

Phase recovery for audio demixing: contributions and perspectives

Talk at Neural DSP - Helsinki, August 18th, 2022

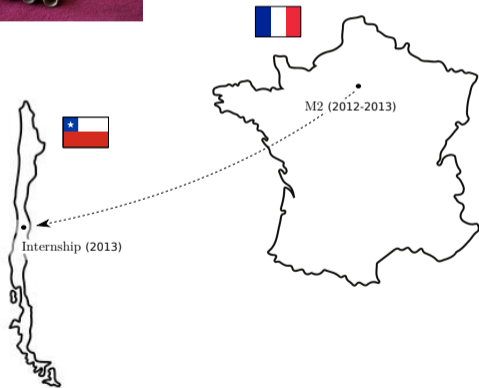
Paul Magron, Researcher - INRIA Nancy Grand Est

The logo for INRIA, consisting of the word "Inria" written in a red, cursive script font.

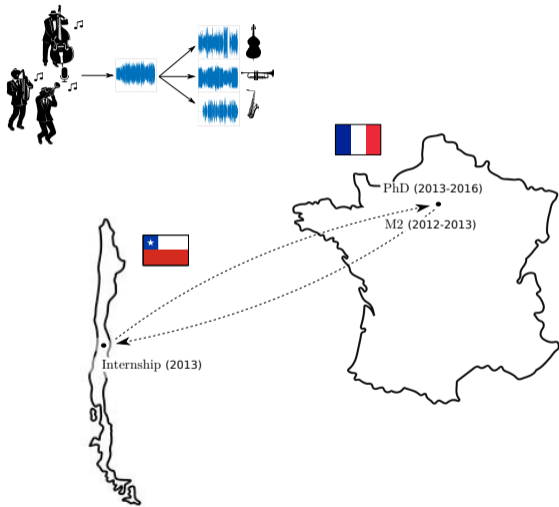
Background in a nutshell



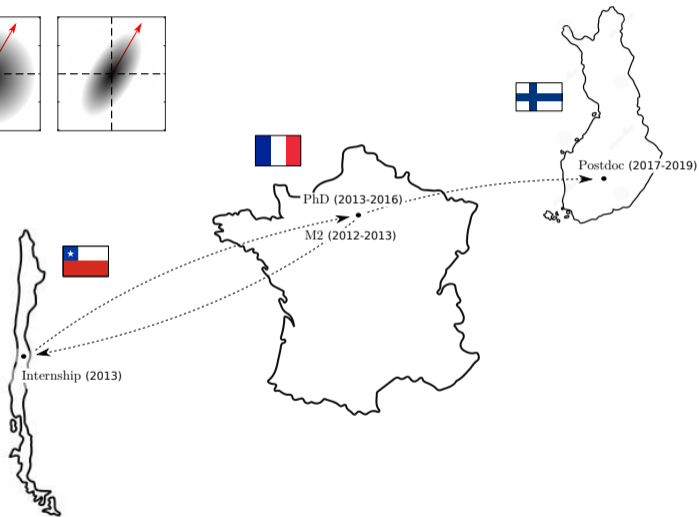
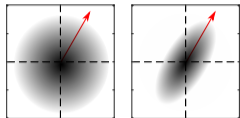
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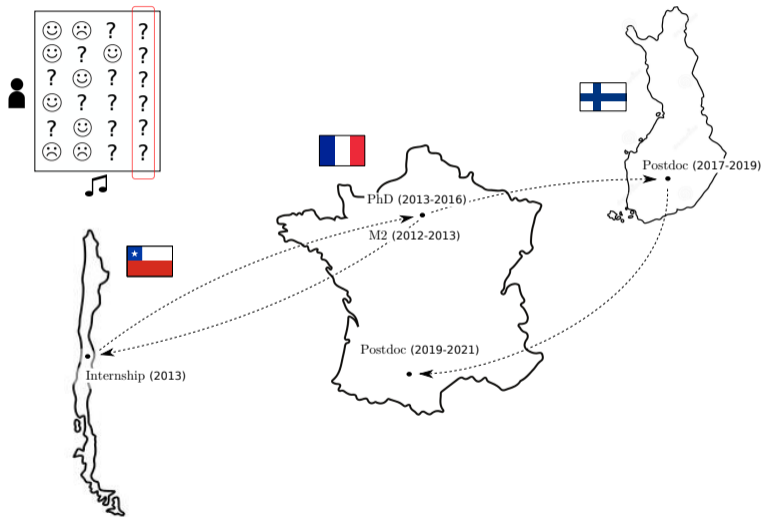
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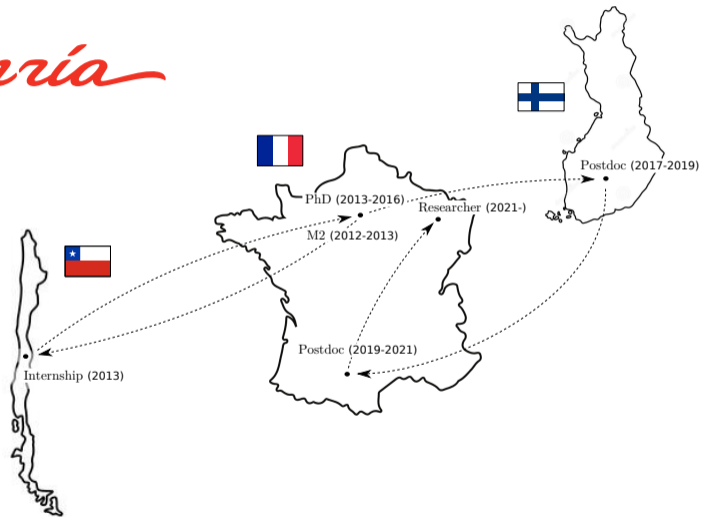


