

ANALYSIS OF WAVELET AND CURVELET IMAGE DENOISING FOR DIFFERENT KINDS OF ADDITIVE NOISES

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ABSTRACT : This paper describes approximate digital implementations of two new mathematical transforms, namely; the wavelet transform and curvelet transform. Our implementation offers exact reconstruction, stability against perturbation, ease of implementation, low computational complexity and our main implementation is that, at a time we can use a different type of additive noise like additive Gaussian noise, speckle noise, poisson noise and salt & pepper noise etc. to get a different PSNR and MSE values. We can easily analyse our result or we can easily compare between wavelet and curvelet image denoising. A central tool is Fourier domain computation of an approximate digital Radon transform. The Radon transform in two dimensions is the integral transform consisting of the integral of a function over straight lines. In the experiments we reported here, simple thresholding of the curvelet coefficient is very competitive with “state of art” techniques based on wavelets, including threshold estimators for wavelet and curvelet transform also. Different threshold estimators are used for filtering the noisy images. Moreover, the curvelet reconstruction, offering visually sharper images and in particular, higher quality recovery of edges and of faint linear and curvilinear features. The empirical results reported here are in encouraging agreement.

KEYWORDS: Wavelet transform, Curvelet transform, Face recognition, Sparse representation, Feature extraction, Thresholding rules.

I. INTRODUCTION

Image denoising refers to the recovery of a digital image that has been contaminated by Additive White Gaussian Noise (AWGN). AWGN is a channel model in which the only impairment to communication is a linear addition of wideband or white noise with a constant spectral density (expressed as watts/ Hz of bandwidth) and a Gaussian distribution of amplitude. On a daily basis, hospitals are witnessing a large inflow of digital medical images and related clinical data. The main hindrance is that an image gets often corrupted by noise in its acquisition and transmission [1]. Image denoising is one of the classical problems in digital image processing, and has been studied for nearly half a century due to its important role as a pre – processing step in various electronic imaging applications. Its main aim is to recover the best estimate of the original image from its noisy versions [2]. Wavelet transform enables us to represent signals with a high degree of sparsity. This is the principle behind a non-linear wavelet based signal estimation technique known as wavelet denoising. In this paper we explore wavelet denoising of images using several thresholding techniques such as SURE SHRINK, VISU SHRINK and BAYES SHRINK. Further, we use a Gaussian based model to perform combined denoising and compression for natural images and compare the performance of wavelet transform methods [3].

In this paper, we also describe approximate of new mathematical transforms, namely as curvelet transform for image denoising [4] and wavelet transform for image denoising. Our implementations offer exact reconstruction, stability against perturbations, ease of implementations and low computational complexity. A central tool is Fourier domain computation of an approximate digital random transform. In a curvelet transform, we will use sparsity and its applications [5]. In the past, we have proposed a work on novel image denoising method which is based on DCT basis and sparse representation [6]. To achieve a good performance in these aspects, a denoising procedure should adopt to image discontinuities. Therefore, a comparative study on mammographic image denoising technique using wavelet, and curvelet transform [7]. Therefore, multi resolution analysis [8] is preferred to enhance the image originality. The transform domain denoising typically assumes that the true image can be well approximated by a linear combination of few basis elements. That is, the image is sparsely represented in the transform domain. Hence, by preserving the few high magnitude

transform coefficients that convey mostly the original image property and discarding the rest which are mainly due to noise, the original image can be effectively estimated [9]. The sparsity of the representation are critical for compression of images, estimation of images and its inverse problems. A sparse representation for images with geometrical structure depends on both the transform and the original image property.

In the recent years, there has been a fair amount of research on various denoising methods like wavelet, curvelet contourlet and various other multi resolution analysis tools. Expectation - Maximization (EM) algorithm introduced by Figueirodo and Robert [10] for image restoration based on penalized likelihood formulized in wavelet domain. State-of-art Gaussian Scale Mixture (GSM) algorithms employs modelling of images according to the activity within neighbourhoods of wavelet coefficients and attaching coefficients heavily in inactive regions [11]. Coif man and Donoho [12] pioneered in wavelet thresholding pointed out that wavelet algorithm exhibits visual artefacts'. Curvelet transform is a multi scale transform with strong directional character in which elements are highly anisotropic at fine Scales. The developing theory of curvelets predict that, in recovering images which are smooth away from edges, curvelets obtain smaller asymptotic mean square error of reconstruction than wavelet methods [13].The fundamental quality of curvelet transform is that it can easily converge for high frequency component due to which in curvelet transform we get a better performance as compare to wavelet transform.

