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FOURIER **NEURAL OPERATOR** FOR PARAMETRIC PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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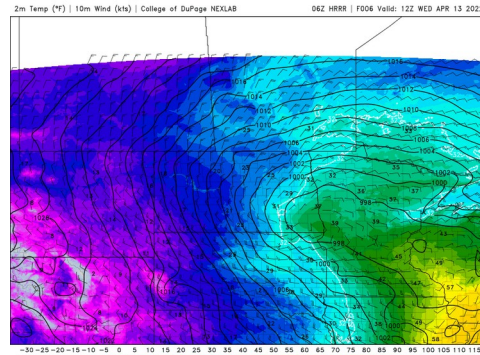
Main Message

- Necessity of having mappings between function spaces
- Introduction to a line of research called “Neural Operators”
- Introduction to Fourier Neural Operators

Mapping between function spaces is important!

- Most real-world phenomena are governed by Partial Differential Equations (PDEs), and to model or to predict them we need to solve these PDEs.
- To solve PDEs we need to provide them boundary and initial conditions. The initial condition and boundary conditions are functions, and the prediction is also a function.

For example, in the case of using Navier Stokes for **Weather Forecasting**, the current measurements of the state of atmosphere are our initial conditions and the characteristics of the land and an oceans is our boundary condition.



Examples of real-world PDEs

Wave Equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Schrödinger equation in quantum-mechanical system:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(x, t) = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + V(x, t) \right] \Psi(x, t)$$

Navier–Stokes equations for describing the motion of fluids:

$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \rho \mathbf{g}$$

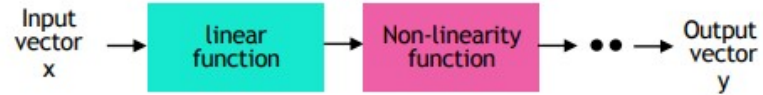
Mapping between function spaces is important!

- Currently, we use numerical methods to solve PDEs, and the solution is unique for each boundary and initial condition.
- Often it takes a lot of effort to solve PDEs and even after simulation, it cannot be used for other predictions or simulations.
- This mapping is done by our PDEs how to do it with Neural?
- And to do that, a proper NN architecture is required plus a training data set of input functions and output functions!
- So, this is what motivated this line of research to develop instant mapping from these functions to the solution function.

Neural Networks vs Neural Operators

Neural networks

$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$



$$v_0 = x$$

$$v_{l+1} = \sigma(A_l v_l + b_l), \quad l = 0, \dots, L-1$$

$$y = A_L v_L + b_L$$

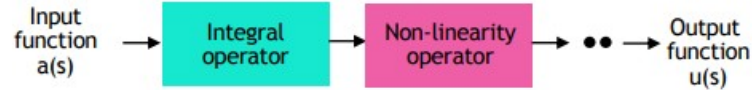
$$\sigma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad A_l \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{l+1} \times d_l}, \quad b_l \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{l+1}}$$

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Neural Networks vs Neural Operators

Neural operators

$$F: a(s) \rightarrow u(s)$$
$$(\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m)$$



$$v_0(s) = P(x(s), s)$$

$$v_{l+1}(s) = \sigma \left(W_l v_l(s) + \int_D \kappa_l(s, z) v_l(z) dz + b_l(s) \right), \quad l = 0, \dots, L-1$$

