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# Modified Image Restoration Algorithm Using Neural Network Based on Harmonic Model

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#### Abstract

In this paper, we considered the neural network image restoration algorithm based on harmonic model and improved the efficiency of the algorithm. After analyzing the complexity of the algorithm, I found that the storage of the connection weight  $w_{i,j}$  wastes a lot of spaces. And when I made a deeper analysis of the  $w_{i,j}$ , I found that there are many duplicated elements, and the distribution of the elements is regular. So I started from this point to improve the algorithm, and simplified the calculation of the connection weights matrix, and avoided a large amount of data storage. As a result, the space complexity reduced to O(n) from  $O(n^2)$ , meanwhile, the time complexity is improved. This is a great improvement. At last, I made some data simulation experiment, and the result give a further description of the algorithm.

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#### 1. Introduction

In the image processing, image restoration has been one of the most important basic research subjects. Many application fields need clear and high quality images, so image restoration (such as denoising, deblurring etc.) is of great significance. The traditional image restoration method is mainly about image filtering processing. With most of the image information existing in the edge portion, therefore, image filtering is needed to not only remove the blur and noise from the image but also to keep the detail of the image. Because of image details and noise in frequency bands aliasing, making the image smoothing and the edge details remain becomes a pair of contradiction and the traditional filtering methods are difficult to deal with this kind of problem. The development of neural network technology in recent years to solve this contradiction of the image restoration provides a new method (Zhou Y T and Chellappa R, 1988; Paik JK and Katsaggelos AK, 1992; Yubing Han and Lenan Wu, 2004; Perry S.W and Guan L, 2000; Erler K and Jernigan E,1994; Wu W and Kundu A,1992).

Neural network for image restoration model was first put forward by Zhou et al. (Zhou Y T and Chellappa R, 1988). They linked image restoration with Hopfield neural network through the energy function, and converted image restoration into optimization problem of the neural network calculation. However, using the Zhou method there are shortcomings that the network model is huge and network state is updated slow and so on. In order to overcome these disadvantages, Paik et al. (Paik JK and Katsaggelos AK, 1992) put forward an improved Hopfield neural network model for gray-scale image restoration. Later, the Paik method was improved by many scholars from the network model and the convergence rate and so forth (Yubing Han and Lenan Wu, 2004; Perry S.W and Guan L, 2000; Erler K and Jernigan E, 1994; Wu W and Kundu A, 1992). Literature (Yadong Wu, 2006) on the basis of Paik algorithm, using the regularization term based on the harmonic model, proposed a neural network algorithm based on the harmonic model. But the author in the analysis of the algorithm found that the storage of the connection weights needs a size of matrix  $L \times L$ , among them  $L = M \times N$ , M and N for the image width to height. For an image of the size  $128 \times 128$ , the connection weights matrix will be the 16384 d. It's not conducive to the computer processing. Then based on this algorithm an improved algorithm is proposed, to simplify the calculation of the connection weights.

#### 2. The Restoration Model

According to the problem of the image restoration model, the image restoration problem can be transformed to minimize the following error function:

$$E = \|y - H \cdot x\|^{2} / 2 + \lambda \cdot \|D \cdot x\|^{2} / 2$$
 (1)

Among them,  $\|\cdot\|$  represents the norm of  $L_2$ , x is the estimated value of the real image, y is the degraded image. x And y for column vectors, namely  $x=(x_i)$ ,  $y=(y_i)$ . In the above equation, the first term represents that finding a x makes  $H\cdot x$  approximate y in the case of minimum variance; the second term is the constraints of x, also called the regularization item; for regularization parameter  $\lambda$ , it controls the proportion between removing fuzz and smoothing noise. Matrix H represents the distortion of the imaging system, which is the size of  $L\times L$  Toeplitz matrix generated by the point spread function. D is the high-pass filter, which is a matrix generated by the regularization operator. In the traditional rehabilitation model, regularization operator is the Laplace operator. If the point spread function h for the  $1\times r$  matrix, d also should be written as the  $1\times r$  matrix. D is in the same form with H. The harmonic model will be introduced into the image restoration frame based on neural network as follows,

$$E_{Harmonic} = \|y - H \cdot x\|^2 / 2 + \lambda \cdot \|(DX \cdot x)^2 + (DY \cdot x)^2\|^2 / 2$$
(2)

