



I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

# AI4PDE

## PDEs with Laplacian on Point Cloud and Equivariance

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# Presentation Overview

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

I: PDEs with Laplacian on Point Cloud:DM and PIM

II: Equivariance



# Literatures

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

- 1 Riemannian Manifold Learning. Tong Lin and Hongbin Zha. IEEE Trans., 2008.
- 2 Diffusion maps. Ronald R. Coifman, Stéphane Lafon. Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis. 2006.
- 3 SOLVING PDES ON UNKNOWN MANIFOLDS WITH ML. Senwei Liang et al. Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis, 2024.
- 4 SOLVING FORWARD AND INVERSE PDE PROBLEMS ON UNKNOWN MANIFOLDS VIA PHYSICS-INFORMED NEURAL OPERATORS .
- 5 Point Integral Method for Solving Poisson-type Equations on Manifolds from Point Clouds with Convergence Guarantees. Zhen Li et al. 2014.
- 6 Convergence of the Point Integral method for Poisson equation on point cloud. Jan Sun et al. 2014.



# Section Overview

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

## I: PDEs with Laplacian on Point Cloud:DM and PIM



# How to represent a feature manifold?[1]

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

## Major Manifold Learning Algorithms

Authors	Year	Algorithm	Property	Description and Comments
Tenenbaum et al. [13]	2000	ISOMAP	Isometric mapping	Computes the geodesic distances, and then uses MDS. Computationally expensive.
Roweis et al. [16]	2000	LLE	Preserving linear reconstruction weights	Computes the reconstruction weights for each point, and then minimizes the embedding cost by solving an eigenvalue problem.
Silva et al. [14]	2003	C-ISOMAP and L-ISOMAP	Conformal ISOMAP and landmark ISOMAP	C-ISOMAP preserves angles. L-ISOMAP efficiently approximates the original ISOMAP by choosing a small number of landmark points.
Belkin et al. [18]	2003	Laplacian eigenmaps	Locality preserving	Minimizing the squared gradient of an embedding map is equal to finding eigenfunctions of the Laplace-Beltrami operator.
Donoho et al. [20]	2003	HLLS or Hessian eigenmaps	Locally isometric to an open, connected subset	A modification of Laplacian eigenmaps by substituting the Hessian for the Laplacian. Computationally demanding.
Brand [22]	2003	Manifold charting	Preserving local variance and neighborhood	Decomposes the input data into locally linear patches, and then merges these patches into a single low-dimensional coordinate system by using affine transformations.
Zhang et al. [23]	2004	LTSA	Minimizing the global reconstruction error	First constructs the tangent space at each data point, and then aligns these tangent spaces with a global coordinate system.
Weinberger et al. [21]	2004	SDE	Local isometry	Maximizing the variance of the outputs, subject to the constraints of zero mean and local isometry. Computationally expensive by using semidefinite programming.
He et al. [19]	2005	Laplacianfaces	Linear version of Laplacian eigenmaps	The minimization problem reduces to a generalized eigenvalues problem.
Coifman et al. [24][25]	2005	Diffusion maps ✓	Preserving diffusion distances	Given a Markov random walk on the data, the diffusion map is constructed based on the first few eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the transition matrix $P$ .
Sha et al. [26]	2005	Conformal eigenmaps	Angle-preserving embedding	Maximizing the similarity of triangles in each neighborhood. More faithfully preserving the global shape and the aspect ratio. Semidefinite programming is used to for optimization.
Law et al. [15]	2006	Incremental ISOMAP	Data are collected sequentially.	Efficiently updates all-pair shortest path distances, and solves an incremental eigenvalue problem.



# What is a diffusion map(DM)?[2]

## Random Walk on Graphs

Let  $(X, \Omega, \mu)$  be a measure space.  $k: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a kernel s.t.

