

Toward practical phase retrieval: To learn or not, and how to learn?

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Thanks to



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UMN, CS&E



Kshitij Tayal

UMN, CS&E



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UMN, ECE



Chieh-Hsin Lai

UMN, Math



Vipin Kumar

UMN, CS&E



Stefano Marchesini

LBNL



Gang Wang

UMN/BIT

Outline

Why phase retrieval?

How people solve PR?

Deep learning for PR?

Phase retrieval

Phase retrieval (PR): Given $|\mathcal{F}(x)|^2$, recover x

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- x : 1D (vector), 2D (matrix), or 3D (tensor) signal

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- \mathcal{F} : (discrete) Fourier transform
- x : 1D (vector), 2D (matrix), or 3D (tensor) signal
- Without $|\cdot|^2$, a matter of \mathcal{F}^{-1} !

1D example: spectral factorization

In signal processing, control, and stochastic processes, etc: given an autocorrelation sequence $r \in \mathbb{R}^{2n-1}$ and its Z transform $R(z)$

spectral factorization: find $X(z)$ so that $R(z) = \alpha X(z) X(z^{-1})$ and $X(z)$ has all roots inside the unit circle.

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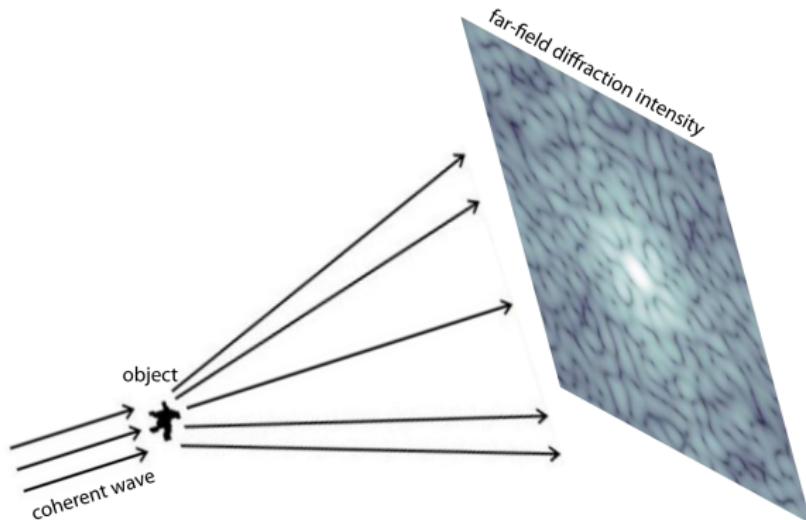
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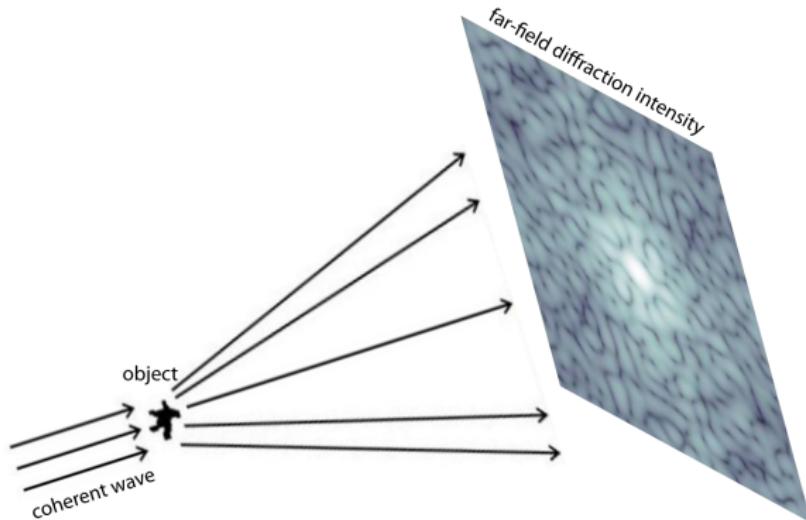
So: given $|\mathcal{F}(x)|^2$, recover x — 1D PR!

2D example: coherent diffraction imaging (CDI)



(Credit: [[Shechtman et al., 2015](#)])

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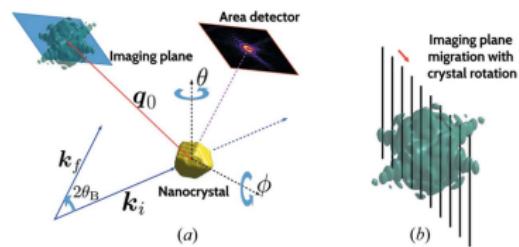
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Fraunhofer (far-field) approximation:

$$|f(x, y)|^2 \approx \frac{1}{\lambda^2 z^2} \left| \widehat{I} \left(\frac{x}{\lambda z}, \frac{y}{\lambda z} \right) \right|^2,$$

where $I(x, y) = f(x, y, 0)$ (**complex-valued!**).

