

# Invariance and Stability of Deep Convolutional Representations

Alberto Bietti   Julien Mairal   -   Inria Grenoble



## Understanding Deep Convolutional Representations

**Are they stable to deformations?**

**How can we achieve invariance to transformation groups?**

**Do they preserve signal information?**

**How can we measure model complexity?**

**Kernel approach: construct functional space containing CNNs.**

**Why?** Separate learning from representation:  $f(x) = \langle f, \Phi(x) \rangle$

•  $\Phi(x)$ : CNN **architecture** (stability, invariance, signal preservation)

•  $f$ : CNN **model**, learning, generalization through  $\|f\|$

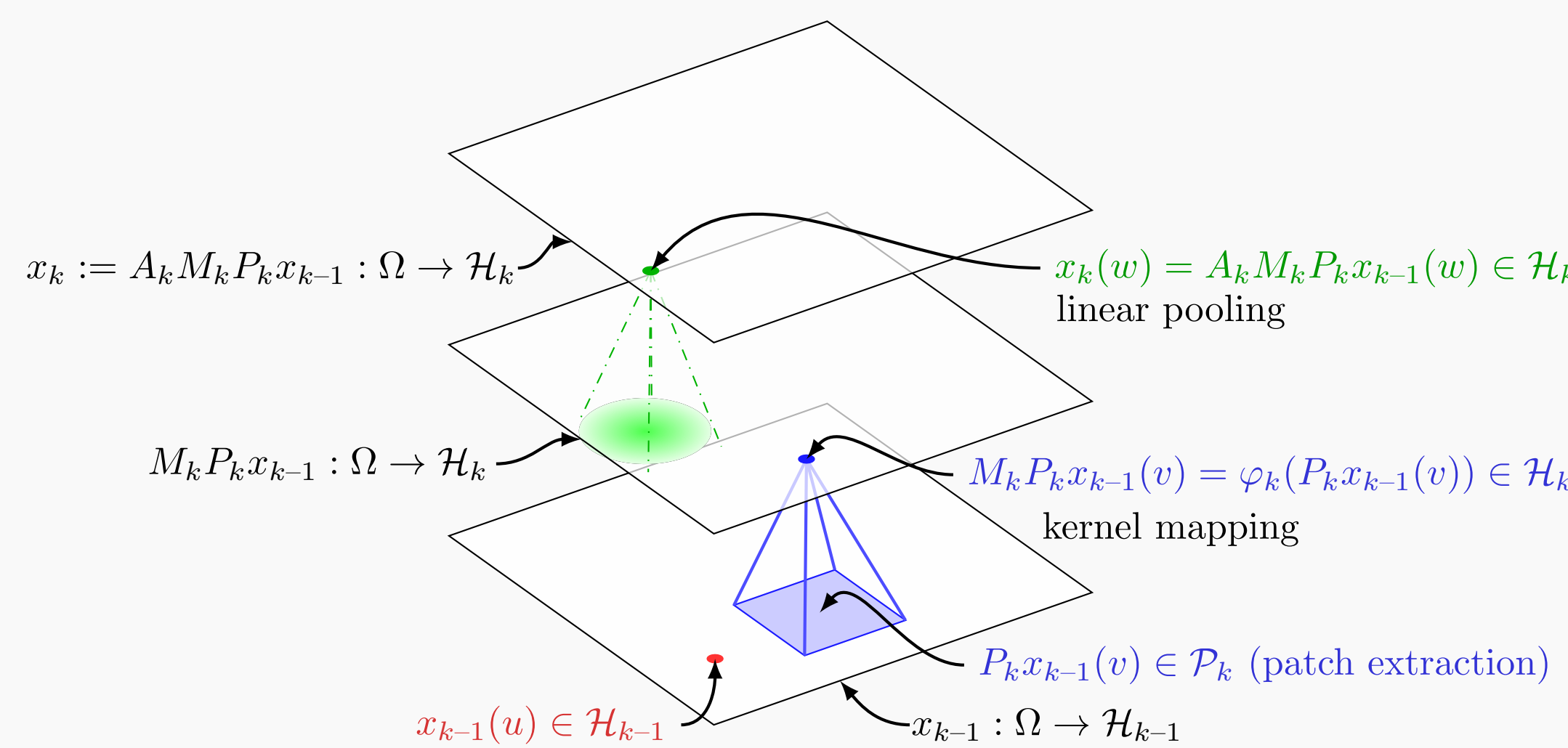
$$|f(x) - f(x')| \leq \|f\| \cdot \|\Phi(x) - \Phi(x')\|$$

