

## Introduction to wavelets

$$e^{-j2\pi \frac{n}{N}\tau}$$

Motivation : The DFT provides uniform / equal frequency resolution & is an useful tool for analyzing the spectral content.

- Qns.
- Can we identify short bursts of high frequency signals over low-frequency signals ?
  - Can we approximate a signal by playing with the signal resolution "non uniformly" over the entire spectrum ?

## Idea :

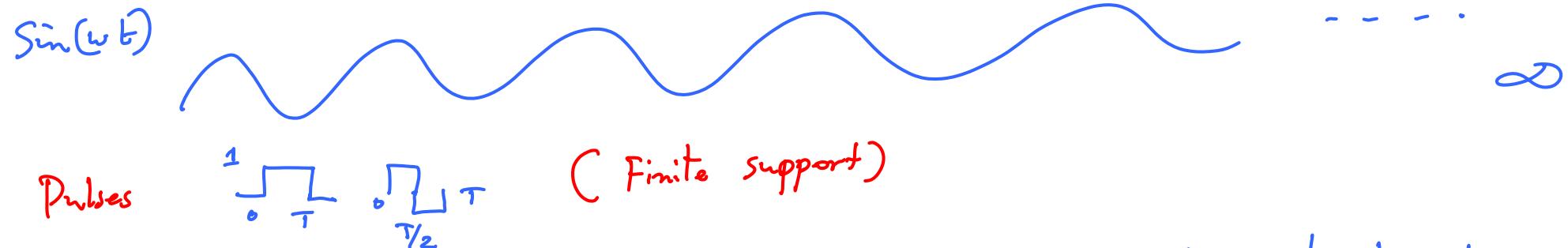
- 1) Use basis functions of 'different widths' to expand a signal across various scales (i.e., spaces)
- 2) In other words, project a signal onto a whole series of spaces with different resolution

## Questions :

- 1) Can we reconstruct the signal perfectly?
- 2) What are the properties for such a basis across scales?

These ideas lead us to the concept of "wavelets"

Unlike  $\sin(\cdot)$  &  $\cos(\cdot)$  that have infinite support



wavelets are pulses of short duration i.e., time localized  
and can provide different spectral information at different time  
locations of the signal

## Multiresolution Property

Definition : Let  $V_j, j = \dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots$  be a sequence of subspaces of functions in  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ . The collection of spaces  $\{V_j, j \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is called a "multiresolution analysis" with a scaling function  $\phi$  with the following properties.

1. Nesting :  $V_j \subset V_{j+1}$   
i.e.,  $\dots \subset V_0 \subset V_1 \subset V_2 \dots$

2. Closure :  $\text{closure} \left( \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} V_j \right) = L^2(\mathbb{R})$   
i.e., the closure of the set of spaces covers  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$

MEANING  
(Every function in  $L^2$  has a representation using elements in one of the nested subspaces)

3. Shrinking :

$$\bigcap_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} v_j = \{0\}$$

4. Scaling : If  $f(t) \in V_j$ , then  $f(z^{-j}t) \in V_0$

5. Shift orthonormality :

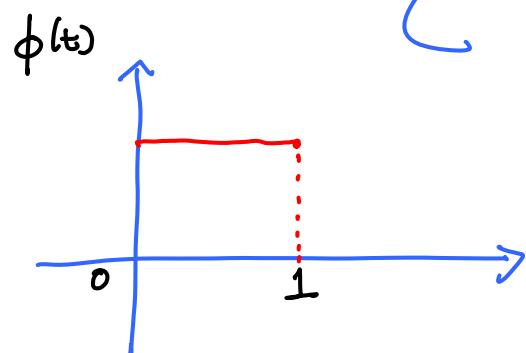
The function  $\phi(t) \in V_0$  and  $\{\phi(t-k); k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $V_0$ .

i.e.,  $\langle \phi(t), \phi(t-n) \rangle = 0$

Let us see this through some examples.

