Cours 8

Image restoration in large dimension

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Inverse problems in imaging

Inverse problems in imaging: various applications

Astronomy

SPHERE/IRDIS

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Direct model

Degraded image z

Original image \overline{x}

Examples of degradation

Inpainting: A diagonal binary Delurring: A convolution with a blur kernel

Direct model: convolution

$$
z = Ax \iff z = \phi * x
$$

- $\rightarrow \phi \star x$: convolution product with the Point Spread Function (PSF) ϕ of size $Q_1 \times Q_2$.
- ▸ A is a block-circulant matrix with circulant blocks related to ϕ : $A = F^* \Lambda F$ where
	- ▸ Λ: diagonal matrix,
	- ▸ F: represents the discrete Fourier transform, ∗ denotes here the transpose conjugate and $F^* = F^{-1}$.
- Efficient computation of $A\bar{x}$ by means of the Fourier transform of \bar{x} .

 $A\bar{x} = F^* \Lambda F \bar{x} = F^* \Lambda \bar{X}$

Direct model: convolution

Direct model: convolution

Direct model

- \odot A is known or can be approximated
- \odot A is sparse
- \odot A is ill-conditioned

The problem $z = A\overline{x}$ is said to be well-posed if it fulfils the Hadamard conditions:

- 1. existence of a solution: $\text{range}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbb{R}^{\mathbf{M}}$
- 2. uniqueness of the solution: $Ker(A) = 0$
- 3. stability of the solution \hat{x} relatively to the observation: $\forall (z, z') \in \mathbb{R}^M$, $\|z - z'\| \to 0 \implies \|\hat{x}(z) - \hat{x}(z')\| \to 0$

Inverse problem solving

Direct inversion

$$
\hat{x} = A^{-1}z = A^{-1}(A\bar{x} + \epsilon) = \bar{x} + A^{-1}\epsilon
$$

Noise amplification if A is ill-conditioned

1922 Maximum likelihood

$$
\hat{x} \in \arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|_2^2 = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T z
$$

1963 Regularization

$$
\hat{x} \in \arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|_2^2 + \theta \|Dx\|_2^2
$$

$$
2000\ \textbf{Sparsity}
$$

$$
\hat{x} \in \arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|_2^2 + \theta \|Dx\|_1
$$

2010 "End-to-end" neural networks

$$
\hat{x} = NN_{\theta}(z)
$$

2020 Model based neural networks: PnP or Unfolded

Variational problem formulation

Estimating \hat{x} close to \bar{x} from the observation z and the forward operator A. Optimization formulation:

$$
\widehat{x} \in \underset{x}{\arg\min} \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|Ax - z\|_2^2}_{\text{data fidelity}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|Lx\|_{\star}}_{\text{regularization}}
$$

with $||Lx||_*$ usually sparsity inducing norm.

The regularization permits to cope with the ill-posed nature of the inverse problem by assuming a priori knowledge about the ground-truth solution.

Examples

- ► L_1 norm $||x||_1$ to enforce sparsity
- \triangleright Total Variation $||Dx||_1$ for promoting spacial smoothness (D) differential operator)

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Maximum A Posteriori (MAP) estimation

Let x and z be realizations of random variables X and Z

$$
x^{MAP} = \arg\max_{x} \underbrace{p_{X|Z=z}(x)}_{\text{posterior distribution}}
$$

By Bayes formula, the posterior distribution is given by

$$
p_{X|Z=z}(x) = \frac{p_X(x)p_{Z|X=x}(z|x)}{p_Z(z)}
$$

and the MAP writes as

$$
x^{MAP} = \arg\min_{x} \underbrace{-\log p_{Z|X=x}(z)}_{\text{Data-fidelity}} \underbrace{-\log p_X(x)}_{\text{A priori}} = \arg\min_{x} f(x) + g(x)
$$

The MAP estimator relates the data-fidelity term to the conditional distribution $p_{Z|X}$ and the regularization term to the prior distribution p_X .

