



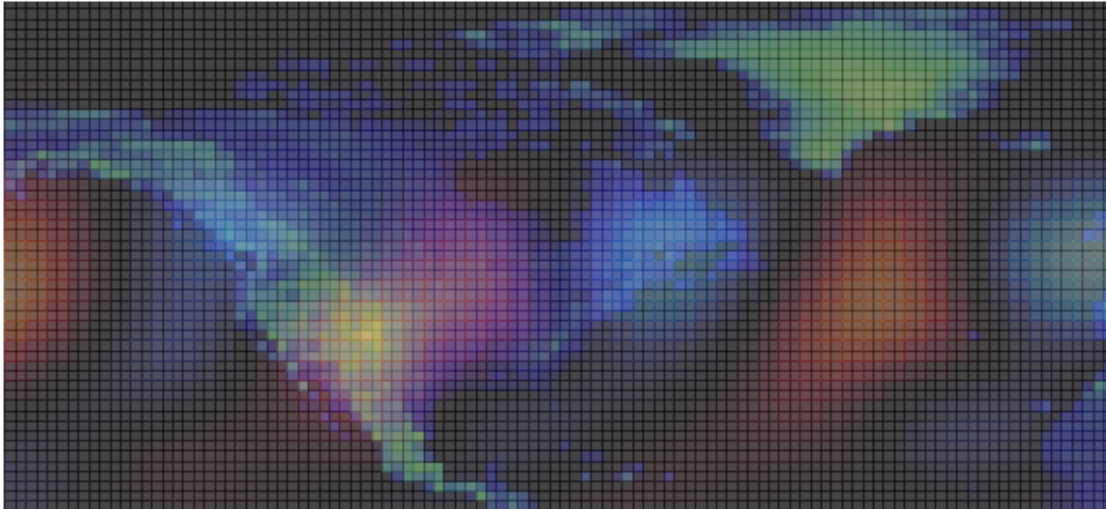
Clifford Neural Layers for PDE Modeling

ICLR 2023

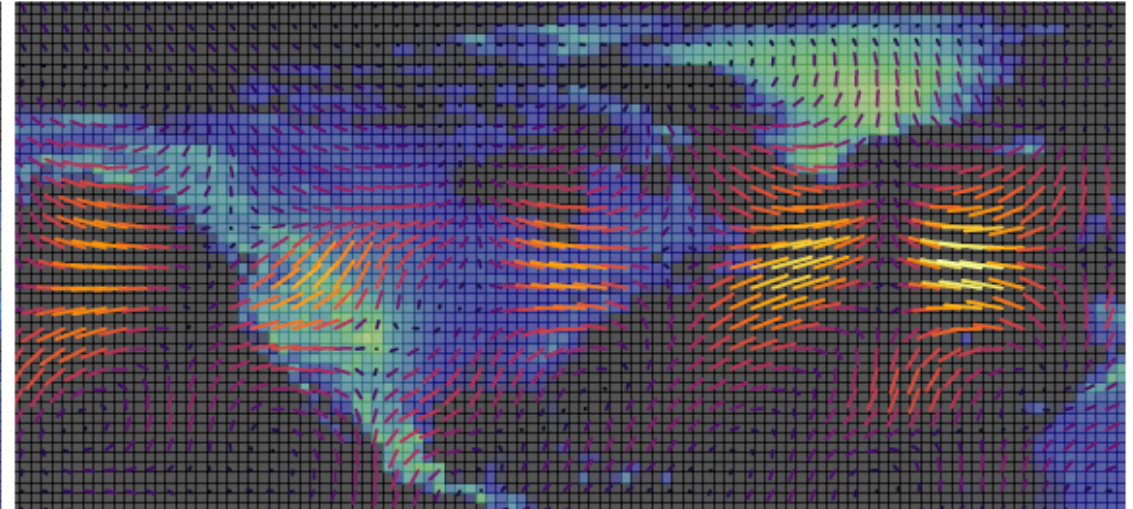
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PDEs - the language of science / simulation



