



NEURAL OPERATORS FOR SCIENTIFIC MACHINE LEARNING

Presented by Handi Zhang



Functions map data, Operators map functions

- Function: $\mathbb{R}^{d_1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$

e.g., image classification:



$\mapsto 5$

- Operator: function (∞ -dim) \mapsto function (∞ -dim)

e.g., derivative (local): $x(t) \mapsto x'(t)$

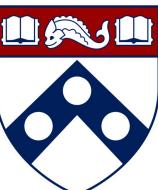
e.g., integral (global): $x(t) \mapsto \int K(s, t)x(s)ds$

e.g., dynamic system:



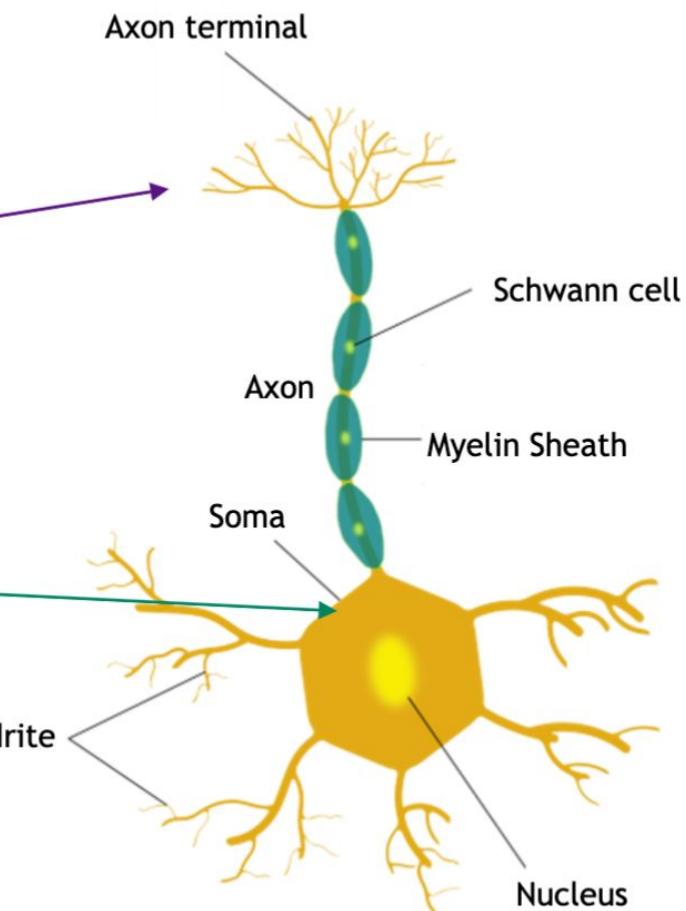
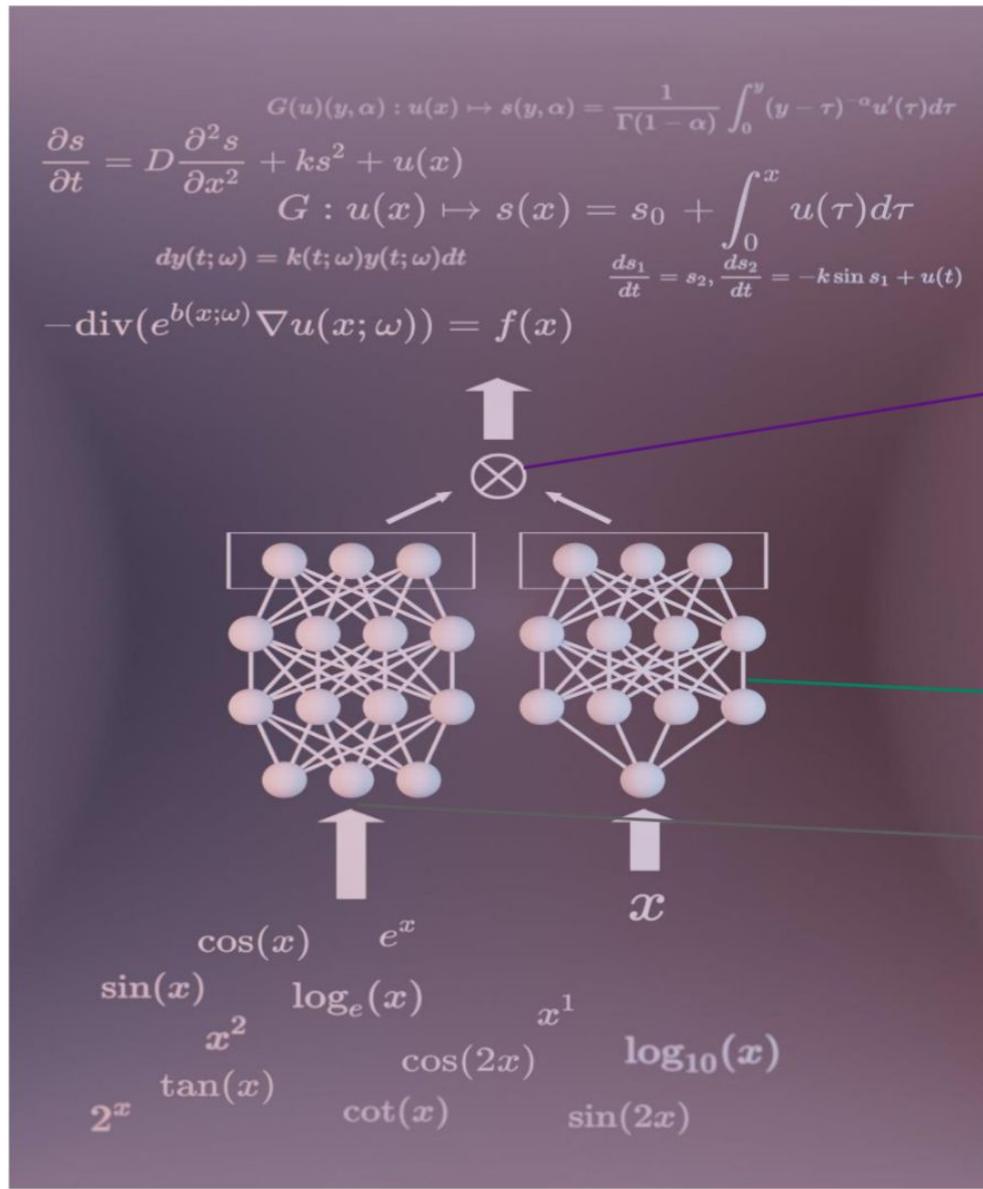
e.g., biological system

e.g., social system



Deep Operator Network (DeepONet)

- Some resemblance to a human neuron



Problem Setup

$$G : u \mapsto G(u)$$

$$G(u) : y \in \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto G(u)(y) \in \mathbb{R}$$

Input function u

Data:



Output function $G(u)$

\xrightarrow{G}

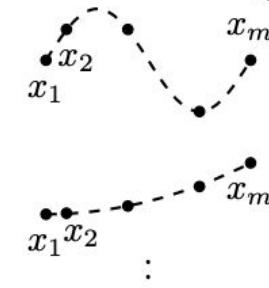
⋮



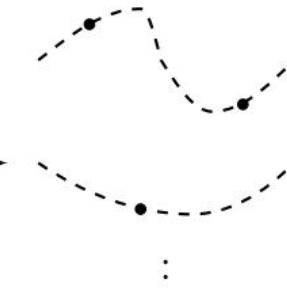
Question:



