

Denoising and Inpainting Techniques for Beam Profile Analysis

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Overview

- 1. Review of PS-BGI and the problem to be solved
- 2. Short discussion on the previous approach used to tackle the problem
- 3. Discussion on our proposed approach
- 4. Next steps and possible improvements
- 5. Q & A

PS-BGI

- Goal is to detect ionisation electrons to provide key information about the beam
- We expect the beam profile to follow a Gaussian distribution
- Standard deviation of this distribution is the key quantity

PS-BGI - Instruments

3 Key Issues

- Acquisitions can be viewed as a timeseries of pixel images (effectively a video). Not every timestamp is useful for analysis.
- If we consider a single pixel image (snapshot of the video) it comes with so-called beam (signal) and beam loss (noise)
- The honeycomb-shaped RF shield also masks certain pixels

Previous Approach: Spatial and Temporal DBSCAN Clustering

- Temporal clustering applied
- Spatial clustering + Time over Threshold (ToT) Filtering

Previous Approach: RF-Shield Correction

- Identify the column with the most masked pixels (as a result of RF-shield)
- Pseudo-uniformly mask pixels across the entire pixel image such that each column has equal amount of masking

Problems

- Previous method works but only by recording raw data and processing offline
- DBSCAN is slow: each acquisition takes 50-100 seconds even with multiprocessing on several CPUs
- Scikit-learn is not GPU-accelerated (we can rely on multiprocessing but there may be some overhead)
- DBSCAN (spatial) clustering is not always optimal
- ToT Filtering is arbitrary and should be tuned

Our Objectives and Constraints

- Provide an efficient method for spatial clustering
- Provide an efficient method to correct for the RF shield
- Both methods should be sample-efficient
- Process should be entirely automated and generalize to a variety of conditions (e.g. beam type, amount of noise, instrument type etc.)

A Two Stage Approach

- Ideally, we would like neural networks to process acquisitions end-to-end (i.e. perform denoising, RF shield correction).
- The Universal Approximation Theorem¹ guarantees that such a neural network exists (but it doesn't tell us how to set up the architecture!)
- We posit that such a neural network should be trained under a supervised setting. For this, we need (raw image, fully denoised and corrected image) pairs.
- To this end, we propose a two stage approach to process beam images
	- 1. Hornik, Kurt; Stinchcombe, Maxwell; White, Halbert (1989). [Multilayer Feedforward Networks are Universal](http://cognitivemedium.com/magic_paper/assets/Hornik.pdf) [Approximators.](http://cognitivemedium.com/magic_paper/assets/Hornik.pdf) Neural Networks. Vol. 2. Pergamon Press. pp. 359–366

Stage 1: K-Means for Spatial Clustering

- The slowest operation in the pipeline is spatial clustering
- In clustering, **NO FREE LUNCH**; we select the clustering algorithm depending on the geometry of our space
- Replace DBSCAN with K-Means which is known to work well for general purpose flat geometries
- K-Means: Separate the pixel image into $K > 0$ groups such as to minimize the intra-group variance
- From the denoised image, extract a binary mask highlighting the RF-shield

Advantages of K-Means Clustering

- In our case, for n pixels, K-Means has $O(n)$ worst case time complexity vs $O(n^2)$ for DBSCAN
- DBSCAN also has greater space complexity (e.g. distance matrix needed)
- Single tunable parameter vs. two tunable hyperparameters for DBSCAN
- Highly sample-efficient (no "training" needed)

K-Means Clustered Image

Extracting the RF Shield

Stage 2: Inpainting the Denoised Image

- Given the denoised image and the binary mask, we can now *inpaint*.
- \bullet Inpainting = filling in missing parts of an image with plausible content. It's interpolation for images.
- For inpainting, we use the TELEA algorithm² which is efficiently implemented in OpenCV.
- On average, inpainting a single 256 x 1024 beam pixel image takes less than 0.1 seconds (single CPU).
- The two stage process gives us a good idea of "ground truth"

2. Telea, Alexandru. (2004). An Image Inpainting Technique Based on the Fast Marching Method. Journal of Graphics Tools. 9. 10.1080/10867651.2004.10487596.

Unprocessed Image - Count

TELEA Inpainting with Adaptive Threshold-Inverted Mask

Unprocessed Image - Count

TELEA Inpainting with Adaptive Threshold-Inverted Mask

Comparing Beam Profiles

K-Means Spatial Clustering + TELEA Inpainting

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Beam Profile Comparisons

Column (x)

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K-Means Spatial Clustering + TELEA Inpainting

Beam Profile Comparisons

Beam Profile Comparisons

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In Summary

- We proposed a two stage pipeline that efficiently performs spatial clustering and inpainting to correct the RF shield
- We have published this package on Acc-Py (bgi-denoise)
- We have deployed this tool via UCAP (in testing phase right now)
- Idea is that file is saved -> processed immediately -> profile(s) visualized all within attention span (ideally as fast as possible)

Next Steps

- Temporal, spatial clustering and RF-shield correction can be done by neural networks (e.g. autoencoder, RIDNet, Visual Transformer)
- Neural networks can be GPU-accelerated
- Such a network would need to be trained in a supervised manner
- Such a network would require large amounts of data
- Without any idea of "ground truth", one could use the results of the two-stage pipeline as a "ground truth"