

Regularization by multigrid-type algorithms

Marco Donatelli

Department of Physics and Mathematics
University of Insubria

Joint work with S. Serra-Capizzano

Outline

- 1 Restoration of blurred and noisy images
 - The model problem
 - Properties of the PSF
 - Iterative regularization methods
- 2 Multigrid regularization
 - Multigrid methods
 - Iterative Multigrid regularization
 - Computational Cost
 - Filter factor analysis of the Two Level
- 3 Numerical experiments
- 4 Conclusions



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Image restoration with Boundary Conditions

Using **Boundary Conditions (BCs)**, the restored image **f** is obtained solving: (in some way ...)

$$A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{g} + \boldsymbol{\xi}$$

- **g** = blurred image,
- **ξ** = noise (random vector),
- **A** = two-level matrix depending on the point spread function (PSF) and the BCs.

The **PSF** is the observation of a single point (e.g., a star in astronomy) that we assume shift invariant.



Coefficient matrix structure

The matrix-vector product computed in $O(n^2 \log(n))$ ops for $n \times n$ images while the inversion costs $O(n^2 \log(n))$ ops only in the periodic case.

BCs	A
Dirichlet periodic	Toeplitz circulant
Neumann (reflective) anti-reflective	Toeplitz + Hankel Toeplitz + Hankel

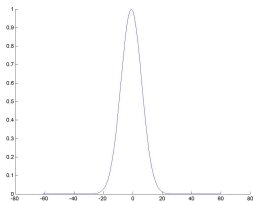
If the PSF is symmetric with respect to each direction:

BCs	A
Neumann (reflective) anti-reflective	DCT III DST I + low-rank

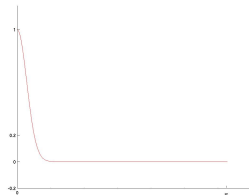


Generating function of PSF

- The eigenvalues of $A(z)$ are about a uniform sampling of z .



PSF



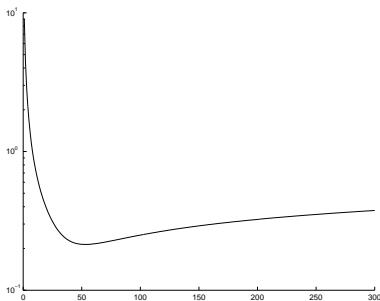
Generating function $z(x)$

- The ill-conditioned subspace is mainly constituted by the **middle/high frequencies**.

Semi-convergence of iterative regularization methods

Some iterative methods (CGLS, ...) have regularization properties:

- They firstly reduce the algebraic error in the low frequencies (well-conditioned subspace).
- When they arrive to reduce the **algebraic error** in the high frequencies then the **restoration error** increases because of the noise.



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Multigrid structure

Multigrid Idea

Project the system in a subspace, solve the resulting system in this subspace and interpolate the solution in order to improve the previous approximation.

Multigrid components

The Multigrid combines two iterative methods:

Smoother: a classic iterative method,

Coarse Grid Correction: projection, solution of the restricted problem, interpolation.



Multigrid

① We use the **Galerkin approach**

- $P_i = R_i^T$
- $A_{i+1} = RA_i R_i^T$

where R_i and P_i are the restriction and the prolongation operators at the level i , respectively.

- ② The **smoother** is a classic iterative regularization method: in the initial iterations it is not able to reduce effectively the ill-conditioned subspace.
- ③ Coarser grid of size 8×8 independent of the size of the finer grid.



Image deblurring and Multigrid

- In the **image deblurring** the **ill-conditioned subspace** is related to **high frequencies**, while the well-conditioned subspace is generated by low frequencies.
- In order to obtain a fast convergence the **algebraic multigrid** projects in the high frequencies where the noise “lives” \implies noise explosion already at the first iteration (it requires **Tikhonov regularization** [Donatelli, NLAA, 12 (2005), pp. 715–729]).
- In this case the **low-pass filter** projects in the well-conditioned subspace (low frequencies) \implies it is slowly convergent but it can be a good **iterative regularizer**.