Among them, DX and DY are the  $L \times L$  Toeplitz matrixes respectively generated by vertical and horizontal gradient. The connection weight is for,

$$W_{i,j} = -\sum_{p=1}^{L} h_{p,i} h_{p,j} - \lambda \sum_{p=1}^{L} DX_{p,i} DX_{p,j} - \lambda \sum_{p=1}^{L} DY_{p,i} DY_{p,j}$$
(3)

#### 3. The Recovery Algorithm

Based on the above model, the algorithm generated by referencing the structure of the Paik algorithm can be found in the literature [8], time complexity of the algorithm is  $O(n^3)$ , and space complexity is  $O(n^2)$ . Then we will improve it as follows.

First of all, several definitions and theorems prepared for the improved algorithm are introduced.

For a matrix  $A = (a_{i,j})_{n \times n}$ , it is the Toeplitz matrix; i.e., for all the  $2 \le i, j \le n$ ,  $a_{i,j} = a_{i-1,j-1}$ . And A is also the symmetric matrix. Then A is called the symmetric Toeplitz matrix.

For arbitrary matrix  $n \times n$  with the following form,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & \cdots & a_{n-1} \\ a_1 & a_0 & a_1 & \ddots & & \vdots \\ a_2 & a_1 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & a_1 & a_2 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & a_1 & a_0 & a_1 \\ a_{n-1} & \cdots & \cdots & a_2 & a_1 & a_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(4)$$

That is a symmetric Toeplitz matrix.

Theorem 1: if a matrix  $H = (h_{i,j})_{n \times n}$  is the Toeplitz matrix, then the matrix  $W = (w_{i,j})_{n \times n}$  is the symmetric Toeplitz matrix, among them  $w_{i,j} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,i} h_{p,j}$ .

Proof: first prove the symmetry of the matrix W. Because of  $w_{i,j} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,i} h_{p,j} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,j} h_{p,i} = w_{j,i}$ , namely the arbitrary element satisfies  $w_{i,j} = w_{j,i}$  for the matrix W, so the matrix of W is the symmetric matrix;

For all the  $2 \le i, j \le n$ , according to the definition of H, the equation  $h_{i,j} = h_{i-1,j-1}$  is established. So

$$W_{i-1,j-1} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,i-1} h_{p,j-1} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,i} h_{p,j} = W_{i,j}$$
(5)

That is W for the symmetric matrix:

Thus, W is a symmetric Toeplitz matrix. QED.

Corollary 1: the linear combination of symmetric Toeplitz matrixes is still a symmetric Toeplitz matrix.

Proof: this proposition is equivalent to proving the following conclusion. If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are all symmetric matrices with the order  $n \times n$ ,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  are all the arbitrary constants, then

$$A = \lambda_1 A_1 + \lambda_2 A_2 + \dots + \lambda_n A_n \tag{6}$$

Still for the symmetric Toeplitz matrix.

