

assignment11

December 8, 2018

1 Image Denoising

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Github Repo: [assignment11](#)

1.1 Multi-objective least squares

In some applications we have *multiple* objectives, all of which we would like to be small:

$$J_1 = ||A_1x - b_1||^2, \dots, J_k = ||A_kx - b_k||^2$$

We seek a *single* \hat{x} that gives a compromise, and makes them all small, to the extent possible. We call this the *multi-objective* least squares problem.

We cannot get a single \hat{x} which makes all the objectives be minimum at same time, so we have to come out a compromise plan. A standard method for finding a value of x that gives a compromise in making all the objectives small is to choose x to minimize a *weighted sum objective*:

$$J = \lambda_1 J_1 + \dots + \lambda_k J_k = \lambda_1 ||A_1x - b_1||^2 + \dots + \lambda_k ||A_kx - b_k||^2,$$

where λ are positive *weights*, that express our relative desire for the terms to be small.

1.1.1 Weighted sum least squares via stacking

We can minimize the weighted sum objective function by expressing it as a standard least squares problem, then we can solve it by the method we use before. Express J as the norm squared of a single vector:

$$J = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1}(A_1x - b_1) \\ \vdots \\ \sqrt{\lambda_k}(A_kx - b_k) \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2$$

so we have

$$J = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1}A_1 \\ \vdots \\ \sqrt{\lambda_k}A_k \end{bmatrix} x - \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1}b_1 \\ \vdots \\ \sqrt{\lambda_k}b_k \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = \|\tilde{A}x - \tilde{b}\|^2$$

Now, we have reduced the problem of minimizing the weighted sum least squares objective to a standard least squares problem.

Usually, we identify a *primary objective* J_1 that we would like to be small. We also identify one or more *secondary objectives* that we would also like to be small. There are many possible secondary objectives:

- $\|x\|^2$: x should be small.
- $\|x - x^{prior}\|^2$: x should be near x^{prior} .
- $\|Dx\|^2$, where D is the first difference matrix: x should be smooth.

1.2 Estimation and inversion

In the broad application area of *estimation*, the goal is to estimate a set of n values (also called parameters), the entries of the n -vector x . We are given a set of m *measurements*, the entries of an m -vector y . They are related by

$$y = Ax + v$$

The m -vector v is the *measurement noise*, and is unknown but presumed to be small. The estimation problem is to make a sensible guess as to what x is, given y and prior knowledge about x .

Of course we cannot expect to find x exactly when the measurement noise is nonzero. This is called *approximate inversion*.

If we guess that x has the value \hat{x} , then we are implicitly making the guess that v has the value $y - A\hat{x}$. If we assume that v is small, then a sensible choice for \hat{x} is the least squares approximate solution, which minimizes $\|A\hat{x} - y\|^2$. We will take this as our primary objective. And we choose secondary objectives by the information we know about x .

1.3 Image Denoising

Image de-noising is one of the *Inversion* problem. The vector x is an image, and the matrix A gives noise, so $y = Ax + v$ is a noisy image.

Our prior information about x is that it is smooth; neighboring pixels values are not very different from each other. So we choose $\|Dx\|^2$ be our secondary objective.

Because image is 2D, we form an estimate \hat{x} image by minimizing a cost function of the form

$$\|Ax - y\|^2 + \lambda(\|D_h x\|^2 + \|D_v x\|^2)$$

Here D_v and D_h are vertical and horizontal differencing operations.

1.3.1 Our specific denoising problem

In our problem, we do not use matrix A to add noise on image, but just given noisy image y , so our function is

$$\|x - y\|^2 + \lambda(\|D_h x\|^2 + \|D_v x\|^2)$$

Express it as a norm squared form, we have

$$\left\| \begin{bmatrix} I \\ \sqrt{\lambda} D_h \\ \sqrt{\lambda} D_v \end{bmatrix} x - \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = \|\tilde{A}x - \tilde{b}\|^2$$

Suppose the vector x has length MN then D_h is a $M(N-1) \times MN$ matrix, D_v be the $(M-1)N \times MN$ matrix, and I is a $M \times N$ identity matrix.

Now we can use standard least mean square method to get our \hat{x} .