•  $\|f\|$  **controls both stability and generalization!**

→ discriminating small deformations requires large  $\|f\|$

→ learning stable functions is “easier”

## Deep Convolutional Kernel Representation based on CKNs



•  $x_0 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0$ : initial (**continuous**) signal

- $u \in \Omega = \mathbb{R}^d$ : location ( $d = 2$  for images)
- $x_0(u) \in \mathcal{H}_0$ : value ( $\mathcal{H}_0 = \mathbb{R}^3$  for RGB images)

•  $x_k : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_k$ : **feature map** at layer  $k$

$$x_k = A_k M_k P_k x_{k-1}$$

**Patch extraction operator  $P_k$ .**

Extract small patch of feature map  $x_{k-1}$  around each point  $u$ .

$$\|P_k x\| = \|x\|$$

**Non-linear mapping operator  $M_k$ .**

Pointwise non-linearity  $\varphi_k$  to each patch (kernel map).

$$\|M_k x\| \leq \|x\| \quad \text{and} \quad \|M_k x - M_k x'\| \leq \|x - x'\|$$

Holds for (tractable) **CKN approximations** by projection. [Mairal, 2016]

(Also holds for generic CNNs with spectral norm factor.)

**Pooling operator  $A_k$ .**

Linear Gaussian pooling at scale  $\sigma_k$  (typically exponential in  $k$ ).

$$\|A_k x\| \leq \|x\|$$

**Multilayer construction.**

$$x_n := A_n M_n P_n A_{n-1} M_{n-1} P_{n-1} \cdots A_1 M_1 P_1 x_0 \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H}_n)$$

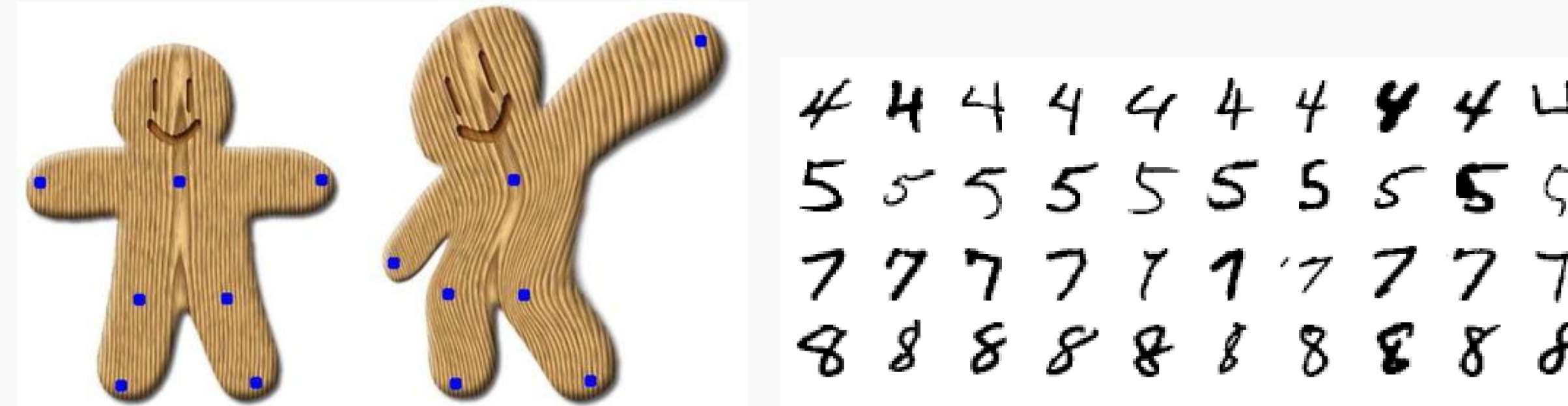
Assume  $x_0 = A_0 x$  (**anti-aliasing**), since  $x_0$  is typically discrete

