Deep Image Prior (and Its Cousin) for Inverse Problems: the Untold Stories Ju Sun Computer Science & Engineering, UMN

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Thanks to

GLOVEX

https://glovex.umn.edu/



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(Machine) Learning, (Numerical) Optimization, (Computer) Vision, healthcarE, +X





Our research themes

FOOLING THE AI

Deep neural networks (DNNs) are brilliant at image recognition — but they can be easily hacked.



STOP + Speed Ilmit 45

Gaussian Noise Shot Noise Impulse Noise Defocus Blur Frosted Glass Blur





I: Trustworthy AI

III: AI for Healthcare





IV: AI for Science and Engineering

Visual inverse problems



Image denoising



Image super-resolution





3D reconstruction



MRI reconstruction



Coherent diffraction imaging (CDI)

Traditional methods

Inverse problem: given $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$, recover \mathbf{x}

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \underbrace{\ell(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x}))}_{\text{data fitting}} + \lambda \underbrace{R(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{regularizer}} \quad \mathsf{RegFit}$$

Limitations:

- Which ℓ ? (e.g., unknown/compound noise)
- Which R? (e.g., structures not amenable to math description)
- Speed

How has deep learning (DL) changed the story?

DL methods: the radical way

Inverse problem: given $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$, recover \mathbf{x} Learn the f^{-1} with a training set $\{(\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{x}_i)\}$



Limitations:

- Wasteful: not using f
- Representative data?
- Not always straightforward (see, e.g., Tayal et al. Inverse
 Problems, Deep Learning, and Symmetry Breaking. https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.09077)

DL methods: the middle way

Inverse problem: given $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$, recover \mathbf{x}



Recipe: revamp numerical methods for RegFit with pretrained/trainable DNNs

DL methods: the middle way

Algorithm unrolling

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \underbrace{\ell(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x}))}_{ ext{data fitting}} + \lambda \underbrace{\operatorname{R}(\mathbf{x})}_{ ext{regularizer}}$$

If R proximal friendly

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} \,=\, \mathcal{P}_Rig(\mathbf{x}^k\,-\,\eta
abla^ op fig(\mathbf{x}^kig)\ell'ig(\mathbf{y},\,f(\mathbf{x}^k)ig)ig)$$

<u>Idea</u>: make \mathcal{P}_R trainable, using $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)\}$



Fig credit: Deep Learning Techniques for Inverse Problems in Imaging https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.06001

DL methods: the middle way

Using $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}$ only

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \underbrace{\ell(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x}))}_{ ext{data fitting}} + \lambda \underbrace{\operatorname{R}(\mathbf{x})}_{ ext{regularizer}}$$

Plug-and-Play

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} \,=\, \mathcal{P}_Rig(\mathbf{x}^k\,-\,\eta
abla^ op fig(\mathbf{x}^kig)\ell'ig(\mathbf{y},\,f(\mathbf{x}^k)ig)ig)\,,$$

E.g. replace \mathcal{P}_R with pretrained denoiser

Deep generative models

DL methods: a survey

Deep Learning Techniques for Inverse Problems in Imaging

Gregory Ongie^{*}, Ajil Jalal[†], Christopher A. Metzler[‡] Richard G. Baraniuk[§], Alexandros G. Dimakis[¶], Rebecca Willett[∥]

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Abstract

Recent work in machine learning shows that deep neural networks can be used to solve a wide variety of inverse problems arising in computational imaging. We explore the central prevailing themes of this emerging area and present a taxonomy that can be used to categorize different problems and reconstruction methods. Our taxonomy is organized along two central axes: (1) whether or not a forward model is known and to what extent it is used in training and testing, and (2) whether or not the learning is supervised or unsupervised, i.e., whether or not the training relies on access to matched ground truth image and measurement pairs. We also discuss the tradeoffs associated with these different reconstruction approaches, caveats and common failure modes, plus open problems and avenues for future work. Focuses on **linear** inverse problems, i.e., *f* linear

https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.06001

Limitations of middle ways:

