# Matching pursuits with time-frequency dictionaries

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#### Signal representation

- Natural languages have large vocabularies (words with close meanings).
- Low level signal representations provide explicit information.
- Numerical parameters should offer compact characterizations of the elements we are looking for.
- A suitable representation gives simple cues to differentiate patterns!

# Signal representation



source: Computer vision example - Stanford vision Lab

## The generalized Fourier series

Let  $\Psi$  be a set of square-integrable functions in  ${\mathcal F}$ 

$$\Psi = {\phi_n : [a, b] \to \mathcal{F}}_{n=0}^{\infty},$$

which are pairwise orthogonal for the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{a}^{b} f(x)g^{*}(x)w(x)dx$$

w(x): weight function.

The generalized Fourier series with respect to  $\Psi,$  is then

$$f(x) \sim \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n \phi_n(x)$$
 (1)

where the coefficients are given by

$$c_n = \frac{\langle f, \phi_n \rangle}{\|\phi_n\|_w^2}$$

If  $\Psi$  is a complete set, i.e., an orthonormal basis on  $[a,b],\sim$  becomes = in the  $L^2$  sense.

#### The Fourier transform

Let  $f(t) \in L^2(R)$  be a function in the Hilbert space  $L^2(R)$ , the Fourier transform  $f(\omega)$  is defined by:

$$F(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-i\omega t}dt.$$
 (2)

The inverse Fourier transform is defined as:

$$\hat{f}(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega.$$

#### The Short Time Fourier transform

Employs a window function to localize the complex sinusoid as:

$$F(\omega, u) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)h(t - u)e^{-i\omega t}dt$$
 (3)

- $u \in \mathbb{R}$  is a translation parameter and h(t-u) is the window function which confines the complex sinusoid  $e^{-i\omega t}$ .
- Some Window shapes: Hanning, hamming, cosine, Gaussian, etc.
- Gaussian windowed STFT (Gabor transform):

$$h_{\xi,u}(t) = h(t-u)e^{i2\pi\xi t}, \tag{4}$$

 $h(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma}\pi^{1/4}}e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t^2/\sigma^2)}, \ \sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+, \ \text{and} \ \xi \in \mathbb{R}$ : modulating factor.

•  $h_{\xi,u}(t)$  is known as a windowed Fourier atom.

#### The Short Time Fourier transform

• Convolving the atom with the signal:

$$F(\xi, u) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) h_{\xi, u}^{*}(t) dt$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma} \pi^{1/4}} e^{\frac{-1}{2}[(t-u)^{2}/\sigma^{2}]} e^{-i2\pi\xi t} dt$$
(5)

#### The Wavelet transform

• To match a signal by moving and stretching/squezzing a wavelet function.

$$T(s,u) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)\psi_{s,u}^{*}(t)dt$$
 (6)

- Example: Morlet wavelet  $\psi(t) = \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} e^{i2\pi\xi_0 t} e^{-t^2/2}$ ,  $\xi_0$ : central frequency.
- The Morlet wavelet transform gives:

$$T(s,u) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}\pi^{1/4}} e^{\frac{-1}{2}[(t-u)^2/s^2]} e^{-i2\pi(\xi_0/s)(t-u)} dt$$
 (7)

#### The Time-frequency atomic decomposition

- To extract information from complex signals, we need to adapt the time-frequency decomposition to the particular signal structures.
- A family of time-frequency atoms can be generated by scaling, translating, and modulating a single window function  $g(t) \in L^2(R)$ .
- g(t) is continuously differentiable and ||g(t)||=1,  $g(0) \neq 0$ .
- For any scale s>0, frequency modulating  $\xi$ , and translation u, we denote  $\gamma=(s,u,\xi)$  and define:

$$g_{\gamma}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}}g\left(\frac{t-u}{s}\right)e^{i\xi t}$$
 (8)

where  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{s}}$  normalizes  $\|g_{\gamma}(t)\| = 1$ .

## The Time-frequency atomic decomposition

• The Fourier transform of g(t) yields:

$$g_{\gamma}(\omega) = \sqrt{s}g\left(s(\omega - \xi)\right)e^{-i(\omega - \xi)u},$$
 (9)

since  $|g(\omega)|$  is even,  $g_{\gamma}(\omega)$  is centered at frequency  $\omega = \xi$ .