Input function u
at fixed sensors x_1, \dots, x_m



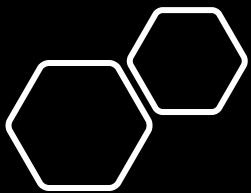
Output function $G(u)$
at random location y



$$G(u)(y) \approx \sum_{k=1}^p b_k t_k$$

- Inputs: u at sensors $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}, y$
- Outputs: $G(u)(y)$
- $G(u)(y)$: a function of y conditioning on u
 - $t_k(y)$: basis functions of y
 - $b_k(u)$: u -dependent coefficient





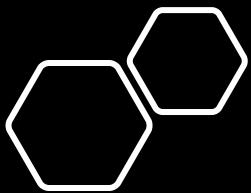
Universal Approximation Theorem for Operator

Theorem 1 (Universal Approximation Theorem for Operator).
Suppose that σ is a continuous non-polynomial function, X is a Banach space, $K_1 \subset X$, $K_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ are two compact sets in X and \mathbb{R}^d , respectively, V is a compact set in $C(K_1)$, G is a nonlinear continuous operator, which maps V into $C(K_2)$. Then for any $\epsilon > 0$, there are positive integers n, p and m , constants c_i^k , ξ_{ij}^k , θ_i^k , $\zeta_k \in \mathbb{R}$, $w_k \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $x_j \in K_1$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, $k = 1, \dots, p$ and $j = 1, \dots, m$, such that

$$\left| G(u)(y) - \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^p \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^k \sigma \left(\underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^m \xi_{ij}^k u(x_j) + \theta_i^k}_{\text{branch}} \right)}_{\text{trunk}} \underbrace{\sigma(w_k \cdot y + \zeta_k)}_{\text{trunk}} \right| < \epsilon \quad (1)$$

holds for all $u \in V$ and $y \in K_2$. Here, $C(K)$ is the Banach space of all continuous functions defined on K with norm $\|f\|_{C(K)} = \max_{x \in K} |f(x)|$.





Generalized Universal Approximation Theorem for Operator

Theorem 2 (Generalized Universal Approximation Theorem for Operator). Suppose that X is a Banach space, $K_1 \subset X$, $K_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ are two compact sets in X and \mathbb{R}^d , respectively, V is a compact set in $C(K_1)$. Assume that $G: V \rightarrow C(K_2)$ is a nonlinear continuous operator. Then, for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exist positive integers m, p , continuous vector functions $\mathbf{g}: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$, $\mathbf{f}: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$, and $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \in K_1$, such that

$$\left| G(u)(y) - \underbrace{\langle \mathbf{g}(u(x_1), u(x_2), \dots, u(x_m)), \mathbf{f}(y) \rangle}_{\text{branch}} \right| < \epsilon$$

holds for all $u \in V$ and $y \in K_2$, where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the dot product in \mathbb{R}^p . Furthermore, the functions \mathbf{g} and \mathbf{f} can be chosen as diverse classes of neural networks, which satisfy the classical universal approximation theorem of functions, for example, (stacked/unstacked) fully connected neural networks, residual neural networks and convolutional neural networks.



Sketch of Proof

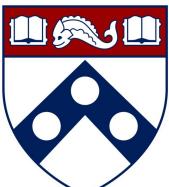
Continuously extend $\mathcal{G}(u)(y), y \in K_2$ to $\mathcal{G}(u)(y), y \in D$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{G}(u) &\approx \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}_{m,x}^0 u) \quad (\text{piecewise constant interpolation}) \\ &\approx \sum_{k=1}^p \int_D \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}_{m,x}^0 u) e_k(y) dy \quad e_k(y), \quad (K_2 \subset D, \text{spectral expansion}) \\ &\approx \sum_{k=1}^p \int_D \mathcal{I}_{n,y}^0 (\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}_{m,x}^0 u)(y)) e_k(y) dy e_k(y) \quad (\text{interpolation}) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^p \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}_{m,x}^0 u)(y_i) \underbrace{\int_D e_k(y) \chi_{D_i}(y) dy}_{c_i^k} \right) e_k(y)\end{aligned}$$

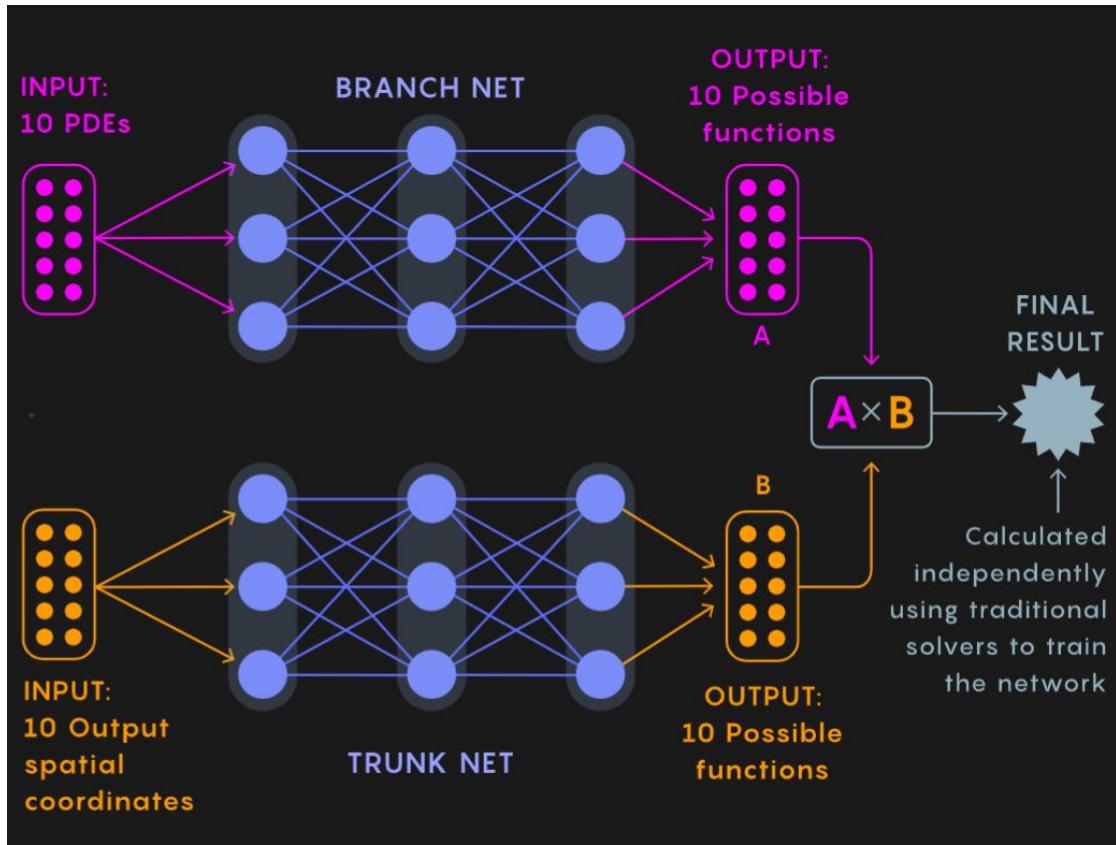
- $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}_m^0 u)(y_i)$ is continuous in u_m , on $[-M, M]^m$, $M = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} |u(x_i)|$.
- As $\mathcal{G} : V \rightarrow C(D)$ is continuous, we have uniform approximation

$$\sup_{u \in V} \sup_{u_m \in [-M, M]^m} \left| \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}_m^0 u)(y_i) - g^N(u_m; \Theta^{(k,i)}) \right| < \epsilon$$