Obviously A is a symmetric matrix; assume that arbitrary element of A is A(i, j), the arbitrary element of  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  is  $A_1(i, j), A_2(i, j), \dots, A_n(i, j)$  respectively, then

$$A(i,j) = \lambda_1 A_1(i,j) + \lambda_2 A_2(i,j) + \dots + \lambda_n A_n(i,j)$$
(7)

 $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are Toeplitz matrixes, so for all the  $2 \le i, j \le n$ ,

$$A_1(i,j) = A_1(i-1,j-1), \quad A_2(i,j) = A_2(i-1,j-1), \quad \cdots, \quad A_n(i,j) = A_n(i-1,j-1)$$
 (8)

So

$$A(i,j) = \lambda_1 A_1(i,j) + \lambda_2 A_2(i,j) + \dots + \lambda_n A_n(i,j)$$

$$= \lambda_1 A_1(i-1,j-1) + \lambda_2 A_2(i-1,j-1) + \dots + \lambda_n A_n(i-1,j-1)$$

$$= A(i-1,j-1)$$
(9)

That is A(i, j) = A(i-1, j-1), so A is the Toeplitz matrix.

To sum up, A is the symmetric Toeplitz matrix, namely the linear combination of symmetric Toeplitz matrixes is still a symmetric Toeplitz matrix. QED.

Corollary 2: if a matrix W is a symmetric Toeplitz matrix, then for the arbitrary element of the matrix W

$$W_{i,j} = W_{1,|j-i|+1}, 1 \le i, j \le n. \tag{10}$$

Proof: first consider for the arbitrary element  $j \ge i$ , according to the definition of the Toeplitz matrix,  $w_{i,j} = w_{i-1,j-1}$ , we can draw the conclusion:

$$W_{i,j} = W_{i-1,j-1} = \dots = W_{i-(i-1),j-(i-1)} = W_{1,j-i+1}$$
(11)

And for  $j \ge i$ , according to the property of the symmetric matrix we can get the conclusion:

$$W_{i,j} = W_{j,i} = W_{l,i-j+1} \tag{12}$$

From two equations above, for the arbitrary element  $1 \le i, j \le n$ ,  $w_{i,j} = w_{1,|j-i|+1}$ . QED.

Before going further, we first present two properties of the Toeplitz matrix related.

H is the order of  $n \times n$  Toeplitz matrix generated by  $h = [h_1, h_2, \dots, h_r]$ , among them,  $n \ge r, r > 1$ . H has the following form,

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} h_{1} & h_{2} & \cdots & h_{r} & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & h_{1} & h_{2} & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & h_{r} \\ h_{r} & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & h_{2} & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & 0 & h_{1} & h_{2} \\ h_{2} & \cdots & h_{r} & \cdots & 0 & h_{1} \end{pmatrix}_{n \times n}$$
(13)

Make  $h_{i,j}$  for the arbitrary element; from its structure we can see that the following two properties are obvious:

Property 1: for all the  $1 \le i, j \le n$ 

$$\begin{cases} h_{i,j} = h_{i-j+1,1} & i \ge j \\ h_{i,j} = h_{1,j-i+1} & i < j \end{cases}$$
 (14)

Property 2: the elements of the first line and the first column of the element have the following relationship

$$h_{i,1} = h_{1,n-i+2}$$
, among them  $2 \le i \le n$  (15)

Or

 $h_{1,j} = h_{n-j+2,1}$ , among them  $2 \le j \le n$ . We will use the two properties to prove the following theorem for many times.

Theorem 2: if H is the order of  $n \times n$  Toeplitz matrix generated by  $h = [h_1, h_2, \cdots, h_r]$ , among them,  $n \ge r, r > 1$  then the matrix  $W = (w_{i,j})_{n \times n}$  at most only has the number of r different nonzero

elements, of which  $w_{i,j} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,i} h_{p,j}$ ;

And, if  $n \ge 2r - 1$ , W has r different nonzero elements, and as the increase of n, the value of the r elements will not change, which are as follows:

$$\begin{cases} w_{1,1} = h_1^2 + h_2^2 + \dots + h_r^2 \\ w_{1,2} = h_1 h_2 + h_2 h_3 + \dots + h_{r-1} h_r \\ w_{1,3} = h_1 h_3 + h_2 h_4 + \dots + h_{r-2} h_r \\ \vdots \\ w_{1,r} = h_1 h_r \end{cases}$$
(16)

Proof: This proposition is divided into two parts to prove:

(1) From the above discussion we know the structure of H, making  $h_{i,j}$  for the arbitrary elements.

