

Contributions to phase-aware audio source separation

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Main activities

Audio signal processing

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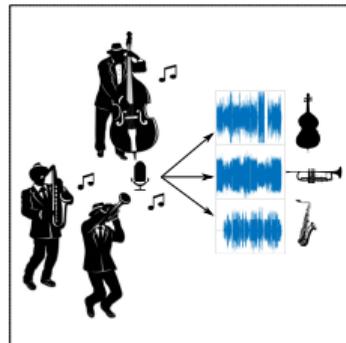
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Source separation



🇫🇷 PhD (2013-2016)

🇫🇮 Postdoc (2017-2019)

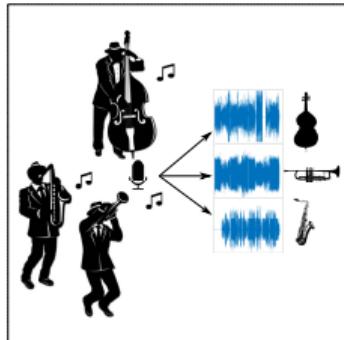
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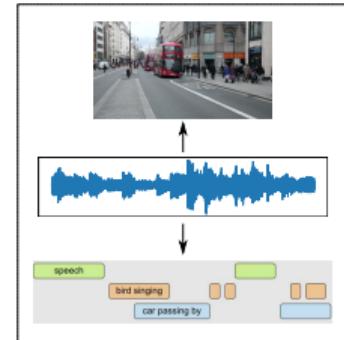
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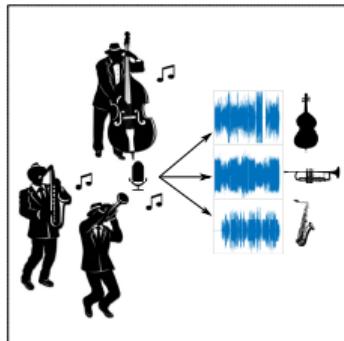
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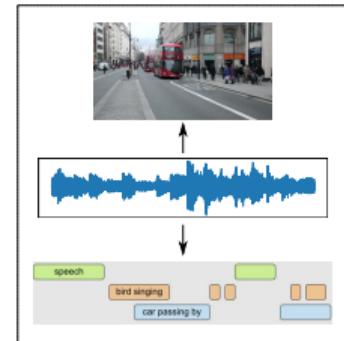
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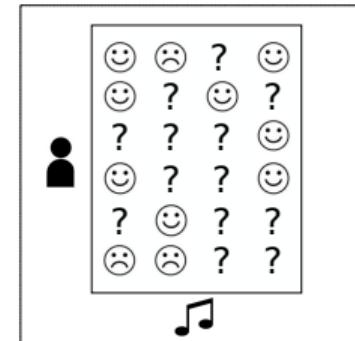
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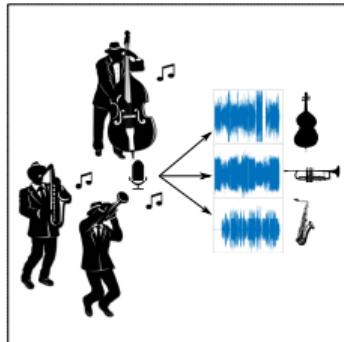
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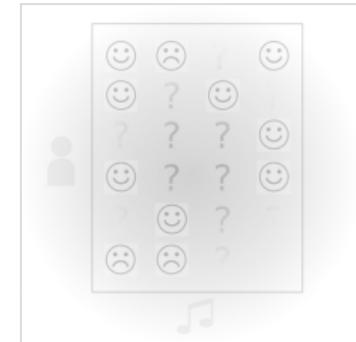
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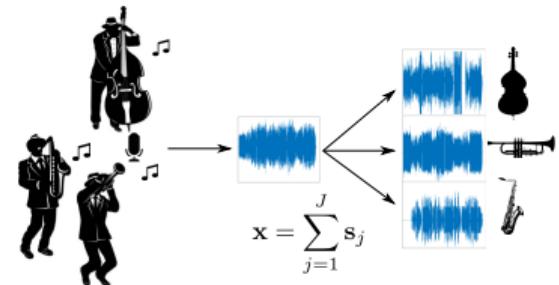
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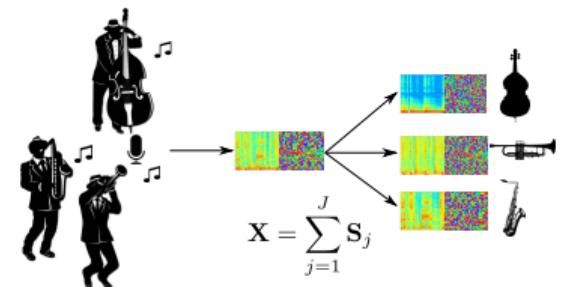


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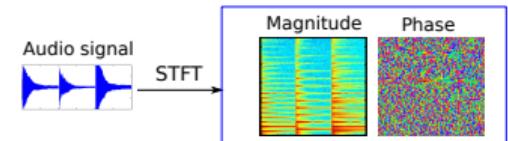
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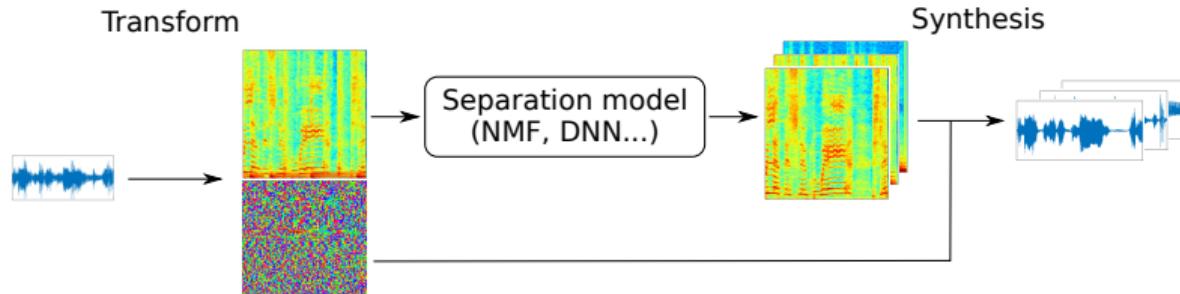
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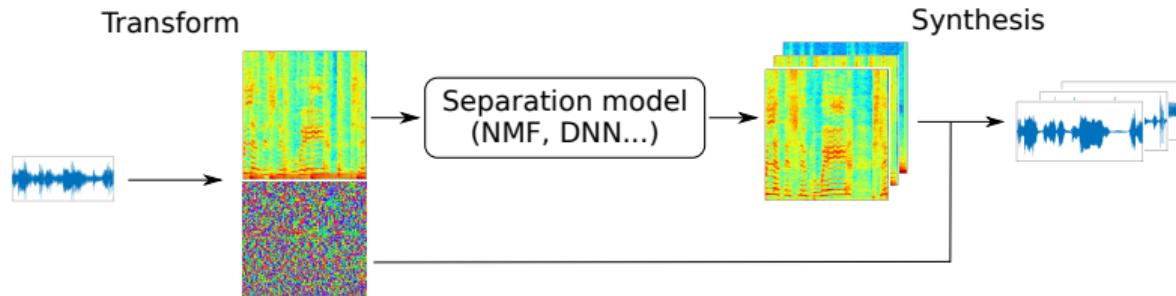
Time-frequency separation = acts on the short-time Fourier transform (STFT: $\mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{F \times T}$).



