

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY
Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

**IMAGE SUPER-RESOLUTION BASED ON
FRACTAL ANALYSIS**

by

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IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
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Certificate of Authorship/Originality

I, Xunxiang Yao, declare that this thesis, is submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Doctor of Philosophy, in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology at the University of Technology Sydney.

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List of Publications

Journal Papers

- J-1. **X. Yao**, Q. Wu, P. Zhang and F. Bao, “Weighted Adaptive Image Super-Resolution Scheme based on Local Fractal Feature and Image Roughness,” *IEEE Transactions on Multimedia*, vol. 23, pp. 1426-1441, 2021.
- J-2. **X. Yao**, Q. Wu, P. Zhang and F. Bao, “Adaptive rational fractal interpolation function for image super-resolution via local fractal analysis,” *Image and Vision Computing*, vol. 82, pp. 39-49, 2019.
- J-3. F. Bao, **X. Yao**, Q. Sun, Y. Zhang, C. Zhang, “Smooth fractal surfaces derived from bicubic rational fractal interpolation functions,” *Science China Information Sciences*, vol. 61, pp. 1-3, 2018.
- J-4. Y. Zhang, P. Wang, F. Bao, **X. Yao**, C. Zhang, H. Lin, “A Single-Image Super-Resolution Method Based on Progressive-Iterative Approximation,” *IEEE Transactions on Multimedia*, vol. 22, pp. 1407-1422, 2019.
- J-5. Y. Zhang, P. Wang, Q. Fan, F. Bao, **X. Yao**, C. Zhang, “Single Image Numerical Iterative Dehazing Method Based on Local Physical Features,” *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology*, vol. 30, pp. 3544-3557, 2019.
- J-6. P. Zhang, Q. Wu, **X. Yao** J. Xu, “Beyond modality alignment: Learning part-level representation for visible-infrared person re-identification”, *Image and Vision Computing*, vol. 108, 104118, 2021.

Submitted Papers

- J-1. **X. Yao**, Q. Wu, P. Zhang and F. Bao, “Image super-resolution based on multifractals in transfer domain,” *Signal Processing: Image Communication*, Under review, 2021.

Contents

Certificate	ii
Acknowledgments	iii
List of Publications	iv
List of Figures	viii
List of Tables	xi
Abstract	xiii
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Research Problems	4
1.2.1 Detail preservation in complex texture region	4
1.2.2 Non-decreasing image roughness in image super-resolution process	5
1.2.3 High-frequency information increase in through multifractal in NSCT domain	5
1.3 Thesis Contribution	6
1.4 Thesis Structure	7
2 Literature Review and Related Works	9
2.1 Image super-resolution methods	9
2.1.1 Interpolation-based methods	9
2.1.2 Reconstruction-based methods	11

2.1.3	Learning-based methods	12
2.1.4	Fractal-based super-resolution method	15
2.2	Fractal theory	16
2.2.1	Fractal function	17
2.2.2	Fractal dimension	18
2.3	NSCT	21
3	Region-based image super-resolution via single fractal interpolation function and fractal analysis	25
3.1	Motivation	25
3.2	Related work	26
3.3	Proposed Method	28
3.3.1	Image Patches Classification	30
3.3.2	Single Image Super-Resolution	31
3.3.3	Optimization for vertical scaling factor	34
3.4	Experiments	36
3.4.1	Running Time Analysis	37
3.4.2	Comparison with State-of-the-Art Methods	38
4	Pixel-wise Image Super-Resolution based on Local Fractal Feature and Image Roughness	50
4.1	Motivation	50
4.2	Related Work	52
4.3	Proposed Method	54
4.3.1	Image Pixel Labeling	54
4.3.2	Adaptive Fractal Interpolation	58

