

# Sample-based Sparse Bayesian Inversion in Biomedical Imaging

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Ill-posed inverse problems with additive Gaussian noise:

$$f = \mathcal{A}(u) + \varepsilon$$

 $p_{like}(f|u) \propto$  $\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|f - Au\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2}
ight)$ 

 $p_{prior}(u) \propto \ \exp\left(-\lambda \|D^{\mathsf{T}}u\|_2^2
ight)$ 

 $p_{post}(u|f) \propto \\ \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \|f - Au\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2} - \lambda \|D^{\mathsf{T}}u\|_{2}^{2}\right)$ 



Probabilistic representation allows for a rigorous quantification of the solution's uncertainties.

### Sparsity / Compressible Representation



(a) 100%



(c)	1%
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Sparsity a-priori constraints are used in variational regularization, compressed sensing and ridge regression:

$$\hat{u}_{\lambda} = \underset{u}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| f - A u \|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \| D^{T} u \|_{1} \right\}$$

(e.g. total variation, wavelet shrinkage, LASSO,...)

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How about sparsity as a-priori information in the Bayesian approach? Felix Lucka, f.lucka@ucl.ac.uk - Sample-based Sparse Bayesian Inversion in Biomedical Imaging

# PhD Thesis "Bayesian Inversion in Biomedical Imaging"

- Submitted 2014, supervised by Martin Burger and Carsten H. Wolters.
- Linear inverse problems in biomedical imaging applications.
- Simulated data scenarios and experimental CT and EEG/MEG data.
- Sparsity by means of
  - l<sub>p</sub>-norm based priors
  - Hierarchical prior modeling
- Focus on Bayesian computation and application.





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1 Introduction: Sparse Bayesian Inversion

**(2)** Sparsity by  $\ell_p$  Priors

3 Hierarchical Bayesian Modeling

Discussion, Conclusion and Outlook



 $p_{prior}(u) \propto \exp\left(-\lambda \|D^{\mathsf{T}}u\|_{\rho}^{p}
ight), \quad p_{post}(u|f) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|f - Au\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2} - \lambda \|D^{\mathsf{T}}u\|_{\rho}^{p}
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Decrease p from 2 to 0 and stop at p = 1 for convenience.

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Decrease p from 2 to 0 and stop at p = 1 for convenience.



$$\exp\left(-\lambda \|D^{\mathsf{T}}u\|_{2}^{2}\right)$$
$$\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|f - Au\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2} - \lambda \|D^{\mathsf{T}}u\|_{2}^{2}\right)$$



$$\exp\left(-\lambda \|\boldsymbol{D}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{u}\|_{1}\right) \\ \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\boldsymbol{f}-\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{u}\|_{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2} - \lambda \|\boldsymbol{D}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{u}\|_{1}\right)$$

$$p_{post}(u|f) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|f - Au\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^2 - \lambda \|D^T u\|_1\right)$$

Aims: Bayesian inversion in high dimensions  $(n \rightarrow \infty)$ .

Priors: Simple  $\ell_1$ , total variation (TV), Besov space priors.

#### Starting points:

- Lassas & Siltanen, 2004. Can one use total variation prior for edge-preserving Bayesian inversion? Inverse Problems, 20.

Lassas, Saksman & Siltanen, 2009. Discretization invariant Bayesian inversion and Besov space priors. Inverse Problems and Imaging, 3(1).



Kolehmainen, Lassas, Niinimäki & Siltanen, 2012. Sparsity-promoting Bayesian inversion. Inverse Problems, 28(2).



# Efficient MCMC Techniques for $\ell_1$ Priors

Task: Monte Carlo integration by samples from

$$p_{post}(u|f) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|f - Au\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2} - \lambda \|D^{T}u\|_{1}\right)$$

Problem: Standard Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampler (Metropolis-Hastings) inefficient for large n or  $\lambda$ .