General framework

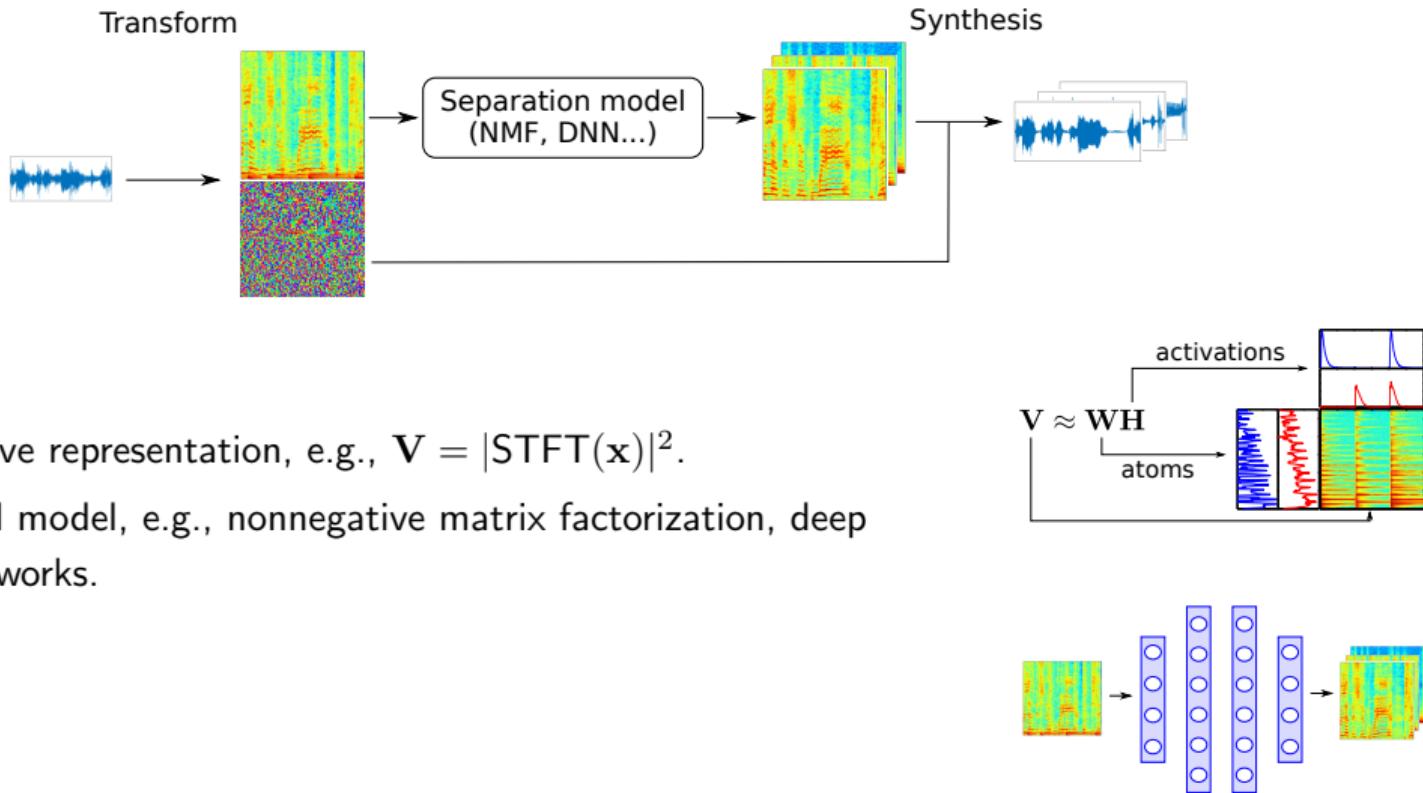


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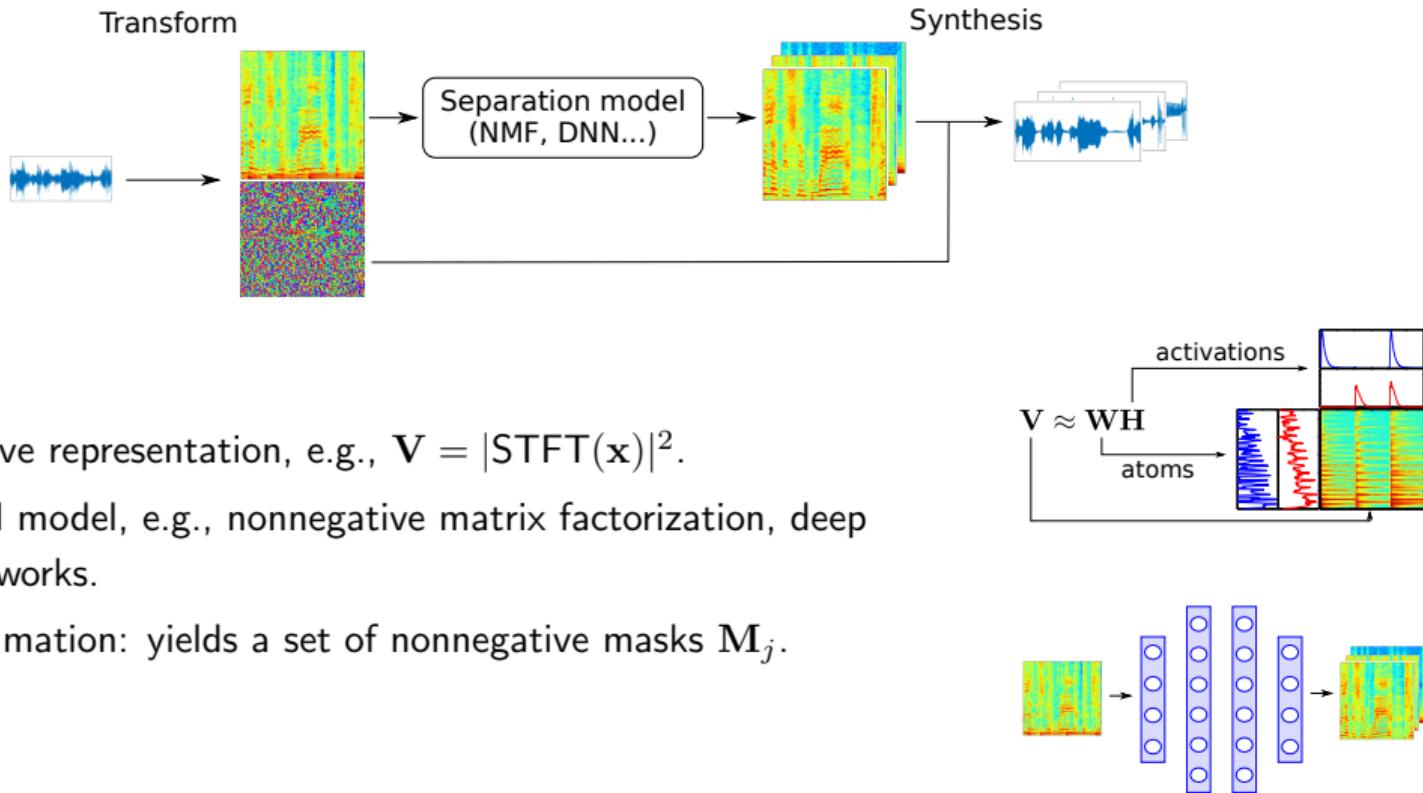
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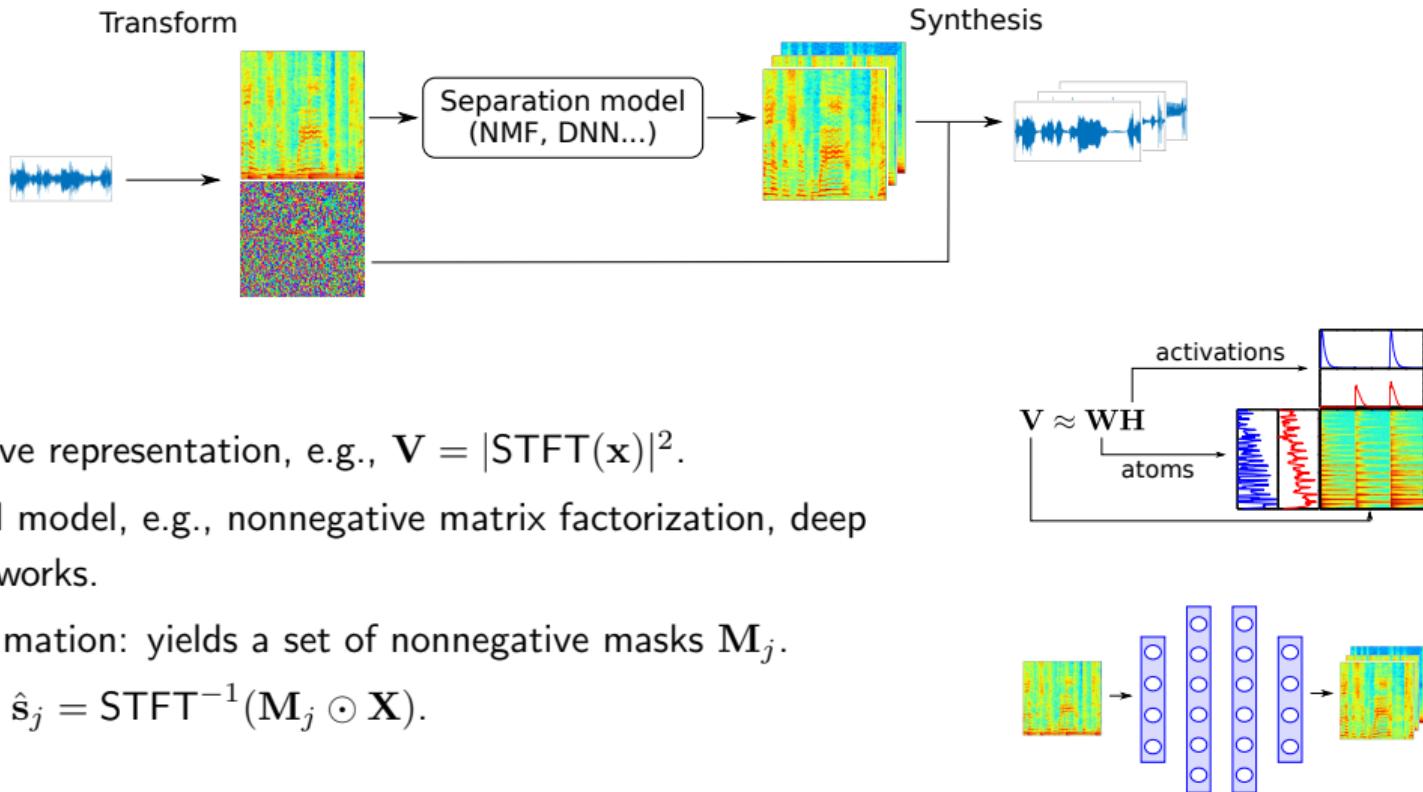
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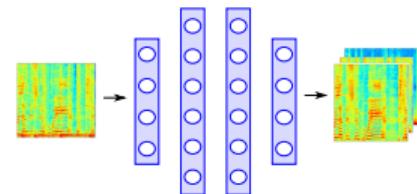


