Wavelets and Applications

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Wavelet zoom
a local characterization of functions
Local characterization of regularity via the derivatives

"Smoothness" depends on the differentiability class to which a function belongs to. Among these 4 continuous ($C^0$) functions:

- $x \mapsto x^2$ is the only one differentiable everywhere and $C^\infty$
- $x \mapsto |x|$ is not differentiable at $x = 0$ (corner)
- $x \mapsto \sqrt{|x|}$ (cusp) and $1_{[0,T]}$ (jump) have kind of "infinite gradient" at the singularity point $x = 0$
Prerequisite: Global regularity through Fourier coefficients

Lemma (Riemann-Lebesgue)
If $f$ is $L^1$ then the Fourier transform of $f$ satisfies

$$\hat{f}(\omega) = \int f(x) e^{-i\omega x} \xrightarrow{|\omega| \to \infty} 0$$

How fast the Fourier coefficients decrease?
For $f$ $p$ times continuously differentiable with bounded derivatives, since $\hat{f}(\omega) = \frac{1}{i\omega} \frac{d}{dx} f(\omega)$ then by iterating we get $\hat{f}(\omega) = \frac{1}{(i\omega)^p} \frac{d^p}{dx^p} f(\omega)$

$$|\hat{f}(\omega)| \leq \frac{K}{|\omega|^p}$$

with $K = \sup \frac{d^p}{dx^p} f$
Prerequisite: Global regularity through Fourier coefficients

Conversely does the Fourier decay governs smoothness?

If \( \hat{f} \) is \( L^1 \) then \( f \in L^\infty \) and \( f \) is continuous.

Proof:

\[
|f(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int |e^{i\omega x} \hat{f}(\omega)| d\omega \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int |\hat{f}(\omega)| d\omega < +\infty
\]

which proves boundedness. As for continuity, consider a sequence \( y_n \to 0 \) and

\[
f(x - y_n) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int e^{i\omega(x-y_n)} \hat{f}(\omega) d\omega
\]

The integrand converges pointwise to \( e^{i\omega x} \hat{f}(\omega) \) and is uniformly bounded in modulus by the integrable function \( \hat{f} \). Hence Lebesgue’s dominated convergence theorem applies and yields \( f(x - y_n) \to f(x) \) that is continuity in \( x \). □
Prerequisite: Global regularity through Fourier coefficients

Theorem (Sufficient condition for differentiability of $f$ at order $p$)

A function $f$ is bounded and $p$ times continuously differentiable with bounded derivatives if

$$
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(\omega)|(1 + |\omega|^p) \, d\omega < +\infty
$$

Proof: Knowing that $\hat{f}^{(k)} : \omega \mapsto (i\omega)^k \hat{f}(\omega)$, by the inversion formula

$$
|f^{(k)}(t)| = \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}^{(k)}(\omega)e^{i\omega t} \, d\omega \right| \leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(\omega)| \cdot |\omega|^k \, d\omega < +\infty
$$

for any $k \leq p$, so $f^{(k)}$ is continuous and bounded. □

Corollary. If it exists a constant $K$ and $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$
|\hat{f}(\omega)| \leq \frac{K}{1 + |\omega|^{p+1+\epsilon}}, \quad \text{then} \quad f \in \mathcal{C}^p
$$

Credits: S. Mallat (Wavelet tour)
Prerequisite: Global regularity through Fourier coefficients

The decay of $|\hat{f}(\omega)|$ depends on the worst singular behavior of $f$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } -\pi \leq x < 0 \\ +1 & \text{if } 0 \leq x < \pi \end{cases} = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{4}{\pi(2n-1)} \sin((2n-1)x)$$

where $f$ is periodized. For $f = 1_{[-T,T]} \Rightarrow |\hat{f}(\omega)| = o(|\omega|^{-1})$

Wavelet zoom: Lipschitz regularity

Definition (Lipschitz regularity of order $\alpha$ of a function $f$)

Let $\alpha \geq 0$ be the regularity parameter and $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$. 
$f$ is pointwise Lipschitz–$\alpha$ at $x_0$, if there exist $C > 0$ and a polynomial $P_n$ of degree $n = \lfloor \alpha \rfloor$, such that

$$
\forall h \in \mathbb{R}, \quad |f(x_0 + h) - P_n(h)| \leq C|h|^\alpha
$$

(1)

