Computational MRI From structured low-rank algorithms to model based deep learning

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MRI: Versatile tissue contrasts



There is nothing nuclear spins will not do for you, as long as you treat them as human beings

Erwin Hahn

Slow acquisition: tradeoffs in static MRI



Slow acquisition: tradeoffs in cardiac MRI



Inconsistencies between excitations

k-space acquired in different time points: inconsistencies

- Patient/physiological motion (cardiac/respiratory pulsation)
- Eddy currents
- Field inhomogeneity artifacts

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Learning in lifted spaces

Complexity/type of lifting: shallow vs deep learning

Lift to a high-dimensional space, where solution is simple !!

Linear lifting operations

- Continuous domain compressed sensing
- Auto-calibration: account for inconsistencies in acquisition

Non-linear lifting: data living on surface

- Recovery of data in high dimensional spaces
- Learning functions in high dimensional spaces: links to deep learning

Model based deep learning

• Using learning based models in imaging

Lift to a high-dimensional space, where solution is simple !!

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- J.P. Haldar, Low-Rank Modeling of Local-Space Neighborhoods (LORAKS) for Constrained MRI, TMI, 2014.
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- Ongie et al, Off-the-Grid Recovery of Piecewise Constant Images from Few Fourier Samples, SIAM IS, 2016.
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- S. Poddar, M.Jacob, Recovery of Noisy Points on Band-limited Surfaces:, ICASSP 2018

1-D Example:







Structured matrix is often low-rank

$$\min_{\widehat{f}} \operatorname{rank}[\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})] \text{ s.t. } \widehat{f}[k] = \widehat{b}[k], k \in \Gamma$$

1-D Example:

Complete matrix





Structured low-rank matrix completion: general idea

$$\min_{\widehat{f}} \operatorname{rank}[\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})] \text{ s.t. } \widehat{f}[k] = \widehat{b}[k], k \in \Gamma$$



Recovery as a structured low-rank matrix completion

$\min_{\widehat{f}} \operatorname{rank}[\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})] \text{ s.t. } \widehat{f}[k] = \widehat{b}[k], k \in \Gamma$ NP-Hard!

Recovery as a structured low-rank matrix completion

$$\begin{split} \min_{\widehat{f}} & \operatorname{rank}[\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})] \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \widehat{f}[k] = \widehat{b}[k], k \in \Gamma \\ & \bigvee \quad \textit{Convex Relaxation} \\ & \min_{\widehat{f}} \quad \|\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})\|_{*} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \widehat{f}[k] = \widehat{b}[k], k \in \Gamma \\ & \overbrace{\textit{Nuclear norm - sum of singular values}} \end{split}$$

<u>Ongie & Jacob, ICIP 16</u> <u>Ongie, Biswas & Jacob, TSP, 2018</u>

Lifting: potential for high computational complexity



Exploit convolutional structure of the matrix



Fast evaluation using FFT

Direct computation of small Gram matrix: avoid storage

Ongie & Jacob, IEEE TCI 17 Software available at https://research.engineering.uiowa.edu/cbig/software

GSLR: fast algorithms with similar complexity as TV



	15×15 filter		31×31 filter	
Algorithm	# iter	total	# iter	total
SVT	7	110s	11	790 s
GIRAF	6	20s	7	44 s

Table: iterations/CPU time to reach convergence tolerance of NMSE < 10⁻⁴.

<u>Ongie & Jacob, IEEE TCI 17</u>

Software available at https://research.engineering.uiowa.edu/cbig/software

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Continuous domain CS: piecewise constant signals

Edges specified by zero set of a BL function







Annihilation relations & structured low-rank matrix



Annihilation relations & structured low-rank matrix



Matrix representation of annihilation



 $k_y \widehat{f}[k]$

2(#shifts) x (filter size)

Basis of algorithms: Annihilation matrix is low-rank

 $\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{0}$



Fourier domain



Assumed filter: 33x25

Samples: 65x49





Rank ≈ 300

Prop: If the level-set function is bandlimited to Λ and the assumed filter support $\Lambda' \supset \Lambda$ then $\operatorname{rank}[\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})] \leq |\Lambda'| - (\#\operatorname{shifts} \Lambda \operatorname{in} \Lambda')$



Spatial domain

 $\mu(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) \longrightarrow e^{j2\pi(\mathbf{k}\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{l}\mathbf{y})}\mu(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y})$

Recovery as a structured low-rank matrix completion

$$\begin{split} \min_{\widehat{f}} & \operatorname{rank}[\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})] \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \widehat{f}[k] = \widehat{b}[k], k \in \Gamma \\ & \bigvee \quad \textit{Convex Relaxation} \\ & \min_{\widehat{f}} \quad \|\mathcal{T}(\widehat{f})\|_{*} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \widehat{f}[k] = \widehat{b}[k], k \in \Gamma \\ & \overbrace{\textit{Nuclear norm - sum of singular values}} \end{split}$$

