

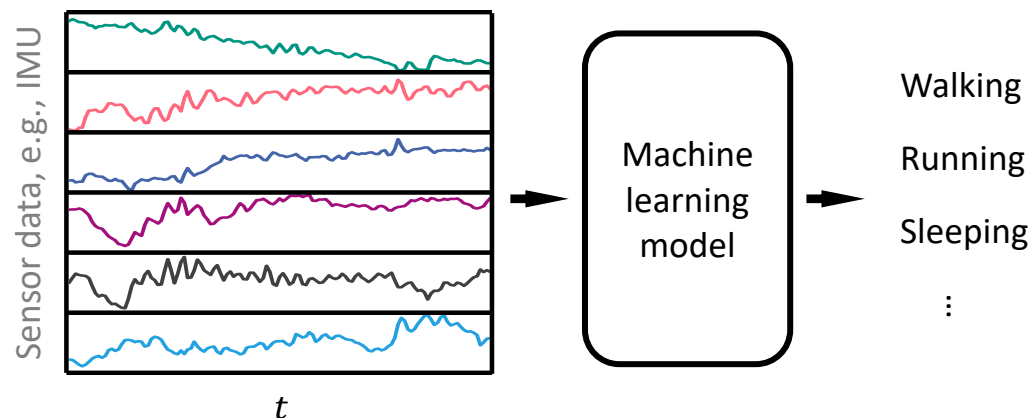
# Improving Human Activity Recognition Models by Learnable Sparse Wavelet Layer

**Haibin Zhao**, Yexu Zhou✉, Till Riedel, Michael Hefenbrock, and Michael Beigl

TECO Research Group  
Chair of Pervasive Computing Systems  
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)  
Karlsruhe, Germany

# Background

- Human activity recognition (HAR)



- State-of-the-art HAR models
  - DeepConvLSTM: conv + lstm
  - SA-HAR: conv + attention
  - MCNN: conv

# Problems

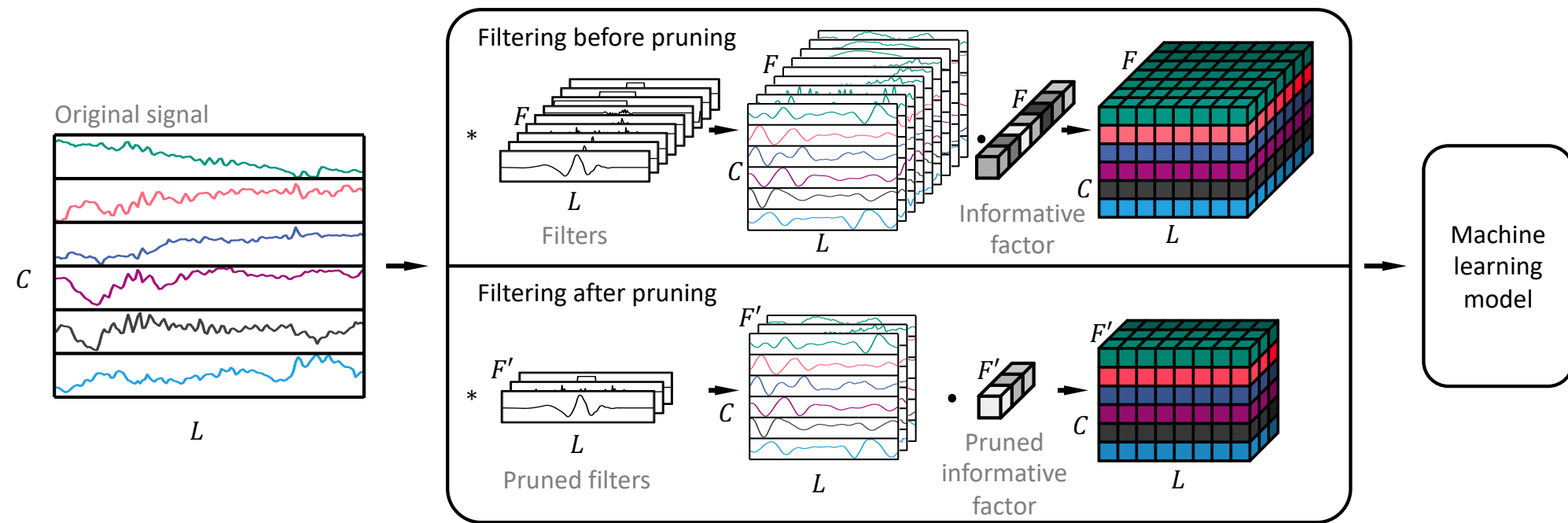
- Convolutional kernel
  - random initialization
  - training-data-oriented optimization
  - discouraged from exploring the search space
  - lost general properties for signal filtering
  - overfitting