MULTIRESOLUTION TECHNIQUES: An image can be represented at different scales by multi resolution analysis. It preserves an image according to certain levels of resolution or blurring in images and also improves the effectiveness of any diagnosis system [14].

A. WAVELET: Wavelet transform can achieve good scarcity for spatially localized details, such as edges and singularities. For typical natural images, most of the wavelet coefficients have very small magnitudes, except for a few large ones that represent high frequency features of the image such as edges. The DWT (Discrete wavelet transforms) is identical to a hierarchical sub band system. In DWT,the original image is transformed into four pieces which is normally labelled as A1,H1,V1 and D1 as the schematic depicted in fig.1.The A1 sub-band called the approximation, can be further decomposed into four sub-bands. The remaining bands are called detailed components. To obtain the next level of decomposition, sub-band A1 is further decomposed.

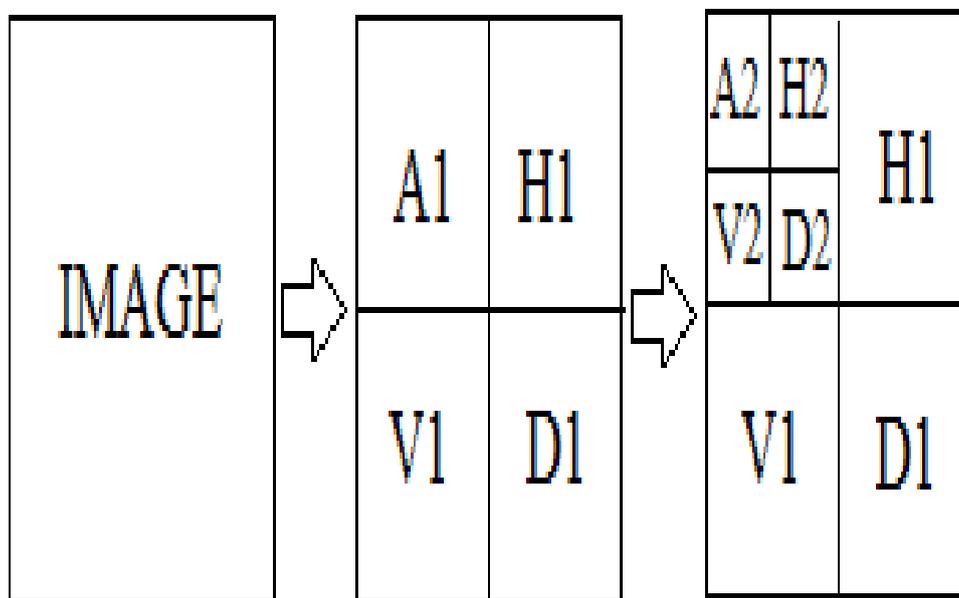


Figure 1. DWT based Wavelet decomposition to various levels

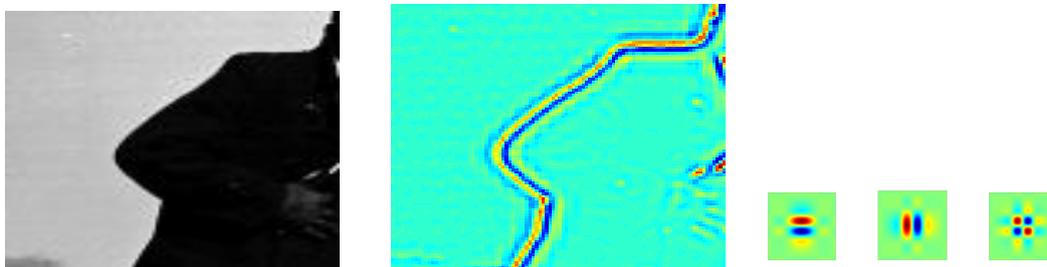
Many wavelet's are needed to represent an edge(number depends on the length of the edge,not the smoothness).In this,m-term approximation error would be occur.

$$(\|f-f_m\|_2)^2 \approx m^{-1}$$

ORIGINAL: **1% OF WAVELET COEFFS:** **10% OF WAVELET COEFFS:**



Wavelets and its Geometry: The basis function of wavelets is isotropic. They cannot “adapt” to geometrical structure. In this we need more refined scaling concepts.