1.4 Implementation

1.4.1 Import packages & read input data

```
In [1]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import math
from scipy import signal
from skimage import io, color
from skimage import exposure

file_image      = 'cau-resized.jpg'

im_color        = io.imread(file_image)
im_gray         = color.rgb2gray(im_color)
im              = (im_gray - np.mean(im_gray)) / np.std(im_gray)
row, col        = im.shape
```

1.4.2 Function for generate noisy image

Here we add some noise on original image by normal distribution with mean 0 and standard deviation σ .

```
In [38]: def create_noisy_img(img, noise_std):
    """Add noise on image

    Arguments:
        img(np.matrix): input clear image.
        noise_std: noise standard deviation.
    Return:
        noisy image
    """

    row, col = img.shape

    noise = np.random.normal(0, noise_std, (row, col))
    im_noise = img + noise

    return im_noise
```

1.4.3 Build cost function

As we talked above, to build cost function, we need a $M \times N$ identity matrix I , a $M(N-1) \times MN$ matrix D_h , and a $(M-1)N \times MN$ matrix D_v then combine them to a big matrix \tilde{A} .

```
In [3]: def create_tilde_matrix(row, col, weight):
        """Build tilde matrix A in cost function

        Arguments:
            row: #row of image
            col: #column of image
            weight: weight of secondary objective
        Return:
            matrix row: row*(col-1) + (row-1)*col + row*col
            column: row * col
        """

        I = np.identity(row*col)
        Dx_weight = deri_h(row, col, weight)
        Dy_weight = deri_v(row, col, weight)

        A = np.vstack((I, Dx_weight, Dy_weight))

        return A

def deri_h(row, col, weight=1):
    dh = np.zeros((row*(col-1), row*col))

    for i in range(row*(col-1)):
        dh[i][i] = -1
        dh[i][i+row] = 1

    dh = math.sqrt(weight) * dh

    return dh

def deri_v(row, col, weight=1):
    m = np.zeros((row-1, row))
    for i in range(row-1):
        m[i][i] = -1
        m[i][i+1] = 1

    ident = np.identity(col)

    dv = np.kron(ident, m)
    dv = math.sqrt(weight) * dv
```

```
return dv
```

Generate \tilde{b}

```
In [5]: def create_tilde_b(row, col, img):
        length = (row-1)*col + row*(col-1) + row*col

        b = np.zeros(length)
        img_vec = []

        for i in range(col):
            column = img[:, i]
            for j in range(row):
                img_vec.append(column[j])

        for k in range(row*col):
            b[k] = img_vec[k]

        return b
```

Compute \hat{x}

```
In [39]: def compute_param(A, y):
        return np.linalg.lstsq(A, y, rcond=None)[0]
```

1.4.4 De-noising image

Since we have got all the components of the cost function, now we can compute the approximate inversion \hat{x}

```
In [47]: def denoising(row, col, weight, img_noisy):
        """de-noising image

        Arguments:
            row: #row of image
            col: #col of image
            weight: weight for secondary objective
            img_noisy: noisy image

        Return:
            img_recon: de-noised image
            error: error of this denoising
        """

        # transform image to vector
        b = create_tilde_b(row, col, im_noise)

        # generate matrix A
        matrix_A = create_tilde_matrix(row, col, weight)
```

```

# compute recon image
img_recon = compute_param(matrix_A, b)

# compute error
cost_func = np.inner(matrix_A, img_recon) - b
error = np.linalg.norm(cost_func)**2

# transform to matrix shape
img_recon = (img_recon.reshape((col, row))).T

return img_recon, error

```

1.5 De-noising Images

Now, let's try our denoising function to do some image de-noising.

1.5.1 Try different standard deviation σ and regularization parameter λ

First create a function to convenient plotting.

```

In [54]: def plot_images(img, img_noisy, img_recon):
    noise_recon = img_noisy - img_recon

    p1 = plt.subplot(2,2,1)
    p1.set_title('original image')
    plt.imshow(img, cmap='gray')
    plt.axis('off')

    p2 = plt.subplot(2,2,2)
    p2.set_title('noisy image')
    plt.imshow(img_noisy, cmap='gray')
    plt.axis('off')

    p3 = plt.subplot(2,2,3)
    p3.set_title('reconstruction')
    plt.imshow(img_recon, cmap='gray')
    plt.axis('off')

    p4 = plt.subplot(2,2,4)
    p4.set_title('estimated noise')
    plt.imshow(noise_recon, cmap='gray')
    plt.axis('off')

    plt.show()