$P_n$ is the Taylor expansion of $f$ at $x_0$. (If $0 < \alpha < 1$, $P_0(h) = f(x_0)$)

- $f$ is uniformly Lipschitz–$\alpha$ over $[a, b]$ if $f$ satisfies (1) for all $x_0 \in [a, b]$, with a constant $C$ independent of $x_0$.
- Extension to negative $\alpha$ (distributions): $f$ uniformly Lipschitz–$\alpha$ over $]a, b[\text{ if its primitive is Lipschitz–}(\alpha + 1)\text{ over }]a, b[.$.
- The Lipschitz regularity of $f$ is the supremum of the $\alpha$ such that $f$ is Lipschitz–$\alpha$. 
Lipschitz–$\alpha$ functions

\[ \forall h \in \mathbb{R}, \quad |f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)| \leq C|h|^\alpha \]

**Figure:** The schematic diagram of Lipschitz–$\alpha$ functions

Credits: Li-Wei Liu & Hong-Ki Hong
Some examples

- A Lipschitz–$\alpha$ function at $x_0$, with $0 < \alpha < 1$, is continuous, but a priori non differentiable.
- A $C^1$ function in a neighborhood of $x_0$ is Lipschitz–1 at $x_0$.
- The Lipschitz regularity $\alpha$ with $n < \alpha < n + 1$ allows to classify regularities between $C^n$ and $C^{n+1}$.
- A bounded function is Lipschitz–0. For example the Heavyside function $H(x) = 1$ if $x \geq 0$ and 0 if $x < 0$.
- The distribution $\delta$ is Lipschitz–$(−1)$ (as the derivative of $H$).
- The function $x \mapsto |x - x_0|^\alpha$ ($0 < \alpha < 1$) is Lipschitz–$\alpha$.
- The function $\sqrt{\cos(2\pi x)}$ is Lipschitz–$\frac{1}{2}$.

![Image showing various functions with different Lipschitz regularities]
Some examples
A Holder function of exponent $\frac{1}{2}$

Figure: $f(x) = \sqrt{\left|\cos(2\pi x)\right|}$ and its CWT (modulus, Morlet wavelet, divided by $\sqrt{a}$)
Some examples

Figure: Wavelet transform $Wf(a, b)$ calculated with $\psi = -\theta'$ where $\theta$ is a Gaussian. Singularities create large amplitude coefficients in their cone influence.

Credits: S. Mallat (Wavelet tour)
Regularity measurements with wavelets

Let $\alpha \geq 0$ be fixed, $\psi$ a wavelet with compact support $\subset [-L, L]$, and $N > \alpha$ vanishing moments:

\[
\int x^n \psi(x) \, dx = 0, \quad \text{for } 0 \leq n < N
\]

**Remark:** a wavelet with $N$ vanishing moments is orthogonal to polynomials of degree $N - 1$.

**Polynomial Suppression.** Let $f$ Lipschitz-$\alpha$ at $x_0$, that is

\[
f(x) = P_n(x - x_0) + \varepsilon(x - x_0) \quad \text{with} \quad |\varepsilon(x - x_0)| \leq |x - x_0|^\alpha
\]

Since $\alpha < N$, the polynomial $P_N$ has degree at most $N - 1$. With the change of variable $y = (x - b)/a$, we verify that

\[
WP_n(a, b) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P_n(x) \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \psi \left( \frac{x - b}{a} \right) \, dx = 0
\]

Then,

\[
Wf(a, b) = W\varepsilon(a, b)
\]
Pointwise Lipschitz regularity and wavelet coefficients

Let $\alpha \geq 0$. One considers a wavelet $\psi$ of regularity $C^N$, with compact support $\text{supp } \psi \subset [-L, L]$, and $N \geq \alpha$ vanishing moments.

