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ICCV 2019
Seoul, Korea

Lightweight and Accurate Recursive Fractal Network for Image Super-Resolution

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01

Introduction & Motivation

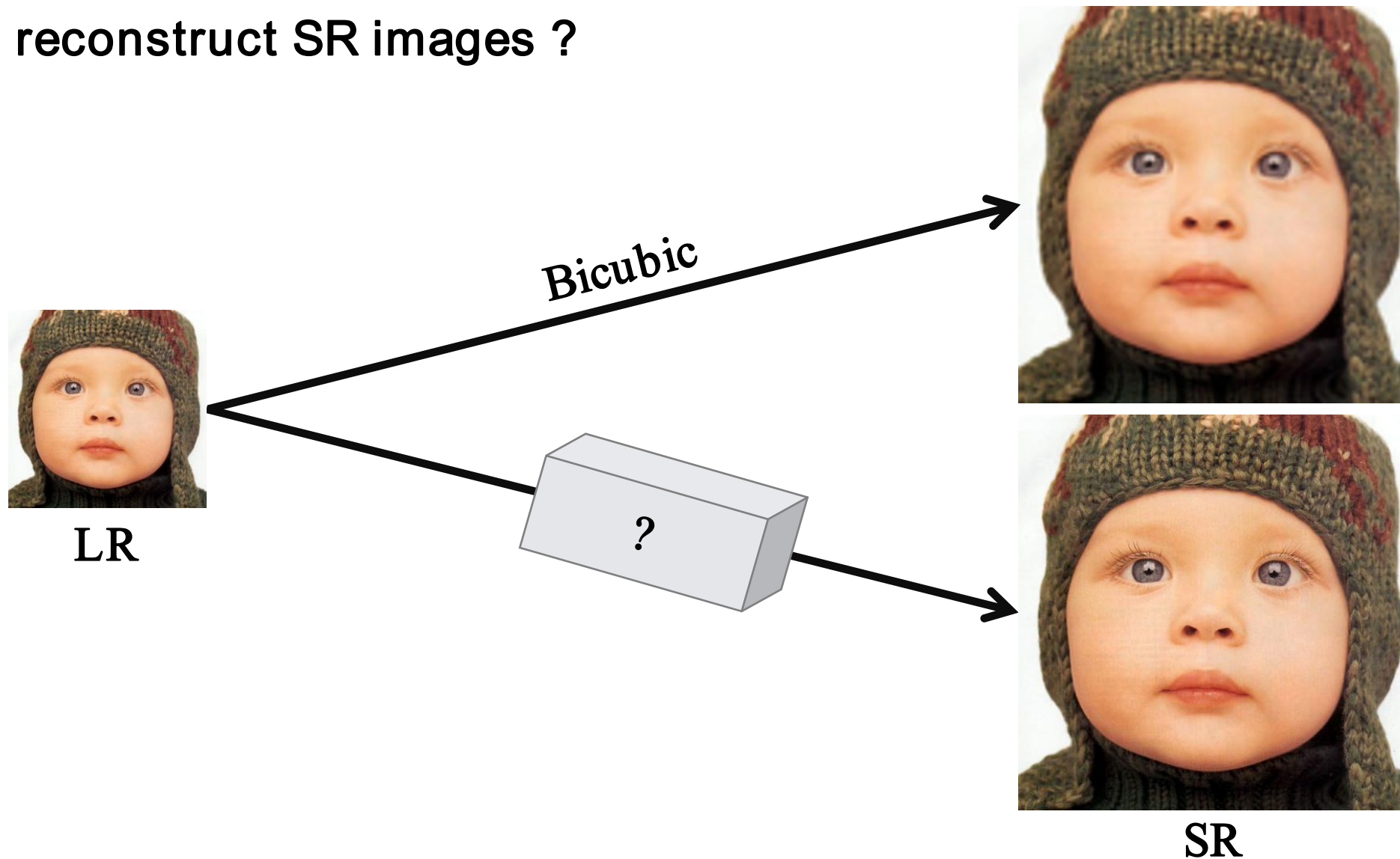
What is SISR ?

Single Image Super-Resolution (SISR) aims to **reconstruct a super-resolution (SR) image from its degraded low-resolution (LR) one**, which is receiving increasing attention in academia and industry.

What is the role of SISR ?

SISR has been widely used for computer vision tasks such as **medical image enhancement, video superresolution, and facial illusion**. The quality of SR images largely affects the accuracy of image recognition and segmentation tasks.

How to reconstruct SR images ?



How to reconstruct SR image ?

SRCNN / VDSR / SRResNet / EDSR / RDN / MSRN / RCAN



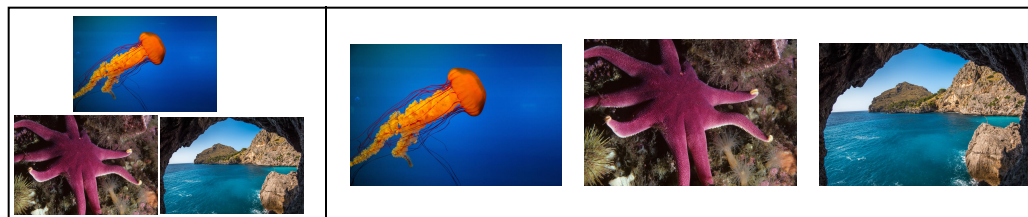
LR



training



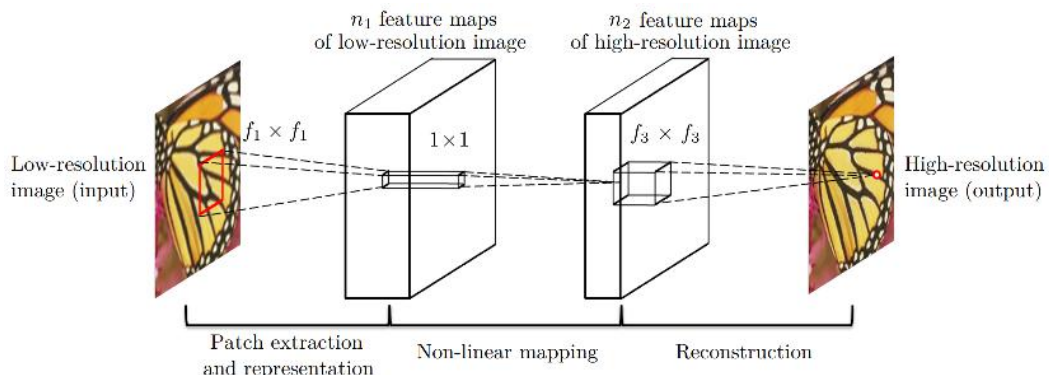
HR/SR



Introduction & Motivation

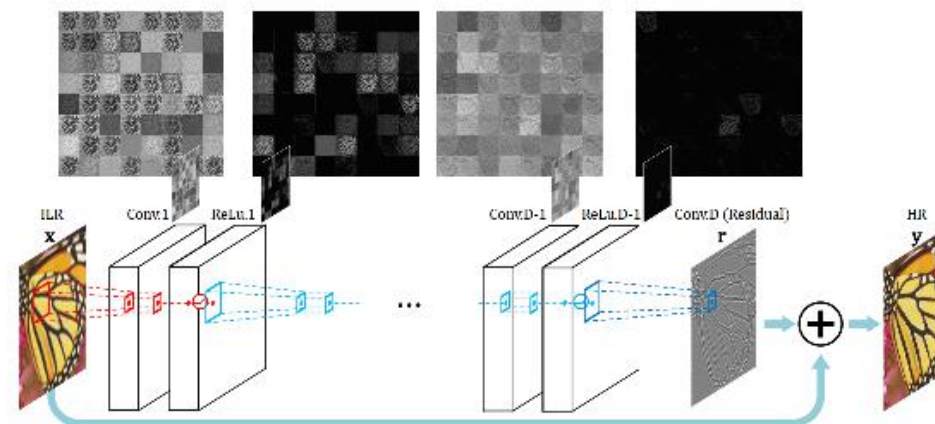


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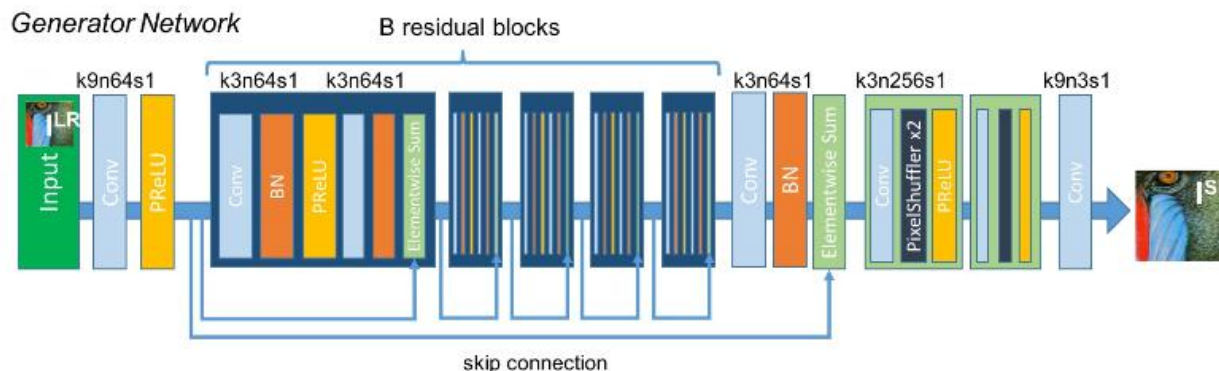
SRCNN

Chao Dong, Chen Change Loy, Kaiming He, and Xiaoou Tang.
Learning a deep convolutional network for image super resolution.



