# Viterbi Decoding of Complex Channels using Neural Networks

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#### **Outline**

First section

Second section

# Viterbi Setup

Probability of transmit signal given the received signal

$$Pr(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})$$
 (1)

For channels without intersymbol interference

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} pr(x_i|y_i) \tag{2}$$

Using Baye's rules

$$Pr(x|y) = \frac{Pr(y|x)Pr(x)}{Pr(y)}$$
 (3)

With equiprobable transmit symbols

$$Pr(y|x) = Pr(x|y)Pr(y) \tag{4}$$

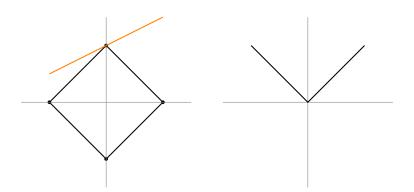
# Viterbi Setup Continued

Given a finite channel length and finite symbol constellation, sequence decoding can be formalized as

$$\underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{maximize}} \quad \prod_{i=1}^{N} Pr(x_i|y_i) \tag{5}$$

# Incorporating Neural Net into Viterbi Decoding

#### Pictures with tikz



#### Pictures with tikz

- convex envelope of (nonconvex) f is the largest convex underestimator g
- i.e., the best convex lower bound to a function



- **example**:  $\ell_1$  is the envelope of **card** (on unit  $\ell_{\infty}$  ball)
- **example**:  $\|\cdot\|_*$  is the envelope of **rank** (on unit spectral norm ball)
- ightharpoonup various characterizations: e.g.,  $f^{**}$  or convex hull of epigraph

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#### **Group lasso**

(e.g., Yuan & Lin; Meier, van de Geer, Bühlmann; Jacob, Obozinski, Vert)

problem:

minimize 
$$f(x) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||x_i||_2$$

i.e., like lasso, but require groups of variables to be zero or not

▶ also called  $\ell_{1,2}$  mixed norm regularization

### Structured group lasso

(Jacob, Obozinski, Vert; Bach et al.; Zhao, Rocha, Yu; ...)

problem:

minimize 
$$f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i \|x_{g_i}\|_2$$
 where  $g_i \subseteq [n]$  and  $\mathcal{G} = \{g_1, \dots, g_N\}$ 

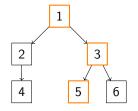
- like group lasso, but the groups can overlap arbitrarily
- particular choices of groups can impose 'structured' sparsity
- e.g., topic models, selecting interaction terms for (graphical) models, tree structure of gene networks, fMRI data
- generalizes to the composite absolute penalties family:

$$r(x) = \|(\|x_{g_1}\|_{p_1}, \dots, \|x_{g_N}\|_{p_N})\|_{p_0}$$

#### Structured group lasso

(Jacob, Obozinski, Vert; Bach et al.; Zhao, Rocha, Yu; ...)

#### hierarchical selection:

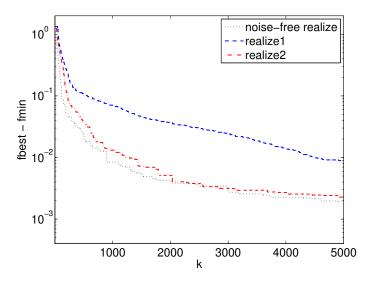


- $\triangleright$   $\mathcal{G} = \{\{4\}, \{5\}, \{6\}, \{2,4\}, \{3,5,6\}, \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}\}$
- nonzero variables form a rooted and connected subtree
  - if node is selected, so are its ancestors
  - if node is not selected, neither are its descendants

# Sample ADMM implementation: lasso

```
prox_f = Q(v, rho) (rho/(1 + rho))*(v - b) + b;
prox_g = @(v, rho) (max(0, v - 1/rho) - max(0, -v - 1/rho));
AA = A*A':
L = chol(eye(m) + AA);
for iter = 1:MAX_ITER
    xx = prox_g(xz - xt, rho);
    yx = prox_f(yz - yt, rho);
    yz = L \setminus (L' \setminus (A*(xx + xt) + AA*(yx + yt)));
    xz = xx + xt + A'*(yx + yt - yz);
    xt = xt + xx - xz;
    yt = yt + yx - yz;
end
```

# **Figure**



## **Algorithm**

if L is not known (usually the case), can use the following line search:

```
 \begin{aligned} & \textbf{given} \ x^k, \ \lambda^{k-1}, \ \text{and parameter} \ \beta \in (0,1). \\ & \textbf{Let} \ \lambda := \lambda^{k-1}. \\ & \textbf{repeat} \\ & 1. \ \textbf{Let} \ z := \mathbf{prox}_{\lambda g}(x^k - \lambda \nabla f(x^k)). \\ & 2. \ \textbf{break} \ \textbf{if} \ f(z) \leq \hat{f}_{\lambda}(z, x^k). \\ & 3. \ \textbf{Update} \ \lambda := \beta \lambda. \\ & \textbf{return} \ \lambda^k := \lambda, \ x^{k+1} := z. \end{aligned}
```

typical value of  $\beta$  is 1/2, and

$$\hat{f}_{\lambda}(x,y) = f(y) + \nabla f(y)^{T}(x-y) + (1/2\lambda)||x-y||_{2}^{2}$$