

Nonconvex splitting algorithms and video decomposition

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*In theory, there's no
difference between theory
and practice. In practice,
there is.*

—Yogi Berra

Outline

Motivating example

A convex splitting

Nonconvex splitting

Examples

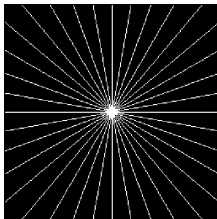
Nonconvexity is better

We reconstruct an image from samples of its Fourier transform:

$$\min_x F(\nabla x), \text{ subject to } \hat{x}|_{\Omega} = \hat{s}|_{\Omega}.$$



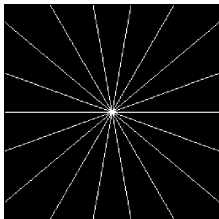
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18 lines/7% sampled



recon., $F = \|\cdot\|_1$



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recon., nonconvex F

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$$\min_{w,x} \|w\|_1 + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|w - \nabla x\|_2^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2.$$

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This [Douglas-Rachford splitting](#)² decouples the objective function from the operators.

¹J. Yang, W. Yin, Y. Zhang, Y. Wang, *SIAM J. Imaging Sci.*, 2009

²S. Setzer, *Int. J. Comput. Vision*, 2011

Moreau envelope

Minimization proceeds by alternation, iterating:

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The **Moreau envelope** e_λ of $\|\cdot\|_1$ tells us what the objective function is:

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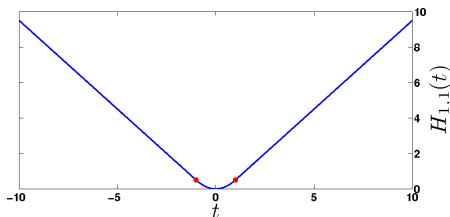
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where $H_{\lambda,1}(\vec{t})_k = h_{\lambda,1}(t_k)$ is the (componentwise) Huber function:

$$h_{\lambda,1}(t) = \begin{cases} |t|^2/2\lambda, & \text{if } |t| \leq \lambda, \\ |t| - \lambda/2, & \text{if } |t| \geq \lambda. \end{cases}$$



Simple iterations

Solving for w is separable and easy:

$$w = P_{\lambda} \|\cdot\|_1(\nabla x) = \min\{0, |\nabla x| - \lambda\} \frac{\nabla x}{|\nabla x|}.$$

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Solving for x leads to a linear equation:

$$\left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \nabla^* \nabla + \mu A^* A\right) x = \frac{1}{\lambda} \nabla^* w + \mu A^* b.$$

In many cases, this can be solved in the Fourier domain, at the cost of two FFTs.

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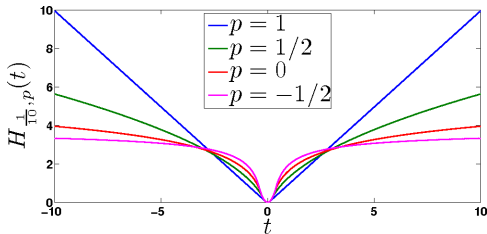
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- Use $H_{\lambda,p}$, for any $p < 1^4$:

$$h_{\lambda,p}(t) = \begin{cases} |t|^2/2\lambda, & \text{if } |t| \leq \lambda^{\frac{1}{2-p}}, \\ \frac{1}{p}|t|^p - \delta, & \text{if } |t| \geq \lambda^{\frac{1}{2-p}}. \end{cases}$$



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⁴C., *International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging*, 2009

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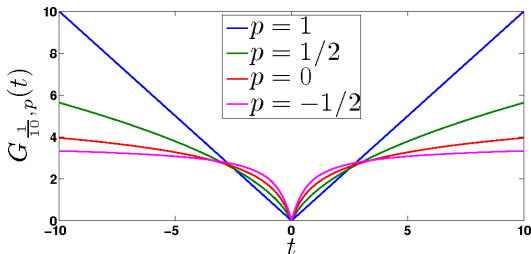
$$\frac{|t|^2}{2} - \lambda h(t) = \left(\frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} + \lambda g \right)^* (t). \quad (\odot)$$

Since $|t|^2/2 - \lambda h_{\lambda,p}(t)$ is convex by construction, we can define $g_{\lambda,p}$ by

$$\frac{|s|^2}{2} + \lambda g_{\lambda,p}(s) = \left(\frac{|\cdot|^2}{2} - \lambda h_{\lambda,p} \right)^* (s),$$

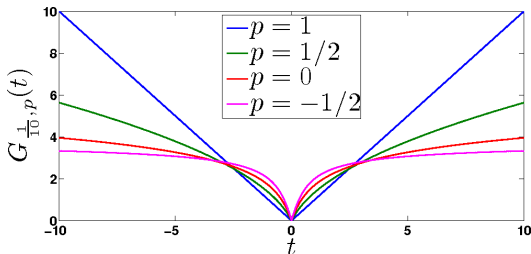
and (\odot) follows.