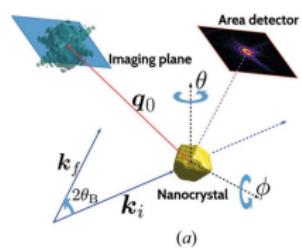
3D example: Bragg coherent diffraction imaging (BCDI)



single-reflection BCDI

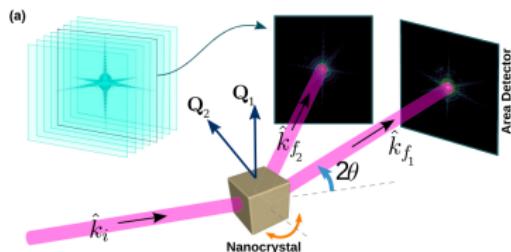
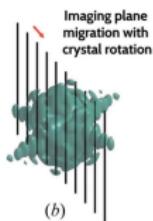
(Credit: [Maddali et al., 2020])

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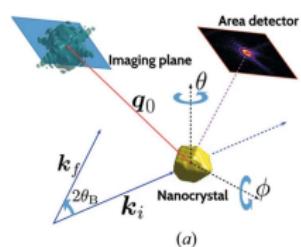
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multi-reflection BCDI

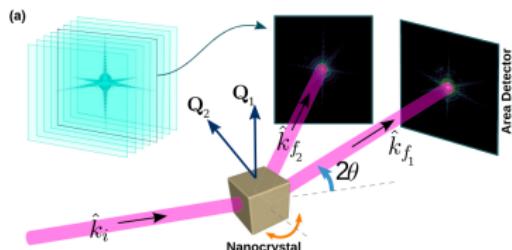
(Credit: [Newton, 2020])

3D example: Bragg coherent diffraction imaging (BCDI)



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multi-reflection BCDI

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modern tools for x-ray crystallography, with application in chemistry, materials, medicine, etc

“Nobel-level problem”

Nobel Prizes involving X-ray crystallography [edit]

Year	[hide]	Laureate	Prize	Rationale
1914		Max von Laue	Physics	"For his discovery of the diffraction of X-rays by crystals", ^[147] an important step in the development of X-ray spectroscopy.
1915		William Henry Bragg	Physics	"For their services in the analysis of crystal structure by means of X-rays" ^[148]
1915		William Lawrence Bragg	Physics	"For their services in the analysis of crystal structure by means of X-rays" ^[148]
1962		Max F. Perutz	Chemistry	"for their studies of the structures of globular proteins " ^[149]
1962		John C. Kendrew	Chemistry	"for their studies of the structures of globular proteins " ^[149]
1962		James Dewey Watson	Medicine	"For their discoveries concerning the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its significance for information transfer in living material" ^[150]
1962		Francis Harry Compton Crick	Medicine	"For their discoveries concerning the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its significance for information transfer in living material" ^[150]
1962		Maurice Hugh Frederick Wilkins	Medicine	"For their discoveries concerning the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its significance for information transfer in living material" ^[150]
1964		Dorothy Hodgkin	Chemistry	"For her determinations by X-ray techniques of the structures of important biochemical substances" ^[151]
1972		Stanford Moore	Chemistry	"For their contribution to the understanding of the connection between chemical structure and catalytic activity of the active centre of the ribonucleic acid " ^[152]
1972		William H. Stein	Chemistry	"For their contribution to the understanding of the connection between chemical structure and catalytic activity of the active centre of the ribonucleic acid " ^[152]
1976		William N. Lipscomb	Chemistry	"For his studies on the structure of boranes illuminating problems of chemical bonding" ^[153]
1985		Jerome Karle	Chemistry	"For their outstanding achievements in developing direct methods for the determination of crystal structures" ^[154]
1985		Herbert A. Hauptman	Chemistry	"For their outstanding achievements in developing direct methods for the determination of crystal structures" ^[154]
1988		Johann Deisenhofer	Chemistry	"For their determination of the three-dimensional structure of a photosynthetic reaction centre " ^[155]
1988		Hartmut Michel	Chemistry	"For their determination of the three-dimensional structure of a photosynthetic reaction centre " ^[155]
1988		Robert Huber	Chemistry	"For their determination of the three-dimensional structure of a photosynthetic reaction centre " ^[155]
1997		John E. Walker	Chemistry	"For their elucidation of the enzymatic mechanism underlying the synthesis of adenosine triphosphate (ATP)" ^[156]
2003		Roderick MacKinnon	Chemistry	"For discoveries concerning channels in cell membranes [...] for structural and mechanistic studies of ion channels" ^[157]
2003		Peter Agre	Chemistry	"For discoveries concerning channels in cell membranes [...] for the discovery of water channels " ^[157]
2006		Roger D. Kornberg	Chemistry	"For his studies of the molecular basis of eukaryotic transcription " ^[158]
2009		Ada E. Yonath	Chemistry	"For studies of the structure and function of the ribosome " ^[159]
2009		Thomas A. Steitz	Chemistry	"For studies of the structure and function of the ribosome " ^[159]
2009		Venkatraman Ramakrishnan	Chemistry	"For studies of the structure and function of the ribosome " ^[159]
2012		Brian Kobilka	Chemistry	"For studies of G-protein-coupled receptors" ^[160]

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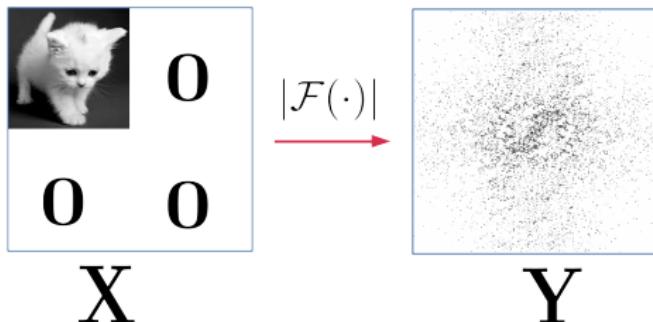
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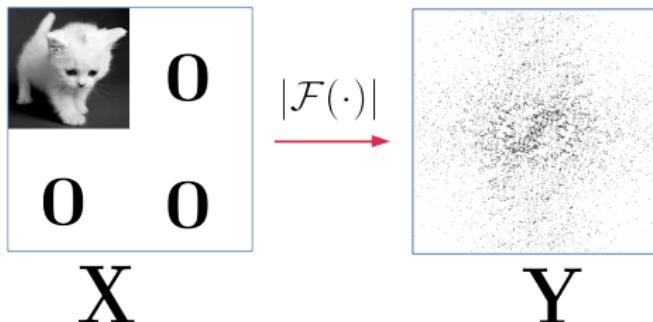
Phase retrieval: given $|\mathcal{F}(x)|$, recover x



