Matching Pursuit for Sparse Signal Reconstruction Based on Dual Thresholds

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Abstract: A number of sparse recovery approaches have appeared in the literature based on Orthogonal Matching Pursuit (OMP) algorithms because of its low computational complexity. This manuscript introduces a novel adaptive forward-back greedy approach, called Dual Threshold Matching Pursuit (DTMP), which selects atoms based on two appropriate thresholds. During the forward atom increasing process, DTMP picks out new candidate atoms based on the forward threshold under the Restricted Isometry Constant (RIC) condition. In the backward atom decreasing process, DTMP deletes wrong atoms based on the backward threshold according to the principle of energy concentration. Like forward-backward pursuit (FBP), DTMP does not need the sparsity level in contrast to the Subspace Pursuit (SP) or Compressive Sampling Matching Pursuit (CoSaMP) algorithms. Experimental results show that the reconstruction accuracy of DTMP surpasses SP, FBP and other greedy algorithms obviously and its complexity is comparable with those of OMP and SP.

Key words: Compressed sensing, greedy algorithm, support update, dual thresholds.

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1. Introduction

The main content of compressed sensing (CS) [1]-[4] theory is that the main information of the original signal is contained in a small amount of linear projection of compressible signal and the original signal can be reconstructed accurately by global linear measuring. In the CS theoretical frame, consider 1D (one-dimensional) signal $\mathbf{x} \in R^N$ of length N that has only K nonzero entries with $K \ll N$. That is, the process of signal measurement can be expressed by Equation $\mathbf{y} = \Phi\mathbf{x}$, where $\mathbf{y}$ represents the observation signal of length M , $\Phi = [\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_N]$ represents the observation matrix with size of $M \times N$ and $\mathbf{x}$ denotes the k -sparse signal ($K < M < N$). This process is equivalent to the process that the original signal $\mathbf{x}$ is projected onto the space spanned by the $[\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_N]$. Consequently, the size of the signal decreases from N dimension to M dimension. From the size of Φ and $\mathbf{y}$ in equation (1), we can see that the equation is underdetermined. So the problem to solve the equation is ill-posed. However, we can reconstruct the signal precisely when the signal contains limited nonzero entries. Candes and Donoho [1]-[4] pointed out that it is not necessary to resort to l_0 optimization to recover $\mathbf{x}$ from the underdetermined inverse problems; many reasonable l_1 optimization algorithms [5] yield an equivalent solution only if Φ satisfies the Restricted Isometry Property (RIP) [6] with a constant parameter which is defined as follows:

$$(1 - \delta_K) \|x\|_2^2 \leq \|\Phi x\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \delta_K) \|x\|_2^2 \quad (1)$$

where $\|\bullet\|_2$ stands for the l_2 vector norm.

However, the computational complexity of linear programming techniques is too high to put CS into practical application [4]. Therefore, the initial greedy algorithm, such as OMP [7], has attracted quiet more attention with its simple structure and low computational complexity, since it only add atoms to its support per iteration. In other words, OMP has only forward step at each iteration. Due to low reconstruction accuracy by OMP, some improved algorithms based on OMP, such as SP [8], CoSaMP [9] and FBP [10], can achieve high reconstruction accuracy by adding the strategy of backtracking.

According to the step length of forward and backward, these forward-back greedy algorithms can be classified into two categories, the non-adaptive algorithms and adaptive algorithms. For non-adaptive algorithms, the forward and backward step size are constant K for SP, constant $2K$ for CoSaMP, as well as constant α and β for FBP. The adaptive algorithms whose step size are variable include adaptive sparse matching pursuit (ASMP) [11], adaptive threshold backtracking orthogonal matching pursuit (ATBOMP) [12], and others similar algorithms [13], [14].

Generally speaking, the accuracy of variable step algorithms should be higher than those of constant step algorithms, if the step length of the former depended on reasonable conditions [15]. However, lots of experimental results show that the performance of FBP is better than those of ASMP and ATBOMP which will be presented in the second part of this paper. The target of this paper is to investigate the differences among these algorithms and furtherly to propose a novel adaptive forward-back greedy algorithm to improve the performance of variable step algorithms.

