

# spIsoNet Tutorial

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spIsoNet (Single Particle IsoNet) is designed to correct for the preferred orientation problem in cryoEM by self-supervised deep learning, by recovering missing information from well-sampled orientations in Fourier space.

Unlike conventional supervised deep learning methods that need explicit input-output pairs for training, spIsoNet autonomously extracts supervisory signals from the original data, ensuring the reliability of the information used for training.

spIsoNet is designed for single particle analysis and subtomogram averaging. For the correcting missing wedge in cryoET, please refer to IsoNet.

## 1. Quick run

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The default parameter in spIsoNet should be suitable for most cases.

### 1.0 prepare data set

The tutorial data can be downloaded on google drive: xxx

The tutorial data set contains a two half maps: emd\_8731\_half\_map\_1.mrc and emd\_8731\_half\_map\_2.mrc and a solvent mask emd\_8731\_msk\_1.mrc.

After you download the files put those into a new folder.

#### 1.1. calculate 3DFSC

The algorithm for 3D FSC is based on Tan, Y.Z., Baldwin, P.R., Davis, J.H., Williamson, J.R., Potter, C.S., Carragher, B. and Lyumkis, D., 2017. Addressing preferred specimen orientation in single-particle cryo-EM through tilting. Nature methods, 14(8), p.793.

The 3DFSC volume (the default file name is FSC3D.mrc) should be generated in a few minutes. This step does not use GPU acceleration. You can use multiple cpu cores for parallelization by specifying "--ncpus".

This FSC3D.mrc will be used in the following refine step as "aniso\_file"

The input of 3D FSC calculation are two half maps and a solvent mask

```
spisonet.py fsc3d emd_8731_half_map_1.mrc emd_8731_half_map_2.mrc  
emd_8731_msk_1.mrc --ncpus 16
```

This will generate a 3DFSC volume called "FSC3D.mrc", which describes the Fourier shell correlation in different directions.

You can also tune the --limit\_res parameter to set the resolution limit of the 3D FSC calculation for recovery (default is the overall resolution of the map).

[illegible]

This step trains a network for anisotropic correction with "spisonet.py refine".

The command to using single particle spIsoNet should be

```
spisonet.py refine emd_8731_half_map_1.mrc emd_8731_half_map_2.mrc --
aniso_file FSC3D.mrc --mask emd_8731_msk_1.mrc --epochs 30 --alpha 1 --beta
0.5 --output_dir isonet_maps --gpuID 0,1,2,3 --acc_batches 2
```

```
11:13:15, INFO      [spisonet.py:466] voxel_size 1.309999942779541
11:13:24, INFO      [map_refine.py:239] Start preparing subvolumes!
11:13:24, INFO      [map_refine.py:242] Done preparing subvolumes!
11:13:24, INFO      [map_refine.py:244] Start training!
11:13:25, INFO      [network.py:202] Port number: 43963
learning rate 0.0003
(8, 9)
100%|███████████  

████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████  

████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████  

████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████████  

██████████ | 250/250 [02:13<00:00, 1.87batch/s, Loss=0.598]  
Epoch [1/20], Train Loss: 0.6581  
14%|██████████
```

```
| 36/250 [00:16<01:40, 2.14batch/s, Loss=0.533]
...
```

You can check the command line argument for the map\_refine with the following command:

```
spisonet.py refine --help
```

1.3. Postprocessing

Postprocessing of the corrected halfmaps is not implemented in spIsoNet. You can use *reliion\_postprocess* to sharpen the corrected maps.

2. advanced topics

2.1 limit resolution

This parameter defined as the resolution limit for spIsoNet recovery. The maps will be first filtered to this resolution for the neural network training. After the network is trained, it will produced a "corrected\_xx\_filtered.mrc". Then the information beyond this resolution will be added to produce the final results "corrected\_xx.mrc".

The higher resolution will introduce unreliable noise that may compromise the results. A lower value may lead to maps with partically recovered missing information. We tested that the resolution at 0.143 or 3.5A could be good starting points to test this value.

2.2 GPU memory consumption and acc\_batches

Here is the table of GPU memory consumption. Based on our experience, larger batch size (> 4) works slightly better.

acc\_batches larger than 1 uses accumulate gradient to reduce memory consumption. Usually acc\_batches can be 2 for most cases. If you have GPU with large memory, acc\_batches = 1 should process slightly faster.

batch\_size should be divisible by acc\_batches.