\mathcal{F} is oversampled Fourier transform: non-injective for 1D, but
generically injective for 2D or
higher [Hayes, 1982, Bendory et al., 2017]

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higher [Hayes, 1982, Bendory et al., 2017]

- \mathcal{M} constraint: $|\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{X})| = \mathbf{Y}$
- \mathcal{S} constraint: $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{0}$

A brief history of algorithms

- Before 70's: error reduction method [[Gerchberg and Saxton, 1972](#)]
- Around 80's: hybrid input-output method [[Fienup, 1982](#)]

≡ Google Scholar



James R Fienup

Institute of Optics, [University of Rochester](#)

Verified email at optics.rochester.edu - [Homepage](#)

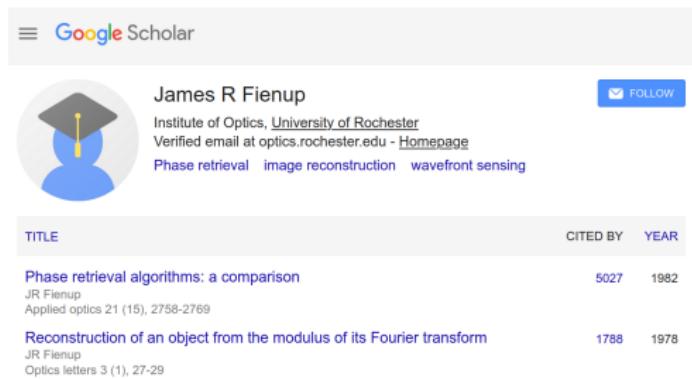
Phase retrieval image reconstruction wavefront sensing

[FOLLOW](#)

TITLE	CITED BY	YEAR
Phase retrieval algorithms: a comparison JR Fienup <small>Applied optics 21 (15), 2758-2769</small>	5027	1982
Reconstruction of an object from the modulus of its Fourier transform JR Fienup <small>Optics letters 3 (1), 27-29</small>	1788	1978

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Institute of Optics, [University of Rochester](#)
Verified email at optics.rochester.edu - [Homepage](#)

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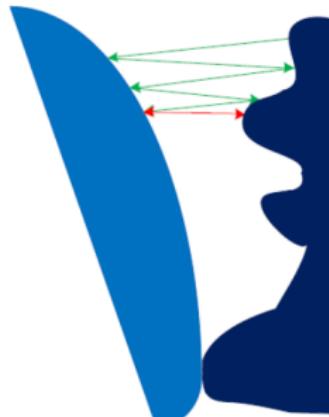
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- Around 2000: connection to Douglas-Rachford method identified [[Bauschke et al., 2002](#)]
- Later variants: RAAR [[Luke, 2004](#)], difference map [[Elser et al., 2007](#)], see recent review [[Luke et al., 2019](#)]

PR algorithms

- Standard: alternating projection methods
- Popular: Fienup's hybrid input-output (HIO) and variants
- No guaranteed recovery (projection onto **nonconvex** sets)
- Often slow in practice, and sensitive to optimization parameters



Hybrid Input-Output (HIO) = Applying Douglas-Rachford
splitting to $\delta_{\mathcal{M}} + \delta_{\mathcal{S}}$ —ADMM! [Wen et al., 2012]

Insights from randomness?

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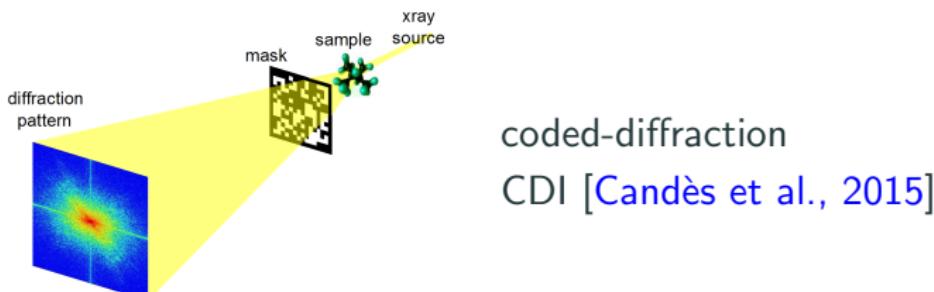
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a beautiful **init + local descent** result

The screenshot shows a detailed view of an arXiv.org page. At the top, the Cornell University logo and the text "Cornell University" are visible, along with a watermark for "the Simons Foundation". Below this, the URL "arXiv.org > cs > arXiv:1407.1065" is shown, along with search and help links. The main title "Computer Science > Information Theory" is displayed. The full title of the paper is "Phase Retrieval via Wirtinger Flow: Theory and Algorithms". The authors listed are Emmanuel Candes, Xiaodong Li, and Mahdi Soltanolkotabi. The submission date is "Submitted on 3 Jul 2014 (v1), last revised 24 Nov 2015 (this version, v3)". A brief abstract summary is provided at the bottom.

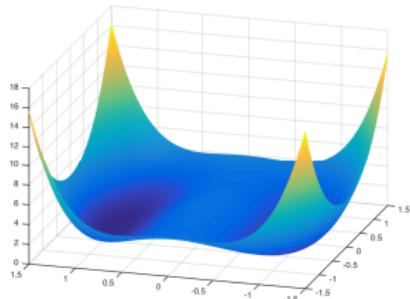
We study the problem of recovering the phase from magnitude measurements; specifically, we wish to reconstruct a complex-valued signal x of \mathbb{C}^n about which we have phaseless samples of the form $y_r = |\langle a_r, x \rangle|^2$, $r = 1, 2, \dots, m$ (knowledge of the phase of these samples would yield a linear system). This paper develops a non-convex formulation of the phase retrieval problem as well

My own results

Given $y_k = |\mathbf{a}_k^* \mathbf{x}|$ for $k = 1, \dots, m$, \mathbf{a}_k 's iid complex Gaussians,
recover \mathbf{x} (**up to a global phase**).

