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Subject: inverse gradient

Posted by [erano](#) on Wed, 26 Nov 2008 10:10:40 GMT

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Hello all,

I'm looking for a IDL function doing inverse gradient for 2D array.

inputs should be :

2D array gradient for X

2D array gradient for Y

output: the inverse gradient array

Can anyone help me?

Eran

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Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Thu, 27 Nov 2008 14:24:24 GMT

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On Nov 27, 3:27 am, erano <eran.o...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> "inverse" meaning what for a vector-field?

>

>> Paolo

>

> "inverse" is the opposite operation for gradient.

> The inputs are 2D gradient images (dX and dY), where high values are

> large changes in the "inverse gradient" image, and zeros are stable

> (no changes) in the "inverse gradient".

>

> Eran

I would never use this in production code, but here's a hack that will give you something to look at:

```
scalarfield = total(dX, /cumulative, 1) + total(dY, /cumulative, 2)
```

The real solution is to replace those totals with actual integrals.

-Jeremy.

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Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [erano](#) on Fri, 28 Nov 2008 09:31:24 GMT

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On Nov 27, 5:24 pm, Jeremy Bailin <astroco...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Nov 27, 3:27 am, erano <eran.o...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>  
>>> "inverse" meaning what for a vector-field?  
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> The real solution is to replace those totals with actual integrals.  
>  
> -Jeremy.

Thanks,

It's the simplest way. it's basicly works but with errors.

I found few articlies about "inverse gradient" on the web, and the problem is very complex and the simple MATLAB function (from matlab exchange) is expensive (memory).

The main problem is to solve  $A \cdot F = V$  where  $A$  is  $M \cdot N$  matrix,  $V$  is vector and we look for  $F$ .

I used LA\_LEAST\_SQUARES (with all possible methods) for solve this but it is slow and have memory problem. please note that most of  $A$  matrix are zeros...

Any ideas?

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Fri, 28 Nov 2008 13:27:46 GMT  
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On Nov 28, 4:31 am, erano <eran.o...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> On Nov 27, 5:24 pm, Jeremy Bailin <astroco...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>  
>  
>  
>> On Nov 27, 3:27 am, erano <eran.o...@gmail.com> wrote:

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>> -Jeremy.  
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> and we look for F.  
> I used LA\_LEAST\_SQUARES (with all possible methods) for solve this  
> but it is slow and have memory problem. please note that most of A  
> matrix are zeros...  
>  
> Any ideas?

Oddly enough, that's the second time sparse arrays have come up in one week!

You want LINBCG, which takes as input a sparse matrix created using SPRSIN. The help pages on them are pretty decent - give them a read.

-Jeremy.

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 28 Nov 2008 16:10:30 GMT

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erano wrote:

```
>>
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>>
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> Thanks,
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> It's the simplest way. it's basicly works but with errors.
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> problem is very complex and the simple MATLAB function (from matlab
> exchange) is expensive (memory).
> The main problem is to solve  $A * F = V$  where A is M*N matrix, V is vector
> and we look for F.
```

While that is true in general, the gradient operatiom (which is a linear and therefore can be represented as a matrix operation) is a matrix that consist only of diagonal and one-row above diagonal elements.

Therefore, there is no need to solve the full matrix equation, but one can use simpler methods (i.e. in IDL trisol).

Paolo

> I used LA\_LEAST\_SQUARES (with all possible methods) for solve this  
> but it is slow and have memory problem. please note that most of A  
> matrix are zeros...  
>  
> Any ideas?

---

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 28 Nov 2008 16:14:02 GMT  
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If the original poster has a gradient image A and wants to compute the image B whose gradient is A, then it seems odd to me that a sparse approach would work.

Ciao,  
Paolo

Jeremy Bailin wrote:

```
>>
>>
>>

>>
>>>> > "inverse" meaning what for a vector-field?
>>
>>>> > Paolo
>>
>>>> "inverse" is the opposite operation for gradient.
>>>> The inputs are 2D gradient images (dX and dY), where high values are
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>>
```

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>> The main problem is to solve  $A \cdot F = V$  where A is M\*N matrix, V is vector  
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>> but it is slow and have memory problem. please note that most of A  
>> matrix are zeros...

>>  
>> Any ideas?

>  
> Oddly enough, that's the second time sparse arrays have come up in one  
> week!