From theorem 1, it is known that W is a  $n \times n$  symmetric Toeplitz matrix; for  $1 \le i, j \le n$ , the corollary 2 tells us that W satisfies  $w_{i,j} = w_{1,|j-i|+1}$ . Therefore we just need to prove that in the first line of W there are at most only r different nonzero elements.

According to the generation rules of W and property 1 and 2 we can derive the following equations:

$$w_{1,n} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,1} h_{p,n}$$

$$= h_{1,1} h_{1,n} + \dots + h_{n-2,1} h_{n-2,n} + h_{n-1,1} h_{n-1,n} + h_{n,1} h_{n,n}$$

$$= h_{1,1} h_{2,1} + \dots + h_{n-2,1} h_{1,3} + h_{n-1,1} h_{1,2} + h_{n,1} h_{1,1}$$

$$= h_{n,1} h_{1,1} + h_{1,1} h_{2,1} + \dots + h_{n-2,1} h_{n-1,1} + h_{n-1,1} h_{n,1}$$

$$= h_{1,2} h_{1,1} + h_{1,1} h_{2,1} + \dots + h_{n-2,1} h_{n-1,1} + h_{n-1,1} h_{n,1}$$

$$= h_{1,2} h_{1,1} + h_{1,1} h_{2,1} + \dots + h_{n-2,1} h_{n-1,1} + h_{n-1,1} h_{n,1}$$
(17)

And

$$w_{1,2} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,1} h_{p,2}$$

$$= h_{1,1} h_{1,2} + h_{2,1} h_{2,2} + \dots + h_{n-1,1} h_{n-1,2} + h_{n,1} h_{n,2}$$

$$= h_{1,2} h_{1,1} + h_{1,1} h_{2,1} + \dots + h_{n-2,1} h_{n-1,1} + h_{n-1,1} h_{n,1}$$
(18)

Namely  $W_{1,2}=W_{1,n}$ ; Vice versa,  $W_{1,3}=W_{1,n-1}$ ,  $\cdots$ ,  $W_{1,r}=W_{1,n-r+2}$ . Another obviously results:

$$w_{11} = h_1^2 + h_2^2 + \dots + h_r^2 \tag{19}$$

So far, we know that W has possessed r elements.

From the above analysis, we can conclude  $w_{1,r} = w_{1,r+1}$ , if n = 2r - 1. Namely the first line of W just has r elements, so if  $n \le 2r - 1$ , the conclusion is set up.

Then we continue to prove that, if the first line of W has other elements, the other elements are zero. That

is when  $n \ge 2r$  and if  $r+1 \le j \le n-r+1$ , then  $w_{1,j} = 0$ .

Given in the range,

$$w_{1,j} = \sum_{p=1}^{n} h_{p,1} h_{p,j}$$

$$= h_{1,1} h_{1,j} + h_{2,1} h_{2,j} + \dots + h_{n-r+1,1} h_{n-r+1,j} + h_{n-r+2,1} h_{n-r+2,j} + \dots + h_{n,1} h_{n,j}$$
(20)

From the structure of H, when  $n \ge 2r$ , and if  $2 \le i \le n - r + 1$ , then  $w_{i,1} = 0$ ; In addition, when  $j \ge r + 1$ ,  $h_{1,j} = 0$  so the equation above is changed into the following form:

$$W_{1,j} = h_{n-r+2,1}h_{n-r+2,j} + \dots + h_{n,1}h_{n,j}$$
(21)

For  $n \ge n - r + 2 > n - r + 1 \ge j$ , so according to property 1 we can derive the following equations:

$$\begin{cases} h_{n-r+2,j} = h_{n-r-j+3,1} \\ \vdots \\ h_{n,j} = h_{n-j+1,1} \end{cases}$$
(22)

That by  $r + 1 \le j \le n - r + 1$  is known,

$$2 \le n - r - i + 3 \le n - 2r + 2 < n - r + 1$$

So ,  $h_{n-r-j+3,1}=0$  ; Similarly,  $r \leq n-j+1 \leq n-r < n-r+1$  , namely  $h_{n-j+1,1}=0$  , from this we can get  $w_{1,j}=0$  .