Background in a nutshell



Background in a nutshell

Inria



The audio realm

The audio realm



The audio realm

Speech



Ambient sounds



The audio realm

Speech



Ambient sounds



Music signals

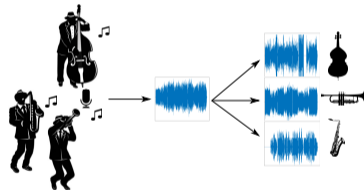


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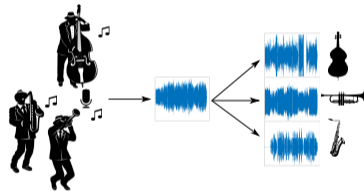


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- ▷ An important preprocessing for many analysis tasks (e.g., polyphonic music transcription).

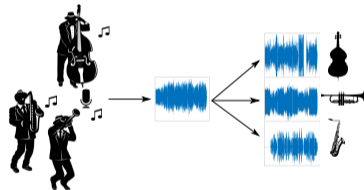


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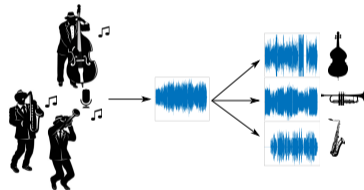


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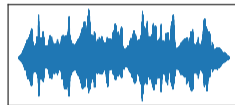
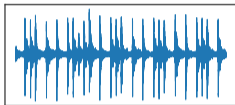
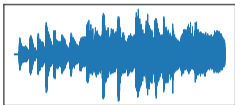
An example: Backing track generation

- ▷ Consider a mixture 📢
- ▷ Demix the instruments and create a backing track 📢



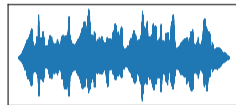
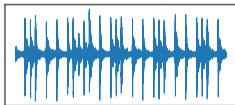
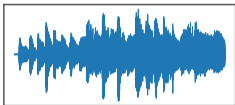
Setting the stage

- ▷ The raw material: **audio signals**.



