

4D PAT based on Sparse Variational Methods







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Photoacoustic Sensing Systems





from: Beard, 2011, Interface Focus; Jathoul et al., 2015, Nature Photonics

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- High res 3D PA images require sampling acoustic waves with a frequency content in the tens of MHz over cm scale apertures.
- Nyquist criterion results in tens of µm scale sampling intervals
 ⇒ several thousand detection points.
- Sequential scanning currently takes several minutes.
- Parallelized schemes (arrays) become prohibitively expensive.
- Crucial limitation for clinical, spectral and dynamical PAT (4D PAT).

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Accelerated High-Res PAT via Compressed Sensing



from: Beard, 2011, Interface Focus; Jathoul et al., 2015, Nature Photonics

Key observation and idea:

- Nyquist is too conservative as only band-limitlessness is assumed.
- Typical targets have additional structure, e.g., low spatial complexity (sparsity).
- Regularly sampled data is highly redundant.
- Non-redundant part could be sensed faster.
- Accelerated acquisition without significant loss of image quality.

Established as compressed sensing, successful in similar modalities.

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Novel Fabry-Pérot-Based Sensing Systems





- Single-point sub-sampling (structured or random).
- Patterned interrogation by micromirror array, similar to "single-pixel" Rice camera.
- Multi-beam scanning + sub-sampling.

Applicable to other sequential scanning schemes, we focused on Fabry Pérot interferometer.

See Huynh et al., 2014, 2015, 2016 for technical details.

PA Image Reconstruction from Sub-Sampled Data





Image reconstruction:

- ▶ $f_i^c \longrightarrow f_i, f_i \longrightarrow p_i$ by standard method, frame-by-frame.
- $f_i^c \longrightarrow p_i$: standard or new method, frame-by-frame.
- ▶ $F^c \longrightarrow F$, $f_i \longrightarrow p_i$ by standard method, frame-by-frame.
- $F^c \longrightarrow P$: Full spatio-temporal method.

Analytic methods, e.g. eigenfunction expansion and closed-form filtered-backprojection, are too restrictive for us.

Time Reversal (TR):

- "Least restrictive PAT reconstruction"
- Sending the recorded waves "back" into volume.
- Requires a numerical model for acoustic wave propagation.

k-Wave^(*) implements a *k*-space pseudospectral method to solve the underlying system of first order conservation laws:

- Compute spatial derivatives in Fourier space: 3D FFTs.
- Modify finite temporal differences by k-space operator and use staggered grids for accuracy and robustness.
- Perfectly matched layer to simulate free-space propagation.
- Parallel/GPU computing leads to massive speed-ups.

(*)**B. Treeby and B. Cox, 2010**. *k-Wave: MATLAB toolbox for the simulation and reconstruction of photoacoustic wave fields, Journal of Biomedical Optics.*





Standard Reconstruction & Numerical Wave Propagation $_{\pm}$

A Realistic Numerical Phantom







Time Reversal for Sub-Sampled Data





(d) TR 1 (e) TR 2 (f) TR 2, sub-sampled sensor on top; inverse crime data sampled at Nyquist; max intensity proj., side view

Time Reversal for Sub-Sampled Data II





(d) TR 1 (e) TR 2 (f) TR 2, sub-sampled sensor on top; inverse crime data sampled at Nyquist; max intensity proj., side view

Solving variational regularization problems

$$\hat{p} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{p \ge 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| CAp - f^c \|_2^2 + \lambda \mathcal{J}(p) \right\}$$

iteratively by first-order methods requires implementation of A and A^* .

k-Wave yields a discrete representation A_{κ} . For A^* , one can

- 1) adjoint k-Wave iteration to obtain $(A_{\kappa})^*$ (algebraic adjoint):
 - ✓ high numerical accuracy.
 - ! tedious derivation, specific for k-Wave, limited insights.

Huang, Wang, Nie, Wang, Anastasio, 2013. IEEE Trans Med Imaging

- 2) derive analytical adjoint and discretize it, e.g., $(A^*)_{\kappa}$.
 - ✓ good numerical accuracy.
 - $\checkmark\,$ simple proof, theoretical insights, generalizes to various numerical schemes.

Arridge, Betcke, Cox, L, Treeby, 2015. On the Adjoint Operator in Photoacoustic Tomography, (submitted, arXiv:1602.02027).

Comparison for Full Data



$$\hat{p} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{p \geqslant 0} \left\{ rac{1}{2} \| Ap - f \|_2^2 + \lambda \mathcal{J}(p)
ight\}$$



sensor on top; inverse crime data sampled at Nyquist; max intensity proj., side view

Sub Sampled Data, Best Case Scenario



$$\hat{p} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{p \geqslant 0} \left\{ rac{1}{2} \| CAp - f^c \|_2^2 + \lambda \mathcal{J}(p)
ight\}$$



 $(e) \ SubSam, \ 128x \qquad (f) \ TR \qquad (g) \ L2+ \qquad (h) \ TV+ \\ sensor \ on \ top; \ inverse \ crime \ data \ sampled \ at \ Nyquist; \ max \ intensity \ proj., \ side \ view$

Variational approaches,

$$\hat{p} = \underset{p}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| CAp - f^{c} \|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \mathcal{J}(p) \right\},$$

suffer from systematic bias \rightsquigarrow problem for quantitative use! (e.g., contrast loss for TV).