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4. Synthesis: $\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j = \text{STFT}^{-1}(\mathbf{M}_j \odot \mathbf{X})$.



The phase problem

Nonnegative masking: $\angle \hat{\mathbf{S}}_j = \angle \mathbf{X}$.

- ✗ Issues in sound quality when sources overlap in the TF domain.

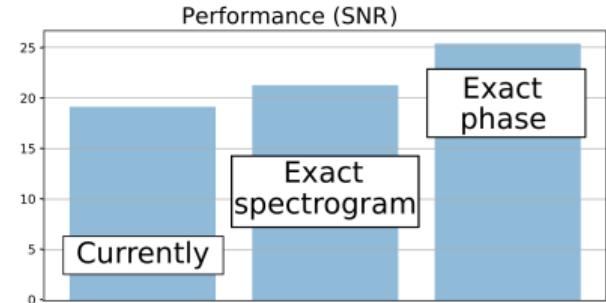
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- ▷ ... and in recent DNN-based techniques.



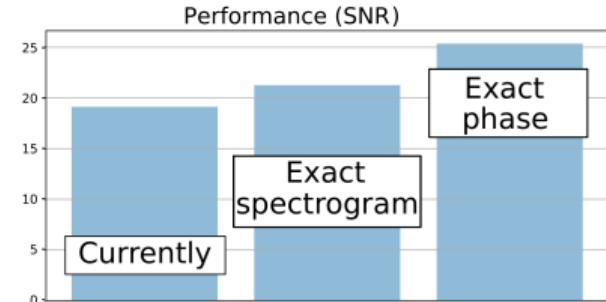
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Main message

More potential gain in phase recovery than in magnitude estimation.

Model-based phase recovery

Probabilistic phase modelling

Joint estimation of magnitude and phase

Perspectives

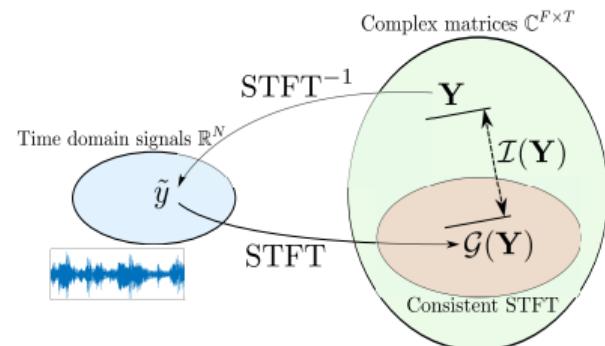
Model-based phase recovery

Consistency-based approaches

Nonnegative masking produces *inconsistent* estimates: $\hat{\mathbf{S}}_j \notin \text{STFT}(\mathbb{R}^N)$.

Inconsistency

$$\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{Y}) = \|\mathbf{Y} - \text{STFT} \circ \text{STFT}^{-1}(\mathbf{Y})\|^2$$



- ▷ Minimization of \mathcal{I} with alternating projections [Griffin '84].
- ▷ Extension to multiple-signals mixtures for source separation [Gunawan '10].
- ▷ Combination with Wiener filtering [Le Roux '13].

Gunawan and Sen, "Iterative phase estimation for the synthesis of separated sources from single-channel mixtures", *IEEE Signal Processing Letters*, May 2010.
Griffin and Lim, "Signal estimation from modified short-time Fourier transform", *IEEE Transactions on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing*, April 1984.
Le Roux and Vincent, "Consistent Wiener filtering for audio source separation", *IEEE Signal Processing Letters*, March 2013.

Sinusoidal phase model

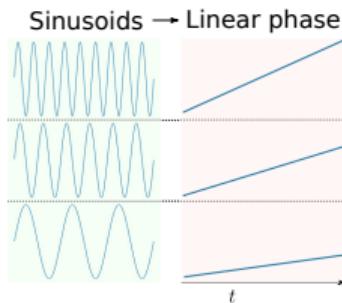
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The STFT phase follows: $\mu_{f,t} = \mu_{f,t-1} + 2\pi l \nu_{f,t}$

- ▷ l is the hop size of the STFT.
- ▷ $\nu_{f,t} = \nu_p$ for channels f under the influence of the frequency peak p .

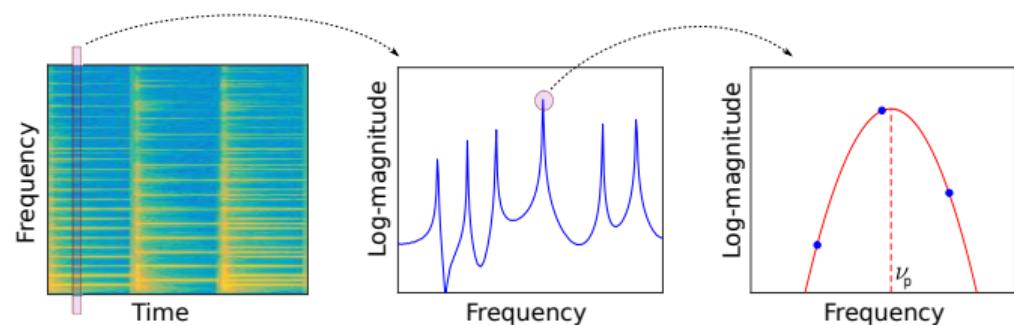
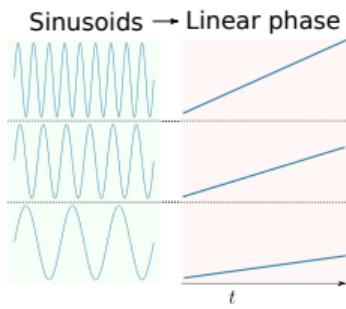


