

Plug-and-Play Priors Enabled SAR Image Inpainting in the Presence of Speckle Noise

Satyakam Baraha

Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering
National Institute of Technology, Rourkela
Odisha, India
satyakambaraha93@gmail.com

Ajit Kumar Sahoo

Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering
National Institute of Technology, Rourkela
Odisha, India
ajitsahoo@nitrkl.ac.in

Abstract—Synthetic aperture radar (SAR), being a coherent imaging system, usually produces images that are affected by granular deformities known as speckle. Image restoration from such noisy observation is an ill-posed problem. Model-based optimization is the framework that effectively tackle such inverse problems by building the degradation model and utilizing the prior information. The modular structure of alternating direction method of multipliers (ADMM) converges to solution by iteratively minimizing the cost function, which is the sum of the above two models. Recently, Plug-and-Play (PnP) ADMM is developed, which provides the flexibility to use image denoisers in place of regularizers. Image estimation from partial/incomplete observation is quite challenging and open topic of research in the literature. In this paper, SAR image reconstruction under multiplicative noise is discussed for image inpainting using PnP ADMM. Simulation results show that denoisers can be used to restore the images affected by large fractions of missing pixels.

Index Terms—ADMM, inpainting, model based reconstruction, plug-and-play, speckle.

I. INTRODUCTION

The primary objective of image restoration is to process the degraded image in such a way that it results in more suitable than the original observation for a particular application. The interpretation of such deteriorated visual data is quite challenging, hence leads to different image reconstruction tasks. For example, image inpainting is a common problem in image restoration, where a set of pixels from the image are lost due to the bit transmission error and limitation of the imaging sensor. Further, the probability distribution of noise and the image formation model entirely depend on the physics of the image acquisition sensor. In the coherent imaging systems such as SAR, the clean image \mathbf{f} is corrupted by multiplicative speckle noise. The general model of the degraded image is given by

$$\mathbf{g} = (\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f} \odot \boldsymbol{\xi}_m). \quad (1)$$

The notations $\mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_m \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times 1}$ correspond to degraded, clean images and noise respectively and these vectors are of length N arranged in lexicographic ordering. The matrix $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ act as a binary mask with values 0 and 1, when dealt with image inpainting and \odot denotes element-wise multiplication. For SAR imagery, the multiplicative noise $\boldsymbol{\xi}_m$ is assumed to follow Rayleigh and Poisson distributions.

Regularized inversion for image restoration is an active trend followed in most of the literature for image restoration. The

unknown image is estimated by calculating the maximum a posteriori (MAP), that minimizes the sum involving negative log of data fidelity and prior terms.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{f}} &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{f}} \{-\log p(\mathbf{g}|\mathbf{f}) - \log p(\mathbf{f})\} \\ &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{f}} \{l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{f}) + \lambda r(\mathbf{f})\}, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{f})$ is the forward model and $r(\mathbf{f})$ represents the prior. The optimization tasks of the form as shown in Eq. (2) are solved using ADMM and reported in a large number of works in literature.

A. Related Works

Total variation (TV) based regularized inversion is widely used to reconstruct the images. The minimization of TV norm can preserve the edge information in the restored images. Seabra *et al.* [1] proposed Log-Euclidean priors for Rayleigh corrupted ultrasound images. TV norm is linked with the data model and the convex cost function is minimized using Newton's method. Neri and Zara [2] formulated a TV-based model to solve the denoising and inpainting problem for Gaussian noise and solved it using the primal-dual method. Afonso and Sanches [3], [4] recovered the images from partial noisy observations using TV regularizer and solved it using the ADMM approach. Though the above methods provide good reconstruction accuracy, but TV norm is non-smooth, which requires an additional algorithm such as Chambolle's method [5] to solve it, which makes it quite slow. Further, use of TV-based regularizers often results in stair-casing artifacts [6] in the flat regions of the image. Later, the authors of [4] have extended their work in [7] towards blind image inpainting where they used TV regularizer on the image to make it piecewise-smooth and ℓ_0 norm on the mask to make it sparse and solved it using ADMM. Though the method is computationally faster and more accurate, but the presence of ℓ_0 norm in the cost function makes it non-convex.

Plug-and-Play priors a variant of classical ADMM demonstrated by Venkatakrishnan *et al.* [8], where state-of-the-art denoisers can be used as priors. It works effectively even when the prior information regarding the image is not available. Chan *et al.* [9] extended PnP ADMM for the continuation scheme to restore the images corrupted by additive white Gaussian noise. Primal-dual splitting based PnP (PDSPnP) for removal

of Gaussian noise was reported by the authors of [10]. It avoids the requirement of inner loops, hence computationally efficient compared to classical PnP ADMM. Significant contributions have been made by Brifman *et al.* [11], where they exploited the denoiser to perform both denoising as well as super-resolution operation in the presence of Gaussian noise.