B.CURVELET: Curvelets are a non-adaptive technique for multi-scale object representation. Being an extension of the wavelet concepts, they are becoming popular in similar fields, namely in image processing and scientific computing. Curvelet transform is a multi-scale geometric wavelet transforms, can represent edges and curves singularities much more efficiently than traditional wavelet. Curvelet combines multiscale analysis and geometrical ideas to achieve the optimal rate of convergence by simple thresholding. Multi-scale decomposition captures point discontinuities into linear structures. Curvelets in addition to a variable width have a variable length and so a variable anisotropy. The length and width of a curvelet at fine scale due to its directional characteristics is related by the parabolic scaling law:

$$\text{Width} \sim (\text{length})^2$$

Curvelets partition the frequency plan into dyadic coronaes that are sub partitioned into angular wedges displaying the parabolic aspect ratio as shown in fig.2. Curvelets at scale 2^{-k} , are of rapid decay away from a ‘ridge’ of length $2^{-k/2}$ and width 2^{-k} and this ridge is the effective support. The discrete translation of curvelet transform is achieved using wrapping algorithm[15]. The curvelet coefficients C_k for each scale and angle is defined in Fourier domain by

$$C_k(r, \theta) = 2^{-3k/4} R(2^{-k}r) A(2^{(k/2)}/2\pi, \theta)$$

Where C_k in this equation represents polar wedge supported by the radial(R) and angular (A) windows.

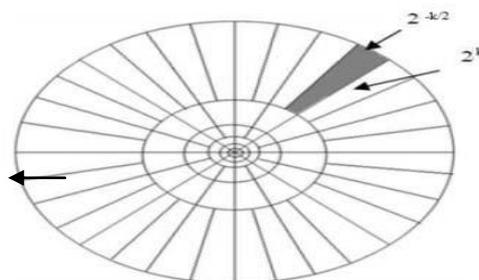


Figure 2. Curvelets in Frequency Domain

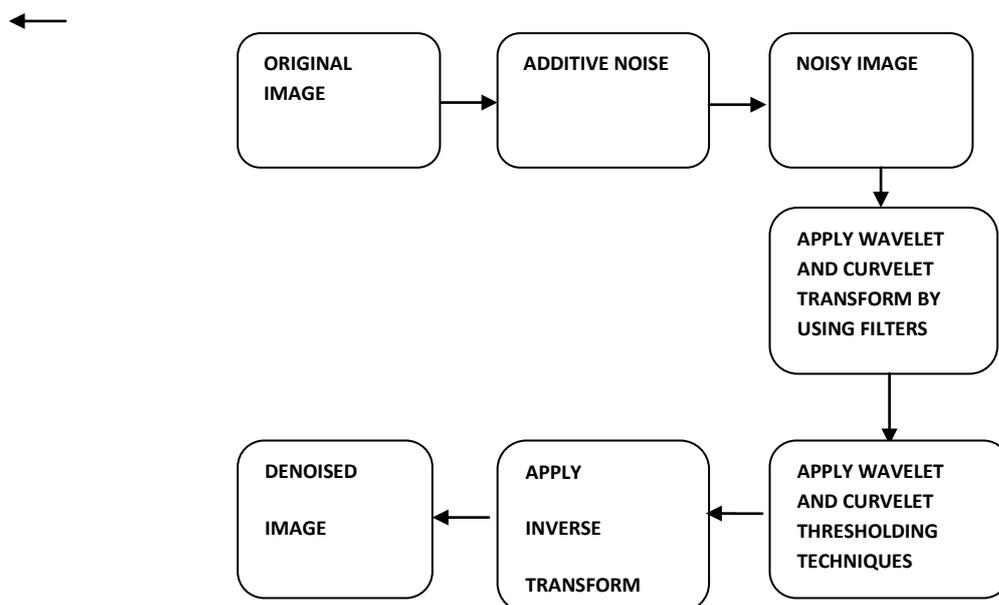
Digital Curvelet Transform can be implemented in two ways (FDCT via USFFT and FDCT via wrapping), which differ by spatial grid used to translate curvelets at each scale and angle.[16].