```

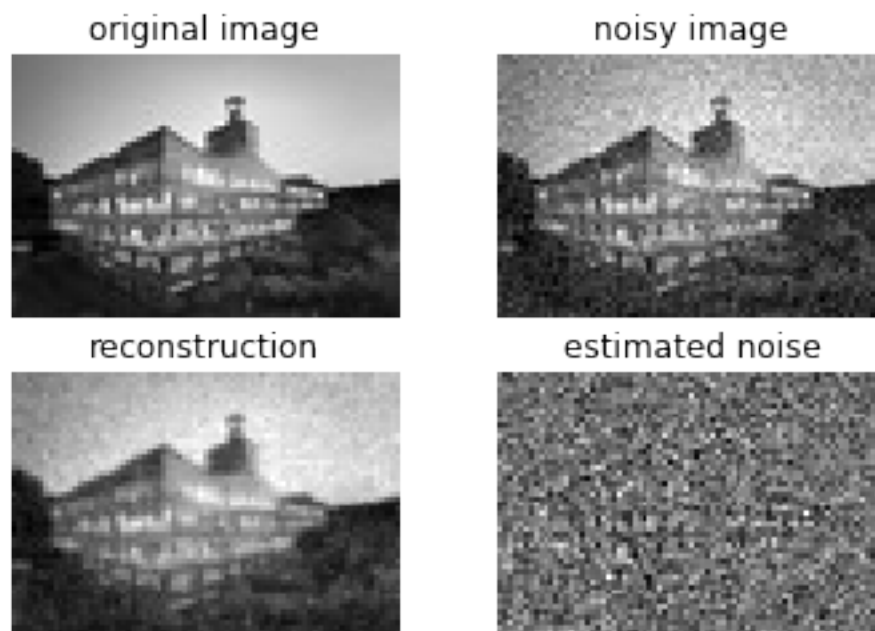
1. Try $\sigma = 0.2, \lambda = 0.25$

```
In [56]: noise_std = 0.2
         weight = 0.25

         # generate noisy image
         img_noisy = create_noisy_img(im, noise_std)

         # denoising
         img_recon, error = denoising(row, col, weight, img_noisy)

         plot_images(im, img_noisy, img_recon)
```

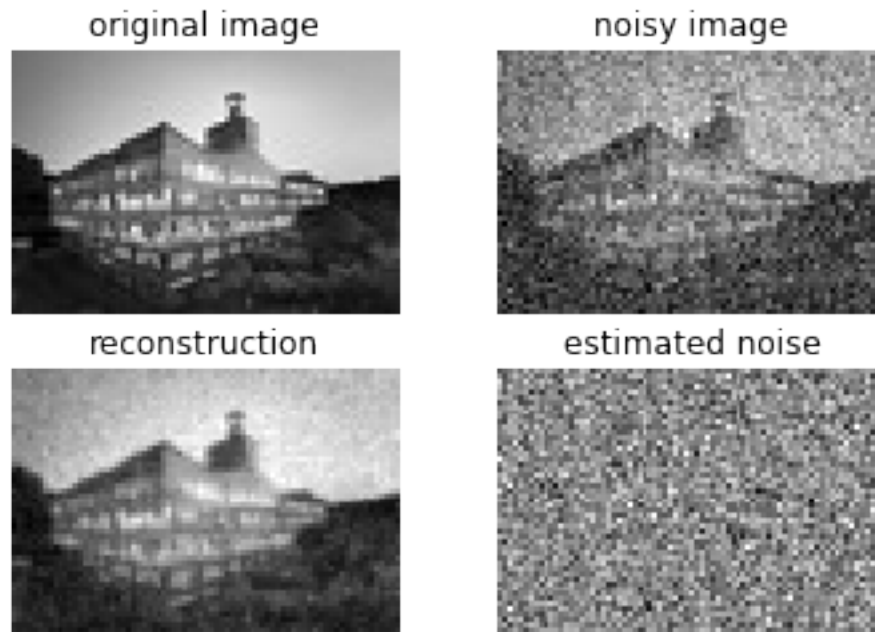


2. Try $\sigma = 0.5, \lambda = 0.25$

```
In [57]: noise_std = 0.5
         weight = 0.25

         img_noisy = create_noisy_img(im, noise_std)
         img_recon, error = denoising(row, col, weight, img_noisy)

         plot_images(im, img_noisy, img_recon)
```

