



From Statistical Estimation and Generative Modeling to Inverse Problems

LECTURE 5: INVERSE PROBLEMS

Inverse Problems

- Problem Definition
- Early Efforts
- Solutions Based on GANs
 - Add-Hoc
 - Applying Statistical Estimation
- Examples

Problem Definition

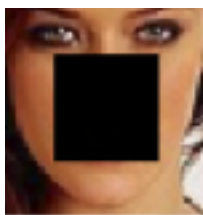
We are given vector X (measurements) and interested in estimating vector Y

We assume $X = T(Y) + W$ where $T(Y)$ general (mostly) **known** transformation

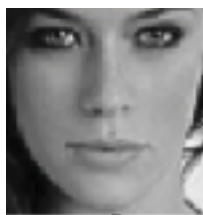
Basic characteristic:

$$\dim(X) \leq \dim(Y)$$

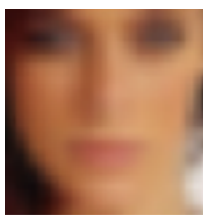
Inpainting



Colorization



Super-Res



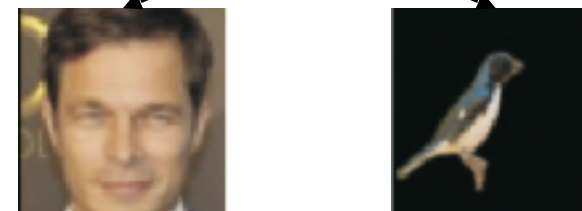
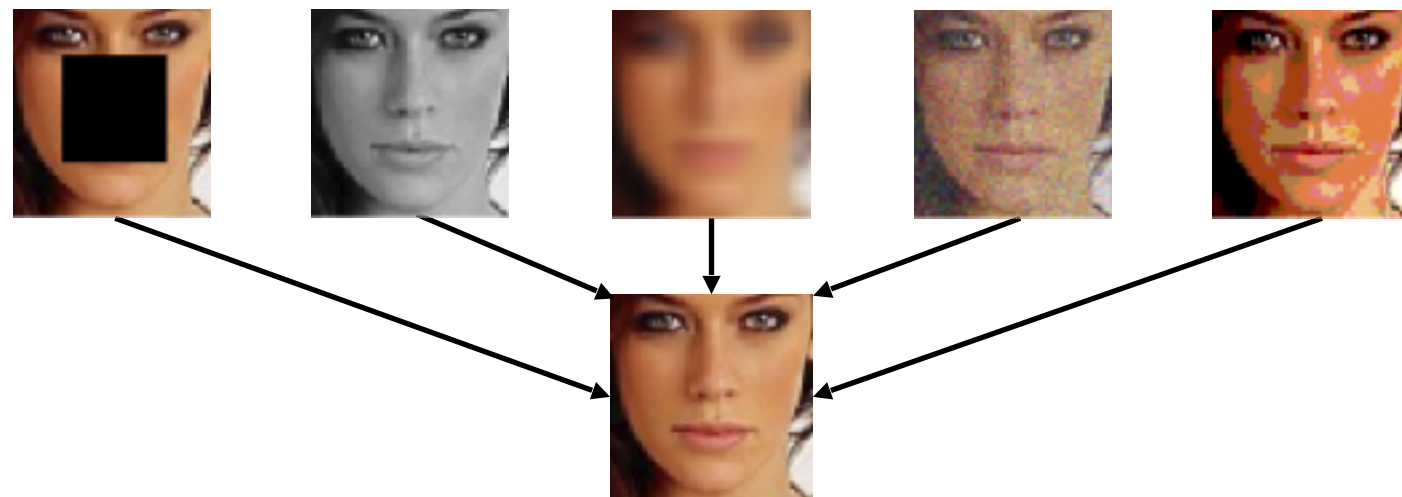
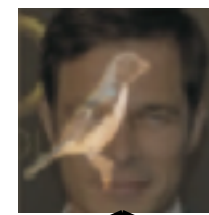
De-Noising



De-Quantization



Image Separation



Early Efforts

Inpainting



Diffusion based inpainting



No prior information, training data not very useful

Solutions Based on GANs

Available training data $\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$

Design generator $G(Z)$ so that when applied to Z with $Z \sim h(Z)$ then $Y = G(Z)$ has same density as training data