Defn: The Haar scaling function is defined as

$$\phi(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq t < 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

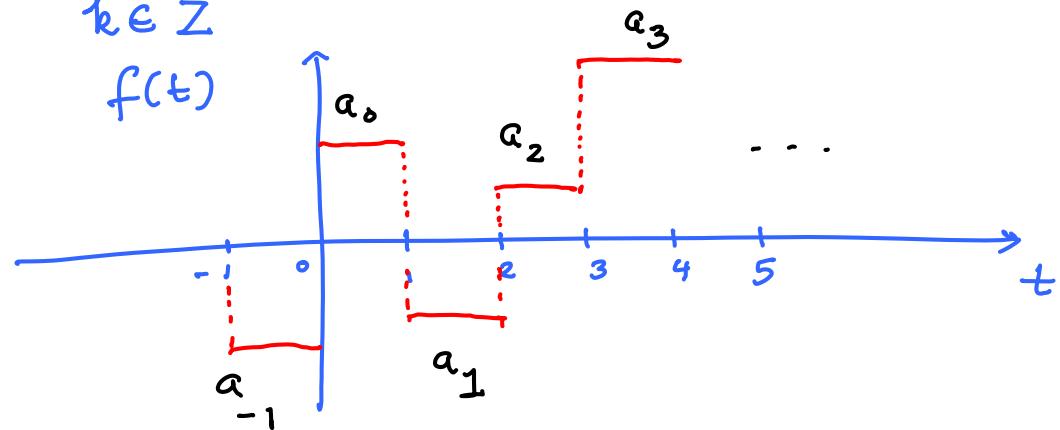


This function has finite/compact support

$\phi(t-k)$  is  $\phi(t)$  translated by  $k$  units 'right' if  $k$  is a +ve integer

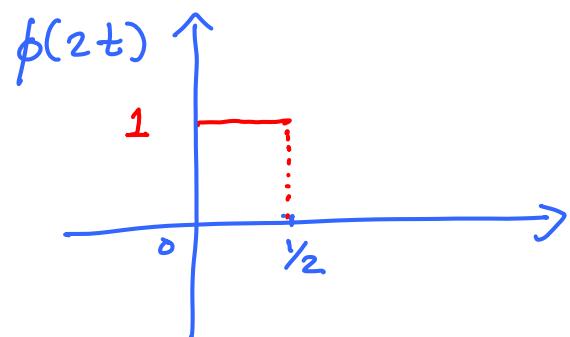
$V_0$  is a space of all functions of the form

$$f(t) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \phi(t-k) \quad a_k \in \mathbb{R}$$

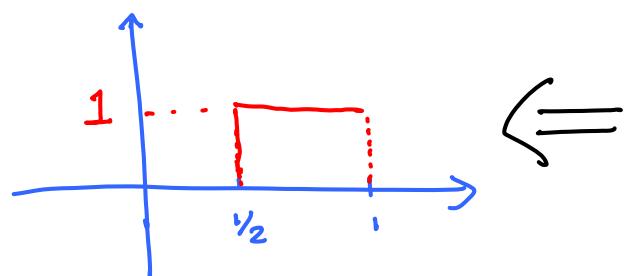


Let us go a little further ...

We shall start with a structure @ half the time duration  
i.e., we start with  $\phi(2t)$



$$\text{Consider } \phi(2t-k) = \phi(2(t-k/2))$$



This is essentially translation  
of  $\phi(2t)$  to the right  $k=1$  case

Geometrically,  $V_1$  is the space of all functions of the form

$$\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \phi(2t - k) \quad a_k \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The possible discontinuities exist at half integer multiples

i.e.,  $0, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 1, \dots$

Let us carefully analyze what the nesting property is:

let us carefully analyze what the nesting property is:  
 $\phi(2t) \in V_1$  but  $\notin V_0$  since  $\phi(2t)$  is discontinuous

$$V_0 \subset V_1$$

@  $t = \frac{1}{2}$

Discontinuities in  $V_0 = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\}$

Discontinuities in  $V_1 = \{0, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 1, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \dots\}$

$\Rightarrow$  Any function in  $V_0$  is also contained in  $V_1$  but not the other way.