- Representative data?
- Algorithm-sensitive
- Good initialization? (e.g., Manekar et al. Deep Learning Initialized Phase Retrieval.

https://sunju.org/pub/NIPS20-WS-DL4F PR.pdf)

DL methods: the economic (radical) way

Ulyanov et al. Deep image prior. IJCV'20. https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.10925

Contrasting: Deep generative models

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Pretraining:} \ \mathbf{x}_i \ \approx \ G_\theta\left(\mathbf{z}_i\right) \ \forall \, i \\ \\ \text{Deployment:} \ \min_{\mathbf{z}} \ \ell(\mathbf{y}, \, f \circ G_\theta(\mathbf{z})) \ + \ \lambda R \ \circ G_\theta\left(\mathbf{z}\right) \end{array}$

Successes of DIP



denoising/inpainting/super-resol/deJEPG/...

https://dmitryulyanov.github.io/deep_image_prior



Blurry image

Xu & Jia [48]



Pan-L0 [27]



Sun et al. [41]



Pan-DCP [29]

SelfDeblur

Blind image deblurring (blind deconvolution)

Ren et al. Neural Blind Deconvolution Using Deep Priors. CVPR'20. https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.02197

 $\label{eq:charge} Zhuang \ et \ al. \ \textbf{Blind Image Deblurring with Unknown Kernel Size and}$

Substantial Noise. https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.09483



MRI reconstruction

Darestani and Heckel. Accelerated MRI with Un-trained Neural Networks. https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.02471 (ConvDecoder is a variant of DIP)



Phase retrieval

Tayal et al. **Phase Retrieval using Single-Instance Deep Generative Prior**. <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.04812</u> Zhuang et al. **Practical Phase Retrieval Using Double Deep Image Priors**. <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.00799</u>



Surface reconstruction

Williams et al. Deep Geometric Prior for Surface Reconstruction. CVPR'19. <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.10943</u>

Many others:

- PET reconstruction
- Audio denoising
- Time series

See recent survey

Oayyum et al. Untrained neural network priors for inverse imaging problems: A survey. T-PAMI'22.

https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9878048

DIP's cousin(s)

Deep image prior (DIP)

 $\mathbf{x} pprox G_{ heta}\left(\mathbf{z}
ight) = G_{ heta}$ (and \mathbf{z}) trainable

Idea: (visual) objects as continuous functions

Neural implicit representation (NIR)

 $\mathbf{x} \approx \mathcal{D} \circ \overline{\mathbf{x}} \qquad \mathcal{D}: ext{discretization} \quad \overline{\mathbf{x}}: ext{ continuous function}$

Physics-informed neural networks (PINN)



Figure credit: https://www.nature.com/articles/s42254-021-00314-5

NIR for 3D rendering and view synthesis



https://www.matthewtancik.com/nerf

Practical issues around DIP (and its cousin)





- 1) Early learning then overfitting (ELTO)
- 2) Slow in convergence
- 3) Which G_{θ} ?
- 4) ...

This talk

- Tackle early-learning-then-overfitting (ELTO) by **early stopping**
 - Li et al. Self-Validation: Early Stopping for Single-Instance Deep Generative Priors (BMVC'21)

https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.12271

- Wang et al. Early Stopping for Deep Image Prior https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.06074
- **Practical** blind image deblurring (BID) / **Practical** phase retrieval (PR)
 - Zhuang et al. Blind Image Deblurring with Unknown Kernel Size and Substantial Noise. https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.09483
 - Zhuang et al. Practical Phase Retrieval Using Double Deep Image Priors. https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.00799
- Toward **fast** computation for DIP
 - Li et al. Deep Random Projector: Accelerated Deep Image Prior. Submitted to CVPR'23.