 \implies Iterative enhancement trough Bregman iterations:

$$p^{k+1} = \underset{p}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| CA p - (f^{c} + b^{k}) \|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \mathcal{J}(p) \right\}$$
$$b^{k+1} = b^{k} + (f^{c} - CA p^{k+1})$$

Potential for improving reconstruction from sub-sampled data demonstrated in various applications.



Osher, Burger, Goldfarb, Xu, Yin, 2006. An iterative regularization method for total variation-based image restoration, Multiscale Modeling and Simulation, 4(2):460-489.

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Contrast Enhancement by Bregman Iterations



(a) TV+, full data (b) TV+Br, full data (c) $(p_{TV+Br} - p_{TV+})_+$, (d) $(p_{TV+Br} - p_{TV+})_-$, full data full data



(e) TV+, rSP-128 (f) TV+Br, rSP-128 (g) $(p_{TV+Br} - p_{TV+})_+$, (h) $(p_{TV+Br} - p_{TV+})_-$, rSP-128 rSP-128

sensor on top; inverse crime data sampled at Nyquist; max intensity proj., side view

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Inverse Crimes



!Data created by the same forward model used for reconstruction!



To avoid strong inverse crime:

- Generate data with perturbed, heterogeneous acoustic model.
- Model inhomogenous sensitivity and noise level of sensor channels.

Up to now, "full data" corresponded to data sampled at Nyquist rates in space and time (numerical phantoms were band-limited in space).

- In experiments, the "full data" is usually already sub-sampled in space but over-sampled in time.
- Reconstruction on a finer spatial grid to exploit high frequency content of time series.

Example:

- Scan a 20mm × 20mm with $\delta_x = 150 \mu m$ (133 × 133 locations).
- Measured with temporal resolution of $\delta_t = 12$ ns ≈ 83 MHz.
- Low-pass filtered to 20MHz.
- Reconstructing a signal limited to 20MHz with a sound speed of 1540m s⁻¹ would required $\delta_x = 38.5 \mu m$ and $\delta_t = 25 n s$.

Sub Sampled Data, Realistic Case Scenario

UCL

"Full data" is acquired on a grid which is 2 times too coarse (= factor 4).



sensor on top; max intensity proj., side view

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Leaving the Comfort Zone: Reproduction on Real Data





- Two polythene tubes filled with 10/100% ink.
- Stop-motion-style data acquisition of pulling one tube end.
- 45 frames (15min acquisition time per frame).
- Full data reconstructions to validate sub-sampling.





 $\mathsf{TV}+$



 $\mathsf{TV}+$



 $\mathsf{TV}+$

In Vivo Mesurements: Full Data





TR & TV denoising



$\mathsf{Bregman}\ \mathsf{TV}+$

In Vivo Mesurements: 4x





TR & TV denoising



$\mathsf{Bregman}\ \mathsf{TV}+$

In Vivo Mesurements: 8x





TR & TV denoising



$\mathsf{Bregman}\ \mathsf{TV}+$

UCL

Reaching a high acceleration through sub-sampling requires:

- ► Accurate model fit:
 - ! inhomogeneous optical excitation
 - ! uncertainty of acoustic parameters
 - ! inhomogeneity and defects of FP sensor
 - ! data artifacts by reflections / external sources
 - \implies Develop suitable, automatic pre-processing.
 - \implies Refine forward model used.
- Suitable regularization functionals:
 - ! TV is limited, especially for in-vivo data.
 - ! Experimental phantoms and in-vivo data are different.
 - \implies Develop suitable regularizing functionals.

Spatio-Temporal Reconstruction





Continuous data acquisition

 \implies tradeoff between spatial and temporal resolution.

Different dynamic models:

- Low-Rank (functional imaging with static anatomies/QPAT).
- ► Low-Rank + sparsity.
- Tracer uptake/wash-in models.
- Perfusion models.
- ► Needle guidance
- Optical flow constraints for joint image reconstruction and motion estimation.





Challenges of fast, high resolution 3D PA sensing:

- Nyquist requires several thousand detection points.
- Sequential schemes are slow.
- Parallelized schemes are prohibitively expensive.
- Crucial limitation for clinical, spectral and dynamical PAT.

Acceleration through sub-sampling:

- Exploit low spatio-temporal complexity of many targets.
- Acceleration by sub-sampling the incident wave field to maximize non-redundancy of data.
- Requires development of novel scanners.
- Demonstrated for Fabry-Pérot interferometer.

Summary II

Results:

- Novel sensing systems are developed.
- Standard reconstruction methods fail on sub-sampled data.
- Adjoint PAT operator allows to use variational approaches.
- Sparse variational regularization gives promising results for sub-sampled data.
- Demonstrated on simulated, experimental phantom and in-vivo data.

Challenges:

- Realizing this potential with experimental data requires model refinement/calibration and development of pre-processing.
- High computational complexity.

Outlook:

- Spatio-temporal variational models to exploit temporal redundancy.
- More suitable regularization functionals.



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We gratefully acknowledge the support of NVIDIA Corporation with the donation of the Tesla K40 GPU used for this research.

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Thank you for your attention!



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Iterative Schemes: Adjoint vs. Time Reversal

$$\boldsymbol{p}^{k+1} = \Pi\left(\boldsymbol{p}^{k} - \theta B\left(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{p}^{k} - \boldsymbol{f}\right)\right)$$



(a) Ground truth p_0 (b) TR (c) iTR





sensor on top; 2D slices at y = 128 through the 3D reconstructions.