Efficient New Conjugate Gradient Methods for Removing Impulse Noise Images

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Abstract. In most applications, denoising image is fundamental to subsequent image processing operations. In this research, we derivation a new formula of conjugate gradient methods based on the quadratic model. The fact that the search direction created at each iteration of the proposed approach is descending and independent of the line search makes it interesting. The use of Wolfe conditions also determines the global convergence of the suggested approach. To prove the viability of the suggested approach, comparison tests on impulse noise reduction are given.

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1. Introduction

Image denoising is a fundamental problem in image processing operations. One of its more investigated domains is image denoising which plays an adequate contribution in many applications. There are two main models to represent impulse noise [17]. One type of noise is known as salt-and-pepper noise, in which the noisy pixels can only accept the maximum and minimum pixel values possible within the dynamic range of the source image. The random-valued noise, which may have any random value between the maximum and minimum pixel values of dynamic range, is another type of impulsive noise [18]. One of the most significant issues in picture processing is the removal of above both noise. The average filter and its variations [7] may find the noisy pixels but return them badly when the noise ratio is large. These two approaches are quite common for this purpose. Unaltered gray levels exist in unharmed pixels. While the variational technique is capable of keeping the features and edges well, every pixel’s gray level, including those that aren’t damaged, is altered, see [19]. The recovered picture may also lose its details and become distorted.

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The two-phase method in [6] unify the advantages of both methods and we will give a brief description here. In the following, we let $x_{i,j}$ for $(i, j) \in A = \{1, 2, 3, ..., M \times 1, 2, 3, ..., N\}$ be the gray level of a true $M \times N$. Let the set of indices of the noisy pixels uncover in the first phase denote by $N$, where $N \subset A$. Let $u_{i,j} = [u_{i,j}]_{(i,j)\in N}$ be a column vector of length $c$ ordered lexicographically ($c$ is the number of elements of $N$), and $y_{i,j}$ denote the observed pixel value at position $(i, j)$. Then, the second phase it to recover the noisy pixels by minimizing the following edge-preserving regularization function:

$$f_\alpha(u) = \sum_{(i,j)\in N} \left[ |u_{i,j} - y_{i,j}| + \frac{\beta}{2} (2 \times S_{1,i,j}^1 + S_{2,i,j}^2) \right]$$

(1)

where $S_{1,i,j}^1 = 2 \sum_{(m,n)\in P_{i,j}\cap N} \varphi_\alpha(u_{i,j} - y_{m,n})$, $S_{2,i,j}^2 = \sum_{(m,n)\in P_{i,j}\cap N} \varphi_\alpha(u_{i,j} - y_{m,n})$ and $\varphi_\alpha$ is an edge-preserving potential function having the parameter $\alpha$. Examples of such $\varphi_\alpha(x)$ are: $\varphi_\alpha(x) = \sqrt{\alpha + x^2}$, $\alpha > 0$. However, because of the $|u_{i,j} - y_{i,j}|$ term, the functional of problem (1) is nonsmooth. It is commonly accepted that this nonsmooth term can separate from (1) because, on the one hand, it keeps the minimizer $u$ close to the original picture $y$, ensuring that the original image’s unaltered pixels are preserved. However, the two-phase approach simply cleans the noisy pixels, leaving the unharmed pixels unaltered, making issue (1) functional. Consequently, the nonsmooth term is not necessary. The word “data-fitting” in [4] should be removed, according to Cai et al. With this process, $f_\alpha(u)$ may be converted into a smooth function that can be effectively reduced. As a result, the objective function that we will reduce in this essay has the following shape:

$$f_\alpha(u) = \sum_{(i,j)\in N} \left[ (2 \times S_{1,i,j}^1 + S_{2,i,j}^2) \right]$$

(2)

