

TIME SERIES CONTINUOUS MODELING FOR IMPUTATION AND FORECASTING WITH IMPLICIT NEURAL REPRESENTATIONS

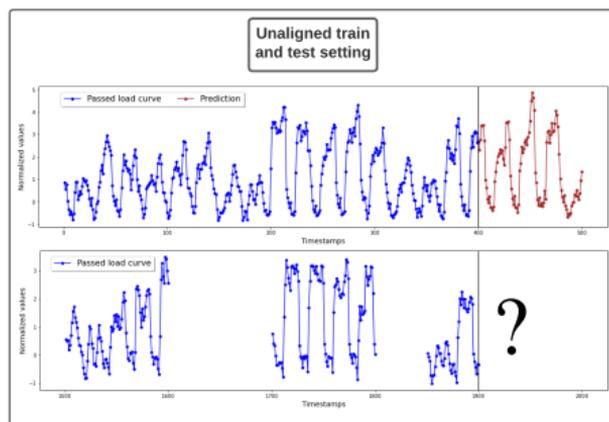
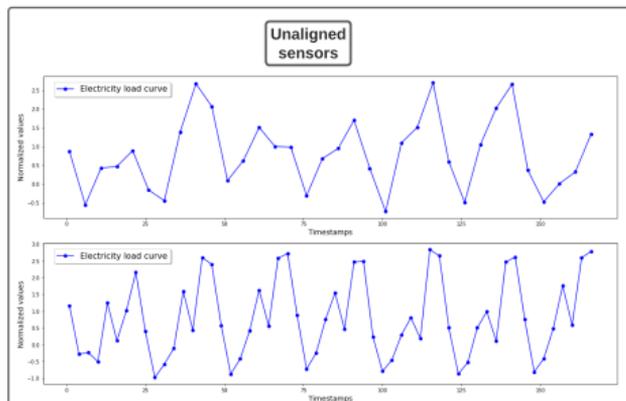
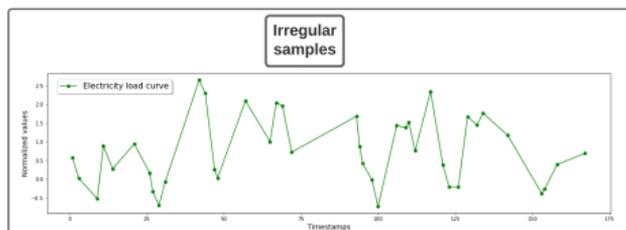
March, 11th, Huawei Research

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Nicolas Baskiotis, Patrick Gallinari, Vincent Guigue

<https://github.com/etiennelnr/timeflow>

Time Series = continuous phenomena / observed partially

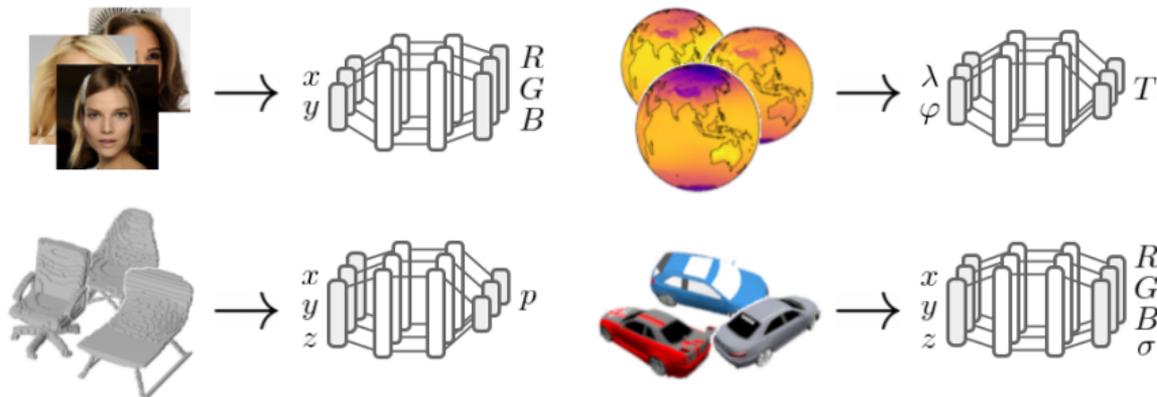
- Modeling Time Series as a **continuous function**
- ⇒ Deal with irregular sampling / unaligned sensors
- ⇒ Unified framework for Data imputation + Forecasting





Technical options

- Gaussian Processes [Williams and Rasmussen, 2006]
- Neural Processes [Kim et al., 2019]
- Specific Architecture (e.g. mTAN) [Shukla and Marlin, 2021]
- Diffusion Model [Ho et al., 2020]
- Implicit Neural Representation (INR) [Dupont et al., 2022]





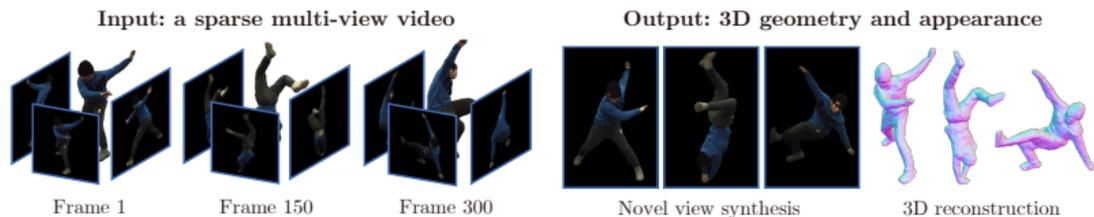
Implicit Neural Representation : a versatile solution

- Image compression

[Dupont et al., 2021]

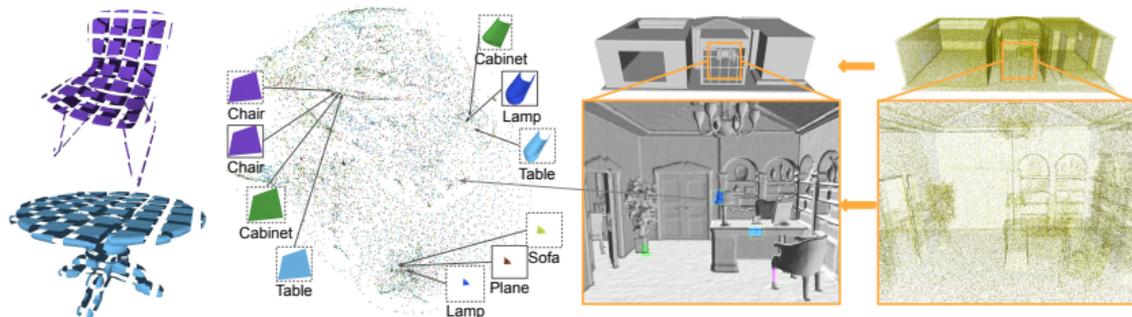
- 3D / animation modeling

[Peng et al., 2021]



- 3D Scene / multiscale representation

[Jiang et al., 2020]

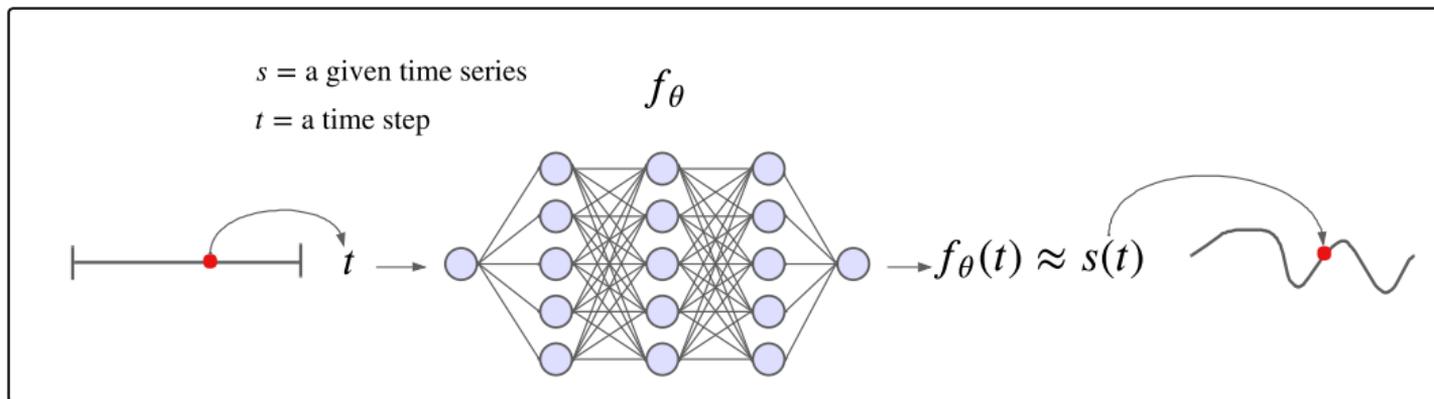


(a) Training parts from ShapeNet. (b) t-SNE plot of part embeddings. (c) Reconstructing entire scenes with Local Implicit Grids



Implicit Neural Representation for Time Series

- A first attempt: DeepTime [Woo et al., 2022]
- Room for improvement:
 - Not designed for data imputation (forecasting only)
 - \approx Ridge Regression on sampled Fourier descriptors

