



AUDIO FEATURES & MACHINE LEARNING

E.M. Bakker

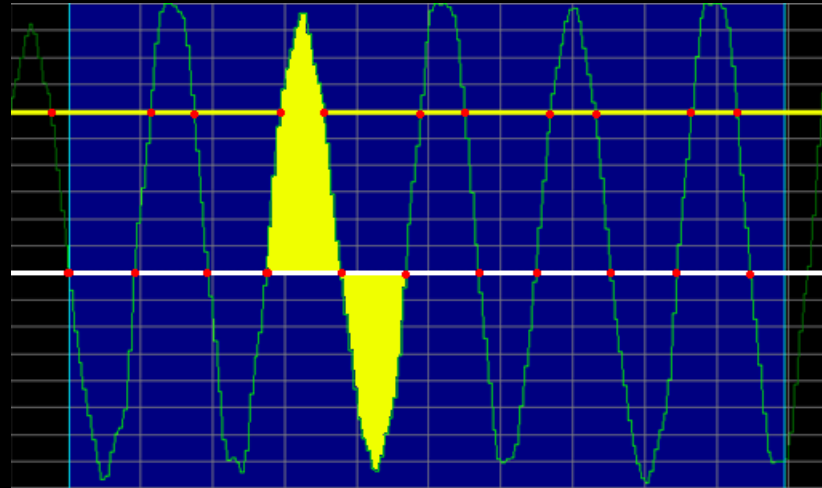
API2023

FEATURES FOR SPEECH RECOGNITION AND AUDIO INDEXING

- **Parametric Representations**
 - Short Time Energy
 - Zero Crossing Rates
 - Level Crossing Rates
 - Short Time Spectral Envelope
- **Spectral Analysis**
 - Filter Design
 - Filter Bank Spectral Analysis Model
 - Linear Predictive Coding (LPC)
 - MFCCs

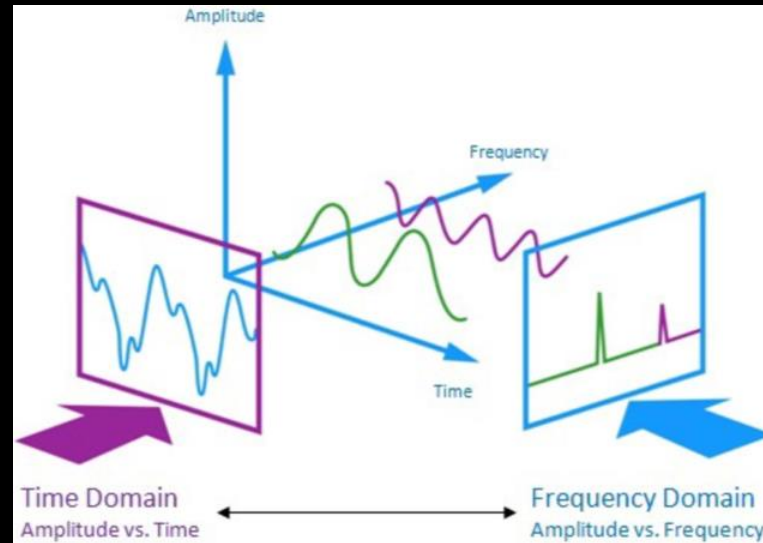
FEATURES FOR SPEECH RECOGNITION AND AUDIO INDEXING

- Parametric Representations
 - Short Time Energy
 - Zero Crossing Rates
 - Level Crossing Rates



Example: Speech of length 0.01 sec.

FEATURES FOR SPEECH RECOGNITION AND AUDIO INDEXING



- Spectral Analysis

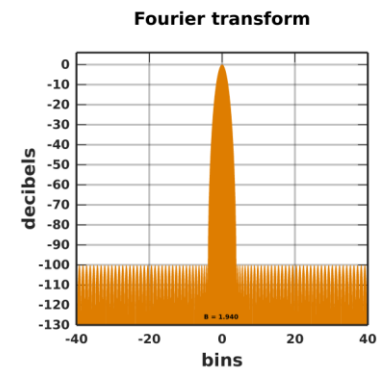
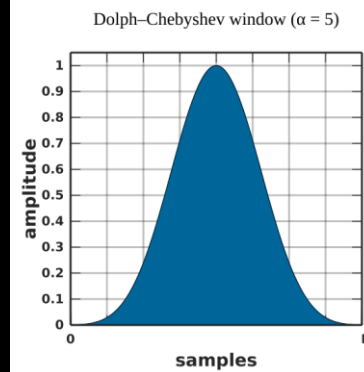
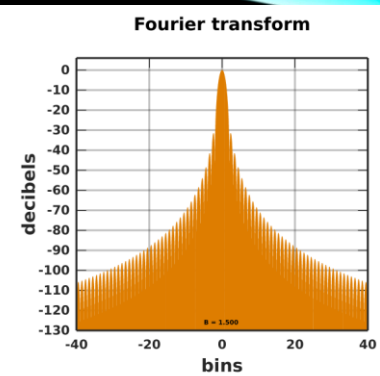
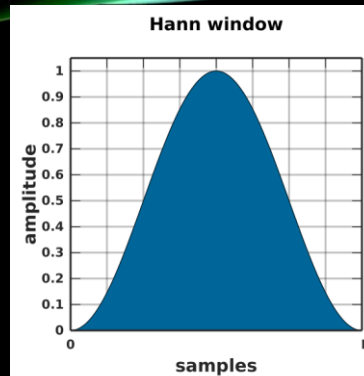
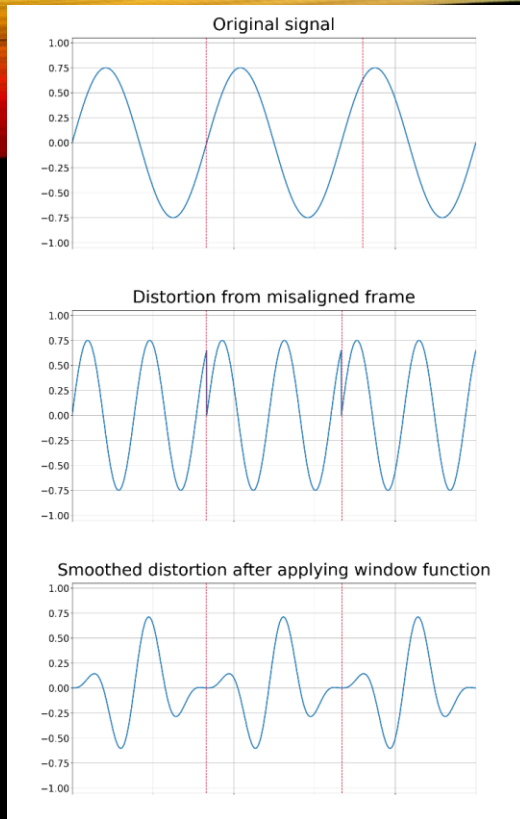
- Fourier Transform
- Filter Design

- Filter Bank Spectral Analysis Model

- Linear Predictive Coding (LPC)

- Speech signal at time $n = s(n) \approx a_1 s(n-1) + a_2 s(n-2) + \dots + a_p s(n-p)$
- Estimate a_1, \dots, a_p by autocorrelation, or solving LPC analysis equations from a covariance matrix form.

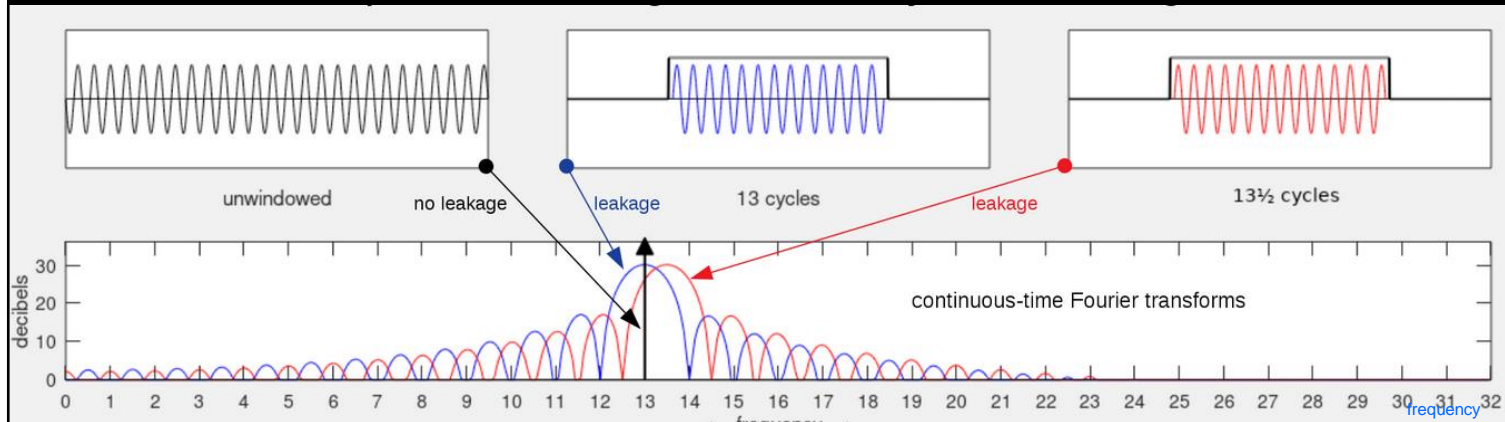
- MFCCs



By L. de Jonckheere

- Spectral Analysis using Discrete Short Time Fourier Transform
 - Rectangular window => high resolution, low dynamic range (not good at distinguishing components of different amplitudes)
 - Hann or Hamming window => moderate

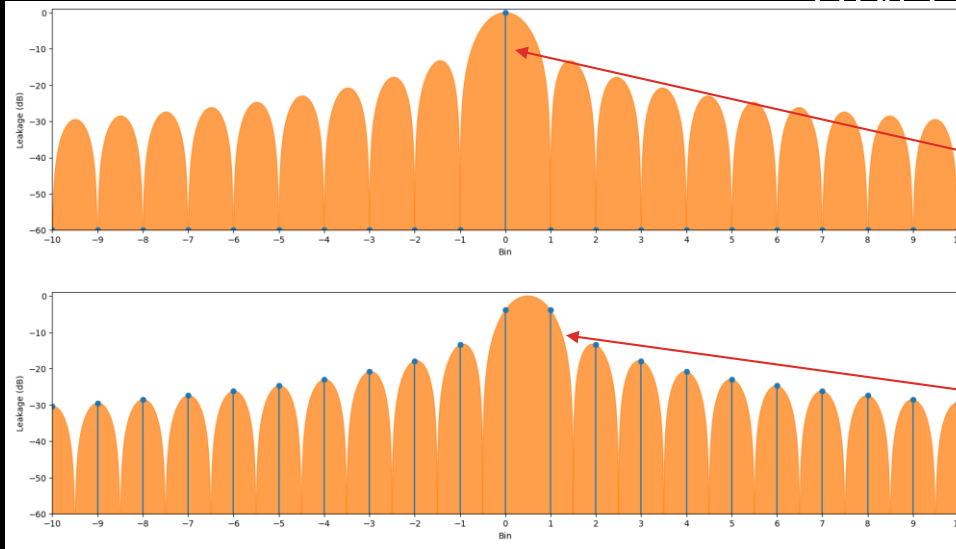
FEATURES FOR SPEECH RECOGNITION AND AUDIO INDEXING



- Spectral Analysis using Discrete Short Time Fourier Transform
 - Frame of samples => frequency bins
 - Each bin corresponds to one frequency
- => Spectral leakage

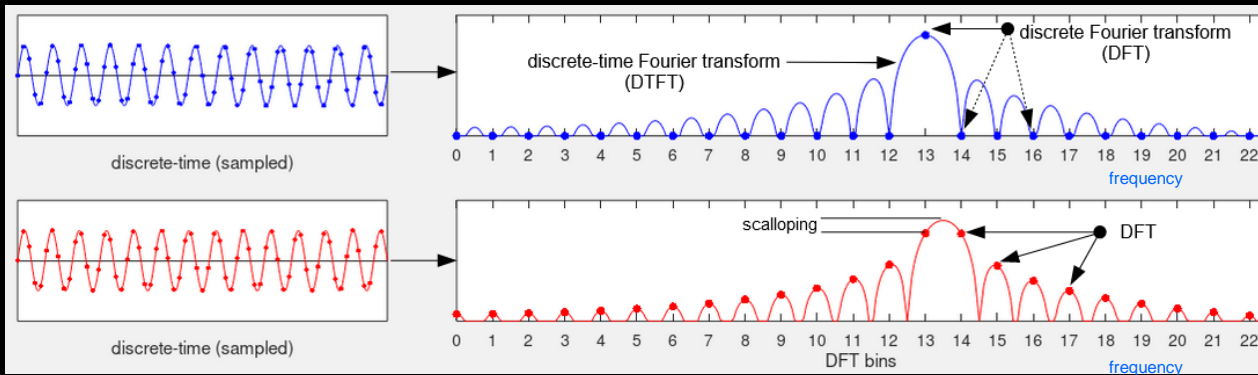
FEATURES FOR SPEECH RECOGNITION AND AUDIO INDEXING

By L. de Jonckheere



Depending on the Sampling: DFT shows the actual frequency of the signal, or shows the scalloping effect..

