



## Continuous generative neural networks

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## CGNNs in one sentence

**Continuous Generative Neural Networks** (CGNNs) are a machine learning architecture that represent elements in infinite-dimensional function spaces and provide Lipschitz stability for inverse problems.

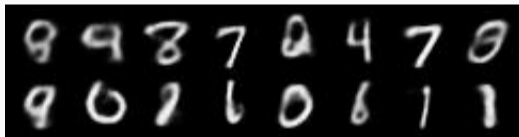
## CGNNs in one formula

A **CGNN**  $G: \mathbb{R}^{40} \rightarrow L^2((0, 1)^2)$  generating a 40-dim manifold of handwritten digits.

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$z \sim (\mathcal{N}(0, 1))^{40} \xrightarrow{16 \text{ times}}$



# Outline

Generative models, inverse problems and stability

Continuous Generative Neural Networks

# Generative models for inverse problems

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**Classical reconstruction**

Given  $y = \mathcal{F}(x^\dagger) + \varepsilon$ , determine  $x^\dagger$  by solving

$$\arg \min_{x \in X} \{ \|\mathcal{F}(x) - y\|^2 + R(x) \}.$$



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With a generative model

Determine  $x^\dagger = G(z^\dagger)$  by solving

$$\arg \min_{z \in Z} \{ \|\mathcal{F}(G(z)) - y\|^2 \},$$

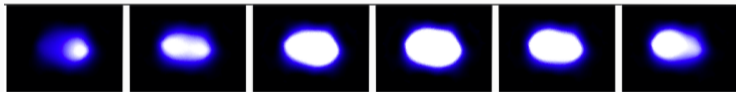
where  $G: Z \rightarrow X$  is a generator.

# Example with electrical impedance tomography<sup>1</sup>

Ground truth



Regularized least square method



Proposed deep learning based method



Classical approach:

$$y = F(x)$$

With Generative models:

$$y = F(G(z))$$

## A general Lipschitz stability result<sup>2</sup>

### Theorem (Alberti-Arroyo-S. 2022)

If

- $M \subseteq X$  **finite-dimensional manifold**,
- and  $\mathcal{F}|_M$  and  $\mathcal{F}'(x)|_{T_x M}$ , for  $x \in M$ , are injective,

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then

$$\|x_1 - x_2\|_X \leq C \|\mathcal{F}(x_1) - \mathcal{F}(x_2)\|_Y, \quad x_1, x_2 \in M.$$

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**Pros:** higher stability, more accurate modeling, less computations.

**Cons:** missing theory!



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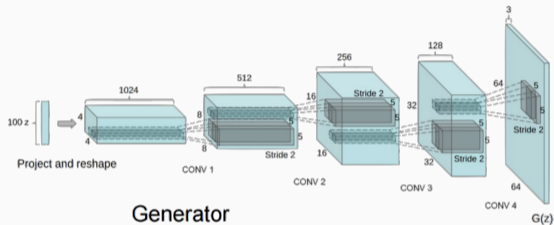
Continuous Generative Neural Networks

## How to build a CGNN: the discrete case

Many architectures: fully connected, **convolutional**, transformers, etc.

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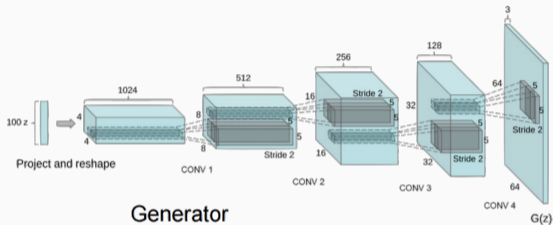


## Fully Connected layer

$$y = \sigma(Fx + b)$$

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Fully Connected layer

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Convolutional layer (filters  $t_i^k$ )

$$(f_{\text{out}})_k = \sigma \left( \sum_{i=1}^c (f_{\text{in}})_i * t_i^k + b^k \right)$$

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Discrete case



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Continuous case

$$V_j \xrightarrow[\text{conv.}]{\Psi} L^2([0, 1]) \xrightarrow[\text{proj.}]{P_{V_{j-1}}} V_{j-1},$$