My own results

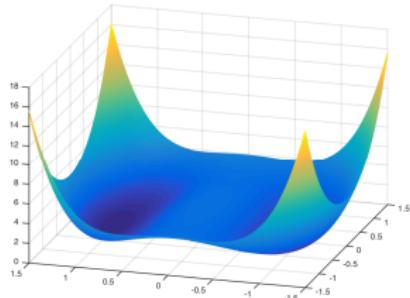
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$$\min_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{C}^n} f(\mathbf{z}) \doteq \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{k=1}^m (y_k^2 - |\mathbf{a}_k^* \mathbf{z}|^2)^2.$$

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Theorem ([Sun et al., 2016])

When \mathbf{a}_k 's generic and m large, with high probability

all local minimizers are global, all saddles are nice.

I was happy until ...

The screenshot shows a website for the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA) at the University of Minnesota. The header includes the University of Minnesota logo and the IMA logo with the tagline "Driven to Discover". The navigation menu has links for ABOUT, PROGRAMS, VISITING, VIDEO, SUPPORT THE IMA, and a search bar. The main content area displays information for a special workshop titled "PHASELESS IMAGING IN THEORY AND PRACTICE: REALISTIC MODELS, FAST ALGORITHMS, AND RECOVERY GUARANTEES" scheduled for August 14 - 18, 2017. Below the title are tabs for Overview, Schedule, and Participants. A poster link is provided: [SWB 14-18.17_poster.pdf](#). The Organizers section lists three individuals with their institutions:

Organizer	Institution
Mark Iwen	Michigan State University
Rayan Saab	University of California, San Diego
Addya Viswanathan	Michigan State University

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer link: <https://www.ima.umn.edu/giving>.

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and its Applications

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August 14 - 18, 2017

Overview Schedule Participants

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Take-home messages



Fienup: I find it interesting people have tried to analyze Gaussian phase retrieval.

James R Fienup

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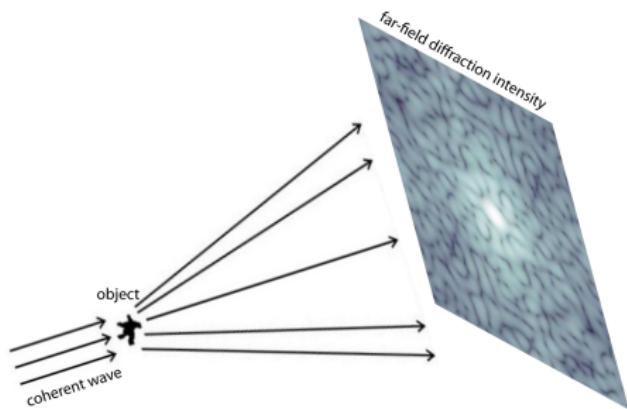


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Beautiful mathematical results gathered so far
[Chi et al., 2018,
Fannjiang and Strohmer, 2020]

James R Fienup

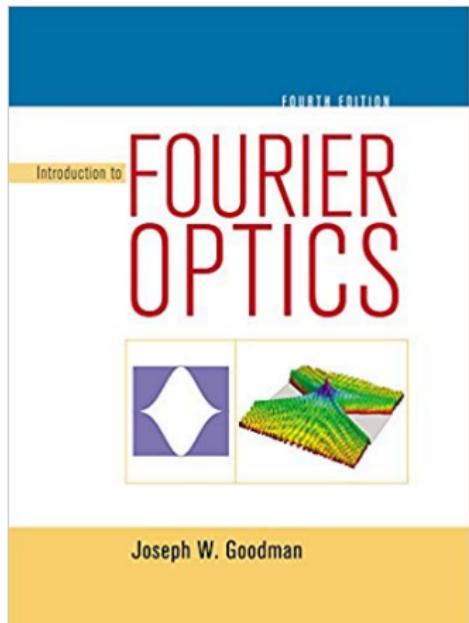
PR is about Fourier measurements



Fraunhofer (far-field) approximation:

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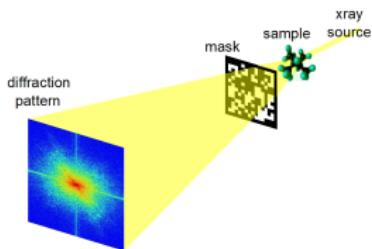
where $I(x, y) = f(x, y, 0)$
(complex-valued!).



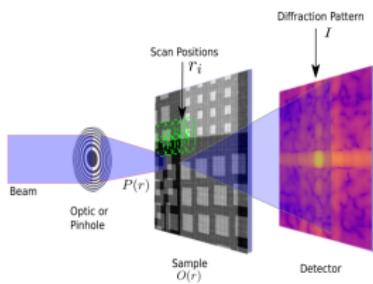
Variants

All variants are about Fourier measurements also

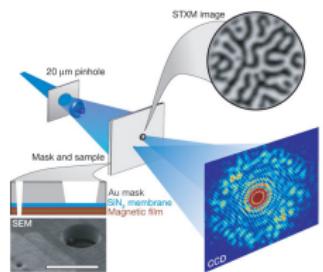
Coded diffraction



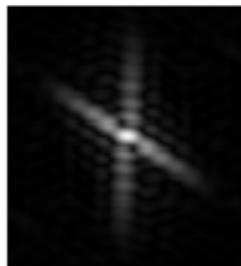
Ptychography



Fourier Holography



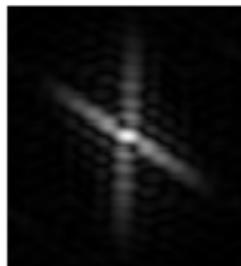
Where's the gap?



