

EUCLIDEAN EQUIVARIANT
PROCESSING AND MACHINE
LEARNING ON POSITION-
ORIENTATION SPACE

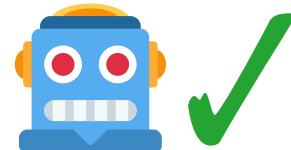
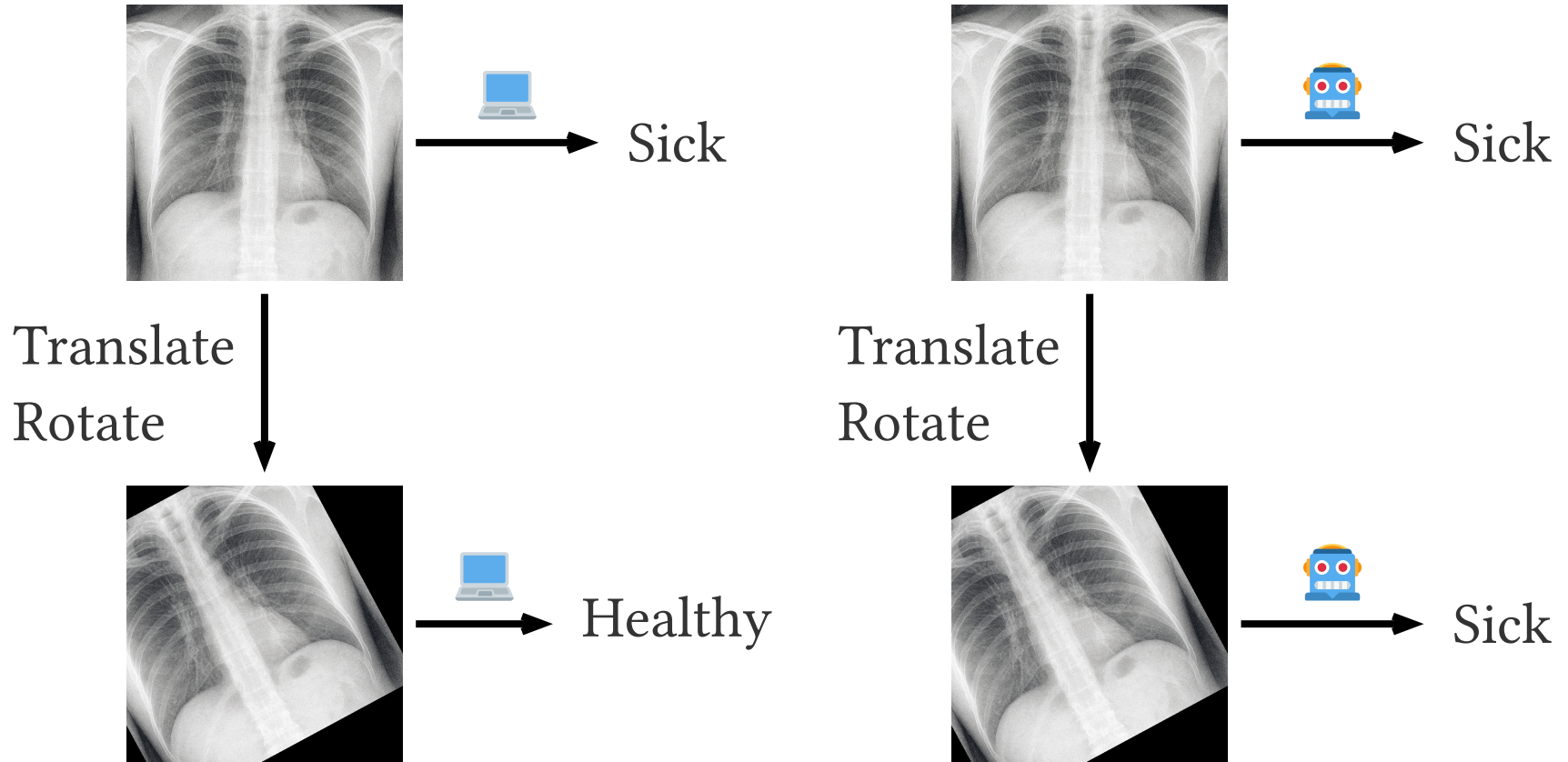
GIJS BELLAARD

INTRODUCTION

This thesis explores the interplay between:

- Euclidean equivariant processing.
- Position-orientation space.
- Machine learning.