Nowadays, conjugate gradient (CG) methods are regarded as popular and efficient algorithms to deal problems noise of image. In general, the method has the following form:

$$\text{Min} f(u); u \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

(3)

where $f$ is a continuously differentiable function. This problem may be effectively solved using an iterative technique at the $(k + 1)$ iteration by using the iteration form shown below:

$$u_{k+1} = u_k + \alpha_k d_k$$

(4)

where $u_k$ is the current iterate point, $d_k$ is a direction of $f$ at $u_k$, and $\alpha_k > 0$ is step size obtained by a one-dimensional line search. Step size $\alpha_k$ is obtained using several forms of line search, i.e., exact line search with quadratic model [20] as follows:

$$\alpha_k = -\frac{g_k^T d_k}{d_k^T Qd_k}$$

(5)

The strong Wolfe inexact line search is frequently taken into consideration in the convergence analysis implementation of nonlinear conjugate gradient techniques since exact line
search for searching $\alpha_k$ is typically costly and impracticable. It seeks to identify a step size $\alpha_k$ that satisfies the two strong Wolfe requirements listed below [5], namely:

$$f(u_k + \alpha_k d_k) \leq f(u_k) + \delta \alpha_k g_k^T d_k$$  \hspace{1cm} (6)$$

$$|g(u_k + \alpha_k d_k)^T d_k| \leq \sigma |g_k^T d_k|$$  \hspace{1cm} (7)$$

where $0 < \delta < \sigma < 1$ are arbitrary constants and $g_k = \nabla f(x_k)$. The search direction $d_k$ is computed by:

$$d_{k+1} = -g_{k+1} + \beta_k s_k$$  \hspace{1cm} (8)$$

$\beta_k$ is the conjugate gradient parameter that evaluates the performance and global convergence characteristics of several conjugate gradient technique types. The nonlinear conjugate gradient parameters include some well-known ones like the Fletcher and Reeves (FR) [10], conjugate descent (CD) [9], Dai and Yuan (DY) [8]. These parameters are given by the following formulae:

$$\beta_{\text{FR}} = \frac{g_{k+1}^T g_k}{g_k^T g_k}, \, \beta_{\text{CD}} = -\frac{g_{k+1}^T g_k}{d_k^T g_k}, \, \beta_{\text{DY}} = \frac{g_{k+1}^T g_k}{d_k^T g_k},$$  \hspace{1cm} (9)$$

More information about other conjugate gradient methods [16].

Al-Baali [1] extended this result to an inexact line search and showed that the method generates sufficient descent direction under the strong Wolfe conditions using the constraint $\sigma < 1/2$. The global convergence properties of FR, DY, and CD methods with exact line are strong, but they are prone to taking many short steps without making sufficient advancement to the minimum by Hager and Zhang [11].

To provide a broader context for developing conjugate gradient methods, Perry extended the classical conjugate condition to:

$$d_{k+1}^T y_k = -(H_{k+1} g_{k+1})^T y_k = -g_{k+1}^T (H_{k+1} y_k) = -g_{k+1}^T s_k = 0$$  \hspace{1cm} (10)$$

Many efforts have been made in few recent years to design new formulas for conjugate gradient method which are not only satisfied global convergence but also improve numerical performance for method. Remainder the conjugate gradient methods have many application in real life. In our work, we found a new formula for conjugate gradient method with Wolfe–Powell generate a descent direction at each iteration in section 2 and the new formula for conjugate gradient method which is satisfied the global convergence in section 3. In section 4, we present the numerical behavior of the method. The last section proposes one conclusion.

