

Tensor-Free Algorithms for Convex Liftings of Bilinear Inverse Problems with Applications to Masked Phase Retrieval

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Masked FOURIER phase retrieval

Problem formulation

Recover the image $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$ from its *masked FOURIER intensities*

$$|\mathcal{F}_M[\mathbf{d}_\ell \odot \mathbf{u}]| \quad (\ell = 0, \dots, L-1). \quad (\mathfrak{F})$$

- More precisely, the unknown signal \mathbf{u} is first pointwise multiplied with the masks $\mathbf{d}_\ell \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$ and afterwards M -point FOURIER transformed by

$$(\mathcal{F}_M[\mathbf{v}])[m_2, m_1] := \sum_{n_2, n_1=0}^{N-1} \mathbf{v}[n_2, n_1] e^{-2\pi i(n_2 m_2 + n_1 m_1)/M}.$$

- Taking squares, the problem becomes $|\mathcal{F}_M[\mathbf{u}]|^2 = \mathbf{g}^\dagger$ and may be interpreted as *quadratic inverse problem*, which is a special case ($\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}$) of the *bilinear inverse problems*.

Bilinear inverse problem

Let $\mathcal{B}: \mathcal{H}_1 \times \mathcal{H}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ be a bilinear operator between finite-dimensional, real HILBERT spaces. Recover (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) from the given data

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{g}^\dagger. \quad (\mathfrak{B})$$

First-order proximal algorithms for linear liftings

Tensorial liftings

Using the universal property, we always find a unique linear *tensorial lifting* $\check{\mathcal{B}}: \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ with $\check{\mathcal{B}}(\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v}) = \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$.

- Therefore, the bilinear inverse problem (\mathfrak{B}) is equivalent to

$$\check{\mathcal{B}}(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{g}^\dagger \quad \text{with} \quad \text{rank}(\mathbf{w}) = 1. \quad (\check{\mathfrak{B}})$$

- To find the solution in the noise-free case, we minimize the nuclear norm $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2}$ over the solution set of the lifted problem.

Convex relaxation

Solve the convex relaxed version of $(\check{\mathfrak{B}})$:

$$\text{minimize} \quad \|\mathbf{w}\|_{\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2} \quad \text{with} \quad \check{\mathcal{B}}(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{g}^\dagger. \quad (\mathfrak{B}_0)$$

- Minimizers for (\mathfrak{B}_0) can be determined by first-order proximal algorithms like the primal-dual iteration [CP11].

Primal-dual iteration

For suitable $\sigma, \tau > 0$, and $\theta \in [0, 1]$, the iteration

$$\mathbf{y}^{(n+1)} := \mathbf{y}^{(n)} + \sigma \left(\check{\mathcal{B}}((1+\theta)\mathbf{w}^{(n)} - \theta\mathbf{w}^{(n-1)}) - \mathbf{g}^\dagger \right),$$

$$\mathbf{w}^{(n+1)} := \mathcal{S}_\tau(\mathbf{w}^{(n)} - \tau \check{\mathcal{B}}^*(\mathbf{y}^{(n+1)})).$$

yields a solution of the convex relaxation (\mathfrak{B}_0) .

- The (soft) *singular value thresholding* is given by

$$\mathcal{S}_\tau(\mathbf{w}) := \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} \mathcal{S}_\tau(\sigma_r)(\mathbf{u}_r \otimes \mathbf{v}_r) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{S}_\tau(t) := \begin{cases} t - \tau & \text{if } t \geq \tau, \\ 0 & \text{if } t < \tau, \end{cases}$$

where $\mathbf{w} = \sum_{r=0}^{R-1} \sigma_r(\mathbf{u}_r \otimes \mathbf{v}_r)$ is the SVD with respect to \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 .

- Adaptations to quadratic problems like phase retrieval and to noisy measurements are straightforward.

Tensor-free computation and reweighting

- The main drawbacks of the proposed algorithm are the tensorial operations \mathcal{S}_τ , $\check{\mathcal{B}}$, and $\check{\mathcal{B}}^*$, especially, due to the dimension of $\mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$.
- To overcome this issue, we exploit that the nuclear norm heuristic usually enforces low-rank iterations.