- $e_k(y) \approx f^N(y; \theta^{(k)})$

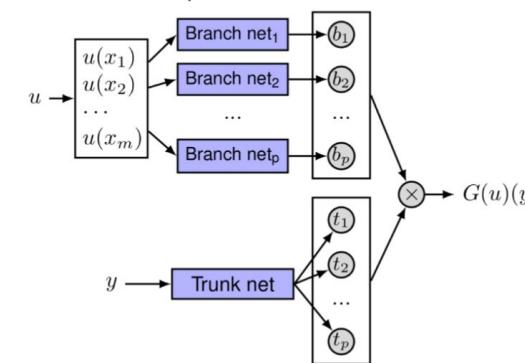


DeepONet

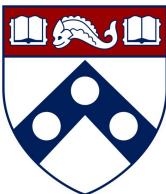
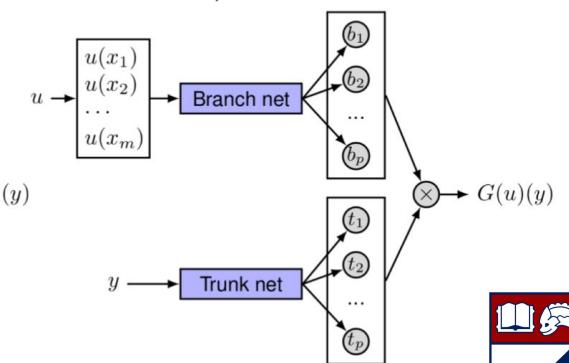


$$G(u)(y) \approx \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^p \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^k \sigma \left(\sum_{j=1}^m \xi_{ij}^k u(x_j) + \theta_i^k \right)}_{\text{branch}} \underbrace{\sigma(w_k \cdot y + \zeta_k)}_{\text{trunk}}$$

C Stacked DeepONet



D Unstacked DeepONet



Error Estimates

For all the explicit and implicit operators in our examples, the operators G are Hölder continuous.

$$\|G(f) - G(g)\|_X \leq C \|f - g\|_Y^\alpha, \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1.$$

Here $C > 0$ depends on f and g and the operator G . Here X and Y are Banach spaces and they refer to the space of continuous functions on a compact set unless otherwise stated.

Let G_N be the approximated G using DeepONet. Let f_h be an approximation of f in Y , possibly by collocation or neural networks. Then

$$\|G(f) - G_N(f_h)\|_X \leq \|G(f) - G(f_h)\|_X + \|G(f_h) - G_N(f_h)\|_X \leq C \|f - f_h\|_Y^\alpha + \varepsilon,$$

where ε is the user-defined accuracy as in the universal approximation theorem by neural networks and thus the key is to verify the operator G is Hölder continuous.

The explicit operators and their Lipschitz continuity ($\alpha = 1$) are presented below.

1. (Simple ODE, **Problem 1.A**) $G(u)(x) = s_0 + \int_0^x u(s) ds$.

$$\max_{x \in [0,b]} |G(u)(x) - G(v)(x)| \leq b \max_{x \in [0,b]} |u - v|.$$

2. (Caputo derivative, **Problem 2**) The operator is Lipschitz continuous with respect to its argument in weighted Sobolev norms; see e.g. [14, Theorem 2.4].

3. (Integral fractional Laplacian, **Problem 3**) The operator is Lipschitz continuous with respect to its argument in weighted Sobolev norms, see e.g. [6, Theorem 3.3].

4. (Legendre transform, **Problem 7** in Equation (S1)). The Lipschitz continuity of the operator $G(u)(n) = \int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)u(x) dx$ can be seen as follows. For any non-negative integer,

$$\max_n |G(u)(n) - G(v)(n)| \leq \max_n \int_{-1}^1 |P_n(x)| dx \max_{x \in [-1,1]} |u - v| \leq C \max_{x \in [-1,1]} |u - v|$$

$$\text{where } C = \max_n (\int_{-1}^1 dx)^{1/2} (\int_{-1}^1 |P_n(x)|^2 dx)^{1/2} = \max_n (2 \frac{2}{2n+1})^{1/2} \leq 2.$$

5. The linear operator from **Problem 9** in (S2) in Lipschitz continuous with respect to the initial condition in the norm in the space of continuous functions, from the classical theory for linear parabolic equations [9, Chapter IV],

The implicit operator from **Problem 6**. The operator can be written as $u = G(b)$ and $u_i = G(b_i)$, $i = 1, 2$ satisfying the following equations:

$$-\operatorname{div}(e^{b_i(x)} \nabla u_i) = f(x), \quad x \in D = (0, 1), \quad u_i(x) = 0, \quad x \in \partial D,$$

Then $\|u_i(\omega)\|_{H^1} \leq (\min_{x \in D} e^{-b_i})^{-1} \|f\|_{H^{-1}}$, where H^1 and H^{-1} are standard Sobolev-Hilbert spaces. The difference $u_1 - u_2$ satisfies the following

$$-\operatorname{div}(e^{b_1(x)} \nabla (u_1 - u_2)) = \operatorname{div}((e^{b_1(x)} - e^{b_2(x)}) \nabla u_2), \quad x \in D, \quad u_1 - u_2 = 0, \quad x \in \partial D.$$

Then by the stability of the elliptic equation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_1(\omega) - u_2(\omega)\|_{H^1} &\leq (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_i(x)})^{-1} \left\| (e^{b_1} - e^{b_2}) \nabla u_2 \right\|_{L^2} \\ &= (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_1(x)})^{-1} \left\| e^{b_1} - e^{b_2} \right\|_{C(D)} \|u_2\|_{H^1} \\ &\leq (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_1(x)})^{-1} (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_2(x)})^{-1} \left\| e^{b_1} - e^{b_2} \right\|_{C(D)} \|f\|_{H^{-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

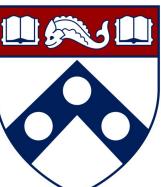
Then by the mean value theorem, $|e^x - e^y| \leq |x - y| (e^x + e^y)$ holds for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Thus,

$$\|u_1(\omega) - u_2(\omega)\|_{H^1} \leq (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_1(x)})^{-1} (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_2(x)})^{-1} (\|e^{b_1}\|_{C(D)} + \|e^{b_2}\|_{C(D)}) \|b_1 - b_2\|_{C(D)} \|f\|_{H^{-1}}.$$