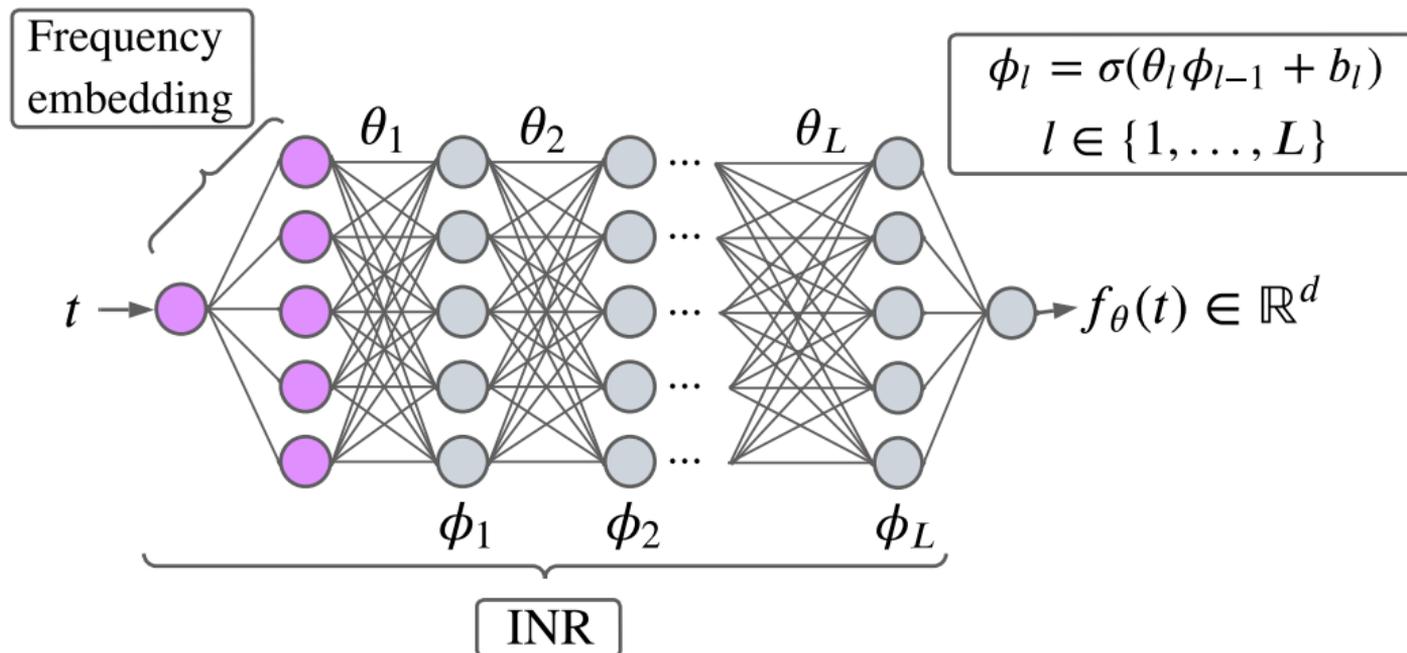


TIMEFLOW ARCHITECTURE



NeRF encoding illustration

[Mildenhall et al., 2021]

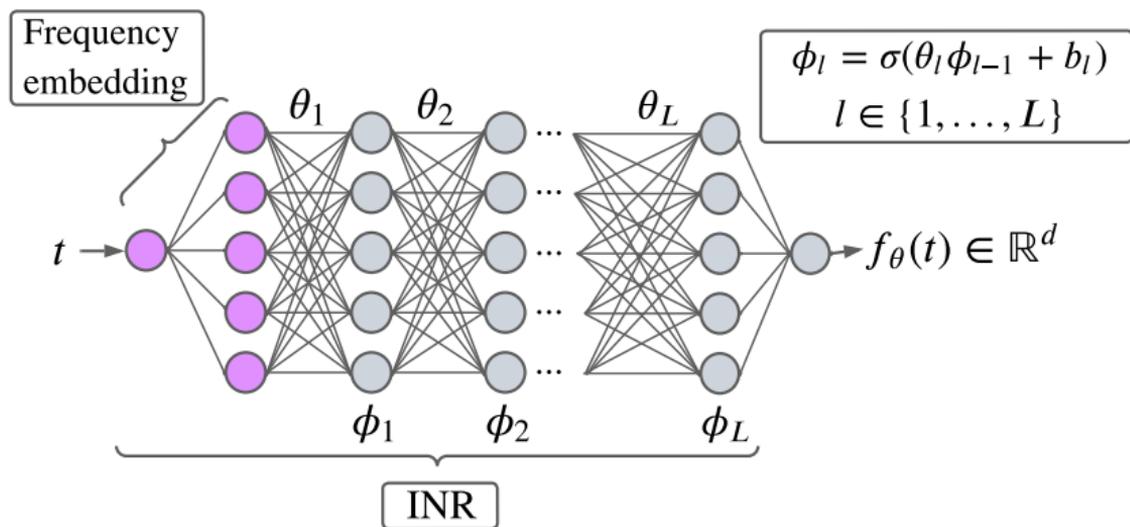


1 NeRF encoding : $t \rightarrow \gamma(t) \Rightarrow$ Fixed frequency description



NeRF encoding illustration

[Mildenhall et al., 2021]

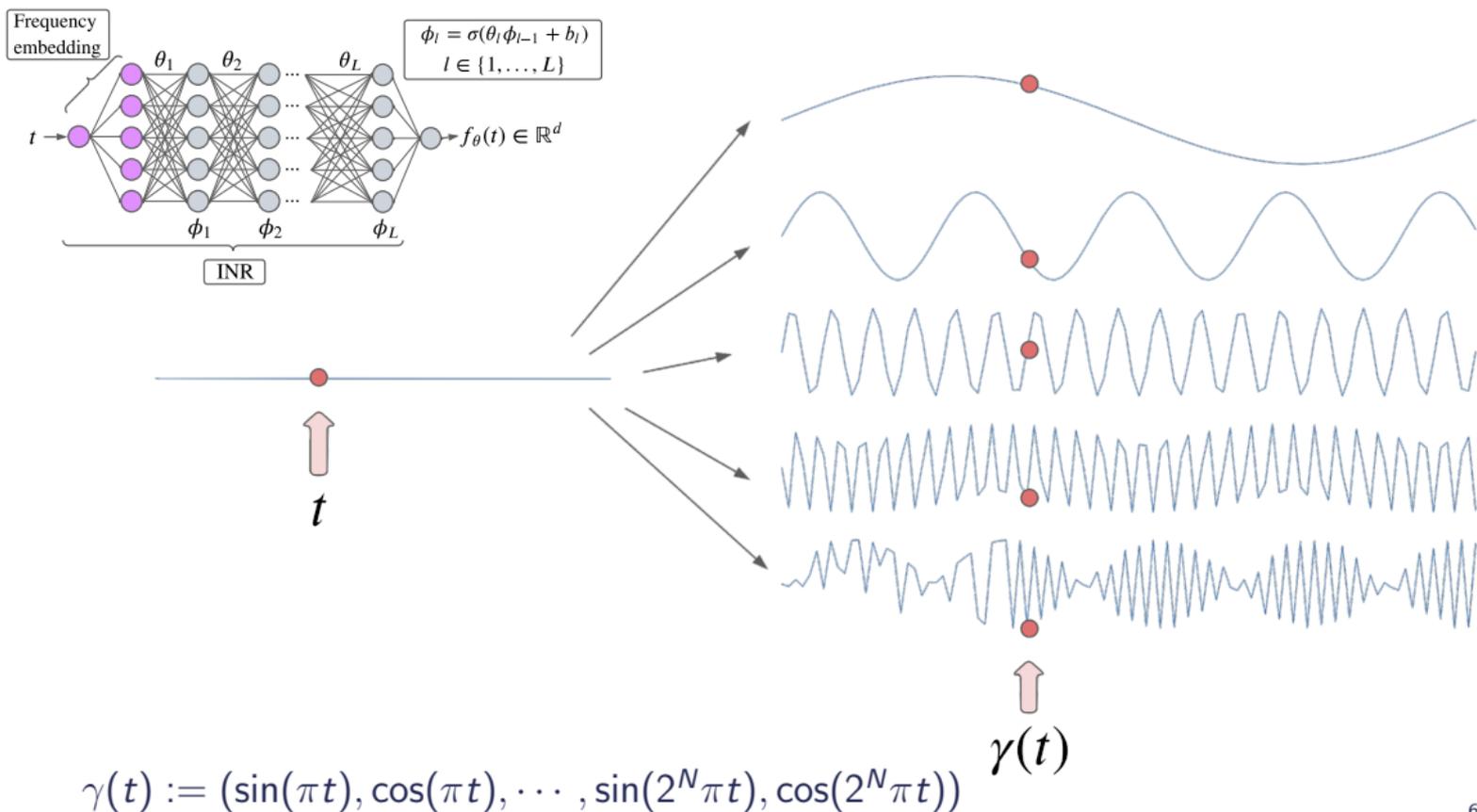


- 1 NeRF encoding** : $t \rightarrow \gamma(t)$, N frequency bands
 $\gamma(t) := (\sin(\pi t), \cos(\pi t), \dots, \sin(2^N \pi t), \cos(2^N \pi t))$
- 2 Then** $\gamma(t) \rightarrow \text{MLP}(\gamma(t); \theta)$ (vs \approx Ridge Reg. in [Woo et al., 2022])
 Activation functions are ReLU (i.e. $\text{ReLU}(x) = \max(0, x)$)