B. Motivation and Contributions

ADMM is the most versatile method used in the literature to solve the optimization problems. The selection of appropriate regularizer is crucial and depends upon the specific application and the clean image \mathbf{f} . Common priors such as l_0 and l_1 norms introduce sparsity into the solution of the optimization problem, whereas minimization of TV regularizer smooths the solution. But, prior information regarding the latent image does not need to be known beforehand. PnP ADMM uses standard denoisers to tackle the above problem efficiently, but are widely studied for linear Gaussian noise model. Coherent models such as SAR is an exception to it as it deals with multiplicative noise that is non-linear. Further, most of the image restoration algorithms are focused on denoising only. This paper tries to bridge the gap found in the above discussions by proposing the following contributions:

- 1) Image inpainting under multiplicative noises like Rayleigh and Poisson is proposed using PnP ADMM.
- 2) M-sample intensity averaging is performed in the presence of Rayleigh corrupted speckle and the resultant amplitude follows Nakagami distributions which improves the performance.
- 3) The inpainting approach can restore the images up to 95 percent loss of pixel values from the image.

C. Organization

The remaining of the manuscript is structured as follows. Section II deals with the formulation of the optimization problem. The proposed method for image inpainting involving the PnP ADMM continuation scheme is addressed in Section III. Simulation results are demonstrated in Section IV, which compares the proposed method with state-of-the-art methods. Section V concludes the paper along with the path for future research.

II. PRELIMINARIES AND FORMULATION

Let $\mathbf{g} = \{g_i\}_{i=1}^N$ be the pixel amplitude values observed in a given region. Presence of speckle makes the distribution of pixels random in nature. In this work, the joint distributions of the amplitude values are considered, which are independent and identically distributed and is given by

$$p(\mathbf{g}|\mathbf{f}) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(g_i|f_i). \quad (3)$$

Probability density function (pdf) of fully developed Rayleigh corrupted speckle is given by [12]

$$p(g_i|f_i) = \frac{g_i}{(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i} \exp\left(-\frac{g_i^2}{2(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i}\right). \quad (4)$$

The forward model is defined in Eq. (2) as negative log-likelihood function and can be given by

$$l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{f}) = -\log p(\mathbf{g}|\mathbf{f}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ \log((\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i) + \frac{g_i^2}{2(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i} \right\}. \quad (5)$$

Similarly, the pdf for Poisson based speckle is

$$p(g_i|f_i) = \frac{e^{-(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i} ((\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i)^{g_i}}{g_i!}. \quad (6)$$

and the corresponding data model is given by

$$l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{f}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \{(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i - g_i \log((\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i)\}. \quad (7)$$

When $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{I}$, Eq. (1) is a standard despeckling problem. The work regarding SAR image despeckling can be found in our preliminary work [13]. \mathbf{H} is a diagonal matrix. Hence i^{th} term of $(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})$ is defined as $(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f})_i = h_i f_i$. For image inpainting, the diagonal element h_i is 1 and 0, when the pixel values in clean image \mathbf{f} are observed and missed respectively. Presence of logarithmic term in Eq. (5) and Eq. (7) makes the data term non convex. Hence take the transformation $z_i = \log(h_i)$ and $y_i = \log(f_i)$. To avoid logarithm null, a small positive scalar $\epsilon \approx 10^{-3}$ is taken in place of 0 for h_i . Now Eq. (5) and Eq. (7) can be reformulated as convex optimization problem as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{y}) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ (y_i + z_i) + \frac{g_i^2}{2} e^{-(y_i + z_i)} \right\} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ y_i + \frac{g_i^2}{2} e^{-(y_i + z_i)} \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{y}) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \{ e^{(y_i + z_i)} - g_i (y_i + z_i) \} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \{ e^{(y_i + z_i)} - g_i y_i \}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

The cost function in Eq. (2) is minimized with respect to \mathbf{f} . After the transformation $y_i = \log(f_i)$, the minimization is with respect to \mathbf{y} . Hence, the terms independent of \mathbf{y} are eliminated in Eq. (8) and Eq. (9). Hence, the unconstrained optimization problem in Eq. (2) is given by

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{y}} \{ l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{y}) + \lambda r(\mathbf{y}) \}, \quad (10)$$

which defines a wide range of problems such as image denoising, and inpainting in the presence of multiplicative noise.