Data-fidelity: Gaussian noise

- ► $z = A\bar{x} + \epsilon$ with $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma)$
- ▸ Gaussian likelihood:

$$
p_{Z|X=x}(z) = \prod_{n=1}^{M} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp(-((Ax)_n - z_n)^2 / (2\sigma))
$$

 \blacktriangleright L_2 data-fidelity:

$$
f(x)=\sum_{n=1}^M\frac{1}{2\sigma}\big((AX)_n-z_n\big)^2
$$

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Total variation (TV)

 $g(x) = g(D(x))$ contains the differences

$$
\left\| \begin{bmatrix} x_{i,j} - x_{i,j+1} \\ x_{i,j} - x_{i+1,j} \end{bmatrix} \right\|
$$

Non-local total variation (NLTV)

 $g(x) = g(D(x))$ contains the differences in the patches

Wavelets

Wavelets

$$
x = a_0 \rightarrow \begin{cases} a_{-1} = \underbrace{(a_0 \times g) \downarrow 2}_{H} \\ d_{-1} = \underbrace{(a_0 \times h) \downarrow 2}_{H} \end{cases}
$$

$$
a_{-1} \rightarrow \begin{cases} a_{-2} = (a_{-1} \star \underbrace{g}_{H}) \downarrow 2 \\ d_{-2} = (a_{-1} \star \overline{h}) \downarrow 2 \end{cases}
$$

 $g:$ low pass filter

h ∶ high pass filter

Comparison of regularizations

Original Degraded Tikhonov

 $SNR = 13.4$ dB $SNR = 16.4$ dB

TV NLTV DTT $SNR = 18.8$ dB $SNR = 19.4$ dB $SNR = 16.6$ dB

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Image quality metrics

- ▸ Visual quality of the reconstruction
- ▸ Mean Squared Error (MSE) (should be as low as possible):

$$
MSE(x, \hat{x}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (\hat{x}_i - x_i)^2
$$

▸ Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR): compares the energy of the original image to the energy of the noise $(dB=decibel)$

$$
SNR_{dB}(x, \hat{x}) = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_{\text{signal}}}{P_{\text{noise}}} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{\|\hat{x}\|^2}{\|\hat{x} - x\|^2}
$$

should be as high as possible.

▸ Peak Signal-to-Noise Ratio (PSNR):

$$
PSNR(x, \hat{x}) = 10 \log_{10} \frac{N \max^{2} x}{\|\hat{x} - x\|^{2}}
$$

ratio between the maximum intensity and the mean squared error. It can be useful when images have high dynamic range (i.e., large differences in intensity).

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Problem formulation

The image restoration problem can be generally stated as

 $\min_{x} f(x) + g(x)$

- \triangleright f differentiable with Lipschitz gradient
- \triangleright g possibly non-smooth but proximable

Classical solution methods:

▸ Proximal methods

Proximal methods

 $\min_{x} f(x) + \lambda g(x)$

Assumptions:

- \blacktriangleright f + λ g admits a minimizer
- \blacktriangleright f, g are convex
- ► f is L_f -smooth: $||\nabla f(x) \nabla f(y)|| \leq L_f ||x y||$ for all x, y
- \rightarrow g is possibly non-differentiable

Smooth case

If $g = 0$

Gradient descent: $x_{k+1} = x_k + p_k := x_k - \frac{1}{L}$ $\frac{1}{L_f} \nabla f(x_k)$

Why?

Gradient step minimizes an upper bound on the function:

$$
f(x) \leq f(y) + \nabla f(y)^\top (x - y) + \frac{L_f}{2} ||x - y||^2, \quad \forall x, y
$$

$$
f(x_{k+1}) \leq f(x_k) + \nabla f(x_k)^T p_k + \frac{L_f}{2} \|p_k\|^2 \overset{\text{arg min}_{p_k}}{\rightarrow} p_k = -\frac{\nabla f(x_k)}{L_f}
$$

Proximal methods

If there is g : add λg to the upper bound:

$$
f(x) + \lambda g(x) \le f(y) + \nabla f(y)^T (x - y) + \frac{L_f}{2} ||x - y||^2 + \lambda g(x), \quad \forall x, y
$$