Contributions:

- Development of explicit single component Gibbs sampler.
- Tedious implementation for different scenarios.
- Still efficient in high dimensions  $(n > 10^6)$ .
- Detailed evaluation and comparison to MH.

**L**, **2012**. Fast Markov chain Monte Carlo sampling for sparse Bayesian inference in high-dimensional inverse problems using L1-type priors. Inverse Problems, 28(12):125012.





$$\hat{u}_{MAP} := \operatorname*{argmax}_{u \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{ p_{post}(u|f) \}$$
 vs.  $\hat{u}_{CM} := \int u p_{post}(u|f) du$ 

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- ► CM preferred in theory, dismissed in practice.
- MAP discredited by theory, chosen in practice.



# New Theoretical Ideas for an Old Bayesian Debate

$$\hat{u}_{MAP} := \underset{u \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\operatorname{argmax}} \{ p_{post}(u|f) \} \quad \text{vs.} \quad \hat{u}_{CM} := \int u p_{post}(u|f) \, \mathrm{d}u$$

- CM preferred in theory, dismissed in practice.
- MAP discredited by theory, chosen in practice.

However:

- MAP results looks/performs better or similar to CM.
- ► Gaussian priors: MAP = CM. Funny coincidence?
- Theoretical argument has a logical flaw.









# New Theoretical Ideas for an Old Bayesian Debate

$$\hat{u}_{\text{MAP}} := \underset{u \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\operatorname{argmax}} \{ p_{post}(u|f) \} \text{ vs. } \hat{u}_{\text{CM}} := \int u p_{post}(u|f) \, \mathrm{d}u$$

- CM preferred in theory, dismissed in practice.
- MAP discredited by theory, chosen in practice.

Contributions:

- Theoretical rehabilitation of MAP.
- ► Key: Bayes cost functions based on Bregman distances.
- Gaussian case consistent in this framework.



**Burger & L, 2014.** *Maximum a posteriori estimates in linear inverse problems with log-concave priors are proper Bayes estimators, Inverse Problems,* 30(11):114004.

Helin & Burger, 2015. Maximum a posteriori probability estimates in infinite-dimensional Bayesian inverse problems, Inverse Problems, 31(8)



# Recent Generalization: Slice-Within-Gibbs Sampling

$$p_{prior}(u) \propto \exp\left(-\lambda \|D^{T}u\|_{1}
ight)$$

#### Limitations:

- D must be diagonalizable (synthesis priors):
- $\ell_p^q$ -prior: exp $\left(-\lambda \| D^T u \|_p^q\right)$ ? TV in 2D/3D?
- Non-negativity or other hard-constraints?

#### Contributions:

- Replace explicit by generalized slice sampling.
- Implementation & evaluation for most common priors.



Neal, 2003. Slice Sampling. Annals of Statistics 31(3)

**L**, **2015.** *Fast Gibbs sampling for high-dimensional Bayesian inversion.* (in preparation)





# Application to Experimental Data: Walnut-CT

- Cooperation with Samuli Siltanen, Esa Niemi et al.
- Implementation of MCMC methods for Fanbeam-CT.
- Besov and TV prior; non-negativity constraints.
- Stochastic noise modeling.
- Bayesian perspective on limited angle CT.



Use the data set for your own work: http://www.fips.fi/dataset.php (documentation: arXiv:1502.04064)



### Walnut-CT with TV Prior: Full Angle







(c) CStd







(d) CM

(e) CM, special color scale

(f) CM of  $\|\nabla u\|_2$ 

# Walnut-CT with TV Prior: Full vs. Limited Angle



(d) MAP, limited

(e) CM, limited

(f) CStd, limited

# Walnut-CT with TV Prior: Non-Negativity Constraints, Limited Angle



#### (a) CM, uncon







#### (b) CM, non-neg







1 Introduction: Sparse Bayesian Inversion

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Gaussian increment prior:

$$p_{prior}(u) \propto \prod_i \exp\left(-rac{(u_{i+1}-u_i)^2}{\gamma}
ight)$$

- Gaussian variables take values on a characteristic scale, determined by γ.
- Similar amplitudes are likely, sparsity (= outliers) is unlikely.