Theorem (Jaffard, Estimation of the local regularity of $f$ at point $x_0$)

If $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$ is Lipschitz–$\alpha \leq N$ at $x_0$, then $\exists A > 0$ such that

$$\forall (a, b) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+, \quad |Wf(a, b)| \leq A a^{\alpha + \frac{1}{2}} \left(1 + \left|\frac{b - x_0}{a}\right|^\alpha\right)$$

Conversely, if $\alpha < N$ is not an integer and there exist $A > 0$ and $\alpha' < \alpha$ such that

$$\forall (a, b) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+, \quad |Wf(a, b)| \leq A a^{\alpha + \frac{1}{2}} \left(1 + \left|\frac{b - x_0}{a}\right|^{\alpha'}\right)$$

then $f$ is Lipschitz-$\alpha$ at $x_0$. 
Proof of $\Rightarrow$

Since $f$ is Lipschitz–$\alpha$ at $x_0$, there exists a polynomial $P_N$ of degree $\lfloor \alpha \rfloor < N$ and $C > 0$ such that

$$|f(x) - P_N(x - x_0)| \leq C|x - x_0|^\alpha$$

Since $\psi$ has $N$ vanishing moments, we saw that $WP_n(a, b) = 0$, and thus

$$|Wf(a, b)| = \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [f(x) - P_N(x - x_0)] \psi_{a,b}(x) \, dx \right|$$

$$\leq \int C|x - x_0|^\alpha \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \left| \psi \left( \frac{x - b}{a} \right) \right| \, dx$$

The change of variable $y = \frac{x - b}{a}$ gives

$$|Wf(a, b)| \leq \sqrt{a} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C|ay + b - x_0|^\alpha |\psi(y)| \, dy$$
Proof of $\Rightarrow$

\[ |Wf(a, b)| \leq \sqrt{a} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C ay + b - x_0 |\psi(y)| \, dy \]

**Lemma:** $|t + s|_\alpha \leq 2^\alpha (|t|_\alpha + |s|_\alpha)$

**Proof:** Let $m = \max(|t|, |s|)$ so that $|t + s| \leq |t| + |s| \leq 2m$. Then,

$|t + s|_\alpha \leq (2m)^\alpha = 2^\alpha m^\alpha \leq 2^\alpha (|t|_\alpha + |s|_\alpha).$

By the lemma,

\[ |Wf(a, b)| \leq C 2^\alpha \sqrt{a} \left( a^{\alpha} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |y|^{\alpha} |\psi(y)| \, dy + |b - x_0|^{\alpha} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\psi(y)| \, dy \right) \]

\[ \leq KM 2^\alpha a^{\alpha + \frac{1}{2}} \left( 1 + \frac{|b - x_0|^{\alpha}}{a} \right) \]

with $M = \max \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |y|^{\alpha} |\psi(y)|, \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\psi(y)| \, dy \right)$. \(\Box\)
Cone of Influence

If \( \text{supp } \psi = [-L, L] \), the cone of influence of \( x_0 \) in the time-scale space is the set of points such that \( x_0 \in \text{supp } \psi_{a,b} = [b - La, b + La] \), that is

\[
\Gamma(x_0) = \{(b, a) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^*_+ : |b - x_0| < La\}
\]

If \( f \) is Lipschitz-\( \alpha \) at \( x_0 \), then \( \exists A > 0 \), such that for all \( (b, a) \in \Gamma(x_0) \):

\[
|Wf(a, b)| \leq A \ a^{\alpha + \frac{1}{2}}
\]

and conversely for \( \alpha \) non integer.

\( \alpha \) is computed by the slope of the curve \( \log a \rightarrow \log|Wf(a, b)| \)

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[Diagram of wavelet cone of influence]
Wavelet Transform Modulus Maxima

References


Wavelet construction from the derivatives of a Gaussian

Let \( \theta(x) = \exp(-x^2/\sigma^2) \) the Gaussian Kernel and let considered

\[
\psi^N(x) \equiv \theta^{(n)}(x) = \left( \frac{d}{dx} \right)^N e^{-x^2/\sigma^2}
\]

The wavelet \( \psi^N \) has \( N \) vanishing moments.

