

Harmonic Analysis of Deep Convolutional Neural Networks

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joint work with Thomas Wiatowski and Philipp Grohs

ImageNet



ImageNet



ski



rock



coffee



plant

ImageNet



ski



rock



coffee



plant

CNNs win the ImageNet 2015 challenge [He et al., 2015]

Describing the content of an image

*CNNs generate sentences describing
the content of an image [Vinyals et al., 2015]*



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"Carlos

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"Carlos Kleiber conducting the Vienna Philharmonic's New Year's Concert ."

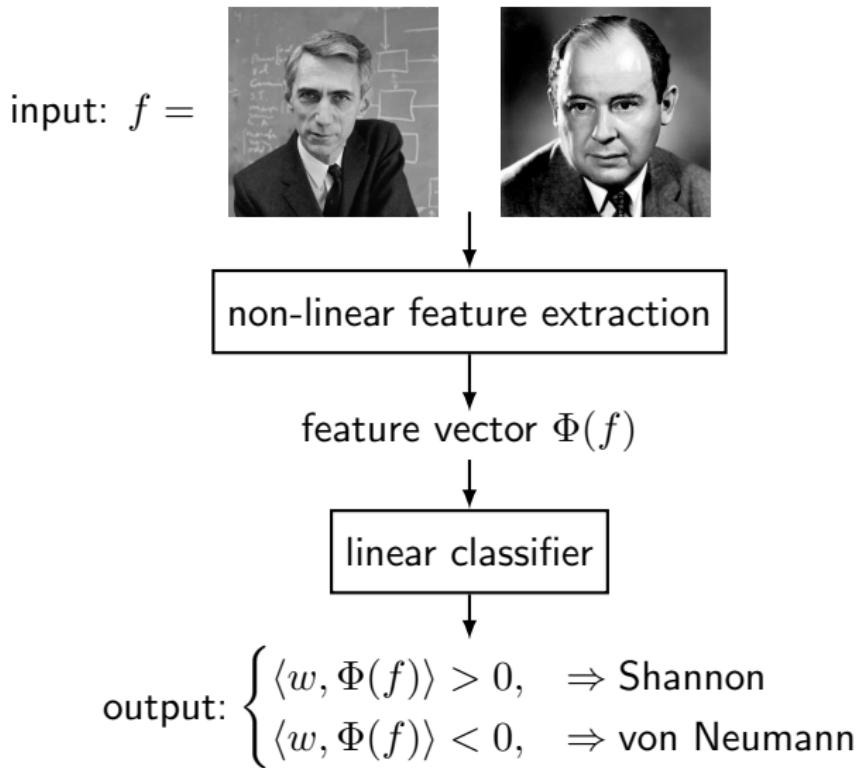
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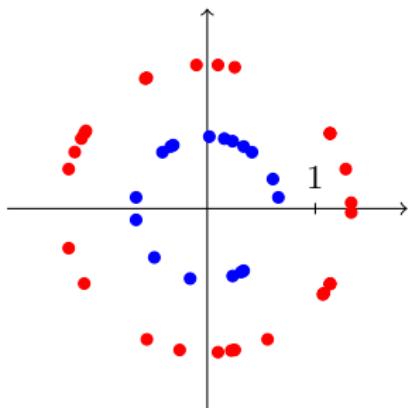
"Carlos Kleiber conducting the Vienna Philharmonic's New Year's Concert 1989."

Feature extraction and classification



Why non-linear feature extractors?

Task: Separate two categories of data through a **linear** classifier

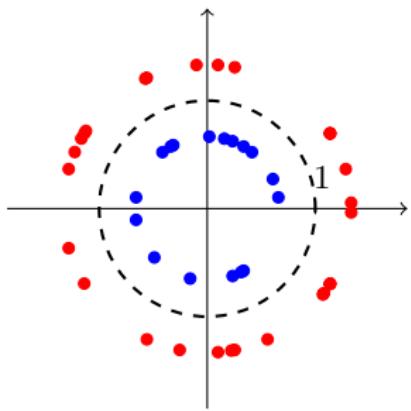


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$$\bullet : \langle w, f \rangle < 0$$

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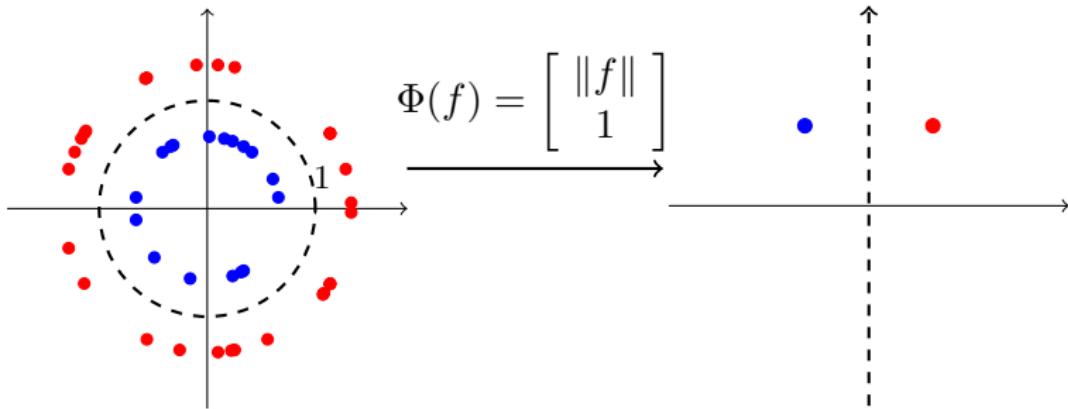
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not possible!

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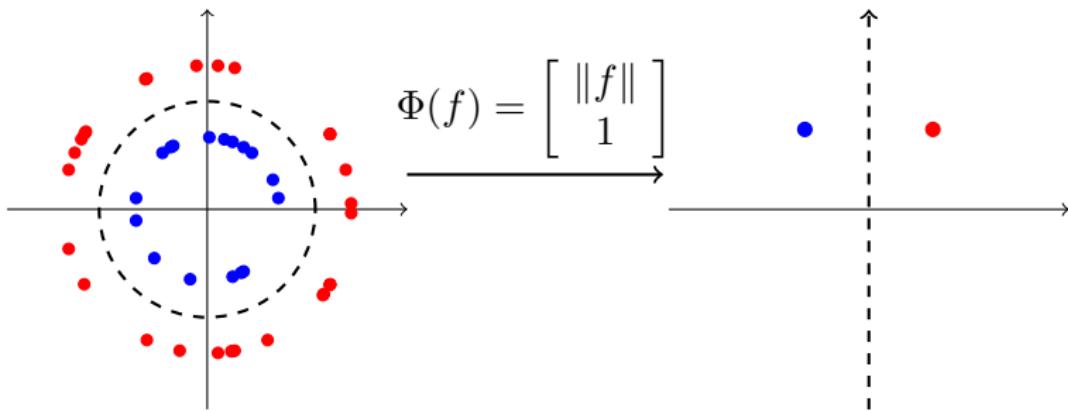
$$\bullet : \langle w, \Phi(f) \rangle > 0$$

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possible with $w = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$