According to [3, Proposition 2.3], all the random variables $\min_{x \in D} e^{b_i(x)}$ and $\|e^{b_i}\|_{C(D)}$, $i = 1, 2$ have any moments of finite order. Then, we obtain the pathwise Lipschitz continuity of the operator G

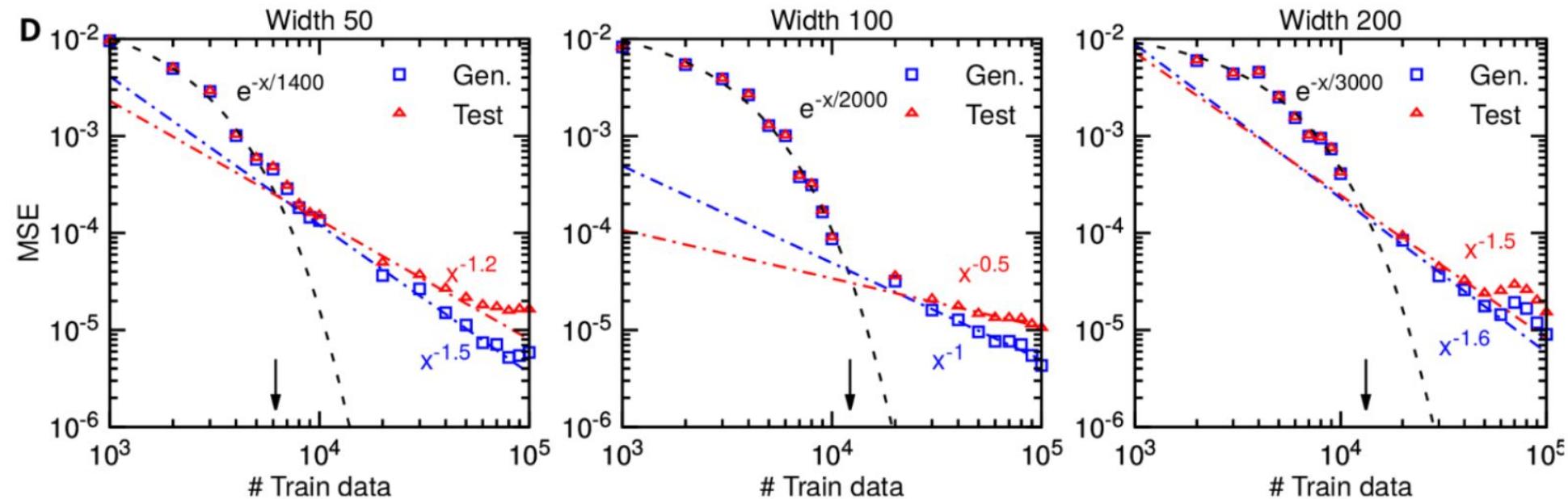
$$\|\mathcal{G}(b_1)(\omega) - \mathcal{G}(b_2)(\omega)\|_{H^1} \leq C(\omega) \|b_1 - b_2\|_{C(D)}.$$

Here $C(\omega) = (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_1(x)})^{-1} (\min_{x \in D} e^{b_2(x)})^{-1} (\|e^{b_1}\|_{C(D)} + \|e^{b_2}\|_{C(D)}) \|f\|_{H^{-1}}$.



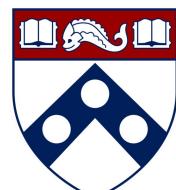
Experiment Results: Gravity Pendulum

$$\frac{ds_1}{dt} = s_2, \quad \frac{ds_2}{dt} = -k \sin s_1 + u(t)$$



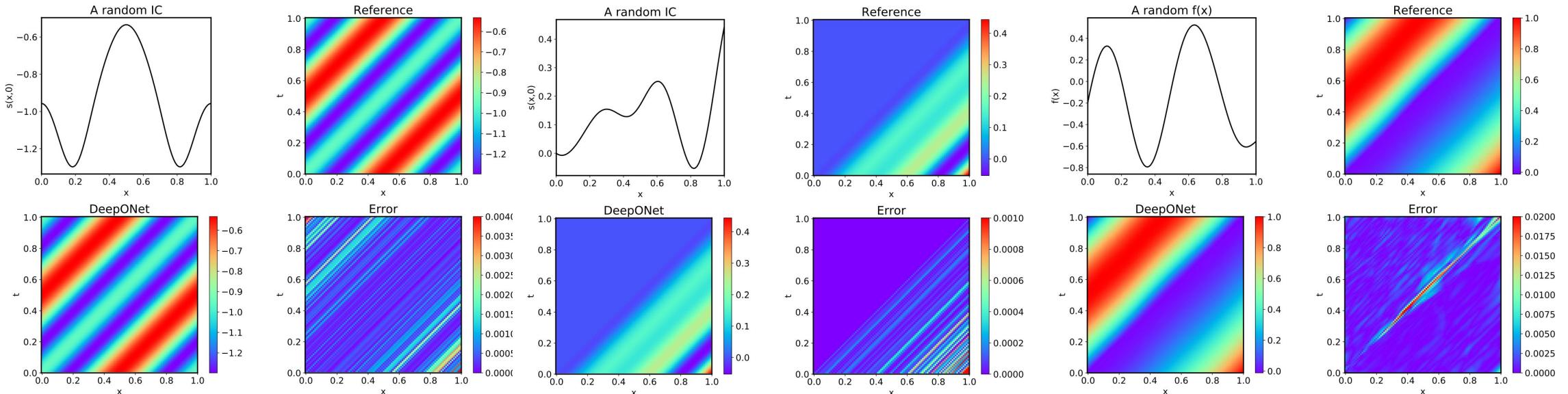
Test/generalization error:

- Small dataset: exponential convergence
- Large dataset: polynomial rates
- Smaller network has earlier transition point



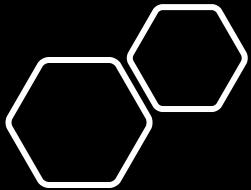
Experiment Results: Advection Equation

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} + a(x) \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} = 0, \quad x \in [0, 1], t \in [0, 1]$$



Case	$a(x)$	IC $s(x, 0)$	BC	Input	Length scale l	Test MSE
I	1	$f(\sin^2(\pi x))$	Periodic	$s(x, 0)$	0.5	$1.8 \times 10^{-6} \pm 4.2 \times 10^{-7}$
II	1	$xf(x)$	$s(0, t) = 0$	$s(x, 0)$	0.2	$3.7 \times 10^{-7} \pm 1.8 \times 10^{-7}$
III	$1 + 0.1 \cdot f(x)$	x^2	$s(0, t) = \sin(\pi t)$	$f(x)$	0.2	$1.6 \times 10^{-5} \pm 6.8 \times 10^{-6}$
IV	$1 + 0.1 \cdot \frac{f(x) + f(1-x)}{2}$	$\sin(2\pi x)$	Periodic	$f(x)$	0.2	$3.2 \times 10^{-5} \pm 1.4 \times 10^{-5}$