II. PROPOSED WORK

In this paper, we report initial efforts at image denoising based on a recently introduced family of transforms- Wavelet transform and Curvelet transform. In this paper, we compare the results from wavelet transform and curvelet transform and we will see which transform is better for the image denoising. Our main objective is to decrease a mean square error (MSE) and to increase a peak signal to noise ratio (PSNR) in db. by adding a white noise like Gaussian noise, Poisson noise and Speckle noise. During this configuration, we will use Threshold estimator like heursure, rigrsure, sqtwolog, and minimaxi. We can adjust decomposition level from 1 to 5 and we use Thresholding [17]. Thresholding is the simplest method of image segmentation. From a greyscale image, thresholding can be used to create binary images. Thresholding is a simple non-linear technique, which operates on one wavelet coefficient at a time. In its most basic form, each coefficient is threshold by comparing against threshold. If the coefficient is smaller than threshold, set to zero, otherwise it is kept or modified. On replacing the small noisy coefficients by zero and inverse wavelet transform. In both case (Soft thresholding and Hard thresholding) the coefficients that are below a certain threshold are set to zero. In hard thresholding, the remaining coefficients are left unchanged. In soft thresholding, the magnitudes of the coefficients above threshold are reduced by an amount equal to the value of the threshold. In both cases, each wavelet coefficient is multiplied by a given shrinkage factor, which is a function of the magnitude of the coefficient. In our thesis, we will use a curvelet transform as well as wavelet transform for removing a additive noise which is present in our images.

III. MATERIALS & METHODS

Image from MIAS database was denoised using wavelet and curvelet transforms. Various types of noise like the Random noise, Gaussian noise, Salt&Pepper and speckle noise were added to this image.



A. Algorithm

Denoising procedure followed here is performed by taking wavelet/curvelet transform of the noisy image (Random, Salt and Pepper, Poisson, Speckle and Gaussian noises) and then applying hard thresholding technique to eliminate noisy coefficients. The algorithm is as follows:

Step1: Computation of threshold

Step2: Apply wavelet/curvelet/contourlet transform to image

Step3: Apply computed thresholds on noisy image

Step4: Apply inverse transform on the noisy image to transform image from transform domain to spatial domain.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The Experiment was done on several natural images like lena,Barbara,baboon,cameraman etc.using multiple denoising procedures for several noises. In our experiment, we have considered a image of A cricketer Mahendra Singh dhoni.In this image we have used a different additive noises like Gaussian noise, poisson noise, and speckle noise with different noise levels $\sigma=10,15,20,25,30,35$ etc. And before adding a noise,mean value is always be 0.

NOISES	NOISY IMAGES PSNR/db	WAVELET PSNR/db	CURVELET PSNR/db
Poisson	27.7344	28.0602	33.8397
Gaussian	24.9825	26.2889	32.4896
Speckle	30.2455	32.4944	38.8447
Salt & pepper	33.2355	34.7823	35.8442

TABLE.A: COMPARISON OF WAVELET AND CURVELET WITH DIFFERENT NOISE IN PSNR.



Fig.A: Graph indicating comparative results of the PSNR values of wavelet and curvelet based thresholding for image denoising

Table A. shows the comparison of wavelet and curvelet with different noises like poisson noise,Gaussian noise,speckle noise,and salt & pepper noise. and we measures the peak signal to noise ratio(in Db) and Fig.A shows a graph which indicates a comparative results of the PSNR values of wavelet and curvelet based thresholding(soft/hard) for image denoising and there is,we apply a different types of threshold estimators like rigrsure,heursure,sqtwolog,mini-maxi. And different decomposition levels like 1,2,3,4,5 & so on.