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# Hierarchical Bayesian Modeling (HBM) of Sparsity

Conditionally Gaussian increment prior:

$$p_{prior}(u|\gamma) \propto \prod_{i} \exp\left(-rac{(u_{i+1}-u_i)^2}{\gamma_i}
ight)$$

Scale-invariant hyperprior to approximate un-informative  $\gamma_i^{-1}$  prior:



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### The Implicit Energy Functional behind HBM



Implicit prior is a Student's *t*-prior with  $\nu = 2\alpha, \theta = \beta/(2\alpha)$ :

$$\begin{split} p_{prior}(u) &\propto \prod_{i} \left( 1 + \frac{u_{i}^{2}}{\nu \theta} \right)^{-\frac{\nu - 1}{2}} \\ p_{post}(u|f) &\propto \exp\left( -\frac{1}{2} \|f - A \, u\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2} - \frac{\nu - 1}{2} \sum_{i} \log\left( 1 + \frac{u_{i}^{2}}{\nu \theta} \right) \right) \end{split}$$

$$p_{post}(u,\gamma|f) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|f - Au\|_{\Sigma_{\varepsilon}^{-1}}^{2} - \sum_{i}^{n}\left(\frac{u_{i}^{2} + 2\beta}{2\gamma_{i}} + (\alpha + 1/2)\log(\gamma_{i})\right)\right)$$

All computational approaches (optimization or sampling) exploit the conditional structure:

- Fix  $\gamma$  and update u by solving n-dim linear problem.
- Fix u and update  $\gamma$  by solving n 1-dim non-linear problems.

Major difficulty: Multimodality of posterior.

#### Heuristic Full-MAP computation:

- Use MCMC to explore posterior (avoids very sub-optimal local modes).
- Initialize alternating optimization by local MCMC averages to compute local modes.

No guarantee for finding highest mode but usually an acceptable result.

#### Why HBM? EEG/MEG Source Reconstruction





Notoriously ill-posed problem!



- Inversion with log-concave priors suffers from systematic depth miss-localization, HBM does not.
- HBM shows promising results for focal brain networks with simulated and real data.
- L., Aydin, Vorwerk, Burger, Wolters, 2013. Hierarchical Fully-Bayesian Inference for Combined EEG/MEG Source Analysis of Evoked Responses: From Simulations to Real Data. BaCl 2013, Geneva.
  - L., Pursiainen, Burger, Wolters, 2012. Hierarchical Fully-Bayesian Inference for EEG/MEG combination: Examination of Depth Localization and Source Separation using Realistic FE Head Models. Biomag 2012, Paris
  - L., Pursiainen, Burger, Wolters, 2012. Hierarchical Bayesian inference for the EEG inverse problem using realistic FE head models: Depth localization and source separation for focal primary currents. NeuroImage, 61(4):1364–1382.

#### Bayesian Modeling:

- Sparsity can be modeled in different ways.
- HBM is an interesting but challenging alternative to  $\ell_p$  priors.

• Combine  $\ell_p$ -type and hierarchical priors:  $\ell_p$ -hypermodels.

#### Bayesian Computation:

- Elementary MCMC samplers may perform very differently.
- Contrary to common beliefs sample-based Bayesian inversion in high dimensions (n > 10<sup>6</sup>) is feasible if tailored samplers are developed.
- Fast samplers can be used for simulated annealing.
- Reason for the efficiency of the Gibbs samplers is unclear.
- ► Adaptation, parallelization, multimodality, multi-grid.

Bayesian Estimation / Uncertainty Quantification

- MAP estimates are proper Bayes estimators.
- But: Everything beyond "MAP or CM?" is far more interesting and can really complement variational approaches.

- However: Extracting information from posterior samples (*data mining*) is a non-trivial (future research) topic.
- Application studies had proof-of-concept character up to now.
- Specific UQ task to explore full potential of the Bayesian approach.



