



# Frequency-aware Generative Models for Multivariate Time Series Imputation

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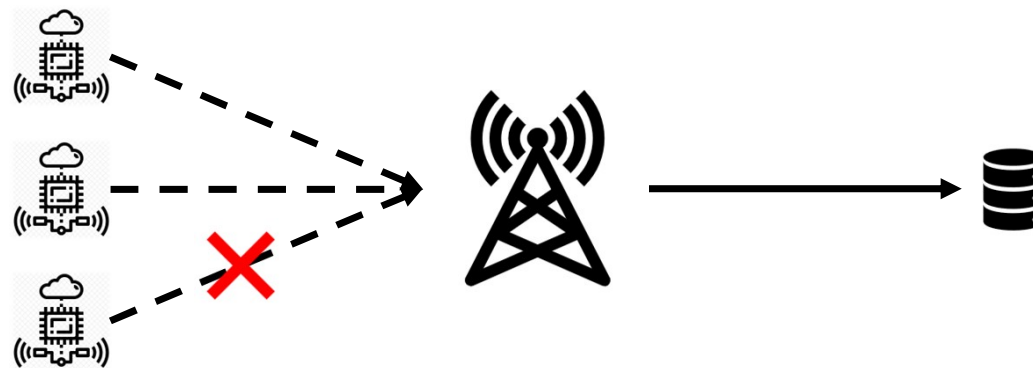
# Background