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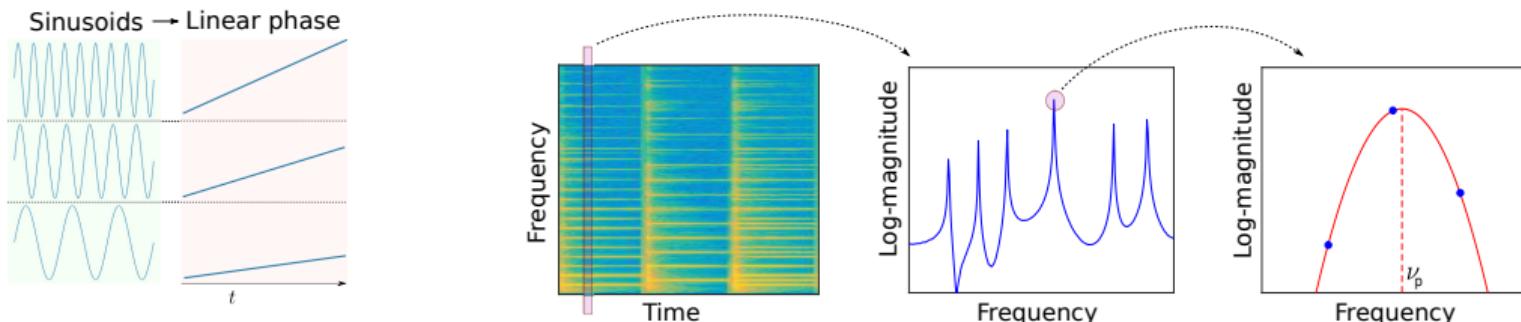


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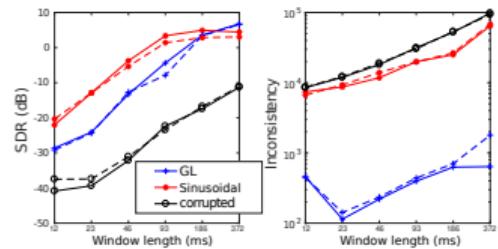


- ✓ Accounting for non-stationary signals.
- ✓ A suitable technique for real-time processing.

Sinusoidal phase model

Restoration of piano pieces:

- ▷ Better performance than the GL algorithm: a lower inconsistency does not mean a higher SDR.
- ▷ The longer the window, the higher SDR (better frequency resolution), but this does not apply to non-stationary signals.
- ✗ But overall low SDR: error propagates over time frames.



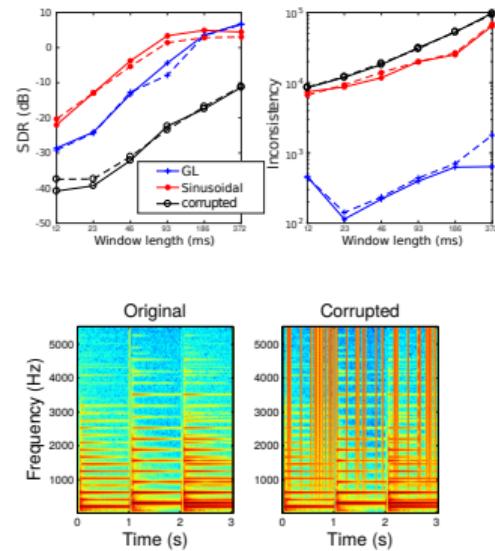
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Applications scenarios

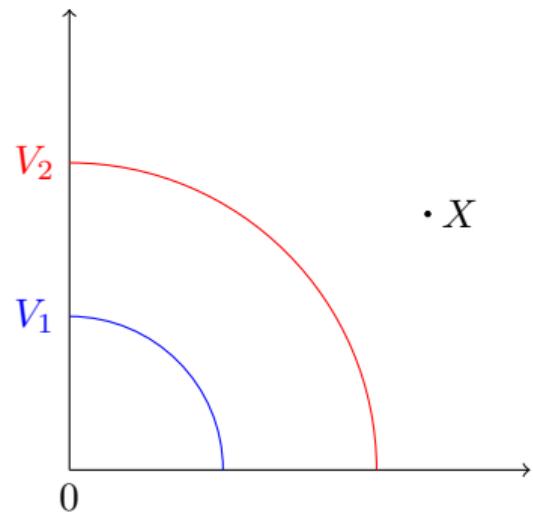
- ▷ Few frames to restore: click removal [EUSIPCO '15].
- ▷ Exploit additional information: source separation.



Source separation algorithm

Problem Given target magnitude values \mathbf{V}_j , solve:

$$\min_{\{\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j\}} \|\mathbf{X} - \sum_{j=1}^J \hat{\mathbf{s}}_j\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad |\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j| = \mathbf{V}_j$$



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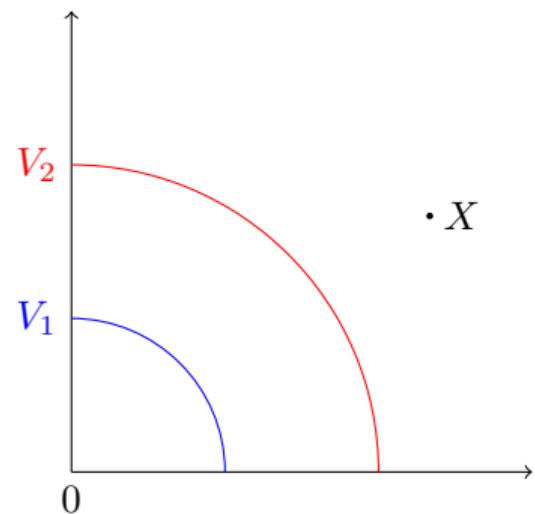
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- ▷ Introduce auxiliary variables \mathbf{Y}_j s.t. $\mathbf{X} = \sum_j \mathbf{Y}_j$.
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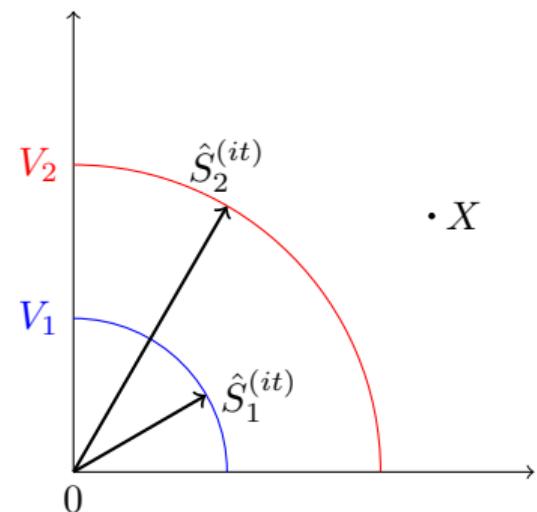
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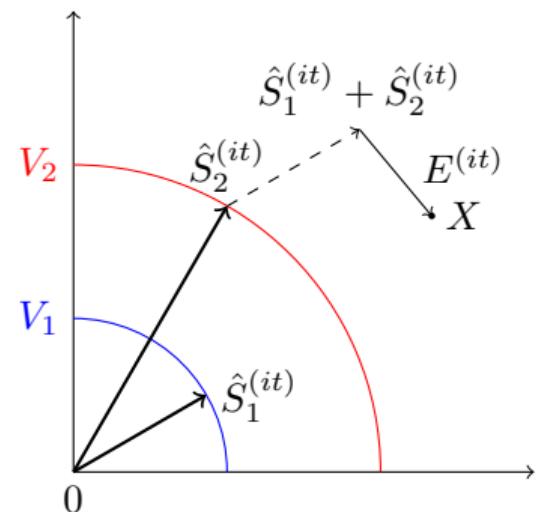
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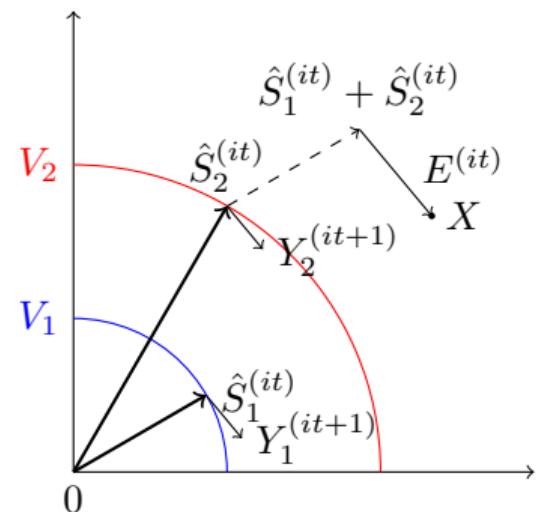
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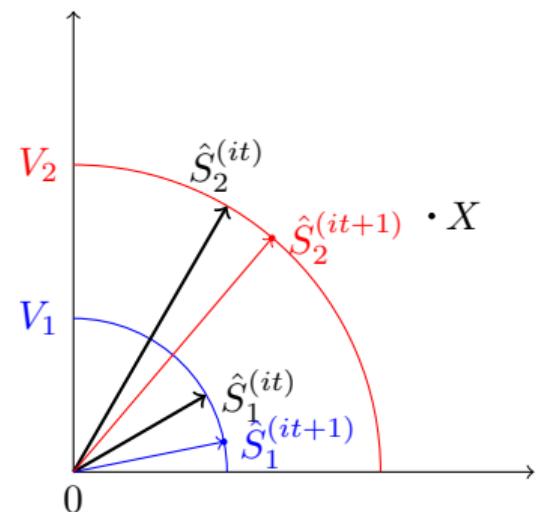
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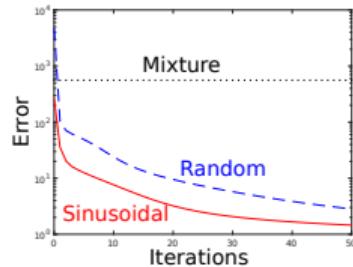
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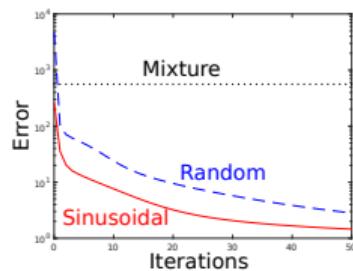