>  
> You want LINBCG, which takes as input a sparse matrix created using  
> SPRSIN. The help pages on them are pretty decent - give them a read.

>  
> -Jeremy.

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 28 Nov 2008 16:18:53 GMT

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erano wrote:

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>> Paolo

>>  
>  
> "inverse" is the opposite operation for gradient.  
> The inputs are 2D gradient images (dX and dY), where high values are  
> large changes in the "inverse gradient" image, and zeros are stable  
> (no changes) in the "inverse gradient".

I guess that I would have called it the "scalar potential" myself  
instead of the "inverse gradient" ... but I see what you mean.

Ciao,  
Paolo

>  
>  
> Eran

---

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 28 Nov 2008 16:31:12 GMT

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Jeremy Bailin wrote:

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>>

>>> Paolo

>>

>> "inverse" is the opposite operation for gradient.

>> The inputs are 2D gradient images (dX and dY), where high values are

>> large changes in the "inverse gradient" image, and zeros are stable

>> (no changes) in the "inverse gradient".

>>

>> Eran

>

> I would never use this in production code, but here's a hack that will

> give you something to look at:

>

> scalarfield = total(dX, /cumulative, 1) + total(dY, /cumulative, 2)

From the standpoint of discrete operations, that's perfectly fine.

As an approximation for the real potential, that depends on

how the gradient was measured I gues...

Paolo

>

> The real solution is to replace those totals with actual integrals.

>

> -Jeremy.

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [erano](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 09:27:32 GMT

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>

> Oddly enough, that's the second time sparse arrays have come up in one

> week!

>

> You want LINBCG, which takes as input asparsematrix created using

> SPRSIN. The help pages on them are pretty decent - give them a read.

>

> -Jeremy.

YES, we are at the right direction.

BUT my matrix is  $M \times N$  (where  $M=2 \times N$ ). when I add zeros to make it  $M \times M$ , and then use the SPRSIN to make it sparse, the solution from LINBCG is not good.

When I work with very small array, using the LA\_LEAST\_SQUARES on the original array give clean and good result.

---

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 14:45:52 GMT

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erano wrote:

>>  
>> Oddly enough, that's the second time sparse arrays have come up in one  
>> week!  
>>  
>> You want LINBCG, which takes as input a sparse matrix created using  
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> and then use the SPRSIN to make it sparse, the solution from LINBCG is  
> not good.

How much is M and N?

Paolo

> When I work with very small array, using the LA\_LEAST\_SQUARES on the  
> original array give clean and good result.

---

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [erano](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 15:12:44 GMT

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On Dec 2, 4:45 pm, Paolo <[pgrigis@gmail.com](#)> wrote:

> erano wrote:  
>  
>>> Oddly enough, that's the second time sparse arrays have come up in one  
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>  
>> YES, we are at the right direction.  
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>> and then use the SPRSIN to make it sparse, the solution from LINBCG is  
>> not good.  
>  
> How much is M and N?  
>  
> Paolo  
>  
>

For the large array: N is between 10,000 to 800,000 and  $M=N^2$ .  
(actually, N is  $\text{dim}_x * \text{dim}_y$  of an image)

Thanks again

Eran

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 15:45:56 GMT  
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erano wrote:

>> erano wrote:  
>>  
>>>> Oddly enough, that's the second time sparse arrays have come up in one  
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>>>> You want LINBCG, which takes as input a sparse matrix created using  
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>>  
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>>  
>> How much is M and N?  
>>  
>> Paolo  
>>  
>>  
>

- > For the large array:  $N$  is between 10,000 to 800,000 and  $M=N^2$ .
- > (actually,  $N$  is  $\text{dim}_x * \text{dim}_y$  of an image)

My suggestion is to operate on each line of the array separately and loop over lines and columns.

This way you only need to deal with  $\text{dim}_x$  by  $\text{dim}_y$  arrays, a much simpler problem...

Ciao,  
Paolo

- >
- > Thanks again
- >
- > Eran

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [erano](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 17:04:43 GMT  
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- > My suggestion is to operate on each line of the array
- > separately and loop over lines and columns.
- >
- > This way you only need to deal with  $\text{dim}_x$  by  $\text{dim}_y$
- > arrays, a much simpler problem...