Can we minimize the upper bound?

$$
\arg\min_{x} f(y) + \nabla f(y)^T (x - y) + \frac{L_f}{2} \|x - y\|^2 + \lambda g(x) =
$$
\n
$$
\arg\min_{x} \nabla f(y)^T (x - y) + \frac{L_f}{2} \|x - y\|^2 + \lambda g(x) =
$$
\n
$$
\arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} \|x - (y - \frac{1}{L_f} \nabla f(y))\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{L_f} g(x) :=
$$
\n
$$
\text{prox}_{\frac{\lambda}{L_f} g} (y - \frac{1}{L_f} \nabla f(y)).
$$

Proximal operator

If g is a proper, lower semi-continuous convex function from a Hilbert space X to $[-\infty, +\infty]$ the proximal operator is defined as :

$$
\text{prox}_{\tau g}(y) = \arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} \|x - y\|^2 + \tau g(x)
$$

▸ The proximal operator can be seen as a generalization of the projection operator: if f is the characteristic function ι_C of a nonempty, closed, convex set C

$$
\text{prox}_{\iota_C}(x) = \operatorname{argmin}_y \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} ||x - y||_2^2 & \text{if } y \in C \\ +\infty & \text{if } y \notin C \end{cases}
$$
\n
$$
= \operatorname{argmin}_{y \in C} \frac{1}{2} ||x - y||_2^2
$$

Example: Thresholding

$$
H_t(x) = x \cdot I(|x| > t)
$$
 $S_t(x) = sign(x)(|x| - t)$

are the Hard and soft thresholding functions.

 \blacktriangleright If $g(x) = ||x||_1$, prox_{$\lambda g(x) = S_\lambda(x)$} ► If $h(x) = ||x||_0$, $prox_{\lambda g}(x) = H_{\lambda}(x)$

Gradient methods

Differentiable case

Proximal gradient descent

$$
x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{1}{L_f} \nabla f(x_k)
$$

$$
x_{k+1} = \mathrm{prox}_{\lambda g/L_f}(x_k - 1/L_f \nabla f(x_k))
$$

Convergence

If f is differentiable, L_f -smooth and convex:

$$
f(x_K) - f(x^*) \le \frac{2L_f ||x_1 - x^*||}{K - 1}
$$

Convergence

If f is differentiable, L_f -smooth, convex and g is convex:

$$
f(x_K) - f(x^*) \le \frac{L_f \|x_1 - x^*\|}{2K}
$$

In both cases $f(x_K) - f(x^*) = O\left(\frac{1}{K}\right)$ $\frac{1}{K}$).

Accelerated proximal methods: FISTA

ISTA (Iterative Shrinkage-Thresholding Algorithm):

$$
x_{k+1} = \underbrace{\text{prox}_{\tau g}}_{\text{step on } g} \underbrace{(x_k - \tau \nabla f(x_k))}_{\text{step on } f}
$$

Rate:
$$
O(1/k)
$$
 if $\tau \le \frac{1}{L_f}$
FISTA (Fast ISTA):

$$
x_{k+1} = \operatorname{prox}_{\tau g} (y_k - \tau \nabla f(y_k))
$$

$$
y_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k (x_{k+1} - x_k)
$$

where α_k is chosen as $\alpha_k = \frac{t_k-1}{t_{k+1}}$ $\frac{t_k-1}{t_{k+1}}$, with $t_{k+1} = \left(\frac{k+a}{a}\right)$ $\frac{1}{a}$ d . Rate: $O(1/k^2)$ if $\tau \leq \frac{1}{L}$ L_f

Limitations of proximal methods

- ▸ require prox computation (usually not available in closed form: TV, NLTV)
- ▸ suitable for problems of reasonable size: high dimensional problems \rightarrow high computation time.

Main goal : provide acceleration for high dimensional problems.