2. Propose new conjugate gradient method:

We will discuss the new parameter choice. Now using the quadratic formula for the objective function $f(x)$ we have:

$$f_{k+1} = f_k + s_k^T g_k + \frac{1}{2} s_k^T Q(u_k) s_k$$  \hspace{1cm} (11)$$
where $Q(u_k)$ is the Hessian matrix of second-order derivatives. We derive both sides of (11) for $s_k$, is presented as follows:

$$\nabla f_{k+1} = g_k + Q(u_k)s_k = 0$$

Using (5) and (12) in (11), we have:

$$s^T_k Q(u_k)s_k = f_k - f_{k+1} + \frac{1}{2}s^T_k y_k$$

(13)

After some algebra from (11) and (13), as a result:

$$\beta_k = \frac{1}{2}g^T_{k+1} y_k + \frac{(f_k - f_{k+1})}{s_k^T y_k} g^T_{k+1} y_k \frac{s_k^T y_k}{d^T_k y_k}.$$  

(14)

If exact line search is utilized, then $\beta_k$ is such that:

$$\beta^B V_1 = \frac{1}{2} \|g_{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{(f_k - f_{k+1})}{s_k^T y_k} \|g_{k+1}\|^2 - \frac{d^T_k g_k}{d^T_k g_k}$$

(15)

In particular, conclude:

$$\beta^B V_2 = \frac{1}{2} \|g_{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{(f_k - f_{k+1})}{s_k^T g_k} \|g_{k+1}\|^2 - \frac{d^T_k g_k}{\|g_k\|^2}$$

(16)

and

$$\beta^B V_3 = \frac{1}{2} \|g_{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{(f_k - f_{k+1})}{s_k \|g_k\|^2} \|g_{k+1}\|^2.$$  

(17)

Thus, BV1, BV2 and BV3 are the new parameters of conjugate gradient.

Based on the above discussions, the presented algorithm is stated as follows:

Step 1: Given a starting point $u_1$, set $k = 0$ and $d_0 = -g_0$.

Step 2: Compute $\beta_k$ by (15), (16) and (17).

Step 3: Compute $d_k$ by (8) and (15). If $\|g_k\| = 0$, then stop.

Step 4: Evaluate $\alpha_k$ satisfy the conditions (6) and (7).

Step 5: Update the new point by the recurrence expression (4).

Step 6: If $f(u_{k+1}) < f(u_k)$ and $\|g_k\| < \varepsilon$ then stop. otherwise go to Step 2 with $k = k + 1$.

An important feature for any minimization algorithm is the descent or the sufficient descent property. The following theorem indicates that search direction $d_k$ satisfies descent property of our algorithms.

Theorem 1. In the algorithm (4), (8), (15), assume that $\alpha_k$ determined by the Wolfe line search (6)-(7) then the direction $d_{k+1}$ given by (8) is a descent direction.
Proof. If \( k = 0 \), then \( d_1 = -g_1 \), so \( d_1^T g_1 = -\|g_1\|^2 < 0 \). Suppose that \( d_k^T g_k < 0 \) for all \( k \). Multiply (8) by \( g_{k+1}^T \), will give:

\[
d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1} = -\|g_{k+1}\|^2 + \beta_k^B V_1 d_k^T g_{k+1}
\]

(18)

Since

\[
\|g_{k+1}\|^2 = \beta_k d_k^T y_k
\]

(19)

Now, put (19) in (18) we obtain:

\[
d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1} = -\beta_k d_k^T y_k + \beta_k d_k^T g_{k+1} = \beta_k[-d_k^T y_k + d_k^T g_{k+1}] = \beta_k d_k^T g_k < 0
\]

(20)

The proof is complete. The proof descent property of BV2 and BV3 is similar to proof BV1.

3. Convergence Analysis:

In order to establish the global convergence property of the method, we make the following standard assumptions for the objective function:

- For any initial point \( x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n \), the level set \( O = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n | f(x) < f(x_1) \} \) is bounded.
- \( f(x) \) is continuously differentiable in a neighborhood U of \( \Omega \), and its gradient \( g(x) \) is Lipschitz continuous, namely, there exists a constant \( L > 0 \) such that:

\[
\| g(x) - g(y) \| = L \| x - y \| , \forall x, y \in U.
\]

(21)

To proceed, the well-known Zoutendijk condition [22] is reviewed in the following.