(a) Scalar pressure field



(b) Vector wind velocity field

$$\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} + g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [(\eta + h)v_x] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [(\eta + h)v_y] = 0$$

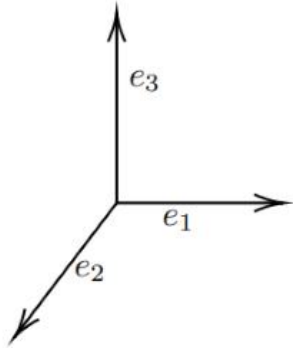
- Often, data shows relation between different fields and field components, which standard methods do not take into account.

Clifford algebras have multivector structure

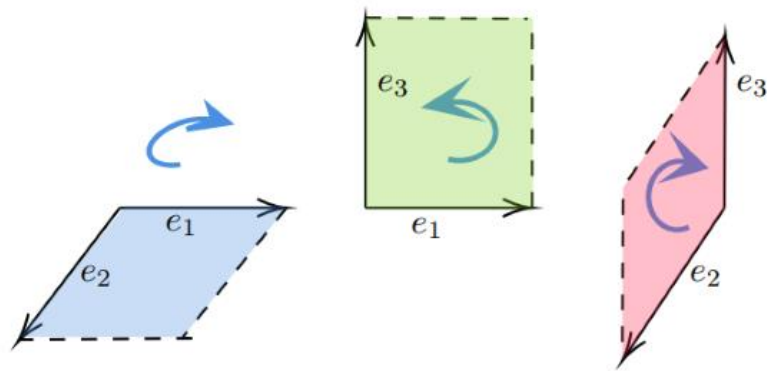
Scalar
{1}

•

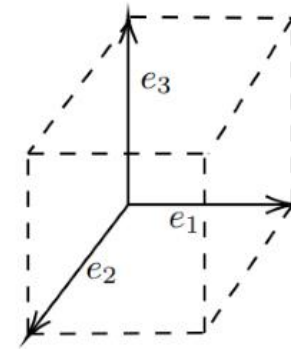
Vectors
{ e_1, e_2, e_3 }



Bivectors
{ e_1e_2, e_1e_3, e_2e_3 }

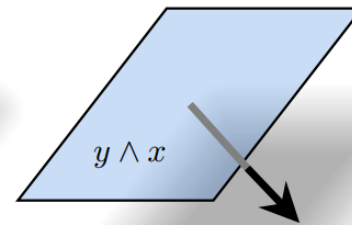
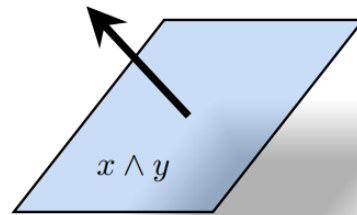
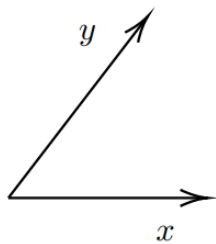


Trivector
{ $e_1e_2e_3$ }



Multivector

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ e_1 \\ e_2 \\ e_3 \\ e_1e_2 \\ e_3e_1 \\ e_2e_3 \\ e_1e_2e_3 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$x \wedge y = -y \wedge x$$

Signature of Clifford algebra

- $Cl_{(p,q)}$ where (p,q) is the signature of the Clifford algebra:

$$\begin{aligned} e_i^2 &= +1 && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq p, \\ e_j^2 &= -1 && \text{for } p < j \leq p + q, \\ e_i e_j &= -e_j e_i && \text{for } i \neq j. \end{aligned}$$

- $Cl_{(0,1)}$ with base vectors $(1, e_1)$ is isomorph to the complex numbers with $e_1 = i$.
- $Cl_{(0,2)}$ with base vectors $(1, e_1, e_2, e_1 e_2)$ is isomorph to the quaternions with $e_1 = i, e_2 = j, e_1 e_2 = k$.