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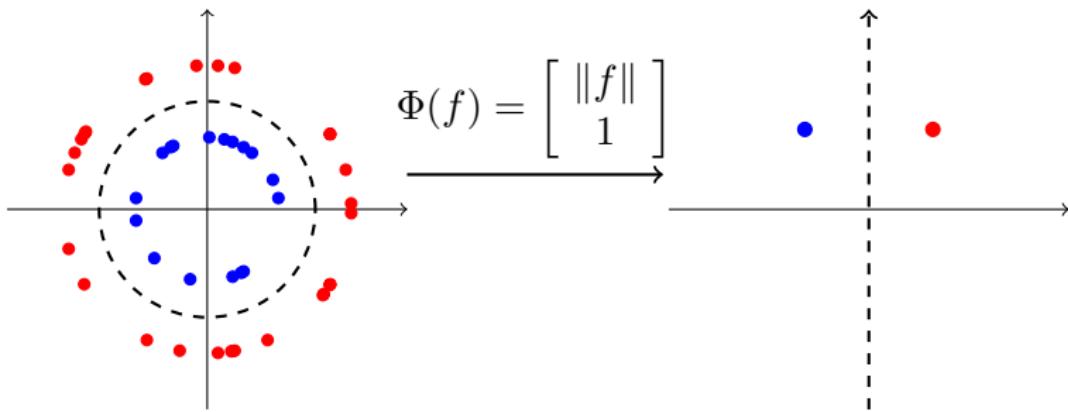
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Why non-linear feature extractors?

Task: Separate two categories of data through a **linear** classifier



- ⇒ Φ is **invariant** to angular component of the data
- ⇒ **Linear separability** in feature space!

Translation invariance



Handwritten digits from the MNIST database [LeCun & Cortes, 1998]

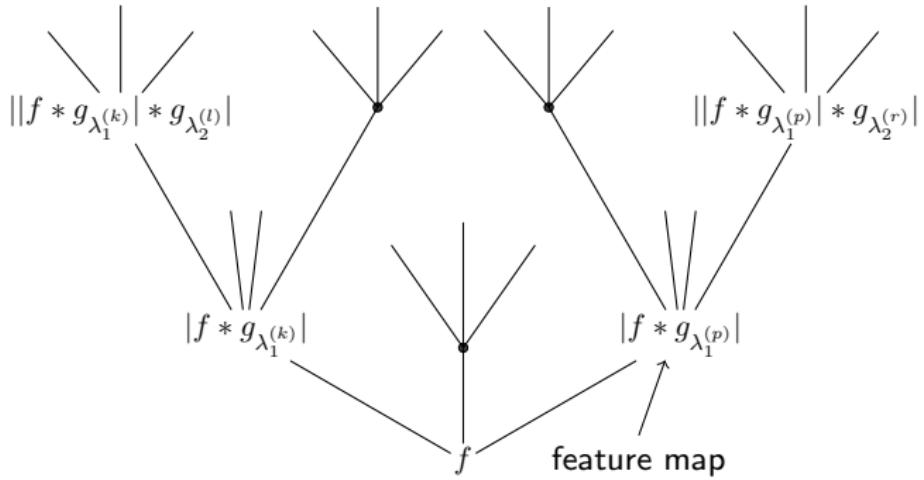
Feature vector should be invariant to spatial location
⇒ translation invariance

Deformation insensitivity

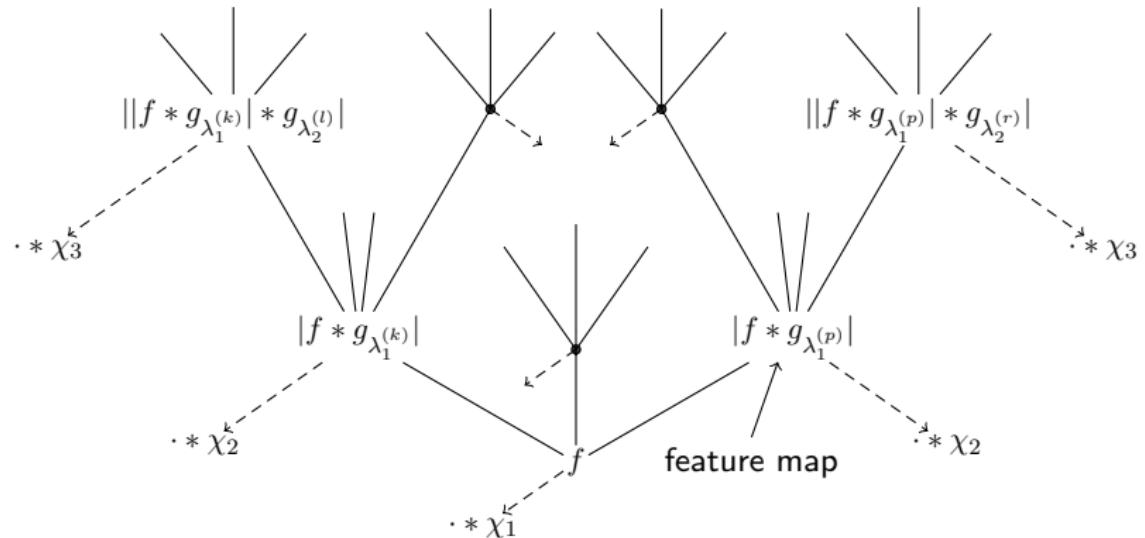


Feature vector should be independent of cameras (of different resolutions), and insensitive to small acquisition jitters

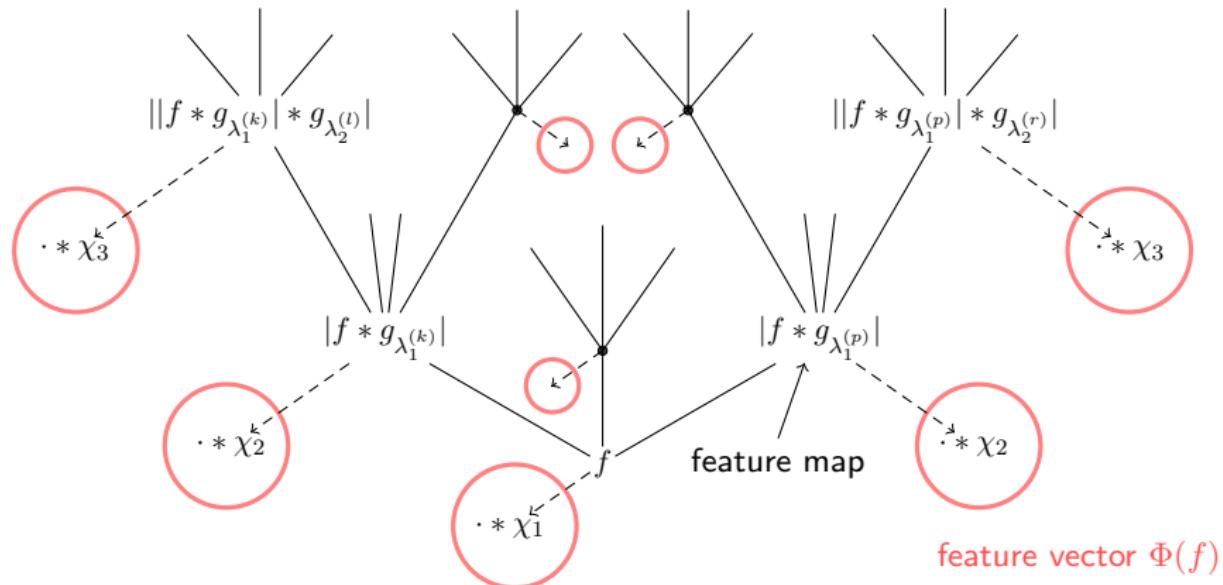
Scattering networks ([Mallat, 2012], [Wiatowski and HB, 2015])



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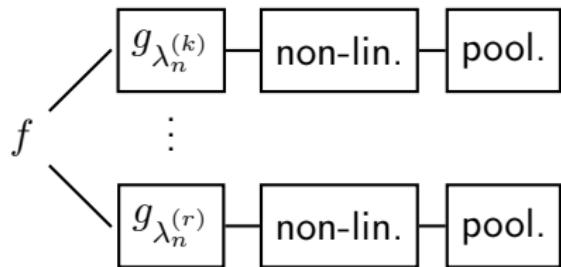
General scattering networks guarantee [Wiatowski & HB, 2015]

- (vertical) **translation invariance**
- **small deformation sensitivity**

essentially irrespective of filters, non-linearities, and poolings!