Tensor-free proximal mappings

- Storing the singular values/vectors instead of the full tensor, we can efficiently evaluate the operator $\check{\mathcal{B}}$ using the universal property.
- For $\mathcal{S}_\tau(\mathbf{w})$, we apply a restarted augmented LANCZOS process [BR05] to compute all singular values/vectors greater than τ . This process only require the left- and right-hand action of \mathbf{w} .
- The actions of $\check{\mathcal{B}}^*(\mathbf{y}^{(n+1)})$ can be computed using the adjoints of the linear mappings $\mathbf{u} \mapsto \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}')$, $\mathbf{v} \mapsto \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{u}', \mathbf{v})$ for fixed $\mathbf{u}' \in \mathcal{H}_1$, $\mathbf{v}' \in \mathcal{H}_2$.

- For further rank reduction, we propose a novel reweighting heuristic for \mathcal{H}_1 and, analogously, for \mathcal{H}_2 .

HILBERT space reweighting

Every few iterations, replace the inner product of \mathcal{H}_1 by

$$\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_1'} := \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_1} - \sum_{n=0}^{S-1} \lambda_n \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{e}_n \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_1} \langle \mathbf{e}_n, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_1}$$

with $\lambda_n \in (0, 1)$ and orthonormal vectors \mathbf{e}_n .

- Choosing \mathbf{e}_n as the singular vectors of $\mathbf{w}^{(n)}$, we can promote these directions in the subsequent iterations.

Application to masked phase retrieval

- We apply the developed algorithm to the phase retrieval problem (\mathfrak{F}) with randomly generated RADEMACHER masks

$$\mathbf{d}_\ell[n_2, n_1] \sim \begin{cases} \sqrt{2} & \text{with probability } 1/4, \\ 0 & \text{with probability } 1/2, \\ -\sqrt{2} & \text{with probability } 1/4, \end{cases}$$

see [CLS15, GKK17].

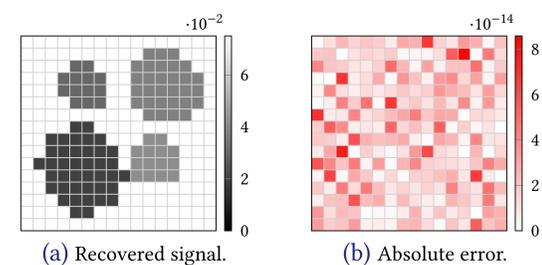


Figure: Primal-dual iteration for a synthetic test image with augmented LANCZOS process and reweighting.

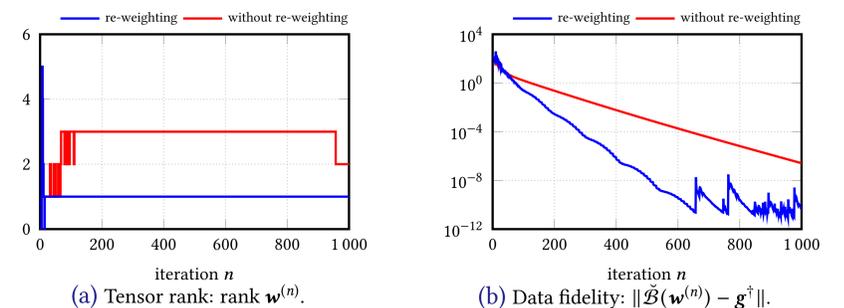


Figure: Evolution of the rank and data fidelity with and without reweighting in the previous example.

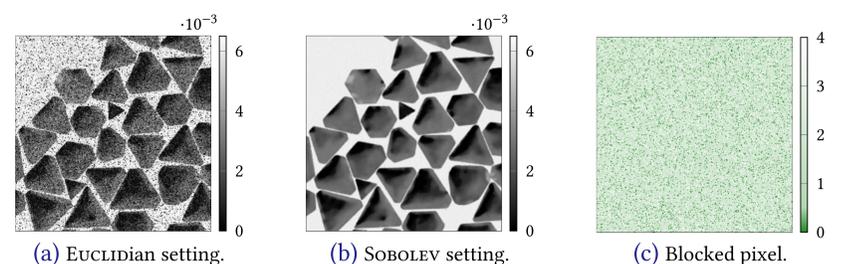


Figure: Results for a 256×256 test image. (FOURIER data created on the basis of TEM micrographs of gold nanoparticles [LSP⁺16].) The RADEMACHER masks block a sixteenth of the image. Here, we endow \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 with the EUCLIDIAN and with a SOBOLEV inner product.

Conclusion

- Using the augmented Lanczos process and reweighting technique, we obtain an efficient lifting algorithm that avoids direct computations on the tensor product.
- Choosing \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_2 suitably, we can directly incorporate a priori assumptions like smoothness properties into the nuclear norm.
- The proposed recovery technique may also be applied to further bilinear or quadratic recovery problems like deautoconvolution, blind deconvolution, and parallel magnetic resonance imaging.

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