$k(x, y) = k(y, x), k(x, y) \geq 0, \forall x, y \in X$ . If the data  $X$  is a graph, then  $k$  is the edge weight on  $X$ . In this sense, define its degree  $d(x) := \int k(x, y) d\mu(y)$  and the **random walk** from  $x$  to  $y$  is defined as:

$$\mathbb{P}(X^{t+1} = y | X^t = x) = \frac{k(x, y)}{d(x)}, y \in N(x) \quad (1)$$

A random walk is a **Markov chain**. Index  $X$  as  $1:n$  and the **transition matrix**  $P_{n \times n}$  and the stationary distribution  $\pi P = \pi \in \mathbb{R}^n$  by definition are:

$$P_{ij} = \frac{k(x_i, x_j)}{d(x_i)}, \pi_i = \frac{d(x_i)}{\sum_j d(x_j)} \quad (2)$$

We define eigenpairs  $(\lambda_l, \psi_l)$  of  $P$ , namely,  $P\psi_l = \lambda_l\psi_l$ ,  $1 = \lambda_0 \geq |\lambda_1| \geq |\lambda_2| \geq \dots$

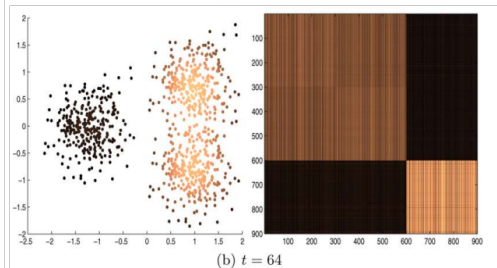
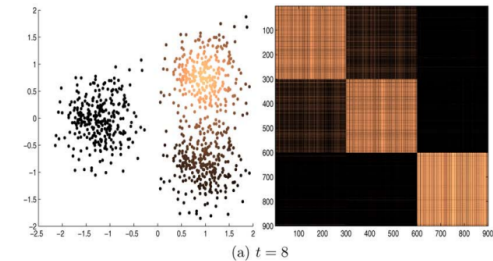


# Clustering with DM

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

The power of  $P$ , i.e.,  $P^t$  suggests the **diffusion distance** as  $t$  varies:  $t$  acts as a **scale parameter**. A naive clustering algorithm is that: choose a point  $x_i$  and take  $P^k x_i, k \leq T$  in the class together with  $x_i$ .



Now we wanna give the so-called **diffusion distance** a more precise definition.



Next, we define a useful kernel, a little similar to the normalized graph Laplacian matrix:

$$a(x, y) := \frac{k(x, y)}{\sqrt{\pi(x)\pi(y)}} \quad (3)$$

Along with a convolution operator  $\mathcal{P}$  over functions on  $X$ , a.k.a. the **diffusion operator** :

$$\mathcal{P}[f(x)] := \int a(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y) \quad (4)$$

$p_t(x_i, x_j) := P_{ij}^t$  and we define the **diffusion distances**  $D_t$  at time  $t$  as:

$$D_t(x, y)^2 := \int (p_t(x, u) - p_t(y, u))^2 \frac{d\mu(u)}{\pi(u)} \quad (5)$$

It is proved that:

$$D_t(x, y)^2 = \sum_{l \geq 1} \lambda_l^{2t} (\psi_l(x) - \psi_l(y))^2 \quad (6)$$





# Coordinates given by DM[2]

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

As dealt with last time, we will abandon those too small  $|\lambda_t|$ , for instance, those  $l > L$ , and thus get a bunch of coordinates  $\Psi_t$ , called **diffusion maps**.

$$\Psi_t = (\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_L)^T \quad (7)$$

The story on manifold learning ends here. Then comes the PDE.



## Story about $\Delta$

Consider the eigenproblems on manifold  $M$ :

$$\Delta\phi_l(x) = \lambda_l\phi_l, x \in M; \partial_\nu\phi_l = 0, x \in \partial M \quad (8)$$

It might be tough to get  $\phi_l$ , but one can solve the eigenproblems immediately given  $\phi_l$ 's :

$$\partial_t u = \Delta u, x \in M; \partial_\nu u_l = 0, x \in \partial M \quad (9)$$

by a linear composition of  $e^{-\lambda_l t}\phi_l(x)$ :

$$u = \sum_l k_l e^{-\lambda_l t} \phi_l(x) \quad (10)$$

The wave equation can also be solved the same way. That is one reason why the eigenproblems of  $\Delta$  matters!