III. PROPOSED METHOD

M-sample intensity averaging is performed on the amplitudes of Rayleigh distributed speckle noise using a mask of size $P \times P$, i.e. $\bar{\xi}_{m_i} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \xi_{m_i}^2}$. The resultant amplitude of

the speckle follows the Nakagami distributions [14]. The pdf of Nakagami distributed speckle is given by

$$p(g_i|f_i) = \frac{2M^M}{\Gamma(M)(2(\mathbf{Hf})_i)^M} (g_i)^{2M-1} \exp\left(-\frac{Mg_i^2}{2(\mathbf{Hf})_i}\right), \quad (11)$$

where $M = P^2$. The forward model for Nakagami distributions can be derived in the same way following the steps of Eq. (5) and Eq. (8) as follows:

$$l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{y}) = M \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ y_i + \frac{g_i^2}{2} e^{-(y_i+z_i)} \right\}. \quad (12)$$

A. PnP framework for image restoration

Variable splitting is performed on Eq. (10), which introduces a decision variable as the argument of r to solve the constrained optimization problem as shown below [15]:

$$\{\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \hat{\mathbf{m}}\} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{m}} \{l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{y}) + \lambda r(\mathbf{m})\}, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{m}. \quad (13)$$

The augmented Lagrangian turns the constraint into a penalty term with β as its penalty parameter and \mathbf{w} as the dual variable.

$$\mathcal{L}_\beta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{w}) = l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{y}) + \lambda r(\mathbf{m}) + \mathbf{w}^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{m}) + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{m}\|_2^2. \quad (14)$$

PnP ADMM with continuation scheme tries to solve Eq. (14) by iteratively updating \mathbf{y} , \mathbf{m} , and the scaled Lagrangian multiplier $\boldsymbol{\omega} = (\frac{1}{\beta})\mathbf{w}$.

1) *Update of \mathbf{y}* : The decision variable \mathbf{m} and scaled Lagrangian multiplier $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ are fixed at this stage. Hence the regularizer part can be discarded. The optimization has the following form

$$\mathbf{y}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{y}} \{l(\mathbf{g}; \mathbf{y}) + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{m}^k + \boldsymbol{\omega}^k\|_2^2\}, \quad (15)$$

which can be solved using Newton's method as given in Eq. (16) and Eq. (17), respectively, for Nakagami and Poisson distributed speckle.

$$y_i^{k+1} = y_i^k - [M(\frac{g_i^2 e^{-z_i}}{2} e^{-y_i^k}) + \beta^k]^{-1} \quad (16)$$

$$[M(1 - \frac{g_i^2 e^{-z_i}}{2} e^{-y_i^k}) + \beta^k (y_i^k - m_i^k + \omega_i^k)].$$

$$y_i^{k+1} = y_i^k - [e^{z_i} e^{y_i^k} + \beta^k]^{-1} [(e^{z_i} e^{y_i^k} - g_i) + \beta^k (y_i^k - m_i^k + \omega_i^k)]. \quad (17)$$

2) *Update of \mathbf{m}* : The primal variable \mathbf{y} and scaled Lagrangian multiplier $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ are frozen at this stage. Hence the forward model can be dropped. The optimization problem leads to

$$\mathbf{m}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{m}} \{\lambda r(\mathbf{m}) + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{y}^{k+1} - \mathbf{m} + \boldsymbol{\omega}^k\|_2^2\}. \quad (18)$$

PnP ADMM employs state-of-the-art bounded denoisers [9] to solve the above problems, hence doesn't necessitate any regularizers.

$$\mathbf{m}^{k+1} = \mathcal{D}_{\sigma_k}(\mathbf{y}^{k+1} + \boldsymbol{\omega}^k), \quad (19)$$

where $\sigma_k^2 = \frac{\lambda}{\beta^k}$ is the variance of the denoiser. In this work, standard denoisers such as TV and BM3D are used to implement the above task.

3) *Update of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$* : The scaled multiplier $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ controls the minimizations given by Eq. (17) and Eq. (19). Hence $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ gets updated using

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}^{k+1} = \boldsymbol{\omega}^k + (\mathbf{y}^{k+1} - \mathbf{m}^{k+1}), \quad (20)$$

The proposed technique is briefly discussed in Algorithm 1.

Algorithm 1 Proposed Method for Image Inpainting.

1: **Inputs**: Provide the following parameters

- Penalty parameter : β ,
- Variance controlling parameter : λ ,
- Variable to update β : $\gamma \geq 1$,
- Binary mask : \mathbf{H} ,
- Standard denoiser : $\mathcal{D}_{\sigma_k}(\cdot)$ with $\sigma_k = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{\beta^k}}$,
- Limit of tolerance : $\text{tol} = 10^{-3}$ and
- $M = 9$ corresponds to 3×3 intensity averaging.

2: **Initial Guess**:

- $\beta^0 = \beta$;
- $\mathbf{y}^0 = \mathbf{m}^0 = \text{2D_shepard_interpolation}(\mathbf{g})$;
- $\boldsymbol{\omega}^0 = \mathbf{0}$;

3: **repeat**

4: Update y_i^{k+1} using Eq. (16) and Eq. (17) for Nakagami and Poisson distributions respectively.