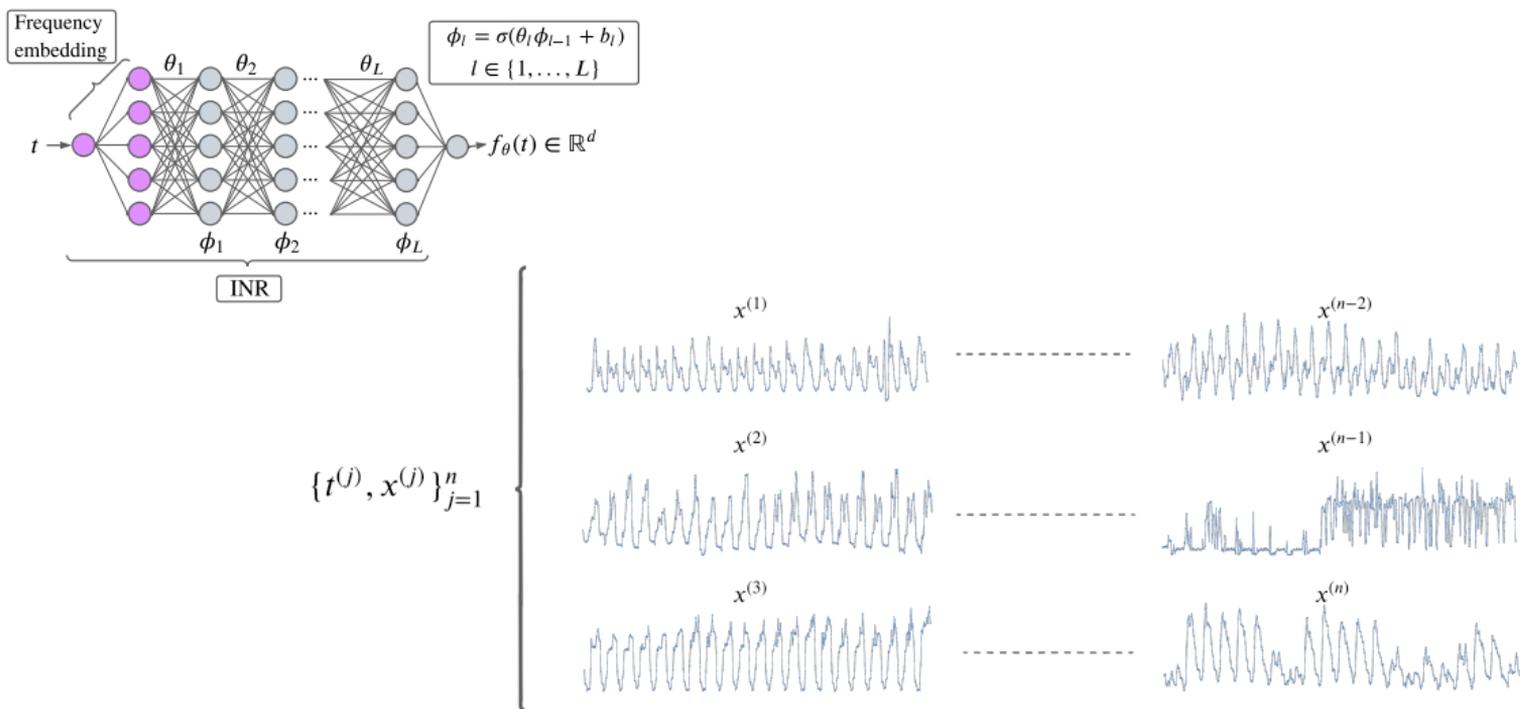


NeRF encoding illustration

[Mildenhall et al., 2021]



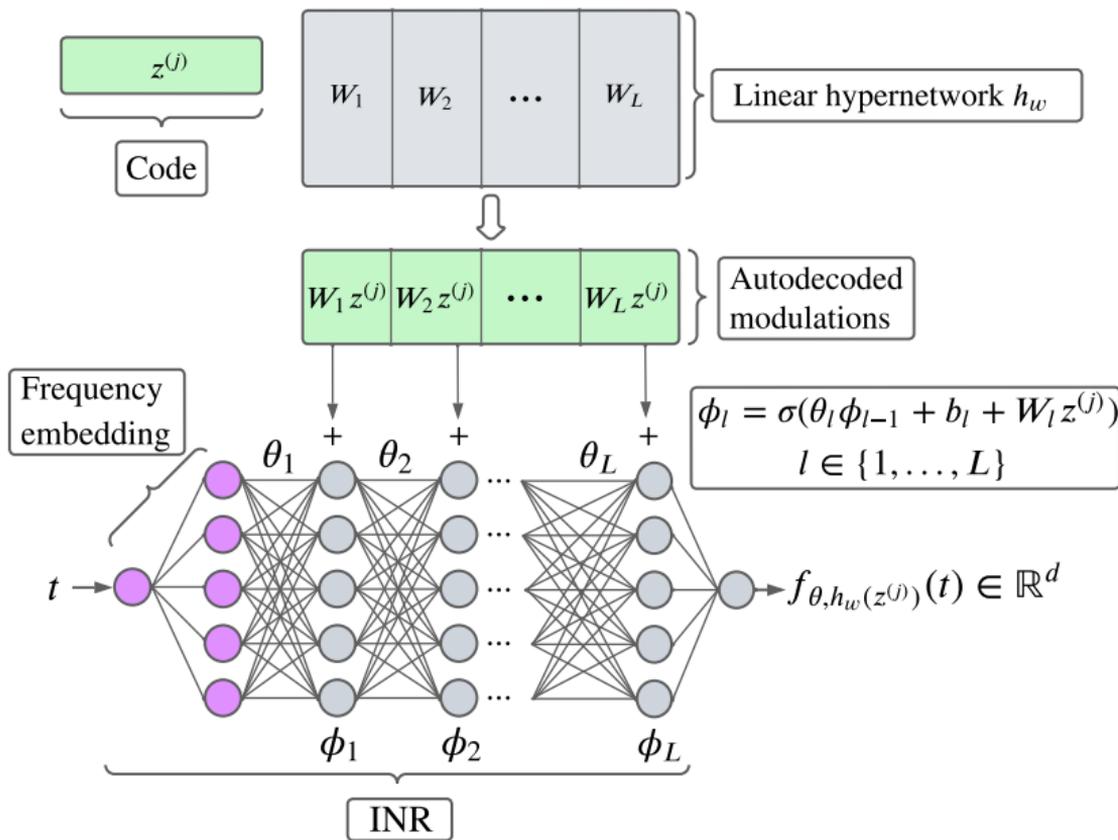
Nice to fit a *sample*, but how to deal with a *dataset*?



■ Solution \rightarrow **Hypernetwork that modulate the INR**

[Dupont et al., 2022, Klocek et al., 2019, Sitzmann et al., 2020]

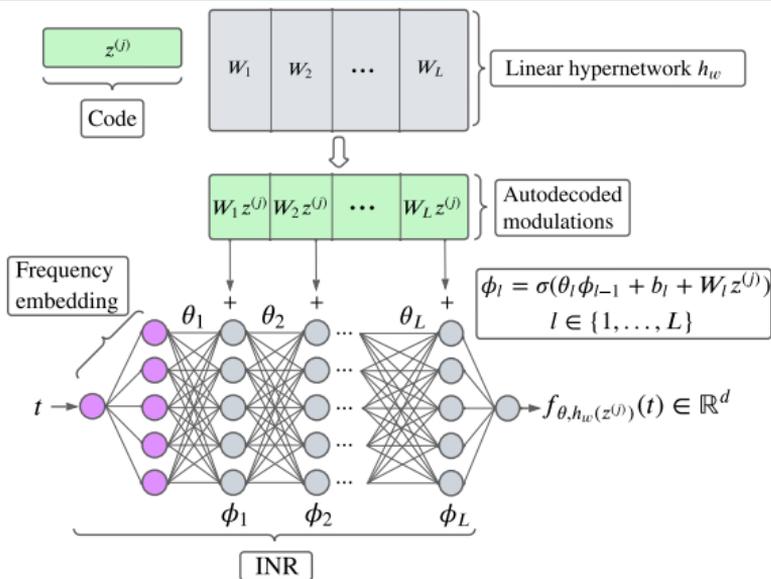
Hypernetwork and auto-decoding [Dupont et al., 2022, Yin et al., 2022]



HyperNet =
 linear model \Rightarrow bias b

INR =
 fixed 1st layer +
 MLP with θ (in) +
 b (modul.)

Insight on parameters θ , w and the $z^{(j)}$

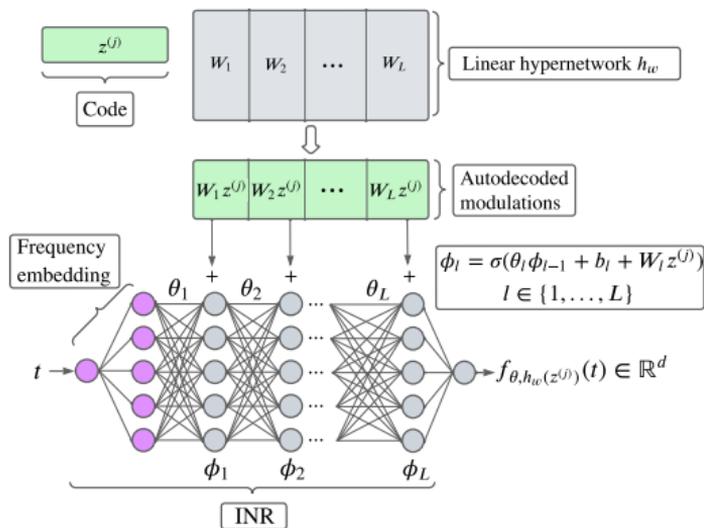


- $\gamma(t)(= \phi_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{64}, z^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^{128}$
- $\phi_{l>0} \in \mathbb{R}^{256}$
- MLP: 5 layer

- $z^{(j)}$: instance coding
- θ and w = shared information across all samples
- MSE Loss
- **Training:** [Zintgraf et al., 2019]
inner+outer loops
- i) Sample adaptation =
freeze (θ, w) + 3 grad. steps on $z^{(j)}$
[Second order grad. (Hessian comput.)]
- o) (θ, w) optimization
- **Inference:** i) + forward
not so fast...