Symmetries in Fourier PR:

- translation
- 2D flipping
- global phase

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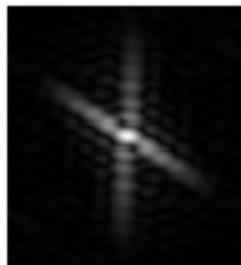


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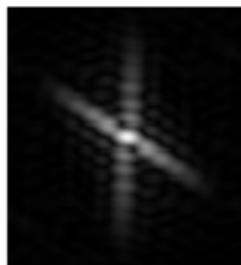
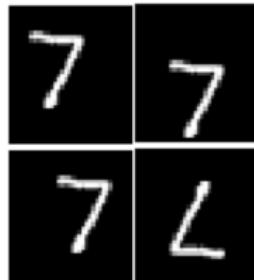
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Albert Einstein: Everything should be made as simple as possible, but **no simpler**.

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DL for inverse problems

Given $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$, estimate \mathbf{x} (f may be unknown)

– Traditional

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \ell(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x})) + \lambda \Omega(\mathbf{x})$$

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Recent surveys: [McCann et al., 2017, Lucas et al., 2018,
Arridge et al., 2019, Ongie et al., 2020]

Why DL for PR?

PR is difficult

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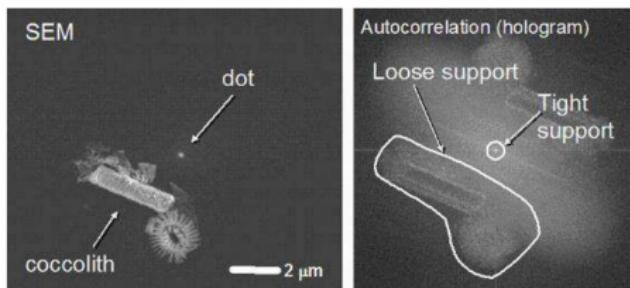
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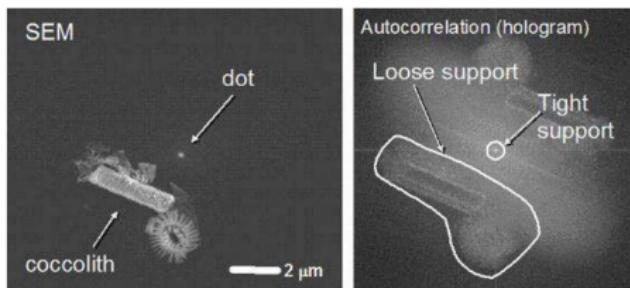
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2nd order ALM [[Zhuang et al., 2020](#)]
- Complex-valued without accurate support info, e.g.,
[[Marchesini et al., 2005](#)]



- Low-photon regime, beam stop, etc, e.g., [[Chang et al., 2018](#)]

How?

- Hybrid: replace ℓ , Ω , or algorithmic components using **learned functions**, e.g., plug-and-play ADMM, unrolling ISTA
“modern” works **better** when traditionally **already works**

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How?

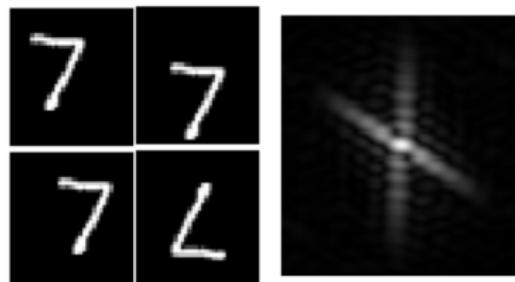
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Focus of this talk: **end-to-end approach**

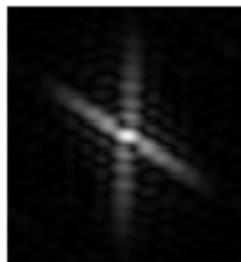
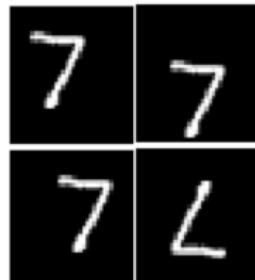
How good are they?



Symmetries in Fourier PR:

- shift
- 2D flipping
- global phase

How good are they?



Symmetries in Fourier PR:

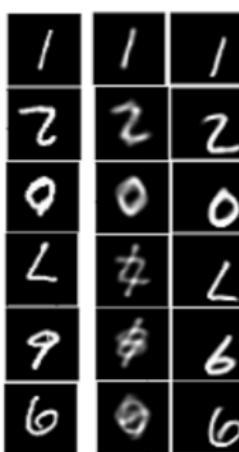
- shift
- 2D flipping
- global phase



(a)
No Symmetry



(b)
Shift symmetry



(c)
Flipping symmetry



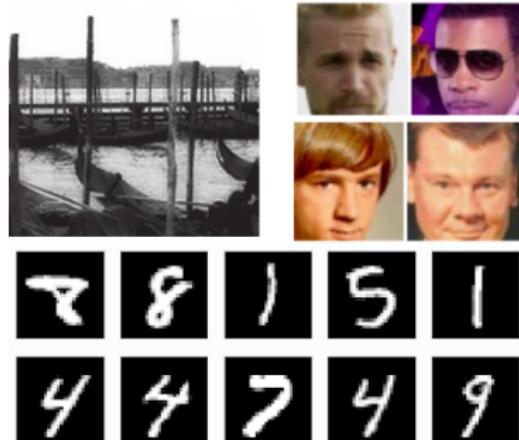
(d)
Shift and Flipping
symmetries

Why (over)-optimistic results in practice?