To sum up, the first part of theorem 2 is established. Namely the matrix W at most only has the number of r different nonzero elements.

(2) Apparently ,  $w_{1,1}={h_1}^2+{h_2}^2+\cdots+{h_r}^2$  ; By the definition of W , considering  $n\geq 2r-1$  ,

$$w_{1,2} = h_{1,1}h_{1,2} + h_{2,1}h_{2,2} + \dots + h_{n-r+2,1}h_{n-r+2,2} + h_{n-r+3,1}h_{n-r+3,2} + \dots + h_{n-1,1}h_{n-1,2} + h_{n,1}h_{n,2}$$
(23)

According to property 1 and 2 the equation above can be transformed into the following.

$$w_{1,2} = h_{1,1}h_{1,2} + h_{1,n}h_{1,1} + \dots + h_{1,r}h_{1,r+1} + h_{1,r-1}h_{1,r} + \dots + h_{1,3}h_{1,4} + h_{1,2}h_{1,3}$$
(24)

When  $j \ge r + 1$ ;  $h_{1,j} = 0$ ; So the values are substituted into it, we can draw

$$W_{1,2} = h_1 h_2 + h_2 h_3 + \dots + h_{r-1} h_r \tag{25}$$

We can see that the values of  $w_1$ , don't matter with n; similarly the following equation can be drawn,

$$\begin{cases} w_{1,3} = h_1 h_3 + h_2 h_4 + \dots + h_{r-2} h_r \\ \vdots \\ w_{1,r} = h_1 h_r \end{cases}$$
 (26)

These values have nothing to do with n, that is, when  $n \ge 2r - 1$ , along with the increase of n, these values will not change. Proposition is proved.

Consolidated conclusions of (1) and (2), theorem 2 is proved. QED.

Let's talk about the actual significance of the theorems above in the algorithms. In the image restoration algorithms based on harmonic model, the network connection weight values are defined as follows

$$W_{i,j} = -\sum_{p=1}^{L} h_{p,i} h_{p,j} - \lambda \sum_{p=1}^{L} DX_{p,i} DX_{p,j} - \lambda \sum_{p=1}^{L} DY_{p,i} DY_{p,j}$$
(27)

Among them, H, DX and DY are all the Toeplitz matrixes. From theorem 1 and its inferences to know, the generated matrix  $W = \left(w_{i,j}\right)_{L \times L}$  is a symmetric Toeplitz matrix; assume that the point spread function h for the  $1 \times r$  matrix which generates H. In actual applications, the image size L >> r, we think  $L \ge 2r-1$ . So from the corollaries of theorem 1 reasoning and theorem 2 we can know some key features of the matrix W:

- (1) The number and the values of nonzero elements are defined, which can be expressed by using the elements of h. And along with the changes of L, the values will not be changed;
- (2) The elements of the matrix W are regular. All elements and some element of the first line are in same value, and this equivalence relation follows certain rule.

Based on the two points above, we think that in the course of the algorithm, there is no need to generate the Toeplitz matrix H, and only need to calculate its certain numerical values according to the rule. If we do so, for the original algorithm space complexity and time complexity will have a very big improvement. The following describes the algorithm of calculating W.