Several research questions



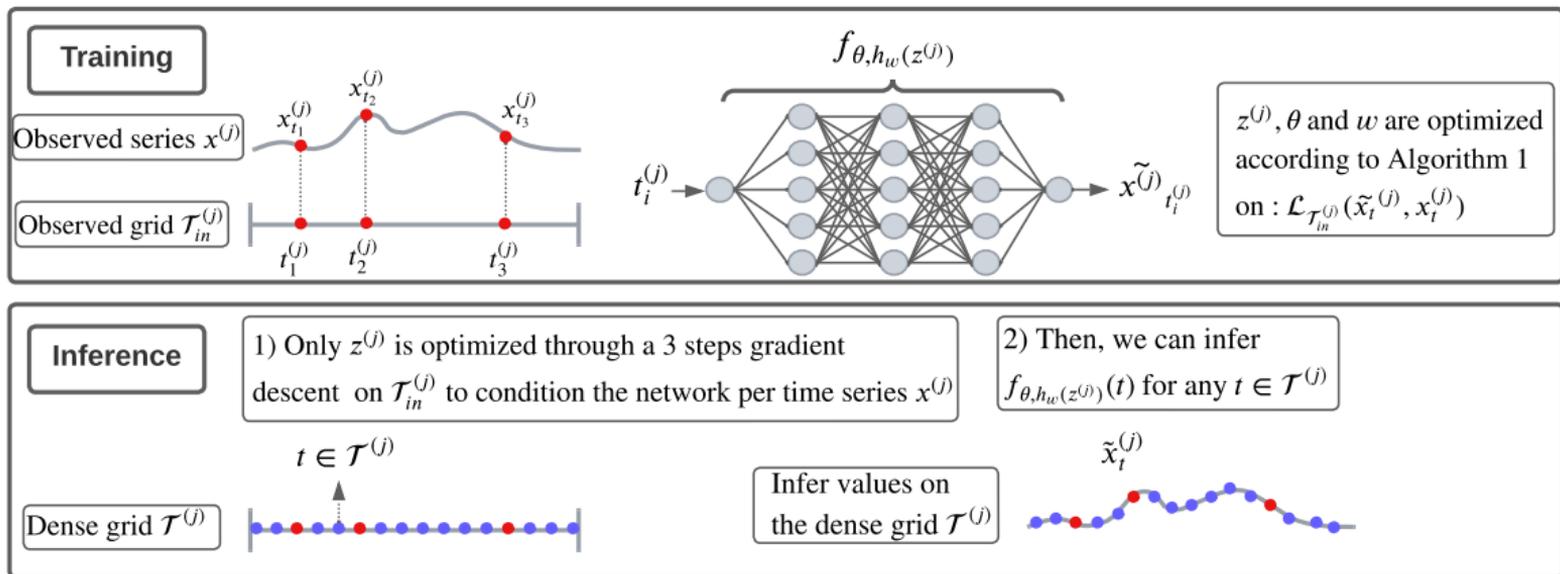
- $\gamma(t)(= \phi_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{64}, z^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^{128}$
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- MLP: 5 layer

- 1 How to link between hypernet. & INR?
 - *Stability*
- 2 Impact of grad. in the inner loop?
 - *Stability*
 - Comp. time
- 3 INR:
 - How to map t in input?
 - Impact of non-linearity of the INR

EXPERIMENTS



Imputation



We compare to a wide range of baselines on three datasets

Table 1: Mean MAE imputation results on the missing grid only. τ stands for the subsampling rate. Bold results are best, underlined results are second best.

	τ	Continuous methods				Discrete methods			
		TimeFlow	DeepTime	mTAN	Neural Process	CSDI	SAITS	BRITS	TIDER
Electricity	0.05	0.324 \pm 0.013	0.379 \pm 0.037	0.575 \pm 0.039	0.357 \pm 0.015	0.462 \pm 0.021	0.384 \pm 0.019	<u>0.329</u> \pm <u>0.015</u>	0.427 \pm 0.010
	0.10	0.250 \pm 0.010	0.333 \pm 0.034	0.412 \pm 0.047	0.417 \pm 0.057	0.398 \pm 0.072	0.308 \pm 0.011	<u>0.287</u> \pm <u>0.015</u>	0.399 \pm 0.009
	0.20	0.225 \pm 0.008	<u>0.244</u> \pm <u>0.013</u>	0.342 \pm 0.014	0.320 \pm 0.017	0.341 \pm 0.068	0.261 \pm 0.008	0.245 \pm 0.011	0.391 \pm 0.010
	0.30	0.212 \pm 0.007	0.240 \pm 0.014	0.335 \pm 0.015	0.300 \pm 0.022	0.277 \pm 0.059	0.236 \pm 0.008	<u>0.221</u> \pm <u>0.008</u>	0.384 \pm 0.009
	0.50	0.194 \pm 0.007	0.227 \pm 0.012	0.340 \pm 0.022	0.297 \pm 0.016	0.168 \pm 0.003	0.209 \pm 0.008	<u>0.193</u> \pm <u>0.008</u>	0.386 \pm 0.009
Solar	0.05	0.095 \pm 0.015	0.190 \pm 0.020	0.241 \pm 0.102	<u>0.115</u> \pm <u>0.015</u>	0.374 \pm 0.033	0.142 \pm 0.016	0.165 \pm 0.014	0.291 \pm 0.009
	0.10	0.083 \pm 0.015	0.159 \pm 0.013	0.251 \pm 0.081	<u>0.114</u> \pm <u>0.014</u>	0.375 \pm 0.038	0.124 \pm 0.018	0.132 \pm 0.015	0.276 \pm 0.010
	0.20	0.072 \pm 0.015	0.149 \pm 0.020	0.314 \pm 0.035	0.109 \pm 0.016	0.217 \pm 0.023	<u>0.108</u> \pm <u>0.014</u>	0.109 \pm 0.012	0.270 \pm 0.010
	0.30	0.061 \pm 0.012	0.135 \pm 0.014	0.338 \pm 0.05	0.108 \pm 0.016	0.156 \pm 0.002	0.100 \pm 0.015	<u>0.098</u> \pm <u>0.012</u>	0.266 \pm 0.010
	0.50	0.054 \pm 0.013	0.098 \pm 0.013	0.315 \pm 0.080	0.107 \pm 0.015	<u>0.079</u> \pm <u>0.011</u>	0.094 \pm 0.013	0.088 \pm 0.013	0.262 \pm 0.009
Traffic	0.05	0.283 \pm 0.016	0.246 \pm 0.010	0.406 \pm 0.074	0.318 \pm 0.014	0.337 \pm 0.045	0.293 \pm 0.007	<u>0.261</u> \pm <u>0.010</u>	0.363 \pm 0.007
	0.10	0.211 \pm 0.012	<u>0.214</u> \pm <u>0.007</u>	0.319 \pm 0.025	0.288 \pm 0.018	0.288 \pm 0.017	0.237 \pm 0.006	0.245 \pm 0.009	0.362 \pm 0.006
	0.20	0.168 \pm 0.006	0.216 \pm 0.006	0.270 \pm 0.012	0.271 \pm 0.011	0.269 \pm 0.017	<u>0.197</u> \pm <u>0.005</u>	0.224 \pm 0.008	0.361 \pm 0.006
	0.30	0.151 \pm 0.007	<u>0.172</u> \pm <u>0.008</u>	0.251 \pm 0.006	0.259 \pm 0.012	0.240 \pm 0.037	<u>0.180</u> \pm <u>0.006</u>	0.197 \pm 0.007	0.355 \pm 0.006
	0.50	0.139 \pm 0.007	0.171 \pm 0.005	0.278 \pm 0.040	0.240 \pm 0.021	<u>0.144</u> \pm <u>0.022</u>	0.160 \pm 0.008	0.161 \pm 0.060	0.354 \pm 0.007
TimeFlow improvement	/	24.14 %	50.53 %	31.61 %	36.12 %	20.33 %	18.90 %	53.40 %	

We compare to a wide range of baselines on three datasets

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	τ	Continuous methods				Discrete methods			
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	0.30	0.212 ± 0.007	0.240 ± 0.014	0.335 ± 0.015	0.300 ± 0.022	0.277 ± 0.059	0.236 ± 0.008	<u>0.221 ± 0.008</u>	0.384 ± 0.009
	0.50	0.194 ± 0.007	0.227 ± 0.012	0.340 ± 0.022	0.297 ± 0.016	0.168 ± 0.003	0.209 ± 0.008	<u>0.193 ± 0.008</u>	0.386 ± 0.009
Solar	0.05	0.095 ± 0.015	0.190 ± 0.020	0.241 ± 0.102	<u>0.115 ± 0.015</u>	0.374 ± 0.033	0.142 ± 0.016	0.165 ± 0.014	0.291 ± 0.009
	0.10	0.083 ± 0.015	0.159 ± 0.013	0.251 ± 0.081	<u>0.114 ± 0.014</u>	0.375 ± 0.038	0.124 ± 0.018	0.132 ± 0.015	0.276 ± 0.010
	0.20	0.072 ± 0.015	0.149 ± 0.020	0.314 ± 0.035	0.109 ± 0.016	0.217 ± 0.023	<u>0.108 ± 0.014</u>	0.109 ± 0.012	0.270 ± 0.010
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	0.50	0.054 ± 0.013	0.098 ± 0.013	0.315 ± 0.080	0.107 ± 0.015	<u>0.079 ± 0.011</u>	0.094 ± 0.013	0.088 ± 0.013	0.262 ± 0.009
Traffic	0.05	0.283 ± 0.016	0.246 ± 0.010	0.406 ± 0.074	0.318 ± 0.014	0.337 ± 0.045	0.293 ± 0.007	0.261 ± 0.010	0.363 ± 0.007
	0.10	0.211 ± 0.012	<u>0.214 ± 0.007</u>	0.319 ± 0.025	0.288 ± 0.018	0.288 ± 0.017	0.237 ± 0.006	0.245 ± 0.009	0.362 ± 0.006
	0.20	0.168 ± 0.006	0.216 ± 0.006	0.270 ± 0.012	0.271 ± 0.011	0.269 ± 0.017	<u>0.197 ± 0.005</u>	0.224 ± 0.008	0.361 ± 0.006
	0.30	0.151 ± 0.007	<u>0.172 ± 0.008</u>	0.251 ± 0.006	0.259 ± 0.012	0.240 ± 0.037	0.180 ± 0.006	0.197 ± 0.007	0.355 ± 0.006
	0.50	0.139 ± 0.007	0.171 ± 0.005	0.278 ± 0.040	0.240 ± 0.021	<u>0.144 ± 0.022</u>	0.160 ± 0.008	0.161 ± 0.060	0.354 ± 0.007
TimeFlow improvement		/	24.14 %	50.53 %	31.61 %	36.12 %	20.33 %	18.90 %	53.40 %

	TimeFlow	DeepTime	NeuralProcess	mTAN	SAITS	BRITS	TIDER
Number of parameters	602k	1315k	248k	113k	11 137k	6 220k	1 034k

Figure 1: Number of parameters for each DL methods on the imputation task on the Electricity dataset.