Alternatives:

- ▸ FISTA [Beck & Teboulle, 2009],
- ▸ Preconditioning [Donatelli, 2019],
- ▸ Block methods [Liu, 1996],
- \triangleright Exploit the problem structure with a multiresolution strategy

ML to leverage large dimensions?

Rappel: multilevel methods

ML approaches for nonlinear smooth problems

- ▸ S.G. Nash, MG/Opt (2000)
- ▸ S. Gratton, A. Sartenaer, and P. Toint, RMTR (2008)
Multilevel methods for imaging problems?

smooth ML approaches on smoothed image problems

- ▸ A. Javaherian and S. Holman, (tomography, 2017)
- ▸ S. W. Fung and Z. Wendy, (phase retrieval, 2020)
- ▸ J. Plier, F. Savarino, M. Kocvara, and S. Petra, (tomography, 2021)

Idea

$$
\min_{x} f(x) + g(x) \sim \min_{x} f(x) + g_{\gamma}(x)
$$

with g_{γ} differentiable \implies not SOTA reconstruction

Multilevel methods for imaging problems?

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Idea

$$
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$$

with g_{γ} differentiable \implies not SOTA reconstruction

Extension of ML to a non-smooth setting?

An iteration of a multilevel procedure

$$
\min_{x} F(x) = f(x) + g(x)
$$

An iteration of a multilevel procedure

$$
\min_{x} F(x) = f(x) + g(x)
$$

 $R = I_h^H$), $P = (I_h^h)$

)? F_H ?

An iteration of a multilevel procedure

A hierarchy of images

Coarse model definition F_H

$$
F(x) = \frac{1}{2} ||Ax - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||Lx||_1
$$

$$
F_H(x) = \frac{1}{2} ||A_Hx_H - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||L_Hx_H||_1
$$

Coarse model definition F_H

$$
F(x) = \frac{1}{2} ||Ax - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||Lx||_1
$$

$$
F_H(x) = \frac{1}{2} ||A_Hx_H - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||L_Hx_H||_1
$$

Is this model useful in minimizing F ?

Design of F_H in smooth context: First order coherence

Design of F_H in smooth context: First order coherence

Coarse model definition F_H

If g was smooth:

$$
F(x) = \frac{1}{2} ||Ax - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||Lx||_1
$$

$$
F_H(x_H) = \frac{1}{2} ||A_Hx_H - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||L_Hx_H||_1 + \langle v_H, x_H \rangle
$$

$$
v_H = I_h^H \nabla F(x) - \nabla F_H(I_h^H x)
$$

Coarse model definition F_H

If g was smooth:

$$
F(x) = \frac{1}{2} ||Ax - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||Lx||_1
$$

$$
F_H(x_H) = \frac{1}{2} ||A_Hx_H - z||_2^2 + \lambda ||L_Hx_H||_1 + \langle v_H, x_H \rangle
$$

$$
v_H = I_h^H \nabla F(x) - \nabla F_H(I_h^H x)
$$

But g is nonsmooth \rightarrow smoothing! [Parpas 2017]

Smoothed convex function

Definition [Beck 2012, Definition 2.1]

Let g be a convex, l.s.c., and proper function on $\mathbb{R}^N.$ For every $\gamma > 0$, g_{γ} is a smoothed convex function if there exist scalars η_1, η_2 satisfying $\eta_1 + \eta_2 > 0$ such that the following holds:

$$
(\forall y \in \mathbb{R}^N) \qquad g(y) - \eta_1 \gamma \leq g_{\gamma}(y) \leq g(y) + \eta_2 \gamma.
$$

Example: the Moreau envelope

$$
g_{\gamma}(\cdot) = \inf_{y} g(y) + \frac{1}{2\gamma} \|\cdot - y\|^2
$$

First-order coherence in non-smooth case

$$
F_H(x_H) = f_H(x_H) + g_{H, \gamma_H}(x_H) + \langle v_H, x_H \rangle
$$

$$
v_H = I_h^H \nabla \left(f_h + g_{h, \gamma_h} \right) (x_h) - \nabla \left(f_H + g_{H, \gamma_H} \right) (I_h^H x_h).
$$

Smooth coarse model: allows for smooth optimizers at coarse level

Fine level function decrease

Lemma

Assume that $I_H^h = \alpha (I_H^H)^T$, $\alpha > 0$. If $x_{H,m} - x_{H,0}$ is a descent direction for the coarse model and the first-order coherence holds, $I_H^h(x_{H,m} - x_{H,0})$ is a descent direction for $F_{h,\gamma_h} := f_h + g_{h,\gamma_h}$. Proof.