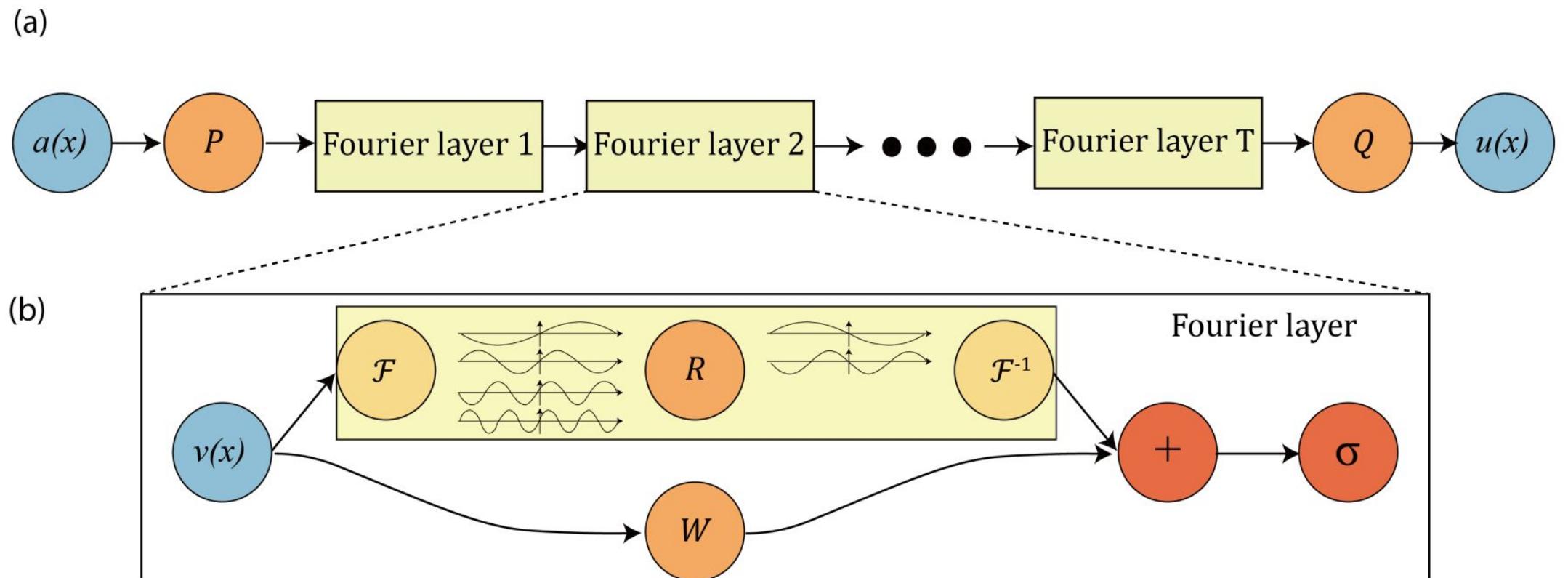


DeepONets for learning operator

- DeepONet
 - 16 ODEs/PDEs (nonlinear, fractional & stochastic) (*Lu et al., Nature Mach Intell, 2021*)
 - Bubble growth dynamics (*Lin, et al., J Chem Phys, 2021; Lin, et al., J Fluid Mech, 2021*)
 - Linear instability waves in high-speed boundary layers (*Di Leoni, et al., arXiv:2105.08697*)
- DeepM&Mnet
 - Electroconvection (*Cai, et al., J Comput Phys, 2021*)
 - Hypersonics (*Mao, et al., J Comput Phys, 2021*)
- Extensions of DeepONet, e.g., POD-DeepONet, MIO-Net, PI-DeepONet, V-DeepONet...



Fourier Neural Operator



Structure of FNO

Step 1: Function value $v(x)$ is lifted to a higher dimensional representation $z_0(x)$ by

$$z_0(x) = P(v(x)) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_z}$$

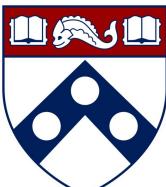
Transformation $P : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_z}$ is a shallow fully-connected NN or simply a linear layer. d_z is like the channel size in CNN.

Step 2: L Fourier layers are applied iteratively to z_0 . z_L is the output of the last Fourier layer, and the dimension of $z_L(x)$ is d_z .

Step 3: Transformation $Q : \mathbb{R}^{d_z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is applied to project $z_L(x)$ to the output by

$$u(x) = Q(z_L(x))$$

Q is parameterized by a fully-connected NN.



Fourier Layer using FFT

For the output of the l th Fourier layer z_l with d_v channels:

Step 1: Compute the transform by FFT \mathcal{F} and inverse FFT \mathcal{F}^{-1} :

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}(R_l \cdot \mathcal{F}(z_l))$$

\mathcal{F} is applied to each channel of z_l separately. Truncate the higher modes of $\mathcal{F}(z_l)$, keeping only the first k Fourier modes in each channel. So $\mathcal{F}(z_l)$ has the shape $d_v \times k$.

Step 2: Apply a different (complex-number) weight matrix of shape $d_v \times d_v$ for each mode index of $\mathcal{F}(z_l)$. Have k trainable matrices, which form a weight tensor $R_l \in \mathbb{C}^{d_v \times d_v \times k}$. $R_l \cdot \mathcal{F}(z_l)$ has the same shape of $d_v \times k$ as $\mathcal{F}(z_l)$.

Step 3: Inverse FFT Need to append zeros to $R_l \cdot \mathcal{F}(z_l)$ to fill in the truncated modes.

Moreover, in each Fourier layer, a residual connection with a weight matrix $W_l \in \mathbb{R}^{d_v \times d_v}$. The output of the $(l+1)$ th Fourier layer z_{l+1} is $z_{l+1} = \sigma(\mathcal{F}^{-1}(R_l \cdot \mathcal{F}(z_l)) + W_l \cdot z_l + b_l)$.



DeepONet and FNO

Then $u(x, t)$ is a rational function in $\mathbf{V}_m := (V_0, V_1, \dots, V_{m-1})^\top$. By [Telgarsky 2017], there exists $\tilde{g}^N(\mathbf{V}_m; \theta_{x,t})$ of size $O(m^2 \ln(\epsilon^{-1}))$ for fixed x, t s.t.

$$\sup_{u_0 \in S} |\tilde{g}^N(\mathbf{V}_m; \theta_{x,t}) - G(u_0)| \leq C\epsilon$$

$$S := \{v : \|v\|_{L^\infty} \leq M_0, \|\partial_x v\|_{L^\infty} \leq M_1\}$$

- $\tilde{g}^N(\mathbf{V}_m; \theta_{x,t})$ can be further approximated by a ReLU network
- $g^N(\mathbf{u}_{0,m}; \Theta_{x,t})$ with input $\mathbf{u}_{0,m}$ (initial values).
- $g^N(\mathbf{u}_{0,m}; \Theta_{x,t})$ can be viewed as FNO.
- $g^N(\mathbf{u}_{0,m}; \Theta_{x,t})$ can serve as the branch of the DeepONet

$\sum_{k=1}^p g^N(\mathbf{u}_{0,m}; \Theta_{x_k, t}) L_k$, where x_k 's are Fourier collocation points and $L_k(x)$'s are the Lagrange basis.