5: $\mathbf{m}^{k+1} = \mathcal{D}_{\sigma_k}(\mathbf{y}^{k+1} + \boldsymbol{\omega}^k)$;

6: $\boldsymbol{\omega}^{k+1} = \boldsymbol{\omega}^k + (\mathbf{y}^{k+1} - \mathbf{m}^{k+1})$;

7: Calculate the residual $\psi^{k+1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} (\|\mathbf{y}^{k+1} - \mathbf{y}^k\|_2 + \|\mathbf{m}^{k+1} - \mathbf{m}^k\|_2 + \|\boldsymbol{\omega}^{k+1} - \boldsymbol{\omega}^k\|_2)$;

8: **if** $\psi^{k+1} \geq \text{tol}$ **then**

9: $\beta^{k+1} = \gamma \beta^k$;

10: **else**

11: $\beta^{k+1} = \beta^k$;

12: **end if**

13: $k = k + 1$;

14: **until stopping criteria is satisfied**

15: **Output**: $\hat{\mathbf{f}} = e^{\mathbf{y}}$.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

This section demonstrates the efficacy of the proposed method by comparing it with state-of-the-art methods. Simulations are performed aiming to achieve image inpainting for SAR images under the effect of speckle noises. The images are normalized in the range between 0 and 1. Noise variance of Rayleigh corrupted speckle is $2v_n^2(1 - \frac{\pi}{4})$, where v_n^2 is the variance of Normal distributions [13]. In the simulation, $v_n^2 = 1$ is considered, hence the noise variance is $2(1 - \frac{\pi}{4})$. Similarly, for Poisson distributed speckle the effect of noise increases by increasing the peak amplitude value in the image. Experiments are performed considering the peak value (P.V.) as 4. All the simulations are conducted on the computer having R2017b version of the MATLAB, with an Intel(R) Core(TM) i5-7500 CPU 3.40GHz, 4 GB RAM and 64-bit operating system installed. Standard denoisers such as TV and BM3D are incorporated as priors in the proposed method. Simulations are

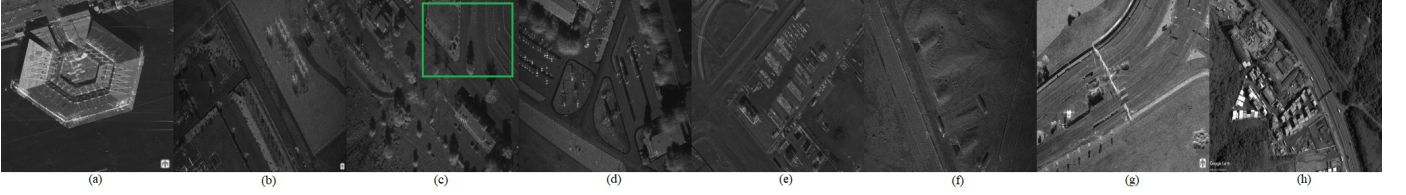


Fig. 1: SAR test images used in simulations.

carried out on 8 grayscale SAR images of different contrasts collected from public database [16] as shown in Fig. 1. The parameter set up is the same as in the case of [13]. The ‘Proposed-PnP-TV’ and ‘Proposed-PnPBM3D’ in this section indicate the PnP ADMM for multiplicative noise linked with TV and BM3D denoisers respectively.

A. Performance Metrics

The image assessment metrics such as structural similarity index (SSIM), mean absolute error (MAE) and CPU time are computed and tabulated in Table I to compare the proposed method with other methods. The bold letters marked represents the best value achieved for the specific parameter. SSIM is calculated between the reference image and restored image, and defined as follows:

$$SSIM = \frac{(2\mu_f\mu_{\hat{f}} + c_1)(2\sigma_{f\hat{f}} + c_2)}{(\mu_f^2 + \mu_{\hat{f}}^2 + c_1)(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_{\hat{f}}^2 + c_2)}, \quad (21)$$

where μ_f and $\mu_{\hat{f}}$ are the mean values of the reference and the restored images and σ_f^2 and $\sigma_{\hat{f}}^2$ correspond to variance in them. c_1 and c_2 are treated as constants. The MAE value is given by

$$MAE = \frac{1}{N}|\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}}|, \quad (22)$$

where N is the number of pixels present in the clean image.

B. Image Inpainting

Synthetically a binary mask is generated, where a random fraction of elements of the mask are zero and multiplied with the clean image. Later, it is corrupted with speckle noise models. This work considers three cases of missed pixels observations, i.e. for 0.5, 0.7 and 0.95. TV based despeckling methods such as [1] works for no loss of pixels. Hence pixel nearest neighbor (PNN) based interpolation [17] technique is linked with TV regularizer in literature to deal with loss of pixels. The performance metrics are computed to compare the proposed method with PNN-TV [1], [17], image inpainting [4] and blind inpainting [7]. Table I shows a detailed comparison of the proposed work with the above state-of-the-art for image inpainting in the presence of Rayleigh and Poisson noises. The Proposed-PnPBM3D framework gives better result for both the cases. It is faster compared to other methods. The Proposed-PnP-TV framework also gives comparable values for SSIM as that of the Proposed-PnPBM3D. For Rayleigh based speckle, PNN-TV [1], [17] gives good results, but it does not perform well when 95% of the pixels are missing. Similarly, in the case of [4], SSIM value is relatively low compared to that of the proposed method in all the cases and it is slowest among all.