2. Description of FBP, ASMP and ATBOMP

Before proceeding, we set our notations through whole our paper. $\text{supp}(\mathbf{x})$ denotes the indexes of nonzero elements in vector $\mathbf{x}$. K represents sparsity level of the target signal. Φ^* and Ω are the transposition and whole set of Φ , respectively. Λ^0 stands for initial support and $\mathbf{r}^0$ denotes the initial signal residual. Λ^l and $\mathbf{r}^l$ denote the signal support and signal residual respectively after l -th iteration. $|\Lambda^l|$ is the number of elements in Λ^l . By $\mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^l}$ we mean the set of $\mathbf{x}$ indexed by Λ^l . δ_{K+1} denotes the RIP constant of order $K+1$. $\langle \bullet \rangle$ stands for inner product operator. $\mathbf{h}^l(i) = \langle \varphi_i, \mathbf{r}^{l-1} \rangle$ is equal to i -th elements of proxy signal for residual $\mathbf{r}^{l-1}$. $\mathbf{e}_i$ stands for i -th column of unit matrix. $\text{Average}(\bullet)$ is average operator.

Unlike original greedy algorithms, FBP, ASMP and ATBOMP can take advantage of backtracking to refine the chosen supports. FBP contains two core processes in every iteration. During forward process, the α indexes (named forward step size) which are maximally correlated with the residual are picked up to expand the support. The observation signal $\mathbf{y}$ is projected onto the subspace spanned by the support obtained during forward process. Atoms corresponding to β (called the backward size) minimum contribution to this projection are removed to produce the final support estimate Λ^l of the l -th iteration. Afterwards, the observation signal is projected onto the final support in this iteration and the residual is re-calculated. These two core processes will be continued until the energy of residual is less than a very small value ε or $|\Lambda^l|$ is greater than constant $l_{\max}$.

ASMP algorithm consists of two nested iterations: the outer one and the inner one. The objective of the outer loop is to estimate the sparsity based on a constant and residual. With the estimated sparsity level, the inner loop reconstruct the target signal using backtracking principle. That is to say, ASMP selects atoms

with a threshold calculated by the energy of residual and a constant, and then construct its support according to its sparsity estimated in current iteration. This nested process is repeated until the residual energy is smaller than a certain threshold ε .

ATBOMP includes support selection and support final decision per iteration. Support set is chosen by adaptive threshold and regularized selection. The candidate set is decided by the threshold μ which is adaptively set according to the residual and the measurement matrix Φ . In final selection, a regularized procession is used to remove some atoms chosen wrongly in the previous processing. Its iteration will stop when the current residual's l_2 norm is smaller than a threshold ε or when the maximum number of iterations $l_{\max}$ is reached.

Fig. 1. Reconstruction results with existed algorithms for the Gaussian sparse signal.

Fig. 2. Reconstruction results with existed algorithms for the uniform sparse signal.

The time cost of Sparsity Adaptive Matching Pursuit (SAMP) [13] algorithm becomes large when K is big, while the step size of SAMP is fixed which may cause overestimation or underestimation. The thresholds in the Backtracking-based Matching Pursuit (BAOMP) [14] need to be preset artificially. If choosing inappropriate thresholds, the performance will degrade greatly. Zhao [12] has point out the performance of ASMP is better than that of SAMP and BAOMP. Therefore, the following experiment is only compared the performance of SP, FBP, ATBOMP and ASMP algorithms.

In general, the accuracy of adaptive algorithms should be higher than that of non-adaptive ones, if the step length of the former are appropriate. However, Fig. 1-Fig. 3 shows that the performance of FBP is better than that of ASMP and ATBOMP (The experimental environment is the same as that of Section 4).

Fig. 1-Fig. 3 shows the Gaussian, uniform and 0-1 sparse signals reconstruction results obtained by ASMP, ATBOMP, FBP and SP algorithms. In the second picture of each figure, we present the exact recovery rate, which is the rate of the number of exactly reconstruction to the number of total test. The exactly

reconstruction condition is $\|\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}\|_2 \leq 10^{-2} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2$. In the third picture, the recover error is calculated by Average Normalized Mean-squared-error, which is defined as $ANMSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mathbf{x}}_i\|_2^2 / \|\mathbf{x}_i\|_2^2$, where n is the number of total test. FBP(0.3M, 0.3M-1) represents FBP with forward step length $\alpha=0.3M$ and back step length $\beta=\alpha-1$, which should be the best step lengths according to [11].