Qualitative comparison with BRITS

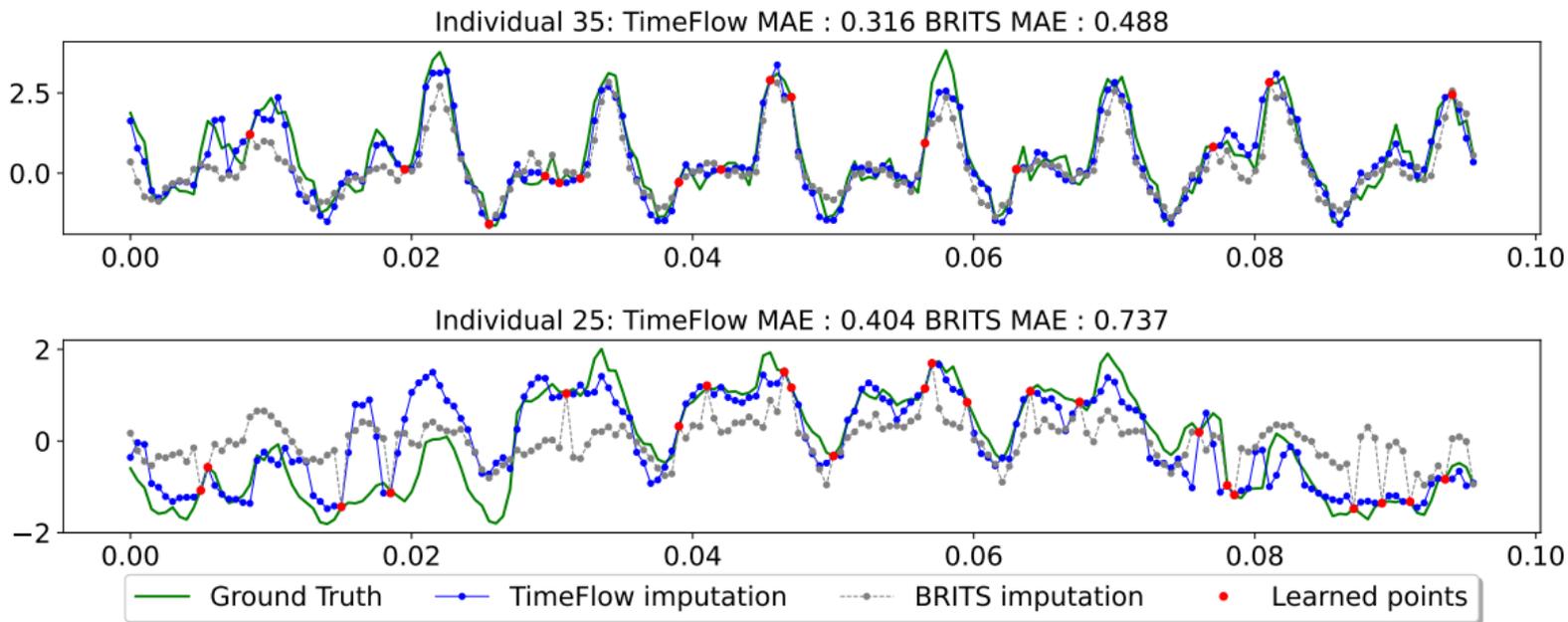
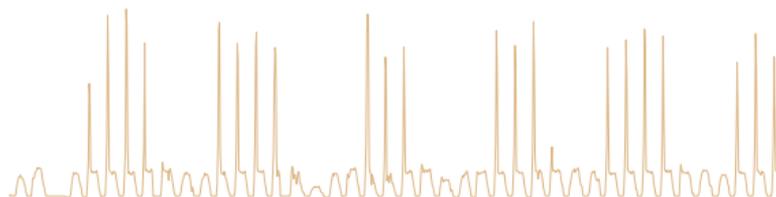


Figure 2: *Electricity dataset*. TimeFlow imputation (blue line) and BRITS imputation (gray line) with 10% of known point (red points) on the eight first days of samples 35 (top) and 25 (bottom).

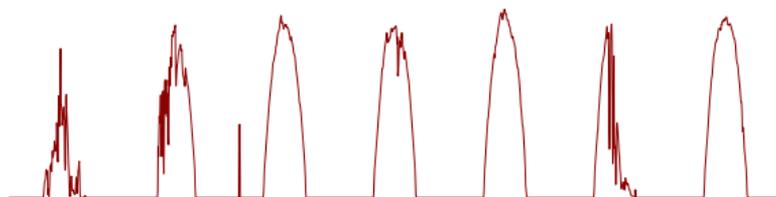


A step back: what do we learn on which signals?

- Are the series too regular in our experiments?
- Is it reasonable to predict from so few training points?
- Should we consider time windows instead of time measurements?



Road occupancy



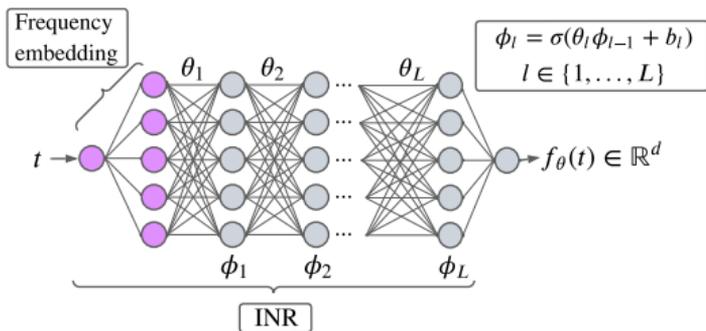
Solar power generation

Ablation: What makes architecture work?

Signal encoding:

Fourier features vs

SIREN [Sitzmann et al., 2020]



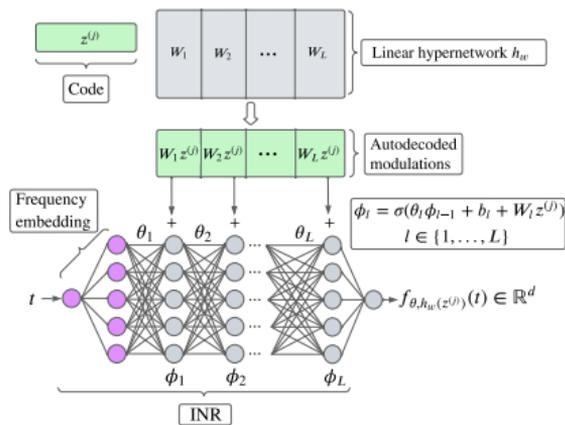
- $\gamma(t)(= \phi_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{64}, z^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^{128}$
- $\phi_{l>0} \in \mathbb{R}^{256}$
- MLP: 5 layer

	τ	TimeFlow	TimeFlow w SIREN
Electricity	0.05	0.323	0.466
	0.10	0.252	0.350
	0.20	0.224	0.242
	0.30	0.211	0.222
	0.50	0.194	0.209
Solar	0.05	0.105	0.114
	0.10	0.083	0.094
	0.20	0.065	0.079
	0.30	0.061	0.072
	0.50	0.056	0.066
Traffic	0.05	0.292	0.333
	0.10	0.220	0.252
	0.20	0.168	0.191
	0.30	0.152	0.163
	0.50	0.141	0.154



Ablation: What makes architecture work?

Latent dimensions

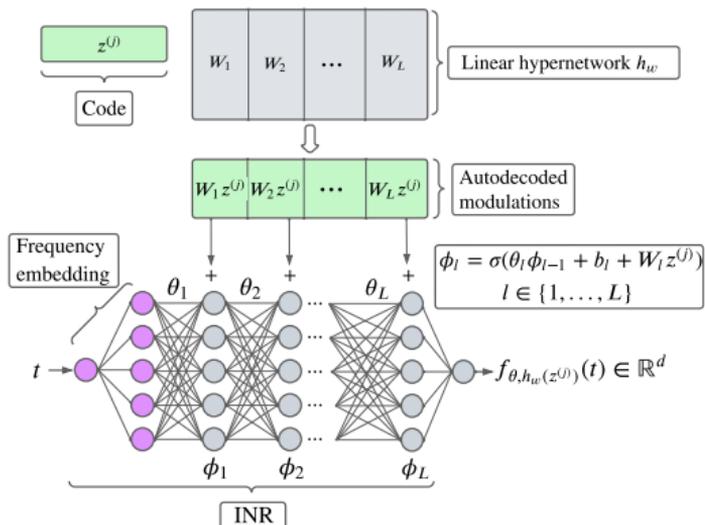


- $\gamma(t)(= \phi_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{64}, z^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^{128}$
- $\phi_{l>0} \in \mathbb{R}^{256}$
- MLP: 5 layer

	H	32	64	128	256
Electricity	96	0.232 ± 0.016	0.222 ± 0.017	0.222 ± 0.018	0.215 ± 0.019
	192	0.245 ± 0.020	0.239 ± 0.018	0.230 ± 0.026	0.233 ± 0.017
	336	0.254 ± 0.029	0.244 ± 0.028	0.262 ± 0.031	0.243 ± 0.032
	720	0.295 ± 0.027	0.284 ± 0.028	0.303 ± 0.041	0.283 ± 0.029
SolarH	96	0.182 ± 0.009	0.181 ± 0.012	0.179 ± 0.003	0.225 ± 0.047
	192	0.195 ± 0.014	0.195 ± 0.016	0.193 ± 0.015	0.197 ± 0.029
	336	0.181 ± 0.011	0.182 ± 0.011	0.189 ± 0.013	0.183 ± 0.012
	720	0.201 ± 0.027	0.199 ± 0.025	0.209 ± 0.029	0.200 ± 0.030
Traffic	96	0.223 ± 0.024	0.215 ± 0.028	0.215 ± 0.037	0.210 ± 0.033
	192	0.214 ± 0.018	0.217 ± 0.025	0.206 ± 0.023	0.203 ± 0.024
	336	0.238 ± 0.029	0.231 ± 0.029	0.226 ± 0.030	0.229 ± 0.029
	720	0.272 ± 0.040	0.269 ± 0.035	0.259 ± 0.038	0.262 ± 0.040

Ablation: What makes architecture work?

How to retrieve the latent code?



