Semi-parametric blind sources separation with Kernel-ICA

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Introduction

It is rare for the quantity of interest and the quantity measured to perfectly match often our signal of interest $s \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ is actually mixed with itself. We will set up a certain number of recording devices, generally n and from our recorded signals try to recover the sources. If we assume the sources are linearly mixed our problem is then:

$$x = As$$

where $x \in \mathcal{R}^{k \times n}$, $A \in \mathcal{R}^{k \times m}$. While not always true or needed we will assume that A is square and invertible and call $A^{-1} = W$.
We will see that the sole hypothesis of the independence of the s_i is enough to find a solution to the problem.
Because of the way the problem is posed one cannot hope to recover the real s as for example a scaling or permutation of A leaves the problem unchanged and we therefore cannot hope to recover the magnitudes (and therefore signs) of the s_i or their order.

ICA as an eigenvalue problem

We want to optimize a measure of independence of our estimated sources. Most approaches try to optimize an approximation of the mutual information. The measure chosen here [1] is for two variables:

$$\rho_{\mathcal{F}} = \max_{f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{F}} \operatorname{corr}(f_1(x_1), f_2(x_2))$$

By exploiting the kernel trick we can obtain

$$\rho_{\mathcal{F}} = \max_{f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{F}} \operatorname{corr}(\langle \Phi_1(x_1), f_1 \rangle, \langle \Phi_2(x_2), f_2 \rangle)$$

We recognize a CCA problem and if we note K_1 and K_2 the respective Gram matrices (assuming they are centred) we get the problem:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & K_1 K_2 \\ K_2 K_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} = \rho \begin{pmatrix} K_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & K_2^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

This problem is unfortunately not well posed and will always be equal to 0 for most kernels, we therefore adopt a regularized version as an estimator:

$$\rho_{\mathcal{F}} = \max_{f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{\operatorname{cov}(f_1(x_1), f_2(x_2))}{(\operatorname{var} f_1(x_1) + \kappa \|f_1\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2)^{1/2} (\operatorname{var} f_2(x_2) + \kappa \|f_2\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2)^{1/2}}$$

The problem estimated at the first order is then:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & K_1 K_2 \\ K_2 K_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} = \rho \begin{pmatrix} (K_1 + \frac{N\kappa}{2}\mathbb{I})^2 & 0 \\ 0 & (K_2 + \frac{N\kappa}{2}\mathbb{I})^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Of course we are interested in solving the m-variables problems, we can easily extend CCA to m variables. We can then transform that problem in the problem of finding the eigenvalues of:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\kappa = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I} & r_\kappa(K_1) r_\kappa(K_2) & \cdots & r_\kappa(K_1) r_\kappa(K_m) \\ r_\kappa(K_2) r_\kappa(K_1) & \mathbb{I} & \cdots & r_\kappa(K_2) r_\kappa(K_m) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ r_\kappa(K_m) r_\kappa(K_1) & r_\kappa(K_m) r_\kappa(K_2) & \cdots & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r_\kappa(K_i) = K_i (K_i + \frac{N\kappa}{2}\mathbb{I})^{-1}$$

We then optimize:

$$J(W) = -\frac{1}{2} \det \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\kappa$$

Reducing Complexity

If we decompose the K_i as

$$K_i = G_i G_i^\intercal = U_i \Lambda_i U_i^\intercal$$

with Λ_i diagonal then if R_i is Λ_i regularized by $\lambda \to \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + N\kappa/2}$ we have

$$\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\kappa = (\mathcal{U}\mathcal{V}) \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{R}_\kappa & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix} (\mathcal{U}\mathcal{V})^\intercal$$

with

$$\mathcal{R}_\kappa = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I} & R_1 U_1^\intercal U_2 R_2 & \cdots & R_1 U_1^\intercal U_m R_m \\ R_2 U_2^\intercal U_1 R_1 & \mathbb{I} & \cdots & R_2 U_2^\intercal U_m R_m \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ R_m U_m^\intercal U_1 R_1 & R_m U_m^\intercal U_2 R_2 & \cdots & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix}$$

And therefore

$$\det \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_\kappa = \det \mathcal{R}_\kappa$$

We will therefore make heavy use of incomplete Choleski decomposition to reduce the computational complexity.