Early stopping for ELTO

- Li et al. Self-Validation: Early Stopping for Single-Instance Deep Generative Priors (BMVC'21) <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.12271</u>
- Wang et al. Early Stopping for Deep Image Prior <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.06074</u>

Why early-learning-then-overfitting (ELTO)? $\min_{\theta} \ell(\mathbf{y}, f \circ G_{\theta}(\mathbf{z}))$

DIP learns signal **much faster than** learning noise



In practice, DIP heavily over-parameterized



Tackling ELTO via regularization

 $\min_{ heta} \, \ell(\mathbf{y}, \, f \circ G_{ heta}(\mathbf{z}))$

- Regularize the network $G_ heta$
- Regularize the estimation $G_ heta(\mathbf{z})$, i.e., bringing back $R\circ G_ heta(\mathbf{z})$



[Keckel & Hand'18] [Cheng et al'19] [Liu et al''18]

Cons: right regularization levels?

Detailed references: https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.06074

Tackling ELTO via noise modeling

- Noise modeling
 - Noise-specific regularizer
 - Explicit noise term

Double Over-parameterization:

 $\min_{\theta, \, \mathbf{g}, \, \mathbf{h}} \| \mathbf{y} - \phi(\theta) - (\mathbf{g} \circ \mathbf{g} - \mathbf{h} \circ \mathbf{h}) \|_F^2$ [You et al'20]

Rethinking DIP for denoising:



Cons: need detailed noise info



Detailed references: https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.06074

Tackling ELTO via early stopping

Cons: model- or noise-specific

[Shi et al'21]

On Measuring and Controlling the Spectral Bias of the Deep Image Prior.

https://link.springer.com/articl e/10.1007/s11263-021-01572-7



Detailed references: <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.06074</u>

An interesting observation



ES Ver 1.0: based on autoencoder Rec Err

ES Ver 2.0: based on running variance

ES base on moving variance (MV)

Algorithm 1 DIP with ES-WMV

Input: random seed \boldsymbol{z} , randomly-initialized $G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$, window size W ,
patience number P, empty queue Q , iteration counter $k = 0$
Output: reconstruction x^*
1: while not stopped do
2: update θ via Eq. (2) to obtain θ^{k+1} and x^{k+1}
3: push \boldsymbol{x}^{k+1} to \mathcal{Q} , pop queue front if $ \mathcal{Q} > W$
4: if $ \mathcal{Q} = W$ then
5: calculate VAR of elements in Q
6: update VAR _{min} and the corresponding x^*
7: if no decrease of VAR_{min} in <i>P</i> consecutive iterations
then
8: stop and return \boldsymbol{x}^k
9: end if
10: end if
11: $k = k + 1$
12: end while

Algorithm 2 DIP with ES–EMV

Input: random seed z, randomly-initialized G_{θ} , forgetting factor $\alpha \in (0,1)$, patience number P, iteration counter k = 0, $EMA^0 = 0, EMV^0 = 0,$ **Output:** reconstruction x^* 1: while not stopped do update θ via Eq. (2) to obtain θ^{k+1} and x^{k+1} 2: $\mathrm{EMA}^{k+1} = (1-\alpha)\mathrm{EMA}^k + \alpha \boldsymbol{x}^{k+1}$ 3: $\mathrm{EMV}^{k+1} = (1-\alpha)\mathrm{EMV}^k + \alpha(1-\alpha)\|\boldsymbol{x}^{k+1} - \mathrm{EMA}^k\|_2^2$ 4: update EMV_{min} and the corresponding x^* 5: if no decrease of EMV_{min} in P consecutive iterations then 6: stop and return \boldsymbol{x}^k 7: end if 8: k = k + 19. 10: end while

Table 5. Wall-clock time of DIP, SV-ES, ES-WMV and ES-EMV per epoch on *NVIDIA Tesla K40 GPU*: mean and (std).