???

What happens to non-smooth objective function?

Lemma

Under the same assumptions as in the previous lemma,

$$
F_h(x_h + \bar{\tau} I_h^H(x_{H,m} - x_{H,0})) \leq F_h(x_h) + (\eta_1 + \eta_2)\gamma_h
$$

for $\bar{\tau} > 0$.

Proof. ???

 \mathbf{I}

To summarize: a multilevel method for non-smooth problems

▸ Fine function:

$$
F_h = f_h + g_h
$$

with g_h non-smooth.

▸ Coarse model:

$$
F_H(x_H) = f_H(x_H) + g_{H, \gamma_H}(x_H) + \langle v_H, x_H \rangle
$$

$$
v_H = I_h^H \nabla \left(f_h + g_{h, \gamma_h} \right) (x_h) - \nabla \left(f_H + g_{H, \gamma_H} \right) (I_h^H x_h).
$$

▸ Iterations:

$$
x_{k+1} = \text{prox}_{\tau g} (\bar{x}_k - \tau \nabla f(\bar{x}_k))
$$

$$
\bar{x}_k = ML(x_k) \iff \min F_H(\text{ smooth})
$$

IML FISTA: inertial multilevel FISTA with inexact prox

$$
\bullet \ \ g(x) = \varphi(Lx)
$$

▸ Inexact proximal steps to handle state-of-the-art regularization: TV, NLTV

$$
x_{k+1} \sim \text{prox}_{\tau \varphi \circ L} (\bar{y}_k - \tau \nabla f(\bar{y}_k))
$$

$$
y_{k+1} = x_{k+1} + \alpha_k (x_{k+1} - x_k)
$$

- ▶ FISTA acceleration
	- \blacktriangleright FISTA: $\bar{y}_k = y_k$
	- ► IML FISTA: $\bar{y}_k = ML(y_k) \Longleftrightarrow min F_H$
- ▶ Obtain state-of-the-art convergence guarantees (rate $O(1/k^2)$) plus dimension reduction

Multilevel algorithm for nonsmooth optimization

\n- 1: Set
$$
x_{h,0}, y_{h,0} \in \mathbb{R}^N
$$
, $t_{h,0} = 1$
\n- 2: **while** Stopping criterion is not met **do**
\n- 3: **if** Descent condition and $r < p$ **then**
\n- 4: $r = r + 1$,
\n- 5: $x_{H,0} = I_h^H y_{h,k}$ Projection
\n- 6: $x_{H,m} = \Phi_H \circ \ldots \circ \Phi_H(x_{H,0})$ Coarse minimization
\n- 7: Set $\bar{\tau}_h > 0$,
\n- 8: $\bar{y}_{h,k} = y_{h,k} + \bar{\tau}_h I_h^H(x_{H,m} - x_{H,0})$ Coarse step update
\n- 9: **else**
\n- 10: $\bar{y}_{h,k} = y_{h,k}$
\n- 11: **end if**
\n- 12: $x_{h,k+1} = \Phi_i^{\epsilon_{h,k}}(\bar{y}_{h,k})$ Inexact Forward-backward step
\n- 13: $t_{h,k+1} = \left(\frac{k+a}{a}\right)^d$, $\alpha_{h,k} = \frac{t_{h,k-1}}{t_{h,k+1}}$
\n- 14: $y_{h,k+1} = x_{h,k+1} + \alpha_{h,k}(x_{h,k+1} - x_{h,k})$. Inertial step
\n- 15: **end while** = 0
\n