	SDR (dB)	SIR (dB)	SAR (dB)
Mixture	7.5	13.7	8.9
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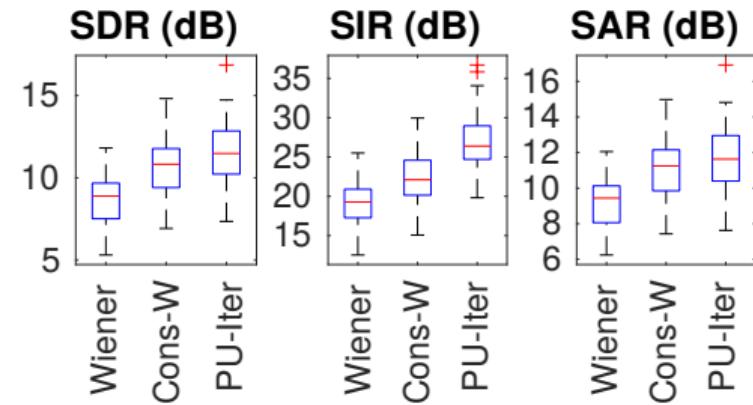
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Comparison with Wiener filters:



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✓ Leveraging the sinusoidal phase model reduces interference between source estimates.

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A first (naive) approach in the STFT domain:

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▷ Optimization with MM: the MISI algorithm, but convergence-guaranteed [Wang '19], [SPL '20].

On top of initial estimates $\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j$, iterate the following:

STFT

$$\hat{\mathbf{S}}_j = \text{STFT}(\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j)$$

Magnitude modification

$$\mathbf{Y}_j = \mathbf{V}_j \odot \frac{\hat{\mathbf{S}}_j}{|\hat{\mathbf{S}}_j|}$$

Inverse STFT

$$\mathbf{y}_j = \text{iSTFT}(\mathbf{Y}_j)$$

Mixing

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j = \mathbf{y}_j + \frac{1}{J} \left(\mathbf{x} - \sum_{i=1}^J \mathbf{y}_i \right)$$

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- ▷ Extends the Griffin-Lim algorithm to multiple sources in mixture models.
 - ✗ Offline processing, not applicable in real-time.
 - ✗ How can we leverage the sinusoidal model?

Online MISI

Problem: MISI involves the inverse STFT, which does not operate online:

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{T-1} \mathbf{s}'_{j,k}(n - tl) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{s}'_{j,k} = \text{iDFT}(\hat{\mathbf{S}}_{j,k}) \odot \mathbf{w}$$

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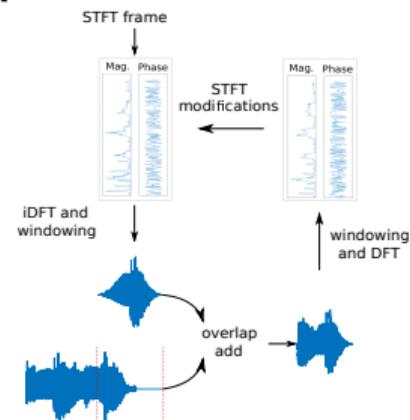
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- ▷ Only use K look-ahead future frames: allows for real-time processing and alternative initialization (e.g., sinusoidal phase).



Alternative divergences

Problem setting

- ▷ MISI relies on the Euclidean distance: not the most appropriate in audio.
- ▷ Popular alternatives: the beta-divergences (e.g., Kullback-Leibler, Itakura-Saito).

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Phase retrieval with beta-divergences

$$\min_{\{\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j\}} \sum_j D_\beta(|\text{STFT}(\hat{\mathbf{s}}_j)|, \mathbf{V}_j) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_j \hat{\mathbf{s}}_j = \mathbf{x}$$

- ▷ Optimization with accelerated gradient descent or ADMM.
- ▷ First for single-signal [Vial '21], then extended to multiple-signals [ICASSP '21].
- ▷ Experimentally: alternative divergences (e.g., KL) > Euclidean.

Probabilistic phase modelling

Probabilistic framework

Why?

- ▷ Modeling uncertainty.
- ▷ Incorporating prior information.
- ▷ Obtaining estimators with nice statistical properties.
- ▷ Deriving inference schemes with convergence guarantees.

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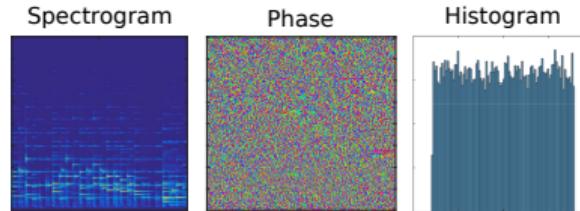
\Rightarrow Phase-unaware estimators.

My approach

A phase-aware probabilistic framework for source separation.

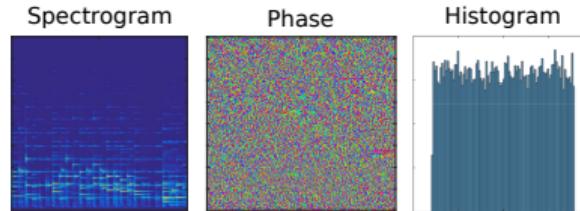
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A simple example (piano piece), where the phase appears uniformly-distributed.



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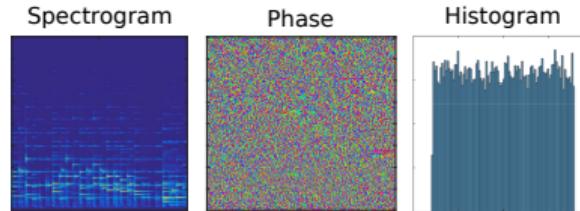
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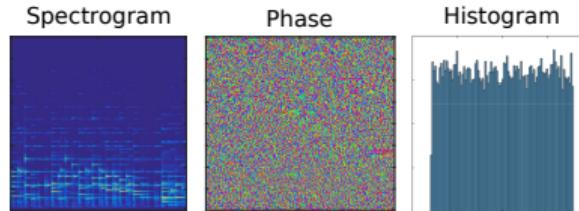
- ▷ The histogram validates an iid assumption on $\{\phi_{f,t}\}$:

$$\phi_{f,t} \sim \mathcal{D} \text{ and independent } \rightarrow \mathcal{D} = \mathcal{U}_{[0,2\pi[}$$

- ▷ This model only conveys a **global** information.

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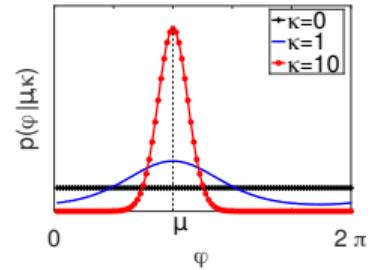
- ▷ This model only conveys a **global** information.

What about the **local structure** of the phase?