Geometric product

- Bilinear operation on multivectors:
- For example, geometric product for $Cl_{(2,0)}$:

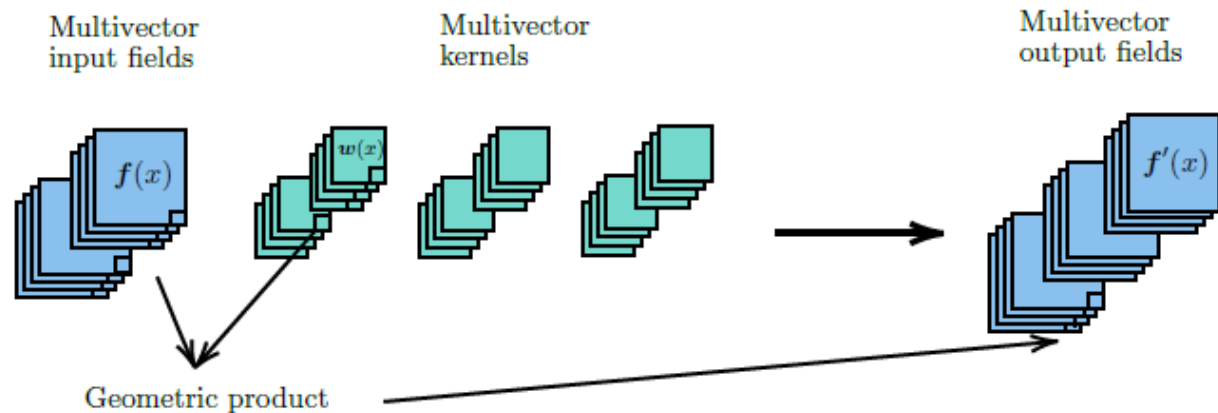
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{ab} &= a_0b_0 - a_1b_1 - a_2b_2 - a_{12}b_{12} \\ &+ (a_0b_1 + a_1b_0 + a_2b_{12} - a_{12}b_2) e_1 \\ &+ (a_0b_2 - a_1b_{12} + a_2b_0 + a_{12}b_1) e_2 \\ &+ (a_0b_{12} + a_1b_2 - a_2b_1 + a_{12}b_0) e_1e_2 \end{aligned}$$

Clifford convolution

- Replace convolution with Clifford convolution:

$$[f \star w_i](x) = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \langle f(y), w^i(y-x) \rangle = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \sum_{j=1}^{c_{in}} f^j(y) w^{i,j}(y-x) .$$

$$\longrightarrow [f \star w^i](x) = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \sum_{j=1}^{c_{in}} \underbrace{f^j(y) w^{i,j}(y-x)}_{f^j w^{i,j} : G^2 \times G^2 \rightarrow G^2} .$$



Dual representation

Definition 2: Dual of a multivector

The dual a^* of a multivector a is defined as:

$$a^* = a i_{p+q}, \quad (22)$$

where i_{p+q} represents the respective pseudoscalar of the Clifford algebra.

$$\mathbf{a} = a_0 + a_1 e_1 + a_2 e_2 + a_{12} e_{12},$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \underbrace{1 (a_0 + a_{12} i_2)}_{\text{spinor part}} + e_1 \underbrace{(a_1 + a_2 i_2)}_{\text{vector part}}$$