Proximal analog of $\|\cdot\|_1$



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The solution for w is a **p -shrinkage**:

$$w = P_\lambda G_{\lambda, p}(\nabla x) = \min\{0, |\nabla x| - \lambda |\nabla x|^{p-1}\} \frac{\nabla x}{|\nabla x|}.$$

Method of multipliers

We can enforce equality with the **method of multipliers** (also called **split Bregman**⁵ in this context):

$$\min_{w,x} G_{\lambda,p}(w) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|w - \nabla x - \Lambda_1\|_2^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|Ax - b - \Lambda_2\|_2^2,$$

where at each iteration we update

$$\Lambda_1^{n+1} = \Lambda_1^n + c_n(w^n - \nabla x^n),$$

$$\Lambda_2^{n+1} = \Lambda_2^n + d_n(b - Ax^n).$$

⁵T. Goldstein and S. Osher, *SIAM J. Imaging Sci.*, 2009

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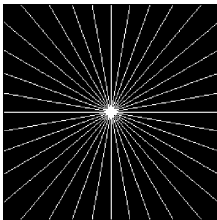
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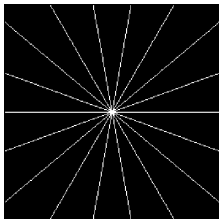
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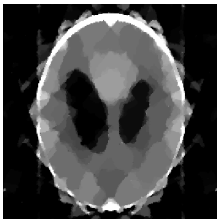
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$F = H_{\lambda, -1/2}$

Low rank + sparse decomposition

We seek to decompose a matrix D of high-dimensional data into low-rank and sparse components:

$$\min_{L,S} \text{rank}(L) + \mu \|S\|_0, \text{ subject to } L + S = D.$$

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A tractable approximation is to solve⁷:

$$\min_{L,S} \sum_k g_{\lambda,p}(\sigma_k(L)) + \mu G_{\lambda,p}(S) + \frac{\mu}{2\lambda} \|D - L - S - \Lambda\|_F^2.$$

⁶J. Wright, A. Ganesh, S. Rao, Y. Peng, and Y. Ma, *Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2009

⁷Z. Lin, M. Chen, Y. Ma, preprint, 2010 ($p = 1$ case)

Video example



video D , 240×320 pixels, 288 frames

Video example



sparse component S

Video example



low-rank component L

Noisy data

Now we penalize the 3D total (q -)variation of S , with $q \leq 1$:

$$\min_{L,S,V,W} \sum_k g_{\lambda,p}(\sigma_k(L)) + \alpha G_{\mu,p}(V) + \beta G_{\nu,q}(W) \\ + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|D - L - S\|_F^2 + \frac{\alpha}{2\mu} \|V - S - \Lambda_1\|_F^2 + \frac{\beta}{2\nu} \|W - \nabla S - \Lambda_2\|_F^2.$$

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Solving for L , V , and W is done by shrinkage, and the quadratic problem for S can be solved using two FFTs.

Preserving noisy shapes

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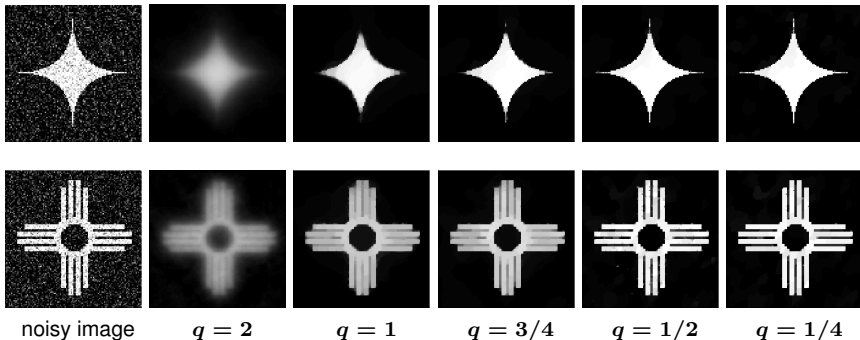
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⁸C., *International Conference on Image Processing*, 2007