Inexact proximal step

The ϵ -subdifferential of g at $z \in$ dom g is defined as:

$$
\partial_{\epsilon} g(z) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid g(x) \geq g(z) + \langle x - z, y \rangle - \epsilon, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^N\}.
$$

Type 0 approximation [Combettes, Wajs, 2005] $z \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is a type 0 approximation of $\text{prox}_{\gamma g}(y)$ with precision ϵ , and we write $z \simeq_0 \text{prox}_{\gamma g}(y)$, if and only if $||z - \text{prox}_{\gamma g}(y)|| \leq \sqrt{2\gamma \epsilon}.$

Type 1 approximation [Villa et al., 2013] $z \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is a type 1 approximation of $\mathrm{prox}_{\gamma g}(y)$ ith precision ϵ , and we write $z \simeq_1 {\rm prox}_{\gamma g} (y)$, if and only if $0 \in \partial_{\epsilon} \left(g(z) + \frac{1}{2^{2\epsilon}} \right)$ $\frac{1}{2\gamma}$ $\|z-y\|^2$).

Type 2 approximation [Villa et al., 2013] $z \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is a type 2 approximation of $\operatorname{prox}_{\gamma g}(y)$ with precision ϵ , and we write $z \simeq_2 \text{prox}_{\gamma g}(y)$, if and only if $\frac{y-z}{\gamma} \in \partial_{\epsilon} g(z)$.

Example

$$
\mathrm{prox}_{\tau g}(y) = \arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2} \|x - y\|^2 + \tau g(x)
$$

Inexact solution via an iterative method

Convergence analysis

Theorem 1

Considering $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}^*, \alpha_{h,k} = 0$ and the sequence $(\epsilon_{h,k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ is such that $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \sqrt{\|\epsilon_{h,k}\|} < +\infty$. Set $x_{h,0} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_h}$ and choosing approximation of Type 0, the sequence $(x_{h,k})_{k\in\mathbb{N}}$ generated by IML FISTA converges to a minimizer of F_h .

Theorem 2

Let $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}^*, t_{h,k+1} = \left(\frac{k+a}{a}\right)$ \overline{a}) $\frac{d}{dx}$, with (a, d) satisfying the conditions in [Aujol, Dossal, 2015 – Definition 3.1]. Moreover, if we assume that:

- ► $\sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} k^d \sqrt{\epsilon_{h,k}} < +\infty$ in the case of Type 1 approximation,
- ► $\sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} k^{2d} \epsilon_{h,k}$ < $+\infty$ in the case of Type 2 approximation.

Let $(x_{h,k})_{k\in\mathbb{N}}$ the sequence generated by IML FISTA, then

- **►** The sequence $(k^{2d} (F_h(x_{h,k}) F_h(x^*)))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ belongs to $\ell_{\infty}(\mathbb{N}).$
- ▶ The sequence $(x_{h,k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to a minimizer of F_h .

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Hyperspectral images

How to build the coarse approximations?

Objective function evolution

Dimension bottleneck: number of observations

Coarse measurements

Coarser measurements

Reconstruction in log-scale of a region of the M31 galaxy

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How to exploit the great power of neural networks in imaging? Basically three approaches:

- 1. End-to-end
- 2. Plug and Play
- 3. Unrolled algorithms

Example

TV NLTV PnP-DRUnet PnP-ScCP $SNR = 18.8$ dB $SNR = 19.4$ dB $SNR = 20.0$ dB $SNR = 20.2$ dB
1) End-to-end approaches

Problem: $z = A\overline{x} + \epsilon$

Idea: model \hat{x} by a neural network

- ▶ Build a dataset $\mathcal{D} = \{(\bar{x}^i, z^i)\}\,i = 1, \ldots, m$, from the model $z = A\overline{x} + \epsilon$
- ► Model $\hat{x} = F_{\theta}(z)$ or $\hat{x} = F_{\theta}((A^T A)^{-1} A^T z)$ (CNN, Unet)
- ▶ Train F_{θ} on \mathcal{D} (loss: $\ell(\bar{x}^i, z^i)$)
- \triangleright Feed F_{θ} a noisy image, get the denoised approximation
- \odot Very good denoising performance
- \odot Expensive, need new training for every model