Restriction operator

$$R_i = K_{N_i} \mathcal{A}_{N_i}(p):$$

- $K_{N_i} \in \mathbb{R}^{\frac{N_i}{4} \times N_i}$ is the cutting matrix that preserves the structure at the lower level.

circulant	Toeplitz & DST – I	DCT – III
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & & & \\ & 1 & 0 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & & & \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & & & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & & & \\ & 1 & 1 & 0 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & & & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

- $p(x, y)$ is the generating function of the projector, which selects the subspace where to project the linear system.

$$2D \quad \leftrightarrow \quad p(x, y) = (1 + \cos(x))(1 + \cos(y))$$



If we have an *iterative regularization method* we can improve its regularizing properties and/or accelerate its convergence using it as *smoother* in a Multigrid algorithm.

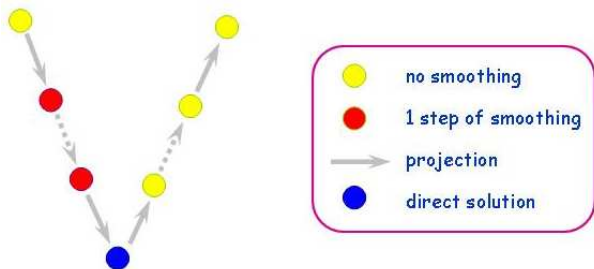
Two Level (TL) algorithm

- 1 No smoothing at the finer level
- 2 At the coarser level to apply one step of the smoother instead of to solve directly the linear system



Multigrid regularization (applying recursively the TL)

V-cycle



Using a **larger number of recursive calls** (e.g. *W*-cycle), the algorithm “works” more in the well-conditioned subspace, but it is more difficult to define an early stopping criterium.

Computational Cost

Assumptions: $n \times n$ images and $m \times m$ PSFs with $m \ll n$.

- Let $S(n)$ be the computational cost of one smoother iteration.
- The computational cost of one iteration of our multigrid regularization method with γ recursive calls is

$$C(\gamma, n) \approx \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}S(n), & \gamma = 1 \\ S(n), & \gamma = 2 \\ 3S(n), & \gamma = 3 \end{cases}$$

- if $m \approx n$ then $S(n) = O(n^2 \log(n))$.



Remarks on the TL regularization

Theoretical analysis

- **Intuitively**: the regularization properties of the smoother are preserved since it is combined with a low-pass filter.
- From the **filter factor analysis** of the Two Level (TL) method we have:
 - a condition to choose p s.t. it is a regularizer
 - in such case it improves the regularization properties of the iterative method used as smoother.



Filter factor of the Landweber method

- Imposing P-BCs $A = C_n(z)$: A is a circulant matrix of size n generated by the function z .
- $A = F_n D_n(z) F_n^H$, where $F_n = [e^{ijx_k}]_{k,j=0}^{n-1} / \sqrt{n}$ is the DFT matrix and $D_n(z) = \text{diag}([f(x_k)]_{k=0}^{n-1})$ with $x_k = \frac{2\pi k}{n}$.
- Taking $\mathbf{x}_0 = 0$ the j th approximation of \mathbf{f} is

$$\mathbf{x}_j = F_n \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} (I - D_n(|z|^2))^i D_n(\bar{z}) F_n^H \mathbf{b} = C_n(\phi_j) C_n^{-1}(z) \mathbf{b}$$

where $\phi_j(x) = 1 - (1 - |z(x)|^2)^j$, $x \in (0, 2\pi]$ is the **filter factor**.



Filter factor of the TL method

- For TL with Landweber as smoother $\mathbf{x}_j = B_n \mathbf{b}$ with

$$B_n = C_n(p) K_n^T C_n(\hat{g}) K_n C_n(r),$$

where $\hat{g}(x) = \frac{1 - (1 - |\hat{z}(x)|^2)^j}{\hat{z}(x)}$, $x \in (0, 2\pi]$, K_n is the cutting matrix and r , p and \hat{z} are restriction, prolongation and PSF function at the coarser level respectively.