Building blocks

Basic operations in the n -th network layer

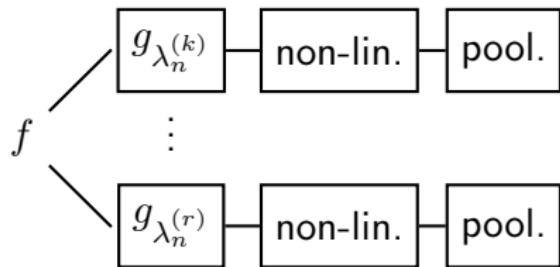


Filters: Semi-discrete frame $\Psi_n := \{\chi_n\} \cup \{g_{\lambda_n}\}_{\lambda_n \in \Lambda_n}$

$$A_n \|f\|_2^2 \leq \|f * \chi_n\|_2^2 + \sum_{\lambda_n \in \Lambda_n} \|f * g_{\lambda_n}\|^2 \leq B_n \|f\|_2^2, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

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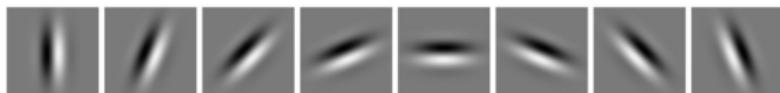
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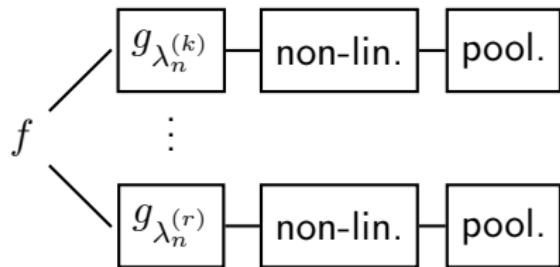
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e.g.: Structured filters



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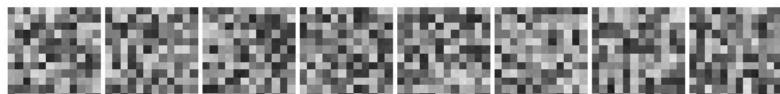
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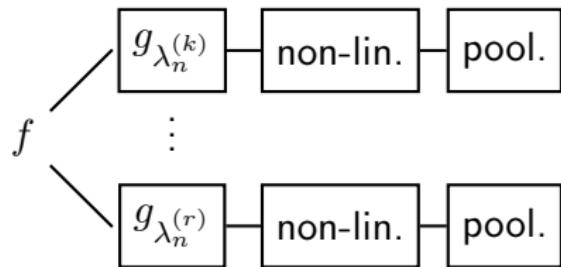
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e.g.: Unstructured filters



Building blocks

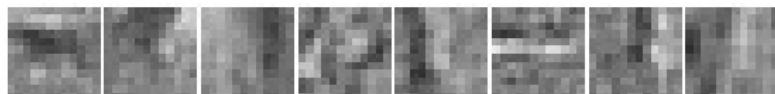
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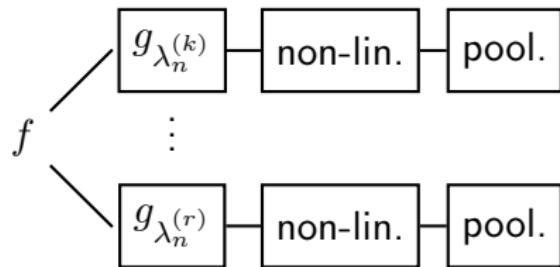
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e.g.: Learned filters



Building blocks

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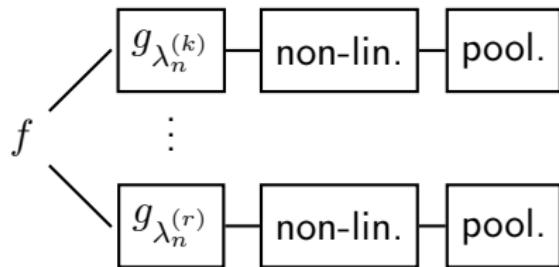


Non-linearities: Point-wise and Lipschitz-continuous

$$\|M_n(f) - M_n(h)\|_2 \leq L_n \|f - h\|_2, \quad \forall f, h \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

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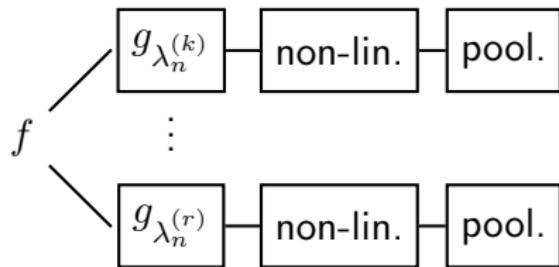
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⇒ Satisfied by virtually **all** non-linearities used
in the **deep learning literature!**

ReLU: $L_n = 1$; modulus: $L_n = 1$; logistic sigmoid: $L_n = \frac{1}{4}$; ...

Building blocks

Basic operations in the n -th network layer



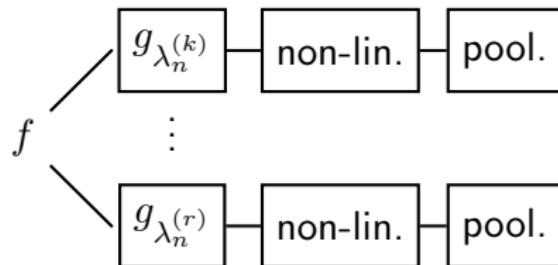
Pooling: In continuous-time according to

$$f \mapsto S_n^{d/2} P_n(f)(S_n \cdot),$$

where $S_n \geq 1$ is the **pooling factor** and $P_n : L^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is R_n -Lipschitz-continuous

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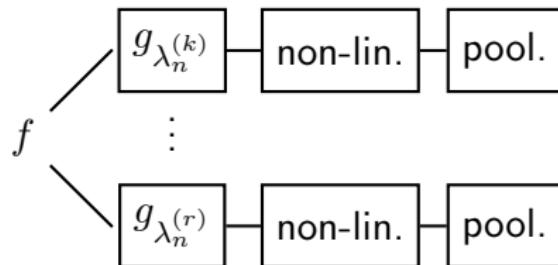
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⇒ **Emulates** most **poolings** used in the **deep learning literature!**

e.g.: Pooling by **sub-sampling** $P_n(f) = f$ with $R_n = 1$

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⇒ **Emulates** most **poolings** used in the **deep learning literature!**

e.g.: Pooling by **averaging** $P_n(f) = f * \phi_n$ with $R_n = \|\phi_n\|_1$

Vertical translation invariance

Theorem (Wiatowski and HB, 2015)

Assume that the filters, non-linearities, and poolings satisfy

$$B_n \leq \min\{1, L_n^{-2} R_n^{-2}\}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Let the pooling factors be $S_n \geq 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then,

$$|||\Phi^n(T_t f) - \Phi^n(f)||| = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\|t\|}{S_1 \dots S_n}\right),$$

for all $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

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⇒ Features become **more invariant** with **increasing** network **depth**!



