Bayesian Imaging for Intensity Interferometry with Deep Generative Priors

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Phase Retrieval

▷ Intensity interferometer measures the Fourier amplitudes and loses the phase information.

The problem of reconstructing a signal from its Fourier magnitude is known as phase retrieval. This reconstruction problem has a rich history and arises in many areas of engineering and applied physics.

- ▷ Coherent diffraction imaging:
 - Idea introduced in 1950s and 1980
 - Phase retrieval algorithms developed in 1970s and 1980s
 - First experimental demonstration in 1999



Coherent diffraction imaging

Why is Phase Retrieval possible?

- Additional constraints / regularizations / prior information are necessary to retrieve the phases
 - Positivity, smoothness, compactness, etc.

- Theorem: the signal can be uniquely reconstructed (up to some trivial transformations such as translation and inversion), if
 - the Fourier amplitudes are oversampled by at least a factor of 2 (i.e., pixel value non-zero only at the central $(L/2)^2$ pixels)
 - the signal cannot be represented by the convolution of two noncentrosymmetric functions



Iterative phase retrieval algorithm



Hybrid input-out (HIO) algorithm



However...

- ▷ The HIO algorithm assumes
 - Oversampling the Fourier amplitudes by at least a factor of 2 (i.e., the image is only non-zero at the central $(L/2)^2$ pixels) (also guarantees unique solution)
 - Noiseless data

- ▷ In reality, our measurements are
 - Sparsely-sampled
 - Noisy

However...

the number of measured amplitudes = the number of pixels (because the Fourier modes are oversampled)

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100% modes Truth 80% 60% 50% 70% 25%

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Phase retrieval in a Bayesian framework



- Easily incorporate measurement noise
- Uncertainty quantification with posterior sampling

Choices of prior

- ▷ HIO algorithm
 - Positive pixel values
 - Compact object (nonzero at the central $(L/2)^2$ pixels / oversampling the Fourier plane)
- ▷ The regularizations in EHT image reconstruction (RML algorithm):
 - Total flux
 - Favors images similar to a "prior image" (a circular Gaussian)
 - Sparsity (L1 norm)
 - Smoothness (total variation, total squared variation)



How to incorporate our physical knowledge (e.g., the AGN disk is thin and roughly follows a Shakura-Sunyaev profile, or predictions from GRMHD simulations) into the prior?

Deep generative priors

- A generative model aims to model the underlying probability distribution (our prior distribution) of a dataset, given independently and identically distributed (i.i.d.) samples (e.g., simulations, analytical models).
- ▷ Score-based diffusion models estimate the gradient of the log density function (score function, ∇ log p).



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We consider two experiment setups:

• Shakura-Sunyaev disk

$$I(R) = I_0 \left[e^{f(R)} - 1 \right]^{-1}$$

$$f(R) = \frac{\nu}{\nu_0(R)} = \left[\left(\frac{R_0}{R} \right)^n \left(1 - \sqrt{\frac{R_{\rm in}}{R}} \right) \right]^{-1/4}$$

• GRMHD simulations for RIAF (Wong et al. 2022)





Low noise, densely sampled case

The reconstructed images converge to the truth when the noise is low $\sigma_{|V|/2} = 10^{-4}$ and the Fourier space is densely sampled.

Note that unlike HIO algorithm, here we don't need to oversample the Fourier space. The HIO algorithm fails at this noise level, even though it uses 4 times more measurements.



Truth

Changing noise levels

- The reconstruction is
 poorer and the algorithm is
 less certain with more
 noise. In the high noise
 limit, the algorithm
 essentially generates
 random samples from the
 prior.
- Sampling the posterior allows us to quantify the uncertainty of the image reconstruction.



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Truth



Apply a random mask in the Fourier space. The noise level is fixed at $\sigma_{|v|/2} = 10^{-2}$

 Preliminary results: the model works well within the UV coverage range we tested.



On GRMHD simulations

 GRMHD simulations of RIAF (Wong et al. 2022)

The algorithm is also able to reconstruct small-scale features like rings and spirals, given sufficient SNR (fixed at $\sigma_{|V|^2}=10^{-4}$ here) and good UV coverage.



Misspecified prior

- Reconstruct Shakura-Sunyaev disk with photon ring GRMHD prior.
- Misspecified prior introduces bias (e.g., spirals, rings) into the images. The reconstruction is a competition between the likelihood (measurement) and the misspecified prior, depending on the SNR.
- As the noise increases, the reconstructions show more features from the prior. Some features like spirals are random and averaged to 0 in posterior mean.





Misspecified prior

- Feng et al. 2024 [2406.02785] explores reconstructing EHT images with different priors:
 - CIFAR-10: natural images like cars, airplanes, animals, etc.
 - GRMHD photon-ring simulations
 - Radiatively Inefficient Accretion Flow (RIAF) models
 - CelebA: Celebrity faces
- Different (misspecified) priors introduce different biases, but there are robust features that do not depend on the choice of prior, e.g., ring structure, orientation, asymmetry, etc.



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- The CIFAR-10 prior introduces the least amount of noise, because it covers a wide range of natural images (even though none of them look like a ring or a disk).



Conclusions

- ▷ Phase retrieval (reconstructing the image from Fourier amplitude measurement) is possible.
- Solving the phase retrieval in a Bayesian framework allows
 - Incorporation of measurement uncertainty
 - Posterior sampling for uncertainty quantification
- Deep generative diffusion models learn the prior distribution from simulations or models.
- Misspecified prior may introduce biases into the phase retrieval, but it can be reduced with broad prior choices and high SNR measurements.