- $B_n = F_n \Pi_n^T W_n \Pi_n F_n^H$, where Π_n is a permutation matrix and W_n is the diagonal block matrix of size $(n/2) \times (n/2)$ with blocks of dimension 2×2 . For $k = 0, \dots, n/2 - 1$, the k -th diagonal block is given by

$$W_n^{(k)} = \frac{1}{2} \hat{g}(x_{2k}) \begin{bmatrix} p(x_k) \\ p(x_{(k+n/2)}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r(x_k) & r(x_{(k+n/2)}) \end{bmatrix}.$$



Filter factor of the TL method 2

- The block $W_n^{(k)}$ has rank 1 and the nontrivial null eigenvalue λ_k is

$$\lambda_k = \frac{1}{2} \hat{g}(x_{2k}) ((pr)(x_k) + (pr)(x_{(k+n/2)})) .$$

- The eigenvector associated to the null eigenvalue is

$$\frac{r(x_k)}{r(x_{(k+n/2)})} F_n^{(k+n/2)} - F_n^{(k)} .$$

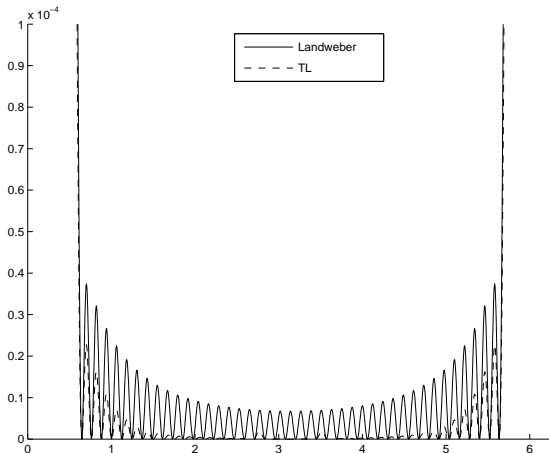
This should be an high frequency (to filtering) \Rightarrow it provides a condition to choose r : e.g. nonnegative and decreasing in $[0, \pi]$.

- The eigenvector associated to λ_k defines an analogous condition for p .



Comparison TL vs Landweber

Focus on the high frequencies for the filter factors of TL and Landweber for $j = 1000$



Noise \longrightarrow 0 ?

In the noise free case the TL method does not compute the exact solution.

How to recover the high frequencies in the noise free case is a work in progress ...



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An airplane

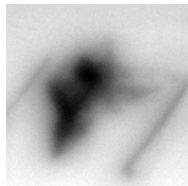
- Periodic BCs
- Gaussian PSF (A spd)
- noise = 1%



Original
Image



Inner part 128×128



Observed image



Restored with MGM

Restoration error: noise = 1%

$e_j = \|\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}^{(j)}\|_2 / \|\mathbf{f}\|_2$ restoration error at the j -th iteration.

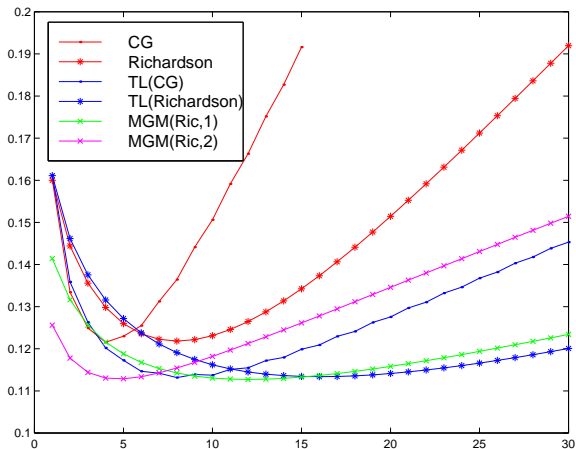
Minimum restoration error

Method	$\min_{j=1,\dots} (e_j)$	$\arg \min_{j=1,\dots} (e_j)$
CG	0.1215	4
Richardson	0.1218	8
TL(CG)	0.1132	8
TL(Rich)	0.1134	16
MGM(Rich, 1)	0.1127	12
MGM(Rich, 2)	0.1129	5
CGLS	0.1135	178
Landweber	0.1135	352



Restoration error: noise = 1%

Relative error vs. number of iterations



Noise = 10%

For CG and Richardson it is better to resort to normal equations.