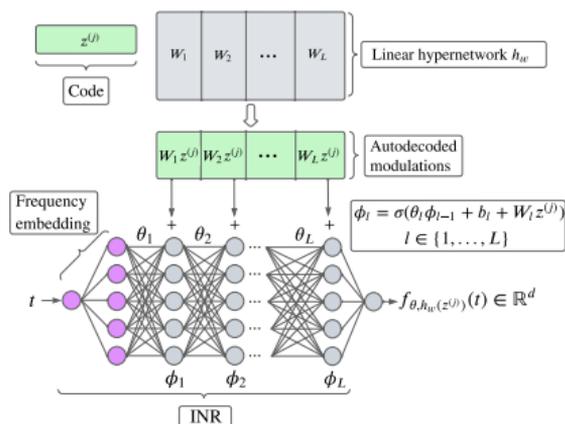
	τ	TimeFlow	TimeFlow w REPTILE
Electricity	0.05	0.324 \pm 0.013	0.363 \pm 0.062
	0.10	0.250 \pm 0.010	0.343 \pm 0.036
	0.20	0.225 \pm 0.008	0.312 \pm 0.043
	0.30	0.212 \pm 0.007	0.308 \pm 0.035
	0.50	0.194 \pm 0.007	0.305 \pm 0.046
Solar	0.05	0.095 \pm 0.015	0.125 \pm 0.025
	0.10	0.083 \pm 0.015	0.123 \pm 0.032
	0.20	0.072 \pm 0.015	0.108 \pm 0.021
	0.30	0.061 \pm 0.012	0.105 \pm 0.027
	0.50	0.054 \pm 0.013	0.102 \pm 0.021
Traffic	0.05	0.283 \pm 0.016	0.304 \pm 0.026
	0.10	0.211 \pm 0.012	0.264 \pm 0.009
	0.20	0.168 \pm 0.006	0.242 \pm 0.019
	0.30	0.151 \pm 0.007	0.218 \pm 0.020
	0.50	0.139 \pm 0.007	0.216 \pm 0.017

Gradient algo.



Ablation: What makes architecture work?

How to retrieve the latent code?



	H	1	3	10	50
Electricity	96	0.259 ± 0.020	0.222 ± 0.018	0.222 ± 0.017	0.228 ± 0.019
	192	0.269 ± 0.020	0.230 ± 0.026	0.232 ± 0.020	0.233 ± 0.026
	336	0.273 ± 0.033	0.262 ± 0.031	0.264 ± 0.032	0.268 ± 0.032
	720	0.351 ± 0.038	0.303 ± 0.041	0.300 ± 0.040	0.299 ± 0.039
SolarH	96	0.487 ± 0.196	0.179 ± 0.003	0.181 ± 0.003	0.186 ± 0.003
	192	0.411 ± 0.088	0.193 ± 0.015	0.195 ± 0.014	0.199 ± 0.013
	336	0.435 ± 0.153	0.189 ± 0.013	0.203 ± 0.006	0.223 ± 0.012
	720	0.394 ± 0.173	0.209 ± 0.029	0.203 ± 0.006	0.209 ± 0.027
Traffic	96	0.320 ± 0.038	0.215 ± 0.037	0.219 ± 0.043	0.226 ± 0.046
	192	0.299 ± 0.023	0.206 ± 0.023	0.209 ± 0.026	0.214 ± 0.027
	336	0.345 ± 0.038	0.226 ± 0.030	0.228 ± 0.031	0.233 ± 0.032
	720	0.321 ± 0.034	0.259 ± 0.038	0.260 ± 0.038	0.266 ± 0.039

Nb gradient steps



Forecasting

Training

Draw 1 Draw k

$\mathcal{T}_{in}^{(j)} = \{t \in \text{Draw} : t = \bullet\}$
 $\mathcal{T}_{out}^{(j)} = \{t \in \text{Draw} : t = \bullet\}$

$\forall t^{(j)} \in \mathcal{T}_{in}^{(j)} \cup \mathcal{T}_{out}^{(j)}, \tilde{x}_{t^{(j)}} = f_{\theta, h_w(z^{(j)})}(t^{(j)})$

Series j

$z^{(j)}$ is uniquely optimized on $\mathcal{T}_{in}^{(j)}$
 θ and w are optimized on $\mathcal{T}_{in}^{(j)}$ and $\mathcal{T}_{out}^{(j)}$

Grid j

Train period

Inference

1) Only $z^{*(j)}$ is optimized through a 3 steps gradient descent on $\mathcal{T}_{in}^{*(j)}$

2) Then, we can infer $f_{\theta, h_w(z^{*(j)})}(t)$ for any $t \in \mathcal{T}^{*(j)}$

Series j

Grid j

Train period

New time window $\mathcal{T}^{*(j)}$

Infer values on $\mathcal{T}^{*(j)}$



Wide range of baselines on three datasets

Table 2: Mean MAE forecast results for adjacent time windows. H stands for the horizon. Bold results are best, underline results are second best. Look-back window size = 512

	<i>H</i>	Continuous methods			Discrete methods			
		TimeFlow	DeepTime	Neural Process	Patch-TST	DLinear	AutoFormer	Informer
Electricity	96	<u>0.218 ± 0.017</u>	0.240 ± 0.027	0.392 ± 0.045	0.214 ± 0.020	0.236 ± 0.035	0.310 ± 0.031	0.293 ± 0.0184
	192	<u>0.238 ± 0.012</u>	0.251 ± 0.023	0.401 ± 0.046	0.225 ± 0.017	0.248 ± 0.032	0.322 ± 0.046	0.336 ± 0.032
	336	<u>0.265 ± 0.036</u>	0.290 ± 0.034	0.434 ± 0.075	0.242 ± 0.024	0.284 ± 0.043	0.330 ± 0.019	0.405 ± 0.044
	720	<u>0.318 ± 0.073</u>	0.356 ± 0.060	0.605 ± 0.149	0.291 ± 0.040	0.370 ± 0.086	0.456 ± 0.052	0.489 ± 0.072
SolarH	96	0.172 ± 0.017	<u>0.197 ± 0.002</u>	0.221 ± 0.048	0.232 ± 0.008	0.204 ± 0.002	0.261 ± 0.053	0.273 ± 0.023
	192	0.198 ± 0.010	<u>0.202 ± 0.014</u>	0.244 ± 0.048	0.231 ± 0.027	0.211 ± 0.012	0.312 ± 0.085	0.256 ± 0.026
	336	<u>0.207 ± 0.019</u>	0.200 ± 0.012	0.241 ± 0.005	0.254 ± 0.048	0.212 ± 0.019	0.341 ± 0.107	0.287 ± 0.006
	720	0.215 ± 0.016	<u>0.240 ± 0.011</u>	0.403 ± 0.147	0.271 ± 0.036	0.246 ± 0.015	0.368 ± 0.006	0.341 ± 0.049
Traffic	96	<u>0.216 ± 0.033</u>	0.229 ± 0.032	0.283 ± 0.028	0.201 ± 0.031	0.225 ± 0.034	0.299 ± 0.080	0.324 ± 0.113
	192	<u>0.208 ± 0.021</u>	0.220 ± 0.020	0.292 ± 0.023	0.195 ± 0.024	0.215 ± 0.022	0.320 ± 0.036	0.321 ± 0.052
	336	<u>0.237 ± 0.040</u>	0.247 ± 0.033	0.305 ± 0.039	0.220 ± 0.036	0.244 ± 0.035	0.450 ± 0.127	0.394 ± 0.066
	720	0.266 ± 0.048	0.290 ± 0.045	0.339 ± 0.037	<u>0.268 ± 0.050</u>	0.290 ± 0.047	0.630 ± 0.043	0.441 ± 0.055
TimeFlow improvement	/	6.56 %	30.79 %	2.64 %	7.30 %	35.43 %	33.07 %	



Forecast on sparsely observed look-back window (1/2)

Table 3: MAE results for forecasting with missing values in the look-back window. τ stands for the percentage of observed values in the look-back window. Best results are in bold. Look-back window size = 512

		TimeFlow		DeepTime		Neural Process		
	H	τ	Imputation error	Forecast error	Imputation error	Forecast error	Imputation error	Forecast error
Electricity	96	0.5	0.151 \pm 0.003	0.239 \pm 0.013	0.209 \pm 0.004	0.270 \pm 0.019	0.460 \pm 0.048	0.486 \pm 0.078
		0.2	0.208 \pm 0.006	0.260 \pm 0.015	0.249 \pm 0.006	0.296 \pm 0.023	0.644 \pm 0.079	0.650 \pm 0.095
		0.1	0.272 \pm 0.006	0.295 \pm 0.016	0.284 \pm 0.007	0.324 \pm 0.026	0.740 \pm 0.083	0.737 \pm 0.106
	192	0.5	0.149 \pm 0.004	0.235 \pm 0.011	0.204 \pm 0.004	0.265 \pm 0.018	0.461 \pm 0.045	0.498 \pm 0.070
		0.2	0.209 \pm 0.006	0.257 \pm 0.013	0.244 \pm 0.007	0.290 \pm 0.023	0.601 \pm 0.075	0.626 \pm 0.101
		0.1	0.274 \pm 0.010	0.289 \pm 0.016	0.282 \pm 0.007	0.315 \pm 0.025	0.461 \pm 0.045	0.724 \pm 0.090
Traffic	96	0.5	0.180 \pm 0.016	0.219 \pm 0.026	0.272 \pm 0.028	0.243 \pm 0.030	0.436 \pm 0.025	0.444 \pm 0.047
		0.2	0.239 \pm 0.019	0.243 \pm 0.027	0.335 \pm 0.026	0.293 \pm 0.027	0.596 \pm 0.049	0.597 \pm 0.075
		0.1	0.312 \pm 0.020	0.290 \pm 0.027	0.385 \pm 0.025	0.344 \pm 0.027	0.734 \pm 0.102	0.731 \pm 0.132
	192	0.5	0.176 \pm 0.014	0.217 \pm 0.017	0.241 \pm 0.027	0.234 \pm 0.021	0.477 \pm 0.042	0.476 \pm 0.043
		0.2	0.233 \pm 0.017	0.236 \pm 0.021	0.286 \pm 0.027	0.276 \pm 0.020	0.685 \pm 0.109	0.678 \pm 0.108
		0.1	0.304 \pm 0.019	0.277 \pm 0.021	0.331 \pm 0.025	0.324 \pm 0.021	0.888 \pm 0.178	0.877 \pm 0.174
TimeFlow improvement			/	/	18.97 %	11.87 %	61.88 %	58.41 %



Forecast on sparsely observed look-back window (2/2)

