Structured recovery for imaging and image processing

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## Collaborators



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## Quadratic and bilinear equations

Simple (but only recently appreciated) observation:
Systems of bilinear equations, e. g.

$$
\begin{gathered}
u_{1} v_{1}+5 u_{1} v_{2}+7 u_{2} v_{3}=-12 \\
u_{3} v_{1}-9 u_{2} v_{2}+4 u_{3} v_{2}=2
\end{gathered}
$$

can be recast as linear system of equations on a matrix that has rank 1:

$$
u v^{T}=\left[\begin{array}{ccccc}
u_{1} v_{1} & u_{1} v_{2} & u_{1} v_{3} & \cdots & u_{1} v_{N} \\
u_{2} v_{1} & u_{2} v_{2} & u_{2} v_{3} & \cdots & u_{2} v_{N} \\
u_{3} v_{1} & u_{3} v_{2} & u_{3} v_{3} & \cdots & u_{3} v_{N} \\
\vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \\
u_{K} v_{1} & u_{K} v_{2} & u_{K} v_{3} & \cdots & u_{K} v_{N}
\end{array}\right]
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## Quadratic and bilinear equations

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u_{K} v_{1} & u_{K} v_{2} & u_{K} v_{3} & \cdots & u_{K} v_{N}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Compressive (low rank) recovery $\Rightarrow$
"Generic" quadratic/bilinear systems with $c N$ equations and $N$ unknowns can be solved using nuclear norm minimization

## Phase retrieval



Observe the magnitude of the Fourier transform $|\hat{x}(\omega)|^{2}$ $\hat{x}(\omega)$ is complex, and its phase carries important information
(Candes, Eldar, Li, Soltanolkotabi, Strohmer, and Voroninski)

## Blind deconvolution


multipath in wireless comm

(image from EngineeringsALL)
We observe

$$
y[\ell]=\sum_{n} s[n] h[\ell-n]
$$

and want to "untangle" $\boldsymbol{s}$ and $\boldsymbol{h}$.

## Blind deconvolution as low rank recovery

Each sample of $\boldsymbol{y}=\boldsymbol{s} * \boldsymbol{h}$ is a bilinear combination of the unknowns,

$$
y[\ell]=\sum_{n} s[n] h[\ell-n]
$$

and is a linear combination of $\boldsymbol{s} \boldsymbol{h}^{\mathrm{T}}$ :


## Blind deconvolution as low rank recovery

Given $\boldsymbol{y}=\boldsymbol{s} * \boldsymbol{h}$, it is impossible to untangle $\boldsymbol{s}$ and $\boldsymbol{h}$ unless we make some structural assumptions

Structure: $\boldsymbol{s}$ and $\boldsymbol{h}$ live in known subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^{L}$; we can write

$$
\boldsymbol{s}=\boldsymbol{B} \boldsymbol{u}, \quad \boldsymbol{h}=\boldsymbol{C} \boldsymbol{v}, \quad B: L \times K, \quad C: L \times N
$$

where $\boldsymbol{B}$ and $\boldsymbol{C}$ are matrices whose columns form bases for these spaces

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where $\boldsymbol{B}$ and $\boldsymbol{C}$ are matrices whose columns form bases for these spaces
We can now write blind deconvolution as a linear inverse problem with a rank contraint:

$$
\boldsymbol{y}=\mathcal{A}\left(\boldsymbol{X}_{0}\right), \quad \text { where } \quad \boldsymbol{X}_{0}=\boldsymbol{u} \boldsymbol{v}^{\mathrm{T}} \text { has rank=1 }
$$

The action of $\mathcal{A}(\cdot)$ can be broken down into three linear steps:

$$
\boldsymbol{X}_{0} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{B} \boldsymbol{X}_{0} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{B} \boldsymbol{X}_{0} \boldsymbol{C}^{\mathrm{T}} \rightarrow \text { take skew-diagonal sums }
$$

## Blind deconvolution theoretical results

We observe

$$
\begin{aligned}
\boldsymbol{y} & =\boldsymbol{s} * \boldsymbol{h}, \quad \boldsymbol{h}=\boldsymbol{B} \boldsymbol{u}, \quad \boldsymbol{s}=\boldsymbol{C} \boldsymbol{v} \\
& =\mathcal{A}\left(\boldsymbol{u} \boldsymbol{v}^{\mathrm{T}}\right), \quad \boldsymbol{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{K}, \quad \boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{N},
\end{aligned}
$$

and then solve

$$
\min _{\boldsymbol{X}}\|\boldsymbol{X}\|_{*} \text { subject to } \mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{X})=\boldsymbol{y}
$$