$$y(s) = Q(v_L(s))$$

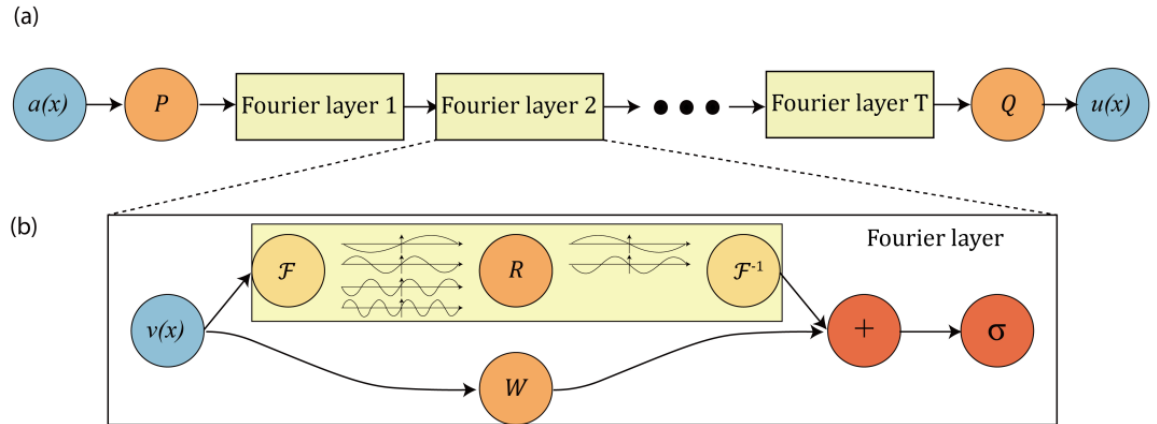
$$P: \mathbb{R}^{m+n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_0}, \quad W_l \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{l+1} \times d_l}, \quad \kappa_l: \mathbb{R}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_{l+1} \times d_l}, \quad b_l: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d_{l+1}}, \quad Q: \mathbb{R}^L \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$$

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Fourier Neural Operators

$$\kappa_\phi(x, y) = \kappa_\phi(x - y)$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1} \left(R_\phi \cdot (\mathcal{F} v_t) \right) (x)$$

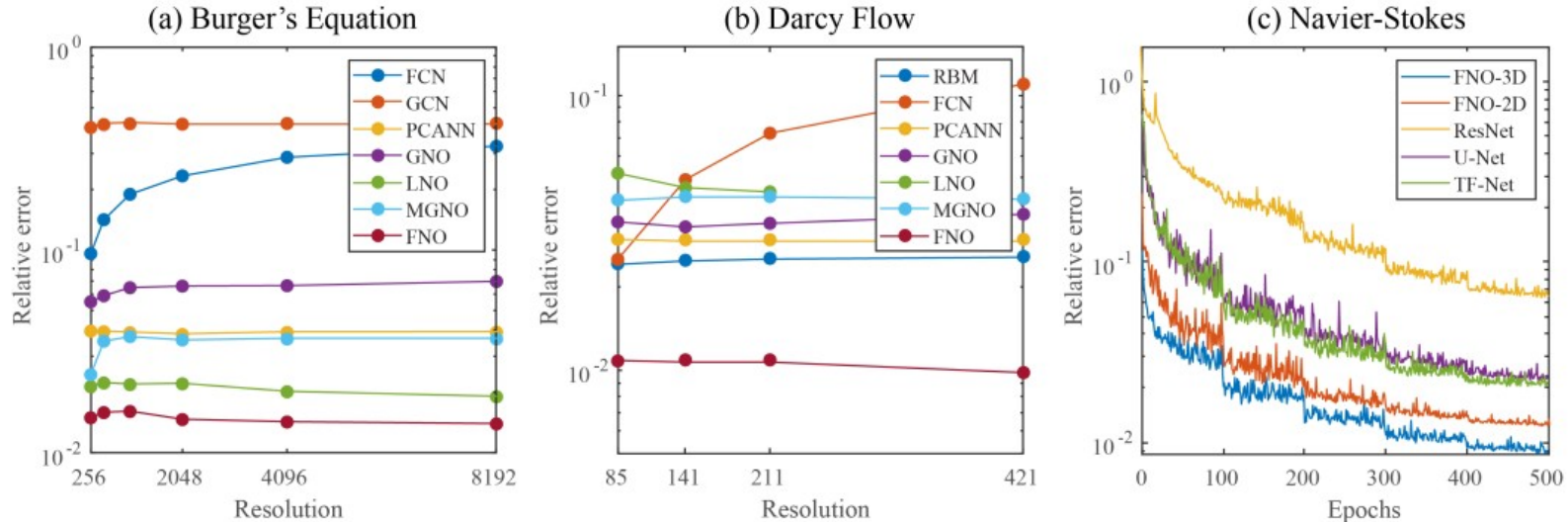


(a) **The full architecture of neural operator:** start from input a . 1. Lift to a higher dimension channel space by a neural network P . 2. Apply four layers of integral operators and activation functions. 3. Project back to the target dimension by a neural network Q . Output u . (b) **Fourier layers:** Start from input v . On top: apply the Fourier transform \mathcal{F} ; a linear transform R on the lower Fourier modes and filters out the higher modes; then apply the inverse Fourier transform \mathcal{F}^{-1} . On the bottom: apply a local linear transform W .