VDSR

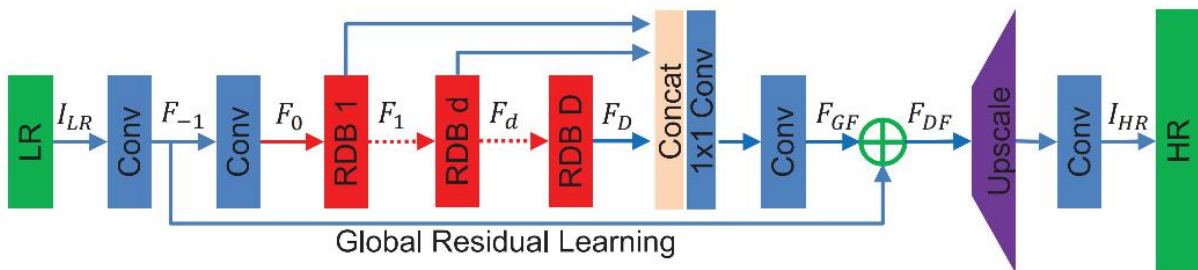
Jiwon Kim, Jung Kwon Lee, and Kyoung Mu Lee. *Accurate image super-resolution using very deep convolutional networks.*



SRResNet

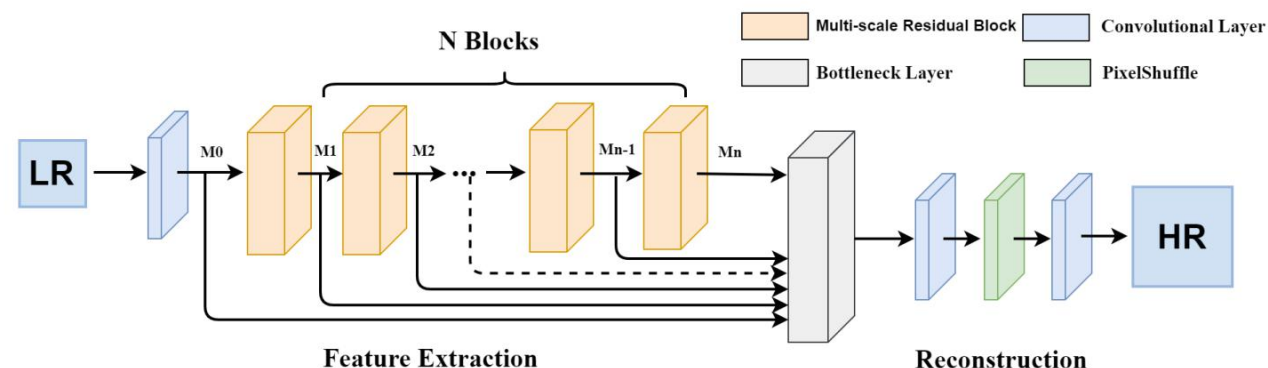
Christian Ledig, Lucas Theis, Ferenc Huszar, Jose Caballero, Andrew Cunningham. *Photo-Realistic Single Image Super-Resolution Using a Generative Adversarial Network*

Introduction & Motivation



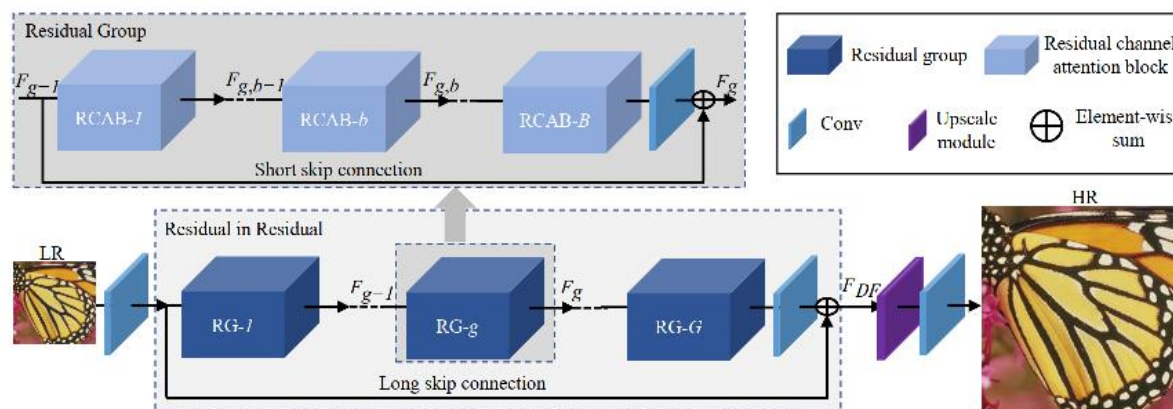
RDN

Yulun Zhang, Yapeng Tian, Yu Kong, Bineng Zhong, Yun Fu.
Residual Dense Network for Image Super-Resolution



MSRN

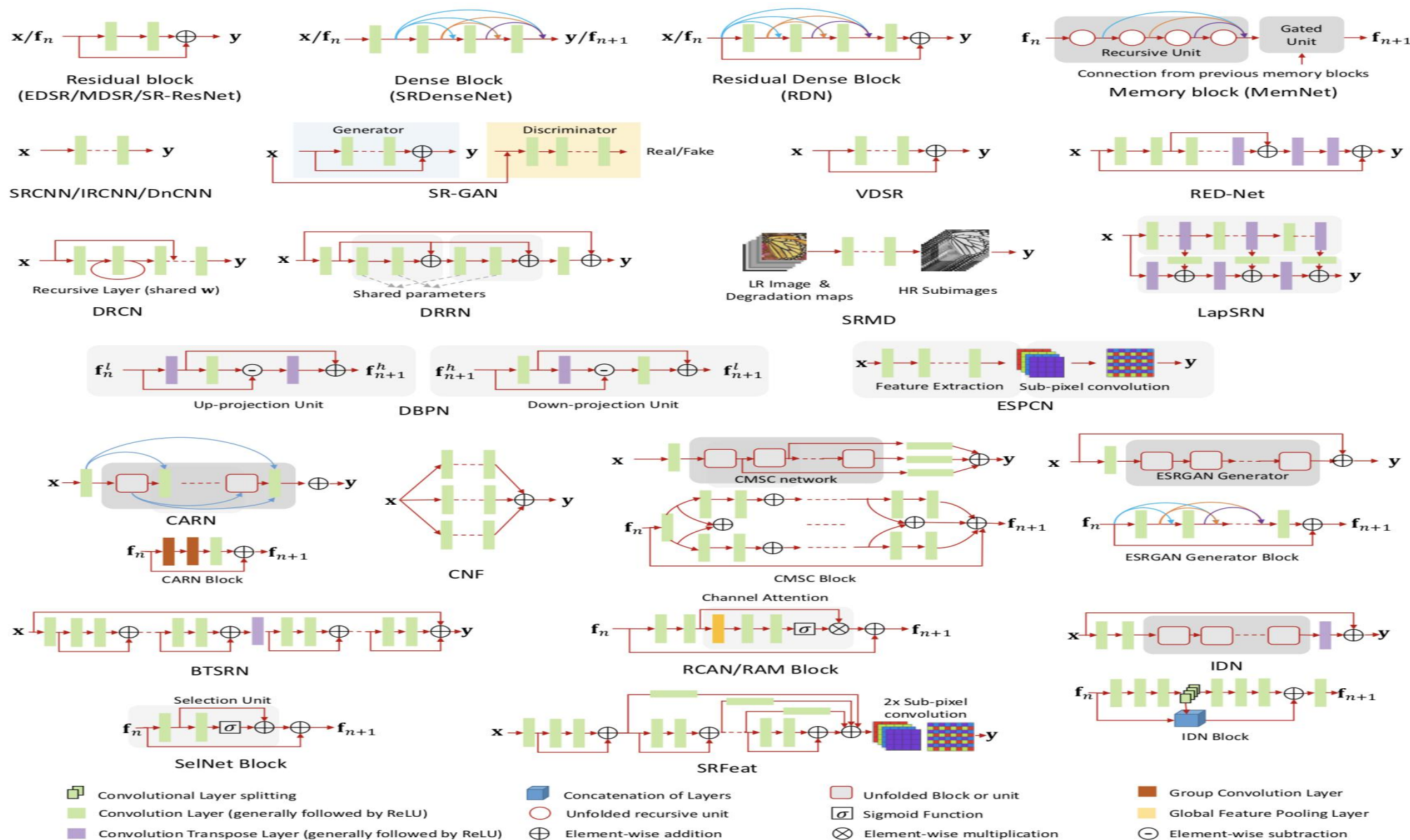
Juncheng Li, Faming Fang, Kangfu Mei, Guixu Zhang.
Multi-scale Residual Network for Image Super-Resolution