Conclusion

- Take $\epsilon = m^{-1}$ (accuracy), the size of FNO is $O(m^3 \ln(m))$ while the size of DeepONet is $O(m^3 \ln(m))$ (branch) $+ O(m)$ (trunk).
- In general, we connect FNO $F^N(v)$ and DeepONet by

$$G^v(v)(x) = \sum_{k=1}^m F^N(v)(x_k) L_k(x)$$

Conclusion

- Take $\epsilon = m^{-1}$ (accuracy), the size of FNO is $O(m^3 \ln(m))$ while the size of DeepONet is $O(m^3 \ln(m))$ (branch) $+ O(m)$ (trunk).

Consider the Burgers' equation $u_t + uu_x = \kappa u_{xx}$ with periodic boundary condition $u(x - \pi, t) = u(x + \pi, t), x \in R$. Then, by the Cole-Hopf transformation,

$$u(x, t) =: G(u_0) = \frac{-2\kappa \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}} \partial_x \mathcal{K}(x, y, t) v_0(y) dy}{\int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{K}(x, y, t) v_0(y) dy}$$

$$\approx \frac{-2\kappa \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{K}(x, y, t) v_0(y) dy}{\int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{K}(x, y, t) (\mathcal{I}_m v_0)(y) dy}$$

$$= \frac{V_0 c_0^1 + V_1 c_1^1 + \dots + V_{m-1} c_{m-1}^1}{V_0 c_0^2 + V_1 c_1^2 + \dots + V_{m-1} c_{m-1}^2}$$

where \mathcal{K} is the heat kernel, \mathcal{I}_m is the Fourier interpolation operator and

$$V_0 = 1, V_j = \exp \left(- \sum_k \int_0^{x_j} L_k(y) dy \frac{u_0(y_k)}{2\kappa} \right), j = 1, \dots, m-1$$

$$c_j^1(x, t) = -2\kappa_i \int_0^x \left(\sum_l \partial_x \mathcal{K}(x, y + 2\pi l, t) \right) L_j(y) dy$$

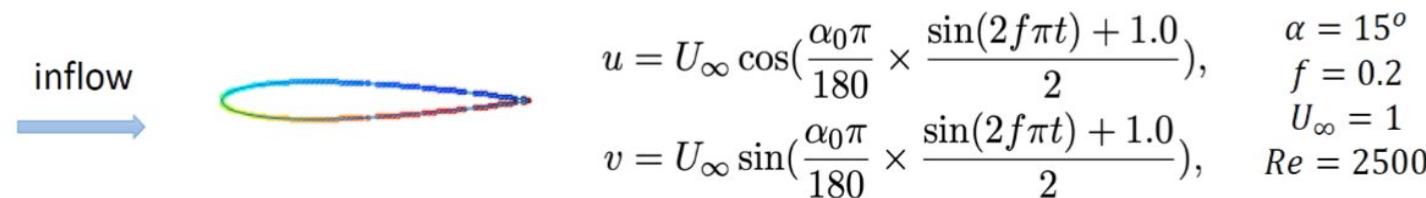
$$c_j^2(x, t) = \int_0^x \left(\sum_j \mathcal{K}(x, y + 2\pi l, t) \right) L_j(y) dy$$



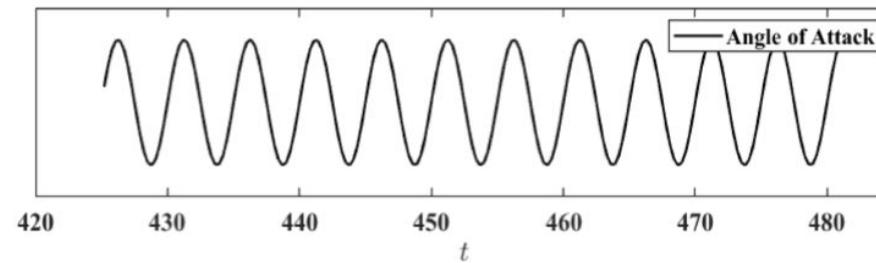
Applications of Neural Operators

DeepONet for Approximating Functionals: Predicting unsteady pressure and lift/drag-force coefficients

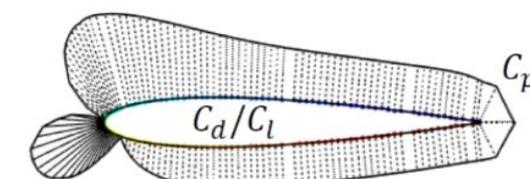
- Simulation of NACA0012 airfoil (Nektar by Z. Wang)



- Generate time-dependent AOA



predict



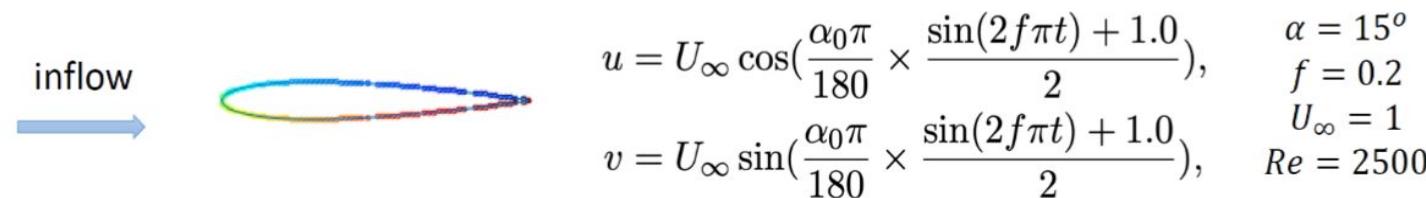
- Time-dependent coefficients of drag, lift, pressure



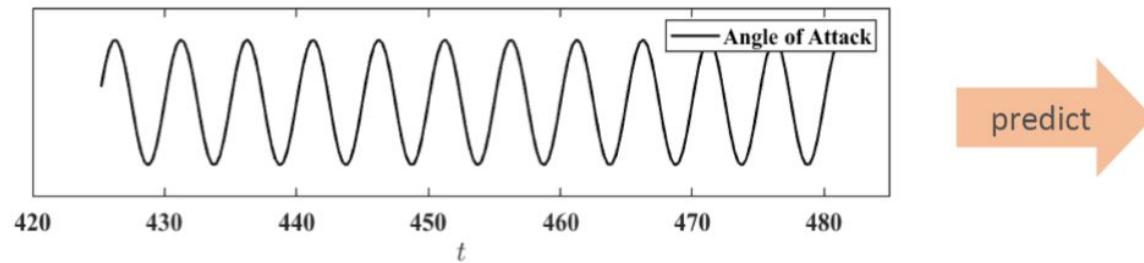
Applications of Neural Operators

DeepONet for Approximating Functionals: Predicting unsteady pressure and lift/drag-force coefficients

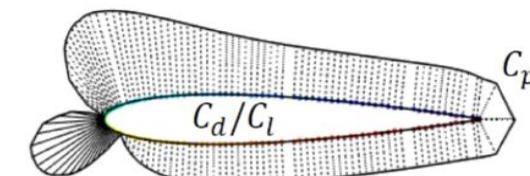
- Simulation of NACA0012 airfoil (Nektar by Z. Wang)