Fig. 3. Reconstruction results with existed algorithms for the '0-1' sparse signal.

Fig. 4. Reconstruction results over sparsity for the Gaussian sparse signal.

From Fig. 1, we observe that the exact recovery rate of FBP (0.3M, 0.3M-1) is the best among all the four algorithms, which starts to fail at around $K=50$. ASMP fails a little earlier, around $K=45$. Both of FBP (0.3M, 0.3M-1) and ASMP are significantly better than ATBOMP and SP at exact reconstruction rate at the cost of higher reconstruction time. As for ANMSE, FBP (0.3M, 0.3M-1) is the best performer among the four. From Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, we can get the same conclusion that FBP achieves the best reconstruction accuracy and robustness among FBP, ASMP and ATBOMP.

Under reasonable conditions, FoBa [15] pointed out that, through a novel combination of these two greedy ideas, an adaptive forward-back greedy algorithm can effectively solve the sparse learning problem. Based on the FoBa idea, this manuscript is to investigate the differences among these algorithms and furtherly to propose a new algorithm to improve the performance of adaptive forward-back greedy algorithm.

3. Proposed Algorithm DTMP

The main contribution of DTMP is how to decide two proper thresholds for forward and backward processing.

3.1. The Structure of DTMP

The DTMP algorithm is initialized with a trivial signal approximation, which means that the initial

residual equals the unknown target signal. During each iteration, DTMP performs five major steps as follows.

Algorithm DTMP

Input: Φ ($M \times N$ measurement matrix), $\mathbf{y}$ (observed measurement vector), $l_{\max}$ (number of maximum iterations allowed), ε (convergence threshold to stop the iterations).

Initialization: $\mathbf{x}^0 = 0$ (initial solution), $\mathbf{r}^0 = \mathbf{y}$ (initial residual), $\Lambda^0 = \phi$ (estimated support set, empty at the beginning), $l = 0$ (counter of iteration, zero at the beginning), $\delta_{K+1} = 1/(\sqrt{M/2} + 1)$ (RIC).

Loop: $l=l+1$

1) Atom selection: $\sigma_1 = \delta_{K+1} \|\mathbf{r}^{l-1}\|_2$ (forward threshold), find the candidate set $\mathbf{T}_f$ by selecting indices with the absolute values of correlations satisfying $|\langle \varphi_{\mathbf{T}_f}, \mathbf{r}^{l-1} \rangle| \geq \sigma_1$ in $|\langle \varphi_{\Omega}, \mathbf{r}^{l-1} \rangle|$ with $|\mathbf{T}_f| \leq M - |\Lambda^{l-1}|$.

2) Signal Estimation: $\mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^{l-1} \cup \mathbf{T}_f} = \Phi_{\Lambda^{l-1} \cup \mathbf{T}_f}^\dagger \bullet \mathbf{y}$.

3) Atom pruning: Choose the set $\mathbf{T}_m$ by selecting indices whose absolute value of corresponding signal estimated are some largest in $|\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{T}_f}|$, $\sigma_2 = \text{average}(|\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{T}_m}|)$ (backward threshold), Select atom-deleting set $\mathbf{T}_b$ that satisfy $|\mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^{l-1} \cup \mathbf{T}_f}| < \sigma_2$.

4) Support update: $\Lambda^l = \{\Lambda^{l-1} \cup \mathbf{T}_f\} \setminus \mathbf{T}_b$.

5) Sample update: $\mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^l} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\Lambda^l} \mathbf{x}\|_2$, $\mathbf{r}^l = \mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\Lambda^l} \mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^l}$.

Until: $\|\mathbf{r}^l\|_2 \leq 10^{-6}$ or $|\Lambda^l| \geq l_{\max}$.

3.2. Thresholds of DTMP

Suppose $\Phi \in R^{M \times N}$ satisfies the Restricted Isometry Property with parameter (K, δ) when $K \leq M$, $0 \leq \delta \leq 1$, any K -sparse signal can satisfy [1]-[4] $(1 - \delta_K) \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \leq \|\Phi \mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \delta_K) \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$.

Lemma 1: For any integers, $\delta_m \leq \delta_n$.