	DIP	SV-ES	ES-WMV	ES-EMV
Time(secs)	0.448 (0.030)	13.027 (3.872)	0.301 (0.016)	0.003 (0.003)

Very little overhead

A bit of justification



Theorem 2.1. Let σ_i 's and w_i 's be the singular values and left singular vectors of $J_G(\theta^0)$, and suppose we run gradient descent with step size η on the linearized objective $\hat{f}(\theta)$ to obtain $\{\theta^t\}$ and $\{x^t\}$ with $x^t \doteq G_{\theta^0}(z) + J_G(\theta^0)(\theta^t - \theta^0)$. Then provided that $\eta \leq 1/\max_i (\sigma_i^2)$, the running variance of $\{x^t\}$ is

$$\text{DISP}_{2}^{2}(t) = \sum_{i} C_{m,\eta,\sigma_{i}} \left\langle \boldsymbol{w}_{i}, \boldsymbol{\widehat{y}} \right\rangle^{2} \left(1 - \eta \sigma_{i}^{2}\right)^{2t}, \quad (7)$$

where $\widehat{\boldsymbol{y}} = \boldsymbol{y} - G_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^0}(\boldsymbol{z})$, and $C_{W,\eta,\sigma_i} \geq 0$ only depends on W, η , and σ_i for all i.

Theorem 2.2. Assume the same setting as Theorem 2 of [16]. Our WMV is upper bounded by

$$\frac{12}{W} \|\boldsymbol{x}\|_{2}^{2} \frac{\left(1 - \eta \sigma_{p}^{2}\right)^{2t}}{1 - (1 - \eta \sigma_{p}^{2})^{2}} + 12 \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\left(1 - \eta \sigma_{i}^{2}\right)^{t+W-1} - 1\right)^{2} (\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{n})^{2} + 12\varepsilon^{2} \|\boldsymbol{y}\|_{2}^{2}.$$

with high probability.

Effective across types\levels of noise

High-Level



Typical detection gap: around 1 PSNR point

Low-Level

Effective on real-world denoising

NTIRE 2020 Real Image Denoising Challenge (RGB track) for **1024** Images

• Unknown noise types and levels

10010 / 1	iii tiller (Sta)			
	Detected PSNR	PSNR Gap	Detected SSIM	SSIM Gap
DIP (MSE)	34.04 (3.68)	0.92 (0.83)	0.92 (0.07)	0.02 (0.04)
DIP (ℓ_1)	33.92 (4.34)	0.92 (0.59)	0.93 (0.05)	0.02 (0.02)
DIP (Huber)	33.72 (3.86)	0.95 (0.73)	0.92 (0.06)	0.02 (0.03)

Table 7. ES-WMV on real image denoising: mean and (std).

Effective on advanced tasks



Figure 5. Detection performance on MRI reconstruction



Code available at: https://github.com/sun-umn/Early_Stopping_for_DIP

Toward practical blind image deblurring

• Zhuang et al. Blind Image Deblurring with Unknown Kernel Size and Substantial Noise. https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.09483

Blind image deblurring (BID)



Mostly due to optical deficiencies (e.g., defocus) and motions

Given \mathbf{y} , recover \mathbf{x} (and/or \mathbf{k})

Also Blind Deconvolution



Landmark surveys

- 1996: Kundur and Hatzinakos. Blind image deconvolution. <u>https://doi.org/10.1109/79.489268</u>
- 2011: Levin et al. **Understanding blind deconvolution algorithms**. <u>https://doi.org/10.1109/TPAMI.2011.148</u>
- 2012: Kohler et al. Recording and playback of camera shake: Benchmarking blind deconvolution with a real-world database. <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-33786-4_3</u>
- 2016: Lai et al. A comparative study for single image blind deblurring. https://doi.org/10.1109/CVPR.2016.188
- 2021: Koh et al. Single image deblurring with neural networks: A comparative survey https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cviu.2020.103134
- 2022: Zhang et al. Deep image blurring: A survey https://doi.org/10.1007/s11263-022-01633-5