# Solution

- Wavelet
  - designed by expert knowledge
  - non-data driven
  - expressive
  - critical properties for filtering
    - bi-orthogonality
    - energy conservation
    - ...
- Convolutional kernel
  - random initialization
  - training-data-oriented optimization
  - discouraged from exploring the search space
  - lost general properties for signal filtering
  - overfitting
- Hypothesis

By combining wavelets with HAR models, the performance can be improved.

# Learnable Sparse Wavelet Layer

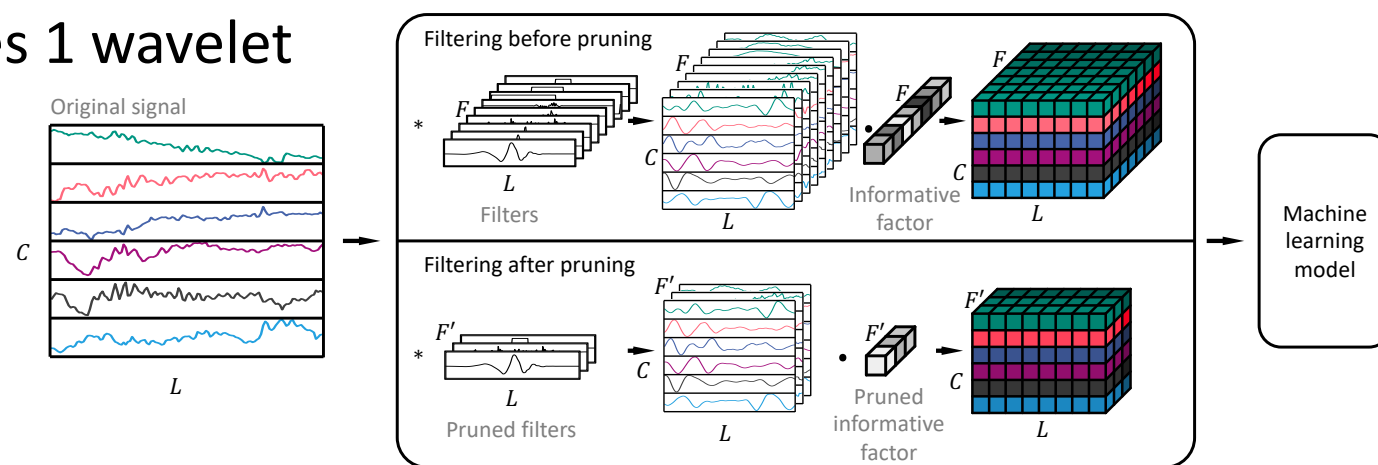
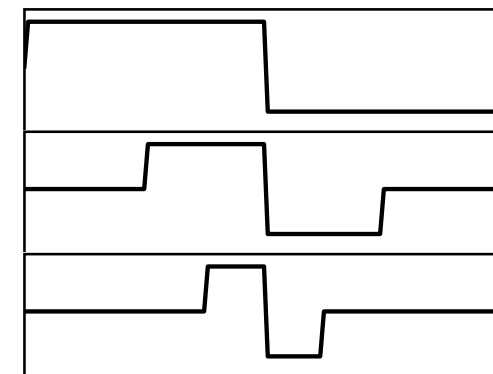


Pipeline of the learnable sparse wavelet layer.

