
$(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B) \mid 27.44$

$(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B) \mid 27.53$

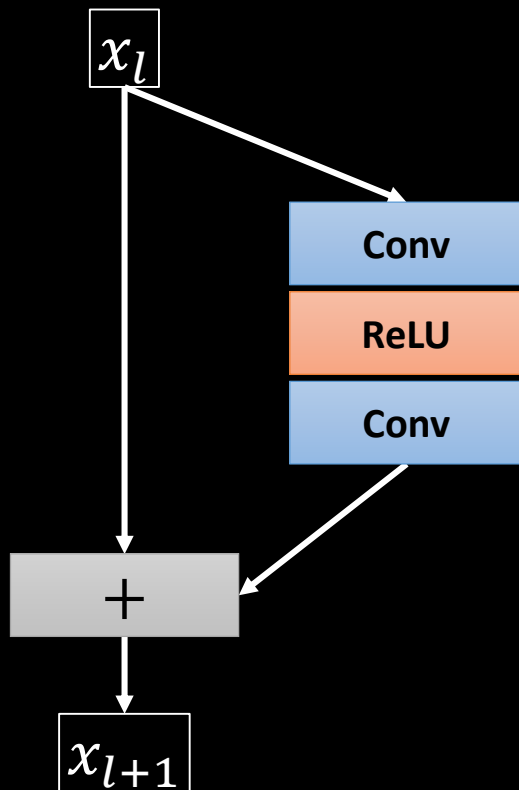
$(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B) \mid 26.75$

# Runtime performance (1024 x 1024)

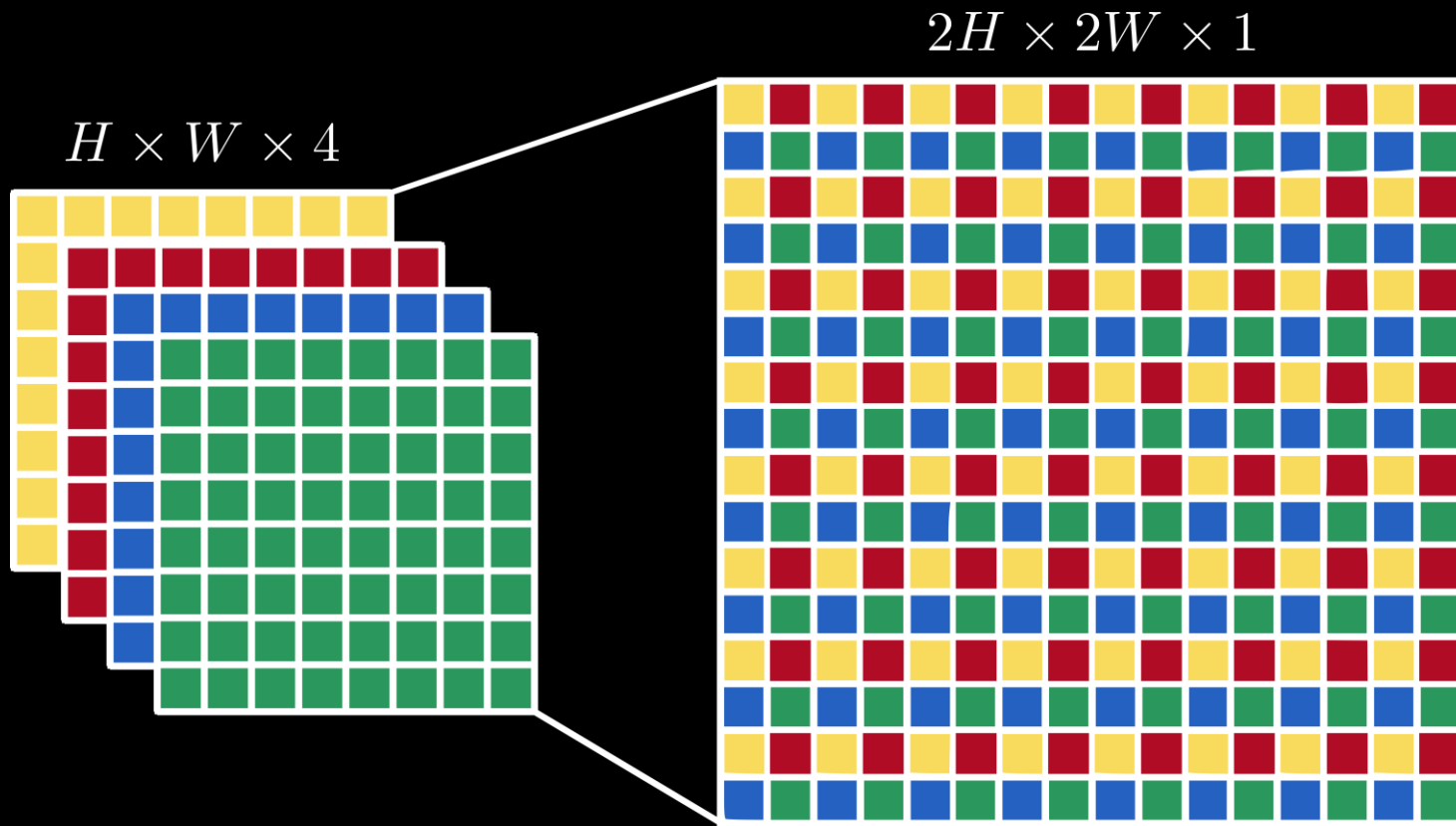
|                                     | Memory        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | 5412MB        |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | 5412MB        |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | 5432MB        |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, R_B)$           | 5432MB        |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, \neg R_B)$ | <b>1380MB</b> |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \neg R_L, R_B)$      | <b>1380MB</b> |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$      | <b>1460MB</b> |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, R_B)$           | <b>1460MB</b> |