Data! Data! Data!

Why (over)-optimistic results in practice?

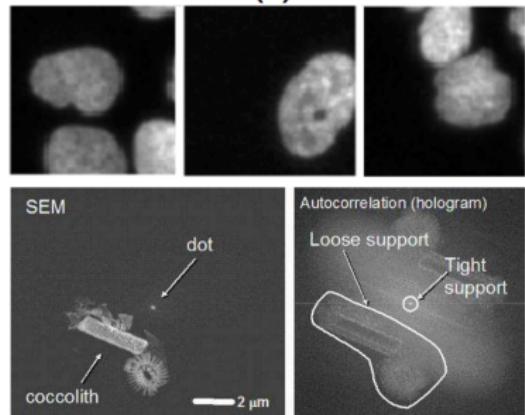
Data! Data! Data!



experimental data

naturally oriented and
centered

Dataset bias breaks problem symmetries

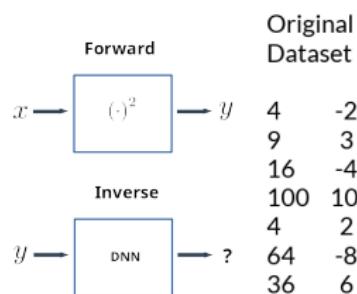


practical data

no natural orientation or
centering

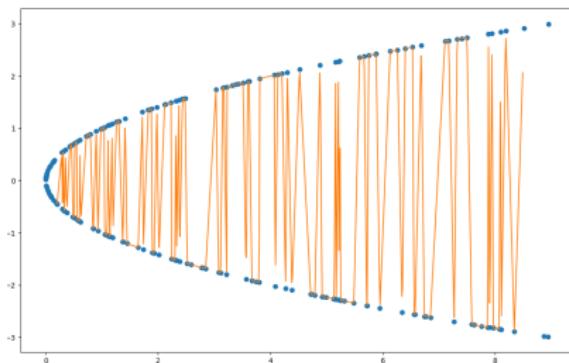
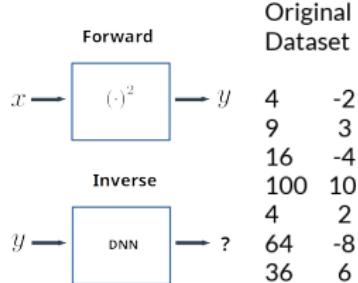
Why learning with symmetries is difficult?

Learning square roots!



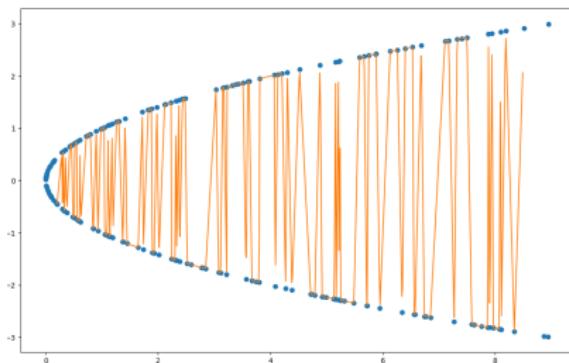
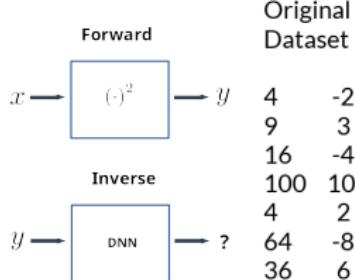
Why learning with symmetries is difficult?

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Why learning with symmetries is difficult?

Learning square roots!



nearby inputs mapped to remote outputs **due to symmetries**

Other examples

$\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$ with f a many-to-one mapping

– symmetries in f

- **Fourier phase retrieval** [BBE17] The forward model is $\mathbf{Y} = |\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{X})|^2$, where $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ and $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ are matrices and \mathcal{F} is a 2D oversampled Fourier transform. The operation $|\cdot|$ takes complex magnitudes of the entries elementwise. It is known that translations and conjugate flippings applied on \mathbf{X} , and also global phase transfer of the form $e^{i\theta}\mathbf{X}$ all lead to the same \mathbf{Y} .
- **Blind deconvolution** [LG00, TB10] The forward model is $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{a} \circledast \mathbf{x}$, where \mathbf{a} is the convolution kernel, \mathbf{x} is the signal (e.g., image) of interest, and \circledast denotes the circular convolution. Both \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{x} are inputs. Here, $\mathbf{a} \circledast \mathbf{x} = (\lambda \mathbf{a}) \circledast (\mathbf{x}/\lambda)$ for any $\lambda \neq 0$, and circularly shifting \mathbf{a} to the left and shifting \mathbf{x} to the right by the same amount does not change \mathbf{y} .
- **Synchronization over compact groups** [PWBM18] For g_1, \dots, g_n over a compact group \mathcal{G} , the observation is a set of pairwise relative measurements $y_{ij} = g_i g_j^{-1}$ for all (i, j) in an index set $\mathcal{E} \subset \{1, \dots, n\} \times \{1, \dots, n\}$. Obviously, any global shift of the form $g_k \mapsto g_k g$ for all $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, for any $g \in \mathcal{G}$, leads to the same set of measurements.