See also: Awesome Deblurring https://github.com/subeeshvasu/Awesome-Deblurring

Key challenge of data-driven approach:

obtaining sufficiently expressive data (Koh et al'21. Zhang et al'22)

Practicality challenges

- 1) Unknown kernel size
- 2) Substantial noise
- 3) Model stability





Idea: parameterize both ${f k}$ and ${f x}$ as DIPs

- CNN + CNN (Wang et al'19, <u>https://doi.ieeecomputersociety.org/10.1109/ICCVW.2019.00127;</u> Tran et al'21, <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.00317</u>)
- MLP + CNN (SelfDeblur; Ren et al'20, <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.02197</u>)

Still problematic with

1) kernel size over-specification 2) substantial noise

A glance of our modifications

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Over-specify}_k \\ \text{Over-specify}_X \\ k \text{~half of the image sizes} \end{array}$

Handle bounded shift

 $\ell_1/\ell_2 \operatorname{vs} \ell_1$



Table 1: ℓ_1/ℓ_2 vs TV for noise: mean and (std).

	Low	Level	High Level		
	\mathbf{PSNR}	λ	PSNR	λ	
$\frac{L1}{L2}$	32.64 (0.69)	0.0001 (0.018)	27.74 (0.23)	0.0002 (0.0019)	
ΤĪ	31.12 (0.52)	0.002 (0.07)	$24.34_{(0.78)}$	0.02 (0.10)	

A glance of our modifications (continue)



A glance of our modifications (continue)

• Early Stopping



SelfDeblur vs our method



Clean



SelfDeblur



Blurry and noisy



Ours



Clean

Blurry and noisy



SelfDeblur

Ours

Real world results



Difficult cases

1) High depth contrast
 2) High brightness contrast

Outperform SOTA data-driven methods!

Toward practical phase retrieval

Zhuang et al. Practical Phase Retrieval Using Double Deep Image Priors.
 <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.00799</u>

Why phase retrieval (PR)?

Phase Retrieval (PR): $\boldsymbol{Y} = |\mathcal{A}(\boldsymbol{X})|^2$, recover \boldsymbol{X}



Segment Alignment

Nominal Event Time: Starts - Launch + ~2 Months

Status: Completed

After we have the image array, we can perform Segment Alignment, which corrects most of the large positioning errors of the mirror segments.

We begin by defocusing the segment images by moving the secondary mirror slightly. Mathematical analysis, called Phase Retrieval, is applied to the defocused images to determine the precise positioning errors of the segments. Adjustments of the segments then result in 18 well-corrected "telescopes." However, the segments still don't work together as a single mirror.

VIDEO: First Photons | Step 2 Segment Alignment

READ: About First Photons | Step 2 Complete

REPLAY: Media Telecon

SPACE TELESCOPE



James Webb telescope

Demo: https://webbtelescope.org/news/first-imag es/gallery/zoomable-image-carina-nebula

Which phase retrieval? $Y = |\mathcal{A}(X)|^2$ Consider $\min_X ||Y - |\mathcal{A}(X)|^2||_F^2$



Focus here: plane-wave CDI (Fraunhofer PR) $Y = |\mathcal{F}(X)|^2$





 ${f X}$ complex-valued

Three symmetries:

- global phase
- conjugate flipping

• shift

Limitations of SOTA methods on PR

Global issues

- Sensitivity to initial support estimation
- Sensitivity to multiple hyperparameters (e.g., Coherent Diffraction Imaging HIO+ER+Shrikwrap) (CDI)
- Low reconstruction quality (e.g., phases with singularities in BCDI)

Local issues

- Beamstop (i.e., missing data)
- Shot noise





Bragg Coherent Diffraction Imaging (BCDI)

Double DIPs

$$\min_{oldsymbol{X}\in\mathbb{C}^{n imes n}} \|oldsymbol{Y}-|\mathcal{F}(oldsymbol{X})|^2\|_F^2$$