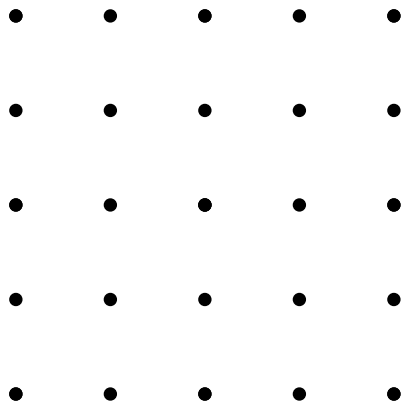
Euclidean Equivariant Processing.



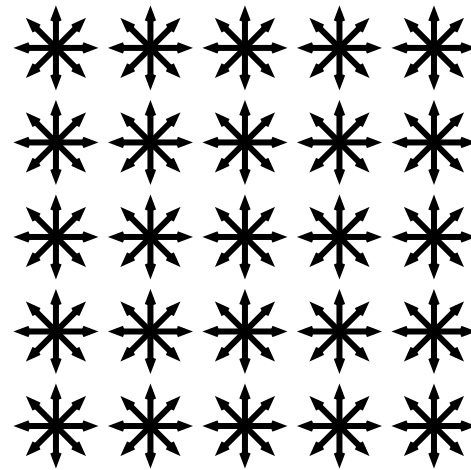
Euclidean Equivariant Processing.

- We say a model or process is *equivariant* if it respects a desired set of transformations.
- The transformations that we consider are rotations and translations.
- These are called *Euclidean transformations*.
- In short, we consider *Euclidean equivariant processing*.

Position-Orientation Space.



Space of Positions



Space of Position-Orientations

Machine Learning.

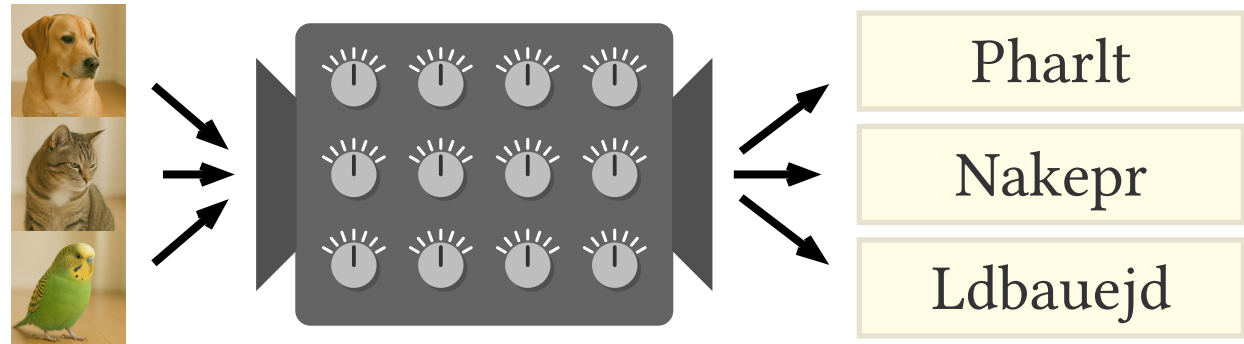
- More and more problems are being tackled on computers using *machine learning*.
- Machine learning is about the development and study of models that can “learn” from existing data and generalize to unseen data.
- Machine learning has led to major breakthroughs in tasks previously considered intractable by classical methods.