- Generate time-dependent AOA



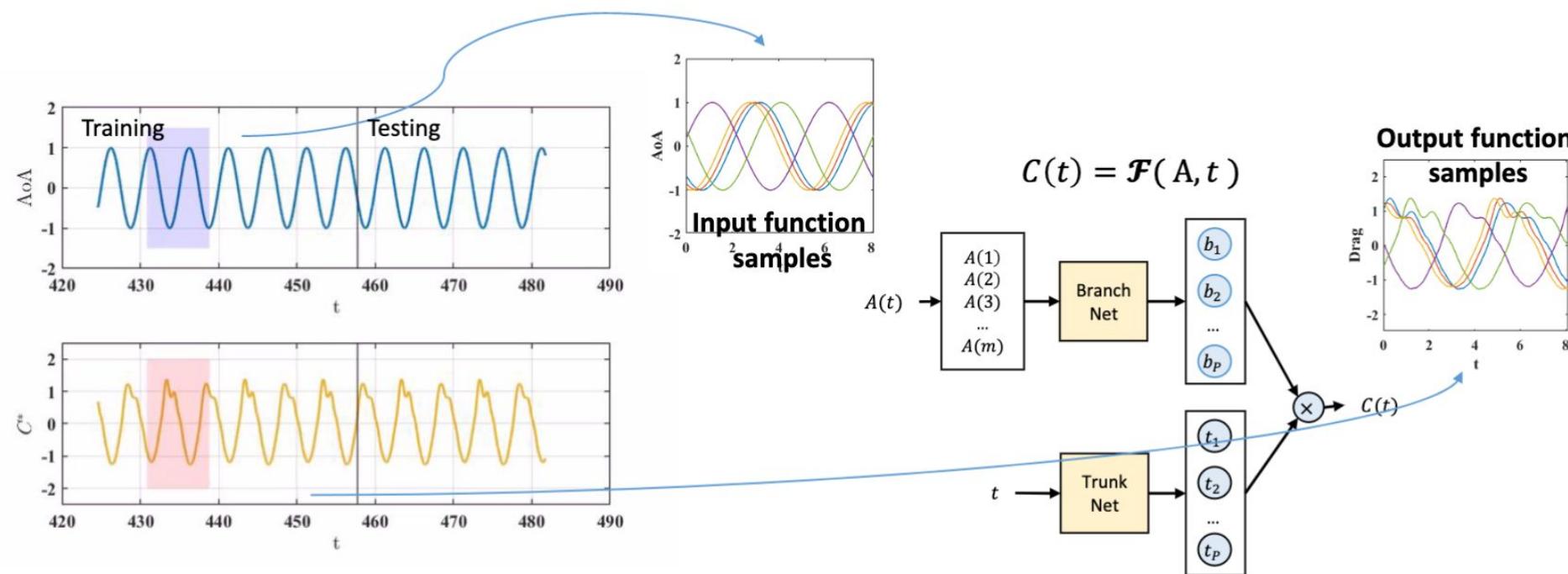
- Time-dependent coefficients of drag, lift, pressure



Applications of Neural Operators

DeepONet for Approximating Functionals: Predicting unsteady pressure and lift/drag-force coefficients

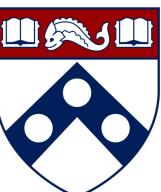
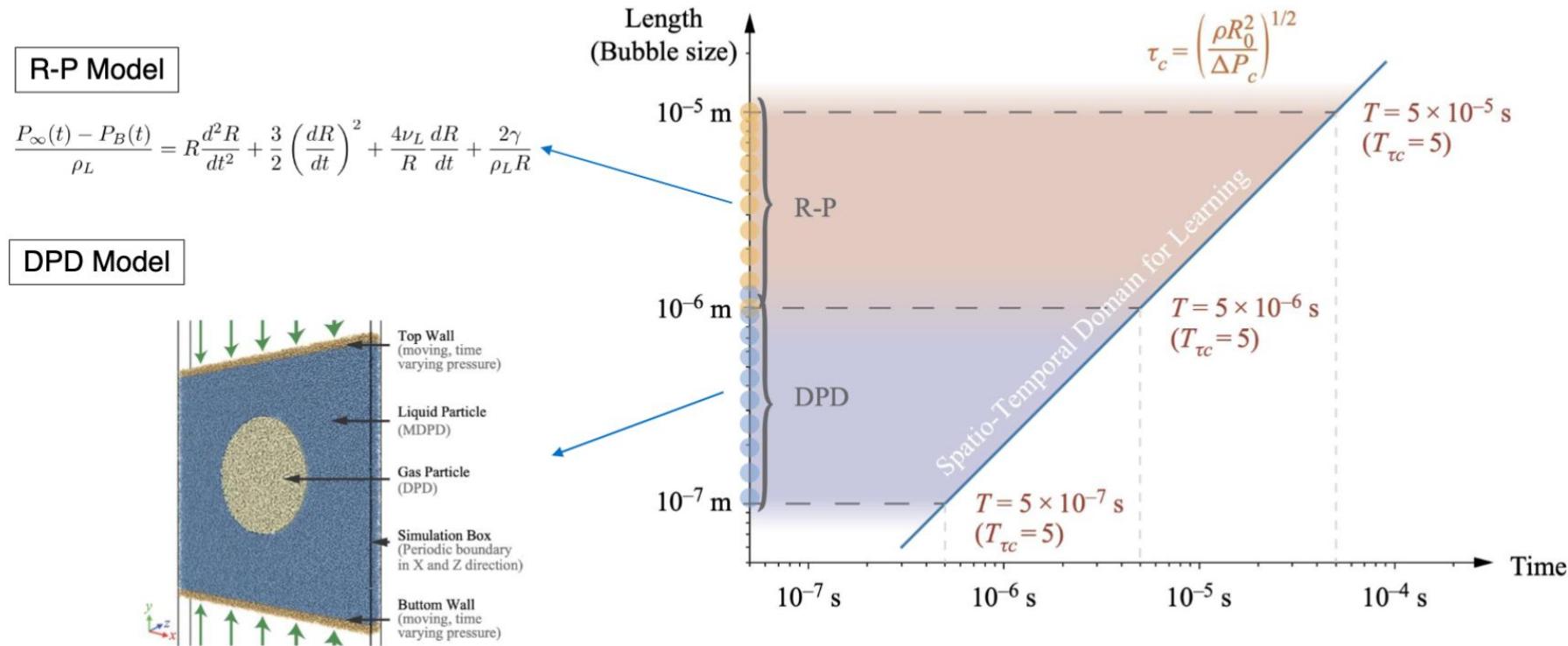
- Predicting drag/lift coefficient
- Cut the time-dependent signal into pieces, to generate a bunch of input-output pairs



