Single Image Spatially Variant Out-of-focus Blur Removal Supplementary Material

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1 Derivation of $\psi(i,j)$

In this section, we explain the intuition of how to derive the equation

$$\psi(i,j) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}|} \sum_{(p,q)\in\mathcal{A}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right) \widetilde{\mathbf{g}}(i+p,i+q) - \frac{1}{k} \widetilde{\mathbf{g}}(i+2p,i+2q). \tag{1}$$

1.1 1D Intuition

To start with, we consider the one-dimension case. Filling the missing foreground Ω_F is equivalent to extrapolate a discrete-time signal g[n] for $n \geq 0$, with known values of g[n] for n < 0. There are various ways of extrapolation. Here, we consider the method that enforces the smoothness across the boundary. More precisely, we want

$$g[n] - g[n-1] = g[n-1] - g[n-2], \tag{2}$$

where g[n] - g[n-1] is the finite difference approximation to the derivative at n, and g[n-1] - g[n-2] is the finite difference approximation to the derivative at n-1. Thus, the condition means that the slope at g[n] should be the same as the slope at g[n-1]. Determining g[n] from (2) is straight-forward, because g[n-1] and g[n-2] are known. Thus,

$$g[n] = 2g[n-1] - g[n-2].$$

1.2 2D Intuition

Extending the idea to the two-dimensional setting, we want the gradient of a two-dimensional signal g[i,j] at pixel (i,j) to be similar to the gradients of its neighborhood. Since the two-dimensional gradient is directional, there are multiple equations for predicting g[i,j]:

$$g[i,j] - g[i+p,j+q] = g[i+p,j+q] - g[+2p,j+2q],$$
 (3)

where $p = q = \{-1, 0, 1\}$. Determining g[i, j] is not as easy, because there are multiple equations in (3). Unless for some specific situations, in general g[i, j] needs to solved by fitting the neighborhood. To this end, we consider the set of valid neighborhoods

$$\mathcal{A} = \{ (p,q) \mid g[i+p, i+q] \neq 0, |p| \leq 1, |q| \leq 1 \}.$$

Here, the set \mathcal{A} denotes the set of pixels that are neighbors of g[i,j] and they are known. Then, finding g[i,j] from the pixels in \mathcal{A} becomes the minimization problem

$$g[i,j] = \underset{g[i,j]}{\operatorname{argmin}} \ \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathcal{A}} (g[i,j] - 2g[i+p,i+q] + g[i+2p,i+2q])^2,$$

of which the solution can be found by considering the first order optimality, yielding

$$g[i,j] = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}|} \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathcal{A}} 2g[i+p,i+q] - g[i+2p,i+2q].$$

1.3 Stability Condition

The condition g'[n] = g'[n-1] has a problem that it leads to unbounded prediction, because if g'[n-1] > 0, then $g[n] \to \infty$ as $n \to \infty$. To ensure boundedness, instead of using g'[n] = g'[n-1], we require $g'[n] = \frac{1}{n}g'[n-1]$ for n > 0, and g'[n] = g'[n-1] for n = 0. Consequently, the recursion is defined as

$$g[n] = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)g[n-1] - \frac{1}{n}g[n-2] \quad \text{for } n > 0,$$
(4)

with the initial condition g[0] = 2g[-1] - g[-2]. Intuitively, this recursion forces the slope at every extrapolation location to be reduce by a factor depending on the physical distance from the object boundary. The following proposition shows the boundedness of this method.

Proposition 1. Suppose that g[-1] and g[-2] are bounded, and hence g[0] = 2g[-1] - g[-2] is also bounded. g[n] satisfying the condition $g'[n] = \frac{1}{n}g'[n-1]$ has the recursion

$$g[n] = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)g[n-1] - \frac{1}{n}g[n-2], \quad \text{for } n > 0,$$
 (5)

and g[n] is bounded for all n.

Proof. Since g'[n] = g[n] - g[n-1], $g'[n] = \frac{1}{n}g'[n-1]$ implies $g[n] - g[n-1] = \frac{1}{n}(g[n-1] - g[n-2])$. By rearranging the terms we have (5). The boundedness can be proved by induction: g[1] and g[2] are bounded, because g[0], g[-1] are bounded. Assume that g[k] and g[k+1] are bounded, then by triangle inequality $|g[k+2]| \le \left(1 + \frac{1}{k+2}\right)|g[k+1]| + \frac{1}{k+2}|g[k]|$ is also bounded.