Going forward,  
 $v_j$  has all the information up to a resolution  $z^{-j}$   
i.e., as  $j \uparrow$ , resolution is finer!

Ponder : Imagine functions of the form  $f(a^j t)$   
where  $a$  is a real no.

We need a procedure to do 'signal decomposition'

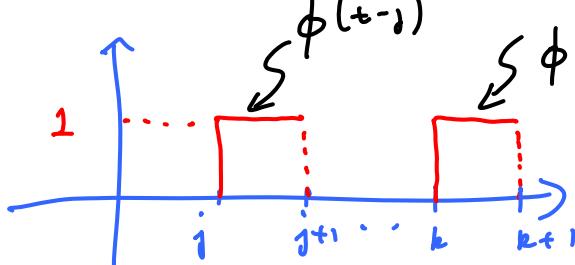
Let us see the intuition here before we proceed formally.

Starting with  $V_0$ ,

$$\|\phi(t-k)\|_{L^2}^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi^2(t-k) dt = \int_{-\infty}^{k+1} 1^2 dt = 1$$

$$\langle \phi(t-j), \phi(t-k) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^k \phi(t-j) \phi(t-k) dt = 0$$

$j \neq k$



Theorem : The set of functions  $\{2^{j/2} \phi(2^j t - k), k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$   
 form an orthonormal basis for  $V_j$ .

Proof Sketch :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|2^{j/2} \phi(2^j t - k)\|_{L^2}^2 \\
 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} 2^j \phi^2(2^j t - k) dt \\
 &= 2^j \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} 1^2 dt = 2^j \times 2^{-j} = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

$\phi(2^j(t - \bar{z}^j k))$

You can quickly check for  $2^{-j} \bar{z}^j k$  orthogonality (Non overlapping support  
for different time translates)

$$\left\langle 2^{j/2} \phi(2^j t - i), 2^{j/2} \phi(2^j t - k) \right\rangle_{i \neq k} = 0$$

□

## The Haar Wavelet

Motivation : Say, we wanted to isolate a short burst/spike or what we may think of as a high frequency change. We need a tool to isolate the spike  $\in V_j$  but not a member of  $V_{j-1}$ . (Recall:  $V_{j-1} \subset V_j$ )

Idea : We need to apply 'direct sum' spaces.  
i.e., We need to decompose,  $V_j$  as a sum of  $V_{j-1}$  and its orthogonal complement

## Intuition & Starting Step

Consider the space  $V_1$ . We need to identify a space  $W_0$  (i.e., the orthogonal complement of  $V_0$ ) with the following properties.

- 1)  $\psi \in V_1 \Rightarrow \psi(t) = \sum_l a_l \phi(2t - l)$   
for some  $a_l \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- 2)  $\psi$  is orthogonal to  $V_0 \Rightarrow \int \psi(t) \phi(t - k) dt = 0$   
 $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}$

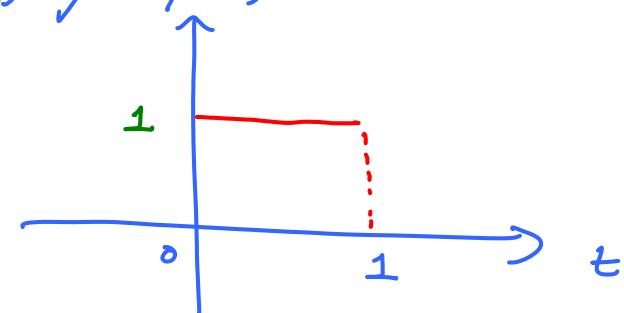
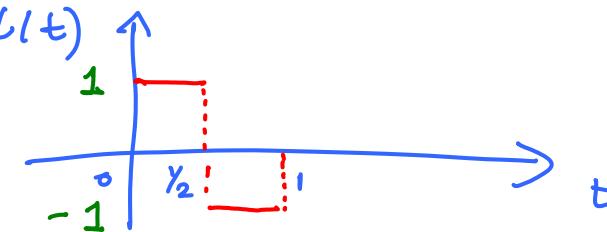
let us see how this can be done  
 $\psi(t)$  is constructed from box functions of width  $\frac{1}{2}$  and its translates.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \psi(t) \phi(t) dt = 0$$