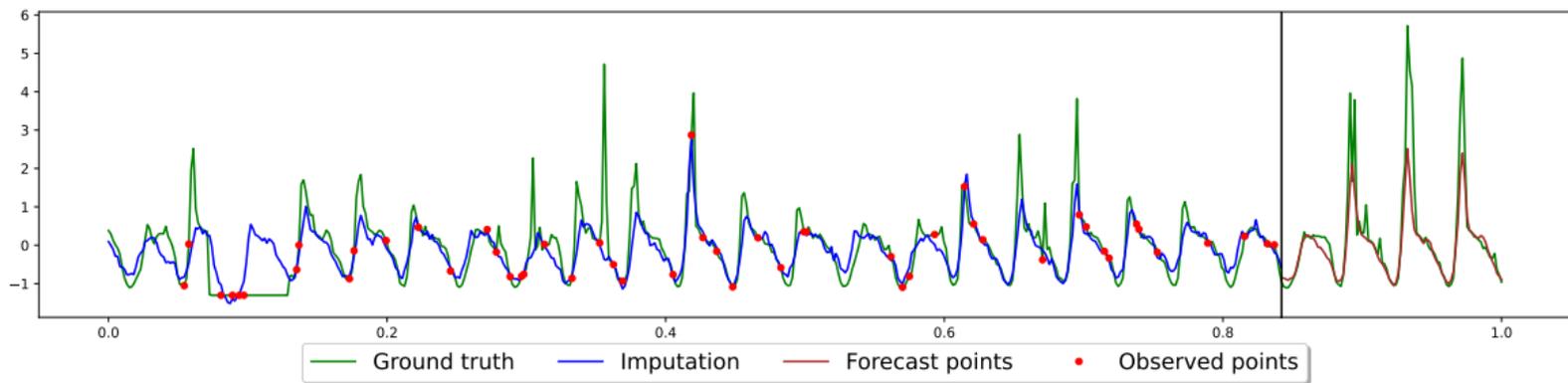


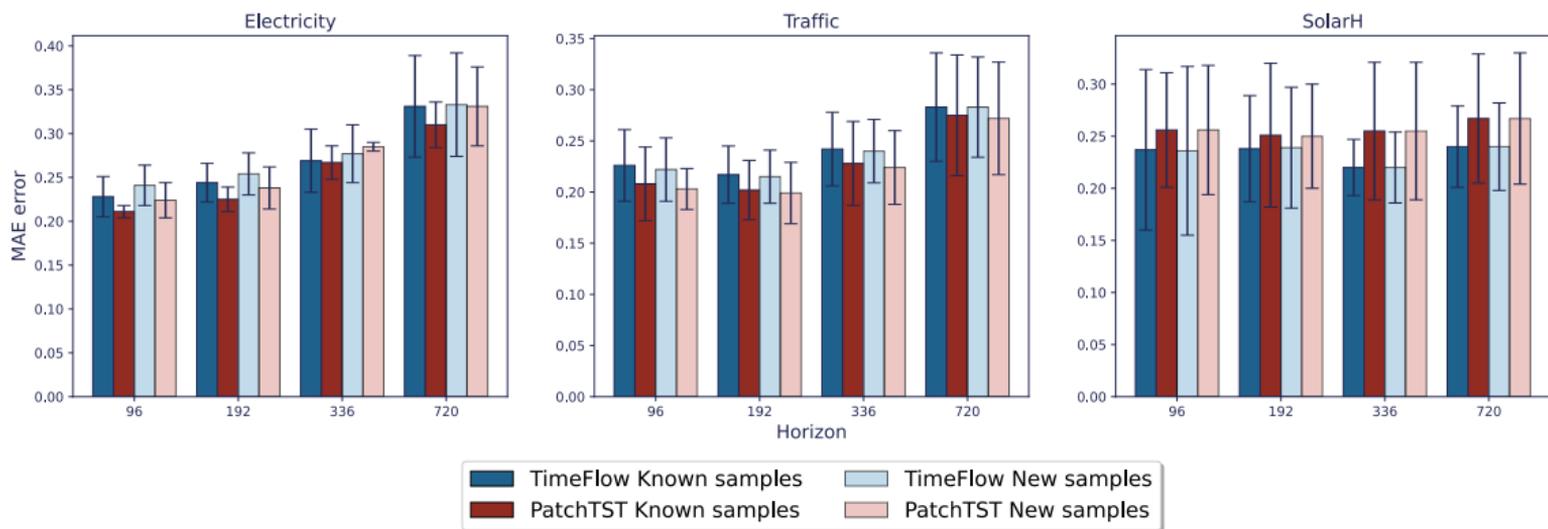
Figure 3: *Traffic dataset, sample 95*. In this figure, TimeFlow simultaneously imputes and forecasts at horizon 96 with a 10% partially observed look-back window of length 512.



Known vs New Samples

■ TimeFlow vs PatchTST

⇒ Very close performances: Known \approx New / TimeFlow \approx PatchTST



Quantify uncertainty with TimeFlow (\mathcal{L} is the pinball loss)

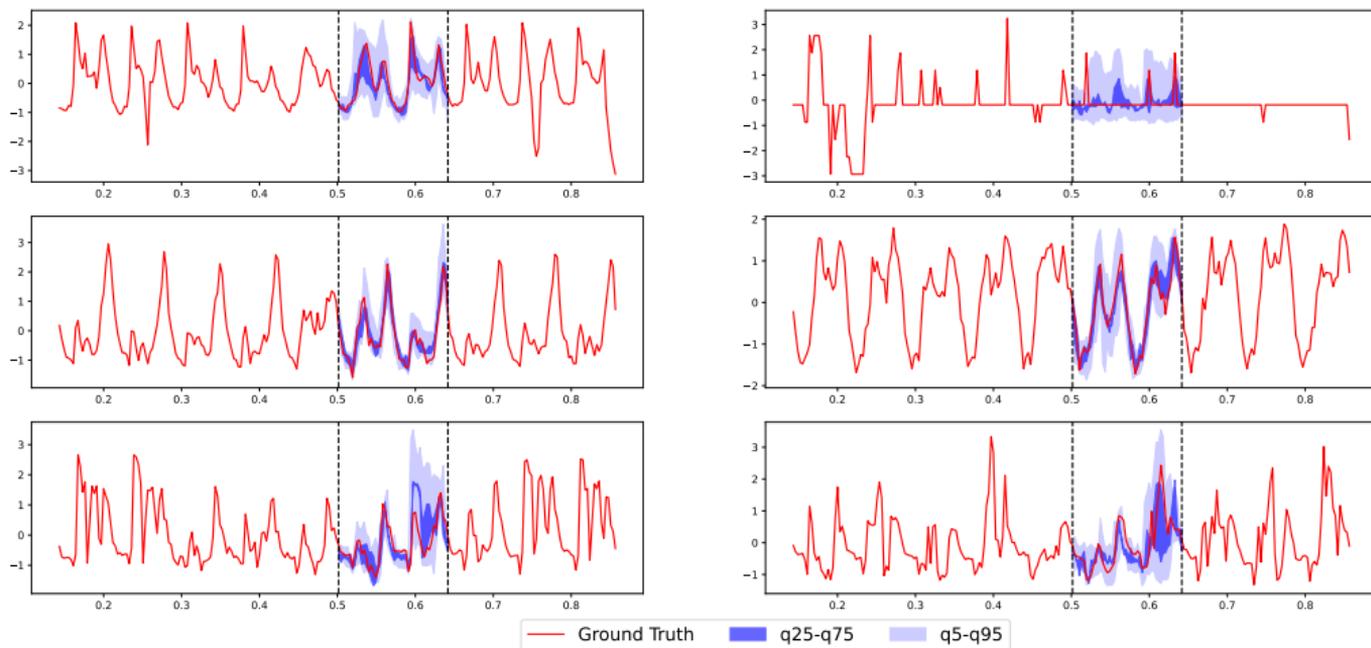


Figure 4: Quantifying uncertainty in block imputation of two missing days in the *Electricity* dataset.

AN INTERESTING LATENT
SPACE



Latent space exploration

- For a given time series family $\{x^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^n$ we learn a family of codes $\{z^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^n$ in the latent space.

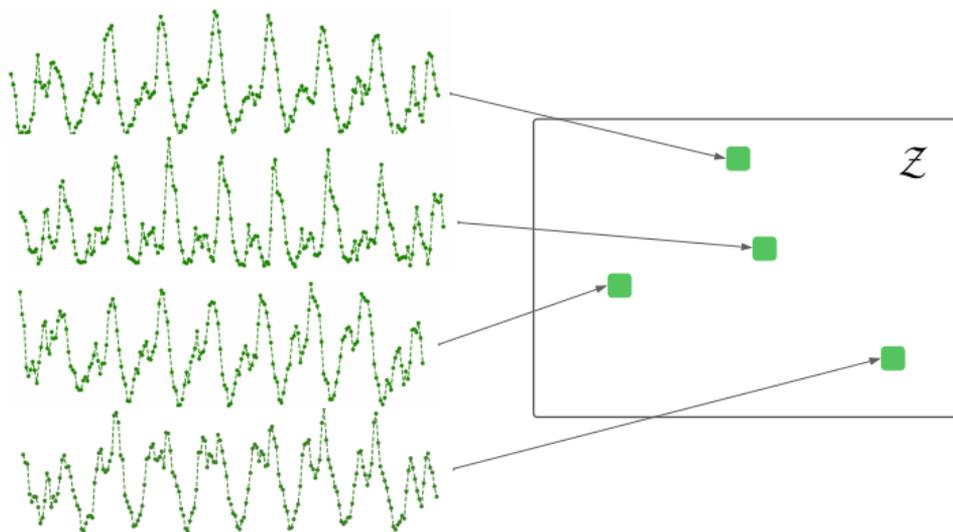


Figure 5: Latent space visualization



Bezier path between two codes z

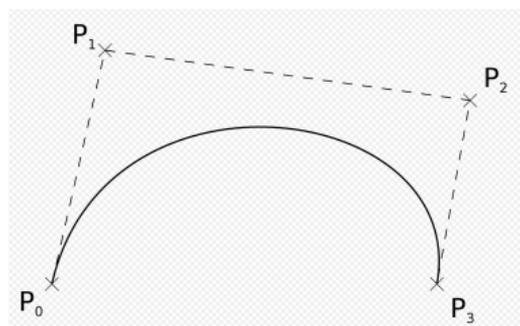


Figure 6: Bezier path between two points

$$B(\lambda) = (1 - \lambda)^3 \mathbf{P}_0 + 3(1 - \lambda)^2 \lambda \mathbf{P}_1 + 3(1 - \lambda) \lambda^2 \mathbf{P}_2 + \lambda^3 \mathbf{P}_3$$