While for Poisson based speckle, the performance of PNN-TV [1], [17] deteriorates and the blind image inpainting [7] restores the images effectively, but results in loss of important details. A portion of the image of Fig. 1 (c) is magnified to visualize the effect of image reconstruction for all the methods. Fig. 2 (a) displays the Rayleigh noise corrupted image with 70% loss of pixels. Though PNN-TV [1], [17] effectively restores the missed observations, but the effect of noise still exists, which is visible from Fig. 2 (b). The quality of the restored image by [4] as shown in Fig. 2 (c) is low. The proposed PnP ADMM scheme for multiplicative noises when linked with TV and BM3D denoisers effectively suppresses the noise and restore the missing pixels as shown in Fig. 2 (d) and (e) respectively. The horizontal profiles of all the methods is shown in Fig. 2 (f), which clearly states that the proposed method performs better compared to that of state-of-the-art methods.

Similarly, for Poisson speckle, the noise contaminated image along with 70% loss of pixels is shown in Fig. 2 (g). The ability to restore the image for PNN-TV [1], [17] is lowest compared to other methods as shown in 2 (h). Reconstructed image by [7] as shown in Fig. 2 (i) is highly blurred, resulting in loss of important details. The restored images using the proposed method with TV and BM3D denoisers are shown in Fig. 2 (j) and (k) respectively. Fig. 2 (l) displays the horizontal profiles of all the methods, and the proposed PnP ADMM scheme with BM3D denoiser outperforms the other methods. The noise effect is suppressed as well as the fractions of missing pixels are properly restored in both the cases. It is evident that the accuracy of the proposed method is high compared to [7].

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

A plug-and-play prior based approach is proposed in this work to address the problem of image inpainting in the presence of multiplicative noise models. Intensity averaging is incorporated for Rayleigh corrupted speckle, which changes it into a Nakagami based model to improve the performance. MAP estimation is performed to effectively tackle both Rayleigh and Poisson distributions. PnP ADMM’s continuation scheme, when linked with standard denoisers, gives suitable image inpainting results. The advantage of the proposed framework is that it is faster and can reconstruct up to 95% of missing pixels. Future research includes the implementation of RED based prior in the presence of multiplicative noise models. Variance stabilization methods may be applied to convert the multiplicative nature of noise into additive one and further state-of-the-art techniques can be applied to restore it.

TABLE I: Image inpainting for Rayleigh and Poisson distributed speckle.