# Residual Connection Structure

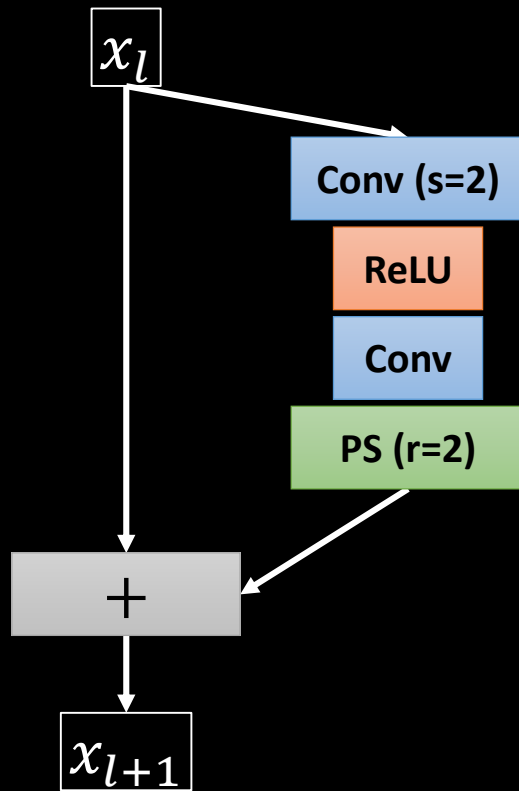
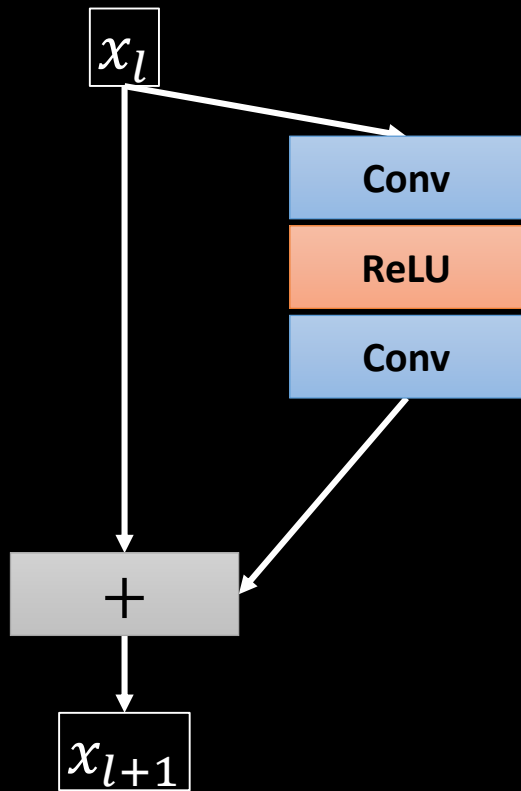


# PixelShuffle (PS)





# Proposed Residual Connection



# ShuffleNet vs ( $R_L, \neg R_B$ )

- 5450MB -> 3500MB for spatial input
- 1500MB -> 900 MB for wavelet input



1024 x 1024 Image

# ShuffleNet vs $(R_L, \neg R_B)$

- 5450MB -> 3500MB for spatial input
- 1500MB -> 900 MB for wavelet input



1024 x 1024 Image

| Set                                | Set5  |       |       | Set14 |       |       | BSDS100 |       |       | Urban100 |       |       | Manga109 |       |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| Scale                              | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2    | x3    | x4    | x2      | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    | x2       | x3    | x4    |
| $(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$     | 34.99 | 28.02 | 28.89 | 29.62 | 24.66 | 24.66 | 25.89   | 24.73 | 23.17 | 28.67    | 21.14 | 23.22 | 27.38    | 26.31 | 22.45 |
| $(\mathcal{S}, \text{ShuffleNet})$ | 34.92 | 27.94 | 28.74 | 29.79 | 24.61 | 24.54 | 25.80   | 24.77 | 22.85 | 28.55    | 21.03 | 23.07 | 27.34    | 26.18 | 22.40 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$     | 34.84 | 27.96 | 28.94 | 29.51 | 24.62 | 24.74 | 26.35   | 24.70 | 21.93 | 28.42    | 21.06 | 23.28 | 27.87    | 26.19 | 22.46 |
| $(\mathcal{W}, \text{ShuffleNet})$ | 34.92 | 27.89 | 28.69 | 29.51 | 24.56 | 24.57 | 26.18   | 24.67 | 22.04 | 27.82    | 20.99 | 23.09 | 27.71    | 26.18 | 22.47 |

$$\overline{PSNR}_{\mathcal{S}}(R_L, \neg R_B) = 26.25 \mid \overline{PSNR}_{\mathcal{S}}(\text{ShuffleNet}) = 26.18$$

$$\overline{PSNR}_{\mathcal{W}}(R_L, \neg R_B) = 26.19 \mid \overline{PSNR}_{\mathcal{W}}(\text{ShuffleNet}) = 26.09$$

# Qualitative Comparison

$(\mathcal{S}, \text{ShuffleNet})$



$(\mathcal{S}, R_L, \neg R_B)$



$(\mathcal{W}, \text{ShuffleNet})$



$(\mathcal{W}, R_L, \neg R_B)$



# Conclusion

- Residuals improve training speed and network performance
- No performance impact between spatial and wavelets inputs
- Wavelets reduce memory requirements