Other examples

$y = f(x)$ with f a many-to-one mapping

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[Gottschling et al., 2020]

Other examples

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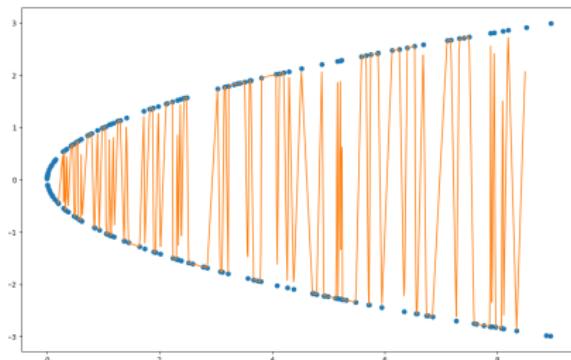
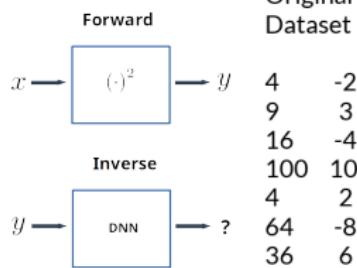
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Inverse f^{-1} is one-to-many mapping

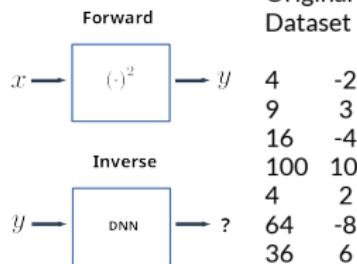
Get rid of the difficulty?

- active symmetry breaking
- passive symmetry breaking

An easy solution to the square root example

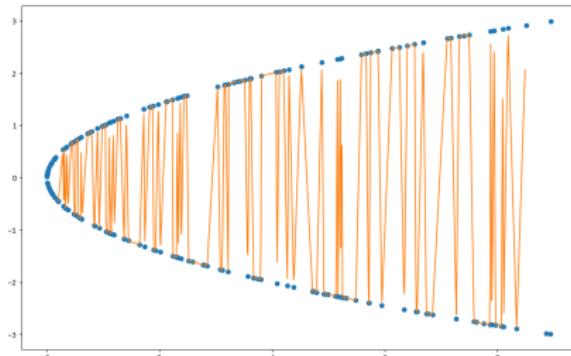


An easy solution to the square root example



Original Dataset

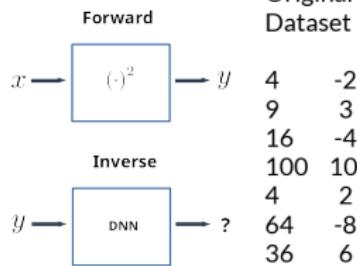
4	-2
9	3
16	-4
100	10
4	2
64	-8
36	6



Modified Dataset

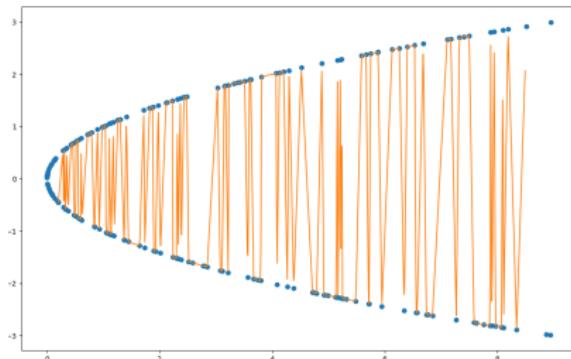
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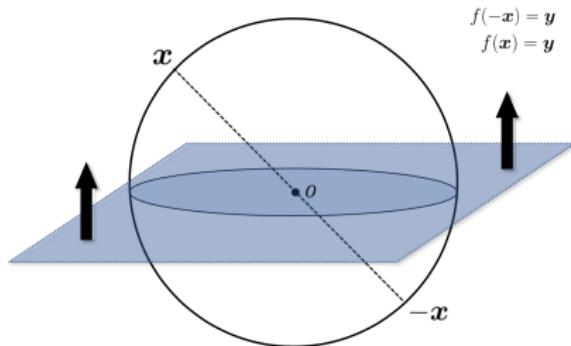
idea: fix the sign symmetry

Active symmetry breaking

Real Gaussian PR: $y = |Ax|^2$ for illustration

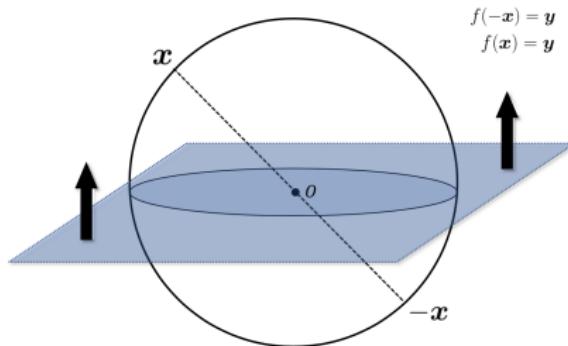
Active symmetry breaking

Real Gaussian PR: $y = |Ax|^2$ for illustration



Active symmetry breaking

Real Gaussian PR: $y = |Ax|^2$ for illustration



find a **smallest**, **representative**, and **connected** subset
[Tayal et al., 2020]

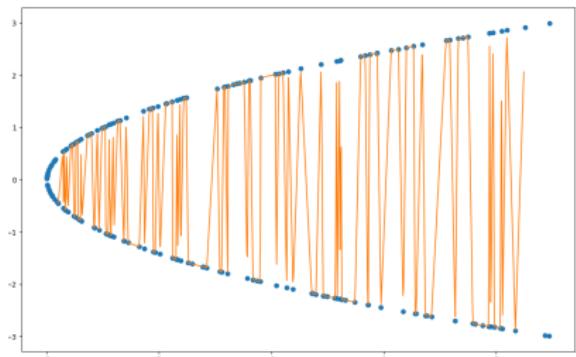
Does it work?