## Invariance and Stability to Deformations

**Deformations = ?**

•  $L_\tau x(u) = x(u - \tau(u))$ : action of diffeomorphism  $\tau : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$

• Much richer group of transformations than translations



**Definition of stability.** [Mallat, 2012; Bruna and Mallat, 2013]

$\Phi(\cdot)$  is **stable to deformations** if

$$\|\Phi(L_\tau x) - \Phi(x)\| \leq \underbrace{(C \|\nabla \tau\|_\infty)}_{\text{deformation}} + \underbrace{C' \|\tau\|_\infty}_{\text{translation}} \|x\|$$

**Translation invariance.**  $L_c x(u) = x(u - c)$

•  $P_k, M_k, A_k$  commute with  $L_c$ :  $\square L_c = L_c \square$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Phi(L_c x) - \Phi(x)\| &= \|\underbrace{L_c}_{\text{blue}} \Phi(x) - \Phi(x)\| \\ &\leq \|L_c A_n - A_n\| \cdot \|x\| \end{aligned}$$

• Mallat [2012]:  $\|L_\tau A_n - A_n\| \leq \frac{C_2}{\sigma_n} \|\tau\|_\infty$

• **Group invariance:** have  $P_k, A_k$  commute with  $L_g x(u) = x(g^{-1}u)$

• similar to [Cohen and Welling, 2016]

• only need global pooling at last layer for global invariance

**Stability to deformations.**

•  $P_k$  and  $A_k$  do not commute with  $L_\tau \rightarrow$  study commutator  $[\square, L_\tau]$

•  $[P_k, L_\tau]$  unstable at high frequencies  $\rightarrow$  adapt to current resolution

• We show: if  $\sup_{u \in S_k} |u| \leq \kappa \sigma_{k-1}$

$$\|[P_k A_{k-1}, L_\tau]\| \leq C_1 \|\nabla \tau\|_\infty$$

•  $C_1$  grows as  $\kappa^{d+1} \Rightarrow$  more stable with **small patches** (e.g. 3x3)

**Theorem (Stability)**

Let  $\Phi_n(x) := A_n M_n P_n A_{n-1} M_{n-1} P_{n-1} \cdots A_1 M_1 P_1 A_0 x$ .

If  $\|\nabla \tau\|_\infty \leq 1/2$ ,

$$\|\Phi_n(L_\tau x) - \Phi_n(x)\| \leq \left( C_1 (1 + n) \|\nabla \tau\|_\infty + \frac{C_2}{\sigma_n} \|\tau\|_\infty \right) \|x\|$$

**Controlling stability.**

• Full kernel method:  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_K}$  (regularizer)

• CKN:  $\|w_{n+1}\|_2, \ell_2$  norm of last layer (regularizer)

• CNN:  $\|w_{n+1}\|_2 \cdot \Pi_k \|W_k\|_2$  (??)

## Signal Preservation for Kernel Representation

• Signal is preserved if discretized with subsampling  $\leq$  patch size

• Recovery via linear measurements (need full kernel representation)

• For CKNs: depends on quality of kernel approximations

## Model Complexity of CNNs

• RKHS contains CNNs with smooth homogeneous activations.

• RKHS norm controls generalization (complexity) and stability.

**Patch kernels and their RKHS.**

$$K_k(z, z') = \|z\| \|z'\| \kappa_k \left( \frac{\langle z, z' \rangle}{\|z\| \|z'\|} \right), \quad \kappa_k(1) = 1$$

• e.g. Gaussian on sphere, inverse polynomial, etc.