RCAN

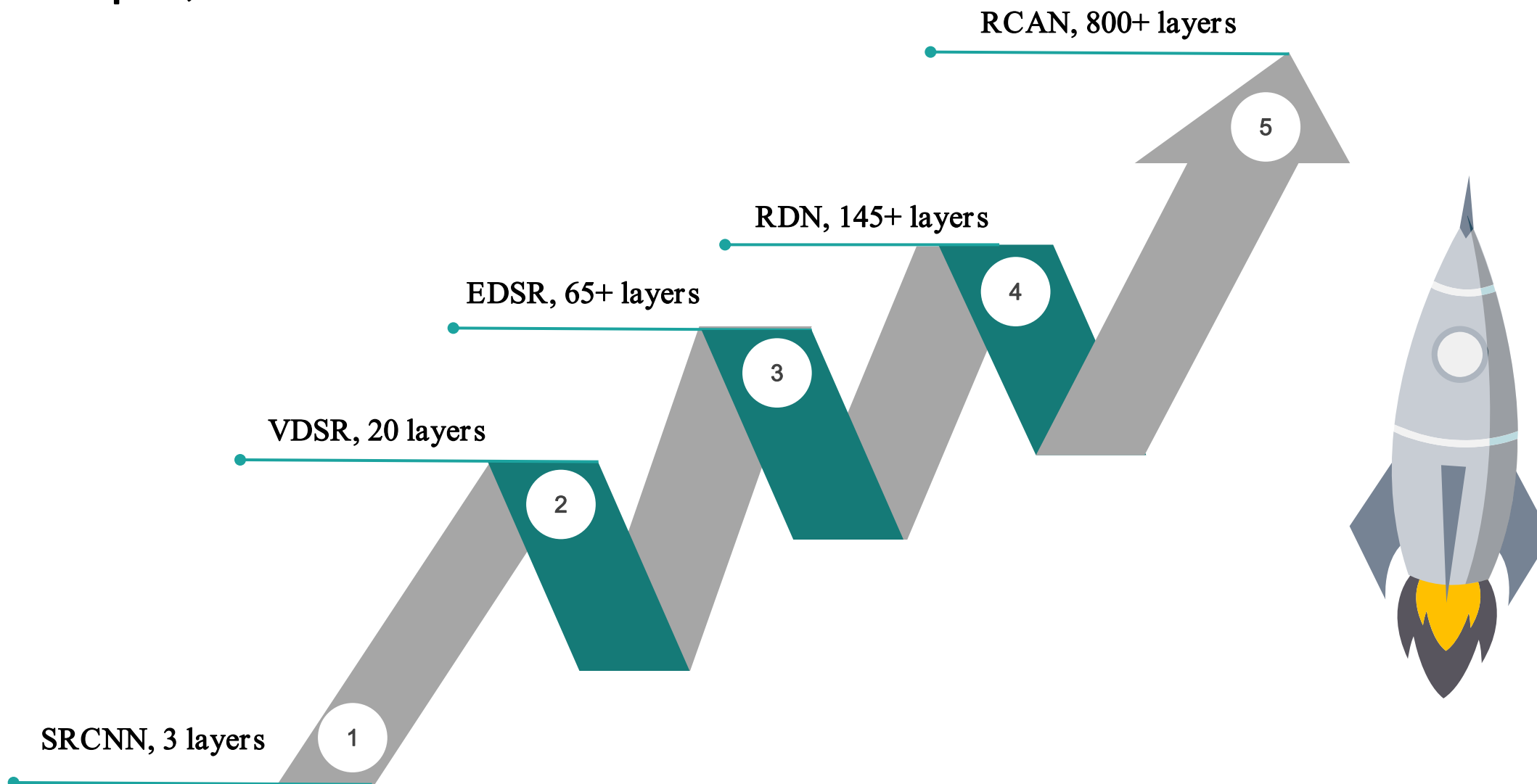
Yulun Zhang, Kunpeng Li, Kai Li, Lichen Wang, Bineng Zhong, and Yun Fu.
Image Super-Resolution Using Very Deep Residual Channel Attention Networks.

Introduction & Motivation



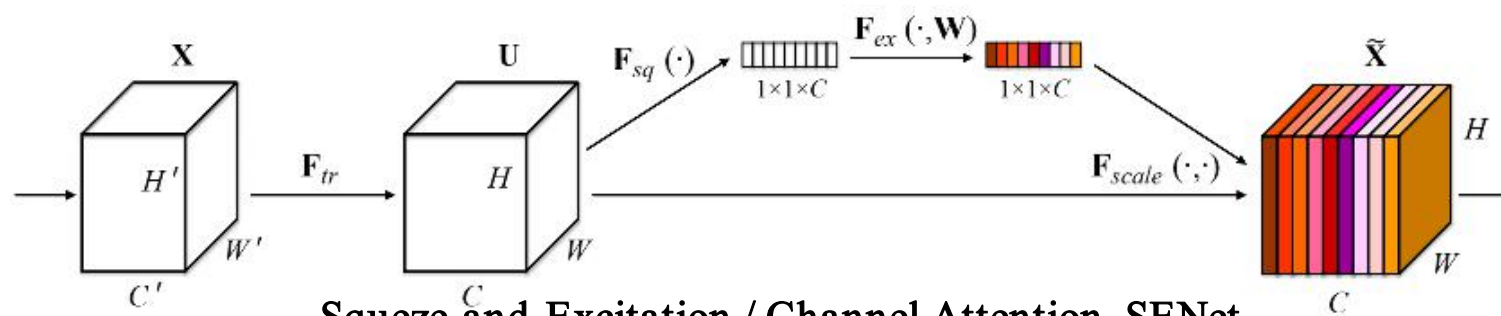


The deeper, the better ?





Channel attention mechanism necessary for SISR ?



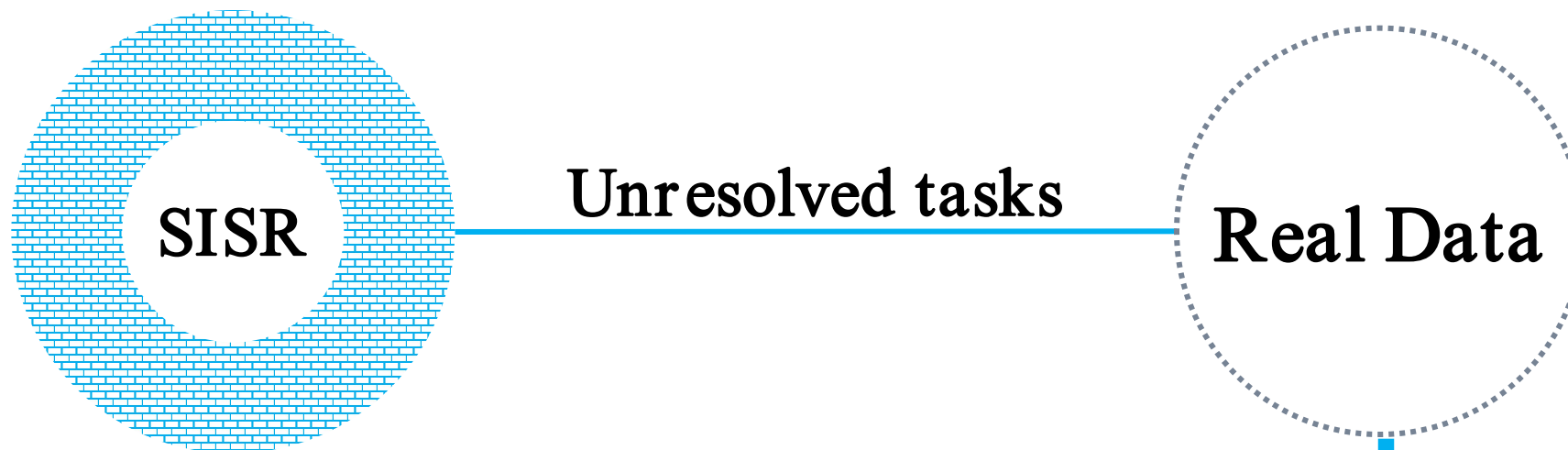
Squeeze-and-Excitation / Channel Attention, SENet

Jie Hu, Li Shen, Gang Sun. Squeeze-and-Excitation Networks.

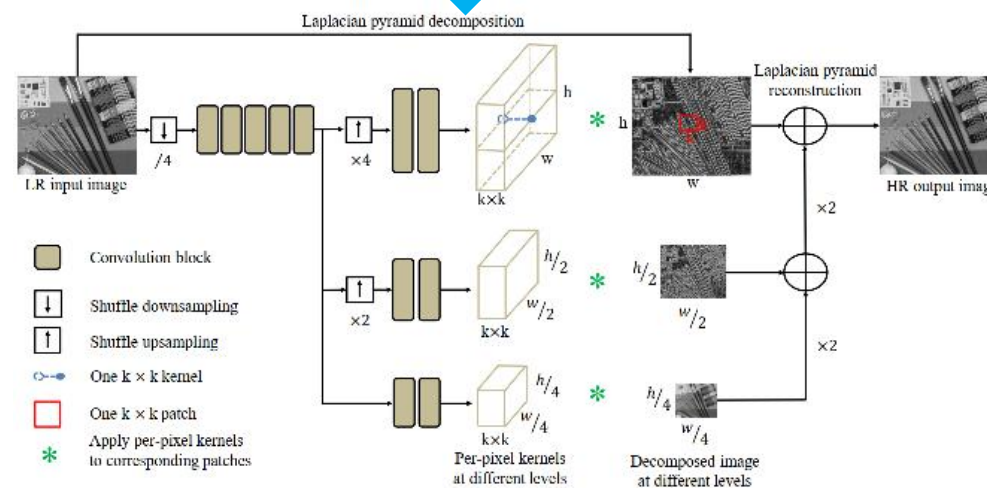
Method	RIRN($\times 2$)		RCAN($\times 2$) 50	
	PSNR/SSIM	Time (s)	PSNR/SSIM	Time (s)
Set5	38.24/0.9613	0.21s	38.26/0.9615	0.60s
Set14	33.91/0.9206	0.33s	33.98/0.9210	1.11s
BSD100	32.37/0.9021	0.24s	32.39/0.9024	0.75s
Urban100	33.10/0.9370	1.04s	33.24/0.9377	3.78s
Manga109	39.31/0.9784	1.22s	39.37/0.9785	4.55s
Average	35.39/0.9399	0.61s	35.45/0.9402	2.16s

Table 1. The performance comparison with and without the CAM.