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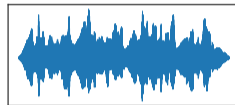
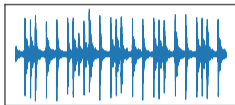
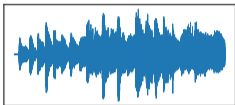
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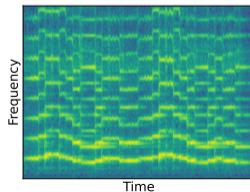
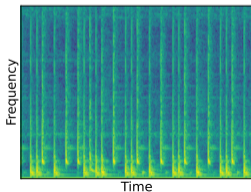
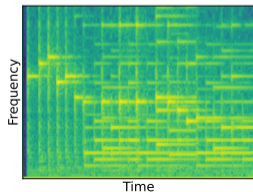
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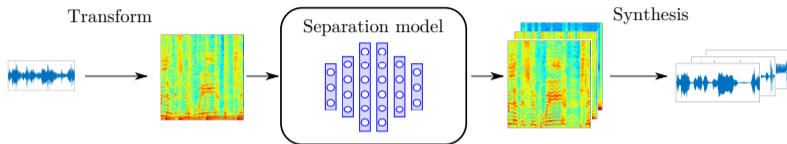
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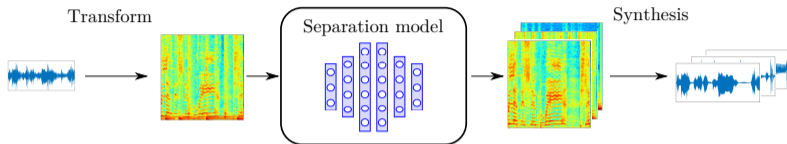
- ▷ It's hard to see structure there...
- ▷ We rather transform them into a **time-frequency** representation, e.g., a spectrogram.



The demixing pipeline

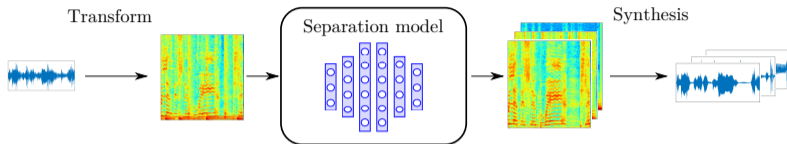


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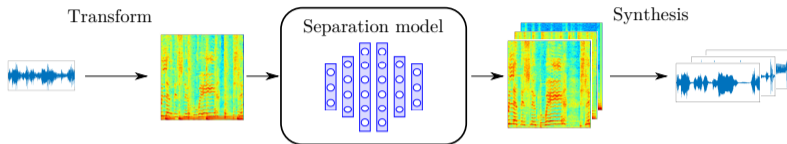
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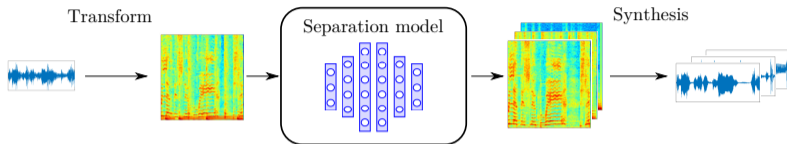
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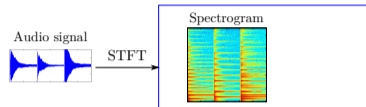
Nowadays demixing performance:



The phase catch

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N \xrightarrow{\text{STFT}} \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{C}^{F \times T}$$

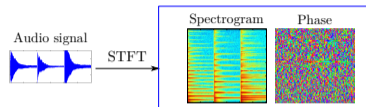
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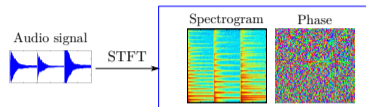
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... but also a **phase** $\angle X$.



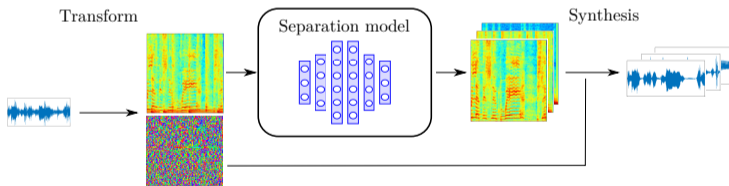
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... but also a **phase** $\angle X$.



The actual demixing pipeline:



▷ The mixture's phase is assigned to each source using a Wiener-like filter.

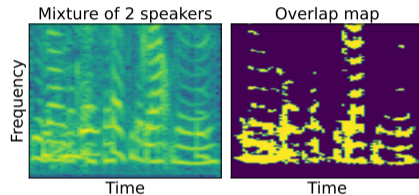
The potential of phase recovery

- ✗ Wiener-like filter: Issues in sound quality when sources *overlap* in the TF domain.