➤ Multivariate time series appear in many applications

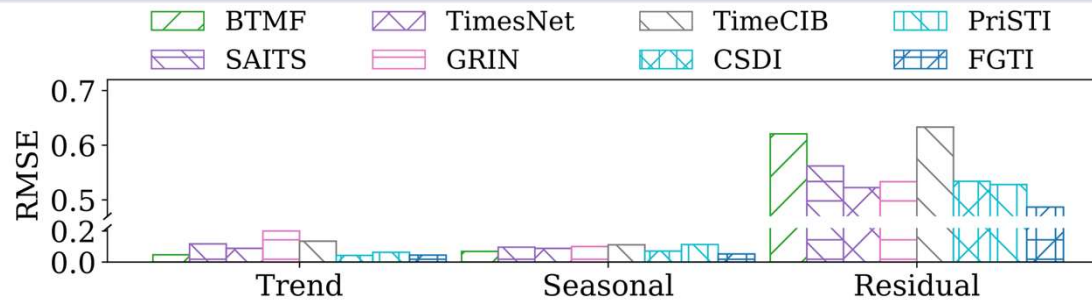
❑ e.g. Air Quality, Traffic, Healthcare

➤ Time Series data often contain missing values

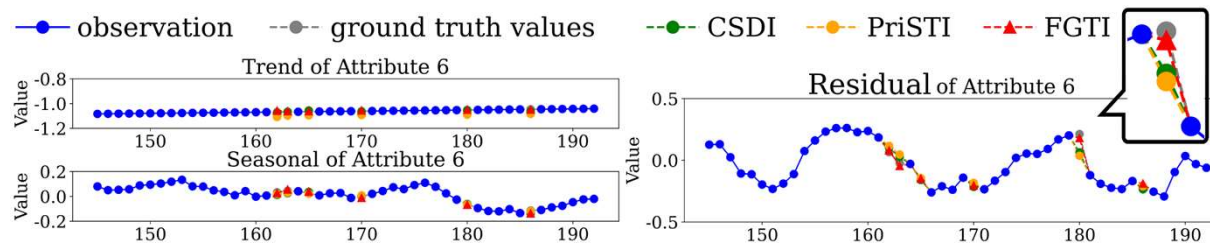
❑ could be harmful for downstream tasks



# Background



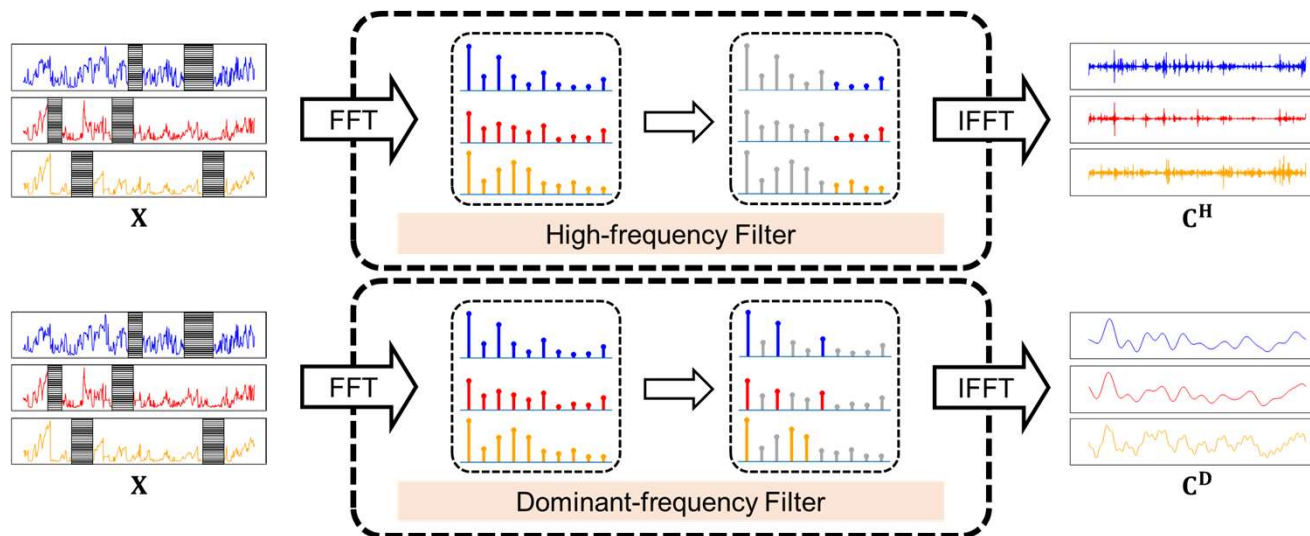
- Time Series data can be decomposed into three terms
- The imputation error is mainly caused by **Residual** term



- **High-frequency components** are intricately related to Residual
- Existing SOTA imputation methods with deep learning architectures **cannot generalize well** for high frequency components

# FGTI Model

## Frequency-domain Condition Filters



- **High-frequency Filter:** Guide the imputation of residual terms
- **Dominant-frequency Filter:** Provide the background structure information to guide the imputation of the trend and seasonal terms

# FGTI Model

➤ Implement FGTI with the current advanced generative model

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## Algorithm 1 Training process

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**Input:** Incomplete time series  $\mathbf{X}$ , the number of diffusion step  $T$

**Output:** Optimized denoising network  $\epsilon_\theta(\cdot)$

1: **repeat**

2:  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^0 \leftarrow$  select observed values in  $\mathbf{X}$

3:  $t \sim \text{Uniform}\{1, \dots, T\}$

4:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

5:  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^t \leftarrow \sqrt{\alpha^t} \hat{\mathbf{X}}^0 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha^t} \epsilon$

6: Perform Gradient Descent by  $\nabla \mathcal{L}_\theta =_2$   
 $\nabla_\theta \left\| \epsilon - \epsilon_\theta \left( t, \hat{\mathbf{X}}^t, \mathbf{X}^C, \mathbf{C}^H, \mathbf{C}^D \right) \right\|_2$

7: **until** converged

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## Algorithm 2 Imputation process

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**Input:** A incomplete time series sample  $\mathbf{X}$ , the number of diffusion step  $T$ , the optimized denoising network  $\epsilon_\theta(\cdot)$

**Output:** Filled missing values  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^0$

1:  $\hat{\mathbf{X}} \leftarrow$  missing values in  $\mathbf{X}$

2:  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^T \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