Noise Models	Missing Fractions	Parameters	Methods	SAR Test Images								Average Value		
				(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)			
Rayleigh with intensity averaging of 3×3 mask	0.5	SSIM	PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.675	0.682	0.658	0.676	0.654	0.597	0.652	0.617	0.651		
			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	0.350	0.324	0.312	0.323	0.325	0.298	0.340	0.286	0.319		
			Proposed-PnPPTV	0.822	0.714	0.680	0.708	0.774	0.758	0.798	0.878	0.766		
		MAE	Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.828	0.847	0.840	0.847	0.801	0.788	0.808	0.889	0.831		
			PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.077	0.058	0.062	0.059	0.073	0.065	0.068	0.087	0.068		
			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	0.178	0.141	0.148	0.140	0.180	0.163	0.150	0.178	0.159		
		CPU Time (in sec.)	Proposed-PnPPTV	0.058	0.053	0.057	0.051	0.052	0.082	0.051	0.064	0.058		
			Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.052	0.028	0.032	0.031	0.041	0.038	0.047	0.059	0.041		
			PNN-TV [1], [17]	5.563	2.288	5.494	5.491	2.954	0.483	2.619	11.079	4.496		
		0.7	SSIM	Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	9.331	6.112	14.156	16.277	3.387	7.137	7.232	17.406	10.129	
				Proposed-PnPPTV	6.336	2.991	6.952	6.803	5.108	6.912	4.560	11.257	6.364	
				Proposed-PnPBM3D	3.251	1.494	3.422	3.389	1.876	3.424	2.396	8.301	3.444	
	MAE		PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.351	0.353	0.337	0.352	0.307	0.300	0.320	0.314	0.329		
			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	0.335	0.317	0.305	0.315	0.315	0.289	0.330	0.271	0.309		
			Proposed-PnPPTV	0.826	0.727	0.691	0.717	0.598	0.584	0.762	0.878	0.722		
	CPU Time (in sec.)		Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.829	0.842	0.826	0.836	0.804	0.758	0.799	0.887	0.822		
			PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.135	0.105	0.111	0.106	0.129	0.121	0.116	0.143	0.120		
			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	0.178	0.141	0.148	0.140	0.180	0.163	0.151	0.178	0.159		
	0.95		SSIM	Proposed-PnPPTV	0.050	0.049	0.052	0.056	0.046	0.068	0.055	0.058	0.054	
				Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.046	0.025	0.030	0.028	0.037	0.035	0.043	0.053	0.037	
				PNN-TV [1], [17]	5.480	2.290	5.494	5.484	2.937	5.531	2.629	11.031	5.109	
		MAE	Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	9.047	3.554	8.189	8.281	4.052	7.540	3.872	21.931	8.308		
			Proposed-PnPPTV	6.665	3.287	9.015	6.564	4.959	6.955	4.820	11.279	6.693		
			Proposed-PnPBM3D	3.549	1.777	3.747	3.758	2.112	3.711	2.419	8.351	3.678		
		CPU Time (in sec.)	PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.211	0.211	0.210	0.211	0.211	0.210	0.213	0.207	0.210		
			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	0.295	0.294	0.281	0.292	0.285	0.266	0.300	0.209	0.277		
			Proposed-PnPPTV	0.707	0.607	0.552	0.594	0.512	0.539	0.661	0.707	0.609		
		Poisson with P.V.=4	0.5	SSIM	Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.711	0.712	0.683	0.700	0.686	0.570	0.679	0.719	0.682
					PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.240	0.182	0.191	0.182	0.233	0.210	0.198	0.237	0.209
					Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	0.179	0.141	0.148	0.141	0.181	0.163	0.152	0.180	0.160
	MAE			Proposed-PnPPTV	0.049	0.050	0.053	0.055	0.089	0.070	0.054	0.064	0.060	
				Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.043	0.027	0.031	0.030	0.035	0.035	0.045	0.057	0.037	
				PNN-TV [1], [17]	5.562	2.281	5.479	5.475	2.944	5.504	2.632	11.177	5.131	
	CPU Time (in sec.)			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [4]	26.750	5.062	12.445	12.097	7.031	12.641	7.283	44.061	15.921	