Number of GPUs	batch_size	acc_batches	memory useage per GPU
1	4*	1	~17GB
1	4*	2*	~11GB
1	4*	4	~7GB
2	4*	1	~10GB
2	4*	2*	~7GB
4	8*	1	~10GB

Number of GPUs	batch_size	acc_batches	memory useage per GPU
4	8*	2*	~6GB

- means default values

## 2.3 predict directly or continue from a trained model

The single particle spIsoNet will generate a neuronal network model named xx.pt in the output folder, you can start from that model with the parameter "--pretrained\_model".

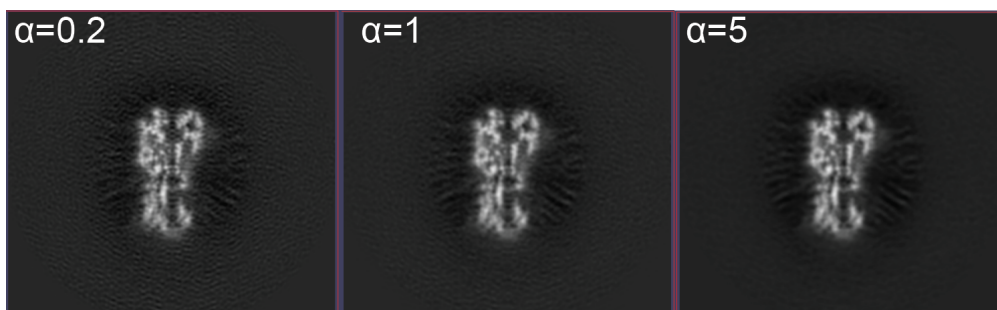
Once you start with the pretrained model, you may also want to change the number of epochs to run. For example, the trained model is from the 10th epochs and you can train for another 10 epochs to make it equivalent to the 20 epochs from scratch.

You can also set "--epochs" to 0 together with "--pretrained\_model" to only perform prediction without further training

## 2.4 Alpha and Beta weighting

The alpha value defines the weighting between the data consistency loss and the rotational equivariant loss. The default value 1 meaning putting equal weight on the two losses. The larger value means more weight on the rotational equivariant loss.

Empirically, the larger alpha value will results in smoother results. Please see the following images of corrected\_half1.mrc with different alpha values.



The beta value defines the weighting between missing information recovery and the denoising. The larger value leads to more denoised output maps. The default beta value is 0.5. We typically do not change this value.

## 2.5 run spIsoNet with a reliable reference

If you have a low resolution map of your sample that is reliable and with less severe preferred orientation, you can use this as a reference (with parameter --reference) for the spIsoNet refine. This allows you to retain the low resolution information (defined with --ref\_resolution parameter) from the reference in the spIsoNet refine process. This may improve the results.

The default --ref\_resolution is 10, this resolution should be much lower than the resolution of the reference. We recommend the reference resolution to be 10-20A.

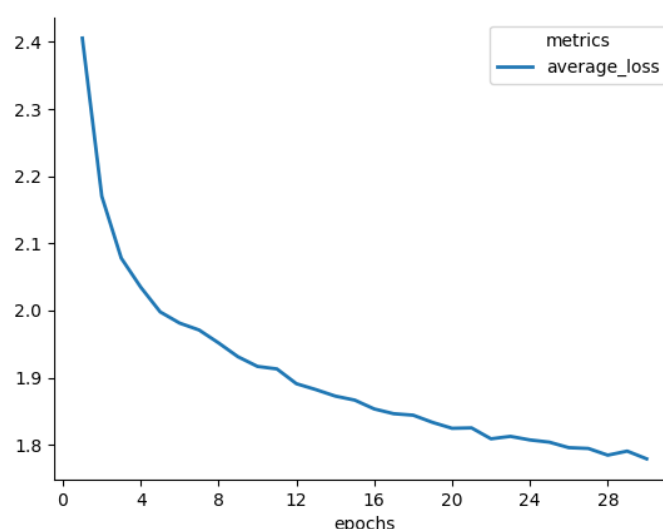
## 2.6 process two half maps independently

The noise2noise-based denoising is by default used in the spIsoNet refine process. It will produce cleaner and better maps. However, this denoising network will see both half1 and half2, which will break the independency of the two half maps.