Generate $\{Z_1, \dots, Z_m\}$ with density $h(Z)$

$$\hat{J}(\theta, \vartheta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n \phi(D(X_t, \vartheta)) + \frac{1}{m} \sum_{t=1}^m \psi(D(G(Z_t, \theta), \vartheta))$$

Discriminator

Generator

$$\min_{\theta} \max_{\vartheta} \hat{J}(\theta, \vartheta)$$

Assume known **Generative Model** $\{G(Z), h(Z)\}$, also Discriminator $D(X)$

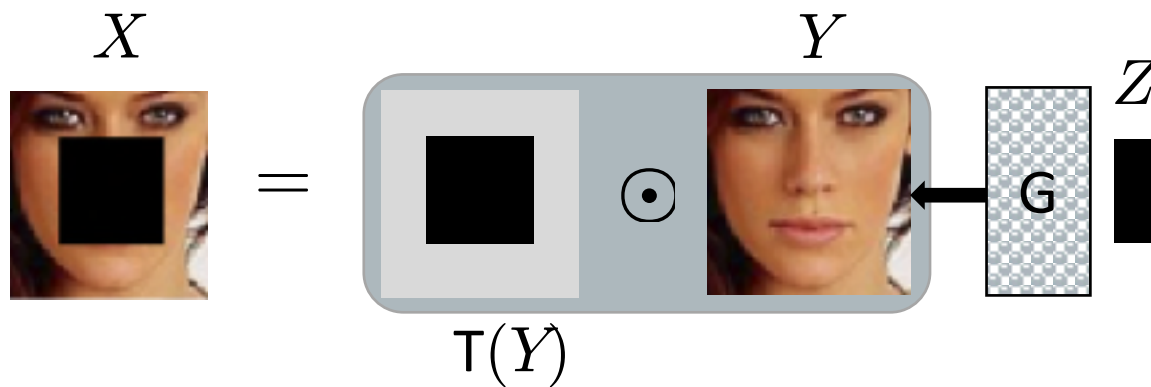
General Problem

Given vector X (measurements) we are interested in estimating vector Y with $X = T(Y) + W$ and $T(Y)$ **known** transformation

Y follows Generative Model

There exists Z following density $h(Z)$ such that $Y = G(Z)$

Instead of estimating Y from X we estimate input to generative model Z



Measurements $X = T(Y) + W$

Compute estimate $\hat{Y}$

Measurements $X = T(G(Z)) + W$

Compute estimate $\hat{Z}$

and let $\hat{Y} = G(\hat{Z})$

Since $\dim(Z) \ll \dim(Y)$

Significant computational gain and more stable processing

Select $\hat{Z}$ so that measurements X and $T(G(\hat{Z}))$ are “close”

$$\min_Z \|X - T(G(Z))\|^2 \Rightarrow \hat{Z} = \arg \min_Z \|X - T(G(Z))\|^2$$

Well defined optimization, computationally stable

Doesn't Work!!

$\hat{Y} = G(\hat{Z})$ does not have the correct characteristics

Recall that generative model is the pair $\{G(Z), h(Z)\}$

Even if $T(G(\hat{Z}))$ “close” to X , if likelihood $h(\hat{Z}) \ll 1$
then $\hat{Y} = G(\hat{Z})$ is “bad” result

Must take into account input density $h(Z)$

Ad-Hoc Solutions

Yeh et al. (2017), (2018)

Assumes generative model trained with **cross entropy** method

$$\phi(z) = \log(1 - z), \quad \psi(z) = \log(z), \quad z \in (0, 1) \Rightarrow$$