Ahmed, Recht, R, '12:
If $\boldsymbol{B}$ is "incoherent" in the Fourier domain, and $\boldsymbol{C}$ is randomly chosen, then we will recover $\boldsymbol{X}_{0}=\boldsymbol{s} \boldsymbol{h}^{\mathrm{T}}$ exactly (with high probability) when

$$
L \geq \text { Const } \cdot(K+N) \cdot \log ^{3}(K N)
$$

## Passive estimation of multiple channels




## Recovery results

Source / output length: 1000
Number of channels: 100
Channel impulse response length: 50

## Original:




## Passive imaging of the ocean



## Realistic (simulated) ocean channels



Sensor Arrays

- Noise signal is in the broad band $400 \sim 600 \mathrm{~Hz}$
- The distance between the noise source and sensor arrays is approximate 1 km



## Realistic (simulated) ocean channels



Build a subspace model using bandwidth and approximate arrival times (about 20 dimensions per channel)

## Simulated recovery



$\sim 100$ channels total, $\sim 2000$ samples per channel, Normalized error $\sim 10^{-4}$ (no noise), robust with noise

## Multiple sources



- Memoryless: structured matrix factorization (SMF) problem ICA, NNMF, dictionary learning, etc.
- Use matrix recovery to make convolutional channels "memoryless": recover rank $M$ matrix, run SMF on column space


## Low-rank recovery + ICA on broadband voice



## Imaging architecture



- Small number of sensors with gaps between them
- Blurring introduced to "fill in" these gaps
- Uncalibrated: blur kernel is unknown



## Masked imaging linear algebra



- Operator coefficients $\boldsymbol{a}$, image $\boldsymbol{x}$ unknown
- Observations: $\mathcal{A}\left(\boldsymbol{a} \boldsymbol{x}^{\mathrm{T}}\right)$
- Alternative interpretation: structured matrix factorization

$$
\boldsymbol{Y}=(\boldsymbol{G} \boldsymbol{H}) \operatorname{diag}(\boldsymbol{X}) \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{\mathrm{T}}
$$

## Masked imaging: theoretical results


$L$ pixels, $N$ sensors, $K$ codes
Theorem (Bahimani, R '14):
We can jointly recover the blur $\boldsymbol{H}$ and the image $\boldsymbol{X}$ for a number of codes:

$$
K \gtrsim \mu^{2} \frac{L}{N} \cdot \log ^{3}(L) \log \log N
$$

$\mu^{2} \geq 1$ measures how spread out blur is in frequency

## Masked imaging: numerical results


original

blur

blurred image

blurred, subsampled

- No structural model for the image
- Blur model: build basis from psfs over a range of focal lengths (EPFL PSF Generator, Born and Wolf model)

Masked imaging: numerical results
Recovery results: 16k pixels, 64 sensors, 200 codes

originals
recovery

## Simultaneous sparse and low rank

Problem 1: We want to recover $\boldsymbol{x} \boldsymbol{x}^{\mathrm{T}}$ when $\boldsymbol{x}$ is $K$ sparse

or more generally $\boldsymbol{W} \boldsymbol{W}^{\mathrm{T}}$, where $\boldsymbol{W}: N \times R$ is row sparse


We would like $\sim K R$ measurements instead of $\sim K^{2}$ or $\sim K N$

## Simultaneous sparse and low rank

Problem 2: We want to recover $\boldsymbol{X}$ with only $K$ active rows


## Prior work

For $\boldsymbol{X}$ simultaneously sparse and low rank ...