# DM and $\Delta$

We've talked about the graph Laplacian  $L$  relates to  $\Delta$  when the edge weight is  $\exp \frac{|x-y|^2}{\epsilon}$ . We will use this property to solve the PDE with  $\Delta$ . Now we construct a **diffusion family** given  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Suppose  $q(x)$  is the density of  $M$  (when  $M$  stands for a probability space), define the edge weight and its new distribution  $q_\epsilon$  and new edge weight  $k_\epsilon^{(\alpha)}$ :

$$k_\epsilon(x, y) := h\left(\frac{|x-y|^2}{\epsilon}\right), q_\epsilon(x) := \int k_\epsilon(x, y) q(y) dy, k_\epsilon^{(\alpha)} := \frac{k_\epsilon(x, y)}{q_\epsilon^\alpha(x) q_\epsilon^\alpha(y)} \quad (11)$$

whose degree  $d_\epsilon^{(\alpha)}$  and anisotropic transition kernel  $p_{\epsilon, \alpha}$  is:

$$d_\epsilon^{(\alpha)}(x) = \int k_\epsilon^{(\alpha)}(x, y) q(y) dy, p_{\epsilon, \alpha} = \frac{k_\epsilon^{(\alpha)}(x, y)}{d_\epsilon^{(\alpha)}(x)} \quad (12)$$

Likewise, the convolution operator:  $\mathcal{P}_{\epsilon, \alpha}[f(x)] := \int p_{\epsilon, \alpha} f(y) dy$  and define

$$\mathcal{L}_{\epsilon, \alpha} := \frac{I - \mathcal{P}_{\epsilon, \alpha}}{\epsilon} \quad (13)$$



## Theorem

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{L}_{\epsilon, \alpha}[f] = \frac{\Delta(f q^{1-\alpha})}{q^{1-\alpha}} - \frac{\Delta q^{1-\alpha}}{q^{1-\alpha}} f \quad (14)$$

The proof is by magic[2].

Let  $q = 1$ , to solve  $\mathcal{L}_{\epsilon, \alpha}[f] = 0$  is to solve  $\Delta f = 0$ . At least now we know that  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{L}_{\epsilon, 1}$  and it is easy to yield: the Neumann heat kernel  $e^{-t\Delta}$

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{P}_{\epsilon, \alpha}^t = e^{-t\Delta} \quad (15)$$

Notice that  $\mathcal{L}_{\epsilon, \alpha}$  is easy to compute on the point cloud. And therefore, one can solve PDE's that contain  $\Delta f$  on the point cloud by PINN readily, **without knowing anything about  $M$ !** That is what [3] all talks about. [4] published in July follows [3] with limited novelty.



# Point Integral Method:PIM

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

The method in [2,3,4] can be viewed of somewhat a sort of PIM. Indeed, one can solve the PDE in one go[5]. A detailed proof lies in [6].

Consider the Neumann Poisson problem:

$$-\Delta u = f, x \in M; \partial_\nu u = g, x \in \partial M \quad (16)$$

As defined last time,  $R(r)$  is positive and either decays exponentially or has compact support, with:

$$R'(r) := \int_r^{+\infty} R(s) ds \quad (17)$$

Then the PDE must satisfy:

$$-\frac{1}{t} \int_M (u(x) - u(y)) R\left(\frac{|x-y|^2}{4t}\right) dx = \int_M f(x) R'\left(\frac{|x-y|^2}{4t}\right) dx + 2 \int_{\partial M} g(x) R'\left(\frac{|x-y|^2}{4t}\right) dx \quad (18)$$



# PIM to solve Dirichlet Problem

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

However, PIM can only solve Neumann problem by giving a constraint. What if we wanna find out:

$$-\Delta u = f, x \in M; u = g, x \in \partial M \quad (19)$$

We can use a trick right here. Consider a Robin problem for a small  $\beta$ :

$$-\Delta u = f, x \in M; u + \beta \partial_\nu u = g, x \in \partial M \quad (20)$$

Replace  $g$  with  $g - u$  in (18) as the PDE loss in PINN, one can solve (19). However, a small  $\beta$  may lead to ill-condition. One can solve it iteratively and use a  $\beta$  not necessarily to be small, which is called **Augmented Lagrangian Multiplier(ALM)**.