4.3.3	Optimization for Maintaining Image Roughness	61
4.3.4	Weighted Blended Model in Local Area	64
4.4	Experiment	65
4.4.1	Running Time Analysis	66
4.4.2	Simulation	66
4.4.3	Quantitative Analysis	69
4.4.4	Qualitative analysis	78
5	Image super-resolution based on multifractals and im- age roughness in NSCT domain	89
5.1	Motivation	89
5.2	Related Work	89
5.3	Proposed Method	93
5.3.1	Image decomposition through NSCT	94
5.3.2	Individual image pixels classification	94
5.3.3	Adaptive fractal interpolation in different sub-band image	96
5.3.4	Optimization for increasing image roughness	101
5.4	Experiments and discussions	102
5.4.1	Running Time Analysis	104
5.4.2	Quantitative comparison	104
5.4.3	Qualitative comparison	105
6	Conclusions and Future Work	112
6.1	Conclusions	112
6.2	Future Work	113

List of Figures

2.1	The illustration of Nonsubsampled contourlet transform. First, NSP is applied for multi-scale decomposition, the first layer is decomposed to obtain lowpass subband image (y_1) and bandpass subband images (y_2, y_3 and y_4). Second, the NSDFB is applied to get the corresponding bandpass directional subband images.	22
2.2	The NSP in decomposition at level 3. NSP decomposes the input image in a tower filter bank and decomposes it into two parts: highpass image (H_Z) and lowpass image ($H_0(Z)$). The lowpass image ($H_0(Z)$) can be further decomposition into $H_0(Z^{2^1})$ and $H_1(Z^{2^1})$. The $H_0(Z^{4^1})$ and $H_1(Z^{4^1})$ can be obtained after 3^{th} level decomposition.	23
2.3	The illustration of NSDFB. The NSDFB consists of fan filter and quadrant filter: first, the image is divided into four directional sub-bands by using the fan filter; second, quadrant filter bank is utilized to obtain different directions bandpass images.	24
3.1	Illustration of super-resolution process. For the given low-resolution image, it is divided into patches and the fractal dimension of patches is calculated. Then, the patches are classified to different categories and different interpolation models are selected in different regions. Finally, the optimization process is conducted. . . .	29
3.2	Image regions classified into texture area and smooth area	32
3.3	Comparison results ($\times 2$) on Wall image.	42

3.4	Comparison results ($\times 3$) on Baby image	48
3.5	Comparison results ($\times 4$) on Head image	49
4.1	The distribution of the local fractal dimension. FD represents fractal dimension and P is the value of the probability density function	56
4.2	Result of pixel labeling by local fractal feature	57
4.3	Illustration of pixel mapping and calculation in the super-resolution process. For every sub-region, four points in the same rectangle and four vertices of the larger square are used to calculate the value of the pixel in the high-resolution image.	60
4.4	Illustration of blended mode. The unknown pixel (marked in green) belongs to four interpolation units $I(i - 1 : i + 1, j - 1 : j + 1), I(i - 1 : i + 1, j : j + 2), I(i : i + 2, j - 1 : j + 1), I(i : i + 2, j : j + 2)$. The value of unknown pixels can be calculated by four adjacent fractal functions.	64
4.5	Fractal interpolating surface with different scaling factors	67
4.6	Interpolation error comparison with different FIF	76
4.7	Comparison results ($\times 2$) on Baby image. The number is the value of PSNR.	79
4.8	Comparison results ($\times 2$) on Matches image. The number is the value of PSNR.	80
4.9	Comparison results ($\times 2$) on Matches image. The number is the value of PSNR.	82
4.10	Comparison results ($\times 2$) on Wall image. The number is the value of PSNR.	83
4.11	Comparison results ($\times 3$) on Urban100-088 image. The number is the value of PSNR.	84