scalloping



SHORT TIME FOURIER TRANSFORM SHORT HAMMING WINDOW: 50 SAMPLES (=5MSEC)

Voiced Speech

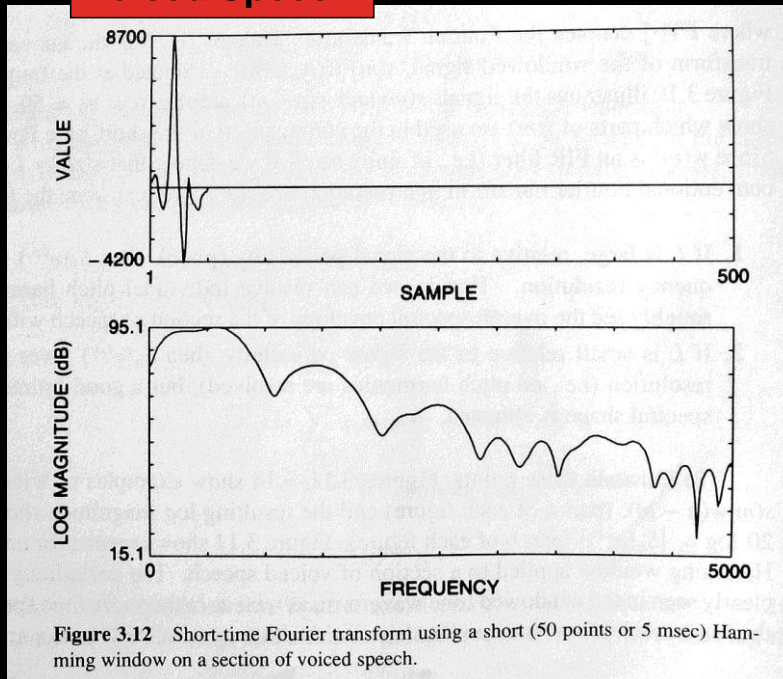


Figure 3.12 Short-time Fourier transform using a short (50 points or 5 msec) Hamming window on a section of voiced speech.

Short Window

- Poor frequency resolution
- No resolved harmonics
- Good estimate of the overall spectral shape

From: Rabiner et al.

SHORT TIME FOURIER TRANSFORM LONG HAMMING WINDOW: 500 SAMPLES (=50MSEC)

Voiced Speech

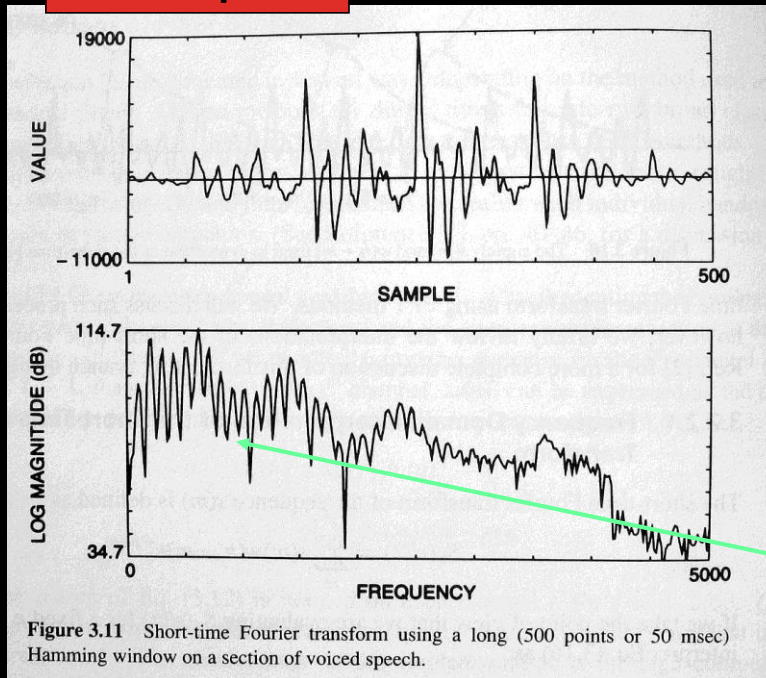


Figure 3.11 Short-time Fourier transform using a long (500 points or 50 msec) Hamming window on a section of voiced speech.

Long Window

- Good frequency resolution
- Resolved harmonics
- Rough estimate of the overall spectral shape

Lower frequencies

From: Rabiner et al.

SHORT TIME FOURIER TRANSFORM SHORT HAMMING WINDOW: 50 SAMPLES (=5MSEC)

Unvoiced Speech

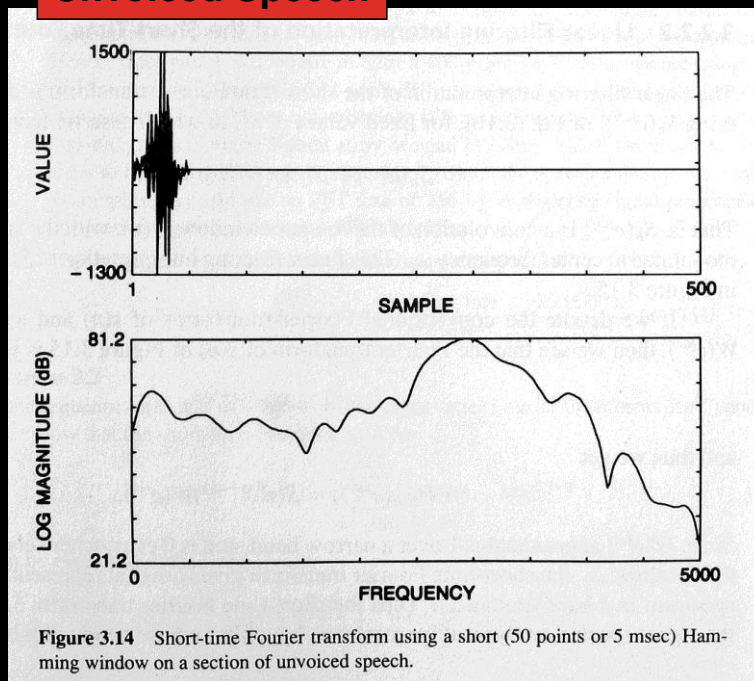


Figure 3.14 Short-time Fourier transform using a short (50 points or 5 msec) Hamming window on a section of unvoiced speech.

Short Window

- Poor frequency resolution
- No resolved harmonics
- Good estimate of the overall spectral shape

From: Rabiner et al.

SHORT TIME FOURIER TRANSFORM LONG HAMMING WINDOW: 500 SAMPLES (=50MSEC)

Unvoiced Speech

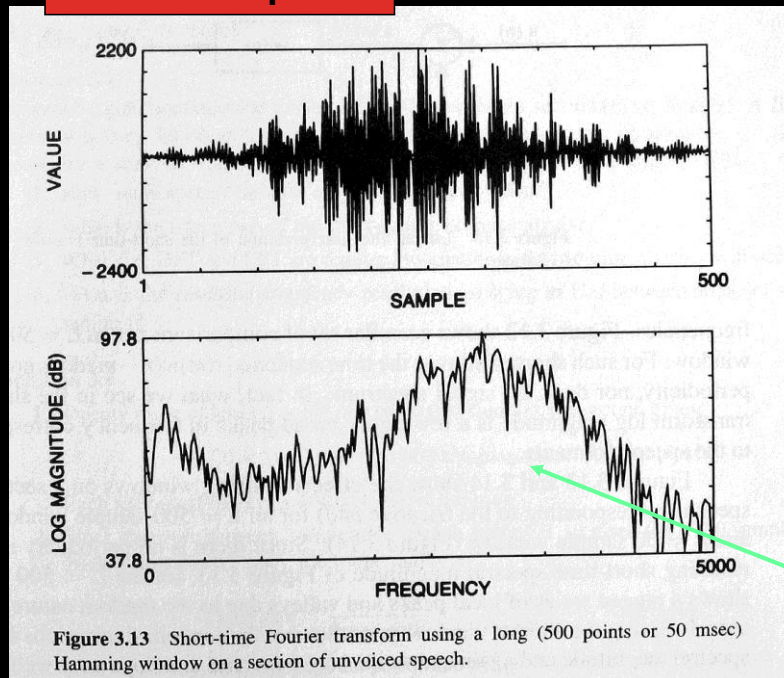


Figure 3.13 Short-time Fourier transform using a long (500 points or 50 msec) Hamming window on a section of unvoiced speech.

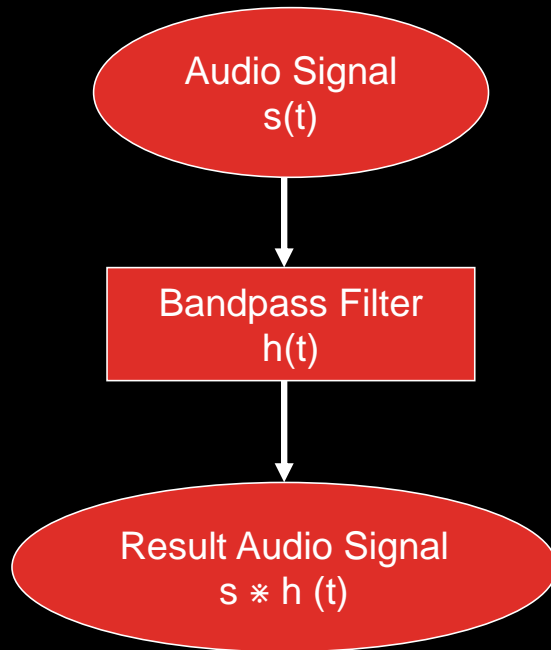
From: Rabiner et al.

Long Window

- Good frequency resolution
- Resolved harmonics
- Rough estimate of the overall spectral shape

Higher frequencies

BAND PASS FILTER



Note that the band pass filter can be defined as:

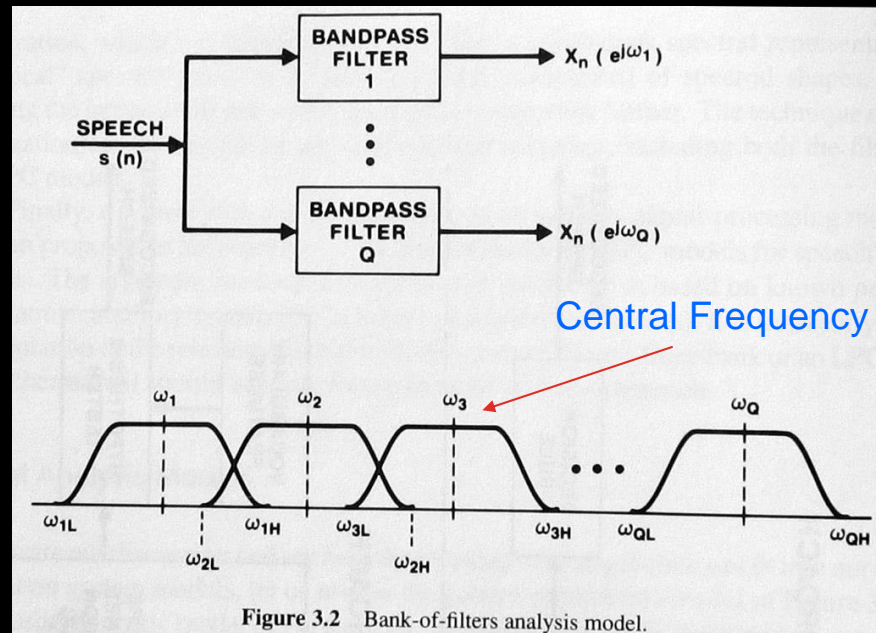
- a *convolution* with a filter response function $h(t)$ in the time domain
- a *multiplication* with a filter response $H(f)$ function in the frequency domain

$$s * h(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} s(\tau)h(t - \tau)d\tau \leftrightarrow S(f) \cdot H(f)$$

$$s * h(t) = \sum_{\tau} s(\tau)h(t - \tau) \leftrightarrow S(f) \cdot H(f) \text{ (discrete)}$$

BANK OF FILTERS ANALYSIS MODEL

Index	Bark Scale		Mel Scale	
	Center Freq. (Hz)	BW (Hz)	Center Freq. (Hz)	BW (Hz)
1	50	100	100	100
2	150	100	200	100
3	250	100	300	100
4	350	100	400	100
5	450	110	500	100
6	570	120	600	100
7	700	140	700	100
8	840	150	800	100
9	1000	160	900	100
10	1170	190	1000	124
11	1370	210	1149	160
12	1600	240	1320	184
13	1850	280	1516	211
14	2150	320	1741	242
15	2500	380	2000	278
16	2900	450	2297	320
17	3400	550	2639	367
18	4000	700	3031	422
19	4800	900	3482	484
20	5800	1100	4000	556
21	7000	1300	4595	639
22	8500	1800	5278	734
23	10500	2500	6063	843
24	13500	3500	6964	969



MEL-CEPSTRUM [4]