$$1 \leftrightarrow e_1 e_2 e_3 = i_3$$

$$e_1 \leftrightarrow e_2 e_3$$

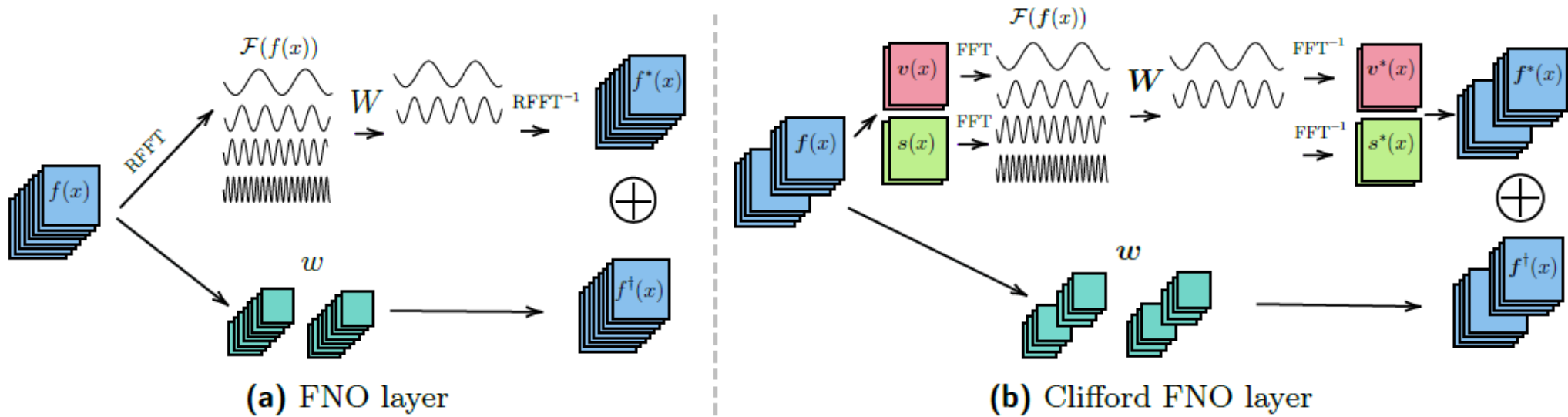
$$e_2 \leftrightarrow e_3 e_1$$

$$e_3 \leftrightarrow e_1 e_2 .$$

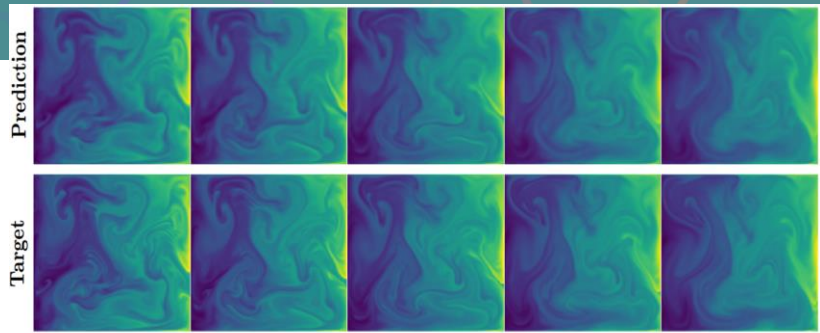
$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{B} i_3$$

Clifford Fourier Transform

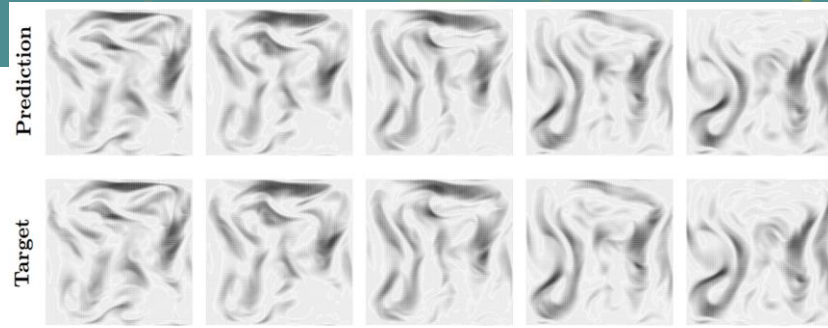
$$\hat{f}(\xi) = \mathcal{F}\{f\}(\xi) = \hat{f}_0(\xi) + \hat{f}_1(\xi)e_1 + \hat{f}_2(\xi)e_2 + \hat{f}_{12}(\xi)e_{12}$$