Figure: The Gaussian \( \theta \) \( (n = 0) \) for \( \sigma = 1 \) and its two first derivatives: \( n = 1 \) is represented in \((-\cdot-)\) and \( n = 2 \) (the Mexican hat) in \((\cdots)\)
**Multiscale differential operator**

A wavelet $\psi$ has fast decay if

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{N}, \exists C_m \text{ such that } |\psi(x)| \leq \frac{C_m}{1 + |t|^m}, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$$

**Theorem (Multiscale differential operator)**

A wavelet $\psi$ with fast decay has $N$ vanishing moments if and only if there exists $\theta$ with a fast decay such that

$$\psi(x) = (-1)^N \frac{d^N \theta}{dx^N}(x)$$

As a consequence

$$W_N f(a, b) = a^N \frac{d^N \theta}{db^N}(f \ast \tilde{\theta}_a)(b)$$

Moreover, $\psi$ has no more vanishing moments iff $\int \psi \neq 0$. 
Multiscale differential operator

Sketch of the proof

Notice that:

$$\forall k < N, \int t^k \psi(t) \, dt = (i)^k \hat{\psi}^{(k)}(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\psi}(\omega) = (-i\omega)^N \hat{\theta}(\omega)$$

With $L(x) = -\frac{x}{a}$ one has $\check{\theta}_a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \theta \circ L$ and

$$\sqrt{a} \frac{d}{dt} \check{\theta}_a(t) = L'(t)\theta'(L(t)) = -\frac{1}{a} \theta' \left( -\frac{t}{a} \right)$$

By iterating:

$$a^N \frac{d^N}{d^N t} \check{\theta}_a(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} a^N \left( -\frac{1}{a} \right)^N \frac{d^N}{d^N t} \left( -\frac{t}{a} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \psi \left( -\frac{t}{a} \right) = \check{\psi}_a(t)$$

Finally, commuting the convolution and differentiation operators yields

$$W_N(a, b) = (f * \check{\psi}_a(t))(b) = a^N \left( f * \frac{d^N}{d^N t} \check{\theta}_a \right)(b) = a^N \left[ \frac{d^N}{d^N b} (f * \check{\theta}_a) \right](b)$$
Multiscale differential operator

Consequences

Since $\theta$ has fast decay, one can verify that

$$\lim_{a \to 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \tilde{\theta}_a = K \delta$$

Hence:

$$\lim_{a \to 0} \phi \ast \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \tilde{\theta}_a(b) = K \phi(b)$$

If $f$ is $N$ times continuously differentiable in the neighborhood of $u$:

$$\lim_{a \to 0} \frac{Wf(a, b)}{a^{N+1/2}} = \lim_{a \to 0} f^{(N)} \ast \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \tilde{\theta}_a(b) = K f^{(N)}(b)$$

In particular if $f$ is $C^N$ with bounded $N$ th-order derivative

$$|Wf(a, b)| = O(a^{N+1/2})$$
Multiscale differential operator

Example

- The convolution $f \ast \tilde{\theta}_a$ averages $f$ over a domain proportional to $a$

- If the wavelet has only one vanishing moment: $\psi = -\theta'$ then $W_1(a, b) = a \frac{d}{db} (f \ast \tilde{\theta}_a)(b)$ has modulus maxima at sharp variation points of $f \ast \tilde{\theta}_a$

- If the wavelet has two vanishing moment: $\psi = -\theta''$ then $W_2(a, b) = a \frac{d^2}{db^2} (f \ast \tilde{\theta}_a)(b)$ corresponds to locally maximum curvatures
Wavelet Maxima Lines

- **Point of Modulus Maximum** are any point \((b_0, a_0)\) in the time-scale plan such that the curve \(b \mapsto |Wf(b, a_0)|\) is locally maximum at \(b = b_0\). This implies that

\[
\frac{\partial Wf(a_0, b_0)}{\partial b} = 0
\]

- **Maxima lines** is any connected curve \(a(b)\) in the scale-space plane \((b, a)\) along which all points are modulus maxima.