**Lemma 1.** Suppose that Assumptions holds true. For any CG iterative algorithm defined by (4), where \( d_k \) is defined by (8), and the step-size \( \alpha_k \) is obtained by the Wolfe line search. Then:

\[
\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (g_k^T d_k)^2 < \infty.
\]

(22)

In the following theorem, the convergence property of new Algorithm is proved.

**Theorem 2.** Suppose the all assumptions holds true. Consider the sequence \( \{g_k\} \) and \( \{d_k\} \) generated by the proposed method, where \( \beta_k \) is given by (15), and \( \alpha_k \) satisfies the Wolfe line search, then,

\[
\lim_{k \to \infty} \inf \| g_k \| = 0
\]

(23)

**Proof.** By contradiction, suppose that (23) is not correct. Therefore, there exists a constant \( \varepsilon > 0 \) such that:

\[
\| g_{k+1} \| > \varepsilon
\]

(24)

Upon squaring both sides of (8), we obtain:
\[ ||d_{k+1}||^2 + ||g_{k+1}||^2 + 2d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1} = (\beta_k)^2 ||d_k||^2 \]  

(25)

Next, dividing both sides of the above inequality by \((g_{k+1}^T d_{k+1})^2\), we have:

\[
\frac{||d_{k+1}||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} = \frac{(\beta_k)^2 ||d_k||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} - \frac{2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} - \frac{||g_{k+1}||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} 
\]

(26)

which reduces to:

\[
\frac{||d_{k+1}||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} = \frac{(\beta_k)^2 ||d_k||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} + \frac{1}{||g_{k+1}||^2} 
\]

(27)

However, from (20) we have \(\beta_k = \frac{d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1}}{d_k^T g_k}\), Substituting in (27), we obtain:

\[
\frac{||d_{k+1}||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} = \frac{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} \frac{||d_k||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} + \frac{1}{||g_{k+1}||^2} 
\]

(28)

Notice that \(||d_1||^2 = -g_1^T d_1 = ||g_1||^2\), which implies:

\[
\frac{||d_{k+1}||^2}{(d_{k+1}^T g_{k+1})^2} = \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{||g_i||^2} 
\]

(29)

Then we get from (29) and (24) that:

\[
\frac{(d_k^T g_k)^2}{||d_k||^2} = \frac{\varepsilon^2}{k} 
\]

(30)

Therefore:

\[
\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(g_k^T d_k)^2}{||d_k||^2} = \infty. 
\]

(31)

This result contradicts (22). The proof is completed. Global convergence property of BV2, BV3 algorithm are similar those of BV1 algorithm.

4. Numerical experiments

To illustrate the effectiveness of the suggested approach for salt-and-pepper impulse noise, we present some numerical results in this section. Table 1 lists the experimental outcomes. We report the number of iterations (NI), the number of function evaluations
(NOF) and the evaluation indexes used in the experiments were the PSNR (peak signal to noise ratio) see [3], which is defined as:

\[
PSNR = 10 \log_{10} \frac{255^2}{\frac{1}{MN} \sum_{i,j} (u_{i,j}^r - u_{i,j}^*)^2}
\]  (32)

where \(u_{i,j}^r\) and \(u_{i,j}^*\) denote the pixel values of the restored image and the original image.

We stop the iteration if the inequality:

\[
\frac{|f(u_k) - f(u_{k-1})|}{|f(u_k)|} = 10^{-4} \quad \text{and} \quad \|f(u_k)\| = 10^{-4}(1 + |f(u_k)|)
\]  (33)

are satisfied. In the experiment, a picture that has been lost or become hazy is recovered or recreated. Four different images are employed for the experiment, which includes, placeLena, House, Cameraman and Elaine by employing test images in [2],[21] results of experiment to images shown in Table (1). Images show that new Algorithm and FR Algorithm have good performance to solve the image restoration and it can successfully do this problem, for more details in this field see [12–15].