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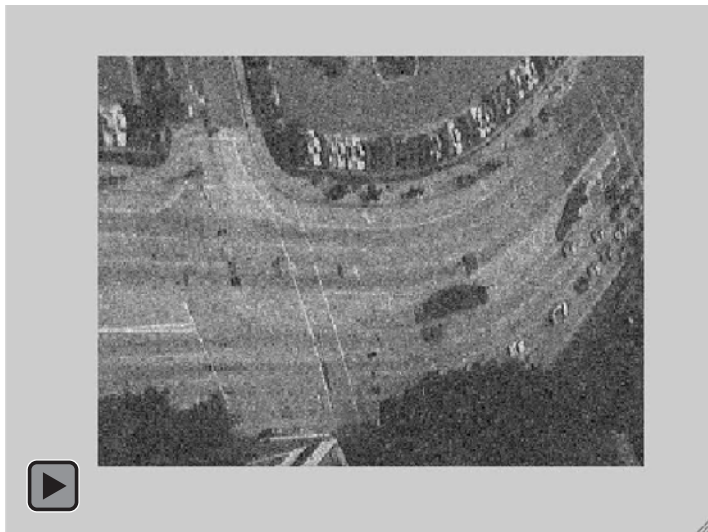
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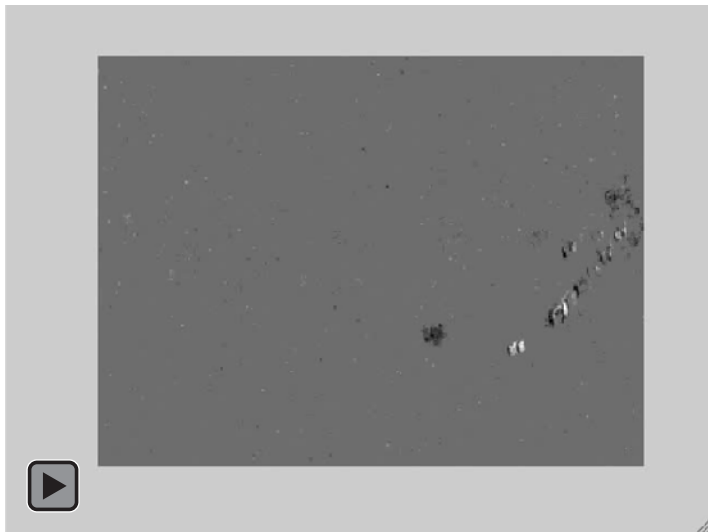
⁸C., *International Conference on Image Processing*, 2007

Noisy video example



noisy video D

Noisy video example



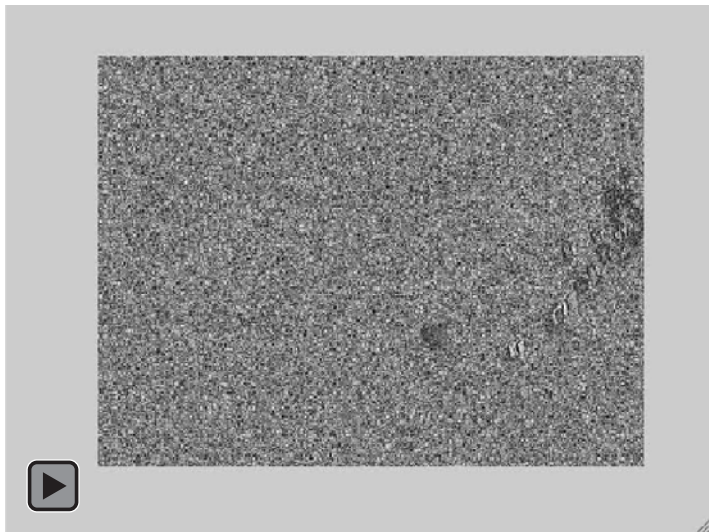
sparse component S , $q = 1/2$

Noisy video example



low-rank component L

Noisy video example



residual; SNR of $L + S$ is 16.9 dB for $q = 1/2$, 15.7 dB for $q = 1$

Summary

- ▶ Nonconvex optimization gives better results for sparse recovery (in practice).
- ▶ State-of-the-art convex optimization methods can be extended to the nonconvex case, giving excellent computational efficiency.

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