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## Procedure 1 ALM for Dirichlet Problem

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- 1:  $k = 0, w^0 = 0$ .
- 2: **repeat**
- 3: Solving the following integral equation to get  $v^k$ ,

$$L_t v^k(\mathbf{y}) - \frac{2}{\beta} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} (g(\mathbf{x}) - v^k(\mathbf{x}) + \beta w^k(\mathbf{x})) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{x}} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} f(\mathbf{x}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}.$$

- 4:  $w^{k+1} = w^k + \frac{1}{\beta}(g - (v^k|_{\partial\mathcal{M}})), k = k + 1$
  - 5: **until**  $\|g - (v^{k-1}|_{\partial\mathcal{M}})\| == 0$
  - 6:  $u = v^k$
- 

where  $v^k, w^k$  are the iterative versions of  $u, \partial_v u$ , resp.



# Section Overview

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

## II: Equivariance





# PDE solvers need invariance and equivariance?

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

## Example

Think about estimating the curvature at a point on a point cloud. We input a local graph  $G$  and expect a real number as the output. It is apparent that this number is invariant when rotating, reflecting or translating  $G$ .

## Example

Consider solving PDE on a disc  $\Omega$ .  $\Delta u = 0, x \in \Omega; u = f(x), x \in \partial\Omega$  The symmetry of  $\Omega$  gives:  $\forall A \in SO(2)$ , the neural operator  $NN: f \mapsto u$  should satisfy

$$f \circ A \mapsto u \circ A = \lambda_A \circ u$$



- 7 Theoretical aspects of group equivariant neural networks. Carlos Esteves. arXiv.
- 8 Group Equivariant Convolutional Networks. Taco S. Cohen, 2016. (First)
- 9 Steerable CNNs. Taco S. Cohen. ICLR 2017.
- 10 Spherical CNN. Cohen et al. ICLR 2018 best paper.
- 11 “Learning  $SO(3)$  equivariant representations with spherical cnns”. Carlos Esteves et al. ECCV, 2018.
- 12 Clebsch–Gordan Net . Risi Kondor. et al. NeurIPS 2018.
- 13 The 3D steerable CNNs. Taco Cohen et al. NeurIPS 2018.
- 14 Tensor field networks. Nathaniel Thomas et al.



# Preliminary: Group Representation

## Group

$G$  is a group, if  $\forall x, y \in G, xy \in G, x^{-1} \in G, e \in G, ex = xe = x \in G$

## Group representation

$f: G \rightarrow H$  is a group homomorphism if  $f(xy) = f(x)f(y)$ . A **group representation**  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$  is a special group homomorphism where  $V$  is usually  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . If  $\rho_g^H \rho_g = I, \forall g \in G$ ,  $\rho$  is **unitary**. A **character** of  $\rho$  is  $\chi_{\rho_g} := \text{tr } \rho_g$

## Example

Consider a finite group, a 4-order dihedral group

$D_4 := \{s^i r^j : s^2 = r^4 = e, sr^j = r^{4-j}s\}$ .  $|D_4| = 8$ .  $\rho_g = 1, \forall g \in D_4$  (trivial

representation)  $\rho'_{s^i r^j} = (-1)^i$ ,  $\rho''_{s^i r^j} = \begin{pmatrix} (-1)^i & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{j\pi}{2} & -\sin \frac{j\pi}{2} \\ \sin \frac{j\pi}{2} & \cos \frac{j\pi}{2} \end{pmatrix}$



# Preliminary: Harr Measure

## Harr Measure

Harr measure  $\mu$  is a measure of the Hausdorff topological group  $G$ , whose open sets are generated by the Borel set  $\mathcal{B}(G)$ , s.t.  $\forall E \in \mathcal{B}(G), g \in G, \mu(E) = \mu(gE)$ , i.e., **left-invariant**.