Lemma 2: Suppose $\text{supp}(\mathbf{x}), \text{supp}(\mathbf{y}) \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$, $|\text{supp}(\mathbf{x})| \leq m$, $|\text{supp}(\mathbf{y})| \leq n$, $\text{supp}(\mathbf{x}) \cap \text{supp}(\mathbf{y}) = \phi$, then $|\langle \Phi \mathbf{x}, \Phi \mathbf{y} \rangle| \leq \delta_{m+n} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2$

When $l = 1$, suppose $\Phi \in R^{M \times N}$ satisfies the RIP with parameter (K, δ) , from Lemma 2 one has

$$\forall i \notin \text{supp}(\mathbf{x}) \quad |\mathbf{h}^1(i)| = |\langle \varphi_i, \mathbf{r}^0 \rangle| = |\langle \varphi_i, \mathbf{y} \rangle| = |\langle \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{e}_i}, \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} \rangle| \leq \delta_{K+1} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \quad (2)$$

Similarly under the condition $l > 1$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \forall i \notin \text{supp}(\mathbf{x}), \quad |\mathbf{h}^l(i)| &= |\langle \varphi_i, \mathbf{r}^{l-1} \rangle| = |\langle \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{e}_i}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{F}_{\Lambda^{l-1}} \mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^{l-1}} \rangle| = |\langle \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{e}_i}, \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{F}_{\Lambda^{l-1}} \mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^{l-1}} \rangle| \\ &= |\langle \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{e}_i}, \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^{l-1}} \rangle| = |\langle \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{e}_i}, \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^{l-1}}) \rangle| \leq \delta_{K+1} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\Lambda^{l-1}}\|_2 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Without consideration of noise, OMP can guarantee the exact support recovery of K -sparse signal if RIP constant satisfies $\delta_{K+1} < 1/(\sqrt{K} + 1)$ [16]. Generally, $1/(\sqrt{K} + 1) > 1/(\sqrt{M/2} + 1)$, if set $\delta_{K+1} < 1/(\sqrt{M/2} + 1)$, the $\delta_{K+1} < 1/(\sqrt{K} + 1)$ is satisfied. Therefore, under the sparsity level of target signal is unknown, we can estimate δ_{K+1} with $1/(\sqrt{M/2} + 1)$. Meanwhile, the observation matrix is normalized. So one has $\|\mathbf{r}^0\|_2 = \|\Phi\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 \approx \|\mathbf{x}\|_2$. Further, $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2, \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{l-1}\|_2$ in equation (2), (3) can be replaced by $\|\mathbf{r}^0\|_2, \|\mathbf{r}^l\|_2$ respectively. At last, we obtain the parameter $\sigma_1 = \delta_{K+1} \|\mathbf{r}^{l-1}\|_2$. $\|\mathbf{r}^l\|_2 = \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi\mathbf{x}^{l-1}\|_2 = \|\Phi(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{l-1})\|_2 \approx \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{l-1}\|_2$

Since the target signal includes only K nonzero entries, we assume that residual after each iteration be a compressible signal whose main information is contained in a small amount of elements. Thanks to the principal of energy concentration, the threshold σ_2 is set to the average absolute amplitude of these several largest elements in the newly reconstructed elements. If the estimated elements indexed by the whole support are smaller than the threshold decided by σ_2 , it is highly probable that the corresponding atoms are wrong, which should be deleted to shrink the support.

4. Experiment

Based on the MATLAB platform, we test both 1D and 2D signals. In 1D experiment, three different signals, namely, Gaussian random sparse signal, '0-1'sparse signal and uniform signal are used. For the 2D simulation, we use the standard Lena image with size 256×256 . The entries of observation matrix Φ are drawn from the standard Gaussian distribution.

4.1. 1D Signal Reconstruction

The signal size is fixed to $N=256$, the observation number is fixed to $M=128$ and the degree of sparse is $K \leq M/2$. The termination thresholds for DTMP and FBP are $\varepsilon=10^{-6}$. Meanwhile the maximum iteration is $l_{\max} = M/2$. In DTMP, the forward constant is $\delta_{K+1} = 1/(\sqrt{M/2} + 1) = 1/9 \approx 0.1$ and the threshold σ_2 is set to the average amplitude of 30% largest elements in amplitude of newly reconstructed elements. The cvx box is applied to run BP algorithm. In FBP, the forward step length α is fixed with 0.3M, 0.2M and the backward step length is $\alpha-1$ respectively. The average run time, exact reconstruction rate and ANMSE curves, which are defined as that in Fig. 1-Fig. 3, are given in Fig. 4-Fig. 6.