(1) The matrixes generating H, DX and DY are given, written by the form of  $1 \times r$ . They are as follows:

$$\begin{cases} h = [h_1, h_2, \dots, h_r] \\ dx = [dx_1, dx_2, \dots, dx_r] \\ dy = [dy_1, dy_2, \dots, dy_r] \end{cases}$$

$$(28)$$

In order to facilitate the calculation, the matrixes above are expanded for  $1 \times (2r-1)$ , and the elements of the part expanded are filled with zero, so it can be written as the following form:

$$\begin{cases} h = [h_1, h_2, \dots, h_r, 0, \dots, 0]_{1 \times (2r-1)} \\ dx = [dx_1, dx_2, \dots, dx_r, 0, \dots, 0]_{1 \times (2r-1)} \\ dy = [dy_1, dy_2, \dots, dy_r, 0, \dots, 0]_{1 \times (2r-1)} \end{cases}$$
(29)

(2) Calculate r different values of W , and then store them in a  $1 \times r$  matrix T ; For i=1: r

$$T(i) = \sum_{t=1}^{r} \left[ h(t)h(t+i-1) - \lambda \cdot dx(t)dx(t+i-1) - \lambda \cdot dy(t)dy(t+i-1) \right]$$
(30)

End

(3)Assign for each element  $W_{i,j}$  of W, and the algorithms are described below:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Make } q = \left| j - i \right| + 1; \\ & \text{If } r + 1 \leq q \leq L - r + 1 \\ & w_{i,j} = 0 \\ & \text{Else if } q > L - r + 1 \\ & w_{i,j} = T(L + 2 - q) \end{aligned}$$
 
$$& \text{Else} \\ & w_{i,j} = T(q)$$
 
$$& \text{End}$$

## 4. The Experimental Results and Discussion

The algorithms in the last section are from matrix internal data features, looking for the relationship between dates. The improvement is that it avoids the redundant data storage, thus avoiding the generation of large scale matrix.

The calculating process of W only needs  $r^2$  times; in the original algorithm, external circulation times are  $L^2$ . In practical application  $r^2 << L$ , so time complexity T(n) (make n=L) of the improved algorithm is

$$T(n) = O(r^2n^2) \approx O(n^2) \tag{31}$$

In the space complexity, the improved algorithm only has the linear complexity O(n); relative to the original algorithm of  $O(n^2)$ . This is a great improvement, and also the main work done of the algorithm. In order to test the improved algorithm restoration effect, degraded images all use  $1\times 9$  motion blur. And we join the Gaussian white noise with the variance of 25, using the MSE and PSNR as measures. In the algorithm, the

gradient operator takes the *Sobel* operator: vertical gradient operator for  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , horizontal gradient

operator for  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $\varepsilon$  of algorithms take experience value  $\varepsilon = 0.05$ .

To different images, the value of  $\lambda$  is different, which is computed in the program. The following is processing effect of the standard image, in this example  $\lambda = \frac{1}{SNR} = 0.0204$ .

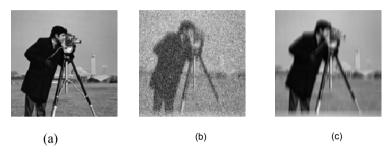


Figure.1. (a) original image; (b) Fuzzy image; (c) Restored image.

Seen from the pictures, the algorithm in noise removal performance is very good, but in keeping the edge of performance is relatively insufficient, which confirmed the previous theoretical knowledge: Harmonic canonical in the gradient and the edge of the two orthogonal directions are diffused, and has the same diffusion coefficient. Therefore, the harmonic model in noise smoothing also fuzzes edges of the image. Fuzzy image MSE = 2256.7, PSNR = 14.5960; Restored image MSE = 1614.2, PSNR = 16.0513.

#### 5. The End

This paper first studied the complexity of the original algorithm, and then had a detailed analysis of the calculation process of connection weight matrix, finding the internal structural features. By the form of Theorem 1 and 2 it was summarized and the theorems was applied to the original algorithm. Then we put forward a new improved algorithm saving time and space and finally did the data simulation experiment, which not only deepened the understanding to the algorithm, but also illustrated the advantages of the improvement algorithm.

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