Results

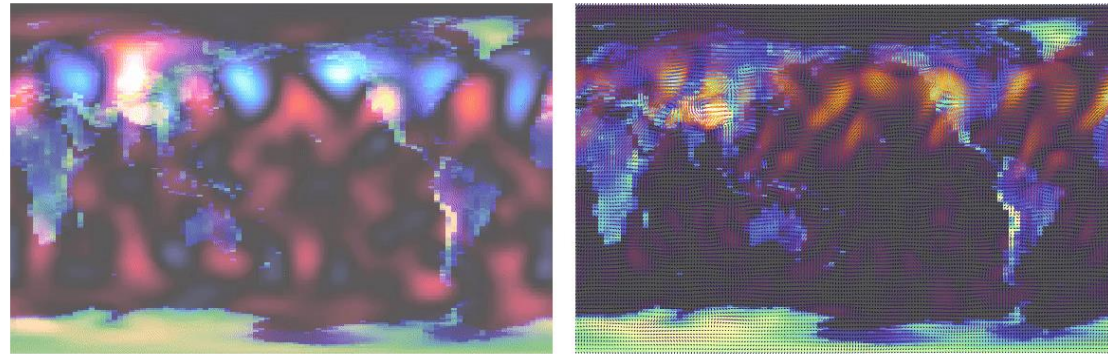


(a) Scalar field

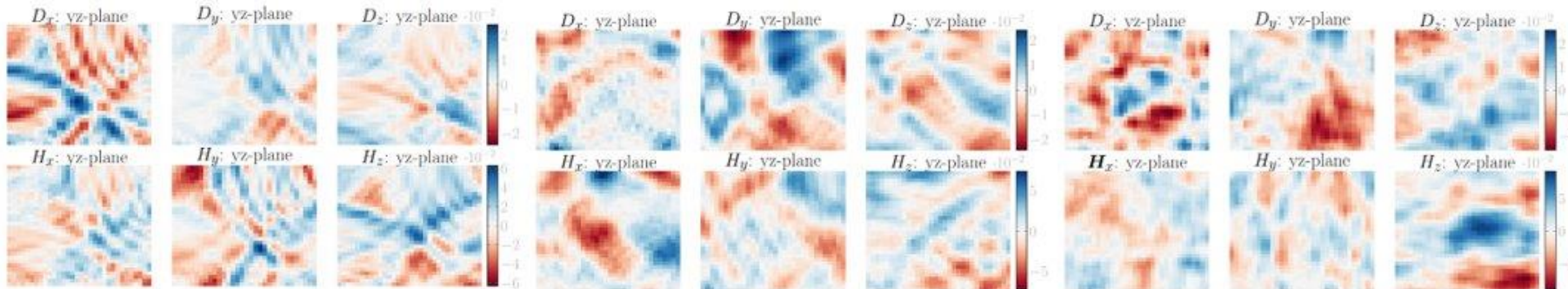


(b) Vector field

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = -v \cdot \nabla v + \mu \nabla^2 v - \nabla p + f, \\ \nabla \cdot v = 0.$$



$$\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} + g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [(\eta + h)v_x] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [(\eta + h)v_y] = 0$$