When sources overlap:

$$|X| \neq |S_1| + |S_2|$$

$$\angle X \neq \angle S_1 \text{ or } \angle S_2$$



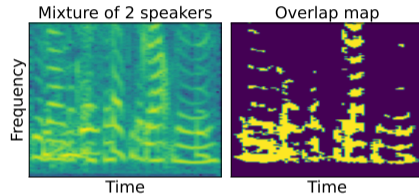
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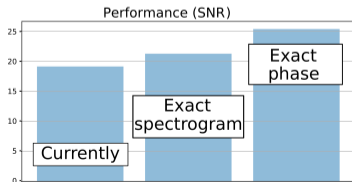
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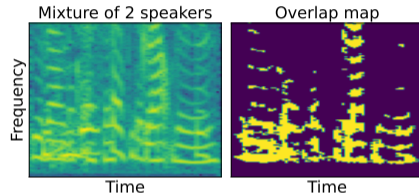
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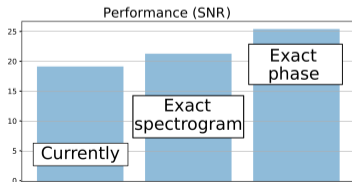
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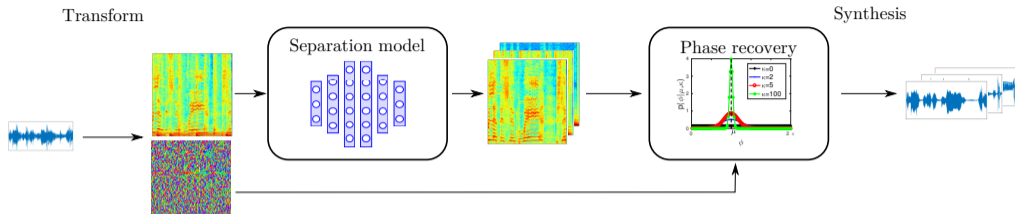
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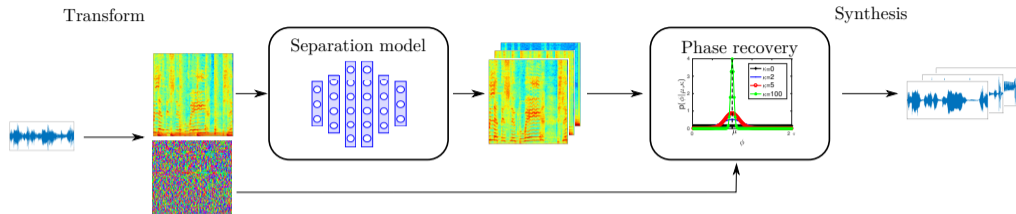
Main message

More potential gain in phase recovery than in magnitude estimation.

Phase recovery for audio demixing



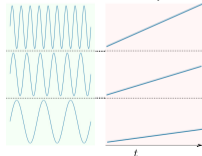
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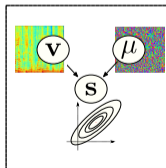
Main contributions

Phase models

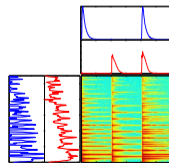
Sinusoids \rightarrow Linear phase



Statistical framework



Factorization methods



Introduction

Model-based phase recovery

Probabilistic phase modeling

Factorization methods

Conclusion

Model-based phase recovery

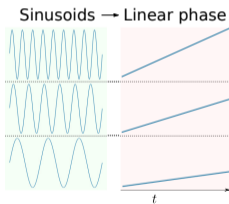
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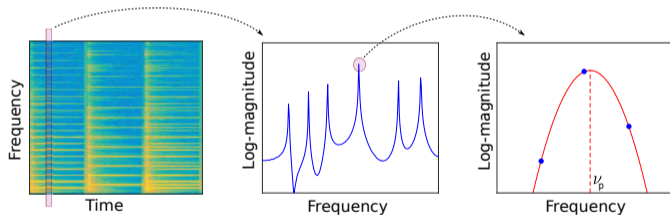
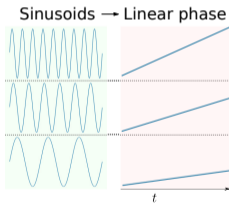
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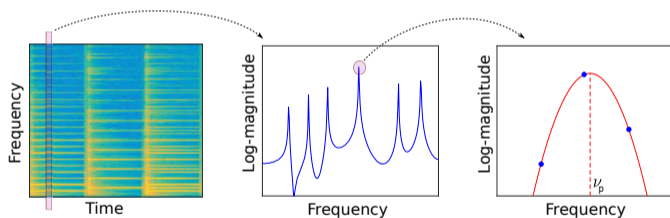
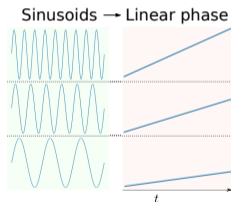
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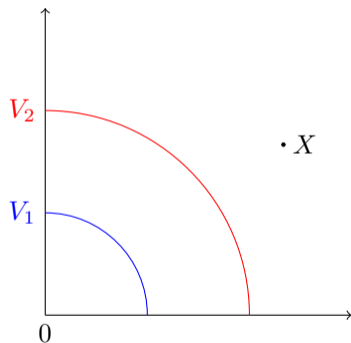


