On Block-Reference Coherent Diffraction Imaging (CDI)

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Joint work with Ju Sun, T. J. Lane, Po-Nan Li

June 28, 2018



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CDI and phase retrieval

Detectors record intensities of diffracted rays \rightarrow phaseless data only!



Fraunhofer diffraction \longrightarrow intensity of electrical field \approx Fourier transform

$$|\hat{x}(f_1, f_2)|^2 = \left| \int x(t_1, t_2) e^{-i2\pi(f_1 t_1 + f_2 t_2)} dt_1 dt_2 \right|^2$$

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Phase retrieval algorithms

- Standard approach: Alternating projections method
- E.g. Fienup's Hybrid Input-Output (HIO) Method, etc.
- No guaranteed convergence (projection onto nonconvex sets)
- Often slow in practice



Extended-reference imaging



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Extended-reference imaging



Figure: Fienup et. al. HERALDO (2007)

- Add an adjacent reference
- Guaranteed recovery
- Solve a linear system

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Various proposed extended reference schemes:

- Fourier holography
- Podorov and Paganin (2007)
- Guizar-Sicairos and Fienup (2007)
- Algorithms presented are reference-specific

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Unified viewpoint for solving with a generic reference

- Analytical noise stability analysis
 - $\blacksquare \Rightarrow \mathsf{Explains}$ performance of different references
 - \blacksquare \Rightarrow More supporting evidence for a block-reference

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Fourier duality

Recall: multiplication
$$\stackrel{\mathcal{F}}{\underset{\mathcal{F}^{-1}}{=}}$$
 convolution
 $|\mathcal{F}(x)|^2 \stackrel{\mathcal{F}}{\underset{\mathcal{F}^{-1}}{=}} x \star x$

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Generic algorithm

Given [X, R], solve:

$$\min_{X} \frac{1}{2} \|\widehat{C}_{[R,X]} - (R \star X)_Q\|_2^2$$

*C*_[R,X] is the (top-left) cross-correlation data
 (R ★ X)_Q is the (top-left) cross-correlation operator on X

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Generic algorithm

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$$\widehat{C}_{[R,X]}$$
 is the (top-left) cross-correlation data
• $(R \star X)_Q$ is the (top-left) cross-correlation operator on X
Note: $(R \star X)_Q$ is a linear operator!
 $\Rightarrow \widehat{X} = M_R^{-1} \left(\widehat{C}_{[R,X]}\right).$

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Some algorithm analysis

Subsumes reference-specific algorithms

- Point reference (Fourier holography)
- L-shape reference (Fienup)
- Block reference (Podorov)
- M_R is lower-triangular $\Rightarrow O(n^2)$ runtime, O(n) in special cases
- Robust to noise and generalizable to beamstop

Analytical noise stability analysis

- Under Poisson noise, can explicitly calculate $\mathbb{E}\|\hat{X} X\|^2$
 - For low-frequency images, block reference has lowest error!
- Comparison of holography, L-shape, and block references



 \blacksquare \Rightarrow Error decreases with ref. absorption

Block-reference

- Constant absorption density
- Incident area greater or equal to specimen



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- Possible via lithography and nano-scale printing.
- Prototype design in process at SLAC.

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