Von Mises phase model

Von Mises distribution $\phi_{f,t} \sim \mathcal{VM}(\mu_{f,t}, \kappa)$

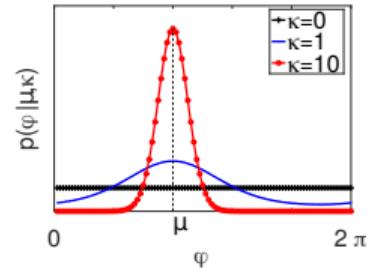
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Model

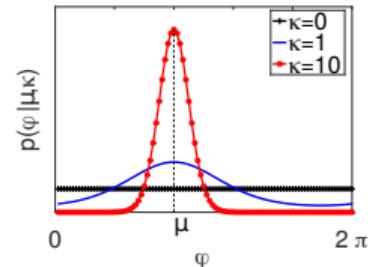
- ▷ $\mu_{f,t}$ given by the sinusoidal phase model.

Distribution	Uniform	VM
iid	$\phi_{f,t} \sim \mathcal{U}_{[0,2\pi[}$	$\phi_{f,t} \sim \mathcal{VM}(\mu_{f,t}, \kappa)$
Local structure	✗	✓

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Model

- ▷ $\mu_{f,t}$ given by the sinusoidal phase model.
- ▷ Center the phases: $\psi_{f,t} = \phi_{f,t} - \mu_{f,t}$.

Distribution	Uniform	VM	Centered VM
$\phi_{f,t} \sim \mathcal{U}_{[0,2\pi[}$	\checkmark	\times	\checkmark
iid	\checkmark	\times	\checkmark
Local structure	\times	\checkmark	\checkmark

Von Mises phase model

Model estimation

- ▷ For $\mu_{f,t}$: quadratic interpolation (as before).
- ▷ For κ : maximum likelihood: $\frac{I_1(\kappa)}{I_0(\kappa)} = \frac{1}{FT} \sum_{f,t} \cos(\psi_{ft})$, solved with fast numerical schemes.

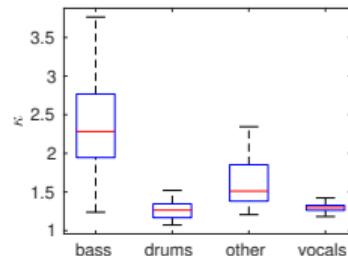
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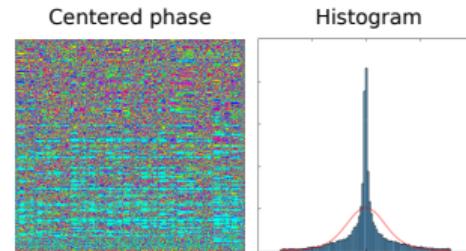
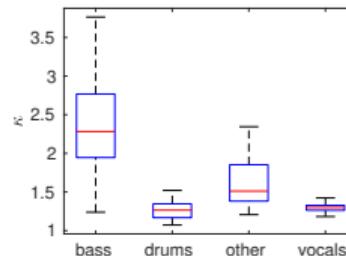
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Validation

- ▷ κ quantifies the “sinusoidality” of the sources.
- ▷ Both uniform and VM models are statistically relevant.
- ▷ They convey different information about the phase (global vs. local).



Multiple-source model

In each time-frequency bin:

$$x = \sum_{j=1}^J s_j$$

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	Phase-aware	Tractable
Isotropic Gaussian	✗	✓

Isotropic Gaussian model

- ▷ $s_j \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(m_j, \Gamma_j)$ with $\Gamma_j = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_j & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma_j \end{pmatrix}$ (m_j : mean (location) / γ_j : variance (energy)).
- ▷ Equivalently in polar coordinates, $s_j = r_j e^{i\phi_j}$ with:
 - ▷ $r_j \sim \mathcal{R}(v_j)$ (Rayleigh magnitude).
 - ▷ $\phi_j \sim \mathcal{U}_{[0, 2\pi[}$ (uniform phase).

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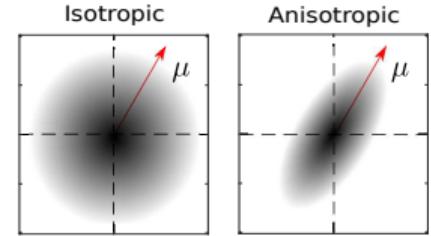
Rayleigh + von Mises model: uniform \rightarrow von Mises: phase-aware... but not tractable.

Anisotropic Gaussian model

Anisotropic sources

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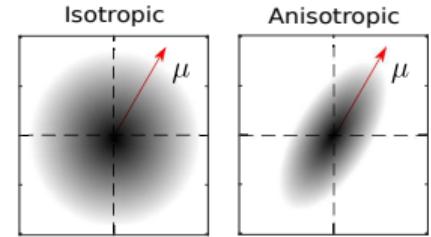
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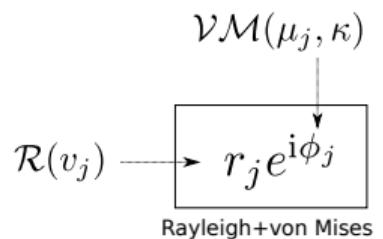
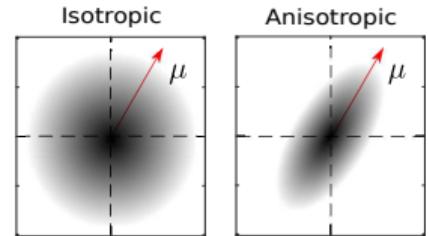
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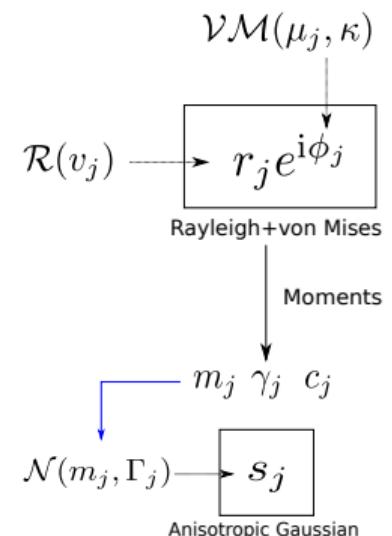
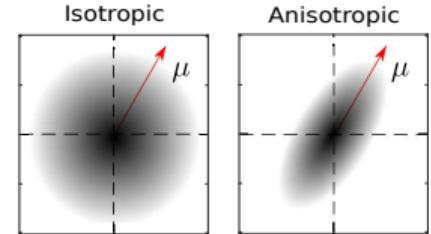
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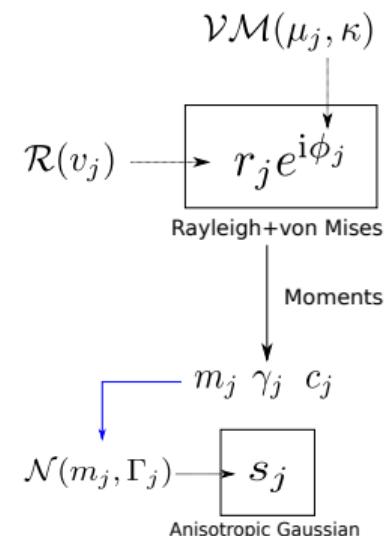
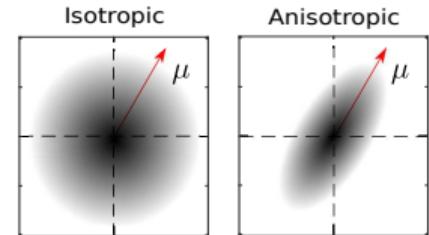
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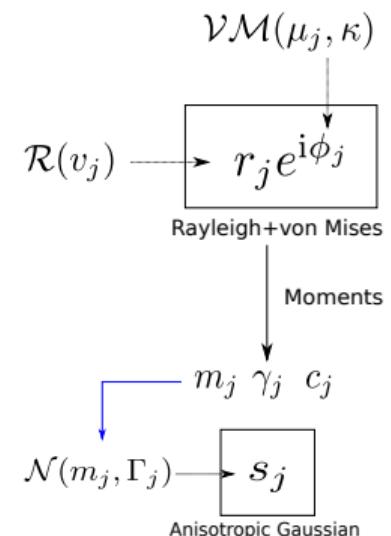
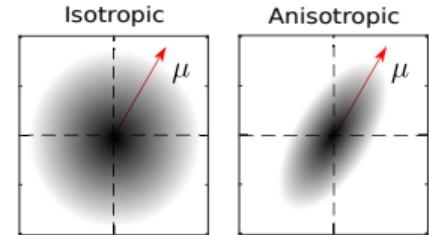
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Anisotropic Gaussian model
Fully tractable, phase-aware, and interpretable.