The numerical results show that for some situations, the suggested solution outperforms the FR method.

### Table 1: Numerical results of FR, BV1, BV2 and BV3 algorithms.

| Image | Noise level (%) | FR-Method | BV1-Method | BV2-Method | BV3-Method |
|-------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|       | NI  | NF  | PSNR (dB) | NI  | NF  | PSNR (dB) | NI  | NF  | PSNR (dB) |
| Le    | 50  | 82  | 153       | 30.5529 | 54.0 | 66.0    | 30.4969 | 40.0 | 84.0    | 30.5043 | 63.0 | 66.0    | 30.6177 |
|       | 70  |     | 155       | 27.4824 | 53.0 | 65.0    | 27.6745 | 49.0 | 101.0   | 27.3327 | 60.0 | 63.0    | 27.4735 |
|       | 90  |     | 211       | 22.8583 | 73.0 | 86.0    | 22.2218 | 55.0 | 109.0   | 22.5143 | 71.0 | 74.0    | 22.6418 |
| Ho    | 50  | 52  | 53        | 30.6845 | 43.0 | 52.0    | 35.8342 | 29.0 | 59.0    | 34.5810 | 46.0 | 51.0    | 34.5784 |
|       | 70  | 63  | 116       | 31.2564 | 41.0 | 50.0    | 30.5736 | 36.0 | 71.0    | 31.0401 | 40.0 | 44.0    | 30.8299 |
|       | 90  | 111 | 214       | 25.287  | 58.0 | 64.0    | 25.0723 | 51.0 | 103.0   | 25.1160 | 63.0 | 67.0    | 25.0853 |
| El    | 50  | 35  | 36        | 33.9129 | 28.0 | 33.0    | 33.8784 | 24.0 | 43.0    | 33.8835 | 34.0 | 35.0    | 33.8796 |
|       | 70  | 38  | 39        | 31.864  | 42.0 | 48.0    | 31.8125 | 28.0 | 51.0    | 31.8465 | 39.0 | 40.0    | 31.8101 |
|       | 90  | 65  | 114       | 28.2619 | 54.0 | 62.0    | 28.1780 | 38.0 | 70.0    | 28.0831 | 48.0 | 54.0    | 28.3744 |
| c512  | 50  | 59  | 87        | 35.5359 | 45.0 | 54.0    | 35.3429 | 28.0 | 61.0    | 35.3759 | 44.0 | 52.0    | 35.2678 |
|       | 70  | 78  | 142       | 30.6259 | 52.0 | 62.0    | 30.9240 | 35.0 | 75.0    | 30.7033 | 49.0 | 53.0    | 30.7929 |
|       | 90  | 121 | 236       | 24.3962 | 69.0 | 81.0    | 24.7572 | 46.0 | 96.0    | 25.0248 | 67.0 | 73.0    | 24.8688 |

In terms of the number of iterations and function evaluations, as well as the peak signal to noise ratio, the recommended algorithms surpass the FR technique, as shown in Table (1).

### 5. Conclusions

We presented a powerful conjugate gradient technique. In addition to meeting the adequate descent criterion, the proposed approach is globally convergent. According to numerical findings, the approach operates well in practice and is superior than the widely used FR method. We also looked at our approach’s aptitude for resolving several practical problems. In this manner, a typical issue from applications for image processing was taken into account. We demonstrated the acceptability of the image that our approach restored.
Figure 1: Demonstrates the results of algorithms FR, BV1, BV2 and BV3 of $256 \times 256$ Lena image.

Figure 2: Demonstrates the results of algorithms FR, BV1, BV2 and BV3 of $256 \times 256$ House image.
Figure 3: Demonstrates the results of algorithms FR, BV1, BV2 and BV3 of $256 \times 256$ Elaine image.

Figure 4: Demonstrates the results of algorithms FR, BV1, BV2 and BV3 of $256 \times 256$ Cameraman image.
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