Incorporating the idea of diminishing gradient so that g[i,j] is bounded, we have

$$g[i,j] = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}|} \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathcal{A}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k} \right) g[i+p,i+q] - \frac{1}{k} g[i+2p,i+2q],$$

where k is the shortest distance from the unknown pixel (i, j) to the known set Ω_B . Replace the g[i, j] by $\psi(i, j)$ and g[i + p, j + p] by $\tilde{\mathbf{g}}(i + p, j + p)$, we have

$$\psi(i,j) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}|} \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathcal{A}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k} \right) \widetilde{\mathbf{g}}(i+p,i+q) - \frac{1}{k} \widetilde{\mathbf{g}}(i+2p,i+2q).$$

2 Boundedness of $\Delta \hat{\mathbf{f}}_B$

In this section, we show the following statement.

Proposition 2.

$$\|(\alpha * \mathbf{h}_F) \cdot (1 - \alpha * \mathbf{h}_F) \cdot \Delta \widehat{\mathbf{f}}_B\| \le \|(1 - \alpha * \mathbf{h}_F) \cdot \Delta \widehat{\mathbf{f}}_B\|,$$

where the norm $\|\cdot\|$ is Frobenius-norm.

Proof. Note that for each pixel $\Delta \hat{\mathbf{f}}_B(i,j)$, $|(\alpha * \mathbf{h}_F)(i,j) \cdot (1 - \alpha * \mathbf{h}_F)(i,j) \cdot \Delta \hat{\mathbf{f}}_B(i,j)| \le (1 - \alpha * \mathbf{h}_F)(i,j) \cdot \Delta \hat{\mathbf{f}}_B(i,j)|$ because $0 \le (\alpha * \mathbf{h}_F)(i,j) \le 1$. Summing the squares of individual elements completes the proof.

3 Shock Filter

In this section we briefly describe the shock filter. Given an input image \mathbf{f} , shock filter first applies a smoothing blur kernel, typically a Gaussian blur kernel of size 9×9 and variance $\sigma = 1$. The purpose of applying the smoothing kernel to the input image is to remove textures and noise.

In the k-th iteration of the shock filter, the k + 1-th solution is given by

$$\mathbf{f}^{k+1} = \mathbf{f}^k - \beta \operatorname{sign}(\Delta \mathbf{f}^k) \| \nabla \mathbf{f}^k \|_1.$$

Here $\nabla \mathbf{f} = [\mathbf{f}_x; \mathbf{f}_y]$ is the gradient of \mathbf{f} and $\Delta \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{f}_x^2 \mathbf{f}_{xx} + 2\mathbf{f}_x \mathbf{f}_y \mathbf{f}_{xy} + \mathbf{f}_y^2 \mathbf{f}_{yy}$ is the Laplacian of \mathbf{f} . $\beta (=1)$ is the step size.

4 Edge Selection

Finally we provide some brief discussion on the edge selection mask M. First, given a blurred image g we define a metric

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{\sqrt{|\mathbf{h}_A * \mathbf{g}_x|^2 + |\mathbf{h}_A * \mathbf{g}_y|^2}}{\mathbf{h}_A * \sqrt{|\mathbf{g}_x|^2 + |\mathbf{g}_y|^2} + 0.5},$$

where \mathbf{h}_A is a 5 × 5 a 5 × 5 uniform average kernel. The numerator $\mathbf{h}_A * \mathbf{g}_x$ is the average of the horizontal gradient within a 5 × 5 window. Therefore, if there are small objects/textures/noise, positive and negative gradients will cancel out each other. On the other hand, the denominator $\mathbf{h}_A * \sqrt{|\mathbf{g}_x|^2 + |\mathbf{g}_y|^2}$ is the average of the absolute gradient, which is always positive. As a result, \mathbf{R} differentiates the large objects versus small texture in the window.

To rule out small values of \mathbf{R} , one can set a threshold as

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{R}} = \max \left\{ \mathbf{R} - \tau_r, 0 \right\},\,$$

where τ_r is a threshold. Finally, we define the edge selection mask as

$$\mathbf{M} = \max \left\{ \widetilde{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \sqrt{|\mathbf{f}_x^s|^2 + |\mathbf{f}_y^s|^2} - \tau_s, 0 \right\},\,$$

where τ_s is a threshold, \mathbf{f}^s is the shock filtered image, \mathbf{f}_x^s and \mathbf{f}_y^s are gradients of \mathbf{f}^s .