- ✓ Accounts for non-stationary signals, suitable for real-time processing.
- ✗ Bad performance for “pure” phase recovery: need to use an additional information.

An iterative source separation algorithm

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

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



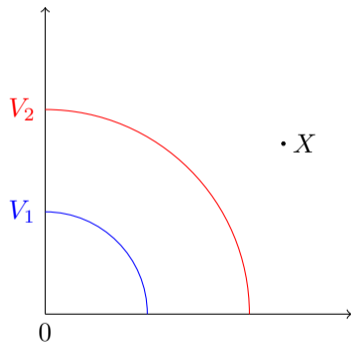
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Strategy

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- ▷ Initialize the procedure using the sinusoidal phase model.



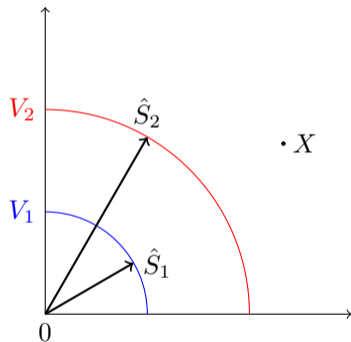
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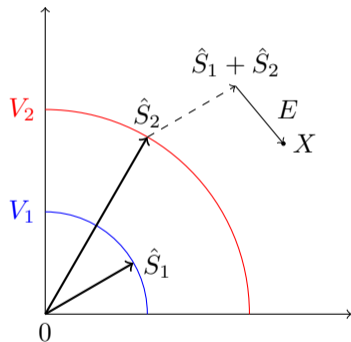
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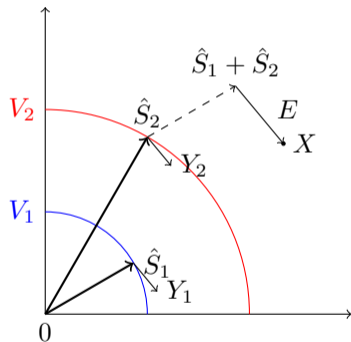
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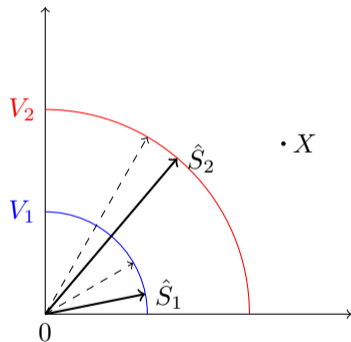
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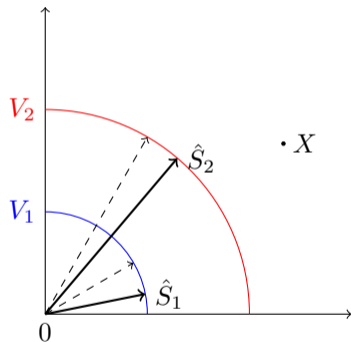
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- ✓ Leveraging the sinusoidal phase model reduces interference between source estimates.

Perspective: towards deep phase recovery

Recently: Some attempts at predicting the phase using DNNs.

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Proposal: Generalize phase models from signal analysis with deep learning.

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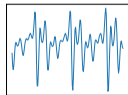
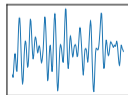
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- ▷ Architectural choices (non-linearities, loss functions) adapted to the phase (periodicity).
- ▷ Identify and exploit perceptual phase invariants.



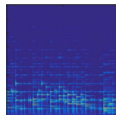
Probabilistic phase modeling

A statistical view

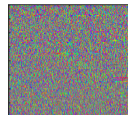
A simple example

- ▷ The phase appears uniformly-distributed.