<u>Ongie & Jacob, ICIP 16</u> <u>Ongie, Biswas & Jacob, TSP, 2018</u> Assume that f is sampled uniformly at m locations random on a Fourier domain grid \Box . Then, f can be recovered from the samples using SLR if

$$m > \rho_1 c_s r \log^4 |\Gamma|$$

- $ho_1=$ incoherence measure of edge-set
 - $\mathbf{r} = \mathsf{rank} \mathsf{ of } \mathcal{T}(\widehat{\mathbf{f}})$
- $\boldsymbol{c}_s = \mathsf{ratio} \text{ of grid size to filter size}$

<u>Ongie & Jacob, ICIP 16</u> <u>Ongie, Biswas & Jacob, TSP, 2018</u>

Phase transition plot



Fully sampled

TV (SNR=17.8dB)

GIRAF (SNR=19.0)



Ongie, Biswas & Jacob, IEEE TSP, 2017

Generalized SLR: PWC + PWL image representation



Hu, Liu & Jacob, TMI, 2019

GSLR: results



Results



Hu, Liu & Jacob, TMI, in press

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Auto-calibration in diffusion MRI



Linear prediction/annihilation of multichannel data

Image domain annihilation relation

 $\rho_1 \cdot s_2 - \rho_2 \cdot s_1 = 0$



Morrison, Jacob & Do, ISBI 2007
Fourier domain convolution relation

$$\hat{\rho}_1 * \hat{s}_2 - \hat{\rho}_2 * \hat{s}_1 = 0$$



Shin et al, MRM, 2014, Uecker et al, MRM 2014

Convolution: multiplication with Toeplitz matrix

 $\mathcal{T}\left(\hat{\rho}_{1}\right)\hat{s}_{2}-\mathcal{T}\left(\hat{\rho}_{2}\right)\hat{s}_{1}=0$



Shin et al, MRM, 2014, Uecker et al, MRM 2014

Multichannel annihilation relations

Matrix form

$$\underbrace{\left[\mathcal{T}\left(\hat{\rho}_{1}\right)\mathcal{T}\left(\hat{\rho}_{2}\right)\right]}_{\mathcal{H}(\rho)}\begin{bmatrix}\hat{s}_{2}\\-\hat{s}_{1}\end{bmatrix}=0$$

Blind recovery from under sampled multi-multi-channel data

$$\underbrace{\{\rho_1, \rho_2\}}_{\boldsymbol{\rho}} = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\rho}} \|\mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{\rho}) - \mathbf{b}\|^2 + \|\mathcal{H}(\boldsymbol{\rho})\|_*$$

<u>Shin et al, MRM, 2014, Uecker et al, MRM 2014</u> <u>Mani et al, MUSSELS, MRM 2017, MRM 2018</u>

Recovery using structured low-rank optimization













shot

 $I(\mathbf{r})$

Shot²



High resolution diffusion MRI on 3T





Red: Fibers oriented left-right Green: Fibers oriented anterior-posterior Blue: Fibers oriented inferior-superior

High resolution diffusion MRI on 3T



ed left-right Interior-posterio Inferior-superior

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Non-linear SLR: Union of Surfaces Model

Many subjects cannot tolerate breath-held MRI

• Free breathing & ungated cardiac MRI data



Challenges

• MRI is slow: every frame is undersampled by x50 or more

Model images as points on a smooth surface

Union of Surfaces model



Fourier coefficients

 $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{k}}$

Non-linear generalization of Union of Subspaces model Poddar & Jacob, ICASSP, 2018, TCI in press, <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.11575</u>

Annihilation conditions

Any point on the curve: Low pass function is zero

$$\sum_{\mathbf{k}\in\Lambda}\mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{k}}e^{j\ 2\pi\mathbf{k}^{T}\mathbf{x}_{i}}=0$$



 $\{\mathrm{r}\in\mathrm{R}^n|\psi(\mathrm{r})=0\}$

Annihilation conditions

Any point on the curve: Low pass function is zero



High dimensional feature vector



Fourier coefficients

Feature matrix is low-rank

Any point on the curve: $\psi(\mathbf{x}_i) = 0$



Rank of feature matrix is at most N-1

Poddar & Jacob, ICASSP, 2018, TCI in press, <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.11575</u>

When is curve recovery well-posed?

