Online Group-Structured Dictionary Learning

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1. Introduction

- Sparse coding.
- Structured sparsity (e.g., disjunct groups, trees): increased performance in several applications.
- **Our goal**: develop a dictionary learning method, which
  - enables general overlapping group structures,
  - is online: fast, memory efficient, adaptive,
  - applies non-convex sparsity inducing regularization:
    - fewer measurements,
    - weaker conditions on the dictionary,
    - robust (w.r.t. noise, compressibility).
  - can deal with missing information.

Current approaches can exhibit two of these features at most.

2. Problem

Task:

- Group structure inducing on the hidden representation $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ through regularization:

$$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \|(\|\boldsymbol{\alpha}_G\|_2)_{G\in\mathcal{G}}\|_\eta, \tag{1}$$
$$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \|(\|\mathbf{d}^G \circ \boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_2)_{G\in\mathcal{G}}\|_\eta, \tag{2}$$
$$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \|(\|\mathbf{A}^G\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_2)_{G\in\mathcal{G}}\|_\eta. \tag{3}$$

- Approximate observation $\mathbf{x}$ on the observed coordinates ($\mathbf{x}_O$) using dictionary $\mathbf{D}$:

$$\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x}_O - \mathbf{D}_O\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_2^2. \tag{4}$$

- Loss for a fixed observation:

$$l(\mathbf{x}_O, \mathbf{D}_O) = \min_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}\left[\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x}_O - \mathbf{D}_O\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_2^2 + \kappa\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})\right], \tag{5}$$

- Goal: minimize the average loss of the dictionary

$$\min_{\mathbf{D}} f_t(\mathbf{D}) := \frac{1}{t}\sum_{i=1}^{t} l(\mathbf{x}_{O_i}, \mathbf{D}_{O_i}). \tag{6}$$

- Possible dictionary/representation constraints:
  - $\mathbf{D} \in \mathcal{D} = \times_{i=1}^{d_\alpha}\mathcal{D}_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d_x}$: closed, convex, and bounded.
  - $\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d_\alpha}$: convex, closed.

3. Special cases

$O_i = \{1,\ldots,d_x\}$ $(\forall i)$: fully observed OSDL task.

Special cases for $\mathcal{G}$:

'Traditional' sparse dictionary	$\mathcal{G}$ = $\{\{1\},\{2\},\ldots,\{d_\alpha\}\}$.
Hierarchical dictionary	$\mathcal{G}$ = descendants of the nodes.
Grid adopted dictionary	$\mathcal{G}$ = nearest neighbors of the nodes.
Group Lasso	$\mathcal{G}$ = partition.
Elastic net	$\mathcal{G}$ = singletons and $\{1,\ldots,d_\alpha\}$.
Contiguous, nonzero representations	$\mathcal{G}$ = intervals.

Special cases for $\mathcal{D}$, $\mathcal{A}$:

Structured NMF	non-negative $\mathbf{D}$ and $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$.
Structured mixture-of-topics model	ℓ_1 constained $\mathbf{D}$, non-negative $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$.

Special cases for $\{\mathbf{A}^G\}_{G\in\mathcal{G}}$:

Fused Lasso	$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$ = $\sum_{j=1}^{d_\alpha-1}\lvert\alpha_{j+1}-\alpha_j\rvert$
Graph-guided fusion penalty	$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$ = $\sum_{e=(i,j)\in E:i<j} w_{ij}\lvert\alpha_i - v_{ij}\alpha_j\rvert$
Linear trend/polynomial filtering	$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$ = $\sum_{j=2}^{d_\alpha-1}\lvert-\alpha_{j-1}+2\alpha_j-\alpha_{j+1}\rvert$
Generalized Lasso penalty	$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$ = $\|\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_1$
Total variation	$\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$ = $\sum_{i=1}^{d_1}\sum_{j=1}^{d_2}\|(\nabla\boldsymbol{\alpha})_{ij}\|_2$

4. Optimization

Online optimization of dictionary $\mathbf{D}$ through alternations:

1. $(\mathbf{x}_{O_t}, \mathbf{D}_{t-1}, O_t) \mapsto \boldsymbol{\alpha}_t$:

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha}_t = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}\in\mathcal{A}}\left[\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x}_{O_t} - (\mathbf{D}_{t-1})_{O_t}\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_2^2 + \kappa\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})\right]. \tag{7}$$

   Solution idea: iterated reweighted least squares using the variational property of $\|\cdot\|_\eta$.