				Proposed-PnPPTV	5.856	3.271	7.807	7.842	4.613	7.211	4.964	11.168	6.591	
				Proposed-PnPBM3D	3.664	1.434	3.797	3.884	2.020	3.804	2.482	8.549	3.704	
	0.7			SSIM	PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.467	0.516	0.527	0.516	0.471	0.467	0.500	0.369	0.479
					Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]	0.774	0.712	0.687	0.700	0.735	0.641	0.704	0.616	0.696
					Proposed-PnPPTV	0.860	0.810	0.801	0.804	0.796	0.752	0.775	0.818	0.802
		MAE	Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.862	0.818	0.813	0.815	0.807	0.770	0.778	0.818	0.810		
			PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.146	0.103	0.100	0.101	0.139	0.114	0.111	0.149	0.120		
			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]	0.030	0.026	0.056	0.032	0.058	0.043	0.057	0.045	0.043		
		CPU Time (in sec.)	Proposed-PnPPTV	0.050	0.039	0.041	0.040	0.062	0.047	0.044	0.059	0.047		
			Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.049	0.038	0.039	0.039	0.061	0.046	0.044	0.058	0.046		
			PNN-TV [1], [17]	5.510	2.268	5.535	5.532	2.954	5.552	2.629	11.008	5.123		
		0.95	SSIM	Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]	34.681	14.980	33.796	35.731	14.081	31.495	17.518	59.635	30.239	
				Proposed-PnPPTV	7.636	4.529	7.968	7.656	7.349	8.705	6.658	9.825	7.290	
				Proposed-PnPBM3D	5.213	2.201	5.363	5.278	2.739	5.295	2.407	8.454	4.618	
MAE	PNN-TV [1], [17]		0.223	0.241	0.247	0.236	0.212	0.225	0.227	0.160	0.221			
	Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]		0.737	0.697	0.663	0.686	0.710	0.626	0.683	0.558	0.670			
	Proposed-PnPPTV		0.840	0.784	0.772	0.776	0.773	0.709	0.731	0.782	0.770			
CPU Time (in sec.)	Proposed-PnPBM3D		0.841	0.790	0.781	0.785	0.780	0.723	0.757	0.784	0.780			
	PNN-TV [1], [17]		0.190	0.142	0.145	0.141	0.184	0.160	0.153	0.191	0.163			
	Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]		0.031	0.033	0.046	0.035	0.053	0.035	0.052	0.048	0.041			
0.95	SSIM		Proposed-PnPPTV	0.048	0.039	0.041	0.041	0.063	0.048	0.049	0.059	0.048		
			Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.048	0.039	0.040	0.040	0.062	0.047	0.043	0.055	0.046		
			PNN-TV [1], [17]	5.510	2.288	5.623	5.477	2.964	5.517	2.747	10.954	5.135		
	MAE	Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]	36.020	19.869	36.871	45.303	19.003	33.324	23.400	63.024	34.601			
		Proposed-PnPPTV	8.274	4.390	8.316	7.752	7.308	8.731	4.419	10.665	7.481			
		Proposed-PnPBM3D	5.096	2.222	5.306	5.366	2.780	5.309	2.447	8.514	4.630			
	CPU Time (in sec.)	PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.205	0.206	0.207	0.207	0.205	0.206	0.209	0.203	0.206			
		Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]	0.583	0.489	0.585	0.595	0.625	0.578	0.594	0.336	0.548			
		Proposed-PnPPTV	0.719	0.678	0.648	0.662	0.641	0.558	0.642	0.624	0.646			
	0.95	SSIM	Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.720	0.680	0.654	0.668	0.647	0.564	0.645	0.626	0.650		
			PNN-TV [1], [17]	0.242	0.183	0.192	0.183	0.234	0.211	0.199	0.239	0.210		
			Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]	0.070	0.212	0.059	0.043	0.063	0.058	0.053	0.091	0.081		
MAE		Proposed-PnPPTV	0.054	0.043	0.046	0.045	0.069	0.053	0.049	0.067	0.053			
		Proposed-PnPBM3D	0.053	0.042	0.044	0.044	0.068	0.052	0.049	0.065	0.052			
		PNN-TV [1], [17]	5.467	2.321	5.531	5.491	2.937	5.454	2.674	10.931	5.100			
CPU Time (in sec.)		Afonso <i>et al.</i> [7]	136.471	61.199	140.422	138.861	77.060	135.621	68.734	231.171	123.692			
		Proposed-PnPPTV	8.942	4.398	6.881	7.439	7.478	9.429	4.819	10.806	7.524			
		Proposed-PnPBM3D	5.241	2.205	5.312	5.329	2.810	5.321	2.491	8.750	4.682			