- The family  $\mathfrak{D} = \{g_{\gamma}(t)\}_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  is redundant  $(\Gamma = \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^2)$ .
- To represent properly f(t) we must select a subset of atoms  $\{g_{\gamma_n}(t)\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$ , with  $\gamma_n=(s_n,u_n,\xi_n)$ , so that:

$$f(t) = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} a_n g_{\gamma_n}(t)$$
 (10)

The Fourier and wavelet transforms correspond to different families of time-frequency atoms

#### The Fourier transform's atoms

$$F(\xi_n, u_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma} \pi^{1/4}} e^{\frac{-1}{2}[(t - u_n)^2 / \sigma^2]} e^{-i2\pi \xi_n t} dt$$
 (11)

- All the atoms have a constant scale  $s_n = s_0$  ( $s_0 \sim \sigma$  for Gabor window).
- If the main signal structures are localized over a time-scale of the order of  $s_0$  and  $a_n$  gives important insights on their localization and frequency content.
- Window Fourier transform is not well adapted to describe structures that are much smaller or much larger than  $s_0$ .
- To analyze components of varying sizes, it is necessary to use time-frequency atoms of different scales.

#### The wavelet transform's atoms

$$T(s_n, u_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_n} \pi^{1/4}} e^{\frac{-1}{2} [(t - u_n)^2 / s_n^2]} e^{-i2\pi (\xi_0 / s_n)(t - u_n)} dt$$
 (12)

- Decomposes signals over time-frequency atoms of varying scales, called wavelets.
- The resulting family is composed of dilations and translations of a single function, multiplied by complex phase parameter.
- The expansion coefficients a<sub>n</sub> characterize the scaling behavior of signal structures.
- However, wavelet coefficients do not provide precise estimates of the frequency content of waveforms whose Fourier transforms is well localized (restriction on the frequency parameter  $\xi_n = \xi_0/s_n$ ).

# Matching pursuit in Hilbert spaces

- We want to compute a linear expansion of  $f \in L^2(R)$  over a set of vectors selected from  $\mathcal{D} = (g_\gamma)_{\gamma \in \Gamma}$  to best match its inner structures.
- Procedure: successive approximations of f with orthogonal projections on elements of  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- Let  $g_{\gamma_0} \in \mathcal{D}$ , then:

$$f = \langle f, g_{\gamma_0} \rangle g_{\gamma_0} + Rf, \tag{13}$$

where Rf is the residual vector.

• Since  $g_{\gamma_0}$  is orthogonal to Rf (Exercise: proof it):

$$||f||^2 = ||\langle f, g_{\gamma_0} \rangle||^2 + ||Rf||^2.$$
 (14)

# Matching pursuit in Hilbert spaces

- To minimize ||Rf|| we must choose  $g_{\gamma_0} \in \mathcal{D}$  such that  $|\langle f, g_{\gamma_0} \rangle|$  is maximum.
- It is possible to find a vector that is almost the best:

$$|\langle f, g_{\gamma_0} \rangle| \ge \alpha \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} |\langle f, g_{\gamma} \rangle|, \tag{15}$$

where  $0 < \alpha \le 1$ .

• Matching pursuit is an iterative algorithm that subdecomposes the residue Rf by projecting it on a vector of  $\mathcal{D}$  that matches Rf almost at best.

#### Matching pursuit in Hilbert spaces

• Energy conservation equation:

$$||f||^2 = \sum_{n=0}^{m-1} |\langle R^n f, g_{\gamma_n} \rangle|^2 + ||R^m f||^2.$$
 (16)

• In practice, the algorithm is terminated either when the residual energy below a preset cut-off level:

$$||R^n f||^2 < \epsilon ||f||^2; \quad \forall \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^+. \tag{17}$$

- The original *f* is decomposed into a sum of dictionary elements, that are chosen to best match its residues.
- The decomposition is nonlinear, however, we maintain an energy conservation as if it was a linear orthogonal decomposition.
- Matching pursuit is a greedy algorithm that chooses at each iteration a waveform that is best adapted to approximate part of the signal.