NOISES	NOISY IMAGES MSE	WAVELET MSE	CURVELET MSE
Poisson	109.5562	88.9571	26.8605
Gaussian	207.5685	152.8252	36.6541
Speckle	61.4507	25.7913	23.3111
Salt & Pepper	81.4220	22.5612	20.2213

TABLE.B: COMPARISON OF WAVELET AND CURVELET WITH DIFFERENT NOISE IN MSE.

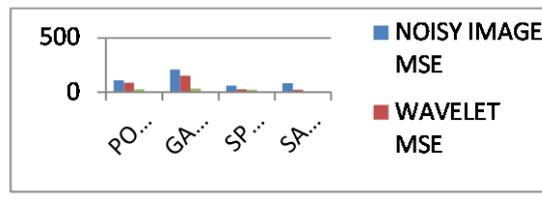
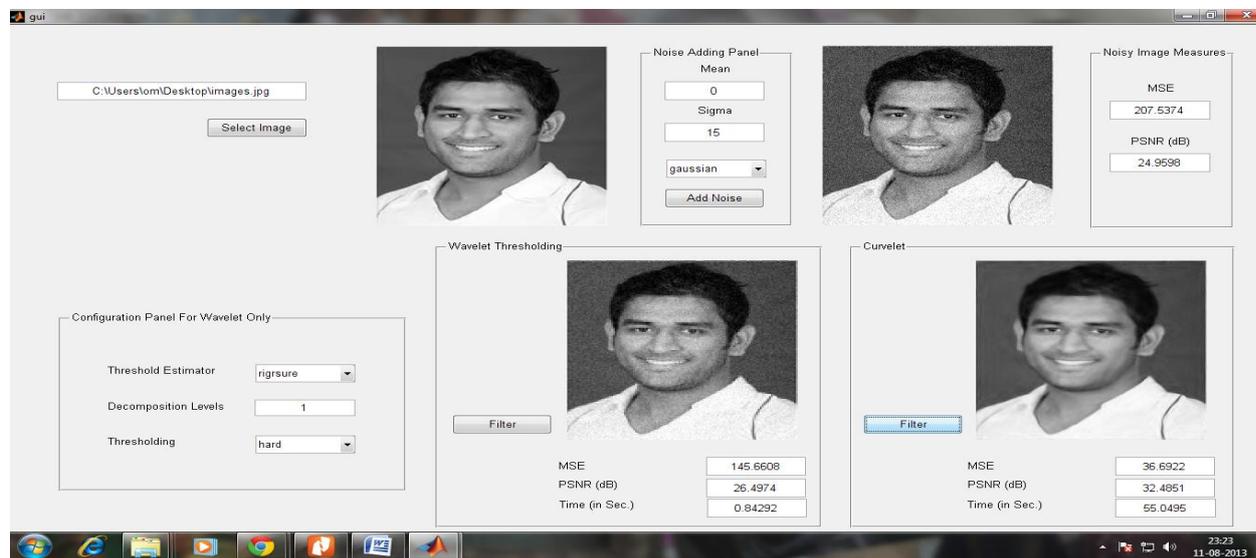


Fig.B: Graph indicating comparative results o the MSE values of wavelet and curvelet based thresholding for image denoising

Table B. shows the comparison of wavelet and curvelet with different noises like poisson noise, Gaussian noise, speckle noise, and salt & pepper noise and we measure the mean square error (MSE) and Fig. B shows a graph which indicates a comparative result of the MSE values of wavelet and curvelet based thresholding (soft/hard) for image denoising and there is, we apply different types of threshold estimators like rigsure, heursure, sqtwlog, mini-maxi. And different decomposition levels like 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & so on.



V. CONCLUSION

The comparison of wavelet transform and curvelet transform technique is rather a new approach. The fundamental quantity of curvelet transform is that it can easily and fastly converged for high frequency components. It has a big advantages over the other techniques that it less distorts spectral characteristics of the image denoising. The experimental results show that the curvelet transform gives better results/performance than wavelet transform method. That's why the curvelet transform is more efficient or better technique for image denoising for different additive noises.

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