# Binaural Scene Classification with Time-Frequency Scattering and Deep Convolutional Networks

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Abstract—The abstract goes here.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Fine-grained classification of acoustic scenes is only made possible by integrating signal information over a long temporal context. Whereas a few seconds are often sufficient to recognize a speaker, a musical instrument, or a genre, it may require up to 30 seconds to disambiguate closely related acoustic scenes.

## II. TIME-FREQUENCY SCATTERING

Let  $\psi[t]$  an analytic band-pass filter of dimensionless frequency 1 and bandwidth 1/Q. A filter bank of wavelets is built by dilating  $\psi$  according to a geometric sequence of scales  $2^{-k_1/Q}$ , where the log-frequency index  $k_1$  takes integer values. We denote by  $\psi_{k_1}[t]$  the resulting wavelets. In all subsequent experiments,  $\psi$  is designed as a Gammatone wavelet of quality factor Q=4, so as to approximate the properties of the human cochlea. The wavelet transform of an audio signal x[t] is obtained by convolution with all wavelets:  $y_1[t,k_1]=(x^*\psi_{k_1})[t]$ . Applying pointwise complex modulus to  $y_1$  yields the wavelet scalogram  $x_1[t,k_1]=|y_1[t,k_1]|$ , also called constant-Q transform (CQT), indexed by time t and log-frequency  $k_1$ .

Time-frequency scattering consists in convolving  $x_2[t,k_1]$  with a family of two-dimensional wavelets  $\Psi_{k_2}[t,k_1]$ , where the index  $k_2$  encapsulate two values, i.e. a temporal scale  $\alpha$  and a log-frequential scale  $\beta$ . The temporal scale  $\alpha$  takes 5 values between 23 ms and 370 ms according to a geometric sequence. The log-frequential scale  $\beta$  takes 5 values between  $1/4^{\rm th}$  of an octave and 4 octaves, as well as their 5 "mirror" frequencies, according to a geometric sequence. In addition, the edge case  $\beta=\infty$  corresponds to a log-frequential low-pass filter along 4 octaves according to all 5 temporal scales  $\alpha$ . Finally, the edge case  $(\alpha,\beta)=(\infty,0)$  coresponds to a temporal moving average  $\phi[t]$  along 370 ms without any transformation of the log-frequency axis. In sum, there are  $5\times 5\times 2+5+1=56$  time-frequency scattering features for every time t and log-frequency  $k_1$ .

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The time-frequency scattering coefficients are thus defined as

$$y_{2}[t, k_{1}, k_{2}] = (x_{1}^{t, k_{1}} \Psi_{k_{2}})[t, k_{1}]$$

$$= \sum_{\tau, \kappa_{1}} x_{1}[t - \tau, k_{1} - \kappa_{1}] \Psi_{k_{2}}[\tau, \kappa_{1}]. \quad (1)$$

For some index  $k_2$  involving a temporal scale  $\alpha$ , applying pointwise complex modulus to  $\mathbf{y_2}[t,k_1,k_2]$  provides translation-invariant coefficients as long as the amount of translation does not exceed  $\alpha$ . To increase the amount of invariance to translation, we apply the low-pass filter  $\boldsymbol{\phi}[t]$  to the moduli, hence bringing all coefficients to the same sample rate.

$$x_2[t, k_1, k_2] = |y_2[t, k_1, k_2]| * \phi[t]$$
 (2)

# III. DEEP CONVOLUTIONAL NETWORKS

Each layer in a convolutional network typically consists in the composition of three operations: two-dimensional convolutions, application of a pointwise nonlinearity, and local pooling.

$$y_{3}[t, k_{1}, k_{3}] = \sum_{k_{2}} b_{3}[k_{2}, k_{3}] + \mathbf{W}_{3}[t, k_{1}, k_{2}, k_{3}] * x_{2}[t, k_{1}, k_{2}].$$
(3)

We apply the rectified linear unit (ReLU) nonlinearity, with a rectifying slope of  $\nu=0.3$  for negative inputs.

$$\mathbf{y_3^+}[t, k_1, k_3] = \begin{cases} \nu \, \mathbf{y_3}[t, k_1, k_3] & \text{if } \mathbf{y_3}[t, k_1, k_3] < 0 \\ \mathbf{y_3}[t, k_1, k_3] & \text{if } \mathbf{y_3}[t, k_1, k_3] \ge 0 \end{cases}$$
(4)

At the pooling step, we retain the maximal activation among neighboring units in the time-frequency domain  $(t, k_1)$  over non-overlapping rectangles of width  $\Delta t$  and height  $\Delta k_1$ .

$$\boldsymbol{x_3}[t, k_1, k_3] = \max_{\substack{0 \le \tau < \Delta t \\ 0 < \kappa_1 < \Delta k_1}} \left\{ \boldsymbol{y_3^+}[t - \tau, k_1 - \kappa_1, k_3] \right\}$$
 (5)

The hidden units in  $x_3$  are in turn fed to a second layer of convolutions, ReLU, and pooling.

$$\boldsymbol{x}[t] = r \times \boldsymbol{x}^{\mathsf{L}}[t] + (1 - r) \times \boldsymbol{x}^{\mathsf{R}}[t],\tag{6}$$

where r is drawn uniformly at random in the interval [0, 1].

### IV. CONCLUSION

The conclusion goes here.