**Theorem (Hwang, Mallat)**

Suppose that \(\psi\) is \(C^N\) with a compact support and \(\psi = (-1)^N \theta^{(N)}\) with \(\int \theta \neq 0\). Let \(f \in L^1[b_0, b_1]\). If there exists \(a_0 > 0\) such that \(|Wf(a, b)|\) has no local maximum for \(b \in [b_0, b_1]\) and \(a < a_0\), then \(f\) is uniformly Lipschitz–\(N\) on \([b_0 + \epsilon, b_1 - \epsilon]\), for any \(\epsilon > 0\).
Wavelet Maxima Lines

Remarks

- This theorem implies that \( f \) can be singular (not Lipschitz–1) at a point \( x_0 \) only if there is a sequence of wavelet maxima points \((b_k, a_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}\) that converges toward \( x_0 \) at fine scales:

\[
\lim_{k \to +\infty} b_k = x_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{k \to +\infty} a_k = 0
\]

- These modulus maxima points may or may not be along the same maxima line. This result guarantees that all singularities are detected by following the wavelet transform modulus maxima at fine scales.

Theorem (Hummel, Poggio, Yuille)

Let \( \psi = (-1)^N \theta^{(N)} \) where \( \theta \) is Gaussian. For any \( f \in L^2 \), the modulus maxima of \( \text{Wf}(a, b) \) belongs to connected curves that are never interrupted when the scale decreases.
Wavelet Maxima Lines

Example
Example: a simple Dirac $\delta$

(a) Le Dirac

(b) les coefficients d’ondelettes

(c) Chaînage des maxima

(d) évaluation de la singularité en 0.5
Example: 2 cusps $f(x) = |x - 0.25|^{\frac{1}{3}} + |x - 0.7|^{\frac{2}{3}}$
Example: $f(x) = |x - 0.25|^{\frac{1}{3}} + |x - 0.7|^{\frac{2}{3}} + \text{noise}$ (SNR=0.01)
Practical estimation of $\alpha$

$f$ is uniformly Lipschitz–$\alpha$ in the neighborhood of $x_0$ iff there exists $A > 0$ such that each modulus maximum $(b, a)$ in the cone satisfies

$$|Wf(a, b)| \leq A a^{\alpha + \frac{1}{2}}$$

which is equivalent to

$$\log_2 |Wf(a, b)| \leq \log_2 A + \left(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\right) \log_2 a$$

$\Rightarrow$ The Lipschitz regularity at $x_0$ is the maximum slope of $\log_2 |Wf(a, b)|$ as a function of $\log_2 a$ along the maxima lines converging to $x_0$
Practical estimation of $\alpha$

Example

Figure: The full line gives the decay along the maxima line that converges to the first jump, and the dashed line to the first cusp.
Brownian motion

Properties

- Independants displacements
- Gaussian distribution
- Irregular trajectories
Brownian motion


Irregular trajectories

Independants displacements

Gaussian distribution
Brownian motion

\( (\Delta x)^2 \propto t \)
Brownian motion

- \((B_t)_t\) has independants increments, \(B_0 = 0\) a.s.
- \(B_{t_i} - B_{t_j} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, t_i - t_j)\)
- \((B_t)_t\) has continuous sample paths a.s.

\[
(\Delta x)^2 \propto t
\]
Brownian motion

▷ Construction of Brownian motion

Isometry $W : (L^2, \langle f, g \rangle_{L^2}) \rightarrow (G, \mathbb{E}[XY])$

- $\mathbb{E}[W(f)W(g)] = \langle f, g \rangle_{L^2}$, $W(f) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \|f\|_{L^2}^2)$
- $\forall t \in [0,1], \quad B_t \overset{\text{def}}{=} W(1_{[0,t]})$
- $\mathbb{E}[(B_t - B_s)^2] = \left\| 1_{[0,t]} - 1_{[0,s]} \right\|_{L^2}^2 = \int 1_{[s,t]} = t - s$
- $\mathbb{E}\left[(B_{t_i} - B_{t_{i-1}})(B_{t_j} - B_{t_{j-1}})\right] = \langle 1_{[t_{i-1},t_i]}, 1_{[t_{j-1},t_j]} \rangle_{L^2} = 0$

Wiener stochastic integral $= \int f(x)W(dx)$
Self-similarity

\[ \{ X(t) \}_{t \in T} \text{ self-similar of order } H \text{ if} \]

\[ \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ \{ X(\lambda t) \}_{t \in T}^{(fdd)} = \lambda^H \{ X(t) \}_{t \in T} \]
Self-similarity