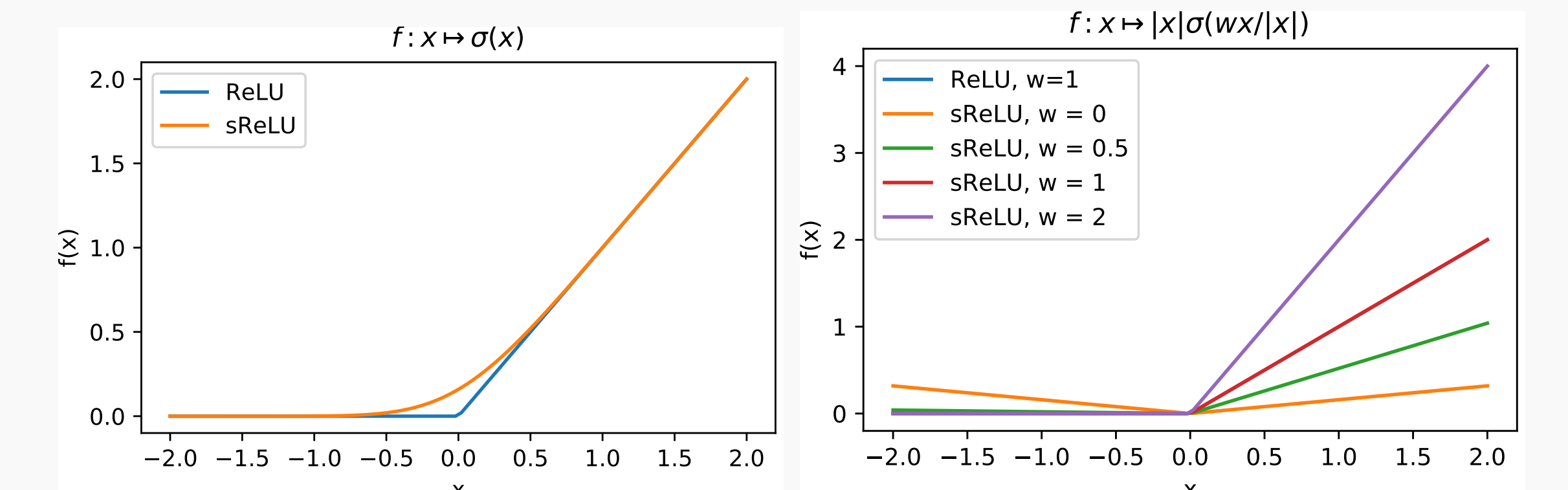
• RKHS  $\mathcal{H}_k$  contains, for smooth  $\sigma$  s.t.  $C_\sigma^2(\|g\|^2) < \infty$ ,

$$f_g : z \mapsto \|z\| \sigma(\langle g, x \rangle / \|x\|) \quad (*)$$

•  $\|f_g\|^2 \leq C_\sigma^2(\|g\|^2)$

• e.g. linear, polynomial, smooth ReLU

• Homogeneous version of [Zhang et al., 2016, 2017]



**Construction of a CNN in the final RKHS.**

• CNN  $f_\sigma$  with smooth homogeneous activations

•  $p_k$  feature maps at layer  $k$ , filters  $w_k^{ij}(u)$ ,  $W_k(u) := [w_k^{ij}(u)]_{ij}$

• Define intermediate  $(*)$  functions (one per feature map)

**Theorem (RKHS norm of CNNs)**

The CNN function  $f_\sigma$  is in the RKHS  $\mathcal{H}_K$ , with norm

$$\|f_\sigma\|^2 \leq p_n \sum_{i=1}^{p_n} \|w_{n+1}^i\|_2^2 B_{n,i},$$

where  $B_{1,i} = C_\sigma^2(\|w_1^i\|_2^2)$  and  $B_{k,i} = C_\sigma^2(p_{k-1} \sum_{j=1}^{p_{k-1}} \|w_k^{ij}\|_2^2 B_{k-1,j})$ .

**Theorem (RKHS norm using spectral norms)**

The CNN function  $f_\sigma$  is in the RKHS  $\mathcal{H}_K$ , with norm

$$\|f_\sigma\|^2 \leq \|w_{n+1}\|^2 C_\sigma^2(\|W_n\|_2^2 \cdots C_\sigma^2(\|W_2\|_2^2 C_\sigma^2(\|W_1\|_2^2)) \cdots)$$

→ **generalization** with Rademacher complexity and margin bounds.

## Relevant References

- S. Mallat (2012). Group invariant scattering.
- Y. Zhang, P. Liang, and M. J. Wainwright (2017). Convexified convolutional neural networks.
- P. Bartlett, D. J. Foster, and M. Telgarsky (2017). Spectrally-normalized margin bounds for neural networks.