4.12	Comparison results ($\times 3$) on River image. The number is the value of PSNR.	85
4.13	Comparison results ($\times 4$) on Texture image. The number is the value of PSNR.	86
4.14	Comparison results ($\times 4$) on Houses image. The number is the value of PSNR.	87
5.1	NSCT decomposition process. For the given image, the NSPFB is applied for multi-scale decomposition to get low frequency subband and high frequency subband. The low-frequency subband can be further decomposition by NSPFB. Then the NSDFB is applied to get the corresponding bandpass directional subband images.	95
5.2	The NSP in decomposition at level 3. NSP decomposes the input image in a tower filter bank and decomposes it into two parts: highpass image (H_Z) and lowpass image ($H_0(Z)$). The lowpass image ($H_0(Z)$) can be further decomposition into $H_0(Z^{2^1})$ and $H_1(Z^{2^1})$. The $H_0(Z^{4^1})$ and $H_1(Z^{4^1})$ can be obtained after 3^{th} level decomposition.	96
5.3	Pixel value calculation via fractal interpolation in SR process.	99
5.4	Comparison of results ($\times 2$) on head image	107
5.5	Comparison of results ($\times 2$) on Wall image	109
5.6	Comparison of results ($\times 3$) on Girl image	110
5.7	Comparison of results ($\times 4$) on Sweater image	111

List of Tables

3.1	Comparison of different methods on running time (s) (Set14)	39
3.2	Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set5)	40
3.3	Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set5)	41
3.4	Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-1)	43
3.5	Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-1)	44
3.6	Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-2)	45
3.7	Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-2)	46
4.1	Variation in image roughness (quantified by fractal dimension) with different up-sampling factors in different super-resolution methods	51
4.2	Comparison of different methods on running time (s) (Set14)	68
4.3	Set of interpolation data	69
4.4	2× Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-1)	70
4.5	2× Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-2)	71
4.6	3× Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-1)	72
4.7	3× Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-2)	73

4.8	4× Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-1)	74
4.9	4× Comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs (Set14-2)	75
4.10	Objective quality assessment of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs	76
4.11	Objective quality assessment of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs	77
4.12	Objective quality assessment of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs	77
5.1	Comparison of different methods on running time (s) (Set14)	105
5.2	Quantitative comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs	106
5.3	Quantitative comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs	106
5.4	Quantitative comparison of different methods on PSNRs,SSIMs, FSIMs	108

ABSTRACT

Image super-resolution is an important problem in the computer vision field. Image super-resolution aims to generate high-resolution images with an “ideal” appearance from low-resolution ones. From traditional interpolation methods (bilinear, bicubic et al.) to CNN methods, the quality of reconstructed HR image is highly improved. However, most of these methods are failing to keep texture details and edge structure, especially in highly complicated texture area.

To tackle such problems, fractal geometry is applied to image super-resolution, which demonstrates its advantages when describing the complicated details in an image. The common fractal-based method does not distinguish the complexity difference of texture across all regions of image regardless of smooth regions or texture-rich regions. Due to such strong presumption, it causes artificial errors while recovering smooth area and texture blurring at the regions with rich texture. This thesis firstly proposes a rational fractal interpolation model with various setting in different regions to adapt to the local texture complexity. Secondly, it should keep the degree of image roughness non-decreasing, which reflects various texture features and appearance during the image super-resolution process. However, this point is not well addressed in the current work. This thesis argues that reducing roughness during image super-resolution is the key reason causing various problems such as artificial texture and/or edge blur. Here, keeping the image roughness non-decreasing during super-resolution is being well investigated for the first time to our best knowledge. Thirdly, fine details are more related to the information in the high-frequency spectrum on the Fourier domain. Most of the existing methods do not have specific modules to handle such high-frequency information adaptively. Thus, they cause edge blur or texture disorder. To tackle the problems, this thesis explores image super-resolution on multiple sub-bands of the corresponding image, which are generated by NonSubsampled Contourlet Transform (NSCT). Different sub-bands

hold the information of different frequency which is then related to the detailed-ness of information of the given low-resolution image. Our extensive experimental results demonstrate that the proposed method achieves encouraging performance with state-of-the-art super-resolution algorithms.