Supervised Machine Learning

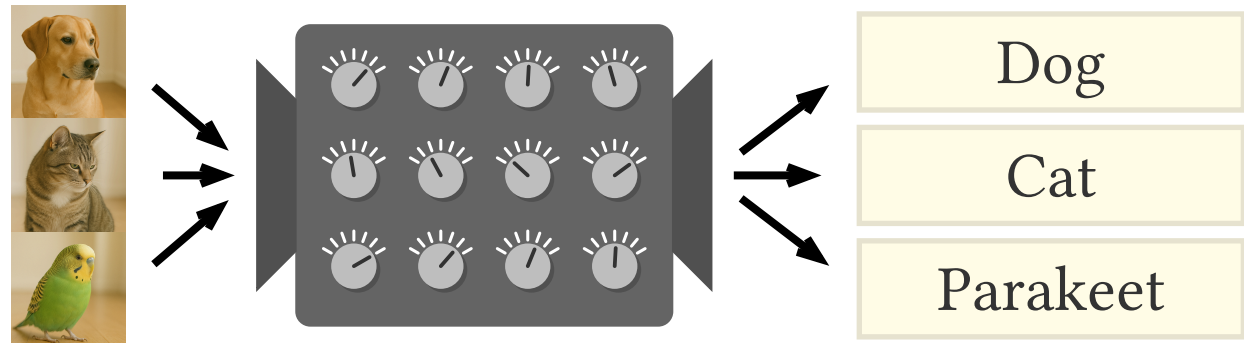
Image Classification Dataset



Untrained Model



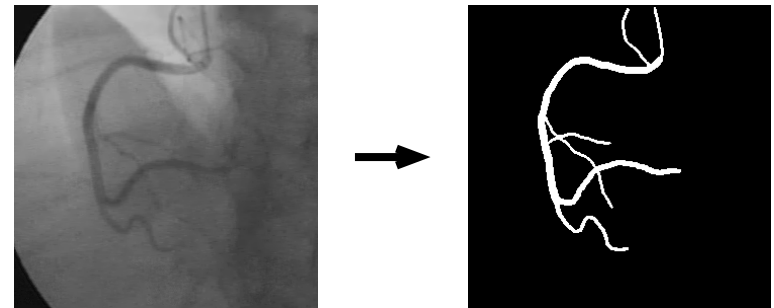
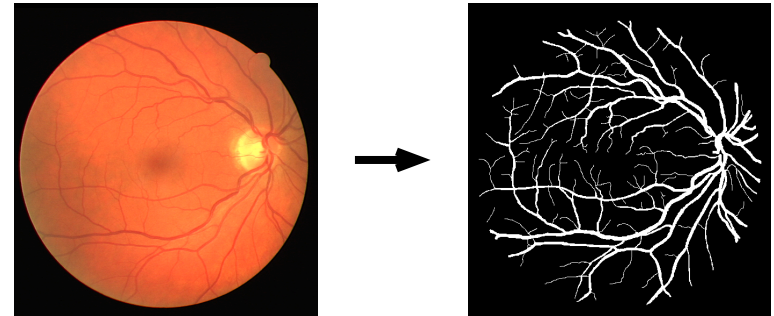
Trained Model



CONCRETE APPLICATIONS

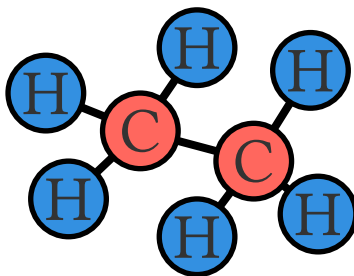
- In **DUITS, SMETS, BEKKERS AND PORTEGIES (2021)** a machine learning framework called *PDE-based neural networks* is introduced.
- This framework uses position-orientation space and is Euclidean equivariant.
- It can be used to segment vessels in retinal images and coronary arteries in X-ray angiograms.

Retinal vessels
segmentation



Coronary artery
segmentation

- In BEKKERS, VADGAMA, HESSELINK, VAN DER LINDEN AND ROMERO (2024) a machine learning model *PONITA* is introduced.
- This model uses position-orientation space and is Euclidean equivariant.
- It can be used to predict the chemical properties of molecules.