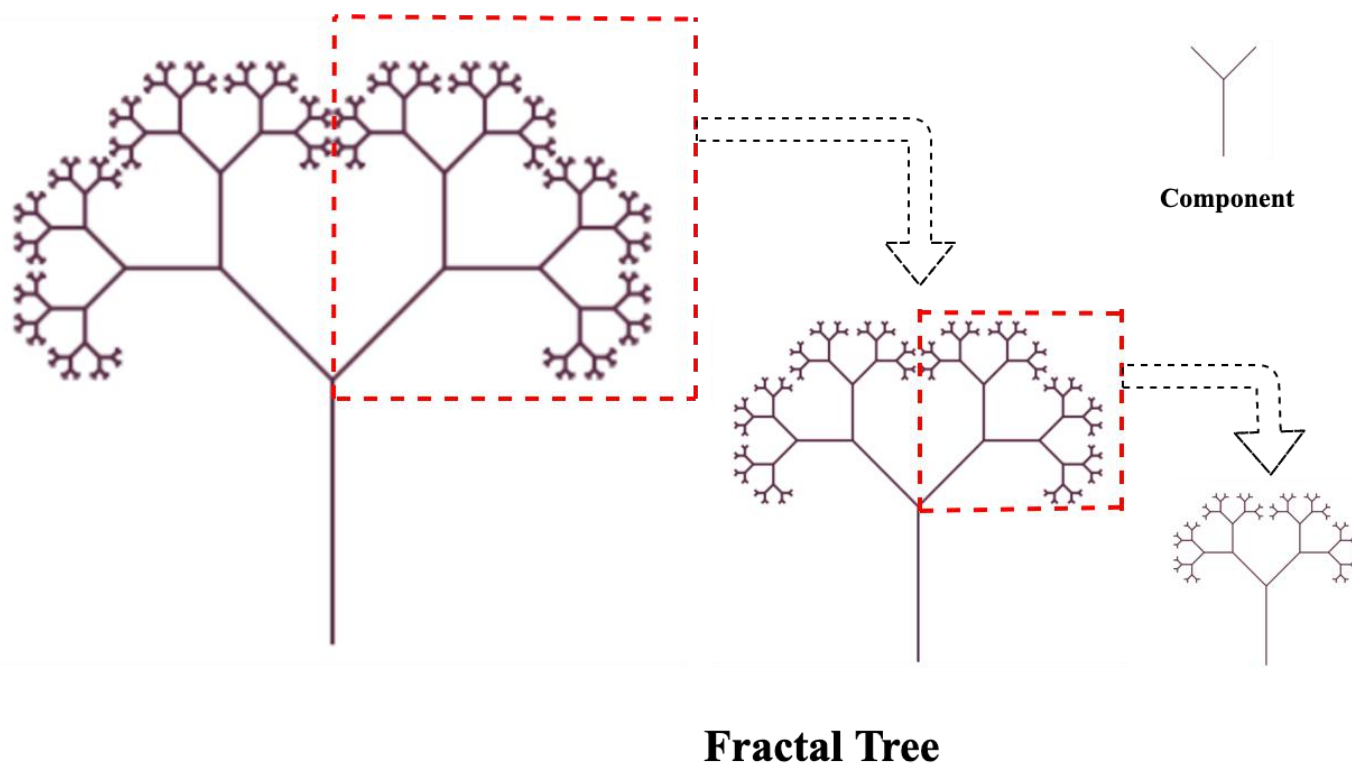
Previous works on simulating degradation models still meaningful ?



RealSR:



How to design a network with infinite possibilities ?



The fractal structure was proposed by B.B.Mandelbrot in 1973, which is usually defined as “**a rough or fragmentary geometry, it can be divided into several parts, and each part is (at least approximately) an overall reduced shape**”. It has the following characteristics:

- (a). self similarity
- (b). infinitely fine structure
- (c). can be defined by a simple method and generated by recursion and iteration.

Motivation:

- 1、 We aim to explore a **lightweight** and **accurate** SISR framework.
 - 2、 We aim to simplify the design of network structure by introducing the **fractal structure**.
-

Contribution:

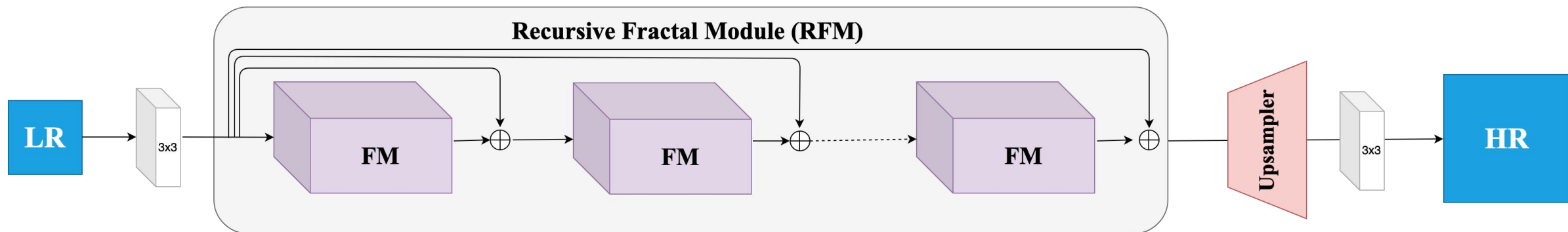
- A. We propose a **fractal module (FM)** to **simplify the model design**, which can generate an infinite number of new structures via a simple component. Meanwhile, the fractal structure **can be easily integrated with modern modules to create unlimited possibilities**.
- B. We develop a **Super Resolution Recursive Fractal Network**, which introduces the **fractal module** and **recursive learning mechanism** to maximize the model performance.
- C. SRRFN achieves superior results with **fewer parameters** and **faster execution time**. Especially, it **achieves state-of-the-art results in BD and DN degrade models**.



02

Method : SRRFN

Lightweight and Accurate Recursive Fractal Network
for Image Super-Resolution



$$L'_{in} = F_{in}(I_{LR}),$$

$$L'_{out} = F_{RFM}(L'_{in}),$$

$$L_{sr} = F_{UP}(L'_{out}),$$

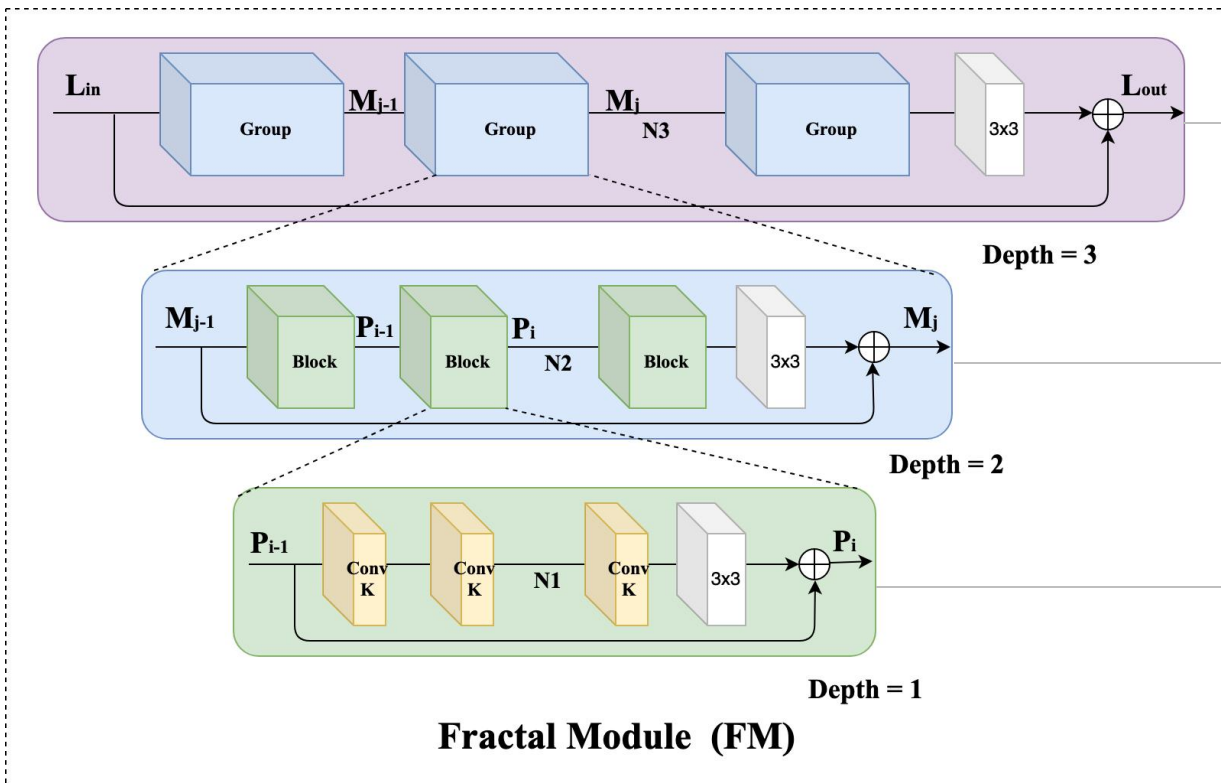
$$I_{SR} = F_{out}(L_{sr}).$$

Loss function:

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|F_{\theta}(I_{LR}^i) - I_{HR}^i\|_1$$

Method: SRRFN

Fractal Module (FM):