# Learnable Sparse Wavelet Layer

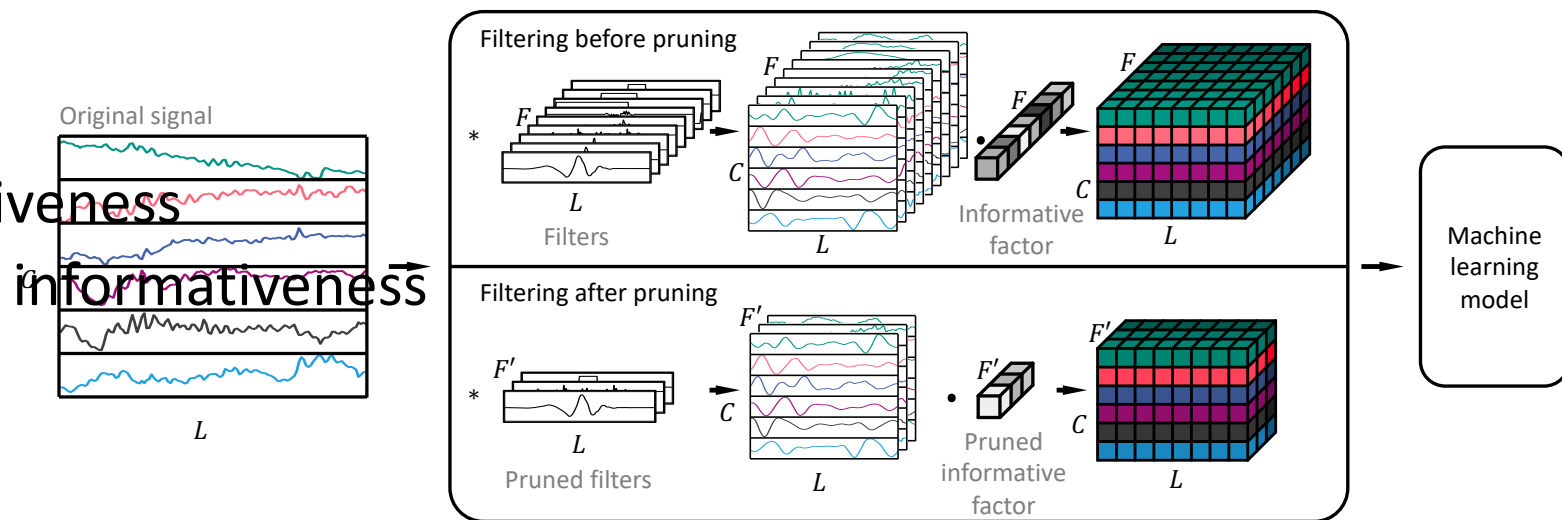
- Prepare mother wavelets
  - select all 127 discrete wavelets provided by PyWavelet<sup>1</sup>
  - re-sampling to the same length as sliding window in dataset
- Remove wavelets with high similarity (correlation)
  - e.g., Haar-wavelet = Daubechies 1 wavelet
- Temporal scaling factor
  - down sampling
  - zero padding
- Informativeness
  - filtered signal will be multiplied by the informative factor

Haar-wavelet

[1] <https://pywavelets.readthedocs.io/>

# Learnable Sparse Wavelet Layer

- Prepare mother wavelets
- Remove wavelets with high similarity (correlation)
- Temporal scaling factor
- Informativeness
- Filter pruning
  - $\ell_1$  penalty on informativeness
  - remove filters with low informativeness
  - fine tuning