Auditory characteristics

- Mel-scaled filter banks

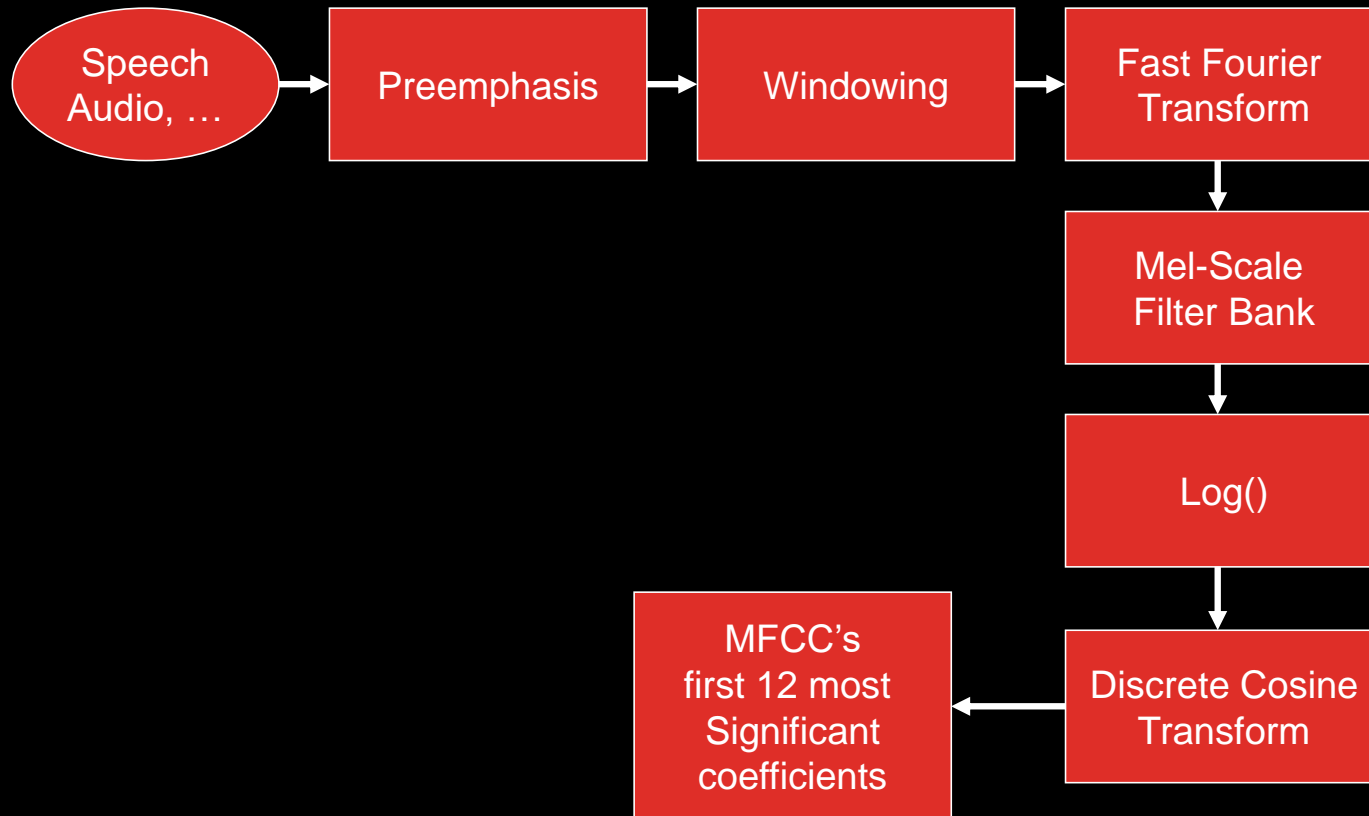
De-correlating properties

- by applying a **discrete cosine transform** (which is close to a Karhunen-Loeve transform) a **de-correlation** of the mel-scale filter log-energies results
- => probabilistic modeling on these de-correlated coefficients will be more effective.

One of the most successful features for speech recognition, speaker recognition, and other speech related recognition tasks.

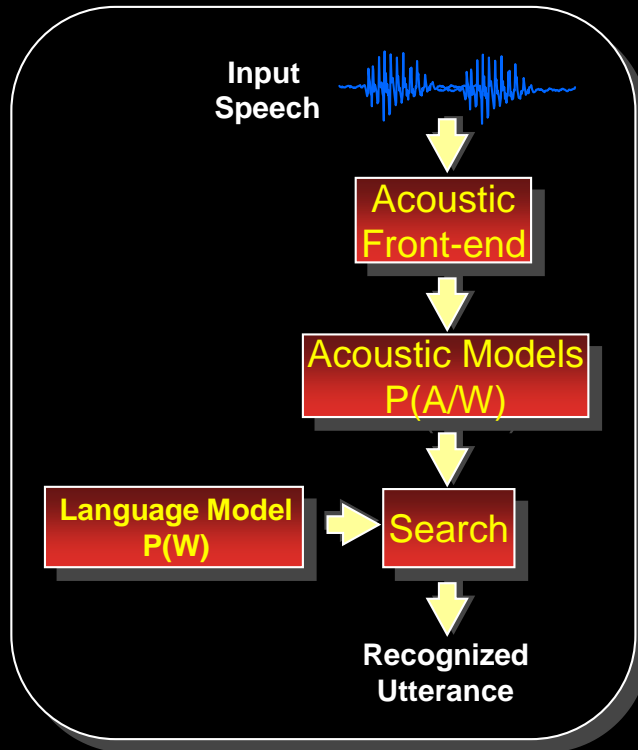
[1, pp 712-717]

MFCCS



Automatic Speech Recognition Architectures¹⁶

Incorporating Multiple Knowledge Sources



- The **signal** is converted to a sequence of **feature vectors** (spectral and temporal).
- **Acoustic models** represent sub-word units, such as **phonemes**: finite-state machine models spectral structure and temporal structure.
- The **language model** predicts the next set of words, and controls which models are hypothesized. (**N-grams**)
- Search to find the most probable word sequence.

Acoustic Modeling

Feature Extraction

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Fourier Transform

Cepstral Analysis

Perceptual Weighting

Time Derivative

Time Derivative

Energy

Delta Energy

Delta-Delta Energy

+

+

+

Mel-Spaced Cepstrum

Delta Cepstrum

Delta-Delta Cepstrum

- Typically: 512 samples (16kHz sampling rate) =>
- Use a ~30 msec window for frequency domain analysis.
- Include absolute energy and 12 spectral measurements.
- Time derivatives to model spectral change.

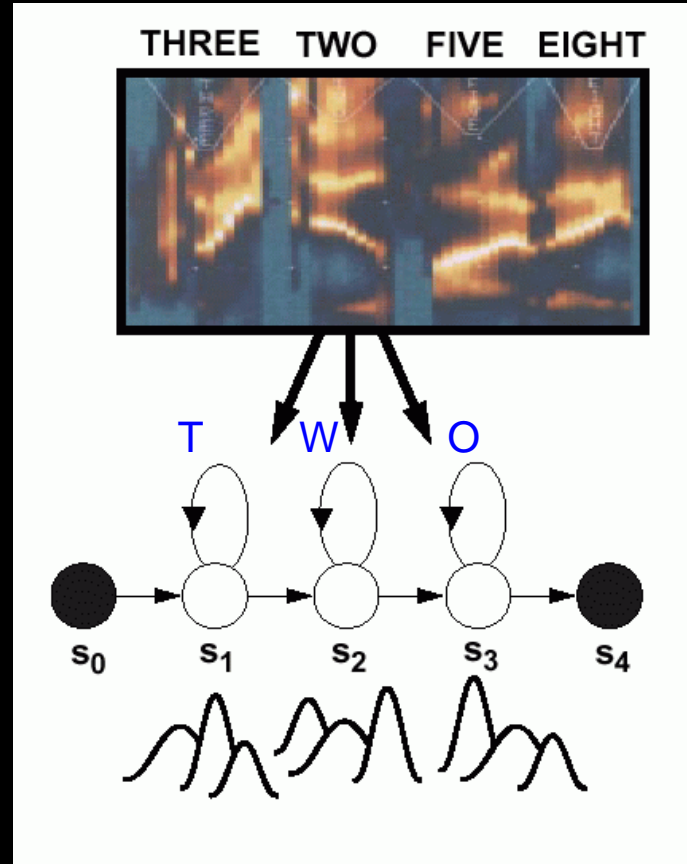
- Incorporate knowledge of the nature of speech sounds in measurement of the features.
- Utilize rudimentary models of human perception.

Acoustic Modeling

Hidden Markov Models

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- Acoustic models: temporal evolution of the features (spectrum).
- Gaussian mixture distributions for variations in speaker, accent, and pronunciation.
- **Phonetic model topologies** are simple left-to-right structures.
- Skip states (time-warping) and multiple paths (alternate pronunciations).
- Sharing model parameters to reduce complexity.



Acoustic Modeling

Parameter Estimation

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- Initialization



- Single Gaussian Estimation



- 2-Way Split



- Mixture Distribution Reestimation



- 4-Way Split



- Reestimation
•••



- **Word level transcription**
- Supervises a closed-loop data-driven modeling
- Initial parameter estimation
- **The expectation/maximization (EM) algorithm is used to improve our parameter estimates.**
- Computationally efficient training algorithms (**Forward-Backward**) are crucial.
- **Batch mode parameter updates are typically preferred.**
- Decision trees and the use of additional linguistic knowledge are used to optimize parameter-sharing, and system complexity,.

MACHINE LEARNING METHODS

- k Nearest Neighbors
- Decision Trees
- Random Forests (weighted neighborhoods scheme)
- Gradient Boosting Machines (e.g. boosting of prediction model ensembles)
- **Vector Quantization**
 - Finite code book of spectral shapes
 - The code book codes for 'typical' spectral shape
 - Method for all spectral representations (e.g. Filter Banks, LPC, ZCR, etc. ...)
- **Support Vector Machines**
- Markov Models
- **Hidden Markov Models**
- Neural Networks Etc.

VECTOR QUANTIZATION

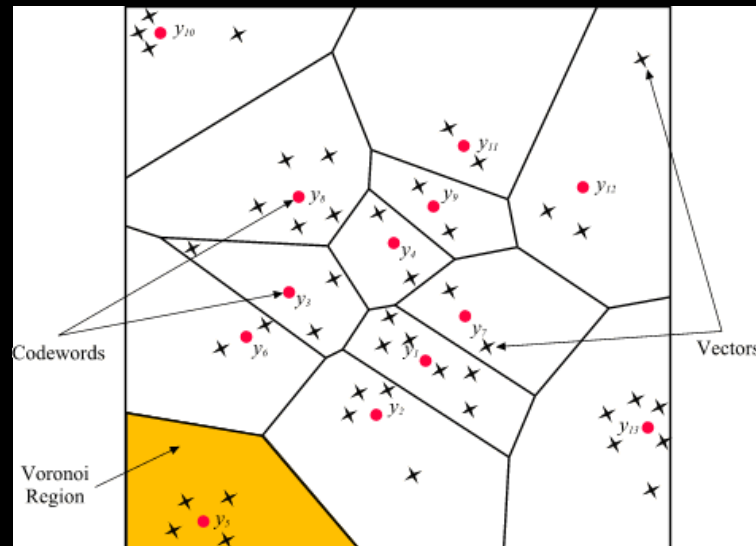
- Data represented as **feature vectors**.
- Vector Quantization (VQ) **Training set** => determine a set of **code words** that constitute a **code book**.
- Code words are **centroids** using a similarity or **distance measure d** .
- Code words together with **measure d** divide the space into **Voronoi regions**.
- A query vector falls into a **Voronoi region** and will be represented by the respective code word.

[2, pp. 466 – 467]

VECTOR QUANTIZATION

Distance measures $d(x,y)$:

- Euclidean distance
- Taxi cab distance
- Hamming distance
- etc.



VECTOR QUANTIZATION

Let a training set of L vectors be given for a certain class of objects.

Assume a codebook of M code words is wanted for this class.

Initialize:

- choose M arbitrary vectors of the L vectors of the training set.
- This is the initial code book.

Nearest Neighbor Search:

- for each training vector v , find the code word w in the current code book that is closest and assign v to the corresponding cell of w .

Centroid Update:

- For each cell with code word w determine the centroid c of the training vectors that are assigned to the cell of w .
- Update the code word w with the new vector c .

Iteration:

- repeat the steps **Nearest Neighbor Search** and **Centroid Update** until the average distance between the new and previous code words falls below a preset threshold.

VQ FOR CLASSIFICATION

A code book $CB_k = \{y_i^k \mid 1 \leq i \leq M\}$, can be used to define a class C_k .

Example Audio Classification:

- Classes 'crowd', 'car', 'silence', 'scream', 'explosion', etc.
- Determine by using VQ code books CB_k for each of the respective classes C_k .
- VQ is very often used as a baseline method for classification problems.