(Initial case of  $k=0$   
 from our 2nd cond.)

$\Rightarrow$  A simple  $\psi(t)$  can be of the form

$$\psi(t) = \phi(2t) - \phi(2(t - \frac{1}{2}))$$



Now,  $\psi(t) \perp \phi(t)$

$$\therefore \psi(t) \in V_1$$

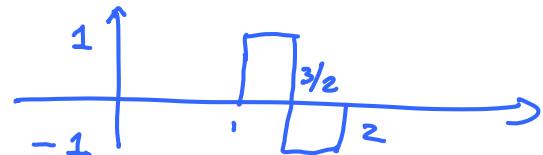
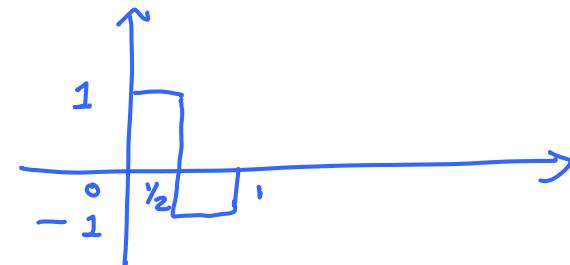
$$\psi(t) \in W_0 \quad (\text{i.e., } V_0^\perp)$$

$$V_1 = V_0 \oplus W_0$$

Thus  $W_0$  has all functions of the form

$$\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \psi(t-k) \quad a_k \in \mathbb{R}$$

We call  $\psi(t)$  as "the wavelet" function!



Let us generalize this into a Theorem

Theorem : Let  $w_j$  be the space of all functions /  
 $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k z^j t^{-k}$   $a_k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- (1)  $w_j$  is the orthogonal complement of  $v_j$  in  $v_{j+1}$ .  
(2)  $v_{j+1} = v_j \oplus w_j$

Proof Sketch:

(i) We need to show that every function in  $W_j$  is orthogonal to every function in  $V_j$ .

$$\text{Let } f_{W_j} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \psi(z^j t - k)$$

Let  $f_{V_j} \in V_j$ . We need to show  $\langle f_{W_j}, f_{V_j} \rangle_{L^2} = 0$

From the scaling property  $f_{V_j}(t) \in V_j$ , then  $g(z^{-j} t) \in V_0$   
 $g \triangleq f_{V_j}$

Consider

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \varphi(t-k) g(\underbrace{z^{-j} t}_{}) dt = 0 \quad (\because \varphi \text{ is orthogonal to } V_0)$$

$$\Rightarrow z^j \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \varphi(z^j t' - k) g(t') dt' = 0$$

CHANGE OF VARIABLE

$$t' = z^{-j} t$$

$$dt' = z^{-j} dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t') g(t') dt' = 0$$

So, any  $g \in V_j$  is orthogonal to  $f \in W_j$

(2) When  $j = 0$ , we showed that any function in  $V_1$  orthogonal to  $V_0$  must be a linear combination of  $\{\psi(t-k), k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

Proceed in a general way for  $j \neq 0$

(Part of Home Work)

Lemma : Let  $f_1 = \sum_k a_k \phi(2t-k) \in V_1$   
 $f_1 \perp V_0$  i.e., to each of  $\{\phi(t-k)\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$   
iff  $a_1 = -a_0, a_3 = -a_2, \dots$

