Performance Analysis for Projection-Correction Methods in Motion Deblurring Problems

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June 4, 2025

Problem Description

- The project analyzes the performance of two Projection-Correction algorithms for reconstructing medical images affected by motion blur.
- The studied algorithms are:
 - Diffusion Posterior Sampling (DPS)
 - Regularization by Denoising with Diffusion (RED-Diff)
- Both methods are based on pre-trained diffusion models.
- Objective: evaluate the effectiveness of these methods in recovering degraded images.

Approach to the Problem

- Objective: Analyze the performance of Projection-Correction methods
 DPS and RED-Diff for motion blur removal on medical images
- Phase 1: Dataset preprocessing (128x128)
- Phase 2: Data augmentation to increase dataset diversity
- Phase 3: Training a DDIM diffusion model on medical data
- Phase 4: Simulation of motion blur and its removal
- Phase 5: Implementation and comparison of Projection-Correction methods: DPS and RED-Diff
- Phase 6: Quantitative evaluation of performance using metrics such as PSNR and SSIM

Dataset

- We use the "Mayo Clinic CT Dataset" of low-dose CT scans, available via the link provided in this report.
- It contains a total of 6,400 2D slices in PNG format, extracted from 20 different patients.
- The images are organized into:
 - raw_data/train/: 5,120 slices for training (80% of the dataset)
 - raw_data/test/: 1,280 slices for testing (20% of the dataset)

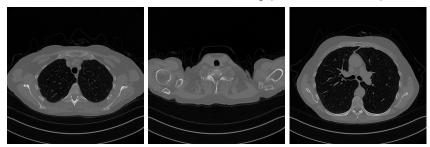


Figure: Examples of CT slices from the Mayo Clinic dataset

Conversion Pipeline

Before applying augmentations, each image is converted using:

- Grayscale: single channel via transforms.Grayscale(num_output_channels=1)
- $oldsymbol{0}$ Resize: to 128×128 pixels using bicubic interpolation
- **Output** Normalization: values scaled to [-1, 1] using mean 0.5 and std 0.5

```
base_transform = transforms.Compose([
    transforms.Grayscale(1),
    transforms.Resize((128,128), interpolation=Image.BICUBIC),
    transforms.ToTensor(),
    transforms.Normalize([0.5], [0.5]),
])
```

Data Augmentation: Types

For each clean image, we apply the following transformations:

- Fixed rotations: ±5° via rotate_fixed()
- Horizontal flip: horizontal_flip()
- Gaussian noise: mean 0, std 10 via add_gaussian_noise()
- Salt-and-pepper noise: probability 2% via add_salt_pepper()
- Brightness adjustment: factor 1.2 via change_brightness()
- Contrast adjustment: factor 1.3 via change_contrast()

Repository Organization

- raw_data/: directory containing CT slice images (train/, test/)
- o checkpoints/: saved model weights (*.pth)
- scripts/: main scripts for training and evaluation
- utils.py: module with utility functions (dataset, model, checkpoint I/O)
- notebooks/: exploratory and prototyping notebooks
- result/: output images, plots, and metrics
- report/: report materials (media/, capitoli/)

Training Pipeline

- Objective: Train a denoising diffusion model (DDIM U-Net) on grayscale images
- Main Components:
 - Data Augmentation
 - OataLoader
 - Model Compilation
 - Training loop with mixed-precision

Data Augmentation

- Base Dataset: Dataset Mayo
 - ullet Grayscale o 1 channel
 - ullet Resize images to 128 imes 128
- Augmentations (8 types):
 - None: no transformation
 - Rotation ±5° (rotation + centering)
 - Flip horizontal
 - Gaussian noise (mean=0, std=10)
 - Salt and pepper noise (prob=2%)
 - Brightness (factor=1.2)
 - Contrast (factor=1.3)

Schedulers for Diffusion

- DDPMScheduler for training diffusion process
 - Timesteps 1000
- DDIMScheduler for sampling
 - Timesteps 1000

Compiling the Model

- Why: optimize the model for better performance
- Usage:

```
model = torch.compile(model)
```

• Benefits: improved batch throughput

Mixed-Precision with AMP

- GradScaler amd autocast:
 - GradScaler for scaling gradients
 - autocast for automatic mixed precision
- Reduce memory usage and speed up training

Training Loop

- Loss function: MSE
- Start the training model.train()
- For each epoch:
 - Move images to GPU (if available)
 - Generate noise and timesteps
 - Compute noise prediction on the input data
 - Prediction + MSE loss
 - Optimization + scheduler.step()
- Save validation samples to visualize the model performance during training
- Compute and log average losses
- Save model weights each epoch

Checkpointing

- Validation:
 - model.eval() to set the model to evaluation mode
 - MSE loss on validation set
- Checkpoint:
 - Save the model weights to a .pth file
 - Update loss, PSNR and SSIM history in history.txt
- Monitor train vs validation loss over epochs aswell as PSNR and SSIM between the generated and original images
 - For each epoch sample 10 images from the validation set and compute the metrics