- For $\mathcal{A}(\cdot)$ a random projection, it stably embeds this set of matrices (RIP)
(Golbabaee '12, Lee et al '13)
- Convex relaxation for phase retrieval problem,
(Li and Voron. '13)
Extended to rank- $R$ (Chen et al '13)
- Convex relaxation is generally not the best strategy (Oymak et al, '13) (M. Fazel's talk yesterday)
- Alternating minimization has similar guarantees (Netrapalli et al '13)
- Numerical results (Shechtman et al '11-'14, Schniter et al '15) suggest that we can do much better
- Identifiability (Li et al '15) conditions for blind deconvolution also
suggest we can do much better
- Sparse power factorization (Lee et al '13) is efficient from observations that have RIP


## Prior work

For $\boldsymbol{X}$ simultaneously sparse and low rank ...
(RIP)
(Golbabaee '12, Lee et al '13)

- Convex relaxation for phase retrieval problem, $y_{m}=\left\langle\boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{a}_{m} \boldsymbol{a}_{m}^{\mathrm{T}}\right\rangle, \quad m=1, \ldots, M$, success for $M \sim K^{2} \log N$ (Li and Voron. '13)
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## Compressive phase retrieval with correlated measurements

Observe

$$
y_{\ell}=\left|\left\langle\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}\right\rangle\right|^{2}+\text { noise }, \quad \ell=1, \ldots, L
$$

$\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{N} K$-sparse, $\boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}$ structured

$$
\boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}=\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell}
$$

$\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}}$ is $M \times N, \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell}$ are generic (random)
$\boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}$ all lie in a subspace $\Rightarrow$ we can decouple the recovery into two stages

Note

$$
y_{\ell}=\left\langle\boldsymbol{x} \boldsymbol{x}^{*}, \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}\right\rangle=\left\langle\boldsymbol{\Psi} \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}}, \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell}^{\mathrm{T}}\right\rangle
$$

## Two-stage decoding

Given

$$
y_{\ell}=\left\langle\boldsymbol{x}_{0} \boldsymbol{x}_{0}^{*}, \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}\right\rangle=\left\langle\boldsymbol{\Psi} \boldsymbol{X}_{0} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}}, \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell}^{\mathrm{T}}\right\rangle, \quad \boldsymbol{y}=\mathcal{W}\left(\boldsymbol{\Psi} \boldsymbol{X}_{0} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}}\right)
$$

we solve

$$
\hat{\boldsymbol{B}}=\arg \min _{\boldsymbol{B} \succeq \mathbf{0}} \operatorname{trace}(\boldsymbol{B}) \quad \text { subject to } \quad\|\mathcal{W}(\boldsymbol{B})-\boldsymbol{y}\|_{2} \leq \epsilon
$$

and then

$$
\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}=\arg \min _{\boldsymbol{X}}\|\boldsymbol{X}\|_{1} \quad \text { subject to } \quad\left\|\boldsymbol{\Psi} \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}}-\hat{\boldsymbol{B}}\right\|_{F} \leq \frac{C \epsilon}{\sqrt{M}}
$$

(We might use many different algorithms for these two steps, and get the same guarantees...)

## Recovery guarantees

Observe

$$
y_{\ell}=\left|\left\langle\boldsymbol{x}_{0}, \boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}\right\rangle\right|^{2}+z_{\ell}, \quad \boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}=\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{w}_{\ell}, \quad \ell=1, \ldots, L
$$

Suppose that

- The $\boldsymbol{w}_{\ell} \in \mathbb{R}^{M}$ are $\operatorname{Normal}(0, \mathbf{I})$
- The matrix $\Psi$ embeds $K$-sparse vectors ( $2 K$-RIP)
- The noise $\boldsymbol{z}$ is bounded, $\|\boldsymbol{z}\|_{2} \leq \epsilon$

Then if

$$
L \geq C_{1} K \log (N / K)
$$

the two stage algorithm produces an estimate $\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}$ such that

$$
\left\|\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}-\boldsymbol{x}_{0} \boldsymbol{x}_{0}^{\mathrm{T}}\right\|_{F} \leq C_{2} \frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{L}}
$$

with high probability, uniform over all rank-1 $k \times k$ sparse matrices.
(Bahmani, R '15)

## Numerical results



Recovery error vs. sparsity for different ( $M, L$ )

## Numerical results



Recovery error vs. sparsity for two-stage, just $\ell_{1}$, just SDP low rank, SDP low rank, sparse