3: **for**  $t = T, \dots, 1$  **do**

4:   **if**  $t > 1$  **then**

5:      $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$

6:   **else**

7:      $\epsilon \leftarrow \mathbf{0}$

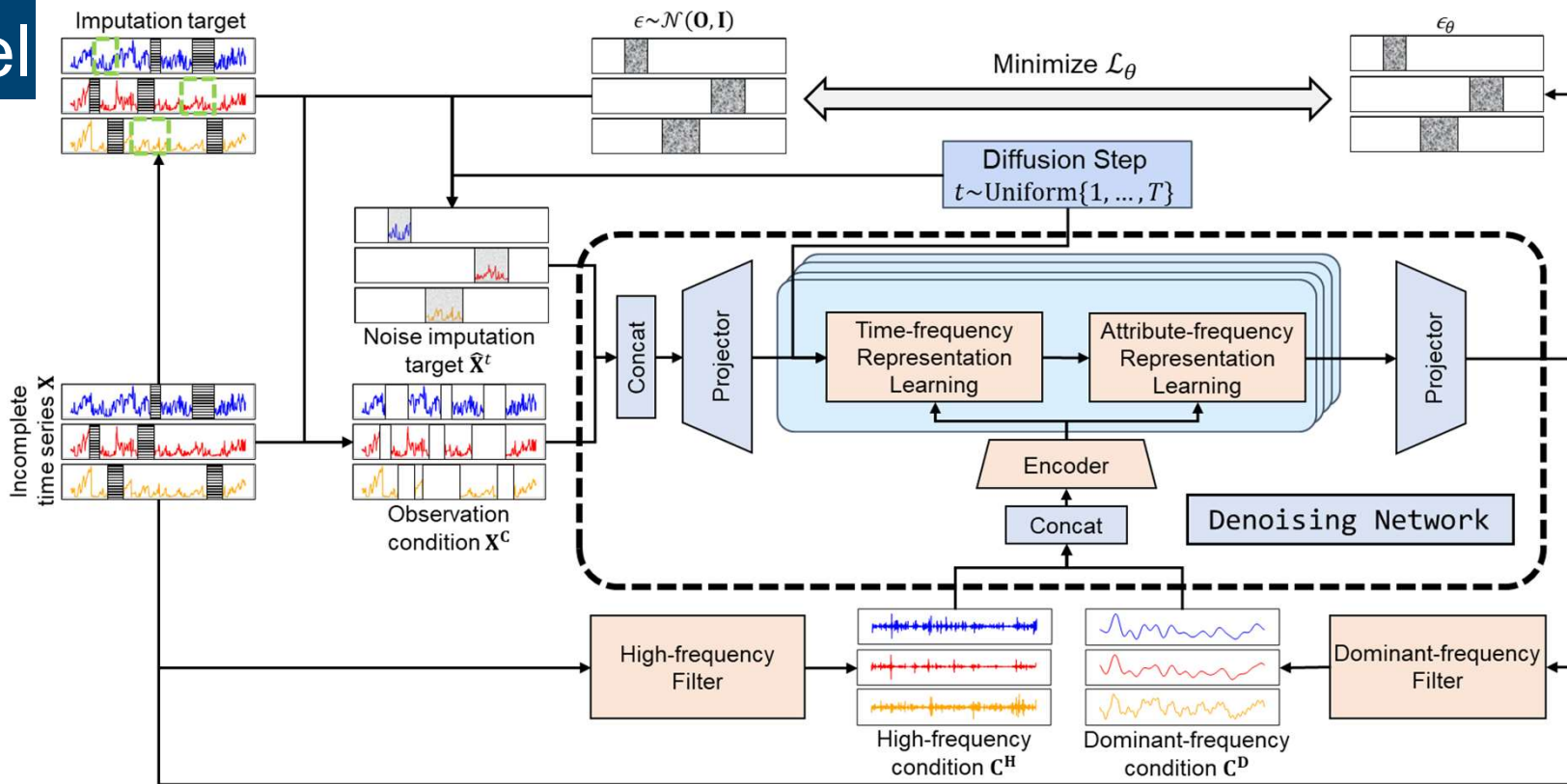
8:   **end if**

9:    $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^{t-1} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha^t}} \left[ \hat{\mathbf{X}}^t - \frac{\beta^t}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha^t}} \epsilon_\theta \left( t, \hat{\mathbf{X}}^t, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{C}^H, \mathbf{C}^D \right) \right]$   
 $\quad \quad \quad + \sqrt{\frac{(1 - \alpha^{t-1}) \beta^t}{1 - \alpha^t}} \epsilon$