Application to source separation

Anisotropic Wiener filter [ICASSP '17]

- ▷ Posterior mean of the sources: $\hat{\mathbf{S}}_j = \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{S}_j | \mathbf{X})$.
- ▷ Optimal in the MMSE sense, conservative set of estimates.
- ▷ If $\kappa \rightarrow 0$, it reduces to the Wiener filter.

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Performance on the DSD100 dataset:

	SDR	SIR	SAR
Wiener	8.5	19.1	9.1
Anisotropic Wiener	9.7	21.9	10.1

- ✓ Including phase information in the filter improves the separation quality.
- ✓ Potential of a phase-aware statistical framework.

Again... consistency?

Reminder: the (anisotropic) Wiener filter produces inconsistent matrices.

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Consistent anisotropic Wiener [WASPAA '17]

- ▷ Consider the loss function:

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CW	✗	✓

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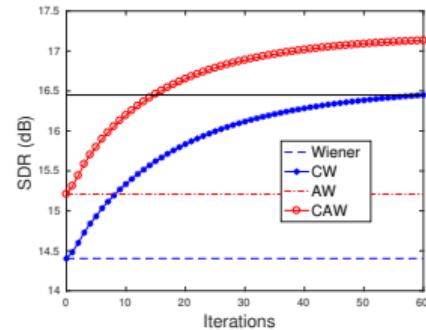
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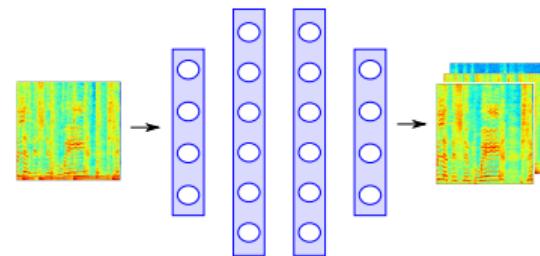
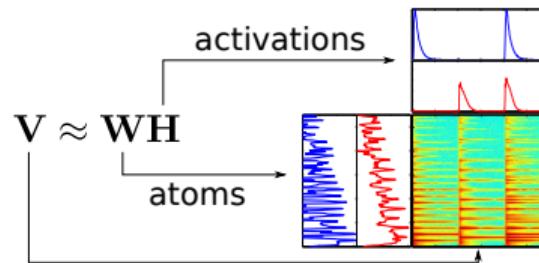


Joint estimation of magnitude and phase

Realistic source separation

Goal: estimate the magnitude **and** the phase of the sources.

- ▷ Needs an additional spectrogram-like model and estimation technique.



Approaches

- ▷ Two-stage: first estimate the magnitude, and then recover the phase.
- ▷ One-stage: jointly estimate the magnitude and the phase.

Two-stage approaches

NMF + phase recovery [the previous papers]

- ▷ Phase recovery induces a slight improvement (interference reduction).

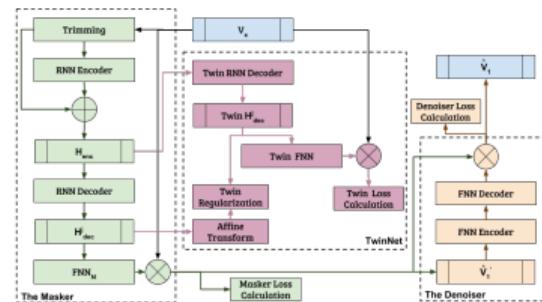
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DNN + phase recovery [Interspeech '18, IWAENC '18]

- ▷ More significant results (DNNs > NMF).
- ▷ Phase recovery makes sense on top of good magnitude estimates.

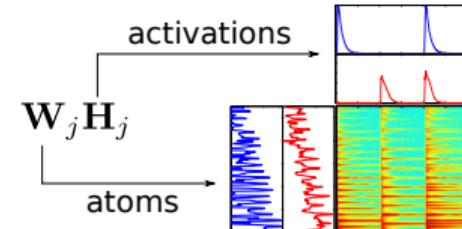


Complex NMF

NMF-based spectrogram decomposition

$$|\mathbf{X}| \approx \mathbf{WH} = \sum_{j=1}^J \mathbf{W}_j \mathbf{H}_j$$

- ✗ Assumes the additivity of the sources' magnitudes.
- ✗ Phase is ignored.

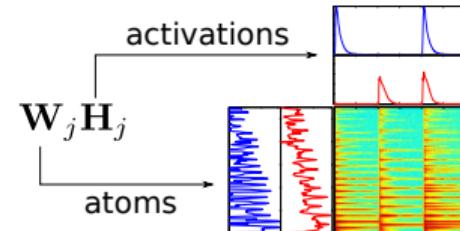


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Phase-constrained complex NMF [ICASSP '16]

- ✓ Assumes additivity of the sources, and factorize each source spectrogram.

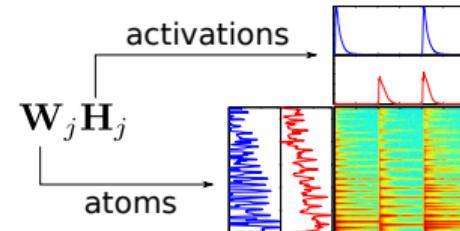
$$\mathbf{X} \approx \sum_{j=1}^J \mathbf{W}_j \mathbf{H}_j e^{i\mu_j}$$

Complex NMF

NMF-based spectrogram decomposition

$$|\mathbf{X}| \approx \mathbf{WH} = \sum_{j=1}^J \mathbf{W}_j \mathbf{H}_j$$

- ✗ Assumes the additivity of the sources' magnitudes.
- ✗ Phase is ignored.



Phase-constrained complex NMF [ICASSP '16]

- ✓ Assumes additivity of the sources, and factorize each source spectrogram.

$$\mathbf{X} \approx \sum_{j=1}^J \mathbf{W}_j \mathbf{H}_j e^{i\mu_j} \xrightarrow{\text{estimation}} \min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H}, \boldsymbol{\mu}} \left\| \mathbf{X} - \sum_{j=1}^J [\mathbf{W}_j \mathbf{H}_j] e^{i\mu_j} \right\|^2 + \mathcal{C}(\boldsymbol{\mu})$$

- ▷ Regularize the phases with model-based properties.
- ▷ Optimization with coordinate descent or MM.

Extending complex NMF to beta-divergences

Problem

- ▷ NMF can be estimated using a variety of loss functions (e.g., beta-divergences).
- ▷ Complex NMF is estimated using the Euclidean distance.
- ▷ Most beta-divergences are defined for nonnegative quantities only.

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- ▷ NMF can be used in a probabilistic model to structure some parameter.
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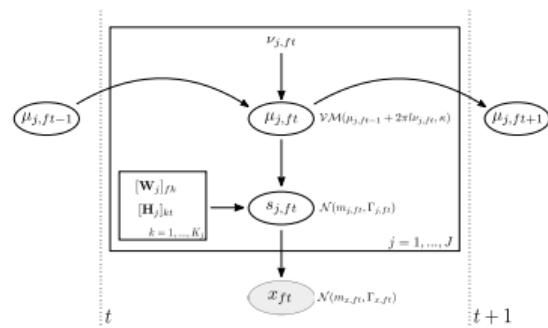
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Anisotropic Gaussian sources

$$s_j \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(m_j, \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_j & c_j \\ \bar{c}_j & \gamma_j \end{pmatrix})$$

- ▷ The moments depend on three parameters.
- ▷ NMF on the energy parameter: $v_j = w_j h_j$.
- ▷ Markov chain prior on the phase parameter μ_j .