$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{E} + Bi_3$$

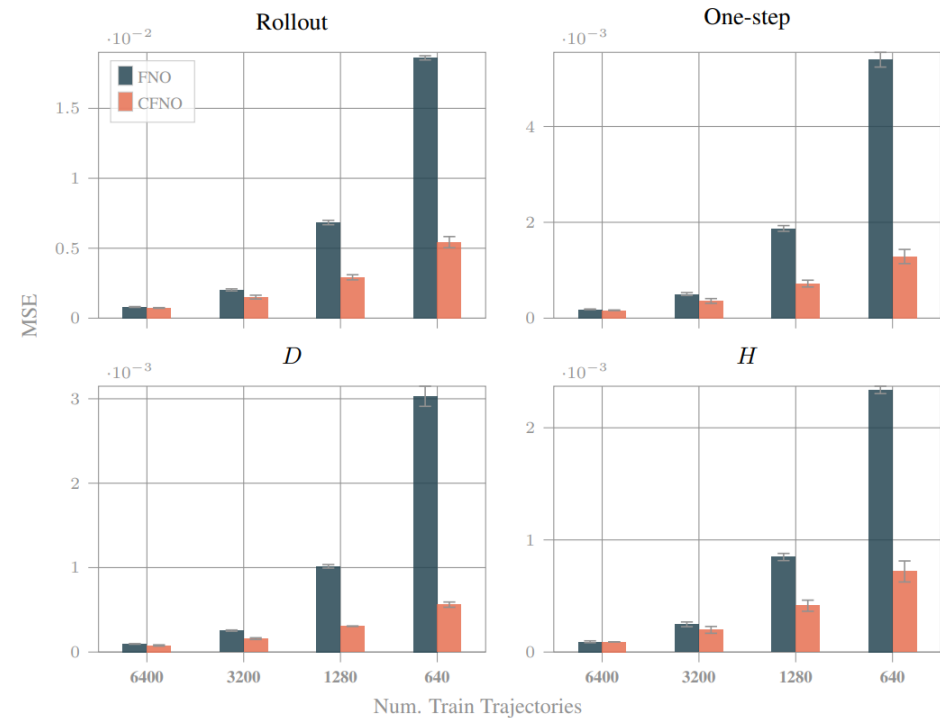
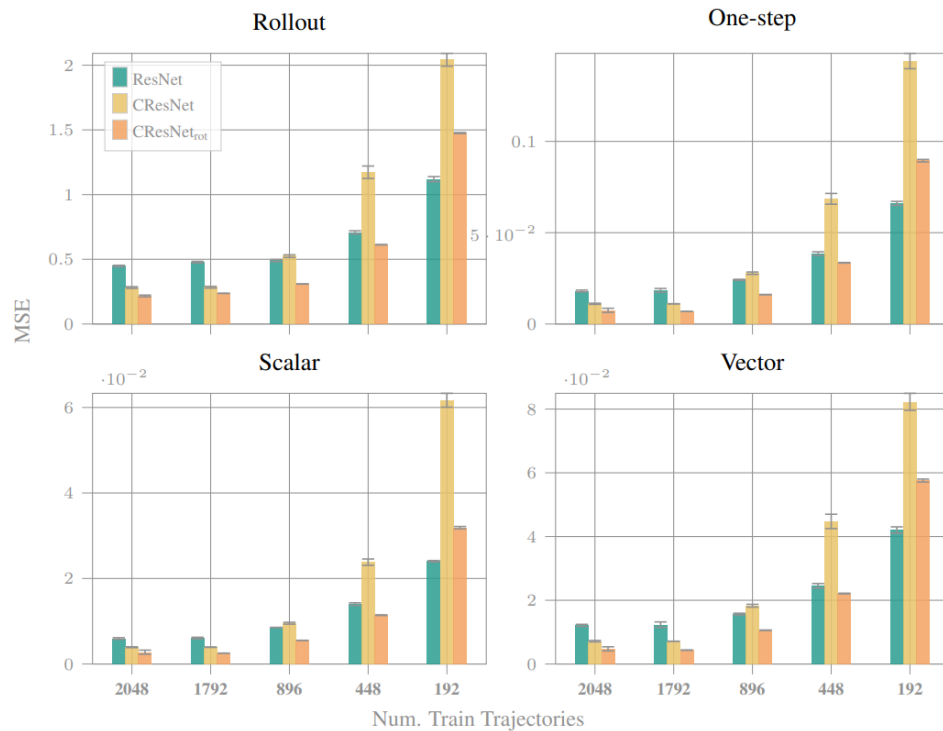
ResNets vs CResNets / FNOs vs CFNOs

$$\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} + g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + g \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [(\eta + h)v_x] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [(\eta + h)v_y] = 0$$

$$F = E + Bi_3$$



Material

- **Paper:** [\[2209.04934\] Clifford Neural Layers for PDE Modeling \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.04934)
- **Codebase:** [CliffordLayers - CliffordLayers \(microsoft.github.io\)](https://microsoft.github.io/CliffordLayers)