You can specify the "--independent" as True to run the two half map independently, which will only perform missing information recovery without denoising. This step will train two networks each for one half map. The results generated from "--independent" reconstruction can be used for the "gold-standard" FSC calculation.

## 2.6 Loss curve and epochs

The calculated with respect to the epochs is plotted and generated as a "png" file in the output folder. The loss function should gradually decrease throughout the training. Here is an example of the loss plot.



Typically 30 epochs is sufficient. You can also increase the number of epochs to obtain a lower loss.

## 3. spIsoNet empowered Relion refine

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The particle alignment will nevertheless be influenced by distorted map with preferred orientation. This step is very useful in terms of generate a better alignment and subsequence a better cryoEM map.

This deep-learning approach spIsoNet can be used as a regularizer in the RELION refinement process. In each iteration of RELION refinement, spIsoNet can be used to perform the 3D reconstruction to generate corrected map and use that map for orientation search in RELION refine process.

We tested the relion3.1 and relion4.0 works for spIsoNet empowered Relion refine

To achieve this, the following steps should be performed.

After those steps, you may further perform spIsoNet map refine using the relion generated half maps to improve the map quality.

### 3.1 Make sure spIsoNet is properly installed in a conda environment.

## Install the required dependencies

```
conda create -n spisonet python=3.10
conda activate spisonet
conda install -c "nvidia/label/cuda-11.8.0" cuda-toolkit
pip install torch --index-url https://download.pytorch.org/whl/cu118
pip install -r requirments.txt
```

and set up proper environment for spIsoNet. It is required to set the RELION\_EXTERNAL\_RECONSTRUCT\_EXECUTABLE environment variable to point to relion\_wrapper.py.

```
export PATH=/home/cii/software/spIsoNet/bin:$PATH
export PYTHONPATH=/home/cii/software:$PYTHONPATH
export RELION_EXTERNAL_RECONSTRUCT_EXECUTABLE="python
/home/cii/software/spIsoNet/bin/relion_wrapper.py"
export CONDA_ENV="spisonet"
```

## 3.2 Execute relion\_wrapper.py script in RELION's relion\_refine.

To execute the script relion\_wrapper.py in relion\_refine, it is necessary to add the argument "--external\_reconstruct" in the command line, or by adding "--external\_reconstruct" in the Additional Arguments section under the Running tab in RELION GUI.

Here is an example command:

```
mpirun -np 5 `which relion_refine_mpi` --o Refine3D/job001/run --
auto_refine --split_random_halves --i particles.star --ref reference.mrc --
firstiter_cc --ini_high 10 --dont_combine_weights_via_disc --preread_images
--pool 30 --pad 2 --ctf --particle_diameter 170 --flatten_solvent --
zero_mask --solvent_mask mask.mrc --solvent_correct_fsc --oversampling 1 -
-healpix_order 2 --auto_local_healpix_order 5 --offset_range 5 --
offset_step 2 --sym C3 --low_resol_join_halves 40 --norm --scale --j 4 --
gpu "" --external_reconstruct --combine --pipeline_control Refine3D/job001/
```

Here is the place for "--external\_reconstruct":

The screenshot shows the 'Compute' tab of the spIsoNet GUI. The configuration options are as follows:

- Number of MPI procs: 5
- Number of threads: 4
- Submit to queue?: No
- Queue name: openmpi
- Queue submit command: qsub
- Standard submission script: ELION/relion/bin/relion\_qsub.csh (with a 'Browse' button)
- Minimum dedicated cores per node: 1
- Additional arguments: --external\_reconstruct --combine

At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Schedule', 'Check command', and 'Run!'. Below these buttons, there is a 'Current:' field with the text 'Give\_alias\_here' and a 'Display:' field with a dropdown arrow.

To use the spIsoNet, the relion refine command should contain:

1. "--external\_reconstruct"
2. "--solvent\_mask"
3. "--solvent\_correct\_fsc"

If you have a reference that has a lower resolution but without preferred orientation. You can specify the "--combine" parameter, this command line argument is not recognized by relion but can be recognized by spIsoNet. The limitation to retain the low resolution information from the reference is set by "--ini\_high" parameter. With this parameter, the performance of the spIsoNet recovery and denoising might be improved.