2) Plug-and-Play (PnP)

Idea: replace proximal step by a trained denoiser

$$
x_{k+1} = \text{prox}_{\tau g}(x_k - \tau \nabla f(x_k)) \rightarrow x_{k+1} = D(x_k - \tau \nabla f(x_k))
$$

- ▶ Build a dataset $\mathcal{D} = \{(\bar{x}^i, y^i)\}\; i = 1, \ldots, m$, from the model $y = \overline{x} + \epsilon$
- ▶ Train a denoiser D (loss: $\ell(\bar{x}^i, y^i)$)
- **► Perform optimization steps** $x_{k+1} = D(x_k \tau \nabla f(x_k))$

 \odot No need of retraining D on your problem, works for general problems. Theoretical results \odot Less good results than end-to-end (but better than classical methods)

Convergence of PnP

$$
x_{k+1} = \mathrm{prox}_{\tau g} (x_k - \tau \nabla f(x_k)) \to x_{k+1} = D(x_k - \tau \nabla f(x_k))
$$

- \triangleright From monotone operator theory, if f convex, provided that $\tau < \frac{2}{L_i}$ $\frac{2}{L_f}$, FB is guaranteed to converge to a solution of $f + g$.
- If f non-convex, provided that $\tau < \frac{1}{L_1}$ $\frac{1}{L_f}$, FB is guaranteed to converge to a solution of $f + g$.
- If D is trained to be a firmly non-expansive operator (by regularizing the training loss) the algorithm converges

MMSE interpretation of PnP

By definition

$$
\hat{x}_{MMSE} = \arg\min_{x} \mathbb{E}(x|Z = z)
$$

If we train D_{θ} to minimize

$$
\frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m}||D_{\theta}(y^{i}) - \bar{x}^{i}||^{2}
$$

we can see that

 $D_{\theta^*} \sim \hat{x}_{MMSE}$

Background: structure of a neural network

$$
F_{\theta}(x) = \eta_k (W_k \eta_{k-1} (W_{k-1} \dots \eta_1 (W_1 x + b_1 \dots) + b_k)
$$

Most activation functions are proximity operators : $\eta_k = \text{prox}\Phi$ <https://proximity-operator.net/>

3) Unrolled algorithms

Problem formulation:

$$
\arg\min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|AD^T\alpha - z\|^2 + \lambda \|\alpha\|_1
$$

Iterations:

$$
\alpha_{k+1} = \text{prox}_{\tau \|\cdot\|_1} (\alpha_k - \tau DA^T (AD\alpha_k - z))
$$

=
$$
\underbrace{\text{prox}_{\tau \|\cdot\|_1} [(1 - \tau DA^T AD^T)}_{\eta_k} \alpha_k + \underbrace{\tau DA^T z}_{b_k})]
$$

 $F_{\theta}(x) = \eta_k (W_k \eta_{k-1}(W_{k-1}... \eta_1(W_1x + b_1...)+b_k))$

Towards multilevel PnP

$$
f(x) = \frac{1}{2} ||Ax - b||^2
$$

Fine level:

$$
x_{k+1}^h = D^h(x_k^h - \tau \nabla f^h(x_k^h))
$$

Coarse level:

► Reduce the image size: $x_{k+1}^H = D(x_k^H - \tau \nabla f^H(x_k^H))$

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- ► Reduce the network size: $x_{k+1}^H = D^H(x_k^H \tau \nabla f^H(x_k^H))$

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- ► Reduce the network size: $x_{k+1}^H = D^H(x_k^H \tau \nabla f^H(x_k^H))$
- ► Simplify coarse iterations: $x_{k+1}^H = \text{prox}_{g}(x_k^H \tau \nabla f^H(x_k^H))$

Numerical tests: inpainting

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Exercise

- 1. Complete the ??? proofs and type them in latex
- 2. Complete the notebook