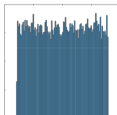
Spectrogram



Phase



Histogram

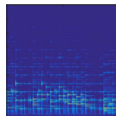


A statistical view

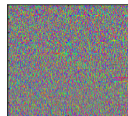
A simple example

- ▷ The phase appears uniformly-distributed.
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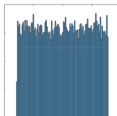
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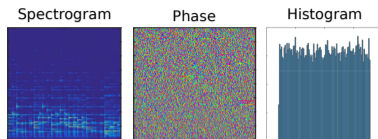
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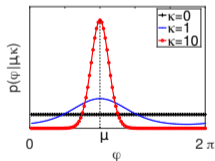
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Von Mises phase $\phi_{f,t} \sim \mathcal{VM}(\mu_{f,t}, \kappa)$

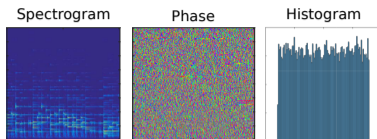
- ▷ Assume some structure (e.g., sinusoidal) for the location parameter $\mu_{f,t}$.



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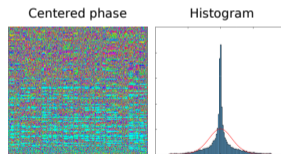
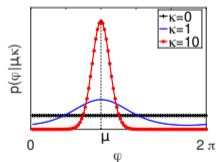
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✓ Both models are statistically relevant, but convey a different information about the phase.

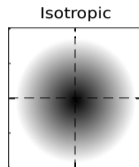
- ▷ Uniform \rightarrow describes the *global* behavior.
- ▷ Von Mises \rightarrow accounts for the *local* structure.

Modeling complex-valued coefficients

Isotropic Gaussian model

$$s \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(m, \Gamma) \text{ with } \Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

✗ Equivalent to assuming a uniform phase: $\angle s_j = \phi_j \sim \mathcal{U}_{[0, 2\pi[}$

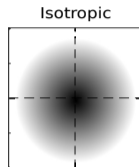


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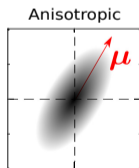


Anisotropic Gaussian model

$$s \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(m, \Gamma) \text{ with } \Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & c \\ \bar{c} & \gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

c is the *relation* term, defined as a function of the phase parameter μ .

✓ Allows to incorporate phase priors.



Application to demixing

Mixture model In each time-frequency bin: $x = \sum_j s_j$ with $s_j \sim \mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(m_j, \Gamma_j)$.

- ▷ Choose an appropriate parametrization for m_j and Γ_j (a bit technical).
- ▷ Estimate the models' parameters (e.g., maximum likelihood estimation).

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Anisotropic Wiener filter

- ▷ 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.
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Performance



- ✓ Including a phase prior in the filter improves the separation quality.

Perspective: anisotropic deep learning

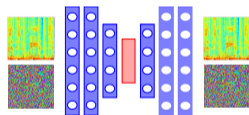
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Proposal: Combine deep learning and anisotropic modeling, e.g., via anisotropic VAEs.

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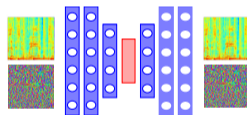


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- ▷ A strong effort in modeling and optimization is needed for deriving appropriate estimation techniques.

Factorization methods

A leap in the past: nonnegative matrix factorization (NMF)

Given a (nonnegative) spectrogram \mathbf{V} , find a factorization \mathbf{WH} such that the factors \mathbf{W} and \mathbf{H} are:

- ▷ low rank.
- ▷ nonnegative.