\( \{X(t)\}_{t \in T} \) self-similar of order \( H \) if

\[ \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ {X(\lambda t)}_{t \in T} \overset{\text{(fdd)}}{=} \lambda^H \{X(t)\}_{t \in T} \]
Self-similarity

\[ \{X(t)\}_{t \in T} \text{ self-similar of order } H \text{ if} \]

\[ \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \{X(\lambda t)\}_{t \in T} \overset{(fdd)}{=} \lambda^H \{X(t)\}_{t \in T} \]
Fractional Brownian motion

\[ \mathbb{E} \left[ (B^H(t) - B^H(s))^2 \right] = |t - s|^{2H} \Rightarrow \text{independant increments} \]

Figure: Fractional Brownian motion \( B^H \)

Fractional Brownian motion

\[ E \left[ (B^H(t) - B^H(s))^2 \right] = |t - s|^{2H} \Rightarrow \text{stationary increments} \]
Fractional Brownian motion

- $\mathbb{E} [(B^H(t) - B^H(s))^2] = |t - s|^{2H} \Rightarrow$ stationary increments
- $R(t, s) = \text{Cov}(B^H(t), B^H(s)) = \frac{1}{2}(t^{2H} + s^{2H} - |t - s|^{2H})$

$H = 0.2$

$H = 0.5$

$H = 0.8$
Fractional Brownian motion

\[ E \left[ (B^H(t) - B^H(s))^2 \right] = |t - s|^{2H} \Rightarrow \text{stationary increments} \]

\[ R(t, s) = \text{Cov}(B^H(t), B^H(s)) = \frac{1}{2}(t^{2H} + s^{2H} - |t - s|^{2H}) \]

\[ B^H(t) = \frac{1}{c_H} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{e^{it\xi}}{|\xi|^{H+1/2}} \hat{W}(\xi) \Rightarrow \text{harmonizable formula} \]
Fractional Brownian field

\[ \mathbb{E} \left[ (B^H(x) - B^H(y))^2 \right] = \| x - y \|^{2H}, \ x, y \in \mathbb{R}^2 \]

\[ R(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \| x \|^{2H} + \| y \|^{2H} - \| x - y \|^{2H} \right) \]

\[ B^H(x) = \frac{1}{C_H} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{e^{j\langle x, \xi \rangle} - 1}{\| \xi \|^{H+1}} \hat{W}(d\xi) \]

\[ H = 0.2 \quad H = 0.5 \quad H = 0.8 \]
Wavelet-based estimation of the Hurst exponent

- Let us consider a discrete wavelet transform at scales $a = 2^{-j}$ and positions $b = k$

$$\psi_{j,k}(x) = 2^{-j/2}\psi(2^{-j}x - k)$$

which encodes series information in details

$$d_{j,k} = \langle B^H, \psi_{j,k} \rangle$$

- Compute wavelet variance

$$\text{Var}(d_{j,\bullet}) = \frac{1}{n_j} \sum_{k=0}^{n_j-1} |d_{j,k}|^2$$

- Plot the $\log_2$ of variances versus scale $j$

$$\log_2(\text{Var}(d_{j,\bullet})) = (2H + 1)j + \text{cste}$$
Wavelet Maxima Lines for Brownian motion

Credits: S. Mallat (Wavelet tour)
Take home message

- Vanishing moments up to order $N$ make the wavelet $\psi$ blind to polynomial of degree $\leq N$ (smooth part of the signal), leading to better detections of singularities.
- If the function is Lipschitz–$\alpha$, then the amplitude of the wavelet coefficients are going to decay very fast to zero when the scale goes to zero (all the more that $\alpha$ is high).
- A remarkable aspect is the reverse: if we know this property, then we can characterize the pointwise regularity of the function at any point.
- All singularities are detected by following the wavelet transform modulus maxima at fine scale.
- The Lipschitz regularity at every point can be retrieved by measuring the maximum slope of the decay of $\log_2|Wf(a, b)|$.
- The wavelet-based estimation of the Lipschitz regularity enables to recover the self-similarity exponent of fractals.