Reparameterizing X using two DIPs

$$\boldsymbol{X} = \boldsymbol{X}^{mag} e^{1j * \boldsymbol{X}^{phase}} = G_{\theta_1}^{mag} \left(z_1 \right) e^{1j * G_{\theta_2}^{phase} \left(z_2 \right)}$$

e.g., for BCDI on crystals, magnitude known to be uniform

OR
$$\boldsymbol{X} = \boldsymbol{X}^{real} + 1j * \boldsymbol{X}^{imag} = G_{\theta_1}^{real}(z_1) + 1j * G_{\theta_2}^{imag}(z_2)$$

e.g., for CDI on certain bio-specimen, real part known to be nonnegative

X half of the size of Y in any dimension: no tight support needed, and information-theoretic limit

Zhuang et al. Practical Phase Retrieval Using Double Deep Image Priors https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.00799

Results on 2D simulated data No training data!



Results on simulated 3D data



Ground truth

HIO+ER+Shrinkwrap

Double DIP

Results on realistic 3D results

slices from different views





Our



HIO+ER with Shrinkwrap

Deep random projector to accelerate DIP

• Li et al. Deep Random Projector: Accelerated Deep Image Prior. Submitted to CVPR'23.

DRP vs. DIPs: a glance



Table 2. The comparison of DIP, metaDIP, and RP-DIP for image denoising. Higher mean PSNRs (numbers outside parentheses) are in red and less OPT time (numbers inside parentheses) is in blue.

	CelebA		CBSD68	
	L	Н	L	Н
DIP	27.27 (9.44)	23.04 (3.95)	26.05 (9.44)	22.55 (3.67)
MetaDIP20	27.27 (7.59)	23.02 (3.24)	26.16 (8.89)	22.54 (3.99)
MetaDIP50	27.31 (7.01)	23.09 (2.69)	26.10 (8.50)	22.51 (3.39)
RP-DIP	27.99 (0.49)	23.70 (0.18)	26.86 (0.73)	23.07 (0.34)

RP-DIP

Key(s) to accelerating optimization

• Optimizing the input seed, not the network → improve the convergence



• Cutting down the network depth → improve per-iteration cost

Key(s) to retaining restoration quality

• Adopting an explicit regularizer

 $\min_{\boldsymbol{z}} \underbrace{\|\boldsymbol{y} - G_{\widehat{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{z})\|}_{\boldsymbol{z}} + \lambda \underbrace{\mathrm{TV}_{aniso}(G_{\widehat{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{z}))}_{\boldsymbol{z}}$ fidelity term regularization

Spectral bias analysis



DIP

DRP

DRP vs. DIP: denoising/reconstruct a "clean" image



RP vs. DIPs: denoising/reconstruct a noisy image



Closing

$$\min_{ heta} \, \ell(\mathbf{y}, \, f \circ G_{ heta}(\mathbf{z})) \, + \, \lambda R \circ G_{ heta}(\mathbf{z})$$

Addressing practicality issues around DIP

- **Early stopping** to tackle early-learning-then-overfitting (ELTO)
- Careful customization makes **blind image denoising** and **phase retrieval** work in unprecedented regimes
- (brief) **Deep random projector**—toward efficient DIP

Papers

- Li et al. Self-Validation: Early Stopping for Single-Instance Deep Generative Priors (BMVC'21) <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.12271</u>
- Wang et al. Early Stopping for Deep Image Prior https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.06074 (Under review for ICLR'23)
- Zhuang et al. Blind Image Deblurring with Unknown Kernel Size and Substantial Noise. <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.09483</u> (Under review for IJCV)
- Zhuang et al. **Practical Phase Retrieval Using Double Deep Image Priors**. <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.00799</u> (Under review for ICCASP'23)
- Li et al. **Deep Random Projector: Toward Efficient Deep Image Prior**. (Under review for CVPR'23)

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