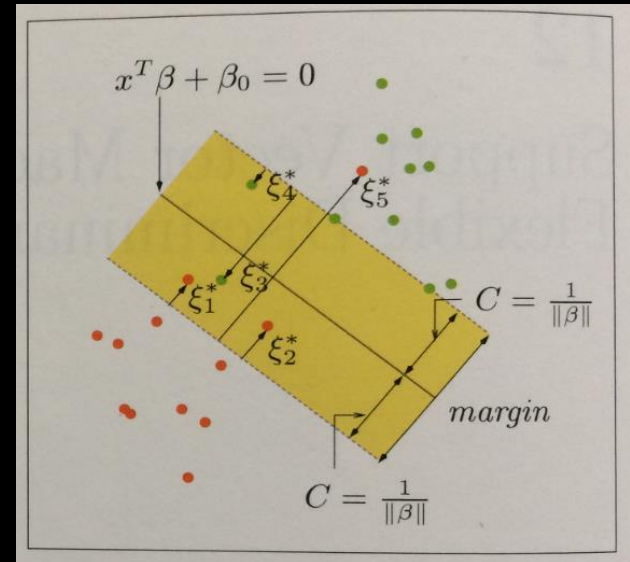
SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINES

- A generalization of linear decision boundaries for classification.
- Necessary when classes overlap when using linear decision boundaries (non separable classes).

Find hyper plane $P: x^T \beta + \beta_0 = 0$, such that

$$\|\beta\| \text{ is minimized over } \begin{cases} y_i(x_i^T \beta + \beta_0) \geq 1 - \varepsilon_i \quad \forall i \\ \varepsilon_i \geq 0, \quad \sum \varepsilon_i \leq \text{constant} \end{cases}$$

\Rightarrow Margin $C = \frac{1}{\|\beta\|}$ is maximized.



From: [2]

Where $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)$ are our training pairs, with $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^p$ and $y_i \in \{-1, 1\}$,

$\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_N)$ are the slack variables, i.e.,

ε_i = the amount that x_i is on the wrong side of the margin $C = \frac{1}{\|\beta\|}$ from the hyper plane P .

i.e. C is maximized.

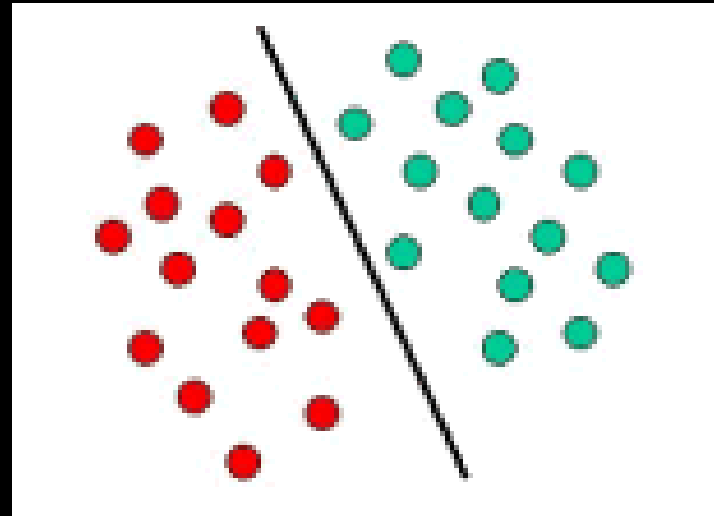
\Rightarrow Problem is quadratic with linear inequalities constraint.

[2, pp 377-389]

SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE (SVM)

In this method so called **support vectors** define **decision boundaries** for classification and regression.

An example where a straight line separates the two Classes: a **linear classifier**



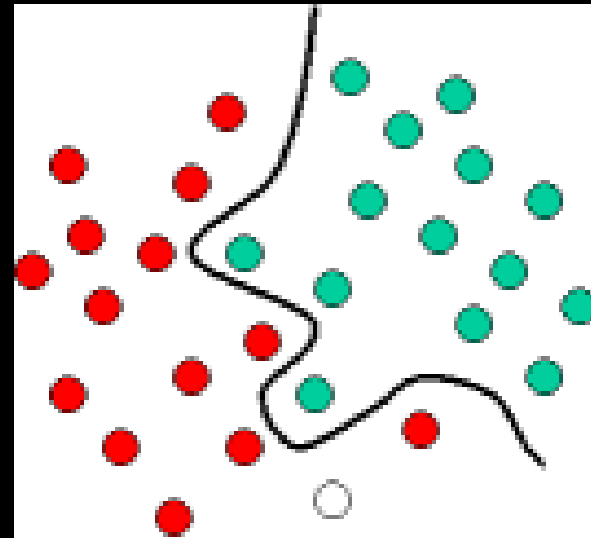
Images from: www.statsoft.com.

SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE (SVM)

In general classification is not that simple.

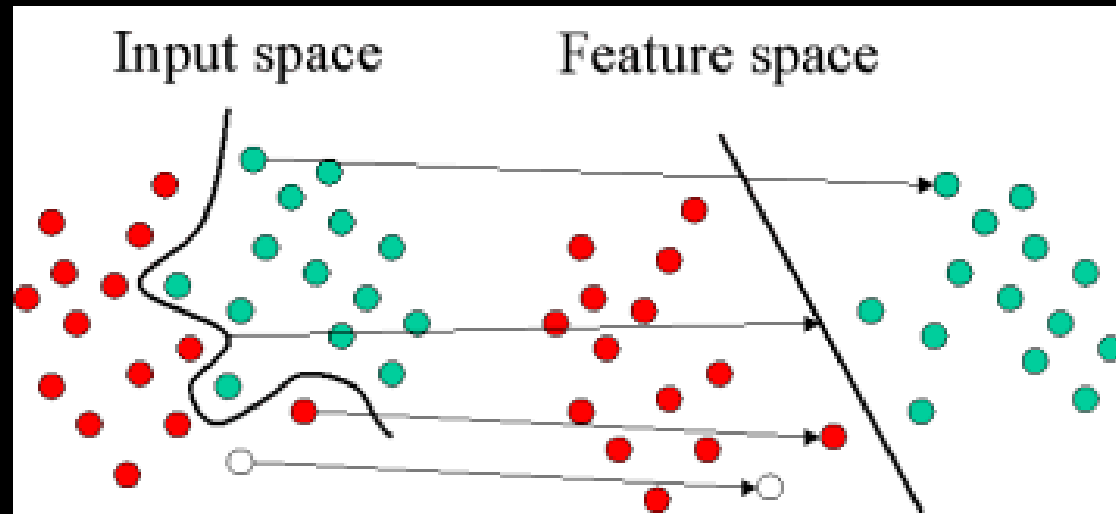
SVM is a method that can handle the more complex cases where the decision boundary requires a curve.

SVM uses a set of **mapping functions (kernels)** to map the feature space into a transformed space so that hyperplanes can be used for the classification.



SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE (SVM)

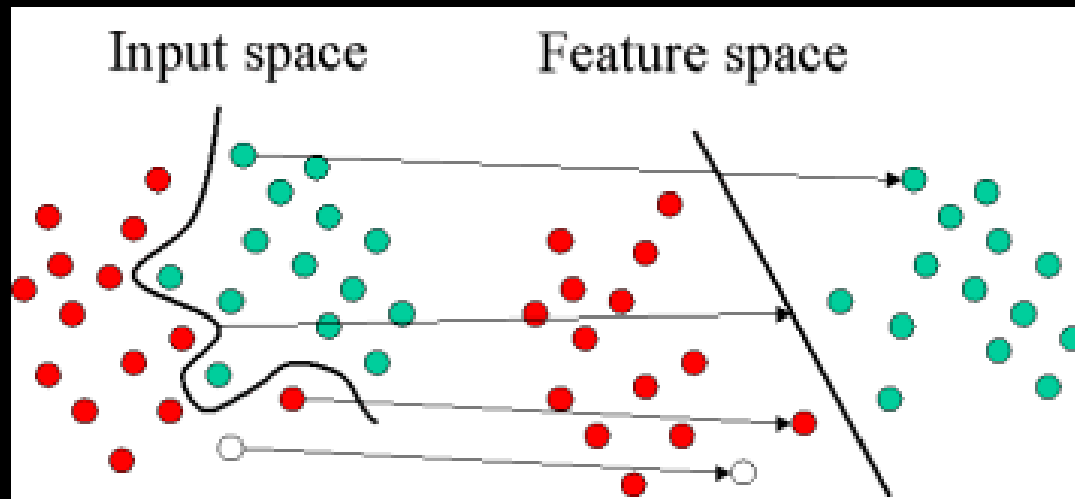
SVM uses a set of **mapping functions (kernels)** to map the feature space into a transformed space so that hyperplanes can be used for the classification.



SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE (SVM)

Training of an SVM is an iterative process:

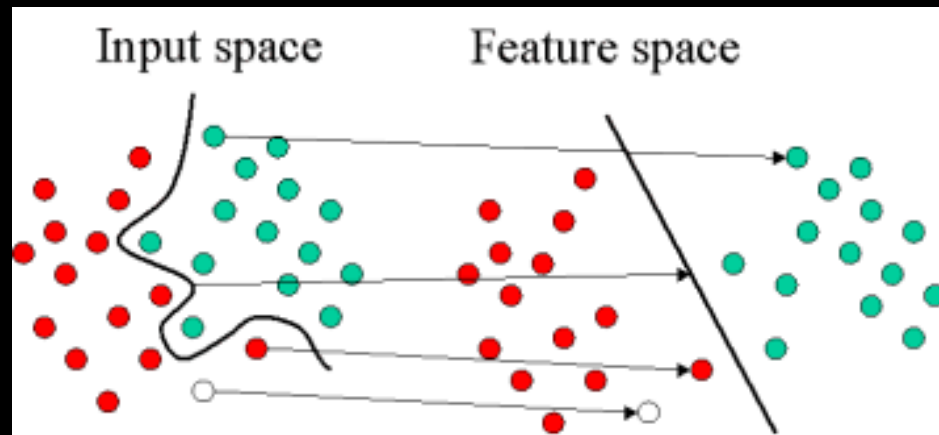
- optimize the mapping function while minimizing an error function
- The error function should capture the penalties for misclassified, i.e., non separable data points.



SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE (SVM)

SVM uses **kernels** that define the mapping function used in the method. Kernels can be:

- Linear
- Polynomial
- RBF
- Sigmoid
- Etc.



- RBF (radial basis function) is the most popular kernel, again with different possible base functions.
- NB The final choice depends on characteristics of the classification task.

AUDIO CLASSIFICATION USING NEURAL NETWORKS

An example by Rishi Sidhu:

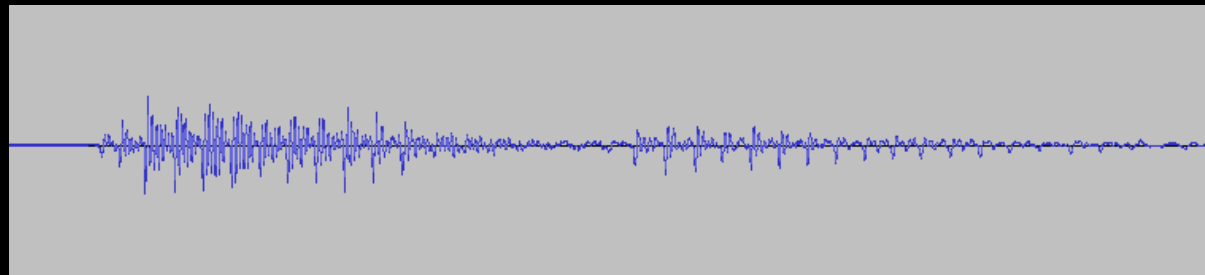
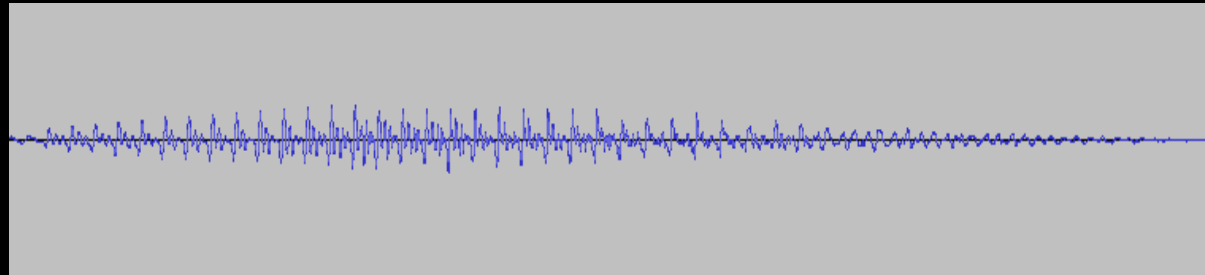
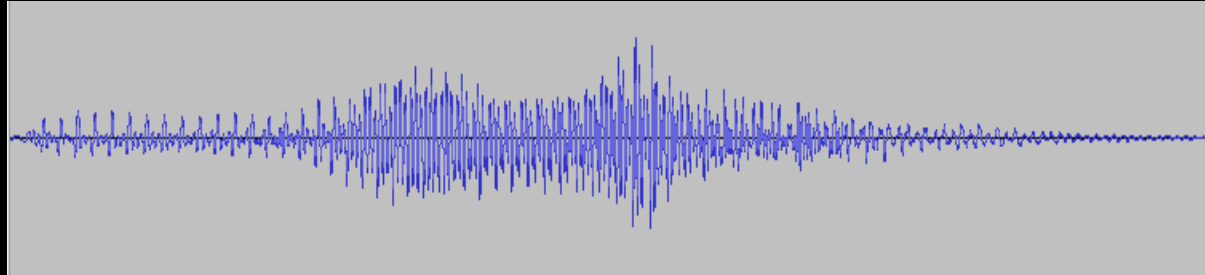
<https://medium.com/x8-the-ai-community/audio-classification-using-cnn-coding-example-f9cbd272269e>