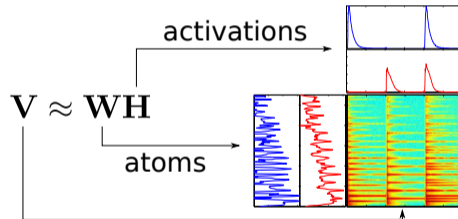
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- ▷ \mathbf{W} is a dictionary of spectral atoms.
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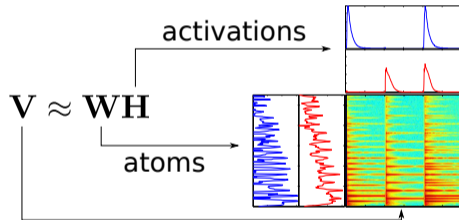
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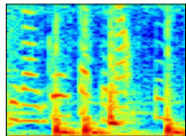
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Estimation via an optimization problem:

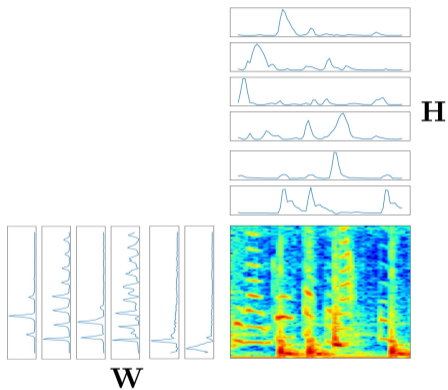
$$\min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H}} D(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{WH})$$

NMF for audio demixing



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

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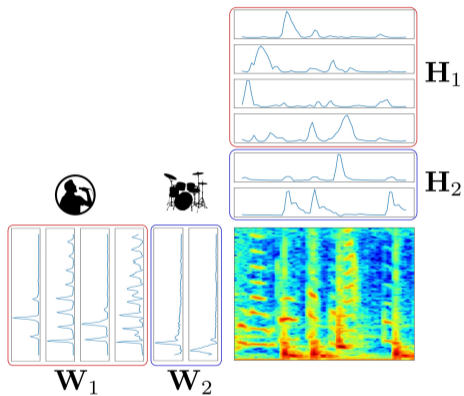


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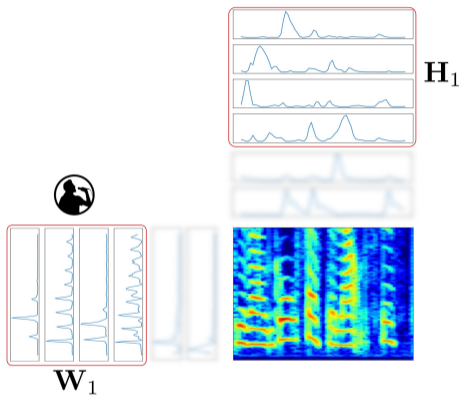


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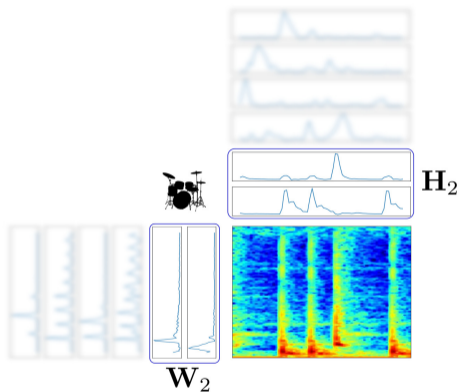


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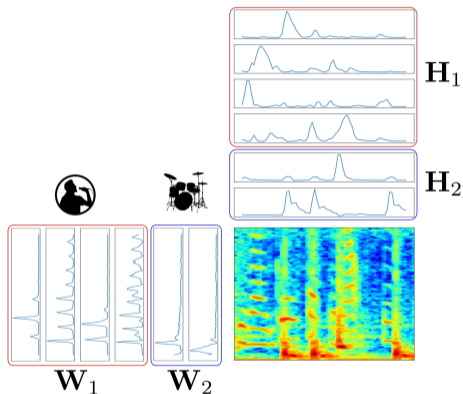


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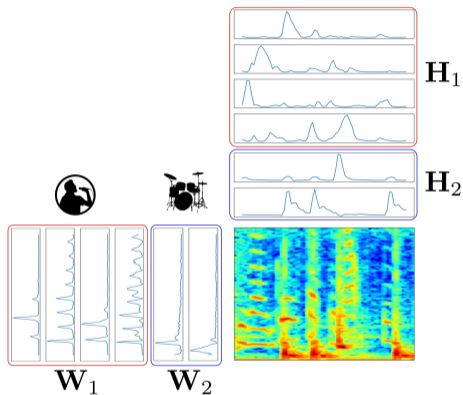
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Pretrain \mathbf{W}_1 and \mathbf{W}_2 on subsets of isolated tracks.