Fig. 4 shows the Gaussian signal reconstruction results obtained by FBP, SP, BP and DTMP. The second curve in Fig. 4 presents the relationship between the exact reconstruction rate and sparsity. When the sparsity K is relatively small, all algorithms can guarantee 100% reconstruction. With the increase of sparsity level, some algorithms begin to fail at certain point, from which we can evaluate the stability of an algorithm. It is obvious that BP and SP begin to fail around $K=40$. No matter FBP chooses its forward step length as $\alpha=0.3M$ or $0.2M$ and back step length as $\beta=\alpha-1$, it begins to fail when $K \geq 50$. For the new DTMP, only when the sparsity K approaches to 60, its exact reconstruction rate decreases a bit. The third curve in Fig. 1 shows the ANMSE, which can indicate the reconstruction accuracy of algorithms. It is obvious that the ANMSE of DTMP is the lowest among all presented algorithms during the whole sparsity set, which is unbelievably low. Finally, from the first curve, namely, average run time, we can measure the reconstruction complexity of each algorithm. DTMP and SP costs similarly short time in the reconstruction process, far shorter than FBP and BP (more than 200ms, not present in pictures).

Fig. 5 shows the uniform sparse signal reconstruction results. Similarly, DTMP is the best performer that it

present the best exact reconstruction rate and ANMSE, meanwhile, its time cost is comparable to SP, especially when the sparsity satisfies 100% successful reconstruction.

In Fig. 6, the reconstruction performance of DTMP under 0-1 sparse signal condition is measured. In exact reconstruction rate curve, as the sparsity K gradually increases from 0 to 37, SP and FBP (0.2M, 0.2M-1) begin to fail when K reaches 28. FBP (0.3M, 0.3M-1) fails later at $K=30$ while DTMP keeps 100% successful reconstruction rate till $K=35$. As for ANMSE, DTMP keeps at the lowest condition, close to BP. In addition, the reconstruction time of DTMP remains quietly short, just as that in Fig. 4 and Fig. 5.

Fig. 5. Reconstruction results over sparsity for the uniform sparse signal.

Fig. 6. Reconstruction results over sparsity for the '0-1' sparse signal.

4.2. 2D Simulation

Fig. 7. Reconstruction results of Lena.

Table 1. The PSNR(dB) and Reconstruction TIME(s) of Reconstruction

	BP	DTMP	SP	FBP(0.3M, 0.3M-1)	FBP(0.2M, 0.2M-1)
PSNR(dB)	33.66	34.03	32.79	33.71	33.25
TIME(s)	58.56	2.11	1.20	7.72	6.90

Lena (256×256) is used to measure the performance of the algorithms for image signal reconstruction. As is known, the CS theory is based on the condition that the signal has a sparse representation in a known

transform domain Ψ (e.g, the DCT and the wavelet transformation). However, the matrix of wavelet coefficients of image signal is not sparse strictly in sym6 wavelet basis. K maximum wavelet coefficients of each column is retained with the rest set to zeros so that the sparsity of image is k . We set $k=42$ in the following test. Peak signal to noise ratio (PSNR) is used to measure the accuracy of reconstruction result. Fig. 7 and Table 1 represent the reconstruction results of 'lena'. We can find that DTMP gets the most accurate reconstruction as well as comparatively low compute complexity. In conclusion, DTMP performs better in the image signal reconstruction process than other algorithms.

5. Conclusion

This paper presents a new adaptive forward-back greedy algorithm called Dual Threshold Matching Pursuit. Simulation results show that for a Gaussian signal, DTMP reconstruction accuracy is better than all algorithms including FBP and in the whole sparse interval, reconstruction error is maintained at a quite low level; For the '0-1' signal, reconstruction results of DTMP significantly is better than any other greedy algorithms, close to BP. For the image signal, DTMP not only reconstruction accuracy is higher than all the other algorithms, but time consumption is the least in a certain condition.

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