Using data from the **Spoken Digit Dataset** by Zohar Jackson:

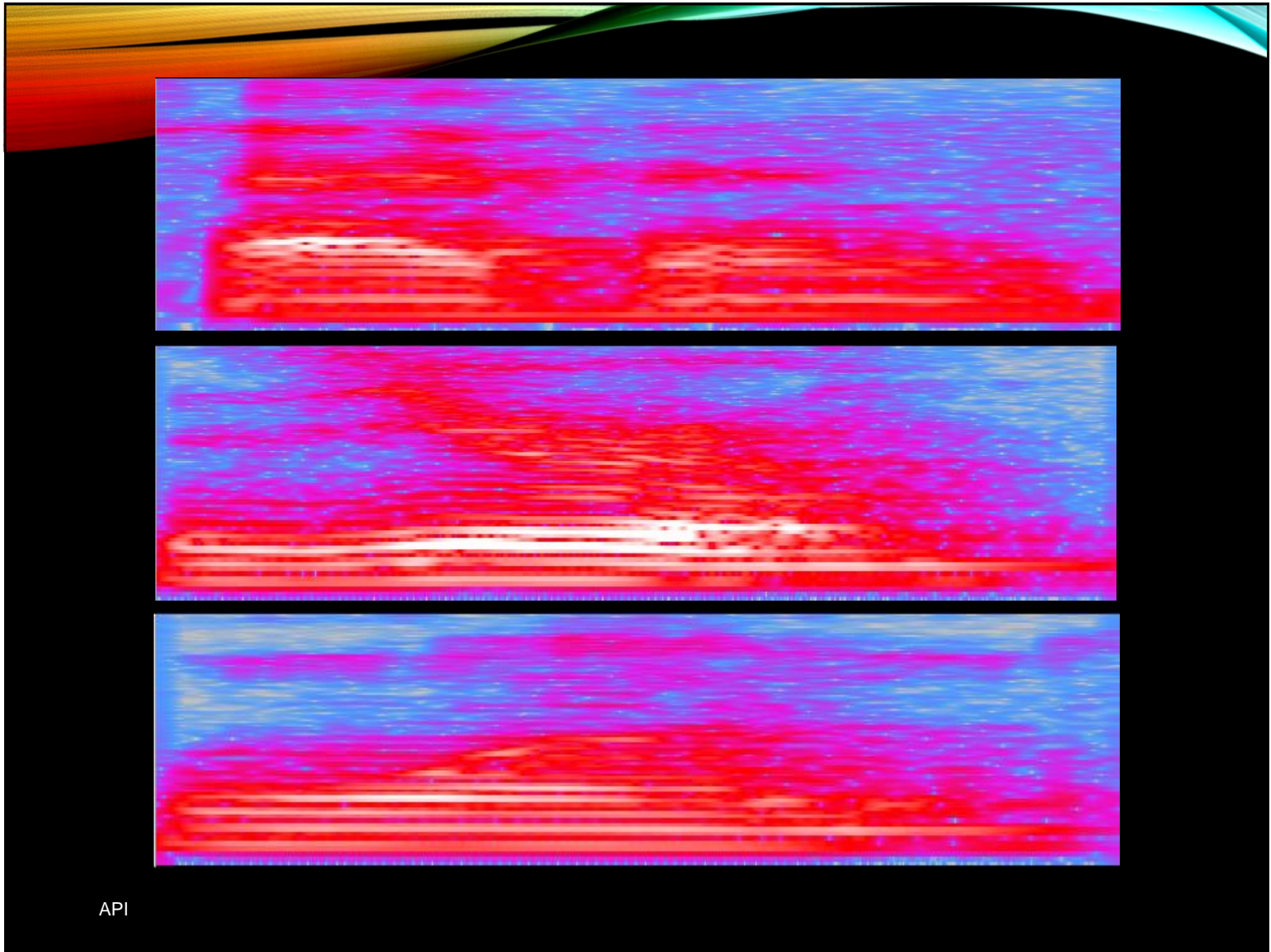
<https://github.com/Jakobovski/free-spoken-digit-dataset>

Using Convolutional Neural Networks on Spectrograms.

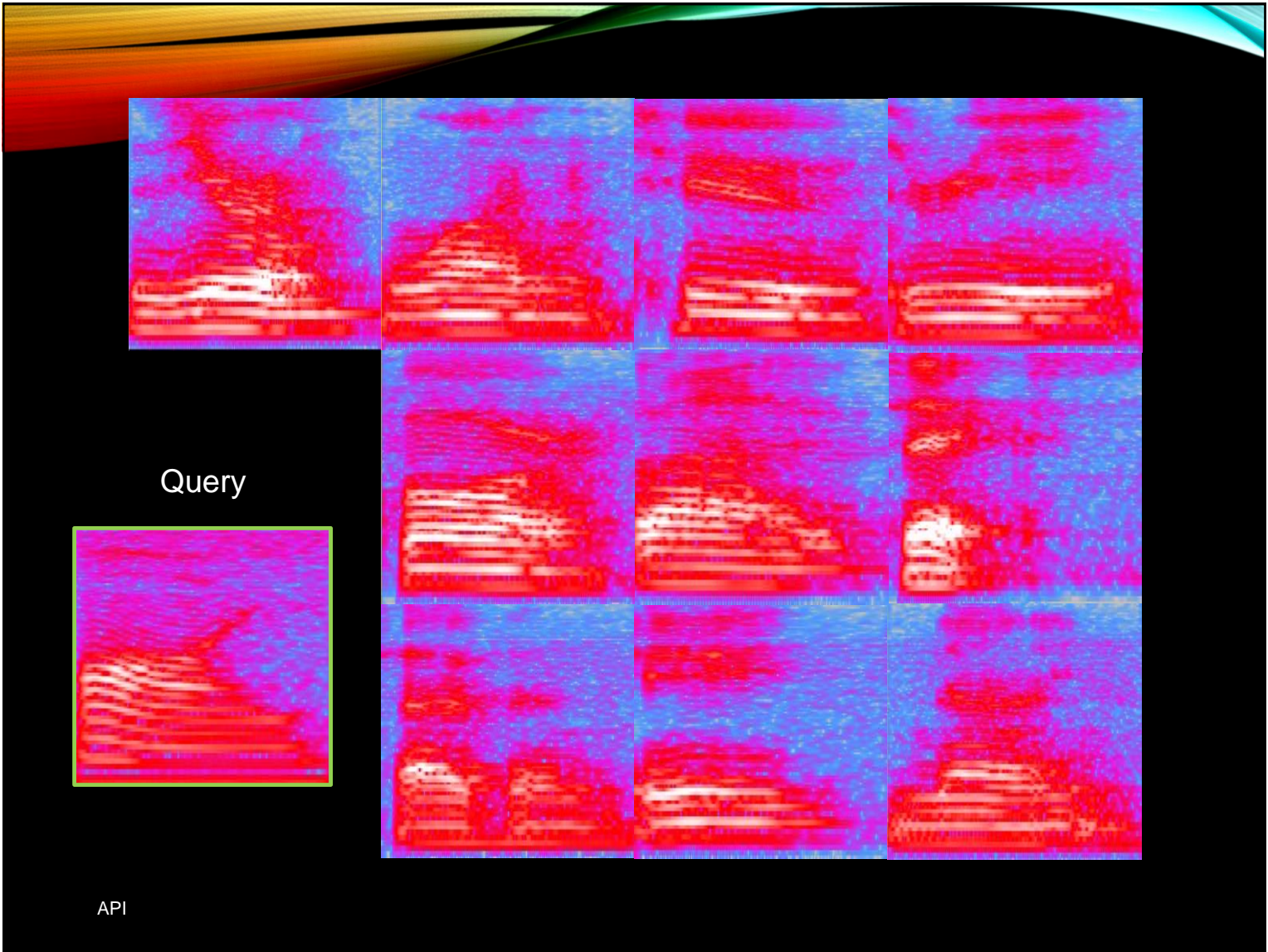
DIGITS

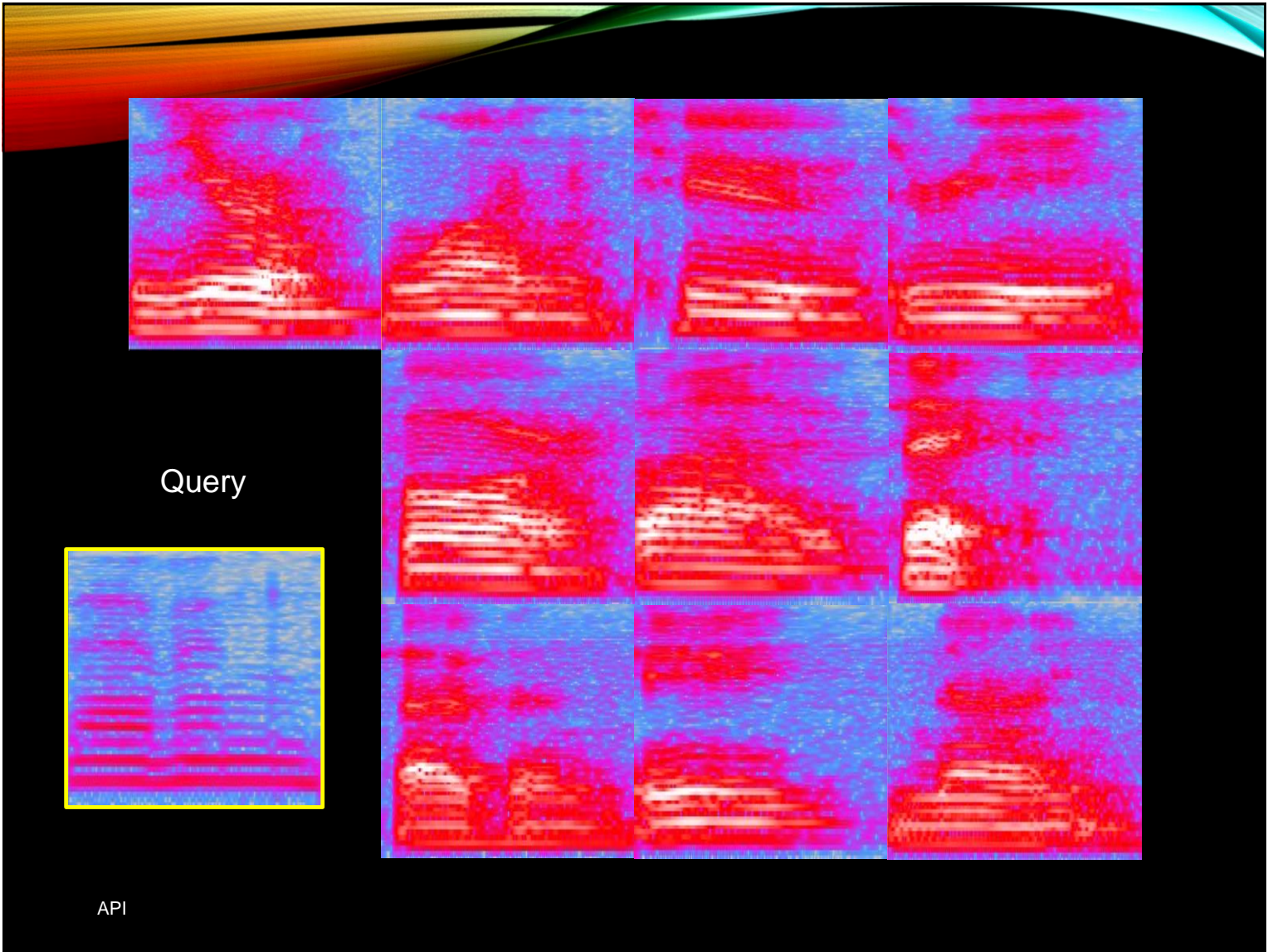


API

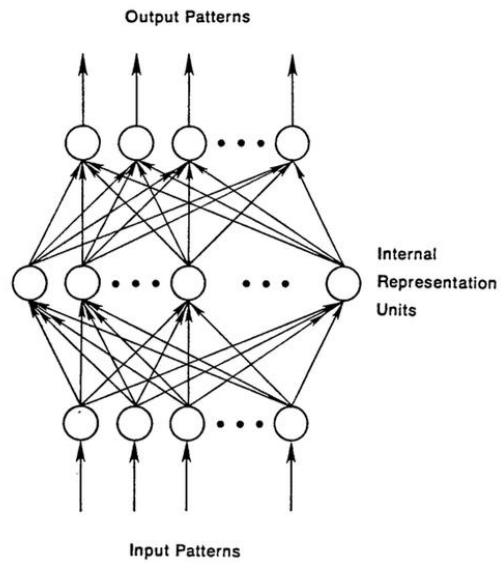


API

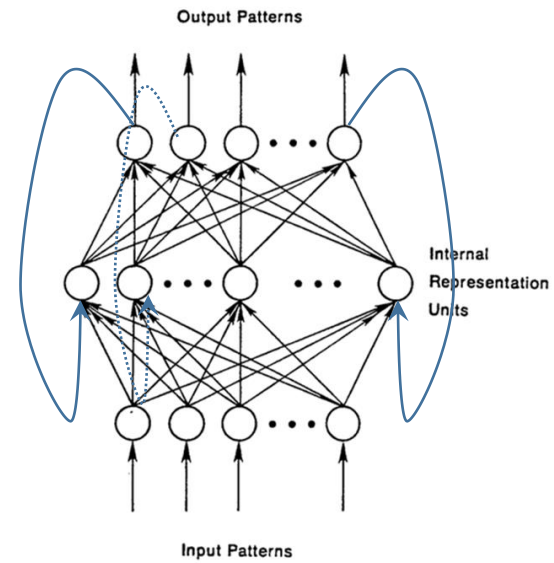




Some Neural Networks



Feed Forward Neural Network



Recurrent Neural Network

DNN: AlexNet, VGG16, ResNet, etc.