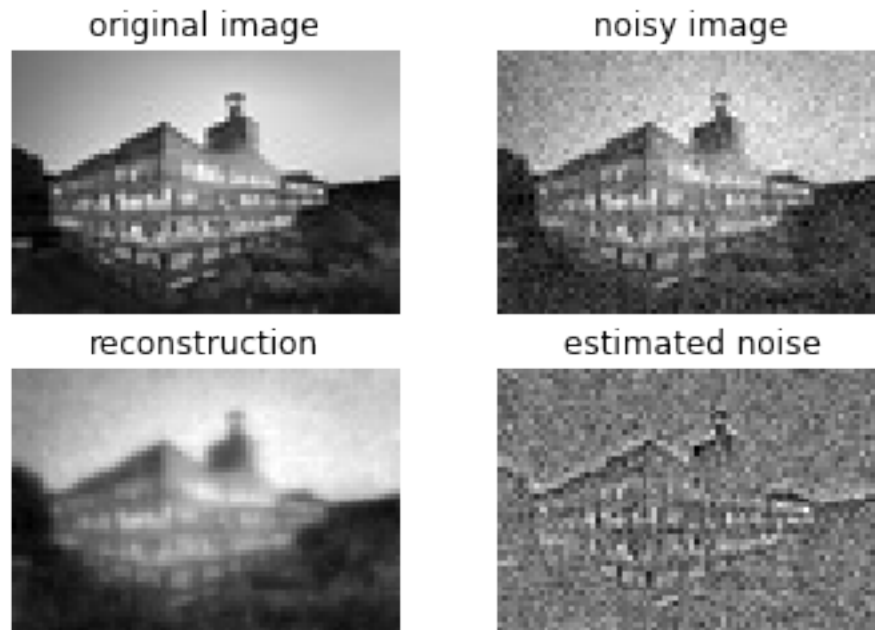


3. Try $\sigma = 0.2$, $\lambda = 1$

```
In [58]: noise_std = 0.2
         weight = 1

         img_noisy = create_noisy_img(im, noise_std)
         img_recon, error = denoising(row, col, weight, img_noisy)

         plot_images(im, img_noisy, img_recon)
```

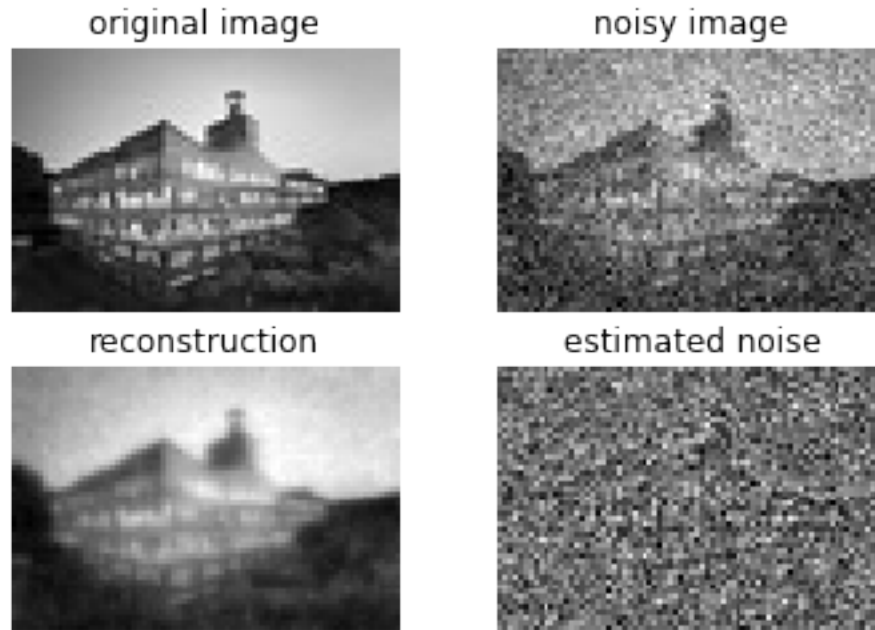



4. Try $\sigma = 0.5$, $\lambda = 1$

```
In [59]: noise_std = 0.5
         weight = 1

         img_noisy = create_noisy_img(im, noise_std)
         img_recon, error = denoising(row, col, weight, img_noisy)

         plot_images(im, img_noisy, img_recon)
```



Since I do not get memory to compute bigger image, these may not very clear.

But we still can see from the above images, when σ bigger the noise is more, when λ get bigger the recon images are becoming smoother.

1.5.2 See how λ affects result

Let's fix σ and try different λ s to see the result.

```
In [79]: lambdas = [0.5**x for x in range(-5, 11)]
         img_noisy = create_noisy_img(im, 0.5)

         error_histo = []
         imgs = []

         for weight in lambdas:
             img_recon, error = denoising(row, col, weight, img_noisy)
             imgs.append(img_recon)
             error_histo.append(error)

In [95]: plt.figure(figsize=(16, 16))
         for i in range(len(error_histo)):
             p = plt.subplot(6,3,i+1)
             img_recon= imgs[i]
             p.set_title('weight = {}'.format(lambdas[i]))
             plt.imshow(img_recon, cmap='gray')
             plt.axis('off')
```

```
plt.show()
```



Let's see how the error of reconstruction changes.

Error function is $E(u) = ||u - f||_2^2 + \lambda ||\nabla u||_2^2$

```
In [98]: plt.title("Reconstruction error with diff weight")
plt.plot(lambdas, error_histo, 'b-')
plt.xlabel('Lambda')
plt.ylabel('Error')
plt.show()
```



When λ becomes bigger, reconstructed images are more smooth, so the error between it with input noisy image also get bigger.