Proof :  $\phi(t-l) = \phi(2t-l) + \phi(2t-l-1) \quad \text{--- } ①$

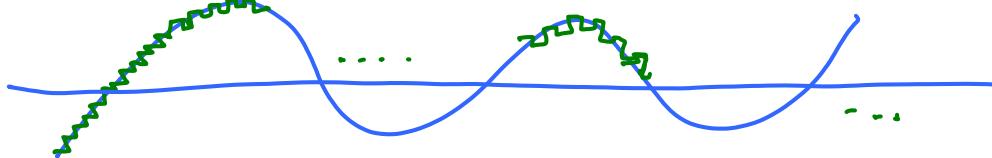
Consider  $\left\langle \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \phi(2t-k), \phi(t-l) \right\rangle \quad \text{--- } ②$

use ① in ②

$$= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \left[ \left\langle \phi(2t-k), \phi(2t-l) \right\rangle + \underbrace{\left\langle \phi(2t-l-1), \phi(2t-k) \right\rangle}_{\delta_{k-l-1} = 0} \right]$$

$\Rightarrow a_l + a_{l+1} = 0 \quad \text{Plug in } \delta_{k-l} \quad l = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad \square$

## Approximating using step functions



Goal: Approximate a smooth continuous function using step functions.

From the Theorem, we can do successive decompositions of subspaces.

$$\begin{aligned}v_j &= w_{j-1} \oplus v_{j-1} \\&= w_{j-1} \oplus w_{j-2} \oplus v_{j-2} \\&\vdots \\&= w_{j-1} \oplus w_{j-2} \oplus \dots \oplus w_0 \oplus v_0\end{aligned}$$

So, any function  $f$  in  $V_j$  can be uniquely decomposed  
as a sum

$$f = w_{j-1} + w_{j-2} + \dots + w_0 + f_0$$

$w_l$  can take care of a short burst of width  $\frac{1}{2^{l+1}}$

Theorem : The space  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  can be decomposed into an infinite orthogonal direct sum space

$$\text{i.e., } L^2(\mathbb{R}) = V_0 \oplus W_0 \oplus W_1 \oplus \dots$$

i.e.,  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$  can be written as

$$f = f_0 + \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^N w_j \in W_j$$

$\in V_0$

NOTE : There are 2 major points to prove :

- Any function  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$  can be approximated by continuous funct.
- Any cont. function can be approximated as desired by a step function whose discontinuities are multiples of  $2^{-i}$  for large 'i'.

## Haar Decomposition

Intuition :

Going back to our motivation, where we wanted to isolate a short burst/spike, from the Theorem on Sub-space decomposition,

$$f_j = f_0 + w_0 + w_1 + \dots + w_k \in W_k \text{ with width } 2^{-(k+1)}$$

Example :

