

Independent Component Analysis

In this exercise, you will implement an ICA algorithm similar to the FastICA method described in the paper "A. Hyvärinen and E. Oja. 2000. *Independent component analysis: algorithms and applications*" linked from ISIS, and apply it to model the independent components of a distribution of image patches.

In [1]:

```
import numpy
import matplotlib
%matplotlib inline
from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
import sklearn
import sklearn.datasets
import sklearn.feature_extraction.image
import utils
```

As a first step, we take a sample image, extract a collection of 8×8 patches from it and plot them.

In [2]:

```
I = sklearn.datasets.load_sample_image('china.jpg')
X = sklearn.feature_extraction.image.extract_patches_2d(I, (8,8), max_patches=10000, random_state=0)
utils.showimage(I)
utils.showpatches(X)
```



As a starting point, the patches we have extracted are flattened to appear as abstract input vectors of $8 \times 8 \times 3 = 192$ dimensions. The input data is then centered and standardized.

In [3]:

```
X = X.reshape(len(X), -1)
X = X - X.mean(axis=0)
X = X / X.std()
```

Whitening (10 P)

A precondition for applying the ICA procedure is that the input data has variance 1 under any projection. This can be achieved by whitening, which is a transformation $\mathcal{W}:\mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ with $Z = \mathcal{W}(x)$ such that $\mathbb{E}[zz^T] = I$.

A simple procedure for whitening a collection of data points x_1, \dots, x_N (assumed to be centered) first computes the PCA components u_1, \dots, u_d of the data and then applies the following three consecutive steps:

1. project the data on the PCA components i.e. $p_{n,i} = x_n^T u_i$.
2. divide the projected data by the standard deviation in PCA space, i.e. $\tilde{p}_{n,i} = p_{n,i} / \text{std}(p_{:,i})$
3. backproject to the input space $z_n = \sum_i \tilde{p}_{n,i} u_i$.

Task:

- Implement this whitening procedure, in particular, write a function that receives the input data matrix and returns the matrix containing all whitened data points.

For efficiency, your whitening procedure should be implemented in matrix form.

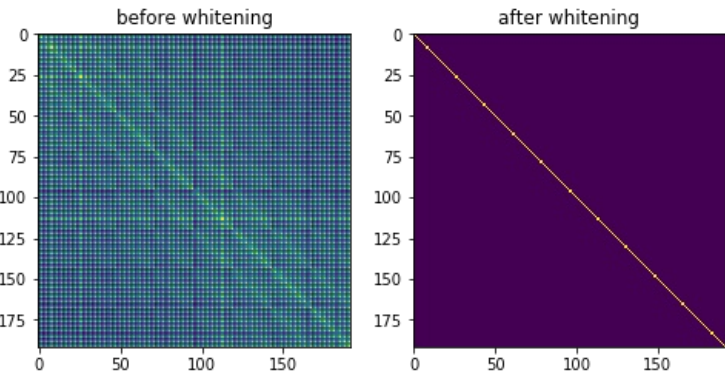
In [4]:

```
##### REPLACE BY YOUR CODE
import solutions
Z = solutions.whitening(X)
#####
```

The code below verifies graphically that whitening has removed correlations between the different input dimensions:

In [5]:

```
f = plt.figure(figsize=(8,4))
p = f.add_subplot(1,2,1); p.set_title('before whitening')
p.imshow(numpy.dot(X.T,X)/len(X))
p = f.add_subplot(1,2,2); p.set_title('after whitening')
p.imshow(numpy.dot(Z.T,Z)/len(Z))
plt.show()
```



Finally, to get visual picture of what will enter into our ICA algorithm, the whitened data can be visualized in the same way as the original input data.

In [6]:

```
utils.showpatches(X)
utils.showpatches(Z)
```



We observe that all high contrasts and spatial correlations have been removed after whitening. Remaining patterns include high-frequency textures and oriented edges of different colors.

Implementing ICA (20 P)

We now would like to learn $h=64$ independent components of the distribution of whitened image patches. For this, we adopt a procedure similar to the FastICA procedure described in the paper above. In particular, we start with random weights $w_1, \dots, w_h \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and iterate multiple times the sequence of operations:

1. $\forall i=1 \dots h, w_i \leftarrow \mathbb{E}[x \cdot g(w_i^{\top} x)] - w_i \cdot \mathbb{E}[g(w_i^{\top} x)]$
2. $w_1, \dots, w_h \leftarrow \text{decorrelate}(w_1, \dots, w_h)$

where $\mathbb{E}[\cdot]$ denotes the expectation with the data distribution.