Epoch Validation

Metrics:

- PSNR: Peak Signal-to-Noise Ratio
- SSIM: Structural Similarity Index

Sample Generation:

- Pure noise sampling using DDIM scheduler
- Validation reconstruction:
 - Add noise to clean validation images
 - Model predicts and removes the noise

• Quality Assessment:

- PSNR range: 20-40 dB (higher = better reconstruction)
- SSIM range: 0-1 (closer to 1 = better similarity)
- Average metrics computed over 5-10 validation samples

Monitoring Produced Samples

• Pure Noise Sampling:

- Tests model's ability to generate realistic images
- Uses DDIM scheduler for iterative denoising
- Saves generated images as generated_epoch_{epoch}.png

Validation Reconstruction:

- Adds noise to clean validation images
- Model predicts and removes the noise
- Direct assessment of denoising performance

History Tracking:

- All metrics saved to history.txt
- Enables trend analysis and model comparison

Plots

- Loss Monitoring:
 - Training vs Validation Loss curves over epochs
 - MSE loss
- Quality Metrics Visualization:
 - PSNR trends with average values
 - SSIM trends with average values
 - Both metrics computed on validation reconstructions
 - Useful to track model performance

Comprehensive Monitoring

Comprehensive Monitoring:

- Three-panel subplot: Loss, PSNR, SSIM (as shown in the Figure 2)
- Data read from history.txt file
- Enables performance trend analysis

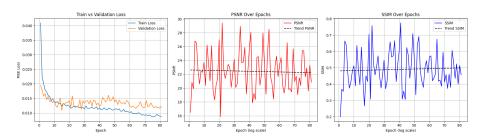


Figure: Training Loss, PSNR, and SSIM trends over epochs

Loading Checkpoints

Checkpoint Structure:

- Model state dictionary
- Optimizer state dictionary
- Current epoch number for resuming training
- Naming: ddim_unet_epoch81.pth
- load_checkpoint() utility function

DPS: Diffusion Posterior Sampling

Diffusion Posterior Sampling (DPS) is a method for solving noisy inverse problems by leveraging diffusion models as an implicit prior.

- Starting from a corrupted image $y = K(x_0) + n$, it directly integrates the likelihood term into the reverse diffusion sampling process.
- At step t, DPS computes a prediction \hat{x}_0 and uses the gradient of $||y K(\hat{x}_0)||^2$ to move towards solutions consistent with the observed data.
- Compared to hard projection methods, DPS keeps the trajectory on the generative manifold, reducing noise amplification.

Implementation of DPS

The algorithm consists of three main phases:

- **1 Initial prediction:** Sample $x_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$, then for each step t, the UNet model estimates the noise $s_{\theta}(x_t, t)$ and reconstructs \hat{x}_0 .
- **Q** Posterior update: Compute the likelihood gradient $\nabla = -K^T(y K(\hat{x}_0))$ and apply a step proportional to $\gamma_t = \frac{1 \bar{\alpha}_t}{\sigma_v^2 + (1 \bar{\alpha}_t)}$ to obtain \tilde{x}_{t-1} .
- **3** Modified DDIM step: Using \tilde{x}_{t-1} as a reference, perform the standard DDIM update to move to x_{t-1} , preserving the effect of the likelihood gradient.

The implementation requires only a few steps in PyTorch, integrating blur functions and their adjoint operators.

Final Results

What RED-Diff Does

RED-Diff solves noisy inverse problems by combining:

- A fidelity term to bring the reconstruction closer to the observations y,
- A regularizer based on the multiscale denoisers of a pretrained diffusion model,

integrating constraints at multiple levels of detail to preserve both global structures and fine details.

Implementation of RED-Diff

The algorithm is structured into three main phases:

- **1** Initialization: $\mu^{(0)} = K^T y$.
- ② Iterative Optimization: For each step $i=1,\ldots,N$ and for each noise level $t=1,\ldots,T$:
 - Sample $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ and construct

$$x_t = \sqrt{\alpha_t} \, \mu^{(i-1)} + \sigma_t \, \epsilon.$$

- 2 Predict the noise $\hat{\epsilon} = \epsilon_{\theta}(x_t, t)$.
- Compute the loss terms:

$$L_{\mathrm{fid}} = \frac{1}{2\sigma_y^2} \|K\mu^{(i-1)} - y\|^2, \quad L_{\mathrm{reg}} = w_t \, \|\hat{\epsilon} - \epsilon\|^2, \quad w_t = 1/\mathrm{SNR}_t.$$

Then update $\mu^{(i)}$ using Adam to minimize $L_{
m fid} + \lambda \, L_{
m reg}$.

Output: the final estimate $\mu^{(N)}$.

Final Results

Sottosezione 2.1

Sottosezione 2.1

Conclusions

Thank you for your attention