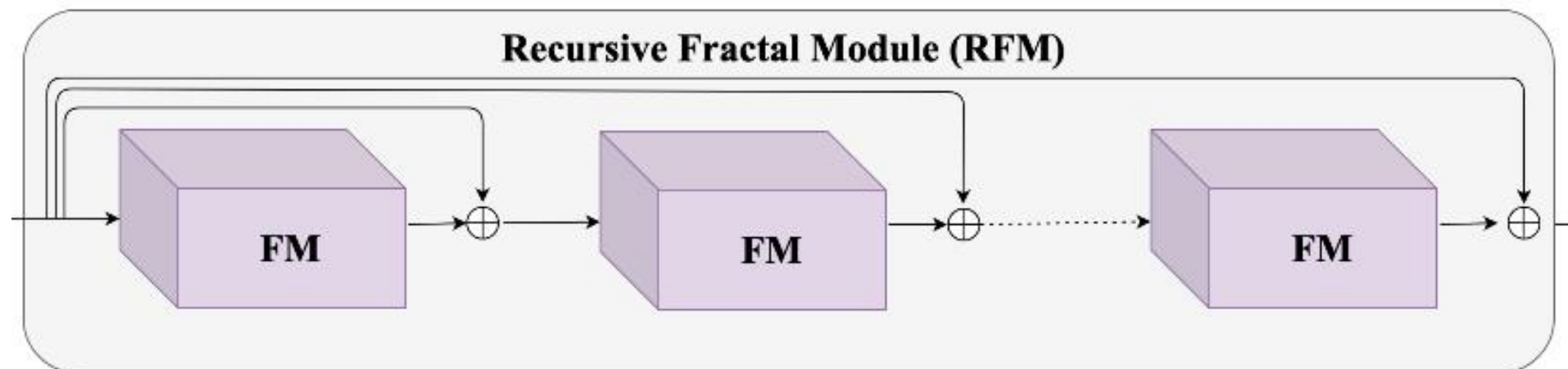


$$L_{out} = C_{3 \times 3}^{d3}(G_{N_3}(\dots(G_1(L_{in}))\dots)) + L_{in}$$

$$M_j = C_{3 \times 3}^{d2}(B_{N_2}(\dots(B_1(M_{j-1}))\dots)) + M_{j-1}$$

$$P_i = C_{3 \times 3}^{d1}(C_{N_1}(\dots(C_1(P_{i-1}))\dots)) + P_{i-1}$$

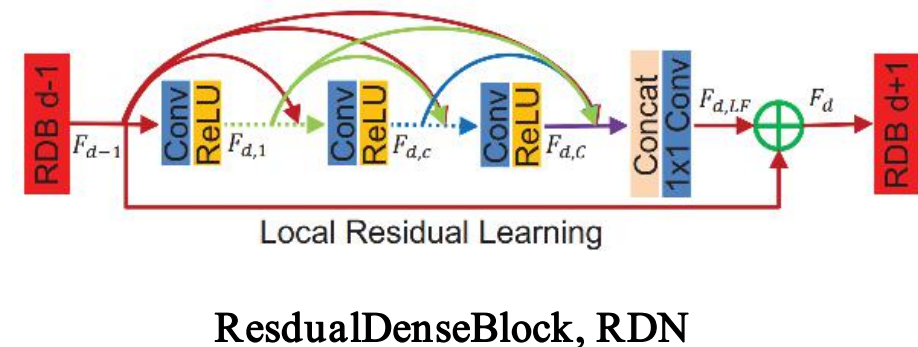
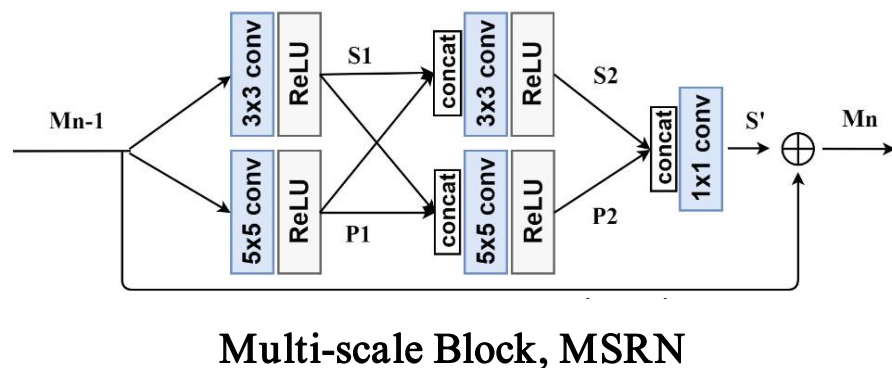
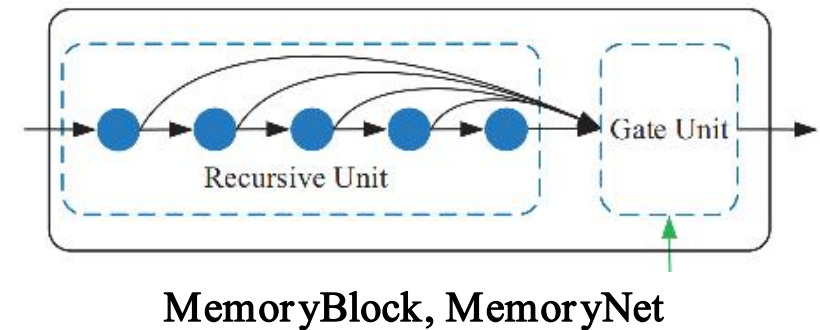
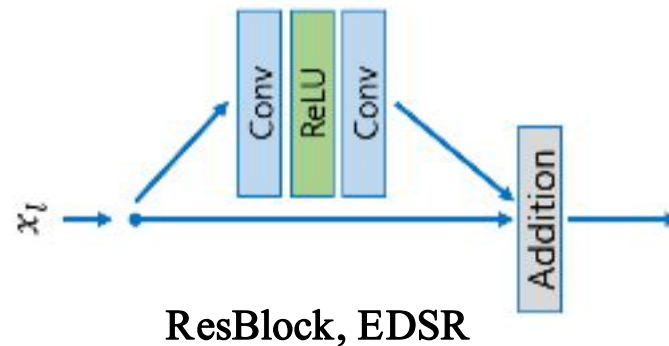
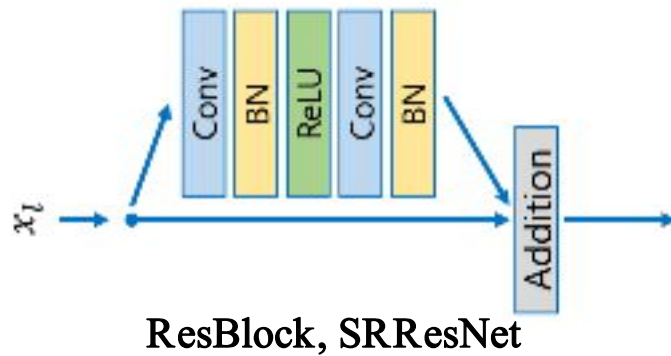
Recursive Mechanism (RM):



$$L^s = F_{FM}(L^{s-1}) + L^0$$

Method: SRRFN

Integration with Modern Modules:





03

Experiments

Experiments



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BI:

Algorithm	Scale	Set5 [3]	Set14 [45]	BSDS100 [2]	Urban100 [15]	Manga109 [31]	Average
		PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM
Bicubic	×2	33.66 / 0.9299	30.24 / 0.8688	29.56 / 0.8431	26.88 / 0.8403	30.80 / 0.9339	30.23 / 0.8832
SRCNN [6]	×2	36.66 / 0.9542	32.45 / 0.9067	31.36 / 0.8879	29.50 / 0.8946	35.60 / 0.9663	33.11 / 0.9219
LapSRN [21]	×2	37.52 / 0.9591	33.08 / 0.9130	31.80 / 0.8950	30.41 / 0.9101	37.27 / 0.9740	34.02 / 0.9302
VDSR [18]	×2	37.53 / 0.9590	33.05 / 0.9130	31.90 / 0.8960	30.77 / 0.9140	37.22 / 0.9750	34.09 / 0.9314
MemNet [35]	×2	37.78 / 0.9597	33.28 / 0.9142	32.08 / 0.8978	31.31 / 0.9195	37.72 / 0.9740	34.43 / 0.9330
SRMDNF [47]	×2	37.79 / 0.9601	33.32 / 0.9159	32.05 / 0.8985	31.33 / 0.9204	38.07 / 0.9761	34.51 / 0.9342
MSRN [24]	×2	38.07 / 0.9608	33.68 / 0.9184	32.22 / 0.9002	32.32 / 0.9304	38.64 / 0.9771	34.99 / 0.9374
D_DBPN [1]	×2	38.09 / 0.9600	33.85 / 0.9190	32.27 / 0.9000	32.55 / 0.9324	38.89 / 0.9775	35.13 / 0.9378
MDSR [26]	×2	38.11 / 0.9602	33.85 / 0.9198	32.29 / 0.9007	32.84 / 0.9347	38.96 / 0.9776	35.21 / 0.9386
EDSR [26]	×2	38.11 / 0.9602	33.92 / 0.9195	32.32 / 0.9013	32.93 / 0.9351	39.10 / 0.9773	35.27 / 0.9387
RDN [51]	×2	38.24 / 0.9614	34.01 / 0.9212	32.34 / 0.9017	32.89 / 0.9353	39.18 / 0.9780	35.33 / 0.9395
SRRFN (Ours)	×2	38.18 / 0.9612	33.97 / 0.9210	32.35 / 0.9018	33.04 / 0.9361	39.23 / 0.9781	35.35 / 0.9396
SRRFN+ (Ours)	×2	38.24 / 0.9614	34.13 / 0.9224	32.39 / 0.9023	33.24 / 0.9378	39.43 / 0.9786	33.49 / 0.9405
Bicubic	×3	30.39 / 0.8682	27.55 / 0.7742	27.21 / 0.7385	24.46 / 0.7349	26.95 / 0.8556	27.31 / 0.7943
SRCNN [6]	×3	32.75 / 0.9090	29.30 / 0.8215	28.41 / 0.7863	26.24 / 0.7989	30.48 / 0.9117	29.44 / 0.8455
VDSR [18]	×3	33.67 / 0.9210	29.78 / 0.8320	28.83 / 0.7990	27.14 / 0.8290	32.01 / 0.9340	30.29 / 0.8630
LapSRN [21]	×3	33.82 / 0.9227	29.87 / 0.8320	28.82 / 0.7980	27.07 / 0.8280	32.21 / 0.9350	30.36 / 0.8631
MemNet [37]	×3	34.09 / 0.9248	30.00 / 0.8350	28.96 / 0.8001	27.56 / 0.8376	32.51 / 0.9369	30.62 / 0.8669
SRMDNF [47]	×3	34.12 / 0.9254	30.04 / 0.8382	28.97 / 0.8025	27.57 / 0.8398	33.00 / 0.9403	30.74 / 0.8692
MSRN [24]	×3	34.48 / 0.9276	30.40 / 0.8436	29.13 / 0.8061	28.31 / 0.8560	33.56 / 0.9451	31.18 / 0.8757
MDSR [26]	×3	34.66 / 0.9280	30.44 / 0.8452	29.25 / 0.8091	28.79 / 0.8655	34.17 / 0.9472	31.46 / 0.8790
EDSR [26]	×3	34.65 / 0.9280	30.52 / 0.8462	29.25 / 0.8093	28.80 / 0.8653	34.17 / 0.9476	31.48 / 0.8793
RDN [51]	×3	34.71 / 0.9296	30.57 / 0.8468	29.26 / 0.8093	28.80 / 0.8653	34.13 / 0.9484	31.49 / 0.8799
SRRFN (Ours)	×3	34.74 / 0.9296	30.62 / 0.8478	29.29 / 0.8100	28.98 / 0.8689	34.36 / 0.9491	31.60 / 0.8811
SRRFN+ (Ours)	×3	34.84 / 0.9303	30.70 / 0.8490	29.35 / 0.8110	29.21 / 0.8721	34.66 / 0.9505	31.75 / 0.8826
Bicubic	×4	28.42 / 0.8104	26.00 / 0.7027	25.96 / 0.6675	23.14 / 0.6577	24.89 / 0.7866	25.62 / 0.7250
SRCNN [6]	×4	30.48 / 0.8628	27.50 / 0.7513	26.90 / 0.7101	24.52 / 0.7221	27.58 / 0.8555	27.40 / 0.7804
VDSR [18]	×4	31.35 / 0.8830	28.02 / 0.7680	27.29 / 0.7267	25.18 / 0.7540	28.83 / 0.8870	28.13 / 0.8037
LapSRN [21]	×4	31.54 / 0.8850	28.19 / 0.7720	27.32 / 0.7270	25.21 / 0.7560	29.09 / 0.8900	28.27 / 0.8060
MemNet [37]	×4	31.74 / 0.8893	28.26 / 0.7723	27.40 / 0.7281	25.50 / 0.7630	29.42 / 0.8942	28.46 / 0.8094
SRMDNF [47]	×4	31.96 / 0.8925	28.35 / 0.7787	27.49 / 0.7337	25.68 / 0.7731	30.09 / 0.9024	28.71 / 0.8161
MSRN [24]	×4	32.25 / 0.8958	28.63 / 0.7833	27.61 / 0.7377	26.20 / 0.7905	30.57 / 0.9103	29.05 / 0.8235
D_DBPN [10]	×4	32.47 / 0.8980	28.82 / 0.7860	27.72 / 0.7400	26.38 / 0.7946	30.91 / 0.9137	29.26 / 0.8265
RDN [51]	×4	32.47 / 0.8990	28.81 / 0.7871	27.72 / 0.7419	26.61 / 0.8028	31.00 / 0.9151	29.32 / 0.8292
EDSR [26]	×4	32.46 / 0.8968	28.80 / 0.7876	27.71 / 0.7420	26.64 / 0.8033	31.02 / 0.9148	29.33 / 0.8289
MDSR [26]	×4	32.50 / 0.8973	28.72 / 0.7857	27.72 / 0.7418	26.67 / 0.8041	31.11 / 0.9146	29.34 / 0.8287
SRRFN (Ours)	×4	32.56 / 0.8993	28.86 / 0.7882	27.75 / 0.7424	26.78 / 0.8071	31.22 / 0.9159	29.43 / 0.8306
SRRFN+ (Ours)	×4	32.66 / 0.9006	28.95 / 0.7900	27.81 / 0.7437	26.98 / 0.8113	31.56 / 0.9190	29.59 / 0.8329

Experiments



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BI:

Algorithm	Scale	Set5 [3]	Set14 [45]	BSDS100 [2]	Urban100 [15]	Manga109 [31]	Average
		PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM
DRCN [19]	×2	37.63 / 0.9584	33.06 / 0.9108	31.85 / 0.8947	30.76 / 0.9147	37.63 / 0.9723	34.19 / 0.9302
MS-LapSRN [22]	×2	37.78 / 0.9600	33.28 / 0.9150	32.05 / 0.8980	31.15 / 0.9190	37.78 / 0.9760	34.41 / 0.9336
DRRN [35]	×2	37.74 / 0.9590	33.23 / 0.9140	32.05 / 0.8970	31.23 / 0.9190	37.92 / 0.9760	34.43 / 0.9330
SRFBN [25]	×2	38.11 / 0.9609	33.82 / 0.9196	32.29 / 0.9010	32.62 / 0.9328	39.08 / 0.9779	35.18 / 0.9384
SRRFN (Ours)	×2	38.18 / 0.9612	33.97 / 0.9210	32.35 / 0.9018	33.04 / 0.9361	39.23 / 0.9781	35.35 / 0.9396
DRCN [19]	×3	33.85 / 0.9215	29.89 / 0.8317	28.81 / 0.7954	27.16 / 0.8311	32.31 / 0.9328	30.40 / 0.8625
MS-LapSRN [22]	×3	34.06 / 0.9240	29.97 / 0.8360	28.93 / 0.8020	27.47 / 0.8370	32.68 / 0.9390	30.62 / 0.8676
DRRN [35]	×3	34.03 / 0.9240	29.96 / 0.8350	28.95 / 0.8000	27.53 / 0.7640	32.74 / 0.9390	30.64 / 0.8524
SRFBN [25]	×3	34.70 / 0.9292	30.51 / 0.8461	29.24 / 0.8084	28.73 / 0.8641	34.18 / 0.9481	31.47 / 0.8792
SRRFN (Ours)	×3	34.74 / 0.9296	30.62 / 0.8478	29.29 / 0.8100	28.98 / 0.8689	34.36 / 0.9491	31.60 / 0.8811
DRCN [19]	×4	31.56 / 0.8810	28.15 / 0.7627	27.24 / 0.7150	25.15 / 0.7530	28.98 / 0.8816	28.22 / 0.7987
DRRN [35]	×4	31.68 / 0.8888	28.21 / 0.7722	27.38 / 0.7240	25.44 / 0.7640	29.46 / 0.8960	28.43 / 0.8090
MS-LapSRN [22]	×4	31.74 / 0.8890	28.26 / 0.7740	27.43 / 0.7310	25.51 / 0.7680	29.54 / 0.8970	28.50 / 0.8118
SRFBN [25]	×4	32.47 / 0.8983	28.81 / 0.7868	27.72 / 0.7409	26.60 / 0.8015	31.15 / 0.9160	29.35 / 0.8287
SRRFN (Ours)	×4	32.56 / 0.8993	28.86 / 0.7882	27.75 / 0.7424	26.78 / 0.8071	31.22 / 0.9159	29.43 / 0.8318








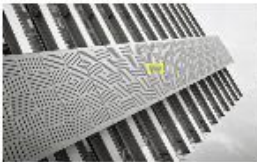






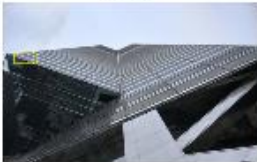






BD:







Model	Methods	Set5	Set14	BSDS100	Urban100	Manga109	Average
		PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM	PSNR / SSIM
BD	Bicubic	28.34 / 0.8161	26.12 / 0.7106	26.02 / 0.6733	23.20 / 0.6601	25.03 / 0.7987	25.74 / 0.7318
	SRCNN [6]	31.63 / 0.8888	28.52 / 0.7924	27.76 / 0.7526	25.31 / 0.7612	28.79 / 0.8851	28.40 / 0.8159
	VDSR [18]	33.30 / 0.9159	29.67 / 0.8269	28.63 / 0.7903	26.75 / 0.8145	31.66 / 0.9260	30.00 / 0.8547
	SRMD(NF) [47]	34.09 / 0.9242	30.11 / 0.8364	28.98 / 0.8009	27.50 / 0.8370	32.97 / 0.9391	30.73 / 0.8675
	RDN [51]	34.57 / 0.9280	30.53 / 0.8447	29.23 / 0.8079	28.46 / 0.8581	33.97 / 0.9465	31.35 / 0.8770
	SRFBN [25]	34.66 / 0.9283	30.48 / 0.8439	29.21 / 0.8069	28.48 / 0.8581	34.07 / 0.9466	31.38 / 0.8768
	RCAN [50]	34.70 / 0.9288	30.63 / 0.8462	29.32 / 0.8093	28.81 / 0.8647	34.38 / 0.9483	31.57 / 0.8795
	SRRFN (Ours)	34.77 / 0.9293	30.67 / 0.8469	29.31 / 0.8096	28.85 / 0.8653	34.51 / 0.9489	31.62 / 0.8800
SRRFN+ (Ours)	34.86 / 0.9299	30.76 / 0.8479	29.36 / 0.8105	29.06 / 0.8682	34.80 / 0.9502	31.77 / 0.8813	
DN	Bicubic	24.14 / 0.5445	23.14 / 0.4828	22.94 / 0.4461	21.63 / 0.4701	23.08 / 0.5448	22.99 / 0.4977
	SRCNN [6]	27.16 / 0.7672	25.49 / 0.6580	25.11 / 0.6151	23.32 / 0.6500	25.78 / 0.7889	25.37 / 0.6958
	VDSR [18]	27.72 / 0.7872	25.92 / 0.6786	25.52 / 0.6345	23.83 / 0.6797	26.41 / 0.8130	25.88 / 0.7186
	SRMD(NF) [47]	27.74 / 0.8026	26.13 / 0.6974	25.64 / 0.6495	24.28 / 0.7092	26.72 / 0.8424	26.10 / 0.7402
	RDN [51]	28.46 / 0.8151	26.60 / 0.7101	25.93 / 0.6573	24.92 / 0.7362	28.00 / 0.8590	26.78 / 0.7555
	SRFBN [25]	28.53 / 0.8182	26.60 / 0.7144	25.95 / 0.6625	24.99 / 0.7424	28.02 / 0.8618	26.82 / 0.7599
	SRRFN (Ours)	28.57 / 0.8194	26.69 / 0.7155	25.98 / 0.6630	25.21 / 0.7506	28.21 / 0.8646	26.93 / 0.7626
	SRRFN+ (Ours)	28.66 / 0.8211	26.75 / 0.7169	26.02 / 0.6639	25.34 / 0.7538	28.37 / 0.8672	27.03 / 0.7646