In some severe cases, the "--combine" is necessary. When the map generated by relion is not correct, it is important to keep the low resolution information from a correct reference throughout the image alignment.

In the log file for relion, you should see this if the spIsoNet is running correctly in each iteration of Relion refine

```
+ Making system call for external reconstruction: python
/home/cii/software/spIsoNet/bin/relion_wrapper.py
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_external_reconstruct.star
iter = 025
set CUDA_VISIBLE_DEVICES=None
set CONDA_ENV=torch_cuda12.0_glados_py3.10
set ISONET_WHITENING=True
set ISONET_WHITENING_LOW=10
set ISONET_RETRAIN_EACH_ITER=True
set ISONET_BETA=0.5
set ISONET_ALPHA=1
set ISONET_START_HEALPIX=4
set ISONET_ACC_BATCHES=2
set ISONET_EPOCHS=5
set ISONET_START_EPOCHS=5
set ISONET_COMBINE=False
set ISONET_LOWPASS=True
set ISONET_ANGULAR_WHITEN=True
```

```

set ISONET_3DFSD=False
set ISONET_FSC_05=False
set ISONET_FSC_WEIGHTING=True
set ISONET_COMBINE= True
healpix = 7
symmetry = C3
mask_file = relion31maptightmask.mrc
pixel size = 1.309998
resolution at 0.5 and 0.143 are 3.992381 and 3.422041
real limit resolution to 3.422041
eval "$(conda shell.bash hook)" && conda activate
torch_cuda12.0_glados_py3.10 && spisonet.py whitening
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil.mrc -o
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil.mrc --mask
relion31maptightmask.mrc --high_res 3.422041 --low_res 10
eval "$(conda shell.bash hook)" && conda activate
torch_cuda12.0_glados_py3.10 && spisonet.py whitening
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil.mrc -o
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil.mrc --mask
relion31maptightmask.mrc --high_res 3.422041 --low_res 10
eval "$(conda shell.bash hook)" && conda activate
torch_cuda12.0_glados_py3.10 && spisonet.py combine_map
Refine3D/job032/run_it000_half2_class001.mrc
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil.mrc
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil.mrc 10.0 --mask_file
relion31maptightmask.mrc
eval "$(conda shell.bash hook)" && conda activate
torch_cuda12.0_glados_py3.10 && spisonet.py combine_map
Refine3D/job032/run_it000_half1_class001.mrc
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil.mrc
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil.mrc 10.0 --mask_file
relion31maptightmask.mrc
relion_image_handler --i Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil.mrc
--o Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil_lowpass_backup.mrc --
lowpass 3.422041; cp
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil_lowpass_backup.mrc
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil.mrc
relion_image_handler --i Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil.mrc
--o Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil_lowpass_backup.mrc --
lowpass 3.422041; cp
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil_lowpass_backup.mrc
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil.mrc
18:34:04, INFO      [spisonet.py:431] Limit resolution to 3.422041 for
spIsoNet 3D FSC calculation. You can also tune this paramerter with --
limit_res .
18:34:04, INFO      [spisonet.py:433] calculating fast 3DFSC, this will take
few minutes
18:34:35, INFO      [spisonet.py:440] voxel_size 1.3099980354309082
Refine3D/job032/run_it024_half_class001_unfil.pt
retrain network each relion iteration
eval "$(conda shell.bash hook)" && conda activate
torch_cuda12.0_glados_py3.10 && spisonet.py refine_n2n
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil.mrc
Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil.mrc