Suppose we have a 5ms spike

$$2^{-7} > .005 > 2^{-8}$$

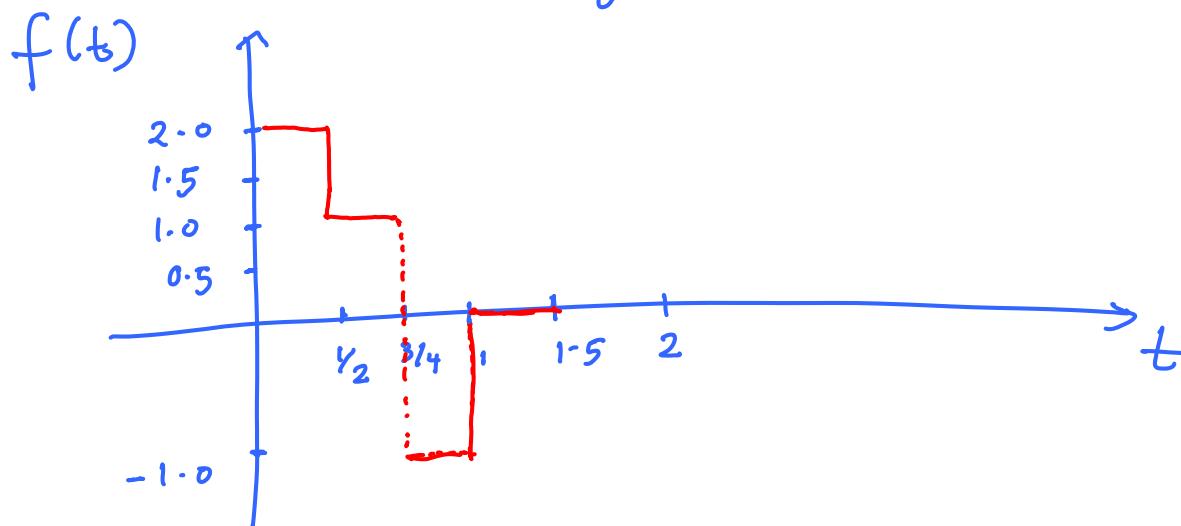
Let us consider the wavelet decomposition process.

Before we begin,

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(2t) &= (\psi(t) + \phi(t))/2 \\ \phi(2t-1) &= (\phi(t) - \psi(t))/2\end{aligned}\quad \textcircled{A}$$

Recall :  $\psi(t) = \phi(2t) - \phi(2t-1)$

Consider the following example



### OBSERVATIONS

- 1) Smallest bin is of width  $\frac{1}{4}$  time steps
- 2) We observe this between  $\left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}\right)$  &  $\left[\frac{3}{4}, 1\right)$

We can describe  $f(t)$  over  $V_2$  by expressing in terms of  
 $\{\phi(2^2 t - l), l \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

$$f(t) = 2 \underbrace{\phi(4t)}_{w_1} + 2 \underbrace{\phi(4t-1)}_{w_0} + \underbrace{\phi(4t-2)}_{V_0} - \underbrace{\phi(4t-3)}$$

Let us decompose  $f$  into  $w_1, w_0$  &  $V_0$

$$f \in V_2 \Rightarrow f_{V_2} = f_0 + w_0 + w_1$$

From (A), we can generalize

$$\phi(2^j t) = \frac{(\phi(2^{j-1} t) + \phi(2^{j-1} t))}{2}$$

$$\phi(2^j t - 1) = \frac{(\phi(2^{j-1} t) - \phi(2^{j-1} t))}{2}$$

$$\phi(4t) = (\psi(2t) + \phi(2t))/2$$

$$\phi(4t-1) = (\phi(2t) - \psi(2t))/2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(4t-2) &= \frac{\phi(4(t-\frac{1}{2}))}{2} \\ &= \left( \psi(2(t-\frac{1}{2})) + \phi(2(t-\frac{1}{2})) \right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(4t-3) &= \frac{\phi(4(t-\frac{1}{2})-1)}{2} \\ &= \left( \phi(2(t-\frac{1}{2})) - \psi(2(t-\frac{1}{2})) \right)\end{aligned}$$

Grouping the terms,

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \varphi(2t) + \phi(2t) + \phi(2t) - \varphi(2t) \\ &\quad + \frac{(\varphi(2t-1) + \phi(2t-1)) - (\phi(2t-1) - \varphi(2t-1))}{2} \\ &= 2 \phi(2t) + \varphi(2t-1) \in W_1 \\ &\quad \in V_1 \end{aligned}$$