2. $\{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i\}_{i=1}^t \mapsto \mathbf{D}_t$ by means of quadratic optimization:

$$\hat{f}_t(\mathbf{D}_t) = \min_{\mathbf{D}\in\mathcal{D}} f_t(\mathbf{D}, \{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i\}_{i=1}^t). \tag{8}$$

   Solution idea:
   - block-coordinate descent optimization: update column $\mathbf{d}_j$, while keeping the others fixed,
   - statistics of the cost $\hat{f}_t$ can be efficiently updated online (matrix recursions).

5. Numerical experiments

5.1 Inpainting of natural images

We focused on the following questions:

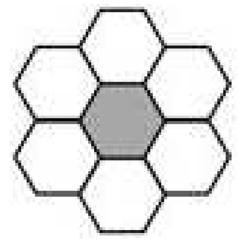
- structured (toroid) vs. unstructured dictionary for inpainting,
- efficiency in case of missing observations,
- inpainting of *full images* using dictionaries learned on partially observed patches.

First experiment (complete observation):

- increasing neighbor size = decreasing MSE.
- $r = 3$: $13-19\%$ improvement compared to the unstructured case ($r = 0$).

Second experiment (neighbor size: $r = 3$, missing pixels: $p_{tr} \leq 0.9$):

- Up to about $p_{tr} = 0.7$: MSE grows slowly.
- D-s in Fig. 3(d)-(f).
- For $p_{tr} = 0.9$, MSE still relatively small, see Fig. 4(a).



Third experiment (neighbor size: $r = 3$, missing pixels: $p_{tr} = 0.5$):

- Task: inpainting of a *full* unseen image.
- Result: sliding average, Fig. 4(a), $p_{test}^{val} = 0.7$, PSNR = 29 dB.

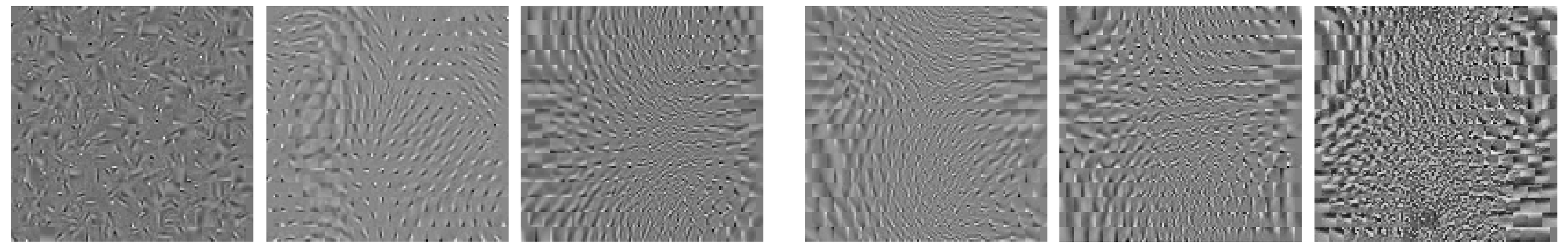


Figure 3: *Group-structured* $\mathbf{D}$*-s. (a)-(c): complete; increasing neighbor size. (d)-(f): increasing incompleteness.*

5.2 Online structured non-negative matrix factorization on faces

- Online, $\mathcal{G}$-NMF: special case of OSDL.
- Illustration: color FERET large-scale (140×120) facial dataset.
- $\mathcal{G}$: complete, 8-level binary tree ($d_\alpha = 255$).