Rank of feature matrix is rank is N-1

$$\underbrace{\left[\phi(\mathbf{x}_1) \ \phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \ \dots \ \phi(\mathbf{x}_N)\right]}_{\Phi(\mathbf{X})}$$

1. How many points are needed to recover the curve?

2. How should the points be distributed guarantee recovery ?

Result: High probability recovery in 2D and beyond

Let $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\}$ are independent random samples from the zero level set of $\psi(\mathbf{x})$ whose bandwidth is given by Λ . The curve can be recovered with probability 1, if

 $N \ge |\Lambda| - 1.$



From Union of Surfaces to Union of Subspaces



Nonlinear lifting

Poddar & Jacob, ICASSP, 2018, TCI in press, <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.11575</u>

Fourier support is fully known

$$\mathbf{c}^{T}\underbrace{\left[\phi(\mathbf{x}_{1}) \ \phi(\mathbf{x}_{2}) \ \dots \ \phi(\mathbf{x}_{N})\right]}_{\Phi(\mathbf{X})} = \mathbf{0}$$

Rank of feature matrix is rank is N-1

Overestimated Fourier support $\operatorname{rank}\left(\Phi(\mathbf{X})\right) = |\Gamma| - |\Gamma:\Lambda|$

Poddar & Jacob, ICASSP, 2018, TCI in press, https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.11575

Γ: Λ

Problem: Recover points $\{x_i\}$ from corrupted measurements:

$$\mathbf{b}_i = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{x}_i) + \eta_i$$

Low-rank minimization

$$\min_{\mathbf{X}} \|\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{b}\|^2 + \lambda \|\Phi(\mathbf{X})\|_*$$

Iterative reweighed least-squares algorithm

$$\min_{\mathbf{X}} \|\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \lambda \|\Phi(\mathbf{X})\|_{*}$$

IRLS
$$\mathbf{X}^{(n)} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{X}} \|\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \lambda \operatorname{trace}[\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{X})\mathbf{Q}^{(n-1)}]$$

$$\mathbf{Q}^{(n)} = [\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{X}^{(n)}) + \gamma^{(n)}\mathbf{I}]^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$
Gradient
linearization
$$\mathbf{X}^{(n)} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{X}} \|\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \lambda \operatorname{trace}(\mathbf{X}^{T}\mathbf{L}^{(n-1)}\mathbf{X})$$
where $\mathbf{L}^{(n-1)} = f(\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{X}^{(n-1)}), \mathbf{Q}^{(n-1)})$

$$\mathbf{Q}^{(n-1)}$$

Graph smoothness regularization

IRLS denoising: illustration



(i) Original #3

(j) Noisy #3, SNR= 28.33 dB

(k) GLR, SNR = 28.95 dB

(1) KLR, SNR = 31.84 dB

Main idea: recovery using kernel low-rank



Algebraic Variety Models for High-Rank Matrix Completion

Greg Ongie¹ Rebecca Willett² Robert D. Nowak² Laura Balzano¹



 $\min_{\mathbf{X}} \|\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{b}\|^2 + \lambda \|\Phi(\mathbf{X})\|_*$



Results: normal subject





Comparable to Breath-held CINE

Breath-held frames

Free-breathing frames



SSFP acquisition

Gradient echo Acquisition

Temporal profiles



STORM

TMI 2016, TCI 2019, TMI 2019

Left: Breath-held, Right: Free-breathing

Comparable to Breath-held CINE





. (i)





Comparison with Low-Rank (PSF)





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Learning functions on Union of Surfaces

Machine learning: learn functions in high dimensions

• Patch surfaces: denoising



Challenges in learning complex multidimensional functions

- Curse of dimensionality: functions with too many parameters
- Difficult to learn from limited data

Feature vectors lie in a low-rank subspace

Overestimated Fourier support
$$\operatorname{rank}(\Phi(\mathbf{X})) = |\Gamma| - |\Gamma : \Lambda|$$



Computionally efficient evaluation of functions

$$\mathbf{a}^T \Phi(\mathbf{x}) = c_1(\mathbf{x}) \ \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1) + \ldots + c_r(\mathbf{x}) \ \Phi(\mathbf{x}_r)$$

Linear combination of features of anchor points



 $\{\mathrm{r}\in\mathrm{R}^n|\psi(\mathrm{r})=0\}$

Example in 2D



Curve



Anchor points



Function: 169 parameters





Function around curve



Global function: 48 params Local representation: 48 params

Local function representation

Single layer neural network





Single layer Dirichlet network: denoising



Multiply low-bandwidth functions: increase bandwidth



Deep network: efficiency from composition

Output: band-limited function of input



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Using deep networks for computational MRI: MoDL



Aggarwal and Jacob, ISBI 2017,TMI 2019 Learned plug and play prior

Alternating minimization

Problem Formulation

$$\mathbf{x} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \|\mathbf{x} - \mathcal{D}_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x})\|_{2}^{2}$$