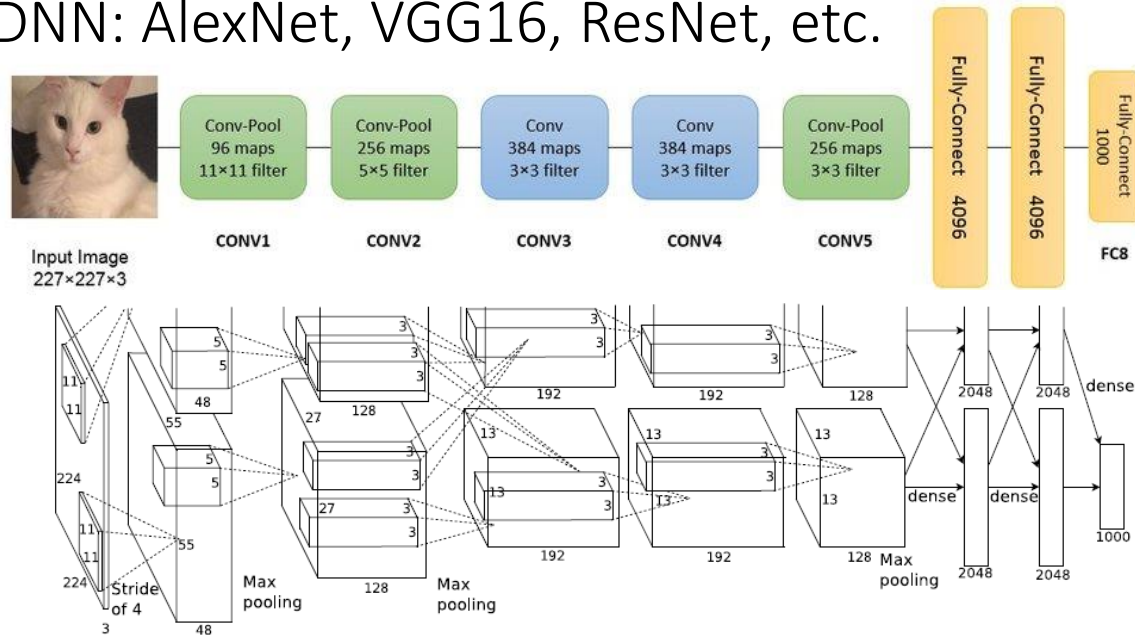


Figure 2: An illustration of the architecture of our CNN, explicitly showing the delineation of responsibilities between the two GPUs. One GPU runs the layer-parts at the top of the figure while the other runs the layer-parts at the bottom. The GPUs communicate only at certain layers. The network's input is 150,528-dimensional, and the number of neurons in the network's remaining layers is given by 253,440–186,624–64,896–64,896–43,264–4096–4096–1000.

Krizhevsky, Alex; Sutskever, Ilya; Hinton, Geoffrey E. "ImageNet classification with deep convolutional neural networks" Communications of the ACM. 60 (6): 84–90.

ImageNet



- AlexNet (~2011; 2015 58.9 %)
- VGG-16 (2015, 74.4%)
- ResNet-152 (2015, 78.57%)
- EfficientNetV2B0 (2021, 83.9%)

<https://paperswithcode.com/sota/image-classification-on-imagenet>

Deep Visualization Toolbox

yosinski.com/deepvis

#deepvis



Jason Yosinski



Jeff Clune



Anh Nguyen



Thomas Fuchs



Hod Lipson



Cats and Dogs

Kaggle Dataset (<https://www.kaggle.com/c/dogs-vs-cats/data>)

- 2000 images of cats
- 2000 images of dogs

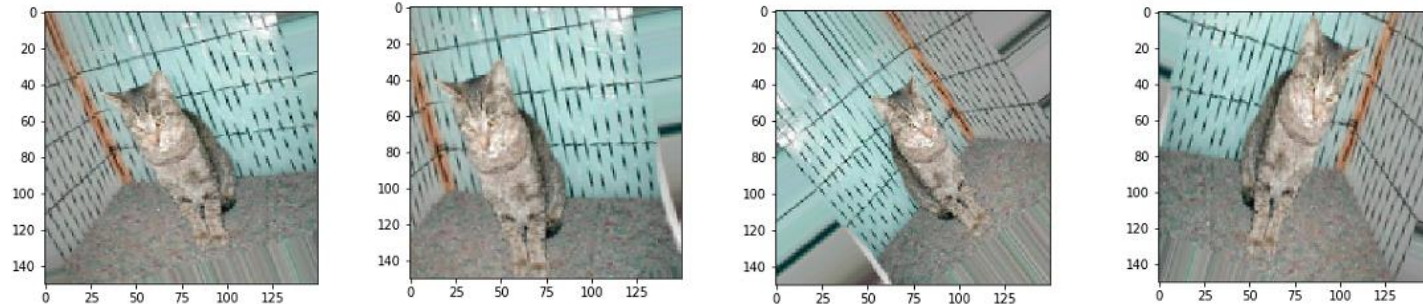
- Given an image: is it a cat or a dog?

Divide into:

- Training set (2000 images)
- Validation set (1000 images)
- Test set (1000 images)



Cats and Dogs



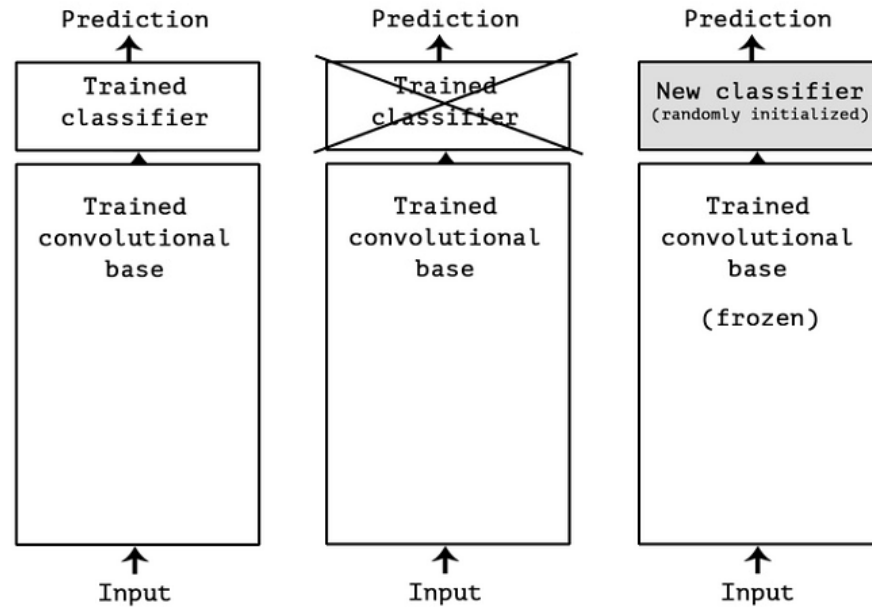
Convolutional Neural Network

- Without any regularization: ~71% accuracy
- **With data augmentation:** ~82% accuracy
- Feature extraction using a pre-trained NN: ~90% accuracy
- Fine tuning a pre-trained NN: ~95% accuracy

These are examples of Deep Learning with Small Datasets.

Cats and Dogs

VGG16 (pre packed with Keras)

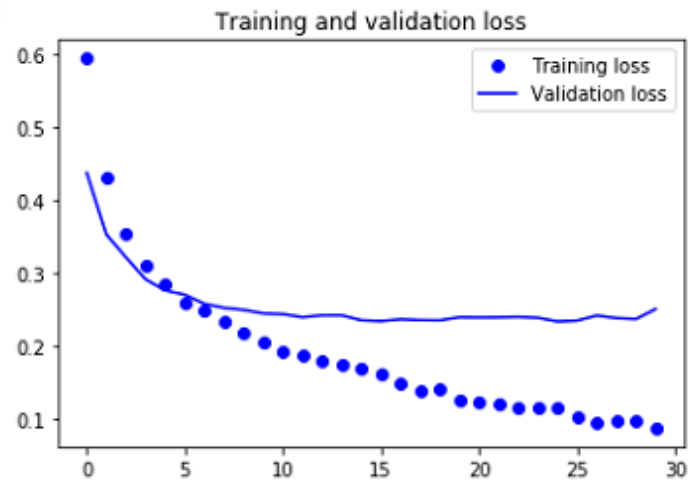
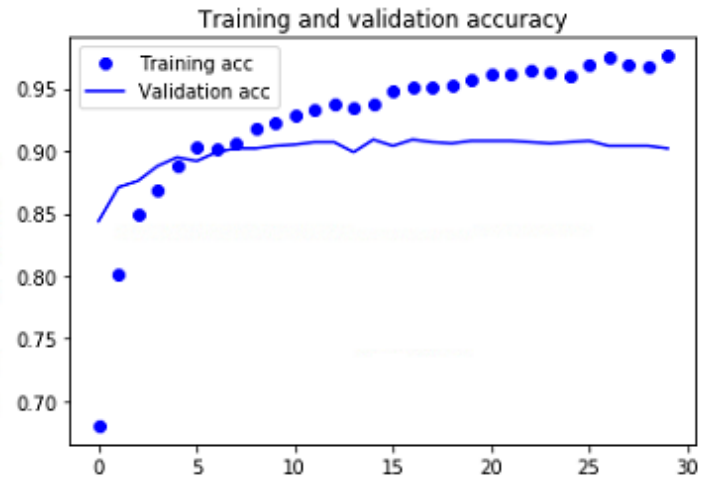
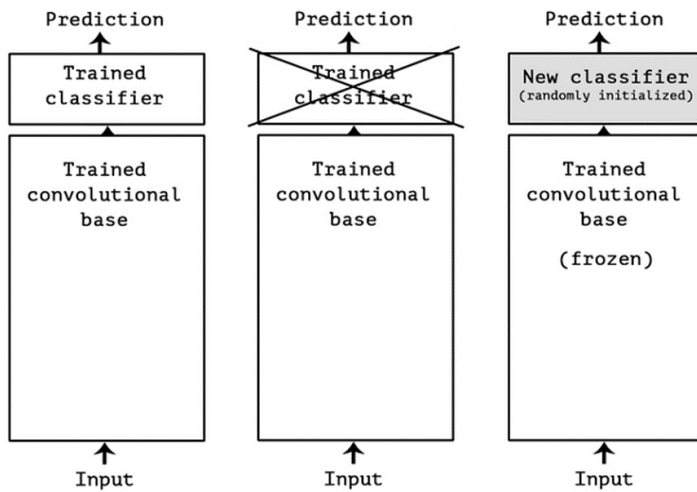


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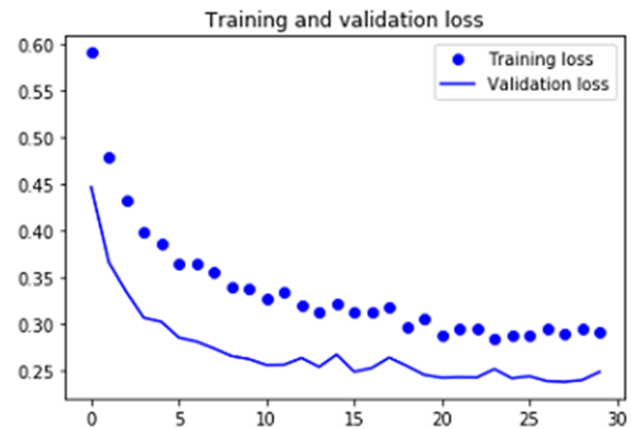
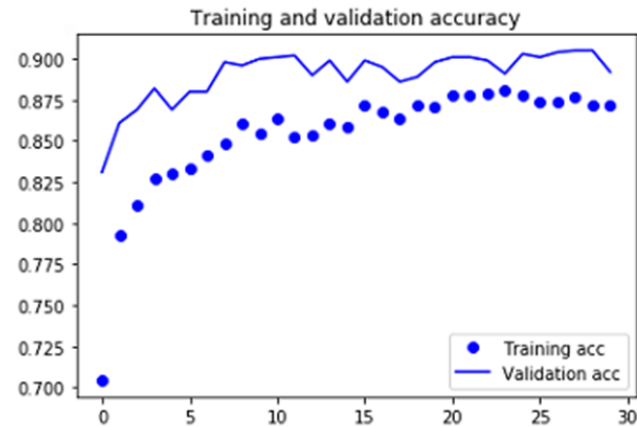
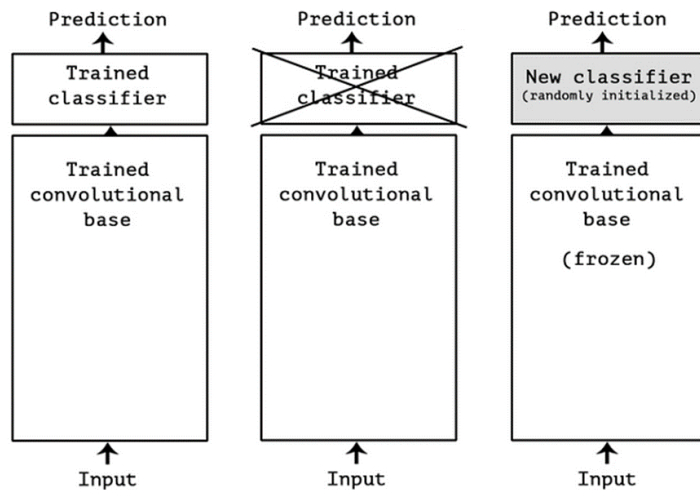
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VGG16 Feature Extraction