DN:

Experiments

BI:

						
×2	21.40/0.6094	22.90/0.7197	24.08/0.7693	24.50/0.7866	24.42/0.7827	PSNR/SSIM
						
×3	17.32/0.5169	18.70/0.6358	20.58/0.7440	21.30/0.7708	21.49/0.7726	PSNR/SSIM
						
×4	20.45/0.6560	21.03/0.6989	22.37/0.7780	22.72/0.7954	23.10/0.8023	PSNR/SSIM
Method	Bicubic	SRCNN [6]	MSRN [24]	RCAN [50]	SRRFN (Ours)	Original (HR)

BD			
DN			
	HR	LR + bicubic	SRRFN



04

Investigation & Discussion

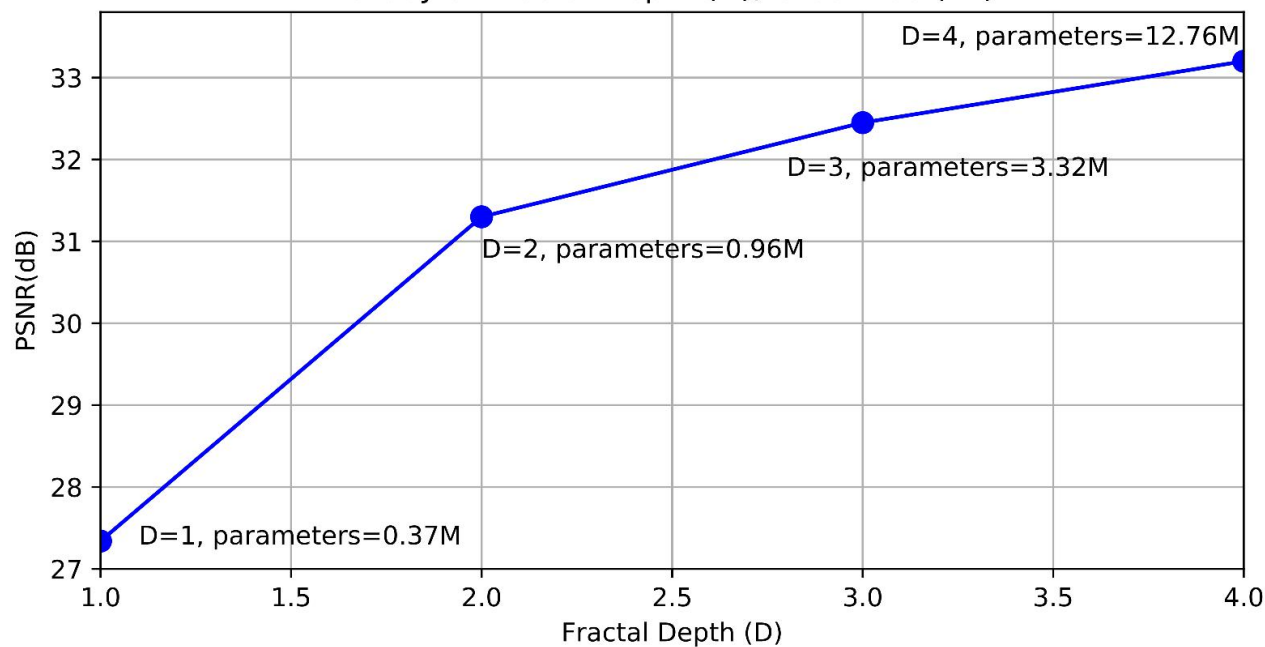
RCAN & SRRFN:

Algorithm	Scale	Parameters	Set5 [3]	Set14 [45]	BSDS100 [2]	Urban100 [15]	Manga109 [31]	Average
			PSNR / SSIM / Time	PSNR / SSIM / Time	PSNR / SSIM / Time	PSNR / SSIM / Time	PSNR / SSIM / Time	PSNR / SSIM / Time
RCAN [50]	×2	15.44M	38.27 / 0.9614 / 0.60s	34.12 / 0.9216 / 1.11s	32.41 / 0.9027 / 0.75s	33.34 / 0.9384 / 3.78s	39.44 / 0.9786 / 4.55s	35.52 / 0.9405 / 2.16s
SRRFN (Ours)	×2	4.06M	38.18 / 0.9612 / 0.21s	33.97 / 0.9210 / 0.35s	32.35 / 0.9018 / 0.24s	33.04 / 0.9361 / 1.07s	39.23 / 0.9781 / 1.25s	35.35 / 0.9396 / 0.61s
RCAN [50]	×3	15.63M	34.74 / 0.9299 / 0.34s	30.65 / 0.8482 / 0.55s	29.32 / 0.8111 / 0.41s	29.09 / 0.8702 / 1.89s	34.44 / 0.9499 / 2.33s	31.65 / 0.8818 / 1.10s
SRRFN (Ours)	×3	4.24M	34.74 / 0.9296 / 0.17s	30.62 / 0.8478 / 0.23s	29.29 / 0.8100 / 0.16s	28.98 / 0.8689 / 0.62s	34.36 / 0.9491 / 0.79s	31.60 / 0.8811 / 0.39s
RCAN [50]	×4	15.59M	32.63 / 0.9002 / 0.30s	28.87 / 0.7889 / 0.40s	27.77 / 0.7436 / 0.30s	26.82 / 0.8087 / 1.21s	31.22 / 0.9173 / 1.50s	29.46 / 0.8317 / 0.74s
SRRFN (Ours)	×4	4.21M	32.56 / 0.8993 / 0.16s	28.86 / 0.7882 / 0.19s	27.75 / 0.7424 / 0.16s	26.78 / 0.8071 / 0.47s	31.22 / 0.9159 / 0.58s	29.43 / 0.8318 / 0.31s

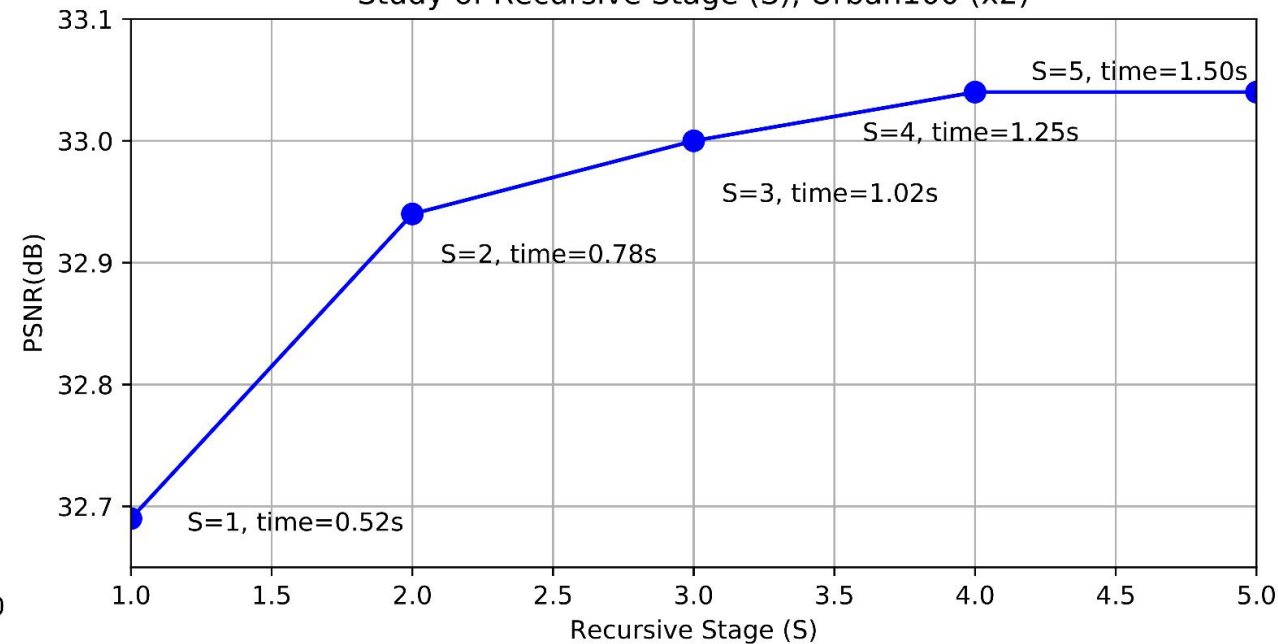
Quantitative comparisons (PSNR/SSIM, Parameters, and Execution time) with RCAN

Study of Fractal Depth (D) & Recursive Stage (S):

Study of Fractal Depth (D), Urban100 (x2)