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Full translation invariance: If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_1 \cdot S_2 \cdot \dots \cdot S_n = \infty$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |||\Phi^n(T_t f) - \Phi^n(f)||| = 0$$

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The condition

$$B_n \leq \min\{1, L_n^{-2} R_n^{-2}\}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N},$$

is **easily satisfied** by **normalizing** the filters $\{g_{\lambda_n}\}_{\lambda_n \in \Lambda_n}$.

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⇒ applies to **general** filters, non-linearities, and poolings

Philosophy behind invariance results

Mallat's "horizontal" translation invariance [[Mallat, 2012](#)]:

$$\lim_{J \rightarrow \infty} |||\Phi_W(T_t f) - \Phi_W(f)||| = 0, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d), \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

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- applies to wavelet transform and modulus non-linearity without pooling

"Vertical" translation invariance:

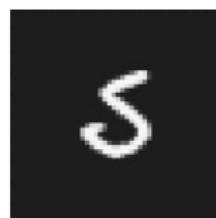
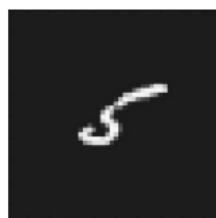
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- features become more invariant with increasing network depth
- applies to general filters, general non-linearities, and general poolings

Non-linear deformations

Non-linear deformation $(F_\tau f)(x) = f(x - \tau(x))$, where $\tau : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

For “small” τ :



Non-linear deformations

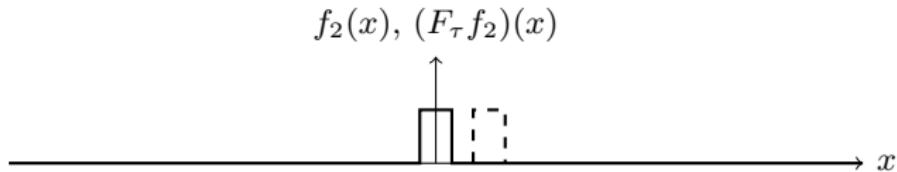
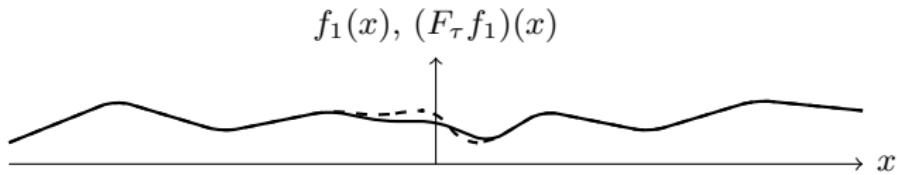
Non-linear deformation $(F_\tau f)(x) = f(x - \tau(x))$, where $\tau : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

For “large” τ :



Deformation sensitivity for signal classes

Consider $(F_\tau f)(x) = f(x - \tau(x)) = f(x - e^{-x^2})$



For given τ the amount of deformation induced
can depend drastically on $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$

Philosophy behind deformation stability/sensitivity bounds

Mallat's deformation stability bound [Mallat, 2012]:

$$|||\Phi_W(F_\tau f) - \Phi_W(f)||| \leq C(2^{-J}\|\tau\|_\infty + J\|D\tau\|_\infty + \|D^2\tau\|_\infty)\|f\|_W,$$

for all $f \in H_W \subseteq L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$

- The signal class H_W and the corresponding norm $\|\cdot\|_W$ depend on the mother wavelet (and hence the network)

Our deformation sensitivity bound:

$$|||\Phi(F_\tau f) - \Phi(f)||| \leq C_c\|\tau\|_\infty^\alpha, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{C} \subseteq L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

- The signal class \mathcal{C} (band-limited functions, cartoon functions, or Lipschitz functions) is independent of the network

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- Signal class description complexity implicit via norm $\|\cdot\|_W$

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- Signal class description complexity explicit via C_c
 - L -band-limited functions: $C_c = \mathcal{O}(L)$
 - cartoon functions of size K : $C_c = \mathcal{O}(K^{3/2})$
 - M -Lipschitz functions $C_c = \mathcal{O}(M)$

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- Decay rate $\alpha > 0$ of the deformation error is signal-class-specific (band-limited functions: $\alpha = 1$, cartoon functions: $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$, Lipschitz functions: $\alpha = 1$)

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- The bound depends explicitly on higher order derivatives of τ

Our deformation sensitivity bound:

$$\|\Phi(F_\tau f) - \Phi(f)\| \leq C_c \|\tau\|_\infty^\alpha, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{C} \subseteq L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

- The bound implicitly depends on derivative of τ via the condition $\|D\tau\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{2d}$

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for all $f \in H_W \subseteq L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$

- The bound is *coupled* to horizontal translation invariance

$$\lim_{J \rightarrow \infty} \| |\Phi_W(T_t f) - \Phi_W(f)| \| = 0, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d), \forall t \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

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- The bound is *decoupled* from vertical translation invariance

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \| |\Phi^n(T_t f) - \Phi^n(f)| \| = 0, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d), \forall t \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

CNNs in a nutshell

CNNs used in practice employ potentially hundreds of layers and 10,000s of nodes!

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- Network **depth**: 152 layers
- average # of **nodes** per layer: 472
- # of **FLOPS** for a single forward pass: 11.3 billion

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Such depths (and breadths) pose formidable computational challenges in **training** and **operating** the network!

Topology reduction

Determine **how fast** the energy contained in the propagated signals (a.k.a. feature maps) decays across layers

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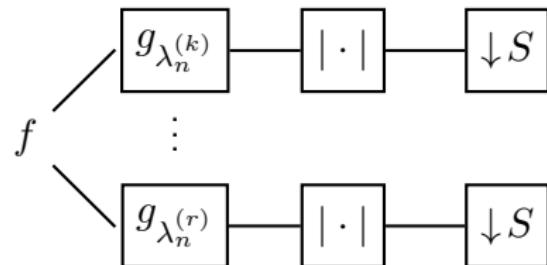
Guarantee **trivial null-space** for feature extractor Φ

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For a fixed (possibly small) depth, **design CNNs** that capture “most” of the input signal energy

Building blocks

Basic operations in the n -th network layer



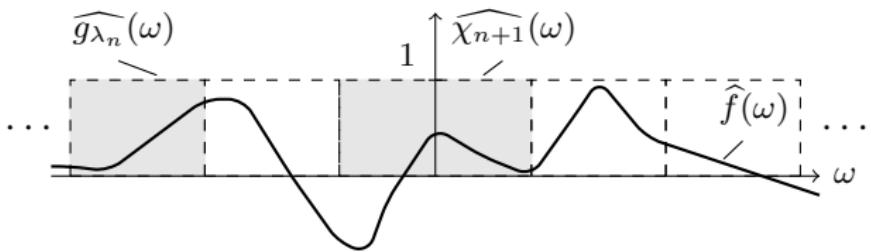
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Non-linearity: Modulus $|\cdot|$