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L., 2014. Bayesian Inversion in Biomedical Imaging PhD Thesis, University of Münster.



M. Burger, L., 2014. Maximum a posteriori estimates in linear inverse problems with log-concave priors are proper Bayes estimators Inverse Problems, 30(11):114004.



📕 L., 2012. Fast Markov chain Monte Carlo sampling for sparse Bayesian inference in high-dimensional inverse problems using L1-type priors. Inverse Problems, 28(12):125012.

L., Pursiainen, Burger, Wolters, 2012. Hierarchical Bayesian inference for the EEG inverse problem using realistic FE head models: Depth localization and source separation for focal primary currents. NeuroImage, 61(4):1364-1382.



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# Thank you for your attention!



L., 2014. Bayesian Inversion in Biomedical Imaging PhD Thesis, University of Münster.



**M. Burger, L., 2014.** *Maximum a posteriori estimates in linear inverse problems with log-concave priors are proper Bayes estimators Inverse Problems*, 30(11):114004.



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### Efficient MCMC Techniques for $\ell_1$ Priors



- (a) Reference
- (b) MH-Iso, 1h



(d) MH-Iso, 16h

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(e) Reference

(f) SC Gibbs, 1h

(g) SC Gibbs, 4h

(h) SC Gibbs, 16h

Deconvolution, simple  $\ell_1$  prior,  $n = 513 \times 513 = 263169$ .

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Numerical verification of the discretization dilemma of the TV prior (Lassas & Siltanen, 2004):

- ▶ For  $\lambda_n = const.$ ,  $n \longrightarrow \infty$  the TV prior diverges.
- CM diverges.
- MAP converges to edge-preserving limit.





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- CM diverges.
- MAP converges to edge-preserving limit.





Numerical verification of the discretization dilemma of the TV prior (Lassas & Siltanen, 2004):

- ▶ For  $\lambda_n \propto \sqrt{n+1}$ ,  $n \longrightarrow \infty$  the TV prior converges to a smoothness prior.
- CM converges to smooth limit.
- MAP converges to constant.



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For images dimensions > 1: No theory yet...but we can compute it.

Test scenario:

▶ CT using only 45 projection angles and 500 measurement pixel.



#### Need for New Theoretical Predictions



#### For images dimensions > 1: No theory yet...but we can compute it.



MAP,  $n = 64^2$ ,  $\lambda = 500$ 



CM, 
$$n = 64^2$$
,  $\lambda = 500$ 

#### Need for New Theoretical Predictions



#### For images dimensions > 1: No theory yet...but we can compute it.



MAP,  $n=128^2$ ,  $\lambda=500$ 

CM,  $n = 128^2$ ,  $\lambda = 500$ 

#### Need for New Theoretical Predictions



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#### For images dimensions > 1: No theory yet...but we can compute it.



MAP,  $n = 256^2$ ,  $\lambda = 500$  CM,  $n = 256^2$ ,  $\lambda = 500$ 

cf. Louchet, 2008, Louchet & Moisan, 2013 for the denoising case, A = I.

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#### Examination of Alternative Priors by MCMC: TV-p







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# Examination of Besov Space Priors by MCMC

An  $\ell_1$ -type, wavelet-based prior:

$$p_{\textit{prior}}(u) \propto \exp\left(-\lambda \| \textit{WV}^{\mathsf{T}} u \|_1
ight)$$

motivated by:

- M. Lassas, E. Saksman, S. Siltanen, 2009. Discretization invariant Bayesian inversion and Besov space priors., Inverse Probl Imaging, 3(1).
- V. Kolehmainen, M. Lassas, K. Niinimäki, S. Siltanen, 2012. Sparsity-promoting Bayesian inversion, Inverse Probl, 28(2).
- K. Hämäläinen, A. Kallonen, V. Kolehmainen, M. Lassas, K. Niinimäki, S. Siltanen, 2013. Sparse Tomography, SIAM J Sci Comput, 35(3).