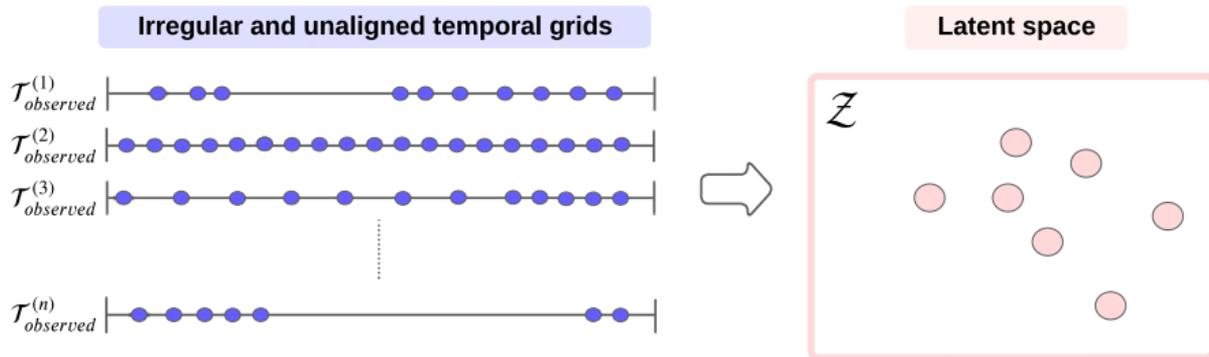
Generate new time series through latent space interpolation

Figure 7: Autodecoded generate z_λ for several λ 's



Learn representations from irregular/unaligned time series

Extract aligned representations

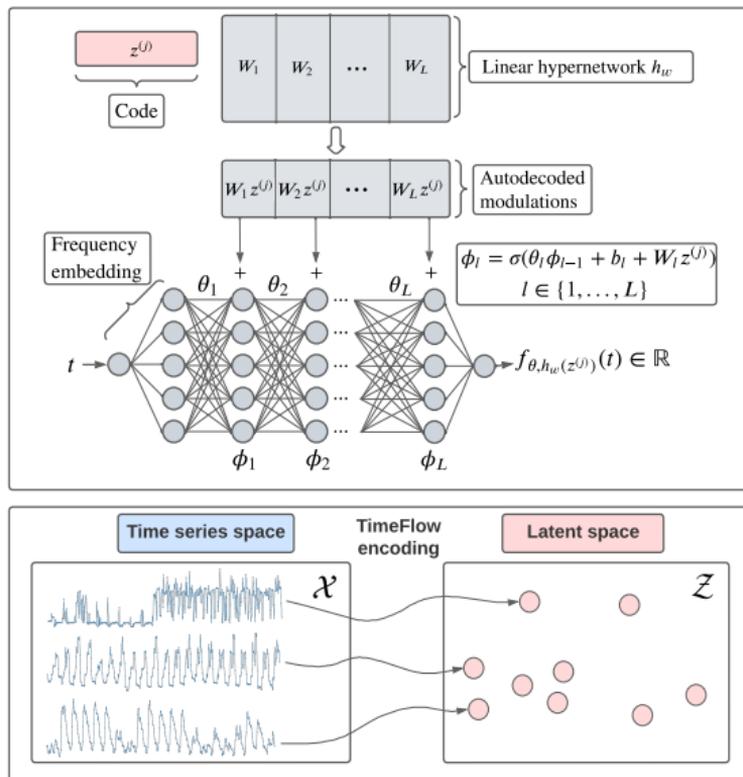


Motivations

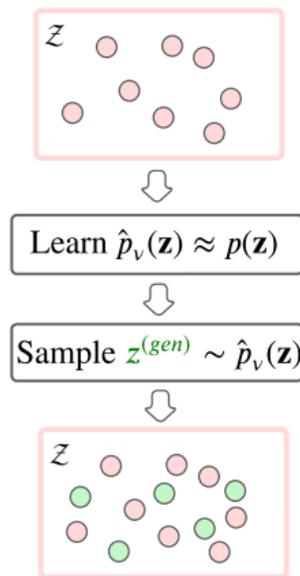
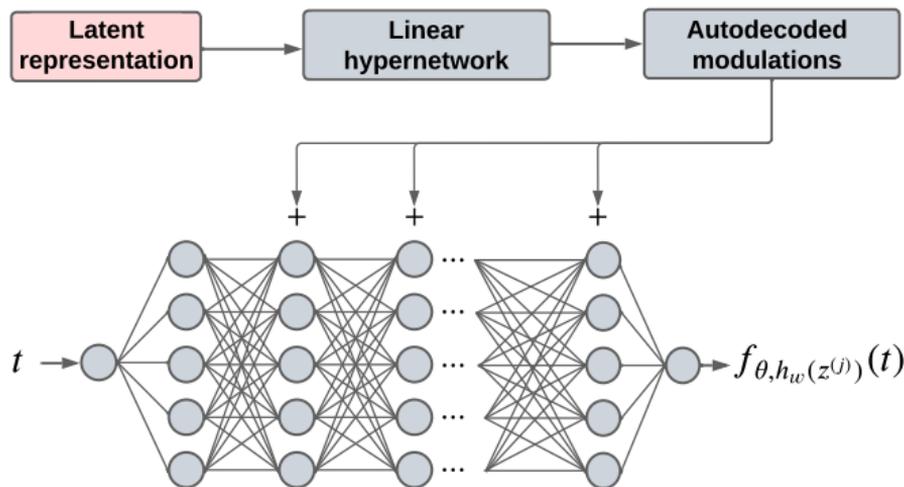
- A well-aligned latent space makes it easier to perform downstream tasks
- This two-stage approach is underexplored

TimeFlow can capture flexible representations

- Auto-decoding mechanism extracts a representation $\mathbf{z}^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ for a time series $\mathbf{x}^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^{T^{(j)}}$
- For a time series dataset $\{\mathbf{x}^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^n$ we can build the corresponding representations dataset $\{\mathbf{z}^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^n$
- Is the latent space \mathcal{Z} efficient for downstream tasks ?



Example of downstream task : unconditional generation



- **Motivations:** data augmentation, overcoming privacy/property constraints
- **Training procedure:** (i) Fit TimeFlow (ii) Learn a Denoising Diffusion Probabilistic Model (DDPM) on the learned representations
- **Inference procedure:** (i) Sample a new representation (ii) Decode the representation



Experiments

Experimental setup

- Training on 8000 hourly time series (two-weeks long) from *Electricity*
- 2000 time series for testing and 2000 generated time series
- We compare with two baselines : DDPM only and TimeGAN [Yoon et al., 2019]
- We want to assess the *fidelity* and diversity

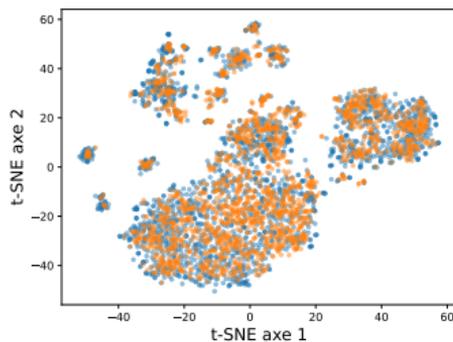
	TimeFlow + DDPM	DDPM only	TimeGAN	Fully separable generation
Discriminative score ↓	0.1388	0.1704	0.4890	0.5000



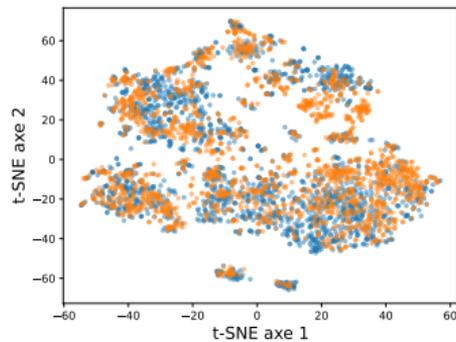
Experiments

Experimental setup

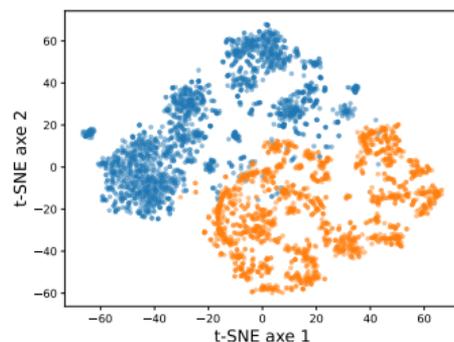
- Training on 8000 hourly time series (two-weeks long) from *Electricity*
- 2000 time series for testing and 2000 generated time series
- We compare with two baselines : DDPM only and TimeGan [Yoon et al., 2019]
- We want to assess the fidelity and diversity



TimeFlow + DDPM



DDPM only



TimeGan.



Conclusion

Synthesis

- 1 A semantically rich latent space
- 2 The representations can encode irregular/unaligned time series
- 3 First unconditional generation experiments are convincing

Limitations and perspectives

- 1 Unconditional generation experiments performed on only one dataset
- 2 Other downstream tasks should be explored to assess usefulness for downstream tasks

CONCLUSION



Key takeaways

TimeFlow offers:

- Unified + Continuous approach for time series **imputation & forecasting**.
- Adaptability to new contexts through meta-learning optimization.
- High performances in all situations (same hyper-parameters)
- Wide range of experiments to measure the benefits of all components

Limitation:

- Inference computation time (10-100 slower than competitors)

Perspectives:

- Moving to multivariate Time-Series



Perspectives

- Time Series... + context modeling
 - Public transportation
 - Agronomy : Growth model / yield prediction
- Time representation \Rightarrow Move to a time window
 - How transformers failed to represent local data
 - Memory networks
 - VQ-VAE / time series



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