Figure 2: **top:** The architecture of the neural operators; **bottom:** Fourier layer.

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Fourier Neural Operators

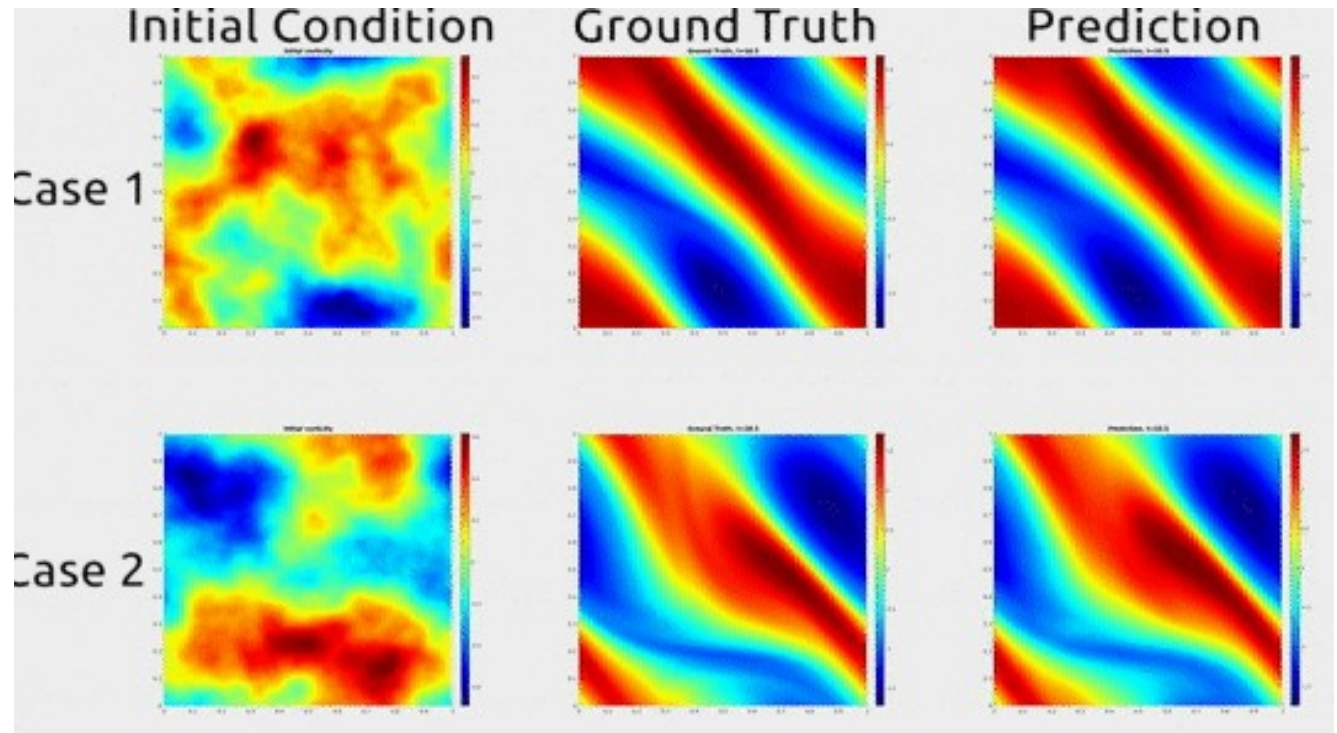


Left: benchmarks on Burgers equation; **Mid:** benchmarks on Darcy Flow for different resolutions; **Right:** the learning curves on Navier-Stokes $\nu = 1e-3$ with different benchmarks. Train and test on the same resolution.

For acronyms, see Section [5](#) details in Tables [1](#) [3](#) [4](#)

Figure 3: Benchmark on Burger's equation, Darcy Flow, and Navier-Stokes

Navier-Stokes



Takeaways

- It is important to map between function spaces!
- Neural Networks are finite dimensional mappings, and Neural Operators are infinite dimensional mappings (of function spaces)!
- **“Fourier” Neural Operators?**
- **Neural Operators relate to Transformers?**

Resources and Links

[1]. [Neural Operator](#)

[2]. <https://zongyi-li.github.io/neural-operator/Neural-Operator-CS159-0503-2022.pdf>

[3]. https://github.com/zongyi-li/fourier_neural_operator