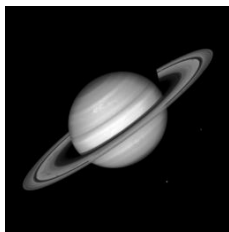
Minimum restoration error

Method	$\min_{j=1,\dots} (e_j)$	$\arg \min_{j=1,\dots} (e_j)$
CGLS	0.1625	30
Landweber	0.1630	59
TL(CGLS)	0.1611	48
TL(Landweber)	0.1613	97
MGM(Landweber,1)	0.1618	69
MGM(Landweber,2)	0.1621	26
MGM(Rich,1)	0.1648	3
MGM(Rich,2)	0.1630	1

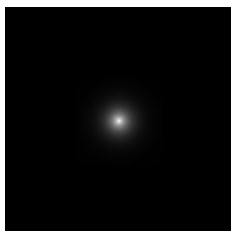


An astronomic example with nonnegativity constraint

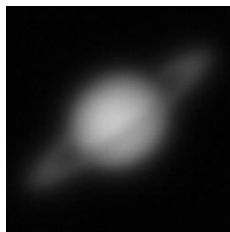
- Periodic BCs and dark background (exact)
- Gaussian PSF + noise = 5%



Original Image



PSF



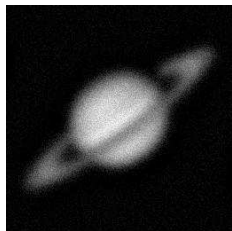
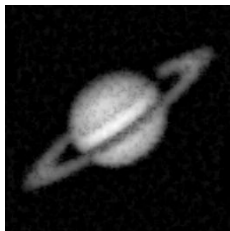
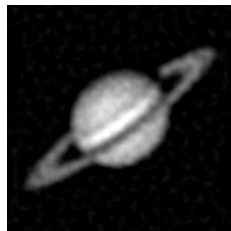
Observed image

Minimum restoration error

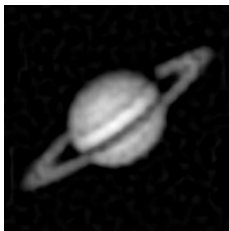
Method	$\min_{j=1,\dots} (e_j)$	$\arg \min_{j=1,\dots} (e_j)$
CG ⁺	0.2268	4
Rich ⁺	0.2298	9
MGM(Rich ⁺ ,1) ⁺	0.1556	27
MGM(Rich ⁺ ,2) ⁺	0.1530	12
Landweber ⁺	0.1419	2735
CGLS ⁺	0.1419	885
MGM(CGLS ⁺ ,2) ⁺	0.1389	109



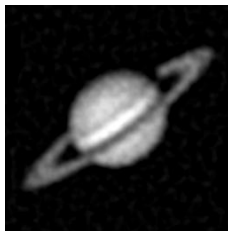
Restored images

Rich⁺ (9 iter.)MGM(Rich⁺, 2)⁺
(12 iter.)CGLS⁺ (885 iter.)

Restored images



MGM(CGLS⁺,2)⁺
(109 iter.)



CGLS⁺ (885 iter.)

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Summarizing . . . multigrid regularization method

- It is a general framework which can be used to improve the regularization properties of an iterative regularizing method.
- It leads to a smaller relative error and a flatter error curve with respect to the smoother applied alone.
- It is fast and usually it obtains a good restored image also without resorting to normal equations.
- It can be combined with other techniques and it can lead to several generalizations (e.g., nonnegativity constraints).

Reference

M. Donatelli and S. Serra Capizzano, *On the regularizing power of multigrid-type algorithms*, SIAM J. Sci. Comput., 27–6 (2006) pp. 2053–2076.