Pooling: Sub-sampling with pooling factor $S \geq 1$

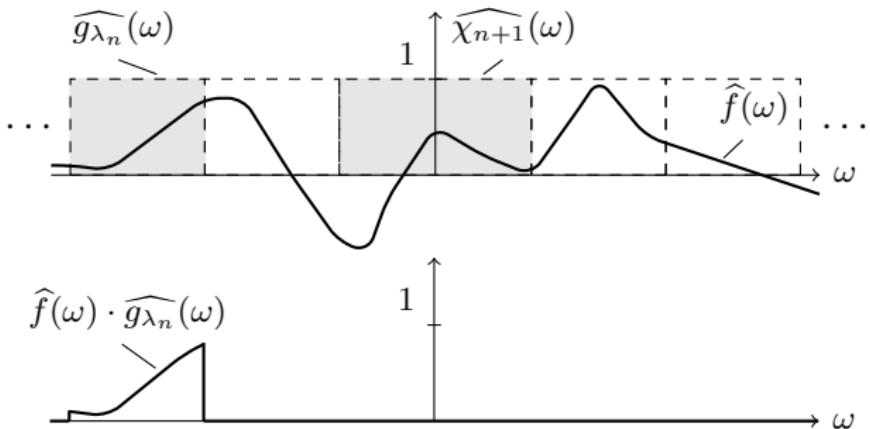
Demodulation effect of modulus non-linearity

Components of feature vector given by $|f * g_{\lambda_n}| * \chi_{n+1}$



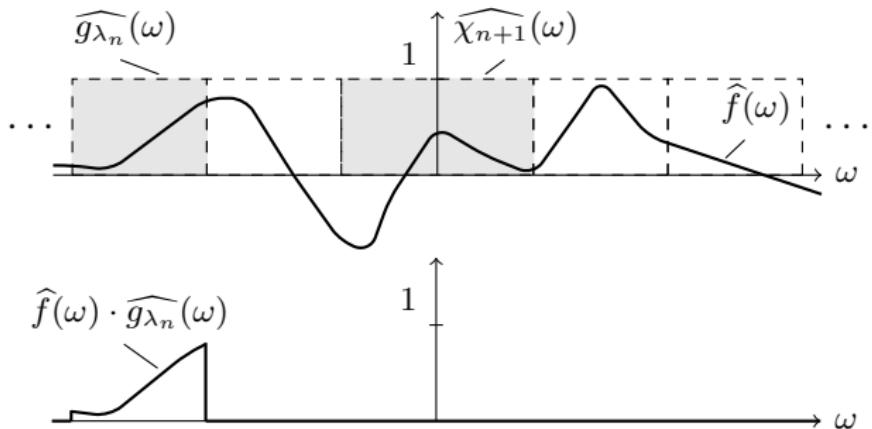
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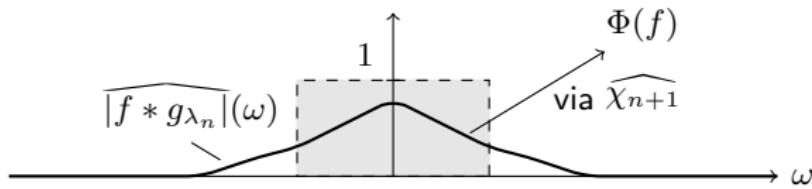
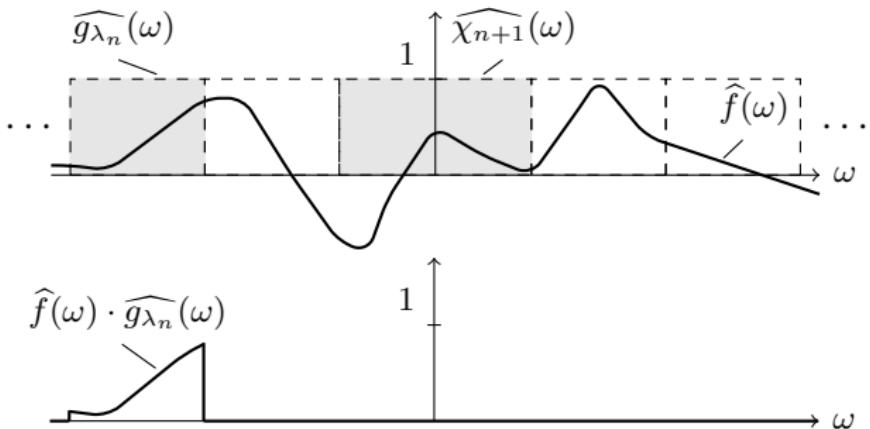


Modulus **squared**:

$$|f * g_{\lambda_n}(x)|^2 \quad \bullet \longrightarrow \quad R_{\widehat{f} \cdot \widehat{g_{\lambda_n}}}(\omega)$$

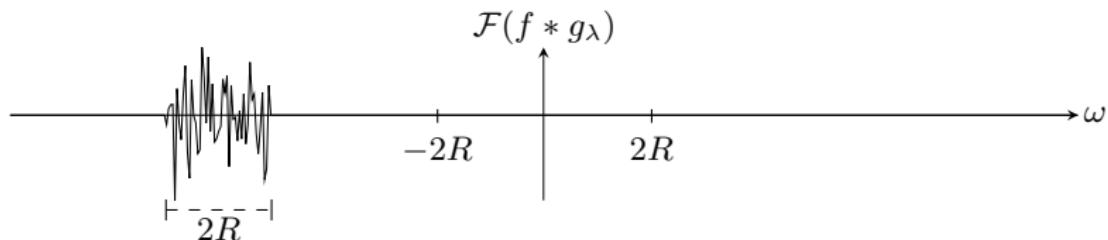
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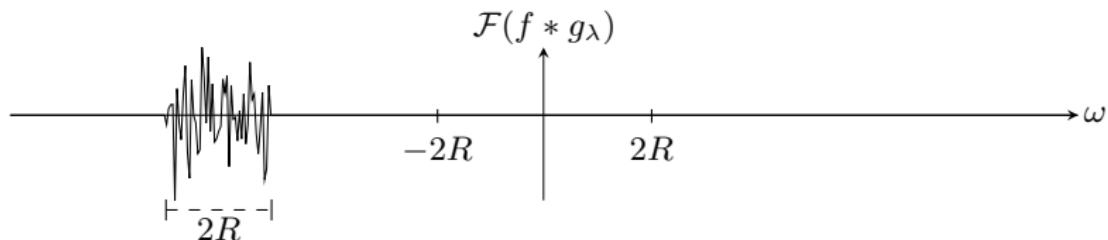
Do all non-linearities demodulate?