Design $G(Z)$ generator, $D(Z)$ discriminator, when $Z \sim h(Z)$

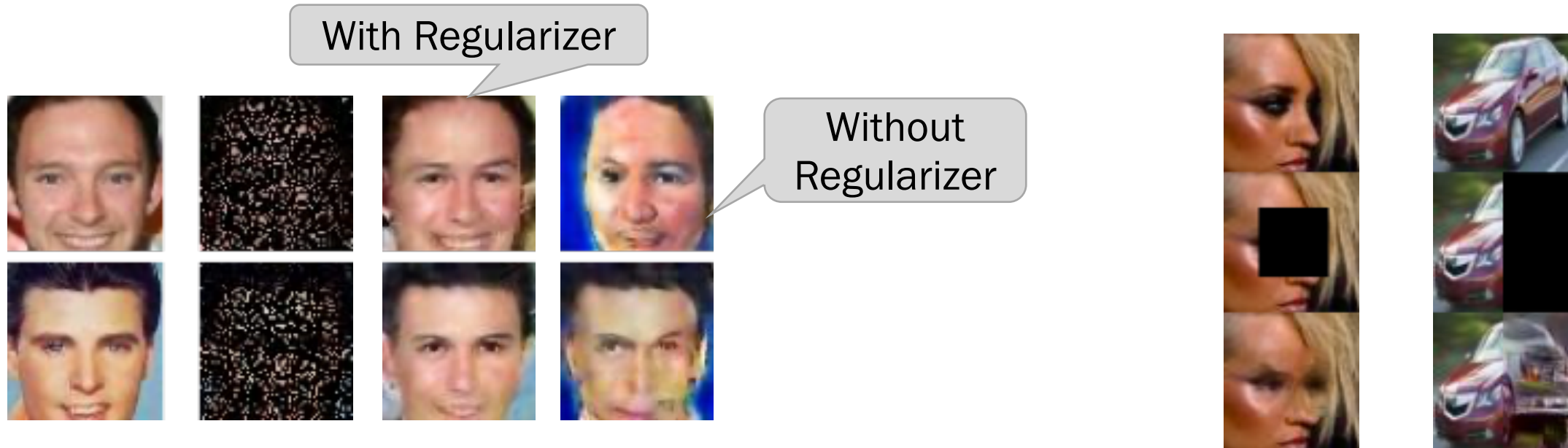
$$J(Z) = \|X - T(G(Z))\|_{L_1}$$

Regularizer

$$+ \lambda \left\{ \log(1 - D(G(Z))) - \log(D(G(Z))) + \log(h(Z)) \right\}$$

Parameter
needs **tuning**

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \min_Z J(Z), \quad \hat{Y} = G(\hat{Z})$$



To tune parameter λ need ideal images $\{Y_1, \dots, Y_n\}$ apply transformation $X_i = T(Y_i)$

For various values of λ for each $\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$ compute

$$\hat{Z}_1(\lambda), \dots, \hat{Z}_n(\lambda) \Rightarrow \hat{Y}_1(\lambda), \dots, \hat{Y}_n(\lambda) \quad \lambda_i = \arg \min_{\lambda} \|Y_i - \hat{Y}_i(\lambda)\|$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{n} \{\lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n\}$$

Requires exact knowledge of $T(Y)$

Asim et al. (2019)

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \min_Z \left\{ \|X - T(G(Z))\|^2 - \lambda \log(h(Z)) \right\}$$

Parameter needs **tuning**



Requires exact knowledge of $T(Y)$

Siavelis et al. (2020)

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \min_Z \left\{ \|X - T(G(Z))\|_{L_1} - \lambda(1 - D(G(Z))) \right\}$$

Parameter needs **tuning**



Requires exact knowledge of $T(Y)$

Applying Statistical Estimation

Given densities $f(X|Z)$ and prior $h(Z)$, for measurement X estimate Z
MAP estimator is of the form

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \max_Z f(Z|X) = \arg \max_Z f(X, Z) = \arg \max_Z f(X|Z)h(Z)$$

Let $Z = \{Z_1, Z_2\}$ where there is prior for Z_1 but not for Z_2

Treat non-existing prior as degenerate uniform

$$\begin{aligned} \arg \max_{Z_1, Z_2} f(Z_1, Z_2|X) &= \arg \max_{Z_1, Z_2} f(X, Z_1, Z_2) \\ &= \arg \max_{Z_1, Z_2} f(X|Z_1, Z_2)h(Z_1, Z_2) \\ &= \arg \max_{Z_1, Z_2} f(X|Z_1, Z_2)h_1(Z_1|Z_2)h_2(Z_2) \\ h_2(Z_2) \text{ degenerate uniform} &= \arg \max_{Z_1, Z_2} f(X|Z_1, Z_2)h_1(Z_1|Z_2) \end{aligned}$$