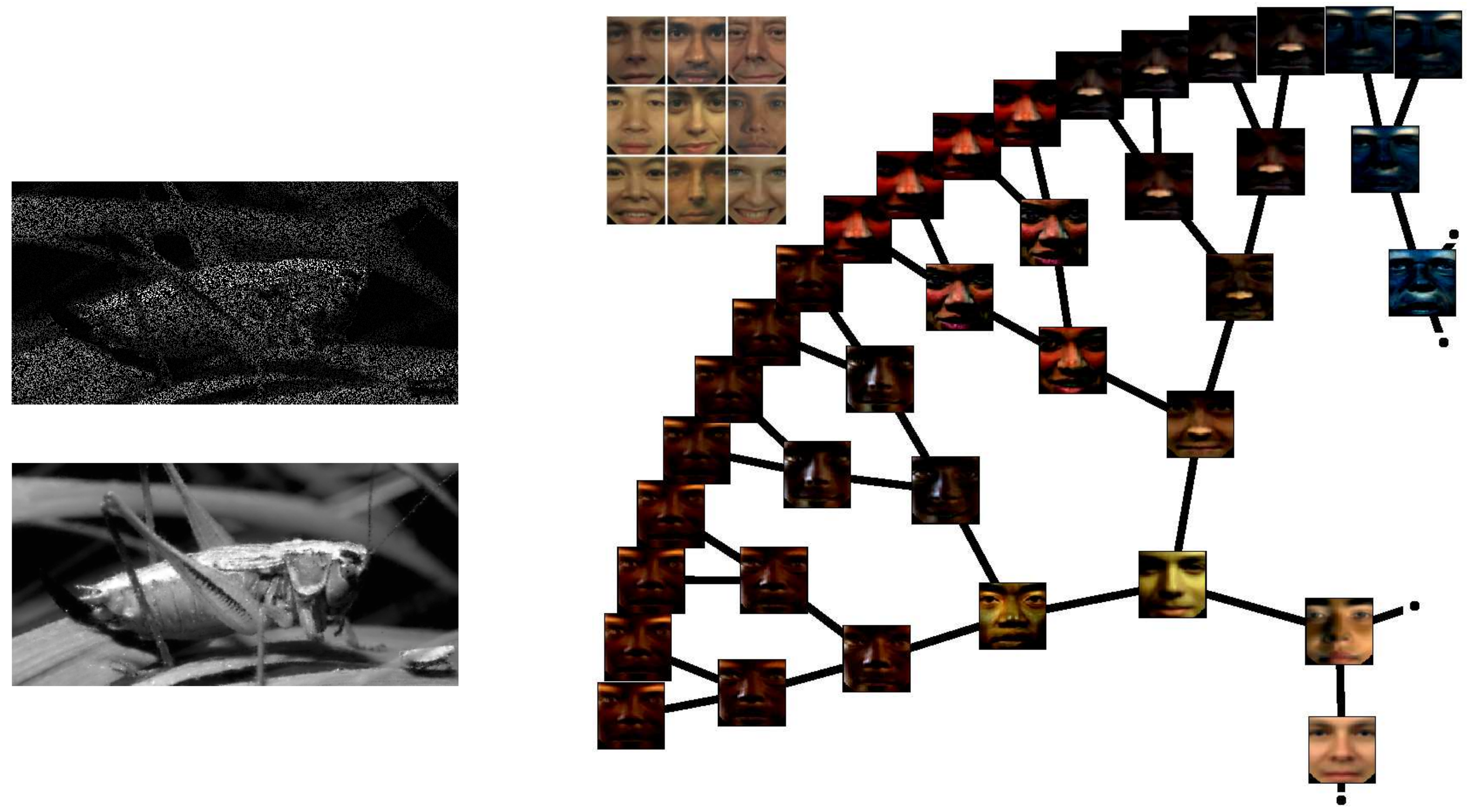


Figure 4: *(a): full image inpainting illustration; top: observed, bottom: estimated. (b): structured NMF dictionary, training samples at the upper left corner.*

The research was partly supported by the Department of Energy (grant number DESC0002607).

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MAGYARORSZÁG MEGÚJUL

The Project is supported by the European Union and co-financed by the European Social Fund (grant agreement no. TAMOP 4.2.1./B-09/1/KMR-2010-0003).