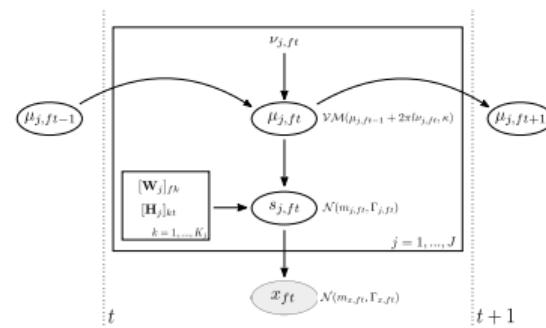
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Complex ISNMF

- ▷ Estimation with an expectation-maximization algorithm:
 - ▷ E-step: compute the posterior moments.
 - ▷ M-step: minimize some Itakura-Saito divergence to estimate the parameters.
- ▷ Better results than the Euclidean (complex) NMF and the (nonnegative) ISNMF.



Perspectives

From nonnegative to time-domain deep learning



From nonnegative to time-domain deep learning

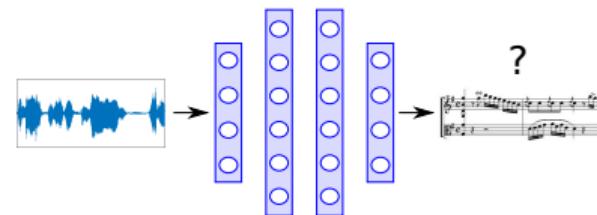


- ✓ Performance in controlled conditions.
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From nonnegative to time-domain deep learning



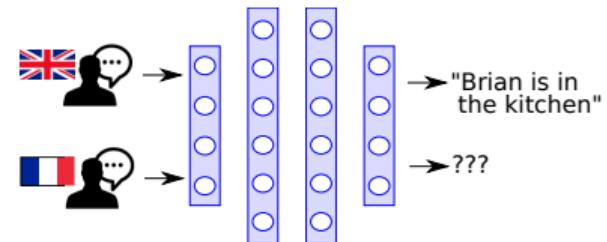
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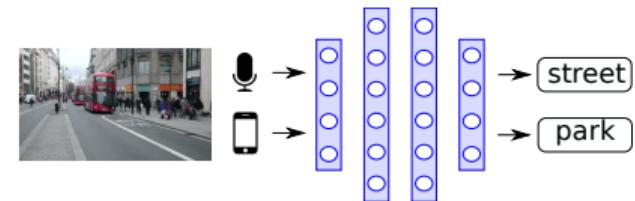
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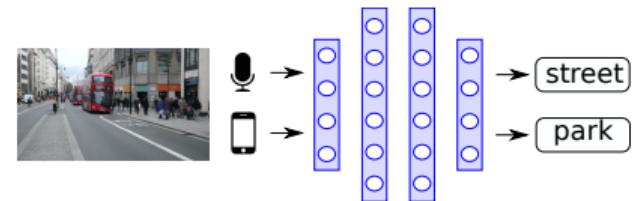
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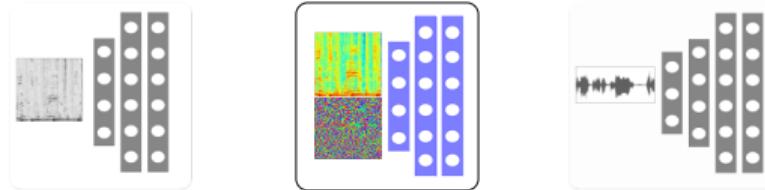
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Major challenges

- ▷ Complexity and diversity of acoustic scenes: need for **flexible** systems.
- ▷ Energetic impact of deep learning: need for more **data-efficiency** [Strubell '19].

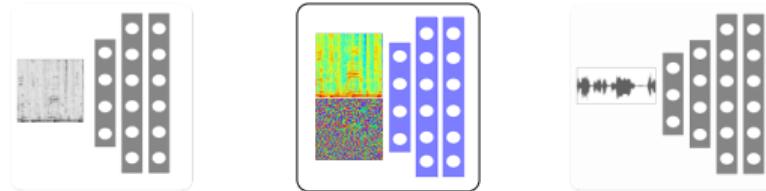
An alternative



Complex-domain deep learning

- ✓ Robustness/flexibility of time-frequency processing [Ditter '20].
- ✓ Performance of processing all the data exhaustively.

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Complex-domain deep learning

- ✓ Robustness/flexibility of time-frequency processing [Ditter '20].
- ✓ Performance of processing all the data exhaustively.

- ▷ How to handle phase in deep learning?
- ▷ How to promote robustness in complex-valued systems?
- ▷ How to efficiently use time-domain data?

Complex-valued networks

Deep phase processing

- ✓ Generalize phase models from signal analysis with deep learning.

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_t = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1} + 2\pi l \boldsymbol{\nu}_t \quad \rightarrow \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_t = \underbrace{\mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{\nu}_t, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1}, \dots, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-\tau})}_{\text{temporal dynamic}} \quad \text{with} \quad \boldsymbol{\nu}_t = \underbrace{\mathcal{C}(|\mathbf{x}|_t)}_{\text{frequency extraction}}$$

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- ▷ Architectural choices (non-linearities, loss functions) adapted to the phase (periodicity).
- ▷ Identify and exploit perceptual phase invariants.



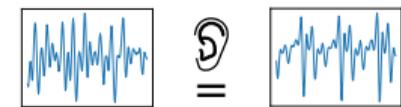
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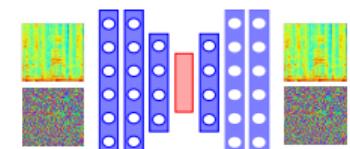
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Joint magnitude and phase processing.

- ✓ Exploit a polar decomposition for structuring the data.

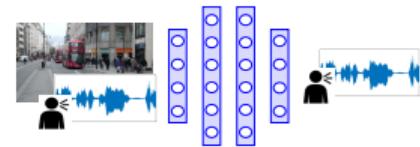
- ▷ Joint latent representation from magnitude and phase.
- ▷ (Variational) anisotropic auto-encoders.



Complex-valued networks

Promoting robustness

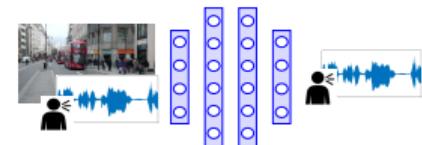
- ▷ Noise-invariance by complex domain adaptation.
- ▷ Reverberation-invariance through leveraging spatial models.



Complex-valued networks

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Conjunction with time-domain approaches

- ✓ Network design in the complex domain, refine the transform with time-domain training data.
 - ▷ Direct transform: perceptually-motivated filterbanks.
 - ▷ Inverse transform: deep unfolding of phase recovery algorithm.



Conclusion

Main messages

- ▷ The room for improvement of phase recovery: more potential gain than with magnitudes.
- ▷ A promising approach: leveraging model-based phase properties.
- ▷ Incorporate phase in deep learning for complex-valued networks: performance and robustness.

 <https://magronp.github.io/>

 <https://github.com/magronp/>

Thanks!



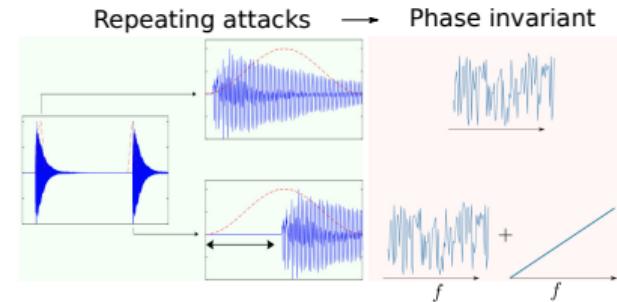
Onsets phase

Onsets play an important perceptual role and initialize the sinusoidal model.

Model of repeated audio events [WASPAA '15]

- ▷ From one onset frame to another, an audio event is the same up to scaling and delay.
- ▷ Consequence on the phase:

$$\mu_{f,t} = \underbrace{\psi_f}_{\text{invariant}} + \underbrace{\eta_t f}_{\text{offset}}$$



Incorporation in a mixture model

- ▷ Estimation with coordinate descent or MM.
- ▷ Slight improvement over using the mixture's phase.

Unfolded ADMM for phase retrieval

Phase retrieval with Bregman divergences:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^L} \mathcal{D}_\psi(|\text{STFT}(\mathbf{x})|, \mathbf{V})$$

ADMM algorithm:

- ▷ Involves the proximity operator of the divergence...
- ▷ ... not available in closed-form in general.

Unfolded ADMM:

- ▷ Treat each iteration of ADMM as a neural architecture layer.
- ▷ Replace the proximity operator with trainable activation functions.