If interested in estimating Z_1 and Z_2 are nuisance parameters then

$$\hat{Z}_1 = \arg \max_{Z_1} \left\{ \max_{Z_2} f(X|Z_1, Z_2) h_1(Z_1|Z_2) \right\}$$

where $h_1(Z_1|Z_2)$ prior of Z_1 given Z_2

If Z_1 does not depend on Z_2 then $h_1(Z_1|Z_2)=h_1(Z_1)$ and

$$\hat{Z}_1 = \arg \max_{Z_1} \left\{ \max_{Z_2} f(X|Z_1, Z_2) h_1(Z_1) \right\}$$

We are given vector X (measurements) and interested in estimating vector Y

$$\text{We assume } X = T(Y, \alpha) + W = T(G(Z), \alpha) + W$$

$T(Y, \alpha)$: transformation of known mathematical form possibly containing **unknown parameters** α . Can be **different per measurement** X

W : additive noise with density $g_w(W, \beta)$ possibly containing **unknown parameters** β . Can be **different per measurement** X

Z : follows density $h(Z)$ from generative model $\{G(Z), h(Z)\}$

$$Z_1=Z, \quad Z_2=\{\alpha, \beta\} \quad f(X|Z_1, Z_2) = f(X|Z, \alpha, \beta) = g_w\left(X - T(G(Z), \alpha), \beta\right)$$

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \max_Z \left\{ \max_{\alpha, \beta} f(X|Z, \alpha, \beta) h(Z) \right\}$$

$$= \arg \max_Z \left\{ \max_{\alpha, \beta} g_w\left(X - T(G(Z), \alpha), \beta\right) h(Z) \right\}$$

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \max_Z \left\{ \max_{\alpha} \max_{\beta} g_w \left(X - T(G(Z), \alpha), \beta \right) h(Z) \right\}$$

W : additive noise is Gaussian mean 0 and covariance $\beta^2 I$

$$\max_{\beta} g_w \left(X - T(G(Z), \alpha), \beta \right) = \max_{\beta} \frac{e^{-\|X - T(G(Z), \alpha)\|^2 / 2\beta^2}}{(\sqrt{2\pi\beta^2})^N}$$

$$= \frac{C}{\|X - T(G(Z), \alpha)\|^N}$$

N : length of measurement vector X

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \max_Z \left\{ \max_{\alpha} \frac{C h(Z)}{\|X - T(G(Z), \alpha)\|^N} \right\}$$

$$= \arg \max_Z \frac{h(Z)}{(\min_{\alpha} \|X - T(G(Z), \alpha)\|^2)^{N/2}}$$

Z : If input of generative model is Gaussian with mean 0 and covariance identity

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \max_Z \frac{C' e^{-\|Z\|^2/2}}{(\min_{\alpha} \|X - \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{G}(Z), \alpha)\|^2)^{N/2}}$$

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \min_Z \left\{ \log \left(\min_{\alpha} \|X - \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{G}(Z), \alpha)\|^2 \right) + \frac{1}{N} \|Z\|^2 \right\}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \min_{Z, \alpha} \left\{ \log \left(\|X - \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{G}(Z), \alpha)\|^2 \right) + \frac{1}{N} \|Z\|^2 \right\}$$

If transformation satisfies

$$\mathbf{T}(Y, \alpha) = \alpha_1 \mathbf{T}_1(Y) + \cdots + \alpha_m \mathbf{T}_m(Y)$$

then $\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{G}(Z), \alpha) = \alpha_1 \mathbf{T}_1(\mathbf{G}(Z)) + \cdots + \alpha_m \mathbf{T}_m(\mathbf{G}(Z)) = \mathcal{G}(Z)A$

where $\mathcal{G}(Z) = [\mathbf{T}_1(\mathbf{G}(Z)) \cdots \mathbf{T}_m(\mathbf{G}(Z))]$, $A = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_m \end{bmatrix}$

$$\min_A \|\mathbf{X} - \mathcal{G}(Z)A\|^2 = \|\mathbf{X}\|^2 - \mathbf{X}^\top \mathcal{G}(Z) (\mathcal{G}^\top(Z) \mathcal{G}(Z))^{-1} \mathcal{G}^\top(Z) \mathbf{X}$$

$$\hat{Z} = \arg \min_Z \left\{ \log \left(\|\mathbf{X}\|^2 - \mathbf{X}^\top \mathcal{G}(Z) (\mathcal{G}^\top(Z) \mathcal{G}(Z))^{-1} \mathcal{G}^\top(Z) \mathbf{X} \right) + \frac{1}{N} \|\mathbf{Z}\|^2 \right\}$$