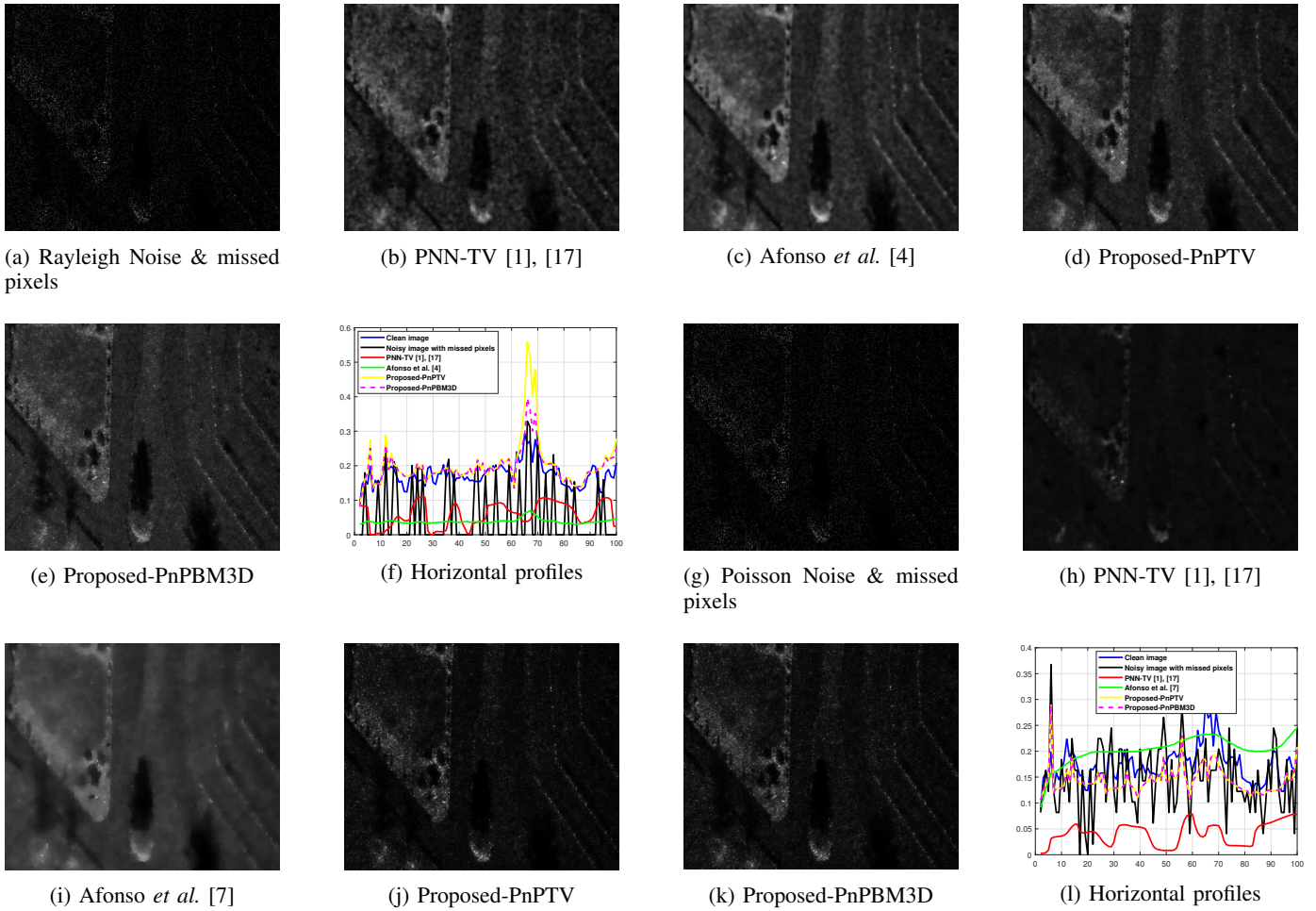


Fig. 2: SAR image inpainting (70% loss of pixels) with Rayleigh and Poisson contaminated speckle.

REFERENCES

- [1] J. Seabra, J. Xavier, and J. Sanches, "Convex ultrasound image reconstruction with log-euclidean priors," in *2008 30th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society*, pp. 435–438, Aug 2008.
- [2] M. Neri and E. Zara, "Total variation-based image inpainting and denoising using a primal-dual active set method," *Philippine Science Letters*, vol. 7, no. 1, pp. 97–103, 2014.
- [3] M. V. Afonso and J. M. Sanches, "A total variation based reconstruction algorithm for 3d ultrasound," in *Iberian Conference on Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis*, pp. 149–156, Springer, 2013.
- [4] M. Afonso and J. M. Sanches, "Image reconstruction under multiplicative speckle noise using total variation," *Neurocomputing*, vol. 150, pp. 200–213, 2015.
- [5] A. Chambolle, "An algorithm for total variation minimization and applications," *Journal of Mathematical imaging and vision*, vol. 20, no. 1-2, pp. 89–97, 2004.
- [6] X. Zeng and S. Li, "An efficient adaptive total variation regularization for image denoising," in *2013 Seventh International Conference on Image and Graphics*, pp. 55–59, July 2013.
- [7] M. V. Afonso and J. M. R. Sanches, "Blind inpainting using ℓ_0 and total variation regularization," *IEEE Transactions on Image Processing*, vol. 24, pp. 2239–2253, July 2015.
- [8] S. V. Venkatakrishnan, C. A. Bouman, and B. Wohlberg, "Plug-and-play priors for model based reconstruction," in *2013 IEEE Global Conference on Signal and Information Processing*, pp. 945–948, Dec 2013.
- [9] S. H. Chan, X. Wang, and O. A. Elgandy, "Plug-and-play admm for image restoration: Fixed-point convergence and applications," *IEEE Transactions on Computational Imaging*, vol. 3, pp. 84–98, March 2017.
- [10] S. Ono, "Primal-dual plug-and-play image restoration," *IEEE Signal Processing Letters*, vol. 24, pp. 1108–1112, Aug 2017.
- [11] A. Brifman, Y. Romano, and M. Elad, "Turning a denoiser into a super-resolver using plug and play priors," in *2016 IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP)*, pp. 1404–1408, Sep. 2016.
- [12] J. C. Seabra, F. Ciompi, O. Pujol, J. Mauri, P. Radeva, and J. Sanches, "Rayleigh mixture model for plaque characterization in intravascular ultrasound," *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering*, vol. 58, pp. 1314–1324, May 2011.
- [13] S. Baraha and A. K. Sahoo, "Sar image despeckling using plug-and-play admm," *IET Radar, Sonar Navigation*, vol. 14, no. 9, pp. 1297–1309, 2020.
- [14] C. Yu, C. Zhang, and L. Xie, "A multiplicative nakagami speckle reduction algorithm for ultrasound images," *Multidimensional Systems and Signal Processing*, vol. 23, no. 4, pp. 499–513, 2012.
- [15] S. Boyd, N. Parikh, E. Chu, B. Peleato, and J. Eckstein, "Distributed optimization and statistical learning via the alternating direction method of multipliers," *Foundations and Trends® in Machine Learning*, vol. 3, no. 1, pp. 1–122, 2011.
- [16] "Sandia National Laboratories." <https://www.sandia.gov/radar/imagery/index.html/>. Accessed: 2020-04-01.
- [17] R. Rohling, A. Gee, and L. Berman, "A comparison of freehand three-dimensional ultrasound reconstruction techniques," *Medical Image Analysis*, vol. 3, no. 4, pp. 339 – 359, 1999.