- >
- > Ciao,
- > Paolo
- >
- >

This idea is not clear to me. Do you mean to work on "each line of the array" from the original array ( $\text{dim}_x * \text{dim}_y$ ) or from the  $M * N$  matrix?

Eran

Eran

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 17:20:34 GMT  
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erano wrote:

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>> Ciao,  
>> Paolo  
>>  
>>  
> This idea is not clear to me. Do you mean to work on "each line of the  
> array" from the original array (dim\_x \* dim\_y) or from the M \* N  
> matrix?

I meant:

From dx compute the first row of the array (one dim\_x vector).  
Use dy to go from the first to the second row.  
and so on.

But I do realize that this approach is not the best one if you  
have experimental data and the divergence of (dx,dy)  
is not zero.

But you haven't really described how you got dX and dY and  
what is the potential....

Ciao,  
Paolo

>  
> Eran  
>  
> Eran

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [erano](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 18:50:55 GMT  
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>  
> But you haven't really described how you got dX and dY and  
> what is the potential....  
>

Well, dX and dY are based on other parameters gradient. I based on

MATLAB code. In MATLAB, we can use "\" for doing  $Ax=Y$ :  $x=A\backslash Y$ , where  $A$  is  $M*N$  matrix. I can attach the code.

Eran

---

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 18:59:48 GMT

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erano wrote:

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>>

>

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My question was what are dX and dY? What is the potential?

In IDL you can do  $x=A\#invert(Y)$  that I guess is similar to what matlab does (modulo transposition of the arrays).

But if  $A$  is large and sparse, then use the sparse methods suggested.

Paolo

>

> Eran

---

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [erano](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 19:42:37 GMT

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On Dec 2, 8:59 pm, Paolo <[pgrigis@gmail.com](#)> wrote:

> erano wrote:

>

>>> But you haven't really described how you got dX and dY and

>>> what is the potential....

>

>> Well, dX and dY are based on other parameters gradient. I based on

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>  
>  
>> Eran- Hide quoted text -  
>  
> - Show quoted text -

The potential ia not relevant. The dX and dY can be based on any 2D function. And yes, A is (very) large and sparse, but the sparse methods are only for N\*N matrix...while A is M\*N.

Eran

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2008 22:44:57 GMT  
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---

On Dec 2, 2:42 pm, erano <eran.o...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> On Dec 2, 8:59 pm, Paolo <pgri...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>  
>  
>  
>> erano wrote:  
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>>> Eran- Hide quoted text -  
>  
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>  
> The potential ia not relevant. The dX and dY can be based on any 2D  
> function.

I am still not convinced that total wouldn't work in that case...  
maybe increasing the sampling by a factor 2 or 3 if memory allows...  
again it depends what your final goal is, of which we haven't a clue.

> And yes, A is (very) large and sparse, but the sparse  
> methods are only for  $N*N$  matrix...while A is  $M*N$ .

OK, you are totally right that IDL sparse-array  
function are somewhat... sparse ;-)

I think you can buy an add-on for this kind of things,  
but I never used it.

Maybe somebody out there has written an SVD program that  
accept non-square, sparse arrays?

Ciao,  
Paolo

>  
> Eran

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient  
Posted by [erano](#) on Tue, 09 Dec 2008 08:36:07 GMT  
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Just a short update :  
(I talked with IDL - ITT Technical Support)  
For solve  $A*x=b$   
When I A is  $M*N$  array and i wish to make it sparse I must to add zeros  
to make it  $M*M$  (if  $M>N$ ).  
If I wish to use LINBCG I must to have not zero values at diagonal.  
for all the new elements the diag should be set to 1.0, and I must to  
sort the old array rows (and the vector b as well) so the diag is  
full. It's working.

---

---

Subject: Re: inverse gradient

Posted by [erano](#) on Wed, 24 Dec 2008 09:55:34 GMT

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On Dec 9, 10:36 am, erano <eran.o...@gmail.com> wrote:

- > Just a short update :
- > (I talked with IDL - ITT Technical Support)
- > For solve  $A*x=b$
- > When I A is  $M*N$  array and i wish to make it sparse I must to add zeros
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- > for all the new elements the diag should be set to 1.0, and I must to
- > sort the old array rows (and the vector b as well) so the diag is
- > full. It's working.

UPDATE: working only for small array, and not need to set to 1.0 the  
diag

---