## Left Action Operator

$f$  is a square-integrable function on  $G$ , denoted by  $f \in L^2(G)$ .  $\lambda_g : L^2(G) \rightarrow L^2(G)$  is the left action by  $\lambda_h f(g) := f(h^{-1}g)$ .

If  $\mu$  is Harr measure and  $\lambda_g$  is the left action operator, then:

$$\int_G \lambda_h[f(g)] d\mu(g) = \int_G f(h^{-1}g) d\mu(g) = \int_G f(g) \lambda_h d\mu(g) = \int_G f(g) d\mu(g) \quad (21)$$



# Preliminary: Fourier Transform on Groups

For a unitary representation  $\rho(g)$ , we denote  $\phi_{x,y}(g) = (\rho_g x, y)$  (with notation abuse,  $\rho_g = \rho(g)$ ). The matrix element of  $\rho_{ij}(g) := \phi_{e_i, e_j}(g) = (\rho_g e_i, e_j)$ .

Let  $G'$  be the equivalence class of all **unitary irreducible representations**, a.k.a. **unirreps**,  $\sqrt{d_\rho} \rho_{ij}, [\rho] \in G'$  forms an orthogonal basis of  $L^2(G)$  where  $d_\rho$  is the dimension of the representation space.

$$f(g) = \sum_{[\rho] \in G'} \sum_{i,j}^{d_\rho} c_{ij}^\rho \rho_{ij}(g), c_{ij}^\rho = d_\rho \int_G f(g) \rho_{ij}^*(g) dg \quad (22)$$

## Fourier Transform

The Fourier transform of a function on  $G$  is a linear map of the representation space!

$$\hat{f}(\rho) := \int_G f(g) \rho_g^* dg \Rightarrow f(g) = \sum_{[\rho] \in G'} d_\rho \text{tr}(\hat{f}(\rho) \rho_g) \quad (23)$$



# Equivariance

## Convolution and Cross-correlation

$$(f * k)(g) := \int_G f(u)k(u^{-1}g)d\mu(u), (f \star k)(u) := \int_G f(u)k(g^{-1}u)d\mu(u) \quad (24)$$

## Equivariance

We say  $f$  is **equivariant** to a group action  $G$  if  $\forall g, \exists h(g), f \circ g(x) = h(g) \circ f(x)$ .  
Fortunately, **all convolution and cross-correlation are equivariant**, supported by the theorem:

$$(\lambda_u f) * k = \lambda_u(f * k), (\lambda_u f) \star k = \lambda_u(f \star k) \quad (25)$$

## Convolution Theorem

$$\widehat{f * k} = \widehat{f} \widehat{k}, \widehat{f \star k} = \widehat{f} \widehat{k}^\dagger, \widehat{k}^\dagger(\rho) := \int k(u)\rho(u^{-1})^* d\mu(u) \quad (26)$$



# Applications: The Simplest

## Literatures

- 8 Group Equivariant Convolutional Networks. Taco S. Cohen, 2016. (First)
- 9 Steerable CNNs. Taco S. Cohen. ICLR 2017.

For finite group, the integral is defined as:

$$(f * k)(g) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{x \in G} f(x) k(x^{-1}g) \quad (27)$$

In [8][9], the input is an image. We wish to construct the equivariance of the group,  $D_4$  together with translation. If  $(i, j)$  denotes the coordinates of the pixel in an image, then  $(i, j)$  corresponds to the group action, i.e., translating  $i, j$  units along  $x, y$  axis, resp. This explains why **the usual convolution in CNN** makes sense[8]:

$$f * k_{\theta} = \sum_y f(x - y) k_{\theta}(y) \quad (28)$$

where  $k_{\theta}$  is learnable. However, this only ensures **translation equivariance**.