# Matching pursuit with time-frequency dictionaries

- For dictionaries of time-frequency atoms a matching yields an adaptive time-frequency transform.
- The function *f* is decomposed into a sum of complex time-frequency atoms that best match its residues.
- The matching pursuit decomposes f as:

$$f = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \langle R^n f, g_{\gamma_n} \rangle g_{\gamma_n}, \tag{18}$$

where  $\gamma_n = (s_n, u_n, \xi_n)$  and

$$g_{\gamma_n}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_n}} g\left(\frac{t - u_n}{s_n}\right) e^{i\xi_n t}.$$
 (19)

## Matching pursuit with time-frequency dictionaries

• At each iteration the MP algorithm selects a vector  $g_{\gamma_n}$  that satisfies:

$$|\langle R^n f, g_{\gamma_n}| \ge \alpha \sup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} |\langle R^n f, g_{\gamma} \rangle|. \tag{20}$$

- From the decomposition of any f(t) within a time-frequency dictionary a new time-frequency energy distribution is obtained by adding the Wigner distribution of each selected atom.
- The cross Wigner distribution of two functions f(t) and h(t) is defined by:

$$W[f,h](t,\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f\left(t + \frac{\tau}{2}\right) h^*\left(t - \frac{\tau}{2}\right) e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau.$$
 (21)

where  $Wf(t,\omega) = W[f,f](t,\omega)$ .

# Matching pursuit with time-frequency dictionaries

• A picture of the energy distribution of f(t) in the time-frequency plane can be defined as (Exercise: Proof it):

$$Ef(t,\omega) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\langle R^n f, g_{\gamma_n} \rangle|^2 W g_{\gamma_n}(t,\omega).$$
 (22)

# Matching pursuit with Gabor atoms

ullet The signal approximation reconstructed from N MP expansion coefficients is given by:

$$f_N(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} M_n h_{s_n, u_n, \xi_n}(t).$$
 (23)

• The Gabor atom for the MP method is defined as:

$$h_{s_n,u_n,\xi_n}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_n}} h\left(\frac{t-u_n}{s_n}\right)$$
 (24)

## Matching pursuit with Gabor atoms

A Gaussian window is defined for the MP as:

$$h(t) = 2^{1/4}e^{-\pi t^2} \tag{25}$$

• The Gabor atom for MP can be written as:

$$h_{s_n,u_n,\xi_n,\phi_n}(t) = K_n \frac{2^{1/4}}{\sqrt{s_n}} e^{-\pi[(t-u_n)/s_n]^2} \cos(2\pi \xi_n t + \phi_n)$$
 (26)

 $s_n$ : scale,  $u_n$ : localization factor for Gaussian envelope,  $\xi_n$ : frequency,  $\phi_n$ : phase of the real sinusoid,  $K_n$ : normalization factor to preserve unit energy.

• The expansion coefficients are determined as follows:

$$M(s_n, u_n, \xi_n, \phi_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) K_n \frac{2^{1/4}}{\sqrt{s_n}} e^{-\pi [(t - u_n)/s_n]^2} \cos(-2\pi \xi_n t + \phi_n) dt$$
(27)

# Summary: playing with signals (Gabor atoms example)

Fourier:

$$F(\xi_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-i2\pi\xi_n t}dt.$$
 (28)

Short-time Fourier transform:

$$F(\xi_n, u_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma} \pi^{1/4}} e^{\frac{-1}{2} [(t - u_n)^2 / \sigma^2]} e^{-i2\pi \xi_n t} dt$$
 (29)

Wavelet transform:

$$T(s_n, u_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_n} \pi^{1/4}} e^{\frac{-1}{2} [(t - u_n)^2 / s_n^2]} e^{-i2\pi (\xi_0 / s_n)(t - u_n)} dt$$
 (30)

• Matching pursuit transform:

$$M(s_n, u_n, \xi_n, \phi_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) K_n \frac{2^{1/4}}{\sqrt{s_n}} e^{-\pi [(t - u_n)/s_n]^2} \cos(-2\pi \xi_n t + \phi_n) dt$$
(31)

#### Matlab toolkits

- Fourier: fft.m
- Short-time Fourier transform: spectrogram.m
- Wavelet transform
  - Continuous wavelet transform: cwt.m
  - Discrete wavelet transform: dwt.m
- Matching pursuit: wmpalg.m

#### **Exercises**

- Summarize the main properties of the following time-frequency decompositions: Fourier, Short-time Fourier, Wavelet, and MP.
- Proof equation (14) (orthogonal property for MP in Hilbert spaces).
- Proof equation (22) (energy estimation in MP using the Wigner distribution).
- Test the Fourier, STFT, wavelet, and MP transforms over a non-stationary signal (see wavemenu Matlab function).
- Discuss and conclude about the obtain results.

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