10: **end for**

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# FGTI Model



## ➤ Cross-domain Representation Learning Modules

Fusing frequency-domain information to capture time dependencies and attribute dependencies by cross-attention mechanism



# Experiments

➤ Imputation results by different methods with different missing rates.

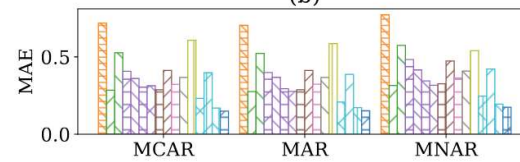
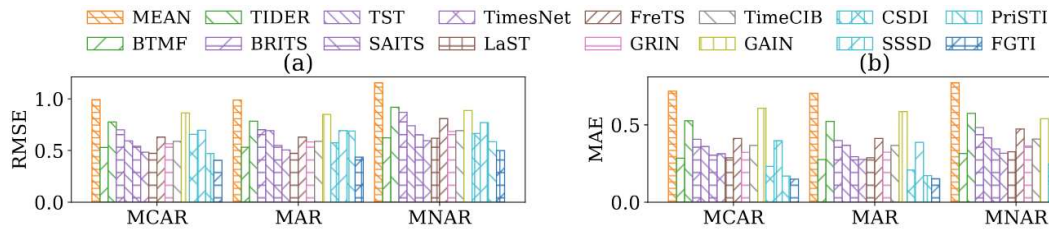
Dataset	Miss. Rate	Metric	Mean	BTMF	TIDER	BRITS	TST	SAITS	TimesNet	LaST	FreTS	GRIN	TimeCIB	GAIN	CSDI	SSSD	PriSTI	FGTI
KDD	10%	RMSE	0.993	0.529	0.777	0.700	0.594	0.542	0.484	0.473	0.630	0.565	0.589	0.864	0.459	0.697	0.472	<b>0.406</b>
		MAE	0.718	0.285	0.527	0.407	0.360	0.304	0.313	0.287	0.412	0.322	0.367	0.607	0.177	0.397	0.169	<b>0.149</b>
	20%	RMSE	1.007	0.554	0.797	0.729	0.740	0.575	0.542	0.532	0.741	0.607	0.613	0.877	0.500	0.701	0.534	<b>0.451</b>
		MAE	0.718	0.286	0.531	0.416	0.371	0.310	0.307	0.310	0.489	0.339	0.369	0.606	0.187	0.392	0.180	<b>0.161</b>
	30%	RMSE	0.997	0.541	0.783	0.720	0.642	0.574	0.578	0.574	0.796	0.617	0.603	0.870	0.519	0.717	0.547	<b>0.448</b>
		MAE	0.717	0.286	0.528	0.420	0.376	0.319	0.357	0.350	0.546	0.360	0.370	0.612	0.199	0.413	0.195	<b>0.176</b>
	40%	RMSE	1.001	0.548	0.790	0.734	0.702	0.593	0.648	0.634	0.850	0.650	0.611	0.883	0.569	0.747	0.581	<b>0.478</b>
		MAE	0.718	0.287	0.532	0.428	0.387	0.332	0.418	0.393	0.591	0.387	0.372	0.623	0.220	0.435	0.217	<b>0.205</b>
Guang.	10%	RMSE	0.799	0.384	0.549	0.481	0.368	0.417	0.400	0.347	0.456	0.466	0.451	0.804	0.306	0.434	0.242	<b>0.230</b>
		MAE	0.592	0.252	0.392	0.299	0.249	0.264	0.270	0.244	0.340	0.354	0.300	0.550	0.210	0.293	<b>0.170</b>	<b>0.170</b>
	20%	RMSE	0.799	0.384	0.537	0.481	0.398	0.415	0.433	0.440	0.602	0.501	0.448	0.804	0.324	0.460	0.324	<b>0.258</b>
		MAE	0.592	0.252	0.382	0.300	0.275	0.264	0.303	0.312	0.460	0.385	0.298	0.550	0.220	0.315	0.197	<b>0.176</b>
	30%	RMSE	0.799	0.384	0.536	0.485	0.442	0.420	0.481	0.545	0.709	0.542	0.448	0.805	0.364	0.545	0.510	<b>0.291</b>
		MAE	0.592	0.252	0.382	0.301	0.312	0.267	0.348	0.388	0.547	0.419	0.298	0.551	0.242	0.384	0.271	<b>0.202</b>
	40%	RMSE	0.800	0.385	0.541	0.491	0.540	0.422	0.542	0.637	0.787	0.584	0.449	0.807	0.439	0.622	0.650	<b>0.356</b>
		MAE	0.592	0.253	0.387	0.306	0.397	0.270	0.401	0.458	0.611	0.455	0.299	0.554	0.283	0.444	0.381	<b>0.254</b>
Phy.	10%	RMSE	0.932	0.630	0.879	0.732	0.632	0.645	0.776	0.768	0.804	0.682	0.697	1.006	0.619	0.875	0.652	<b>0.580</b>
		MAE	0.678	0.348	0.605	0.446	0.389	0.371	0.525	0.516	0.540	0.424	0.450	0.747	0.310	0.528	0.369	<b>0.286</b>
	20%	RMSE	0.935	0.627	0.889	0.718	0.640	0.641	0.806	0.786	0.825	0.670	0.683	0.988	0.664	0.834	0.638	<b>0.577</b>
		MAE	0.675	0.362	0.624	0.451	0.417	0.384	0.569	0.550	0.576	0.434	0.455	0.740	0.335	0.507	0.376	<b>0.309</b>
	30%	RMSE	0.934	0.658	0.911	0.734	0.688	0.670	0.849	0.825	0.861	0.695	0.697	0.995	0.805	0.882	0.661	<b>0.624</b>
		MAE	0.676	0.382	0.638	0.457	0.452	0.404	0.600	0.578	0.603	0.446	0.459	0.738	0.360	0.545	0.387	<b>0.336</b>
	40%	RMSE	0.932	0.677	0.935	0.739	0.732	0.688	0.872	0.850	0.883	0.708	0.698	0.983	0.705	0.904	0.679	<b>0.669</b>
		MAE	0.677	0.412	0.658	0.466	0.493	0.431	0.623	0.603	0.626	0.464	0.466	0.729	0.395	0.555	0.406	<b>0.376</b>