## Covariance sketching

Data $\boldsymbol{x}_{1}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{x}_{Q}$ with covariance $\mathrm{E}\left[\boldsymbol{x} \boldsymbol{x}^{\mathrm{T}}\right]=\boldsymbol{R}$.
Compress/sketch data by correlating against one of $L$ vectors $\boldsymbol{a}_{\ell},\left\langle\boldsymbol{x}_{t}, \boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}\right\rangle$
Then if we used the same $\boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}$ for all $t \in \mathcal{T}_{\ell}$,

$$
\frac{1}{\left|\mathcal{T}_{\ell}\right|} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}_{\ell}}\left|\left\langle\boldsymbol{x}_{t}, \boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}\right\rangle\right|^{2} \approx \boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{R} \boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}
$$

$\Rightarrow$ estimating $\boldsymbol{R}$ from sketches is similar to phase retrieval (Chen et al '13)

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$$

$\Rightarrow$ estimating $\boldsymbol{R}$ from sketches is similar to phase retrieval (Chen et al '13)

If $\boldsymbol{R}=\boldsymbol{V} \boldsymbol{V}^{\mathrm{T}}$, where $\boldsymbol{V}$ is $N \times R$ and $K$-row sparse, $L \sim R K \log (N / K)$ then we find $\hat{\boldsymbol{V}}$ such that

$$
\left\|\boldsymbol{R}-\hat{\boldsymbol{V}} \hat{\boldsymbol{V}}^{\mathrm{T}}\right\|_{F} \leq \text { Const } \frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{L}}
$$

We can do so while only manipulating matrices of size $\sim N R$
(Bahmani, R '15)

## Simultaneously sparse and low rank recovery from nested measurements

Suppose $\boldsymbol{X}_{0}$ is $N \times N, K$-row sparse, rank $R, \boldsymbol{\Phi}$ is $M \times N$. Measure

$$
\boldsymbol{y}=\mathcal{W}\left(\boldsymbol{\Psi} \boldsymbol{X}_{0}\right)+\boldsymbol{z}, \quad \boldsymbol{z} \sim \operatorname{Normal}\left(0, \sigma^{2} \mathbf{I}\right)
$$

If $\mathcal{W}(\cdot)$ is $c_{1} R$-RIP, $\boldsymbol{\Psi}$ is $c_{2} K$-RIP, then two-stage recovery yields $\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}$ with

$$
\left\|\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}-\boldsymbol{X}_{0}\right\|_{F} \lesssim \sigma \sqrt{R \max (M, N)}
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If $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ is a good CS matrix, take $M \sim K \log N$.

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Minimax lower bound:

$$
\left\|\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}-\boldsymbol{X}_{0}\right\|_{F} \gtrsim \sigma \sqrt{K \log (N / K)+R K}
$$

Convex shape composition

## Image segmentation



## Variational image segmentation

- Image domain $D \subset \mathbb{R}^{d}$, pixel values $u(x), x \in D$
- Binary segmentation: partition $D$ into $\Sigma$ and $D \backslash \Sigma$


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- A standard variational model (Chan and Vese):

$$
\Sigma^{*}=\underset{\Sigma}{\arg \min } \gamma(\Sigma)+\int_{\Sigma} \Pi_{i n}(x) \mathrm{d} x+\int_{D \backslash \Sigma} \Pi_{e x}(x) \mathrm{d} x
$$

where $\Pi_{i n}() \geq$.0 and $\Pi_{e x}() \geq$.0 are image-dependent inhomogeneity measures

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Pi_{i n}(x)=\left(u(x)-\tilde{u}_{i n}\right)^{2} \\
& \Pi_{e x}(x)=\left(u(x)-\tilde{u}_{e x}\right)^{2}
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\end{aligned}
$$

- Other choices $\Pi_{i n / e x}(x)=-\log \mathrm{P}\left(v(x) \mid \theta_{i n / e x}\right)$, where $v$ is a similarity feature of interest (intensity, texture, pattern)


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## Dictionary of shapes

$$
\Sigma^{*}=\underset{\Sigma}{\arg \min } \gamma(\Sigma)+\int_{\Sigma}\left(\Pi_{i n}(x)-\Pi_{e x}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x
$$

Parameterize possible $\Sigma$ using:

- Dictionary of shapes $\mathfrak{D}=\left\{\mathcal{S}_{1}, \mathcal{S}_{2}, \cdots, \mathcal{S}_{n_{s}}\right\}$
- Shape composition rule

$$
\mathbb{R}_{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \triangleq\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right) \backslash\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right),
$$