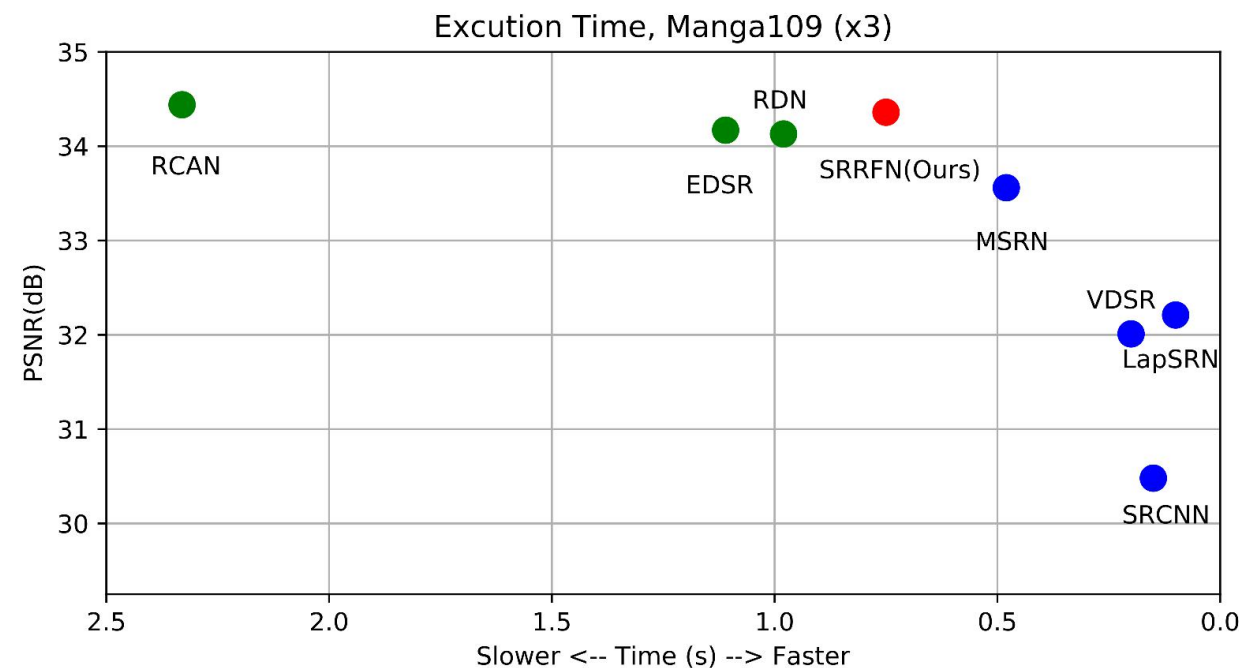
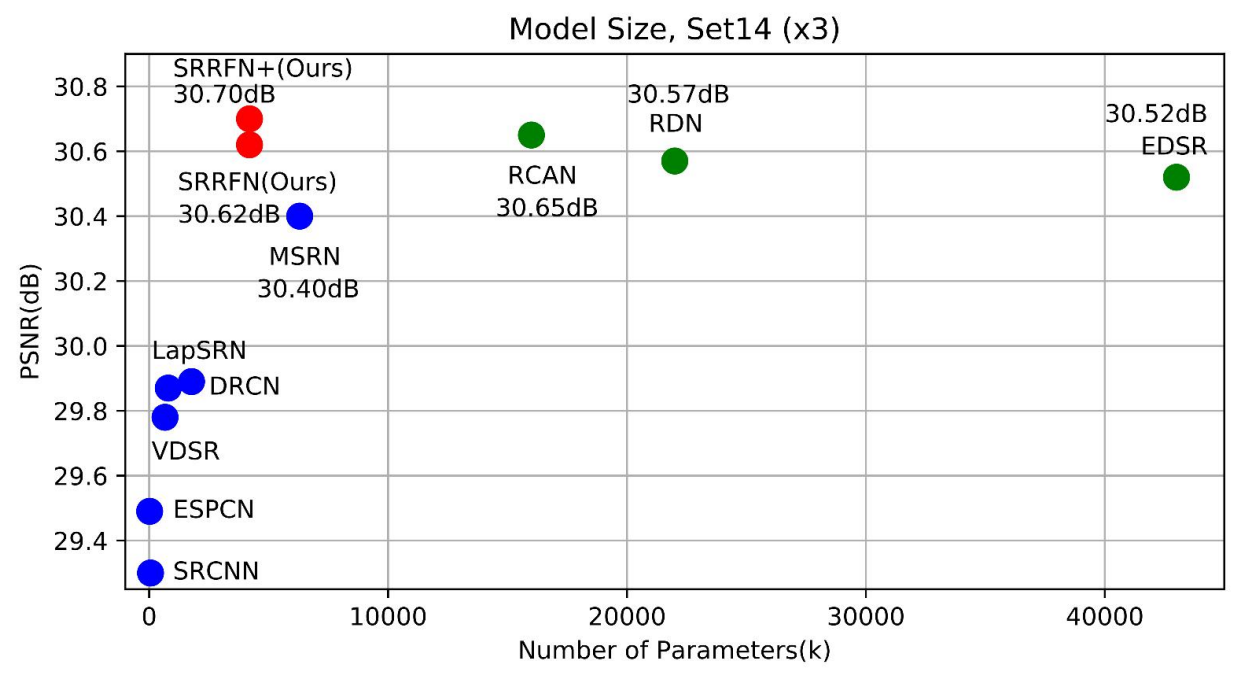


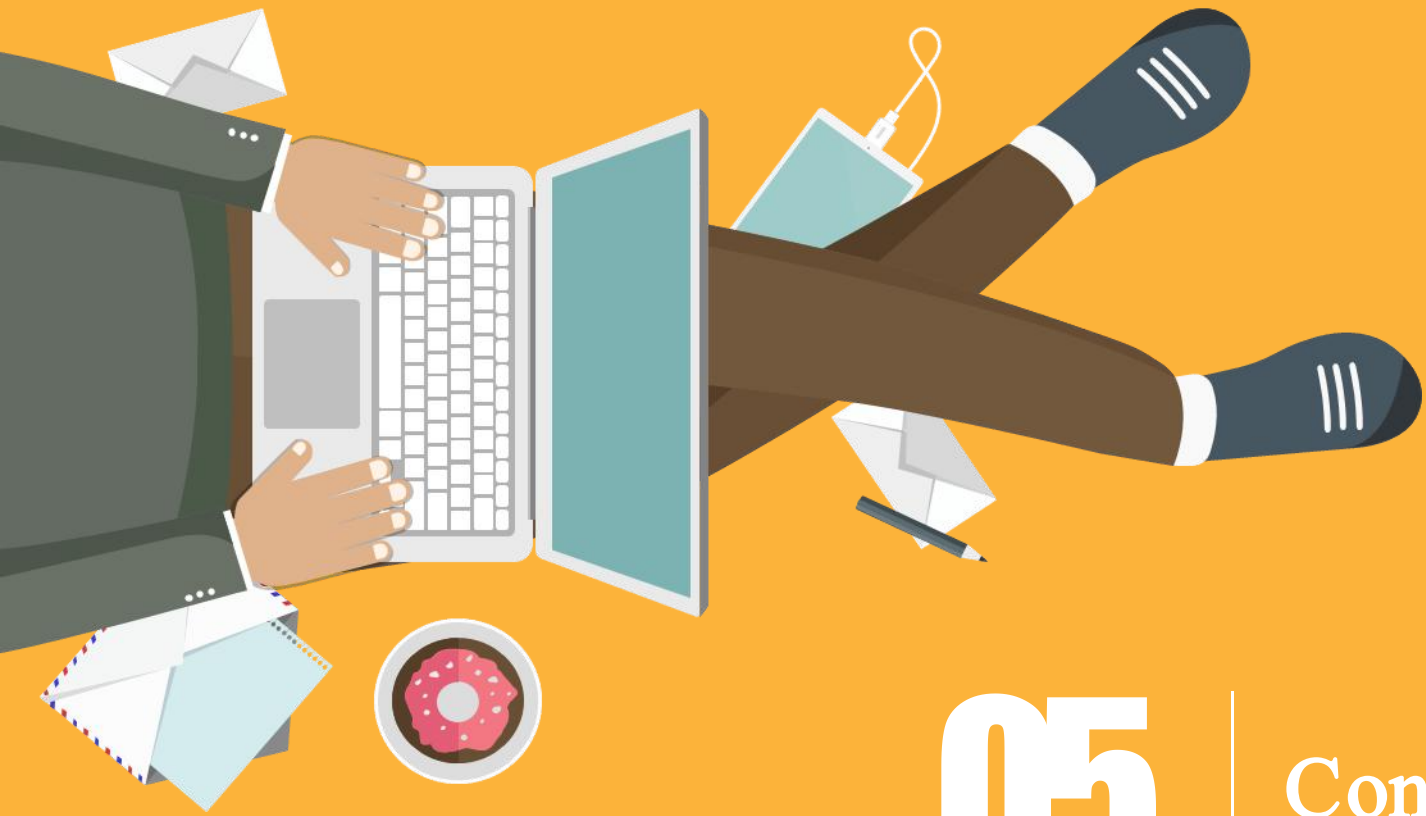
Study of Recursive Stage (S), Urban100 (x2)



Investigation & Discussion

Model Size and Execution Time:





05

Conclusion



We proposed a **Super-Resolution Recursive Fractal Network** (SRRFN). This is a **lightweight** and **accurate** SR framework.

SRRFN introduces the **fractal module** (FM) for feature extraction and uses **recursive mechanism** for recursive residual learning, which achieves competitive results with **fewer parameters** and **faster execution time**.



Benefits of SRRFN:

- 1、 The fractal module can greatly **simplifies the model design** and can **construct an infinite variety of topological structures** through a simple basic component.
- 2、 These topologies structure **provide a large number of search paths that enable the network to extract abundant image features** to reconstruct high-quality SR images.



Limitations of SRRFN:

- 1、 Which module to choose as the basic component ?
- 2、 How to set the fractal depth (D) as the final model depth?

AutoML + Fractal Module





THANKS

Q & A

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