- $\Psi$  is a continuous convolution
- $\dots \subseteq V_{j-1} \subseteq V_j \subseteq V_{j+1} \subseteq \dots$ : scale spaces of a wavelet multiresolution analysis

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**Easy implementation.** Discrete convolution (almost) for the wavelet coefficients

# Discrete and Continuous Generator structure in 1D <sup>3</sup>

## Discrete Generator

$$\begin{aligned} G: \mathbb{R}^n &\xrightarrow[\text{f.c.}]{F \cdot + b} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_1})^{c_1} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_1})^{c_1} \\ &\xrightarrow[\text{conv.}]{\Psi_2} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_2})^{c_2} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_2})^{c_2} \dots \\ \dots &\xrightarrow[\text{conv.}]{\Psi_L} \mathbb{R}^{\alpha_L} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} \mathbb{R}^{\alpha_L} \end{aligned}$$

$$c_1 > c_2 > \dots > c_L$$

$$\alpha_1 < \alpha_2 < \dots < \alpha_L$$

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<sup>3</sup>J. Bruna, S. Mallat, [Invariant Scattering Convolution Networks](#), 2012

N. Kovachki et al., [Neural Operator: Learning Maps Between Function Spaces](#), 2021

A. Habring, M. Holler, [A generative variational model for inverse problems in imaging](#), 2022

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# Discrete and Continuous Generator structure in $\mathbb{1D}^3$

## Discrete Generator

$$\begin{aligned} G: \mathbb{R}^\eta &\xrightarrow[\text{f.c.}]{F \cdot + b} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_1})^{c_1} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_1})^{c_1} \\ &\xrightarrow[\text{conv.}]{\Psi_2} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_2})^{c_2} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} (\mathbb{R}^{\alpha_2})^{c_2} \dots \\ &\dots \xrightarrow[\text{conv.}]{\Psi_L} \mathbb{R}^{\alpha_L} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} \mathbb{R}^{\alpha_L} \end{aligned}$$

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## Continuous Generator

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## Continuous Generator structure in 1D: Formalization

$$\begin{aligned}
 G: \mathbb{R}^n &\xrightarrow[\text{f.c.}]{F \cdot + b} (V_{j_1})^{c_1} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} (L^2([0, 1]))^{c_1} \xrightarrow[\text{proj.}]{P_{(V_{j_1})^{c_1}}} (V_{j_1})^{c_1} \\
 &\xrightarrow[\text{conv.}]{\Psi_2} (L^2([0, 1]))^{c_2} \xrightarrow[\text{proj.}]{P_{(V_{j_2})^{c_2}}} (V_{j_2})^{c_2} \xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} (L^2([0, 1]))^{c_2} \\
 &\xrightarrow[\text{proj.}]{P_{(V_{j_2})^{c_2}}} (V_{j_2})^{c_2} \dots \xrightarrow[\text{conv.}]{\Psi_L} L^2([0, 1]) \xrightarrow[\text{proj.}]{P_{V_{j_L}}} V_{j_L} \\
 &\xrightarrow[\text{non lin.}]{\sigma} L^2([0, 1]) \xrightarrow[\text{proj.}]{P_{V_{j_L}}} V_{j_L}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Main features

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Injectivity<sup>4</sup>

**Theorem (G.S.Alberti, M. S., S. Sciutto, 2022)**

Assume  $F$  injective,  $\sigma$  injective and linear independence of convolutional filters.  
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### Lipschitz stability for inverse problems

**Theorem (G.S.Alberti, M. S., S. Sciutto, 2022)**

Assume  $G$  as above, set  $\text{Im}(G) = M$ . Then

$$\|x - y\|_X \leq C \|\mathcal{F}(x) - \mathcal{F}(y)\|_Y, \quad x, y \in M.$$

# Conclusions

## Limitations

- Training protocols (we used variational autoencoders)
- Architecture (convolutional; we only used the approximation coefficients)
- Manifold learning (only one chart)

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## Future work

- Multiple generators for nontrivial topologies (with J. Hertrich)
- Different architectures
- How does the training affect the reconstruction performances?

[**Continuous Generative Neural Networks**, preprint arXiv:2205.14627]