## Shape composition problem

$$
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$$

Shape composition problem:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}{ }^{*}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}{ }^{*}\right\}=\underset{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}{\arg \min } \int_{\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}}\left(\Pi_{i n}(x)-\Pi_{e x}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x \tag{SC}
\end{equation*}
$$

Cardinal shape composition problem: (restrict the number of shapes used)
(Cardinal-SC) $\min _{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \int_{\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}}\left(\Pi_{i n}(x)-\Pi_{e x}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x \quad$ s.t. : $\quad\left|\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}\right|+\left|\mathcal{I}_{\ominus}\right| \leq s$

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Both of these are hard, combinatorial problems

## Representing shapes

Basic idea: superimpose indicator functions, then cut between 0 and 1
$\chi_{\mathcal{S}}=$ indicator function for set $\mathcal{S}$


$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{supp}^{+}\left(\alpha_{1} \chi_{\mathcal{S}_{1}}+\alpha_{2} \chi_{\mathcal{S}_{2}}\right) & =\mathcal{S}_{1} \cup \mathcal{S}_{2} \\
\operatorname{supp}^{+}\left(\alpha_{1} \chi_{\mathcal{S}_{1}}-\alpha_{2} \chi_{\mathcal{S}_{2}}\right) & =\mathcal{S}_{1} \backslash \mathcal{S}_{2} \\
\operatorname{supp}^{+}\left(\alpha_{1} \chi_{\mathcal{S}_{1}} \alpha_{2} \chi_{\mathcal{S}_{2}}\right) & =\mathcal{S}_{1} \cap \mathcal{S}_{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Shape composition $\rightarrow$ atomic decomposition

Given a collection of shapes $\left\{\mathcal{S}_{j}\right\}_{j=1}^{n_{s}}$, for any

$$
\Sigma=\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right) \backslash\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right)
$$

there exist scalars $\left\{\alpha_{j}\right\}$ such that

$$
f_{\alpha}(x)=\sum_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\oplus} \cup \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \alpha_{j} \cdot \chi_{\mathcal{S}_{j}}(x) \quad \text { satisfies } \quad \begin{cases}f_{\alpha}(x) \geq 1, & x \in \Sigma \\ f_{\alpha}(x) \leq 0, & x \notin \Sigma\end{cases}
$$



## Shape optimization

Then

$$
\underset{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}{\operatorname{minimize}} \int_{\mathcal{R} \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \Pi_{i n}(x)-\Pi_{e x}(x) \mathrm{d} x, \quad \mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}=\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right) \backslash\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right)
$$

becomes
$\underset{\alpha}{\operatorname{minimize}} \int_{D}\left(\Pi_{i n}(x)-\Pi_{e x}(x)\right) \cdot \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x, \quad$ s.t. $\quad f_{\alpha}(x)=\sum_{j=1}^{n_{s}} \alpha_{j} \chi_{j}(x)$,
where

$$
\operatorname{hev}(u)= \begin{cases}1, & u>0 \\ 0, & u \leq 0\end{cases}
$$

## Shape optimization

## Then

$$
\underset{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}{\operatorname{minimize}} \int_{\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}} \Pi_{i n}(x)-\Pi_{e x}(x) \mathrm{d} x, \quad \mathcal{R} \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}=\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right) \backslash\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right)
$$

becomes

$$
\underset{\alpha}{\operatorname{minimize}} \int_{D} g(x) \cdot \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x, \quad \text { s.t. } \quad f_{\alpha}(x)=\sum_{j=1}^{n_{s}} \alpha_{j} \chi_{j}(x),
$$



## Convexification

There is a natural convex proxy for the functional:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \int_{D} g(x) \cdot \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x \\
& \Downarrow \\
& \int_{D} g(x)^{+} \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right)+g(x)^{-} \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x \\
& \Downarrow \quad(\text { relax }) \\
& \int_{D} g(x)^{+} \max \left(f_{\alpha}(x), 0\right)+g(x)^{-} \min \left(f_{\alpha}(x), 1\right) \mathrm{d} x
\end{aligned}
$$




## Convexification

There is a natural convex proxy for the functional:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \int_{D} g(x) \cdot \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x \\
& \Downarrow \\
& \int_{D} g(x)^{+} \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right)+g(x)^{-} \operatorname{hev}\left(f_{\alpha}(x)\right) \mathrm{d} x \\
& \Downarrow \quad(\text { relax }) \\
& \int_{D} \max \left(g(x) f_{\alpha}(x), g(x)^{-}\right) \mathrm{d} x
\end{aligned}
$$