```



```

Refine3D/job032/run_it025_3DFSC.mrc --epochs 5 --n_subvolume 1000 --
acc_batches 2 --alpha 1 --beta 0.4 --output_dir Refine3D/job032 --gpuID
None --limit_res 3.422041 --mask relion31maptightmask.mrc
using all GPUs in this node: 0,1,2,3
18:34:46, INFO      [utils.py:15] The Refine3D/job032 folder already exists,
outputs will write into this folder
18:34:46, INFO      [spisonet.py:224] voxel_size 1.3099980354309082
run_it025_half_class001_unfil
18:34:46, INFO      [map_refine.py:299] Filter map to resolution 3.422041
for spIsoNet correction!
18:34:56, INFO      [map_refine.py:311] Start preparing subvolumes!
18:34:56, INFO      [map_refine.py:314] Done preparing subvolumes!
18:34:56, INFO      [map_refine.py:316] Start training!
18:34:56, INFO      [network_n2n.py:232] Port number: 42765
learning rate 0.0003
['Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half1_class001_unfil_data',
'Refine3D/job032/run_it025_half2_class001_unfil_data']
Epoch [1/5], Train Loss: 0.9726
Epoch [2/5], Train Loss: 0.8730
Epoch [3/5], Train Loss: 0.8548
Epoch [4/5], Train Loss: 0.8424
Epoch [5/5], Train Loss: 0.8300
18:38:58, DEBUG     [__init__.py:337] matplotlib data path:
/home/cii/anaconda3/envs/torch_cuda12.0_glados_py3.10/lib/python3.10/site-
packages/matplotlib/mpl-data
18:38:58, DEBUG     [__init__.py:337] CONFIGDIR=/home/cii/.config/matplotlib
18:38:58, DEBUG     [__init__.py:1498] interactive is False
18:38:58, DEBUG     [__init__.py:1499] platform is linux
18:38:58, DEBUG     [__init__.py:337] CACHEDIR=/home/cii/.cache/matplotlib
18:38:58, DEBUG     [font_manager.py:1574] Using fontManager instance from
/home/cii/.cache/matplotlib/fontlist-v330.json
18:38:59, INFO      [map_refine.py:346] Start predicting!
data_shape torch.Size([125, 1, 80, 80, 80])
size restored (334, 334, 334)
data_shape torch.Size([125, 1, 80, 80, 80])
size restored (334, 334, 334)
18:39:11, INFO      [map_refine.py:369] Done predicting
18:39:11, INFO      [spisonet.py:250] combining
18:39:11, INFO      [spisonet.py:335] voxel_size 1.3099980354309082
18:39:23, INFO      [spisonet.py:335] voxel_size 1.3099980354309082
18:39:34, INFO      [spisonet.py:254] Finished
finished spisonet reconstruction
+ External reconstruction finished successfully, reading result back in
...
8.80/8.80 min
.....~(,_, ">

```

### 3.3 Environment variables for the relion wrapper.

To tune the parameter of spIsoNet empowered relion refinement, you can set up more linux environemnt variables as follows:

1. set which GPU(s) you can use by sepecify the CUDA\_VISIBLE\_DEVICES. By default, spIsoNet will use up all the avaliable GPUs

```
export CUDA_VISIBLE_DEVICES=""
```

2. ISONET\_BETA value will define the denoising level of the network. See section 2.4

```
export ISONET_BETA=0.5
```

3. ISONET\_ALPHA value define the balance between the data consistency loss and rotation equivariance loss. Default value 1 should work for most cases. Setting this to zero is not recommand and will ignore rotation equivariance loss. See section 2.4

```
export ISONET_ALPHA=1
```

4. START\_HEALPIX defines at which angular sampling step the spIsoNet training will be performed.

```
ISONET_START_HEALPIX=3
```

5. ISONET\_RETRAIN\_EACH\_ITER defines whether the network should be retrained from scratch or from previous iteration of relion refine. This is typically set to True

```
ISONET_RETRAIN_EACH_ITER=True
```

6. ISONET\_EPOCHS defines how many epochs to train the neural network.

```
ISONET_EPOCHS=5
```

7. ISONET\_ACC\_BATCHES defines how many small batches for each batch. If you have GPUs with large memory you can set it to 1.

```
ISONET_ACC_BATCHES=2
```

8. ISONET\_COMBINE define whether low resolution information from a correct reference is kept in the alignment. This parameter can be overwrite by the --combine parameter in relion command or GUI

```
ISONET_COMBINE=False
```

9. ISONET\_WHITENING define whether whighting is performed before running spIsoNet. Typical we set this as True. ISONET\_WHITENING\_LOW defines the starting resolution for whitening.

```
ISONET_WHITENING=True  
ISONET_WHITENING_LOW=10
```

10. ISONET\_FSC\_WEIGHTING define whether FSC weighting is performed before running spIsoNet. Typical we set this as True.

```
ISONET_FSC_WEIGHTING=True
```