High-pass filtered signal:

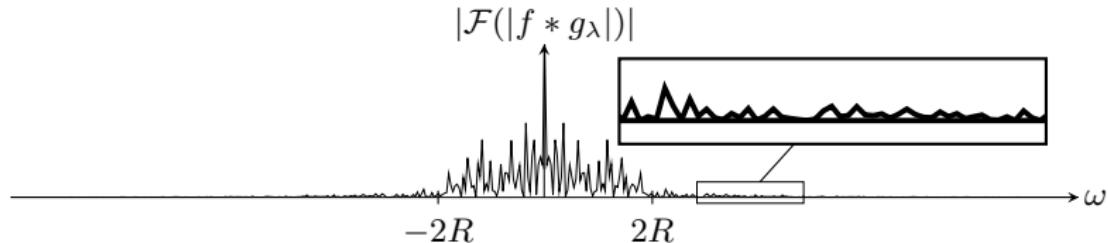


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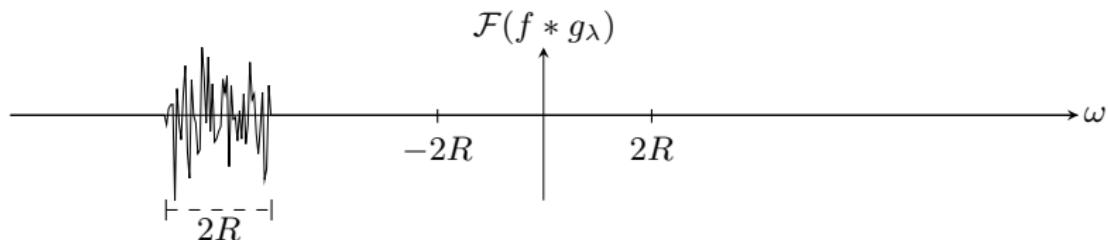
Modulus: Yes!



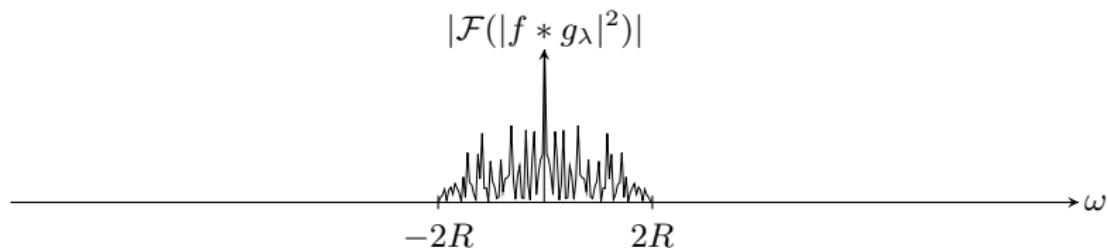
... but (small) tails!

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High-pass filtered signal:



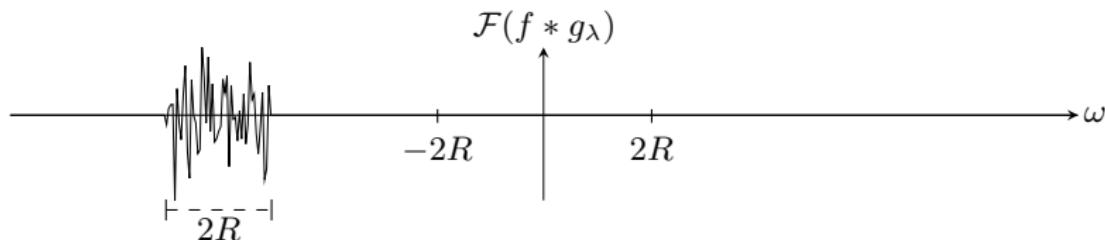
Modulus squared: Yes, and sharply so!



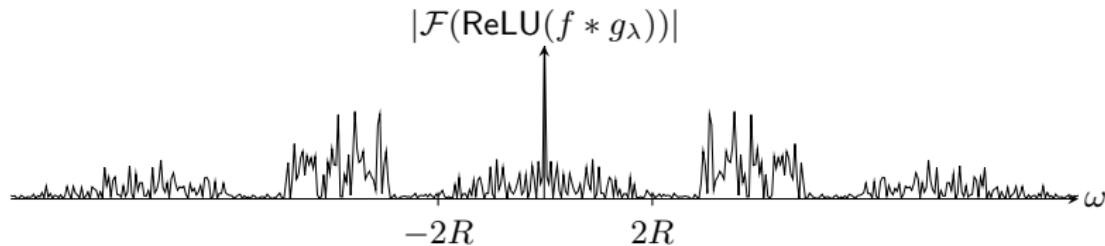
... but not Lipschitz-continuous!

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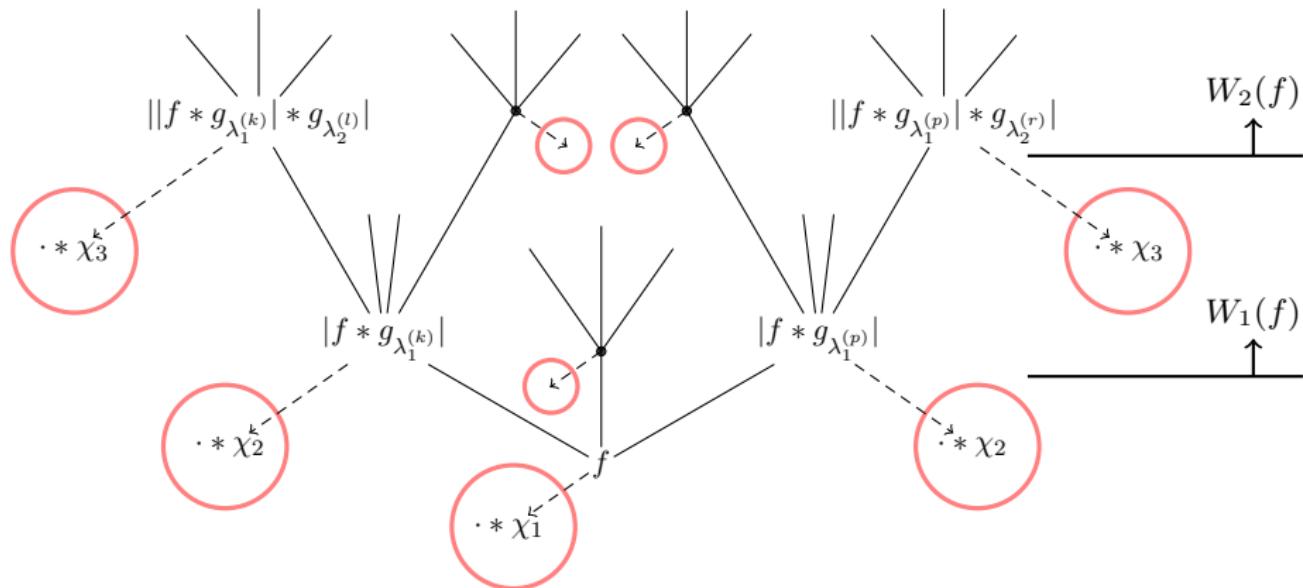
High-pass filtered signal:



Rectified linear unit: **No!**



First goal: Quantify feature map energy decay



Assumptions (on the filters)

- i) **Analyticity**: For every filter g_{λ_n} there exists a (not necessarily canonical) orthant $H_{\lambda_n} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ such that

$$\text{supp}(\widehat{g_{\lambda_n}}) \subseteq H_{\lambda_n}.$$

- ii) **High-pass**: There exists $\delta > 0$ such that

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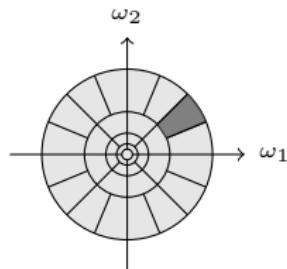
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⇒ Comprises various contructions of WH filters, wavelets, ridgelets, (α) -curvelets, shearlets

e.g.: analytic band-limited curvelets:



Input signal classes

Sobolev functions of order $s \geq 0$:

$$H^s(\mathbb{R}^d) = \left\{ f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \mid \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (1 + |\omega|^2)^s |\widehat{f}(\omega)|^2 d\omega < \infty \right\}$$

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- cartoon functions [[Donoho, 2001](#)] $\mathcal{C}_{\text{CART}} \subseteq H^s(\mathbb{R}^d), \forall s \in [0, \frac{1}{2})$

7	2	1	0	4	1	4	9	5	9
0	6	9	0	1	5	9	7	8	4
9	6	4	5	4	0	7	4	0	1
3	1	3	4	7	2	7	1	2	1
1	7	4	2	3	5	1	2	4	4
6	3	5	5	6	0	4	1	9	5

Handwritten digits from MNIST database [[LeCun & Cortes, 1998](#)]

Exponential energy decay

Theorem

Let the filters be **wavelets** with mother wavelet

$$\text{supp}(\widehat{\psi}) \subseteq [r^{-1}, r], \quad r > 1,$$

or **Weyl-Heisenberg (WH) filters** with prototype function

$$\text{supp}(\widehat{g}) \subseteq [-R, R], \quad R > 0.$$

Then, for every $f \in H^s(\mathbb{R}^d)$, there exists $\beta > 0$ such that

$$W_n(f) = \mathcal{O}\left(a^{-\frac{n(2s+\beta)}{2s+\beta+1}}\right),$$

where $a = \frac{r^2+1}{r^2-1}$ in the wavelet case, and $a = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{R}$ in the WH case.

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⇒ decay factor a is **explicit** and can be **tuned** via r, R

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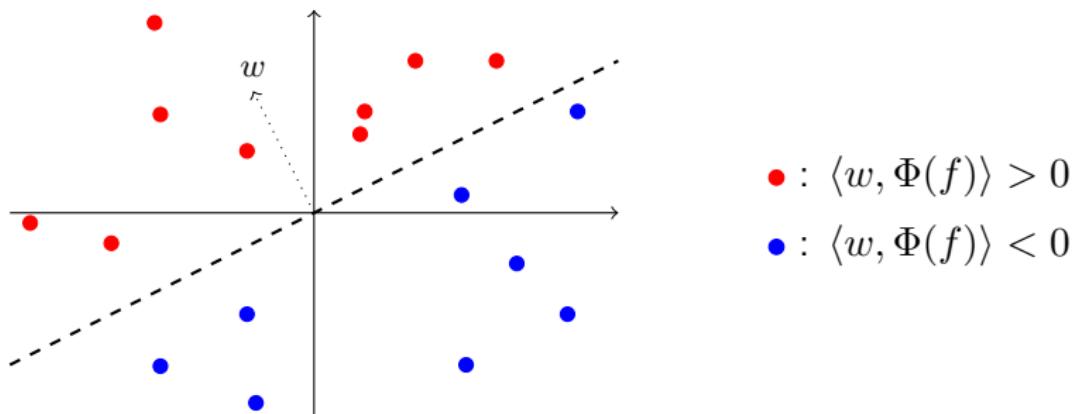
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What about **general** filters? \Rightarrow **polynomial** energy decay!

... our second goal ... trivial null-space for Φ

Why trivial null-space?

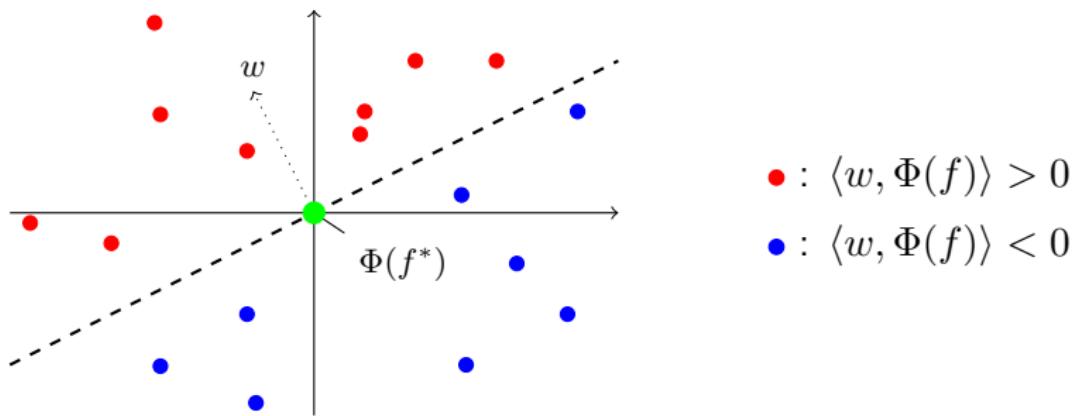
Feature space



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Why trivial null-space?

Feature space



Non-trivial null-space: $\exists f^* \neq 0$ such that $\Phi(f^*) = 0$

$\Rightarrow \langle w, \Phi(f^*) \rangle = 0$ **for all** w !

\Rightarrow these f^* become **unclassifiable**!

... our second goal ...

Trivial null-space for feature extractor:

$$\{f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \mid \Phi(f) = 0\} = \{0\}$$

Feature extractor $\Phi(\cdot) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \Phi^n(\cdot)$ shall satisfy

$$A\|f\|_2^2 \leq |||\Phi(f)|||^2 \leq B\|f\|_2^2, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d),$$

for some $A, B > 0$.

“Energy conservation”

Theorem

For the frame upper $\{B_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and frame lower bounds $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, define $B := \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \max\{1, B_n\}$ and $A := \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \min\{1, A_n\}$. If

$$0 < A \leq B < \infty,$$

then

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- Connection to energy decay:

$$\|f\|_2^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |||\Phi^k(f)|||^2 + \underbrace{W_n(f)}_{\rightarrow 0}$$

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For a given CNN, specify the **number of layers** needed to capture “most” of the input signal energy

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For a given CNN, specify the **number of layers** needed to capture “most” of the input signal energy

How many layers n are needed to have at least $((1 - \varepsilon) \cdot 100)\%$ of the input signal energy be contained in the **feature vector**, i.e.,

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \|f\|_2^2 \leq \sum_{k=0}^n |||\Phi^k(f)|||^2 \leq \|f\|_2^2, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Number of layers needed

Theorem

Let the frame bounds satisfy $A_n = B_n = 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let the input signal f be L -band-limited, and let $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$. If

$$n \geq \left\lceil \log_a \left(\frac{L}{(1 - \sqrt{1 - \varepsilon})} \right) \right\rceil,$$

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\Rightarrow also guarantees **trivial null-space** for $\bigcup_{k=0}^n \Phi^k(f)$

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- similar estimates for **Sobolev** input signals and for **general** filters (polynomial decay!)