n	Sample	NN-A	K-NN	NN-B	WNN-A	K-NN	WNN-B	DNN-A	K-NN	DNN-B
5	2e4	10	17	283	8	18	283	10	19	284
	5e4	6	12	282	8	17	284	7	14	285
	1e5	5	10	284	5	12	283	13	18	284
	1e6	4	7	283	5	6	283	7	8	283
10	2e4	11	20	82	9	22	82	8	21	82
	5e4	9	16	82	6	18	82	9	20	82
	1e5	9	16	82	6	15	82	8	17	82
	1e6	7	13	82	5	10	82	9	11	82
15	2e4	12	17	38	9	16	38	9	16	38
	5e4	11	14	38	9	14	38	8	15	38
	1e5	10	13	38	8	13	38	7	13	38
	1e6	8	9	38	7	10	38	9	10	38

NN-A: **after** symmetry breaking —
more is worse

NN-B: **before** symmetry breaking

K-NN: K-nearest neighbor baseline



More developments

- Complex Gaussian PR [Tayal et al., 2020]

More developments

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- (Fourier) PR: forthcoming

More developments

- Complex Gaussian PR [Tayal et al., 2020]
- (Fourier) PR: forthcoming

Pros: 1) math. principled 2) only symmetry info needed even if f unknown [Krippendorf and Syvaeri, 2020]

Cons: math. involved

Math-free alternative?

passive symmetry breaking

- If $\text{DNN}_W(\mathbf{y}_i) \approx \mathbf{x}_i$, then $|\mathcal{F} \circ \text{DNN}_W(\mathbf{y}_i)| \approx |\mathcal{F}\mathbf{x}_i| = \mathbf{y}_i$

Math-free alternative?

passive symmetry breaking

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- Consider

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_i \ell(\mathbf{y}_i, |\mathcal{F} \circ \text{DNN}_W(\mathbf{y}_i)|)$$

Math-free alternative?

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- Consider

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_i \ell(\mathbf{y}_i, |\mathcal{F} \circ \text{DNN}_W(\mathbf{y}_i)|)$$

- Why it might work?
 - * DNN_W is simple when symmetries are broken
 - * **implicit regularization** means simple DNN_W is preferred

similar idea appears in [Metzler et al., 2020]

Does it work?

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	7	L	7	7	L	7	7	L	L
9	9	6	9	6	6	9	9	6	6
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
3	3	E	3	E	E	8	E	E	3
4	4	b	4	4	4	4	4	4	b
5	5	6	5	5	6	5	5	5	5
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8

More developments

- Complex-valued images

More developments

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- Other datasets

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- For high accuracy, use the DL result to initialize a local method, e.g., 2nd order ALM [[Zhuang et al., 2020](#)]

More developments

- Complex-valued images
- Other datasets
- For high accuracy, use the DL result to initialize a local method, e.g., 2nd order ALM [[Zhuang et al., 2020](#)]

Pros: 1) lightweight 2) general

Cons: 1) f is needed 2) dense data needed—Jacobian regularization to the rescue

Contribution

active and passive symmetry breaking for PR (and general inverse problems)

active and passive symmetry breaking for PR (and general inverse problems)

- End-to-end learning offers new opportunities for solving difficult PR instances
- Current successes are contaminated by dataset biases
- Symmetry breaking seems to offer a way out

Thoughts

- Essential difficulty: use DL to approximate **one-to-many** mapping

When there is forward symmetry (this talk)

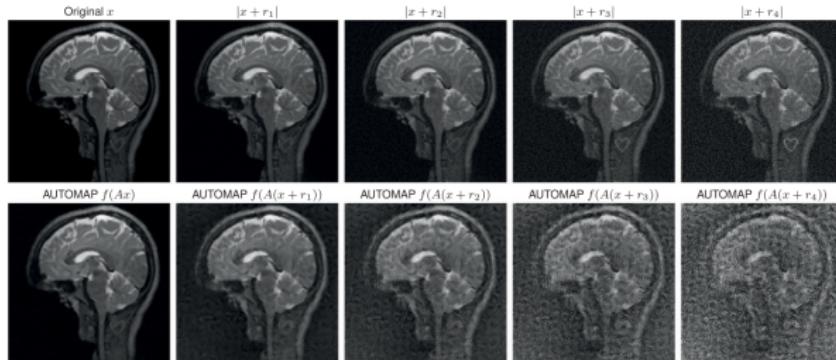
When the forward mapping under-determined

(super-resolution, 3D structure from a single image)

or Both

Thoughts

- Essential difficulty: use DL to approximate **one-to-many** mapping
 - When there is forward symmetry (this talk)
 - When the forward mapping under-determined (super-resolution, 3D structure from a single image)
 - or Both
- Not only learning difficulty, but also **robustness**
[\[Antun et al., 2020, Gottschling et al., 2020\]](#)



More details in

- **Inverse Problems, Deep Learning, and Symmetry Breaking**
Kshitij Tayal, Chieh-Hsin Lai, Raunak Manekar, Vipin Kumar, Ju Sun.
ICML workshop on ML Interpretability for Scientific Discovery, 2020.
<https://sunju.org/pub/ICML20-WS-DL4INV.pdf>
- **End-to-End Learning for Phase Retrieval**
Raunak Manekar, Kshitij Tayal, Vipin Kumar, Ju Sun. ICML
workshop on ML Interpretability for Scientific Discovery, 2020.
<https://sunju.org/pub/ICML20-WS-DL4FPR.pdf>
- **Phase Retrieval via Second-Order Nonsmooth Optimization**
Zhong Zhuang, Gang Wang, Yash Travadi, Ju Sun. ICML workshop
on Beyond First Order Methods in Machine Learning, 2020.
<https://sunju.org/pub/ICML20-WS-ALM-FPR.pdf>

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