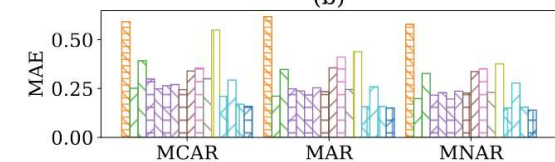
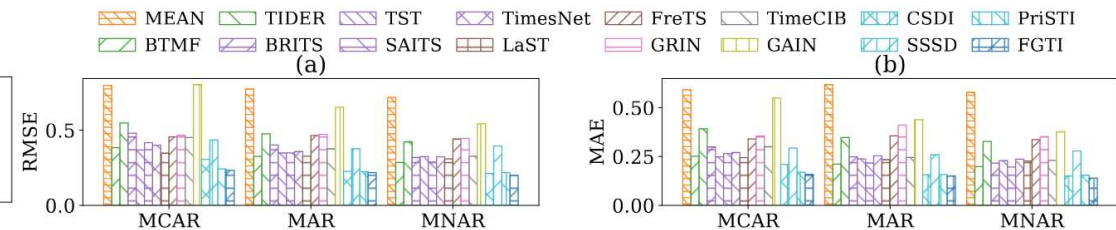
# Experiments

➤ Imputation results by different methods with different missing mechanisms (10% missing)

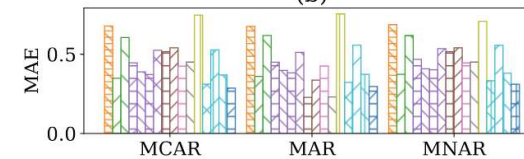
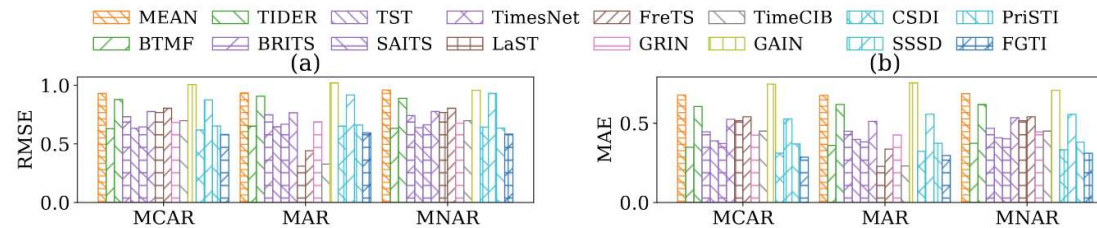
## Over KDD dataset



## Over Guangzhou dataset

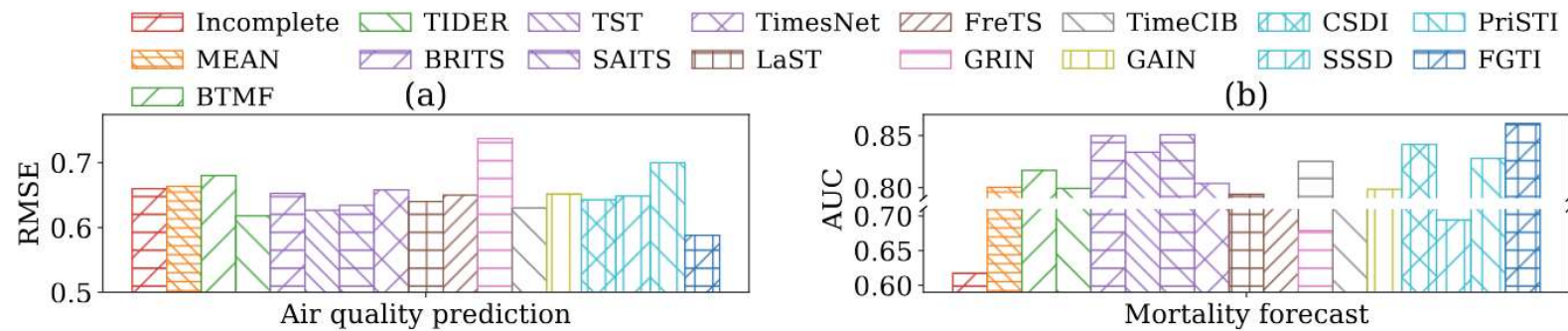


## Over PhysioNet dataset



# Experiments

- Application performance of imputation methods for downstream tasks, over KDD and PhysioNet with real missing values



# Conclusion

- We design a frequency-aware generative model FGTI with frequency-domain information integrated by the **high-frequency filter** and the **dominant-frequency filter**, to enhance the awareness of the frequency-domain for imputation.
- We introduce two **cross-domain representation learning modules** that provide models with prior knowledge of intricate frequency-related patterns for missing data imputation.
- We evaluate FGTI on three time series datasets with real-world missing values, which demonstrates the superiority of FGTI in both **imputation accuracy** and **downstream applications**



# Thanks for your attention

If you are interested in our work, please check the details  
in our paper at the NeurIPS 2024.

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<https://github.com/FGTI2024/FGTI24>