Decompose  $\phi(2t)$  further,

$$\phi(2t) = \frac{\phi(t) + \psi(t)}{2}$$

$$f(t) = \phi(t) + \varphi(t) + \varphi(2t-1) \in W_1$$

$\in V_0$        $\in W_0$

Let us write things explicitly

$$\phi(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq t < 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\varphi(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq t < \frac{1}{2} \\ -1 & \frac{1}{2} \leq t < 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\varphi(2t-1) = \begin{cases} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \leq t < \frac{3}{4} \\ -1 & \frac{3}{4} \leq t < 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Add all the components  
 $\phi(t) + \varphi(t) + \varphi(2t-1)$

$$= \begin{cases} 2 & 0 \leq t < \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2} \leq t < \frac{3}{4} \\ -1 & \frac{3}{4} \leq t < 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

We are home

Let us recall the two formulae we used for wavelet recursions

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \phi(2^j t) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \psi(2^{j-1} t) + \psi(2^{j-1} t) \right] \\ \phi(2^j t - 1) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \psi(2^{j-1} t) - \psi(2^{j-1} t) \right] \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \textcircled{B}$$

We will try to derive a general procedure for wavelet decomposition of a signal from an arbitrary scale 'j'.

Since  $\{\phi(2^j t - k), k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  form an orthonormal basis for scale 'j',

$$f_j(t) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k \phi(2^j t - k) \quad \text{--- (C)}$$

Replace 't' by  $t - k 2^{-(j-1)}$  in (B)

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(2^j t - 2k) &= \frac{1}{2} [\phi(2^{j-1} t - k) + \phi(2^{j-1} t - k)] \\ \phi(2^j t - 2k - 1) &= \frac{1}{2} [\phi(2^{j-1} t - k) - \phi(2^{j-1} t - k)] \end{aligned} \quad \left. \right\} \text{--- (1)} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Using ① in ⑥, we have the following:  
 First, let us split ⑥ into even and odd terms and  
 then apply ①.

$$f_j(t) = \underbrace{\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{2k} \phi(2^j t - 2k)}_{\text{even terms}} + \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{2k+1} \phi(2^j t - 2k - 1)$$
②

Apply ① in ②, we have the following,

$$\begin{aligned}
f_j(t) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{2k} [\phi(2^{j-1}t - k) + \psi(2^{j-1}t - k)] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_{2k+1} [\phi(2^{j-1}t - k) - \psi(2^{j-1}t - k)] \\
&= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \left( \frac{a_{2k} - a_{2k+1}}{2} \right) \psi(2^{j-1}t - k) \\
&\quad + \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \left( \frac{a_{2k} + a_{2k+1}}{2} \right) \phi(2^{j-1}t - k)
\end{aligned}$$

(3)

$$f_j(t) = w_{j-1}(t) + f_{j-1}(t)$$

where  $w_{j-1}(t)$  is the  $w_{j-1}$  component of  $f_j(t)$  and  
is a linear span of  $\{ \varphi(2^{j-1}t - k), k \in \mathbb{Z} \}$   
and  $f_{j-1}(t)$  is the  $v_{j-1}$  component of  $f_j(t)$  in the  
linear span of  $\{ \varphi(2^{j-1}t - k), k \in \mathbb{Z} \}$

Let us be slightly more precise by introducing a  
superscript 'j' on  $a_k$ s.

$$f_j(t) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k^{(j)} \phi(2^j t - k) \in V_j$$

$$f_j(t) = w_{j-1}(t) + f_{j-1}(t)$$

$$w_{j-1}(t) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} b_k^{(j-1)} \psi(2^{j-1} t - k) \in W_{j-1}$$

where  $b_k^{(j-1)} = \frac{a_{2k}^{(j)}}{2} - \frac{a_{2k+1}^{(j)}}{2}$

$$\text{Hence } f_{j-1}(t) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} a_k^{(j-1)} \phi(2^{j-1}t - k) \in V_{j-1}$$

where

$$a_k^{(j-1)} = \frac{a_{2k}^{(j)} + a_{2k+1}^{(j)}}{2}$$

We can proceed computing the recursions for  $j-1, j-2, \dots, 0$

$$f_j(t) = f_0(t) + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} w_i(t)$$

This gives us the 'forward decomposition' procedure!