VGG16

Feature Extraction + Data Augmentation



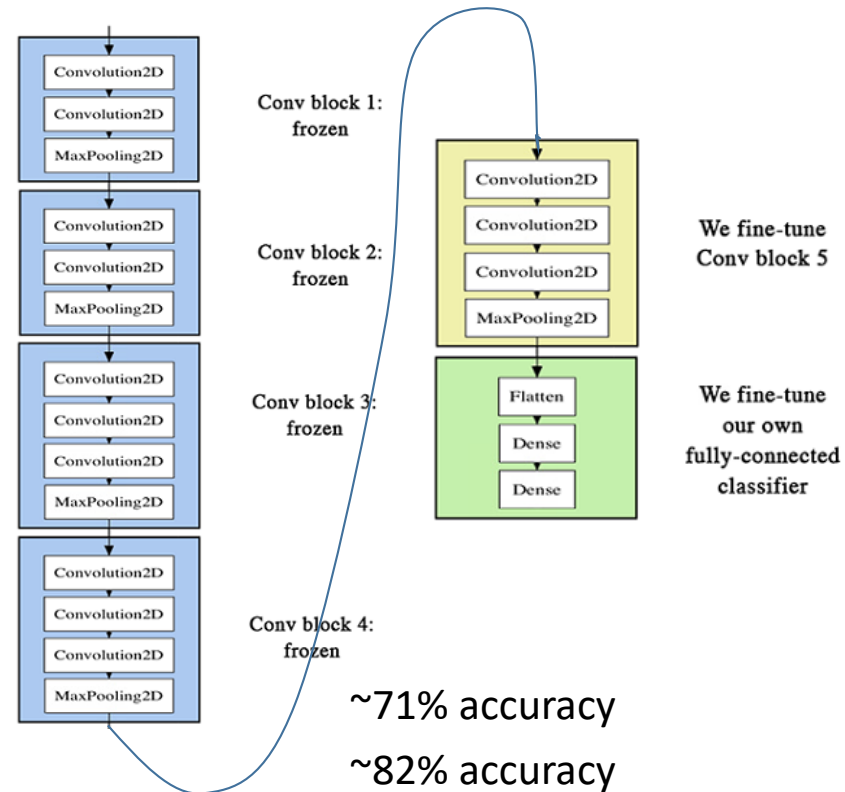
Cats and Dogs

VGG16 (pre packed with Keras)

Convolutional Neural Network

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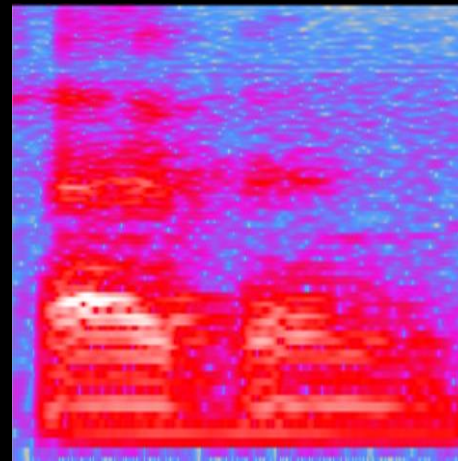
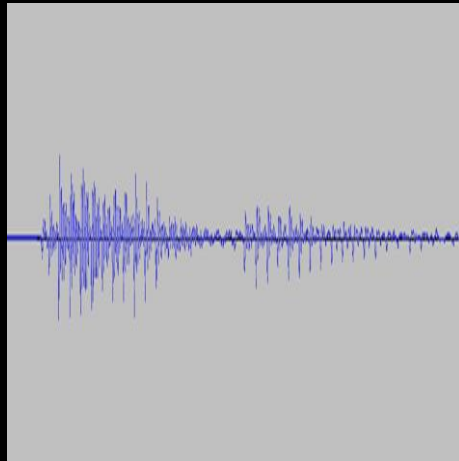
~71% accuracy

~82% accuracy

~90% accuracy

~95% accuracy

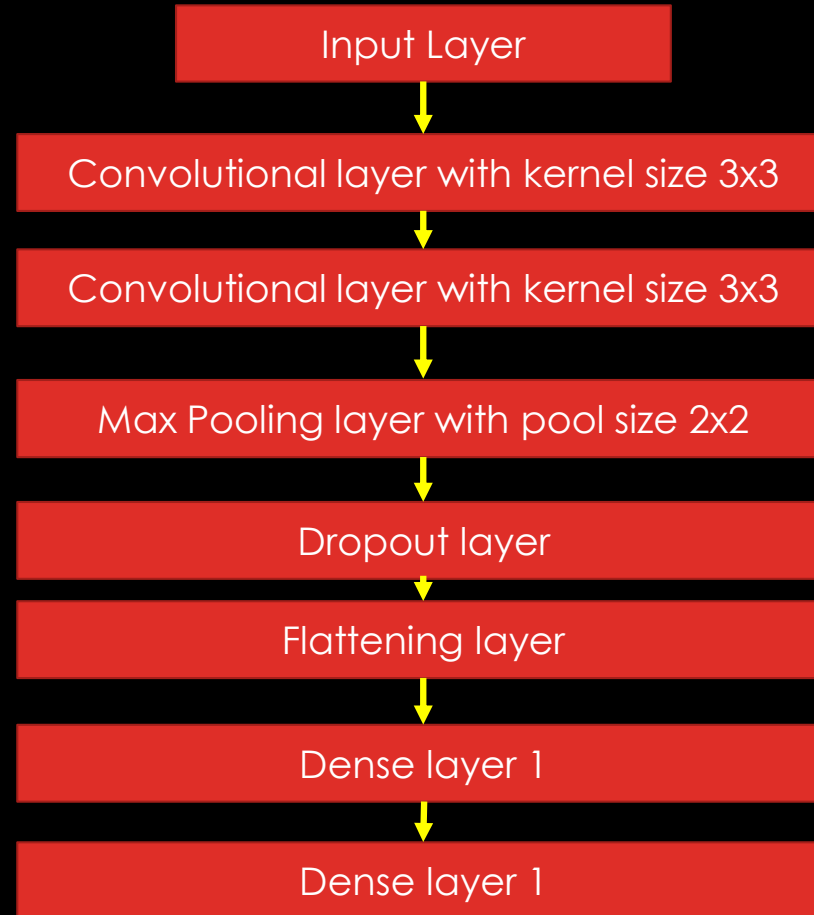
CNN'S FOR AUDIO CLASSIFICATION



- Both images can be used to recognize the spoken digit.
- The spectrogram yields better accuracy for the tests.
- How would you perform data augmentation?

API

CNN ARCHITECTURE



API

CNN DEFINED IN TF.KERAS

#Define Model

```
model = Sequential()
model.add(Conv2D(32, kernel_size=(3, 3), activation='relu', input_shape=input_shape))
model.add(Conv2D(64, kernel_size=(3, 3), activation='relu'))
model.add(MaxPooling2D(pool_size=(2, 2)))
model.add(Dropout(0.25))
model.add(Flatten())
model.add(Dense(128, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dropout(0.5))
model.add(Dense(num_classes, activation='softmax'))
```

#Compile

```
model.compile(loss=keras.losses.categorical_crossentropy,
optimizer=keras.optimizers.adam(), metrics=['accuracy'])
print(model.summary())
```

#Train and Test The Model

```
model.fit(x_train, y_train, batch_size=4, epochs=10, verbose=1, validation_data=(x_test,
y_test))
```

API

TRAINING, TEST AND VALIDATION DATASETS

Training Data

- 1800 Images of Spectrograms: 34x50 pixels
- Each image is labeled with the correct digit

Validation Data

- 200 Images of Spectrograms: 34x50 pixels
- Each image is labeled with the correct digit
- Exclusive speaker(s)

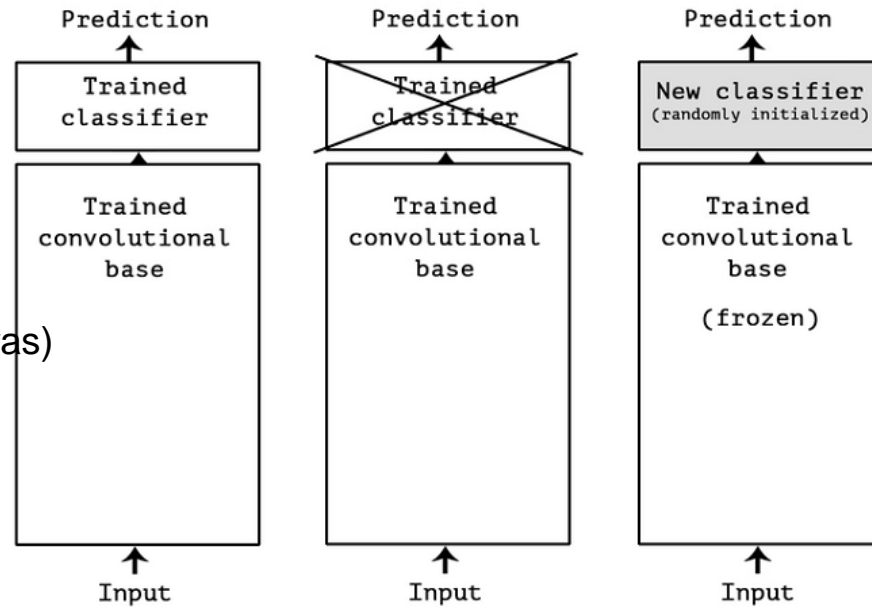
Test Data

- 200 Images of Spectrograms: 34x50 pixels
- Each image is labeled with the correct digit
- Exclusive speaker(s)

API

Digits

VGG16 (pre packed with TF Keras)



Convolutional Neural Network

- Without any regularization: accuracy ?
- With data augmentation: accuracy ?
- Feature extraction using a pre-trained NN: accuracy ?
- Fine tuning a pre-trained NN: accuracy ?

These are examples of Deep Learning with Small Datasets.