# Applications: The Simplest

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

## [9] Steerable CNN

[9] brings in the  $D_4$  equivariance by group representations **to reduce the parameters**. However, a usual  $f * k$  doesn't involve any representation, so we use its Fourier transform instead. The layer is defined as:

$$\sigma(\hat{f}[\nu]\hat{k}) \quad (29)$$

where  $\nu$  is the feature from the previous layer and  $\hat{k}$  is defined as since  $D_4$  has 4 1-order unirreps and 1 2-order unirreps.  $\hat{k}$  is defined as a linear combination of these unirreps and thus has 5 coefficients to learn.

### Remark

[9] is actually a bit different. It analyzes which patterns are meaningful after rotation and reflection since the kernel is only  $3 \times 3$ .





# Representations of $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ , $SU(2)$ , $SO(3)$

## $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$

The representation space is the homogeneous polynomials of degree  $2l$ . Its matrix element is given by:

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{C}), \det g = 1, \rho_{ij}^l(g) = \frac{\langle (-bx + a)^{l+j} (dx - c)^{l-j}, x^{l-i} \rangle}{\sqrt{(l-j)!(l+j)!(l-i)!(l+i)!}} \quad (30)$$

where the inner product is **Bombieri scalar product** defined on the homogeneous polynomials.

## $SU(2)$

It can be factorized:  $SU(2) \ni g = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}} & \\ & e^{i\frac{\alpha}{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\beta}{2} & -\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \\ \sin \frac{\beta}{2} & \cos \frac{\beta}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\gamma}{2}} & \\ & e^{i\frac{\gamma}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$  Thus only those in the form of  $\begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}} & \\ & e^{i\frac{\alpha}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\beta}{2} & -\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \\ \sin \frac{\beta}{2} & \cos \frac{\beta}{2} \end{pmatrix}$  needs considering.



# Representations of $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ , $SU(2)$ , $SO(3)$

For  $\begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}} & \\ & e^{i\frac{\alpha}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$ , plug in eq.(30) and yield

$$\rho^l\left(\begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\frac{\alpha}{2}} & \\ & e^{i\frac{\alpha}{2}} \end{pmatrix}\right) = \text{diag}\{e^{-i\alpha m}\}, 1 \leq m \leq l \quad (31)$$

For the rotation matrix, substitute it into eq. define

$P_{mn}^l(\cos \beta) = \rho_{mn}^l\left(\begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\beta}{2} & -\sin \frac{\beta}{2} \\ \sin \frac{\beta}{2} & \cos \frac{\beta}{2} \end{pmatrix}\right)$  instead, we have

$$\rho_{mn}^l(g) = e^{-im\alpha - in\gamma} P_{mn}^l(\cos \beta) \quad (32)$$

This is the unirreps of  $SU(2)$ .  $\rho^l, P^l$  are termed **Wigner-D matrix** and **Wigner-d matrix**, resp.  $P_{mn}^l$  is **Jacobbi** polynomials, which degenerate into **Legendre poly.**  $P_{00}^l$  and **associated Legendre poly.**  $P_{m0}^l$ .

## Ways to construct new representations

- **Lift.** Consider a quotient group,  $H := G/Z$  and assume we have a representation  $\rho$  for  $H$ , then one can extend  $\rho$  to  $G$  by  $\rho(g) := \rho(hZ)$  if  $g \in hZ$ .
- Conversely, to restrict a  $\rho$  on  $G$  to  $H$ ,  $\rho(gZ)$  must be single-valued for any  $x \in gZ$ . **This is the case for  $SO(3)$ .**
- Assume we have representations  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  for  $G$ , then  $\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2$  is also a representation.

## $SO(3)$

Topologically,  $SO(3) \simeq SU(2)/\{I, -I\}$ . Thus  $\rho^l(I) = \rho^l(-I)$  must hold to yield  $\rho^l$  for  $SO(3)$ . This forces  $l$  to be **integers only**.