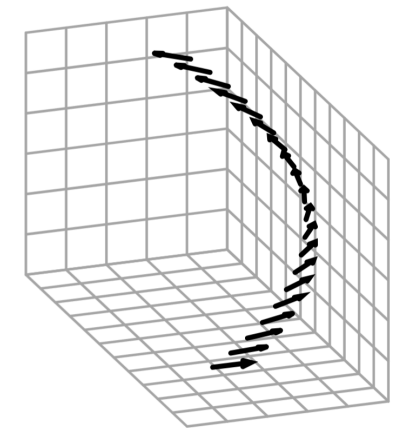
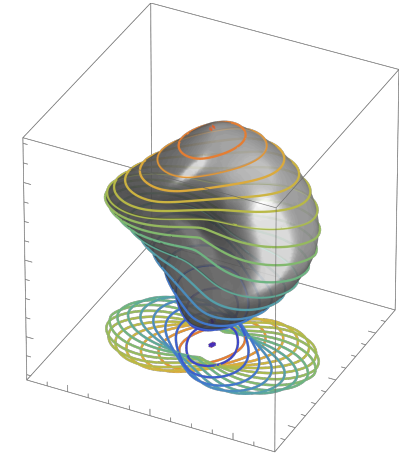


Dipole moment: 0.05 D
Isotropic polarizability: 9.13 a_0^3
Internal energy at 0K: -2.18 MeV

CONTRIBUTIONS

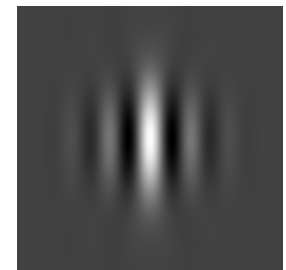
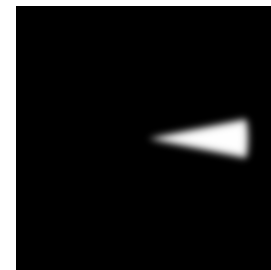
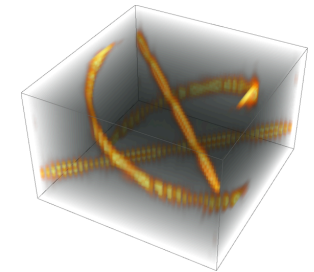
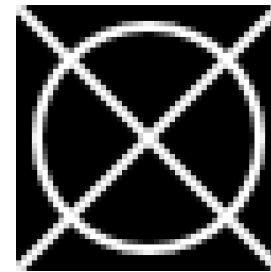
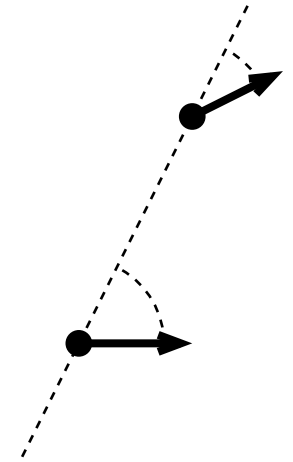
Contributions

- PDE-based neural networks use the *distance* between position-orientations. However, this exact distance is *expensive*.
- In Chapter 3 we introduce and analyze *efficient approximations* of the distance. We investigate how these approximations impact the accuracy of the networks.
- The distance between position-orientations depends on the *Euclidean invariant Riemannian metric* that is chosen.
- In Chapter 4 we classify and parametrize *all* such metrics, and describe the *mav distance* as an efficient alternative to the distance.