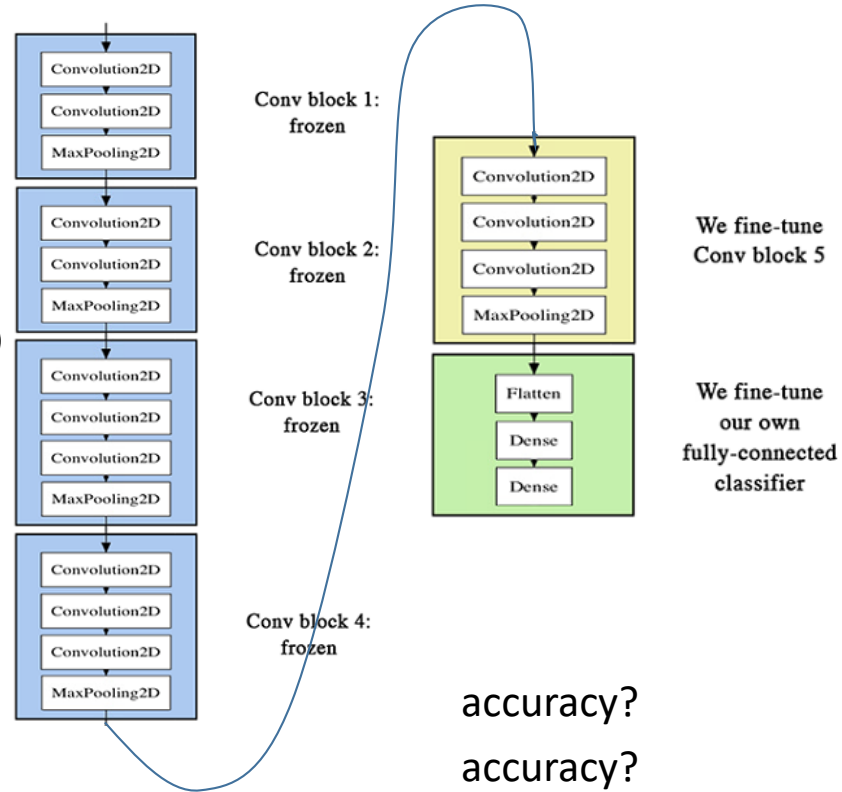
Digits

VGG16 (pre packed with TF Keras)

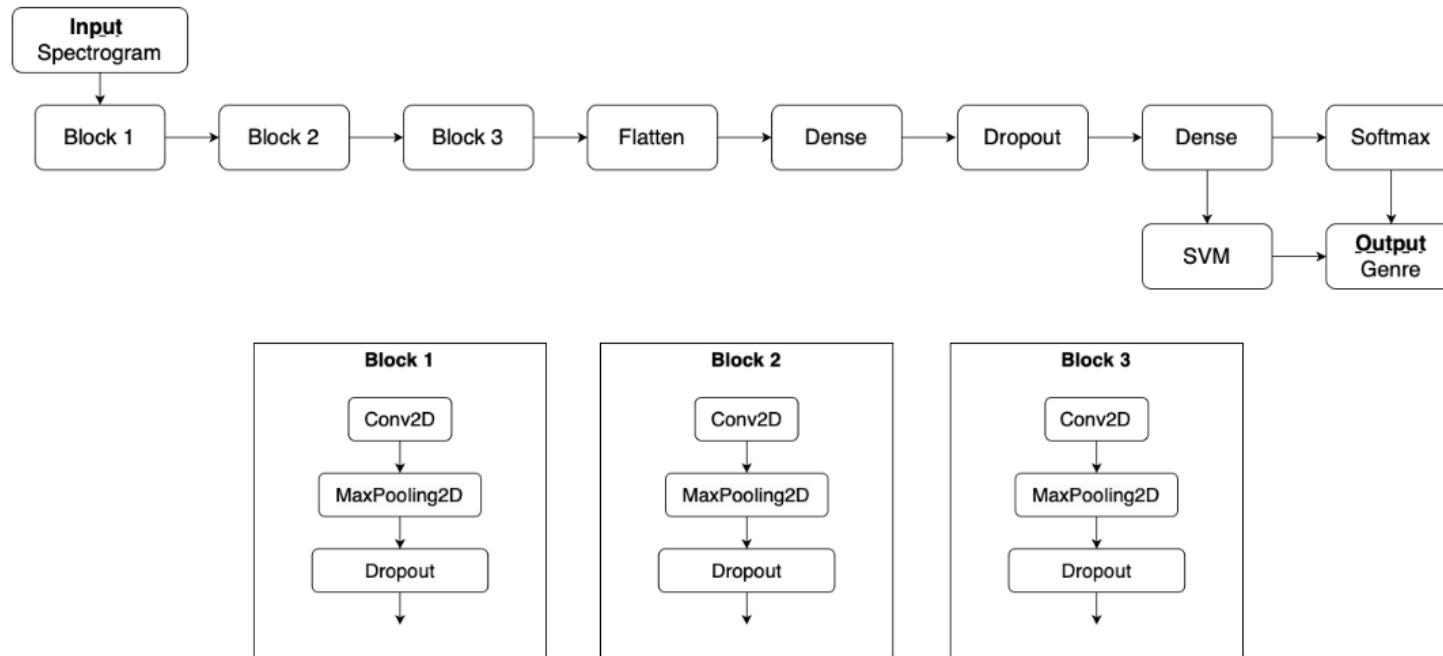
Convolutional Neural Network

- Without any regularization:
- With data augmentation:
- Feature extraction using a pre-trained NN:
- Fine tuning a pre-trained NN:

These are examples of Deep Learning with Small Datasets.



Genre Classification: MusicRecNet (Elbir et al., 2020)



Visualization of the MusicRecNet architecture. Output genres are either defined by using softmax probability scores or the SVM classifier.

Genre Classification Benchmarks GTZAN and FMA

Dataset	GTZAN	FMA_8	FMA_14	FMA medium
Number of songs per genre	100	1000	100	21-7103
Total number of songs	1000	8000	1400	25000

<i>Model</i>	<i>GTZAN Accuracy</i>
Zhang et al. [11]	87.4%
Liu et al. [12]	93.9%
Elbir, A & Aydin, N. [1]	81.8%
Elbir, A & Aydin, N. with SVM [1]	97.6%
Our Baseline Implementation	81.0%
Our Baseline Implementation + SVM	81.6%

Genre Classification Benchmarks GTZAN and FMA

Dataset	GTZAN	FMA_8	FMA_14	FMA medium
Number of songs per genre	100	1000	100	21-7103
Total number of songs	1000	8000	1400	25000

Dataset	GTZAN	GTZAN 224	FMA_8	FMA_8 224	FMA_14
Method					
Baseline	81.0		68.6		42.0
Baseline-SVM-Output	81.5		70.7		42.0
Baseline-SVM-D128	81.6		72.1		42.6
VGG	73.1		53.4		53.6
VGG-SVM-Output	73.0		53.9		53.6
VGG-SVM-D128	76.5		54.4		54.8
VGG-FT	81.6		60.7		57.3
VGG-SVM-Output-FT	81.6		61.0		57.3
VGG-SVM-D128-FT	83.0		61.2		56.9
EfficientNet	80.0	82.1	59.6	62.0	56.8
EfficientNet-SVM-Output	80.6	82.5	60.5	63.0	56.5
EfficientNet-SVM-D128	83.0	87.5	61.4	63.1	60.8
EfficientNet-FT	90.0	90.5	76.9	73.8	60.4
EfficientNet-SVM-Output-FT	89.8	90.5	76.8	73.7	60.4
EfficientNet-SVM-D128-FT	90.3	90.8	77.4	73.9	61.1

C. Wu et al. Transformer-based Acoustic Modeling for Streaming Speech Synthesis, INTERSPEECH 2021

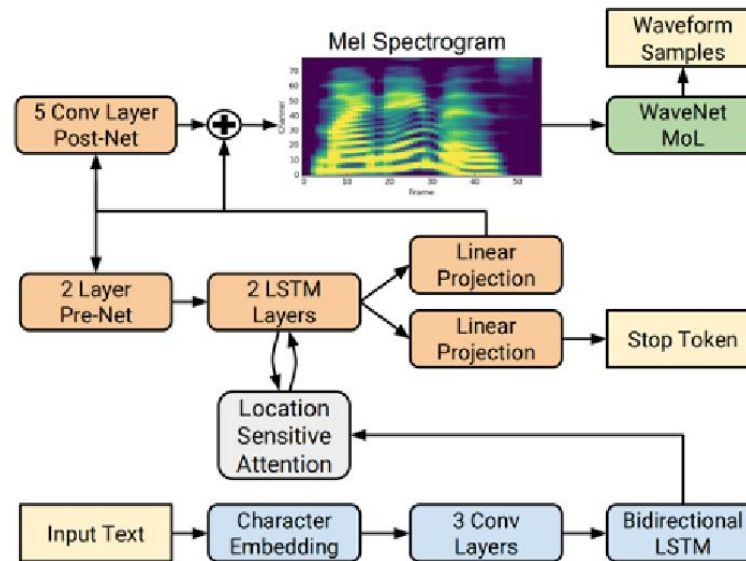
<https://transformer-tts-acoustic-model.github.io/samples/>

Tacotron2 uses Bi-directional Long Short-term Memory (BLSTM) recurrent networks.

- cannot effectively model long-term dependencies
- a poor quality on long speech.

FastSpeech state-of-the-art

- in modeling speech prosody and spectral features, but
- computation is parallel over the full utterance context.



Tacotron2

C. Wu et al. Transformer-based Acoustic Modeling for Streaming Speech Synthesis, INTERSPEECH 2021

TTS systems usually consist of two stages:

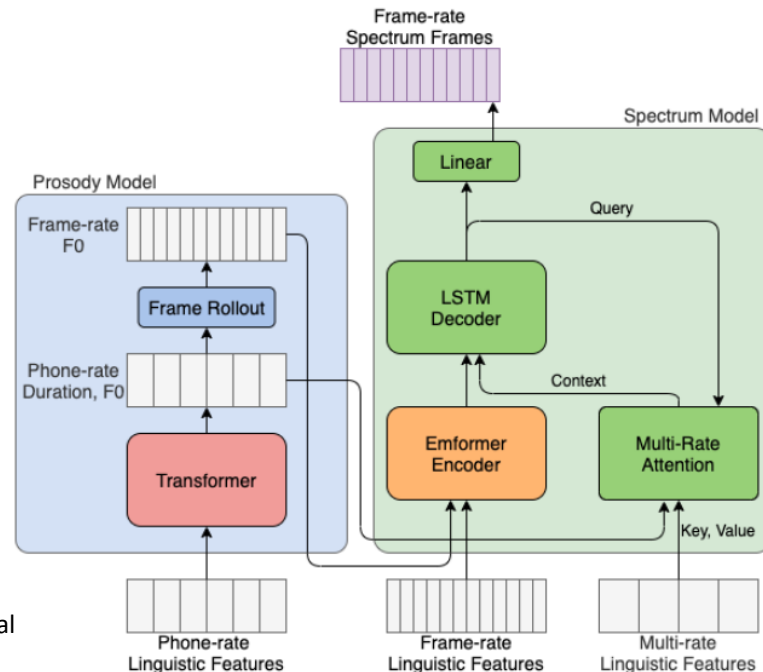
- acoustic model that predicts the prosody and spectral features
- followed by a neural vocoder that generates the audio
- waveform.

Transformer models:

- model long-term dependencies
- Complexity grows quadratically

This work

- Efficient constant speed implementation: for streaming speech synthesis
- uses a transformer network that predicts the prosody features at phone rate
- an Emformer network to predict the frame-rate spectral features (streaming)
- WaveRNN Vocoder used



<https://transformer-tts-acoustic-model.github.io/samples/>

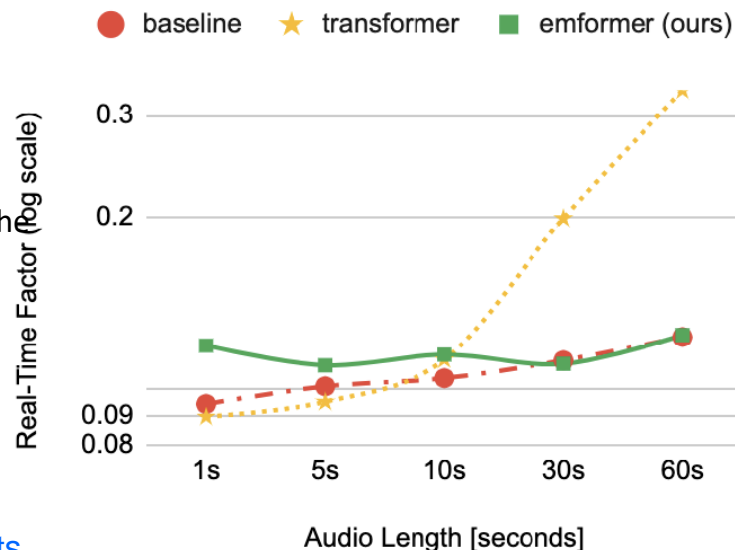
C. Wu et al. Transformer-based Acoustic Modeling for Streaming Speech Synthesis, INTERSPEECH 2021

TTS systems usually consist of two stages:

- acoustic model that predicts the prosody and spectral features
- followed by a neural vocoder that generates the audio
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Transformer models:

- model long-term dependencies
- Complexity grows quadratically



Mean Opinion Scores (1-5) from 400 participants

System	Prosody	Spectrum	Normal	Long
Groundtruth	–	–	4.307 ± 0.037	4.360 ± 0.044
Baseline [11]	BLSTM with self-attention [26]	Multi-rate attention [11]	4.173 ± 0.042	4.019 ± 0.055
Ours-1	Transformer	Multi-rate attention	4.174 ± 0.042	4.107 ± 0.052
Ours-2	BLSTM with self-attention	Emformer with multi-rate attention	4.192 ± 0.041	4.034 ± 0.053
Ours-3 (best)	Transformer	Emformer with multi-rate attention	4.213 ± 0.042	4.201 ± 0.048

<https://transformer-tts-accoustic-model.github.io/samples/>

J. Li, Recent Advances in End-to-End Automatic Speech Recognition.

APSIPA Trans. on Sig. & Inf. Processing, 2022.

- Hybrid ASR Systems
 - traditional architecture with DNN's replacing Gaussian modelling.
- End-to-End (E2E) ASR System
 - One single network from input speech to a token sequence
 - uses one single objective function for optimizing the whole model
 - More simple ASR Pipeline
 - More compact models
- E2e Achieve state-of-the-art results on most benchmarks, but:
 - Hybrid models still used in large portion of commercial ASR Systems
 - Practical factors:
 - Streaming
 - Latency
 - Speaker and Language domain adaption (current main research focus)
 - Etc.
 - These challenges are being addressed in current E2E ASR systems research

End-to-End ASR Architectures

- Connectionist Temporal Classification
- Attention Based Encoder-Decoder (**TRANSFORMERS**)
- Recurrent Neural Network Transducer (**RNN-T**)
 - Streaming, High accuracy, low latency
 - Good candidate for industrial applications

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