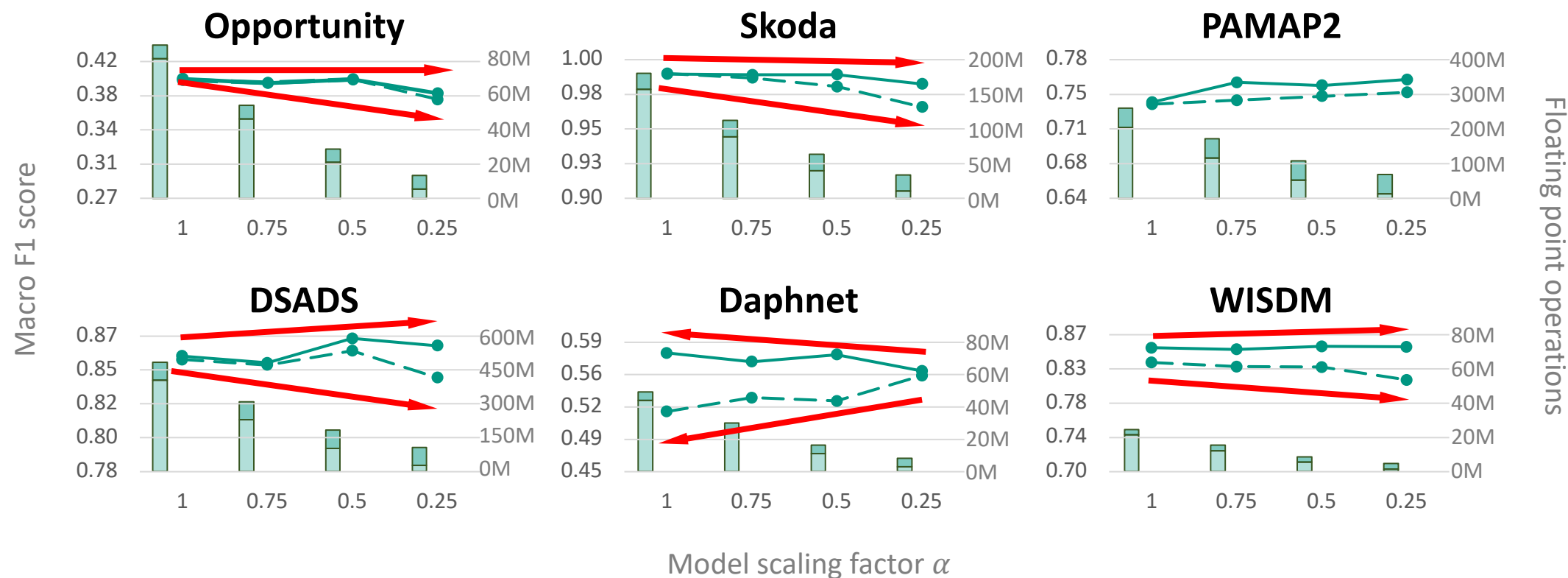


# Experiment

- Benchmark datasets
  - Opportunity, Skoda, PAMAP2, DSADS, Daphnet, WISDM
- Baseline HAR models
  - DeepConvLSTM, SA-HAR, MCNN
- Model size scaling
  - 1, 0.75, 0.5, 0.25
- Setup
  - Baseline, Learnable Sparse Wavelet Layer (F=50), Learnable Wavelet Layer
- Metric
  - Macro F1 Score, Floating point operations