Algorithm

$$\mathbf{z}_{k} = \mathcal{D}_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}_{k})$$
$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \left(\mathbf{A}^{H}\mathbf{A} + \lambda \mathbf{I}\right)^{-1} \left(\mathbf{A}^{H}\mathbf{b} + \lambda \mathbf{z}_{k}\right)$$

$$x_{0} = \begin{bmatrix} A^{H}b \\ D_{w} = \mathcal{I} - \mathcal{N}_{w} \\ CNN-based \\ Denoiser \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{z_{k}} \begin{bmatrix} (A^{H}A + \lambda I)^{-1} \\ Conjugate Gradient \\ \mathcal{DC} Layer \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{x_{k+1}}$$

Recursive architecture: training using unrolled model

Recursive formulation



Unrolled architecture with end-to-end training


MoDL: benefits







Cascade networks, Schlemper et al. 17

Data-consistency: CG within network

- SENSE forward model
- Faster convergence: better performance





Steepest descent: Hammernick et al.

Code & data: https://github.com/hkaggarwal/modl

Backpropagation through CG layer



MoDL in action





Aggarwal and Jacob, ISBI 2017,TMI 2019 Code & data: https://github.com/hkaggarwal/modl

SENSE with image domain MoDL (6x acceleration)







A^HB, 22.93 dB



Tikhonov, 34.16 dB



CSTV, 35.20 dB





Grad.Desc., 38.29 dB MoDL, 40.33 dB

Aggarwal and Jacob, TMI, 2019 Code & data: https://github.com/hkaggarwal/modl

Comparison with competing methods (Courtesy F. Knoll)



Zero filled IFFT



TGV-SENSE



Original





Var. Net Hammernick & Knoll

MoDL

Exemplar learning of SLR priors: fast reconstruction

SLR algorithms: high computational complexity



Deep learning in k-space



Pramanik, Aggarwal & Jacob, ISBI 2019

Uncalibrated parallel MRI & multishot DWI

Data acquisition using multiple coils: unknown sensitivities



Calibration-free parallel MRI using multichannel MoDL



(s) 10x mask

(t) PSLR

(u) K-UNET

(v) K-space

(w) MoDL

Learned prior in k-space and image space

$$\mathbf{x} = \arg\min_{x} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \lambda_{k} \|\mathcal{N}_{k}(\widehat{\mathbf{x}})\|^{2} + \lambda_{I} \|\mathcal{N}_{I}(\mathbf{x})\|^{2}$$

Structure of the network



MoDL-MUSSEL: Mani, Aggarwal & Jacob, MRM, in press

Calibration-free MRI using k-space & Image domain priors



MoDL vs C-MoDL

Calibration based



Calibration-free



(e) MoDL, 23.42

(f) Hybrid, 24.47





(q) MoDL, 21.77 (r) Hybrid, 22.34

10x

Multishot diffusion MRI: phase compensation





U-NET MUSE MUSSELS Proposed

MoDL-MUSSEL: Mani, Aggarwal & Jacob, MRM, in press

MoDL-MUSSELS: real-time reconstructions

Demo of Diffusion Weighted Imaging

In [2]:	<pre>_=interact(dwiRecon, Slice=Slice)</pre>
	Slice 1 ~ INFO:tensorflow:Restoring parameters from dwiModel/model-60
	100% 60/60 [00:09<00:00, 6.34it/s]
	Now calculating the PSNR (dB) values Noisy Recon 20.82 34.91
	PSLR #0 Input, PSNR=20.49 Output, PSNR=35.42

Synergistically combine priors: MoDL-SToRM

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X}) = \underbrace{\|\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{B}\|_{2}^{2}}_{\text{data consistency}} + \frac{\lambda_{1}}{2} \underbrace{\|\mathcal{N}_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{X})\|^{2}}_{\text{CNN prior}} + \frac{\lambda_{2}}{2} \underbrace{\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{X}^{T}\mathbf{L}\mathbf{X})}_{\text{SToRM prior}}.$$



Biswas, Aggarwal and Jacob, MRM, in press

Combine deep learned and manifold priors



Self-learning of manifolds using denoising auto-encoder



Self-learning of manifolds using denoising auto-encoder



DAE: initial result





Summary: From SLR to MoDL

Structured low-rank algorithms Lift data to higher dimensional matrix Exploit subspace structure

Union of surfaces model

Recovery of images on surfaces

Learning functions: link to DL



Using learned representations in CI: MoDL



Unrolled SLR: Calibrationless PMRI



(q) MoDL, 21.77

(r) Hybrid, 22.34

Acknowlegements NIH 1R01EB019961

https://research.engineering.uiowa.edu/cbig