Examples

Blurring with 3 X 3 kernel

Mth 1 Mth 2 Known Unknown



Colorization (green channel)

Mth 1 Mth 2 Known Unknown



No parameters to tune

De-Quantization

2 levels per RGB channel, 8 colors



De-Quantization

3 levels per RGB channel, 27 colors



De-Quantization

5 levels per RGB channel, 125 colors



De-Quantization and Colorization

RGB $\rightarrow$ Gray $\rightarrow$ BW (2 levels)



With
threshold
estimation

Data Mixtures

We assume two independent data vectors Y_1, Y_2 that are combined as

$$X = \alpha_1 Y_1 + \alpha_2 Y_2 + W$$

From mixture X recover original Y_1, Y_2

Y_1 : generative model $\{G_1(Z_1), h_1(Z_1)\}$

Y_2 : generative model $\{G_2(Z_2), h_2(Z_2)\}$

W : additive noise with density $g_w(W, \beta)$ containing **unknown parameters** β

If W Gaussian, mean 0, covariance $\beta^2 I$

If inputs of both generative models Gaussian, mean 0, covariance identity

$$\{\hat{Z}_1, \hat{Z}_2\} = \arg \min_{Z_1, Z_2} \left\{ \log \left(\|X - \alpha_1 \overset{\text{known}}{G_1}(Z_1) - \alpha_2 G_2(Z_2)\|^2 \right) + \frac{1}{N} (\|Z_1\|^2 + \|Z_2\|^2) \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\{\hat{Z}_1, \hat{Z}_2\} &= \\
&\arg \min_{Z_1, Z_2} \left\{ \log \left(\min_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2} \|X - \alpha_1 \mathbf{G}_1(Z_1) - \alpha_2 \mathbf{G}_2(Z_2)\|^2 \right) + \frac{1}{N} (\|Z_1\|^2 + \|Z_2\|^2) \right\} \\
&= \arg \min_{Z_1, Z_2} \left\{ \log \left(\|X\|^2 - X^\top \mathcal{G}(Z_1, Z_2) \left(\mathcal{G}^\top(Z_1, Z_2) \mathcal{G}(Z_1, Z_2) \right)^{-1} \mathcal{G}^\top(Z_1, Z_2) X \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{1}{N} (\|Z_1\|^2 + \|Z_2\|^2) \right\} \\
&\text{where } \mathcal{G}(Z_1, Z_2) = [\mathbf{G}_1(Z_1) \ \mathbf{G}_2(Z_2)]
\end{aligned}$$

unknown

Known coefs Unknown coefs



Known coefs Unknown coefs



Nonlinear Data Mixtures

We assume two independent data vectors Y_1, Y_2 that are combined as

$$X = \mathsf{T}(Y_1, Y_2, \alpha) + W$$

Y_1 : generative model $\{G_1(Z_1), h_1(Z_1)\}$

Y_2 : generative model $\{G_2(Z_2), h_2(Z_2)\}$

W : additive noise with density $g_w(W, \beta)$ containing **unknown parameters** β

$$\{\hat{Z}_1, \hat{Z}_2\} =$$

$$\arg \min_{Z_1, Z_2} \left\{ \log \left(\min_{\alpha} \|X - \mathsf{T}(G_1(Z_1), G_2(Z_2), \alpha)\|^2 \right) + \frac{1}{N} (\|Z_1\|^2 + \|Z_2\|^2) \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \min_{Z_1, Z_2, \alpha} \left\{ \log (\|X - \mathsf{T}(G_1(Z_1), G_2(Z_2), \alpha)\|^2) + \frac{1}{N} (\|Z_1\|^2 + \|Z_2\|^2) \right\}$$