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- ✗ Ignores the phase / assumes the magnitudes are additive.
- ✗ The low-rank assumption is not verified in practice.

Complex NMF

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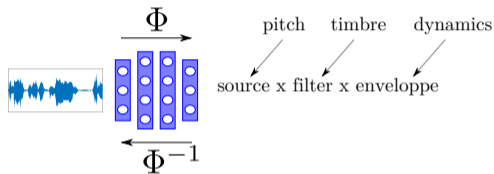
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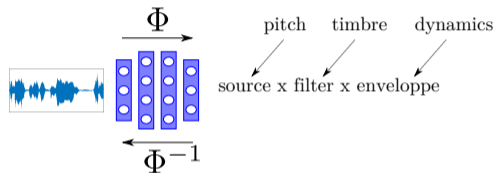


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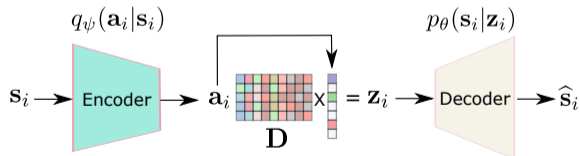
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A first attempt: VAE with a sparse dictionary model.



- ✓ Nice performance in terms of sparsity and speech modeling / reconstruction.
- ✗ Fixed dictionary and no nonnegativity: non-interpretable factors.

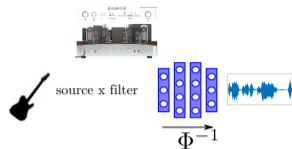
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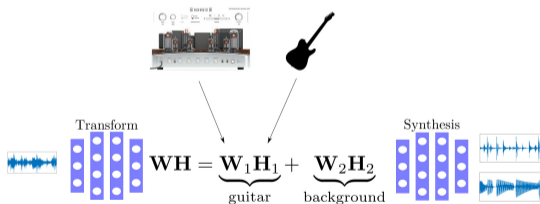
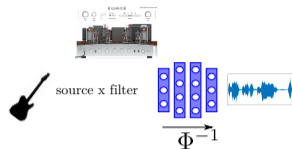
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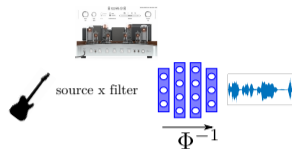
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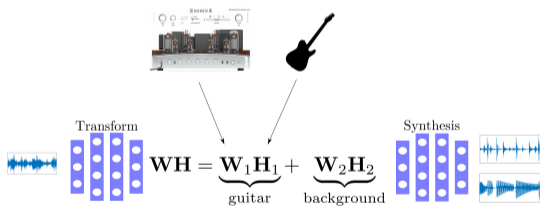


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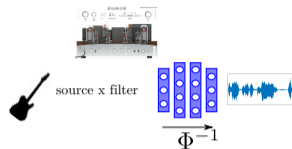
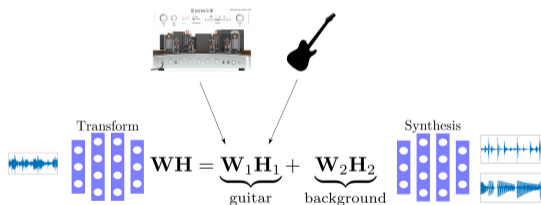


- ✓ High quality backing track generation.

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- ✓ High quality backing track generation.
- ✓ Optimal generative model parameters = a preset!

Conclusion

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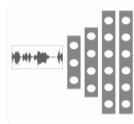
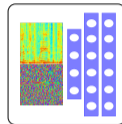
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- ✗ Lacks interpretability and flexibility.

The proposed alternative

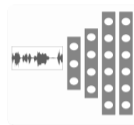
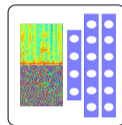
Complex-domain / phase-aware deep learning



- ✓ Robustness/flexibility of time-frequency processing.
- ✓ Performance of processing all the data exhaustively.

The proposed alternative

Complex-domain / phase-aware deep learning



- ✓ Robustness/flexibility of time-frequency processing.
- ✓ Performance of processing all the data exhaustively.


Open questions


- ▷ How to handle phase in deep learning?
- ▷ How to exploit anisotropic probabilistic modeling?
- ▷ How to efficiently learn to factorize?

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Thanks!

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

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