# Result

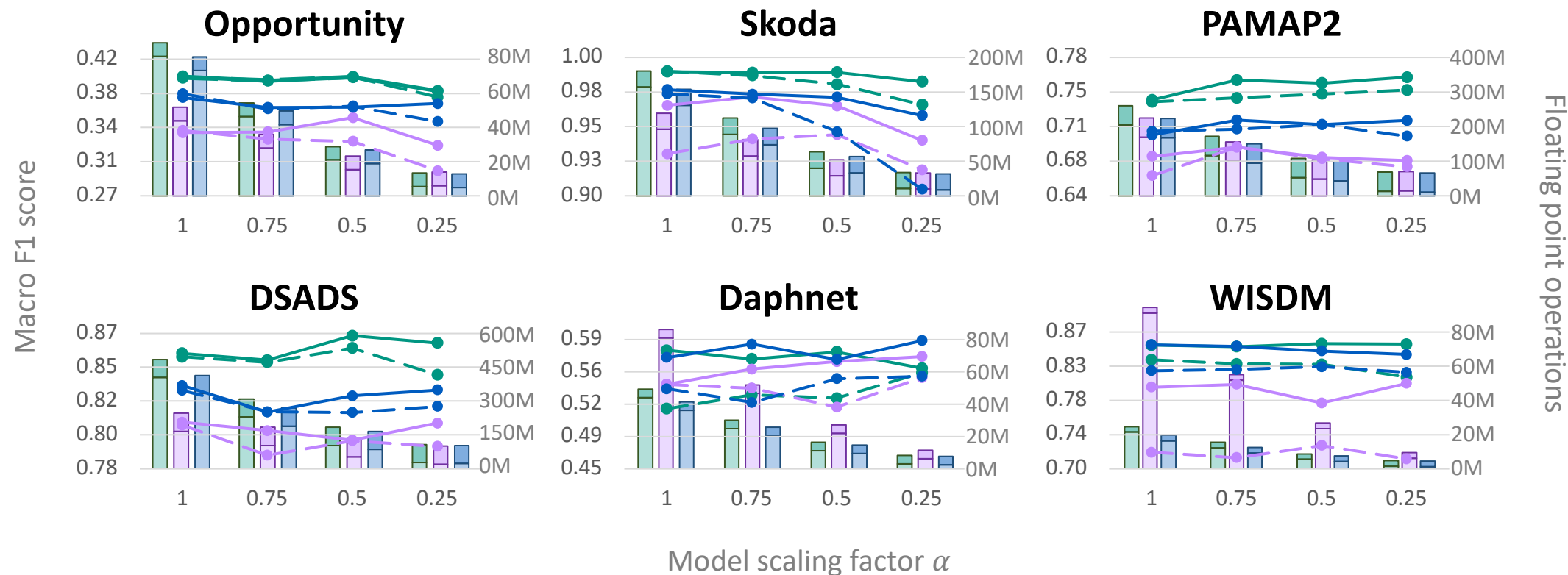


Models: DeepConvLSTM

Linetypes: baseline (solid line), sparse wavelet (dashed line)

FLOP: baseline (light gray bar), sparse wavelet (dark gray bar)

# Result



Models:

DeepConvLSTM

SA-HAR

MCNN

Linetypes:

baseline

—●—

sparse wavelet

- -●- -

FLOP:

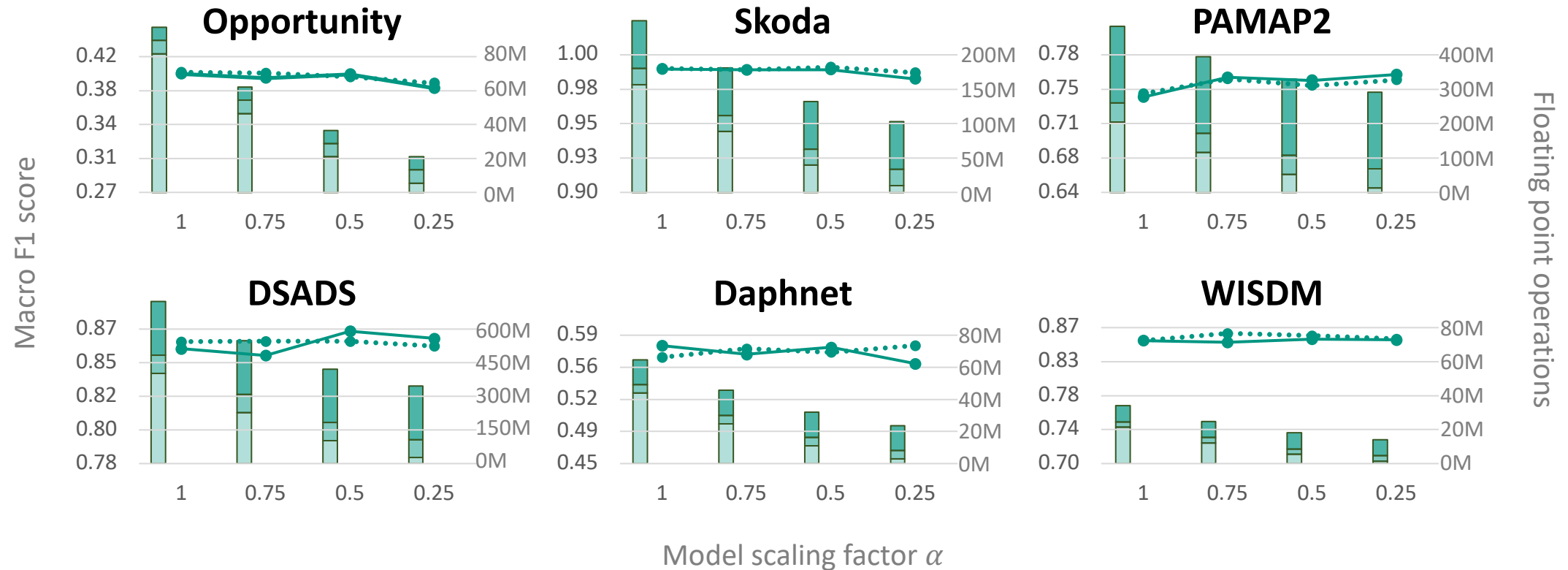
baseline



sparse wavelet



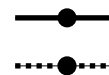
# Result



Models: DeepConvLSTM

Linetypes:

sparse wavelet  
wavelet



FLOP:

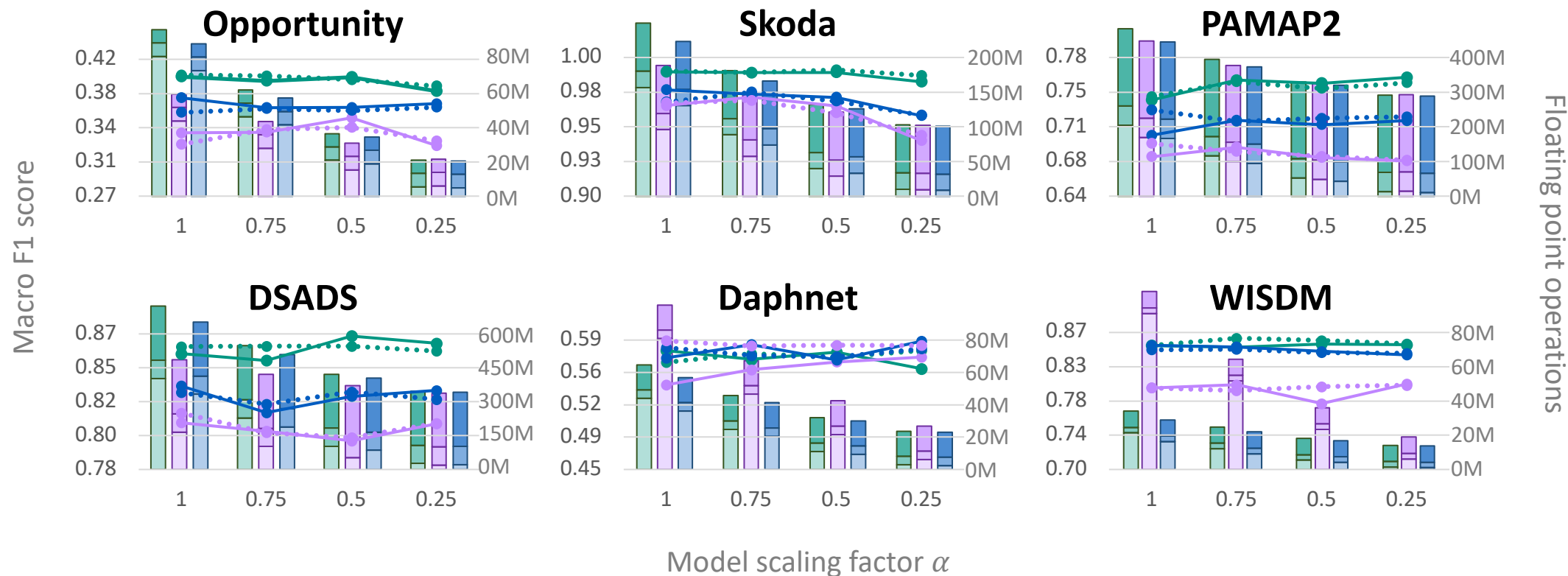
baseline

sparse wavelet

wavelet



# Result



Models:

DeepConvLSTM

SA-HAR

MCNN

Linetypes:

sparse wavelet  
wavelet

FLOP:

baseline

sparse wavelet

wavelet

# Discussion

- The learnable sparse wavelet layer
  - improves the overall performance of the HAR models
  - mitigates the overfitting of HAR models with large size
  - compensates the feature extraction of HAR models with small size
- The improvement is more significant when the model is smaller
  - suitable for portable and wearable devices

Thank you for your attention