Number of layers needed

Numerical example for bandwidth $L = 1$:

	$(1 - \varepsilon)$					
	0.25	0.5	0.75	0.9	0.95	0.99
wavelets ($r = 2$)	2	3	4	6	8	11
WH filters ($R = 1$)	2	4	5	8	10	14
general filters	2	3	7	19	39	199

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Recall: Winner of the ImageNet 2015 challenge [[He et al., 2015](#)]

- Network **depth**: 152 layers
- average # of **nodes** per layer: 472
- # of **FLOPS** for a single forward pass: 11.3 billion

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For a fixed (possibly small) depth N , **design scattering networks** that capture “most” of the input signal energy

For fixed depth N , want to choose r in the wavelet and R in the WH case so that

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \|f\|_2^2 \leq \sum_{k=0}^N |||\Phi^k(f)|||^2 \leq \|f\|_2^2, \quad \forall f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Depth-constrained networks

Theorem

Let the frame bounds satisfy $A_n = B_n = 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let the input signal f be L -band-limited, and fix $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ and $N \in \mathbb{N}$. If, in the wavelet case,

$$1 < r \leq \sqrt{\frac{\kappa + 1}{\kappa - 1}},$$

or, in the WH case,

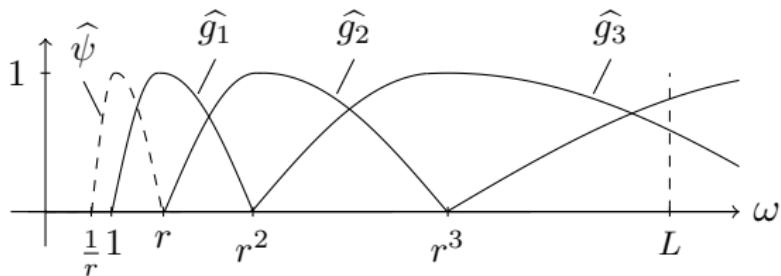
$$0 < R \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{\kappa - \frac{1}{2}}},$$

where $\kappa := \left(\frac{L}{(1-\sqrt{1-\varepsilon})} \right)^{\frac{1}{N}}$, then

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \|f\|_2^2 \leq \sum_{k=0}^N |||\Phi^k(f)|||^2 \leq \|f\|_2^2.$$

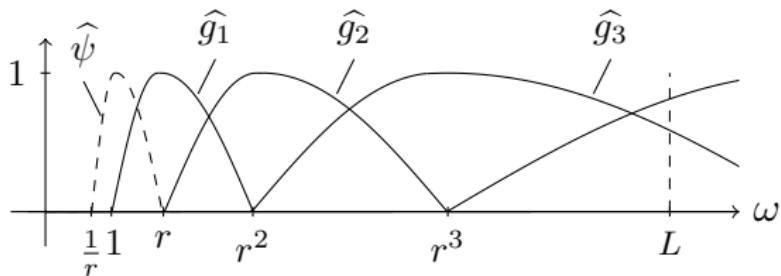
Depth-width tradeoff

Spectral supports of wavelet filters:



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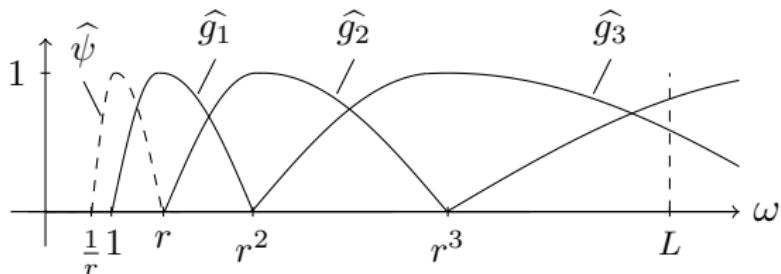
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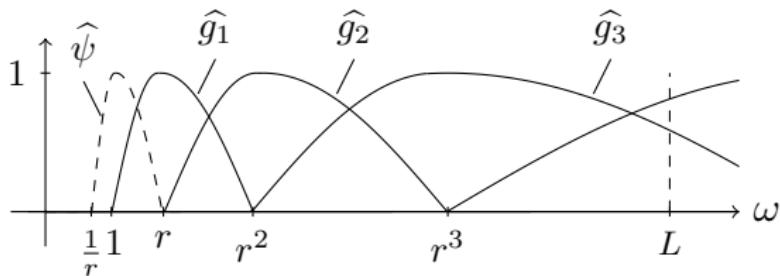
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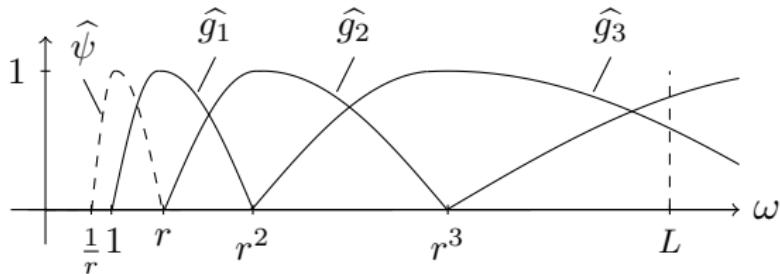
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 \Rightarrow **depth-width tradeoff**

Yours truly



Experiment: Handwritten digit classification



- Dataset: MNIST database of handwritten digits [[LeCun & Cortes, 1998](#)]; 60,000 training and 10,000 test images
- Φ -network: $D = 3$ layers; same filters, non-linearities, and pooling operators in all layers
- Classifier: SVM with radial basis function kernel [[Vapnik, 1995](#)]
- Dimensionality reduction: Supervised orthogonal least squares scheme [[Chen et al., 1991](#)]

Experiment: Handwritten digit classification

Classification error in percent:

	Haar wavelet				Bi-orthogonal wavelet			
	abs	ReLU	tanh	LogSig	abs	ReLU	tanh	LogSig
n.p.	0.57	0.57	1.35	1.49	0.51	0.57	1.12	1.22
sub.	0.69	0.66	1.25	1.46	0.61	0.61	1.20	1.18
max.	0.58	0.65	0.75	0.74	0.52	0.64	0.78	0.73
avg.	0.55	0.60	1.27	1.35	0.58	0.59	1.07	1.26

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max.	0.58	0.65	0.75	0.74	0.52	0.64	0.78	0.73
avg.	0.55	0.60	1.27	1.35	0.58	0.59	1.07	1.26

- modulus and ReLU perform better than tanh and LogSig

Experiment: Handwritten digit classification

Classification error in percent:

	Haar wavelet				Bi-orthogonal wavelet			
	abs	ReLU	tanh	LogSig	abs	ReLU	tanh	LogSig
n.p.	0.57	0.57	1.35	1.49	0.51	0.57	1.12	1.22
sub.	0.69	0.66	1.25	1.46	0.61	0.61	1.20	1.18
max.	0.58	0.65	0.75	0.74	0.52	0.64	0.78	0.73
avg.	0.55	0.60	1.27	1.35	0.58	0.59	1.07	1.26

- modulus and ReLU perform better than tanh and LogSig
- results with pooling ($S = 2$) are competitive with those without pooling, at significantly lower computational cost

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- modulus and ReLU perform better than tanh and LogSig
- results with pooling ($S = 2$) are competitive with those without pooling, at significantly lower computational cost
- state-of-the-art: 0.43 [*Bruna and Mallat, 2013*]
 - similar feature extraction network with directional, non-separable wavelets and no pooling
 - significantly higher computational complexity

Energy decay: Related work

[[Waldspurger, 2017](#)]: Exponential energy decay

$$W_n(f) = \mathcal{O}(a^{-n}),$$

for some **unspecified** $a > 1$.

- 1-D **wavelet** filters
- **every** network layer equipped with the **same** set of wavelets

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- applies to 1-D **real-valued band-limited** input signals $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$

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- d -dimensional **uniform covering** filters (similar to Weyl-Heisenberg filters), but does not cover **multi-scale** filters (e.g. wavelets, ridgelets, curvelets etc.)
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- applies to d -dimensional **complex-valued** input signals
 $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$