The first step increases non-Gaussianity of the projected data. Here, we will make use of the nonquadratic function $G(x) = \frac{1}{a} \log \cosh(ax)$ with $a=1.5$. This function admits as a derivative the function $g(x) = \tanh(ax)$, and as a double derivative the function $g'(x) = a \cdot (1 - \tanh^2(ax))$.

The second step enforces that the learned projections are decorrelated, i.e. $w_i^{\top} w_j = 1_{i=j}$. It will be implemented by calling in an appropriate manner the whitening procedure which we have already implemented to decorrelate the different input dimensions.

This procedure minimizes the non-Gaussianity of the projected data as measured by the objective:

$$J(w) = \sum_{i=1}^h (\mathbb{E}[G(w_i^{\top} x)] - \mathbb{E}[G(\epsilon)])^2 \quad \text{where } \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1).$$

Task:

- Implement the ICA procedure described above, run it for 200 iterations, and print the value of the objective function every 25 iterations.

In order to keep the learning procedure computationally affordable, the code must be parallelized, in particular, make use of numpy matrix multiplications instead of loops whenever it is possible.

In [7]:

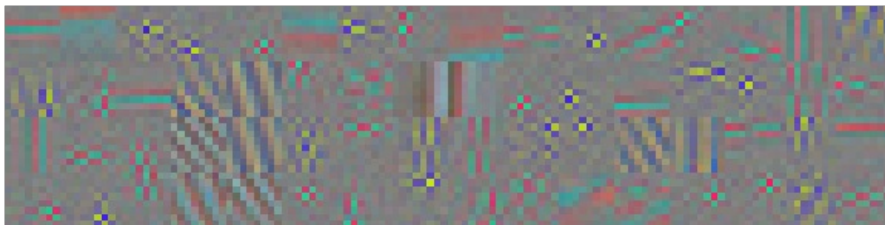
```
##### REPLACE BY YOUR CODE
import solutions
W = solutions.ICA(Z)
#####
```

```
it = 25    J(W) = 1.47
it = 50    J(W) = 1.82
it = 75    J(W) = 1.96
it = 100   J(W) = 2.03
it = 125   J(W) = 2.07
it = 150   J(W) = 2.09
it = 175   J(W) = 2.10
it = 200   J(W) = 2.12
```

Because the learned ICA components are in a space of same dimensions as the input data, they can also be visualized as image patches.

In [8]:

```
utils.showpatches(W)
```



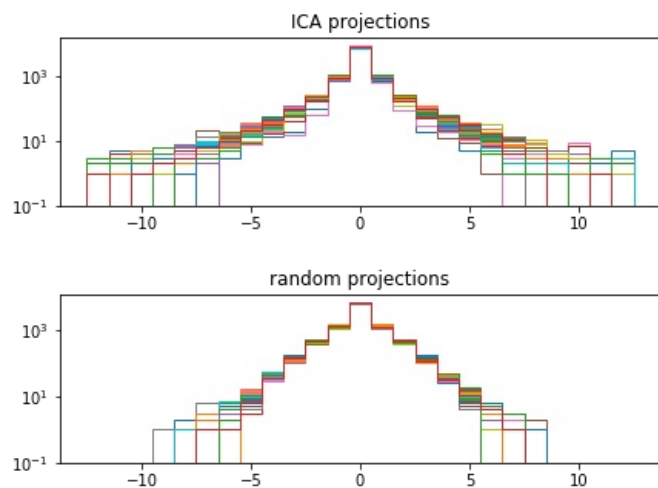
We observe that an interesting decomposition appears, composed of frequency filters, edges filters and localized texture filters. The decomposition further aligns on specific directions of the RGB space, specifically yellow/blue and red/cyan.

To verify that strongly non-Gaussian components have been learned, we build a histogram of projections on the various ICA components and compare it to histograms for random projections.

In [9]:

```
import numpy
plt.figure(figsize=(7,2))
for i in range(64):
    plt.hist(numpy.dot(Z,W[i]),bins=numpy.linspace(-12.5,12.5,26),histtype='step',log=True)
plt.title('ICA projections')
plt.show()

plt.figure(figsize=(7,2))
for i in range(64):
    R = numpy.random.mtrand.RandomState(i).normal(0,1,Z.shape[1])
    plt.hist(numpy.dot(Z,R/(R**2).sum())**0.5,bins=numpy.linspace(-12.5,12.5,26),histtype='step',log=True)
plt.title('random projections')
plt.show()
```



We observe that the ICA projections have much heavier tails. This is a typical characteristic of independent components of a data distribution.