Applications of Neural Operators

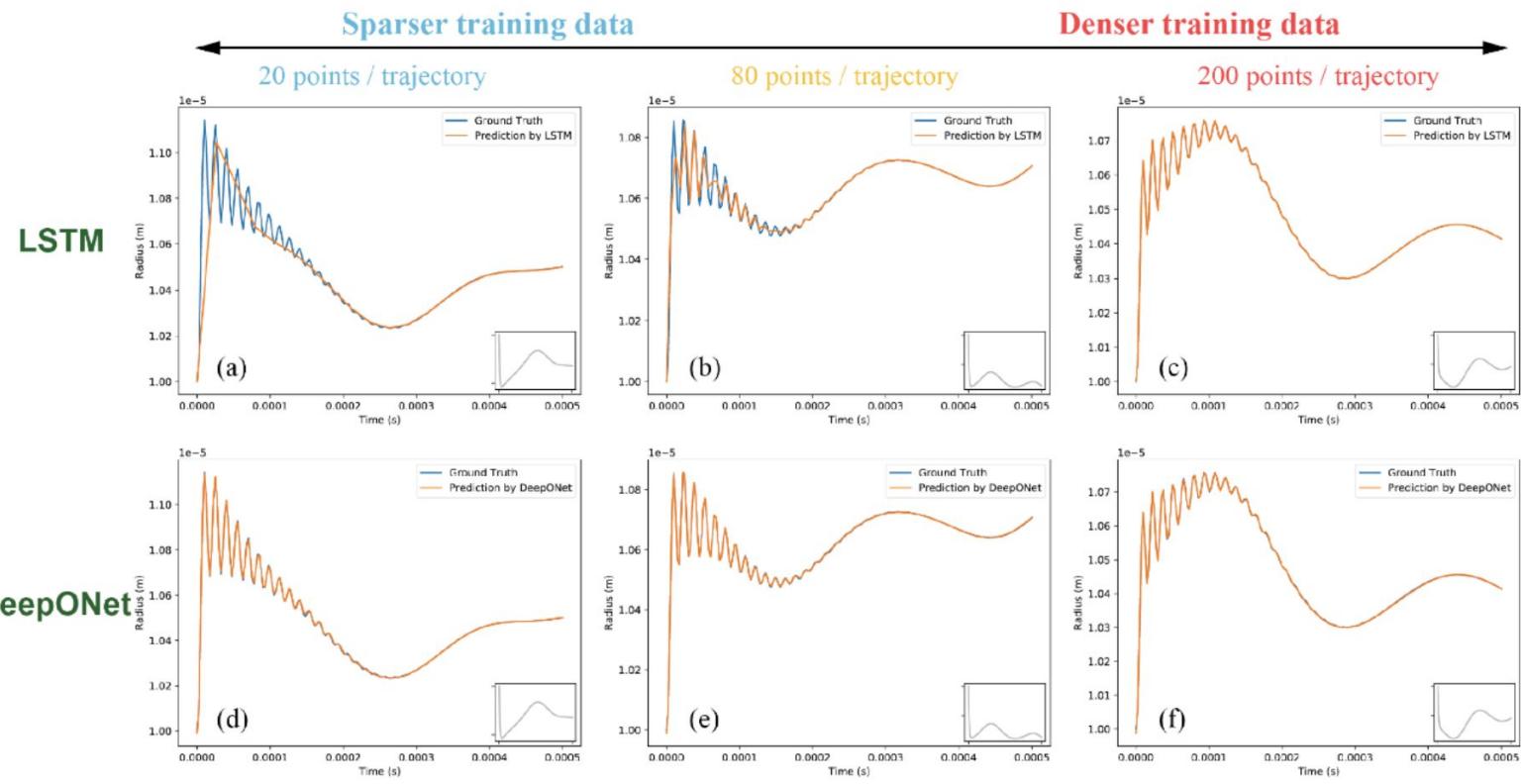
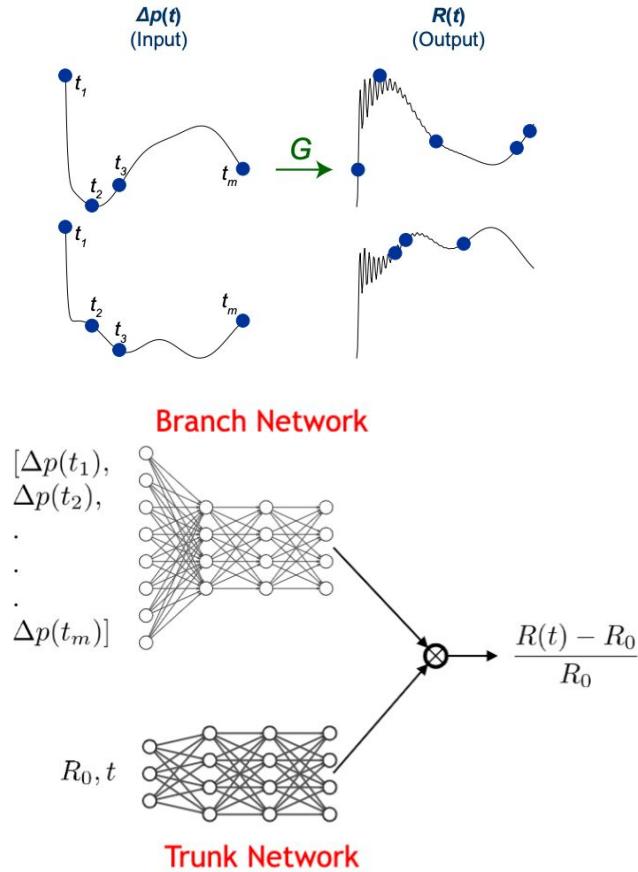
DeepONet for Bubble Dynamics

- Rayleigh-Plesset equation is an ordinary differential equation which governs the dynamics of a spherical bubble in an infinite body of incompressible fluid
- For nanobubbles, the thermal fluctuation cannot be ignored, and training data are generated by particle simulation



Applications of Neural Operators

DeepONet for Bubble Dynamics



References

- Cai S, Wang Z, Lu L, Zaki TA, Karniadakis GE. DeepM&Mnet: Inferring the electroconvection multiphysics fields based on operator approximation by neural networks. *Journal of Computational Physics*. 2021 Jul 1;436:110296.
- Goswami S, Yin M, Yu Y, Karniadakis GE. A physics-informed variational DeepONet for predicting crack path in quasi-brittle materials. *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*. 2022 Mar 1;391:114587.
- Lanthaler S, Mishra S, Karniadakis GE. Error estimates for deeponets: A deep learning framework in infinite dimensions. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2102.09618*. 2021 Feb 18.
- Li Z, Kovachki N, Azizzadenesheli K, Liu B, Bhattacharya K, Stuart A, Anandkumar A. Fourier neural operator for parametric partial differential equations. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2010.08895*. 2020 Oct 18.
- Lu L, Jin P, Pang G, Zhang Z, Karniadakis GE. Learning nonlinear operators via DeepONet based on the universal approximation theorem of operators. *Nature Machine Intelligence*. 2021 Mar;3(3):218-29.
- Lu L, Meng X, Cai S, Mao Z, Goswami S, Zhang Z, Karniadakis GE. A comprehensive and fair comparison of two neural operators (with practical extensions) based on FAIR data. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2111.05512*. 2021 Nov 10.
- Mao Z, Lu L, Marxen O, Zaki TA, Karniadakis GE. DeepM&Mnet for hypersonics: Predicting the coupled flow and finite-rate chemistry behind a normal shock using neural-network approximation of operators. *Journal of Computational Physics*. 2021 Dec 15;447:110698.





THANK YOU