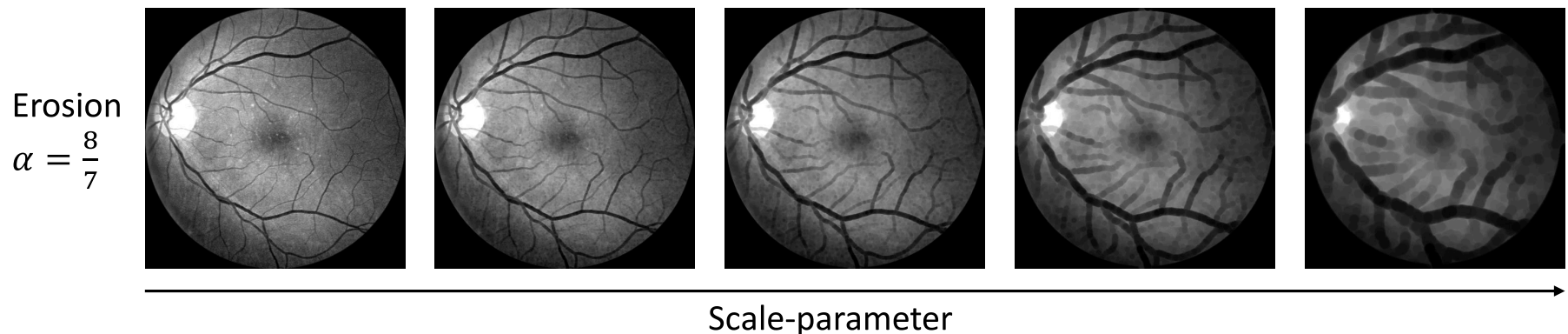
Contributions

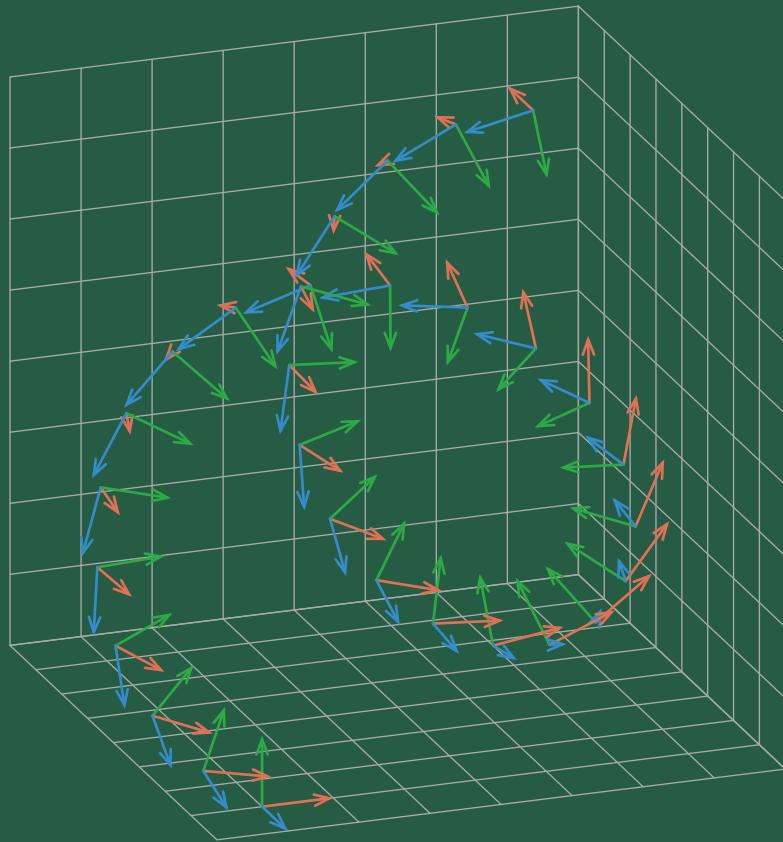
- The PONITA network builds upon *Euclidean invariants* between position-orientations.
- In Chapter 5 we describe an *independent* and *universal* collection of invariants. We show that this collection of invariants can improve the accuracy of PONITA.
- Data usually “lives” on position space which we need to transfer to position-orientation space, a process called *lifting*.
- In Chapter 6 we show that lifting using *cake wavelets* can perform just as well as a *trained lifting* within PDE-based neural networks.



Contributions

- PDE-based neural networks use PDEs that come from *scale-space theory*.
- In Chapter 7 we generalize this theory to *semifields*. Our axiomatic setup reveals new PDEs to use within the networks, and we show their impact on accuracy.





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