# Spherical Harmonic Functions Are Equivariant

The associated Legendre poly.  $P_m^l = \sqrt{\frac{(l+m)!}{(l-m)!}} P_{m0}^l$  and the spherical harmonics are  $Y_m^l(\theta, \phi) := \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)}{4\pi} \frac{(l-m)!}{(l+m)!}} P_m^l(\cos \theta) e^{im\phi}$ . A representation  $\rho$  must satisfy:

$$\rho(g_1 g_2) = \rho(g_1) \rho(g_2) \quad (33)$$

So its matrix elements must satisfy:

$$\rho_{m0}^l(g_1 g_2) = \sum_{n=-l}^l \rho_{mn}^l(g_1) \rho_{n0}^l(g_2) \Leftrightarrow Y_m^l(g_1 g_2) = \sum_{n=-l}^l (\rho_{mn}^l(g_1))^* Y_n^l(g_2) \quad (34)$$

If we identify  $SO(3)$  as the element of  $S^2$ , and rewrite  $g_1, g_2$  by  $g \in G, x \in S^2$ , we have the equivariance for  $S^2$  or  $SO(3)$ :

$$Y^l(gx) = (\rho^l(g))^* Y^l(x), Y^l(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{2l+1} \quad (35)$$



## Spherical CNN [10,11]

**Spherical CNN** follows the idea above, by identifying  $S^2$  as  $SO(3)/SO(2)$ . The first layer applies  $f \star g = \int_{x \in S^2} k(g^{-1}x) f(x) dx$ . To use spherical harmonics, it uses Fourier transform on  $S^2$  [10] and the transform enjoys the property:

$$\widehat{f \star k^l} = (\hat{k}^l)^* (\hat{f}^l)^T \quad (36)$$

Likewise, [11] applies  $f * g$  to construct equivariance instead.

**Remark** The first layer handles the unit vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , while the subsequent layers tackle with vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Thus  $\hat{f}$  in the first layer utilizes the unireps induced from  $SO(3)/SO(2)$  while other  $\hat{f}$ 's use the unireps of  $SO(3)$  directly.



# Clebsch-Gordan networks[12]

I: PDEs with  
Laplacian on  
Point Cloud:DM  
and PIM

II: Equivariance

We know that if  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  are irreps of  $SO(3)$ , then  $\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2$  is also a representation of  $G$ , however, not necessarily irreducible. Clebsch-Gordan coefficients are used to make  $\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2$  irreducible.

$$\rho_l = C_{l_1, l_2, l}^T (\rho_{l_1} \otimes \rho_{l_2}) C_{l_1, l_2, l} \quad (37)$$

Features in the representation spaces of  $\rho_{l_1}, \rho_{l_2}$  are  $f^{l_1}, f^{l_2}$ . It is showed that the feature in the presentation space of  $\rho_l$  can be obtained via **CG transformation**:

$$f^l := (f^{l_1} \otimes f^{l_2}) C_{l_1, l_2, l} \quad (38)$$



## SE(3) Equivariance[13,14]

[13] implements  $SE(3)$  equivariance. First, it enforces translation equivariance, i.e.,  $k \star f = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} k^*(y-x)f(y)dy$ .  $k$ , the function on  $G$ , is matrix-valued here. Then the  $SO(3)$  equivariance property of  $f$  requires:

$$k \star (\pi_i(rx)f) = \pi_o(rx)(k \star f) \Rightarrow k(rx) = \rho_o(r)k(x)\rho_i(r)^{-1} \quad (39)$$

Use different irreps  $\rho_i^{l_i}, \rho_o^{l_o}$ , and it gives  $k(rx) = \rho_o^{l_o}k_{l_o,l_i}(x)\rho_i^{l_i}$ . Define

$$k_{l_o,l_i}(x) := R(|x|)\Phi\left(\frac{x}{|x|}\right), \Phi(x) := (Y^{l_o})^* \otimes (Y^{l_i})^T \quad (40)$$

, one can show that  $\Phi(rx) = \rho_o^{l_o}\Phi(x)\rho_i^{l_i}$  and  $R(|x|)$  is to be learned.

Works left is to vectorize (40) and use CG-coefficients to yield irreps of  $k_{l_o,l_i}$  with CG-coefficients that helps to decompose the tensor representation:

$$\rho^{l_1} \otimes \rho^{l_2} = C_{l_i,l_o}^T \bigoplus_{|l_1-l_2| \leq l \leq l_1+l_2} \rho^l C_{l_i,l_o} \quad (41)$$