## Convex shape composition

With the sparse regularization,

$$
\underset{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}{\operatorname{minimize}} \int_{\mathbb{R}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} g(x) \mathrm{d} x \quad \text { subject to } \quad \mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}=\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right) \backslash\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right)
$$

becomes
$\underset{\alpha}{\operatorname{minimize}} \int_{D} \max \left(g(x) f_{\alpha}(x), g(x)^{-}\right) \mathrm{d} x$ subject to $f_{\alpha}(x)=\sum_{j=1}^{n_{s}} \alpha_{j} \chi_{j}(x)$

$$
\|\boldsymbol{\alpha}\|_{1} \leq \tau
$$

$\tau$ is often an integer, related to the number of shapes used

## Simulations


(a)


(b)


## Simulations


(a)

(b)

(c)
(a) $\tau=4$; (b) $\tau=6$; (c) $\tau=7$;

## Simulations



(d)

(f)
(d) $\tau=8$; (e) $\tau=10$; (f) previous method

## Simulations



Identifying the objects inside an image

## Simulations


(a) $\tau=1$; (b) $\tau=2$; (c) $\tau=3$; (d) $\tau=4$

## Simulations


(e) $\tau=5$; (f) $\tau=6$; (g) previous technique

## Simulations


(c)
(a) $\tau=1$; (b) $\tau=2$; (c) $\tau=4$; (d) $\tau=5$; (e) $\tau=\infty$

## Simulations


(a) $\tau=1$; (b) $\tau=2$; (c) $\tau=4$; (d) $\tau=5$; (e) $\tau=\infty$

## Simulations



## Simulations



## Theory: Disjoint dictionary elements



Disjoint dictionary elements $\Rightarrow$ Cardinal-SC and convex proxy $(\tau=s)$ produce same result

## Theory: Lucid objects

- For a given region $\Sigma \subset D$, the lucid object condition (LOC) holds if

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\Pi_{i n}(x)<\Pi_{e x}(x) \\
\Pi_{i n}(x)>\Pi_{e x}(x)
\end{array} \quad x \in \Sigma \backslash \Sigma .\right.
$$

- Example: $\left\{\begin{array}{cc}0<u(x)<\frac{1}{2} & x \in \Sigma \\ \frac{1}{2}<u(x)<1 & x \in D \backslash \Sigma\end{array} \quad\right.$ where $\Pi_{i n}(x)=(u(x)-1 / 4)^{2}, \Pi_{e x}(x)=(u(x)-3 / 4)^{2}$



## Theory: Lucid objects

If $\Sigma$ is a "lucid object" and it can be composed of with $s$ shapes $\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}^{\Sigma}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}^{\Sigma}$, then

- Cardinal-SC identifies $\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}^{\Sigma}$ and $\mathcal{I}_{\ominus}^{\Sigma}$ by selecting $s=\left|\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}^{\Sigma}\right|+\left|\mathcal{I}_{\ominus}^{\Sigma}\right|$
- Convex proxy produces $\alpha^{*}$ such that

$$
f_{\alpha^{*}}(x) \begin{cases}\geq 1, & x \in \Sigma \\ \leq 0, & x \notin \Sigma\end{cases}
$$



## Sketch of more general theory

- Image contains object $\Sigma=\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\oplus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right) \backslash\left(\bigcup_{j \in \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}} \mathcal{S}_{j}\right)$
- We show that there is a bijection between non-redundant $\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}$ and coefficients $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$

$$
\left\{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus}, \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}\right\} \stackrel{\mathcal{A}}{\stackrel{\xi^{+} \cup \xi^{-}}{ }} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathcal{R}}
$$

- We develop sufficient conditions under which the output of the convex proxy is

$$
\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathcal{I}_{\oplus} \cup \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}}=\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathcal{R}}, \quad \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\left(\mathcal{I}_{\oplus} \cup \mathcal{I}_{\ominus}\right)^{c}}^{*}=\mathbf{0}
$$

for appropriate $\tau$

- Conditions mostly depend on how large energy $g(x)$ is in regions where non-included shapes overlap $\Sigma$


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