Optimization on the Stiefel Manifold

Our problem is

$$\min_W J(W) \quad \text{s.t } WW^\intercal = \mathbb{I}$$

The set $\{W \mid WW^\intercal = \mathbb{I}\}$ has a particular geometry: it is Riemannian manifolds and most common optimization procedures can be performed on it [2]. The simplest implementation is steepest descent along geodesics in the direction of the gradient using the following: if $W, H \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ s.t $W^\intercal W = \mathbb{I}$ and $A = W^\intercal H$ skew-symmetric then the geodesic on the Stiefel manifold emanating from W in direction H is given by the curve

$$W(t) = WM(t) + QN(t)$$

where

$$QR = (\mathbb{I} - WW^\intercal)H$$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} M(t) \\ N(t) \end{pmatrix} = \exp\left(t \begin{pmatrix} A & -R^\intercal \\ R & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{I}_n \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

Given the cost of the gradient computations a natural extension is to perform conjugate gradient on the manifold, see [2] for the procedure.

Unmixing images

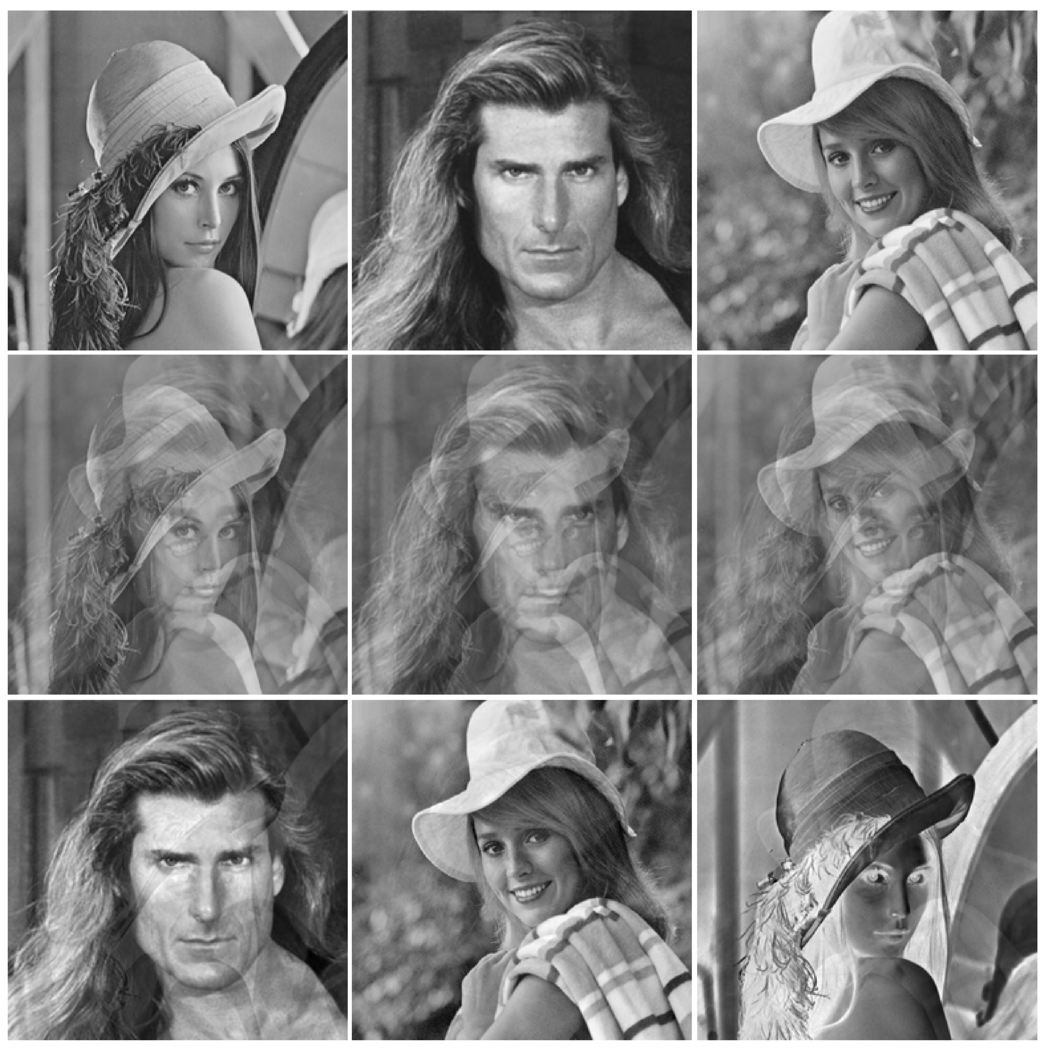

Figure 1: 3 images mixed linearly then unmixed

Independent images basis

This time the quantity of interest is W the unmixing matrix, s representing the random coefficients in the ICA basis of natural images. In this setting the columns of A form the basis and the columns of W the detectors.

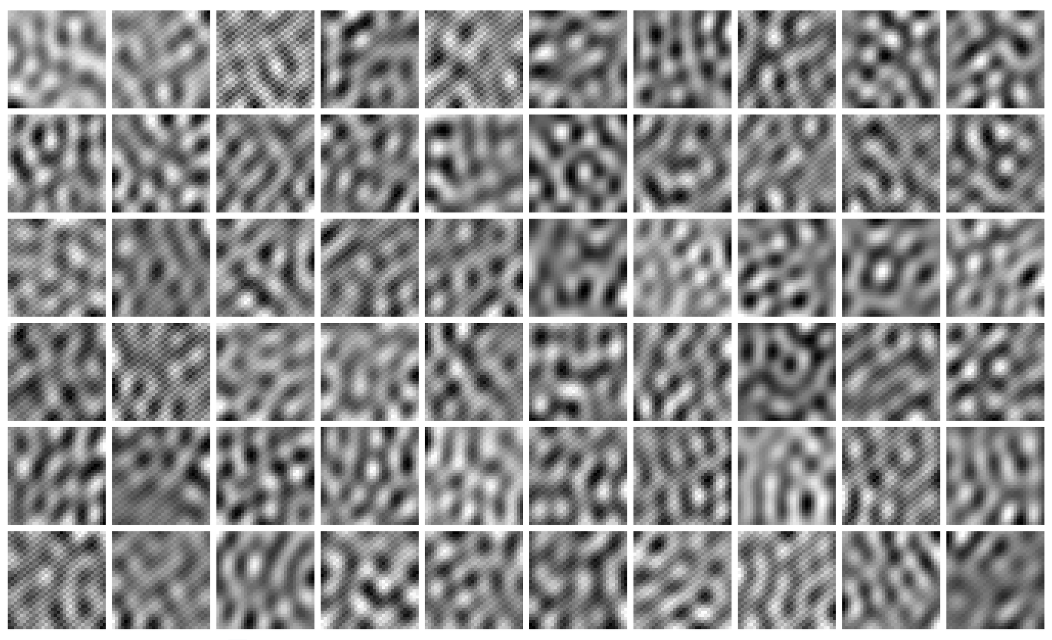

Figure 2: ICA basis of the 3 previous images

Conclusion

Treating the problem as a semi-parametric problem gives a tractable solution. The problem becomes a pure optimization problem and improvements can be made by better optimization techniques that exploits the geometry. (See [?]).

References

[1] F. R. Bach and M. I. Jordan.
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Journal of Machine Learning Research, 3:1–48, 2002.

[2] A. Edelman, T. A. Arias, and S. T. Smith.
The Geometry of Algorithms with Orthogonality Constraints.
SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications, 20(2):303–353, 1998.

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