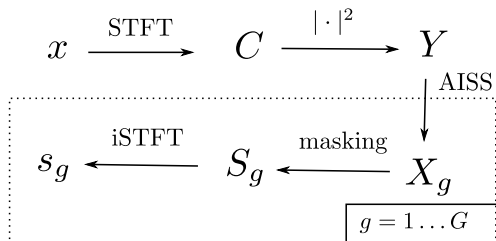


# Fast algorithms for informed source separation

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## Source separation in 5 minutes

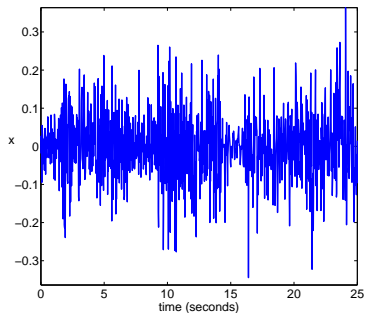
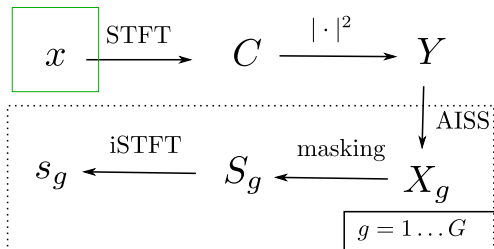


- ▶ Recover *source* estimates from a *mixed* signal
- ▶ We consider the single-channel setting :

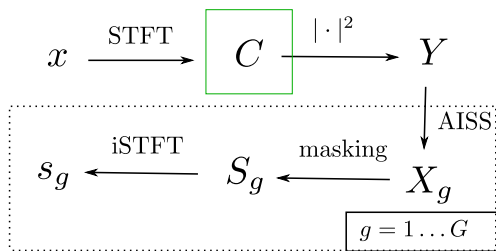
$$x_t = s_t^{(1)} + s_t^{(2)} .$$

Ill-posed problem, need prior information.

## Read mix waveform



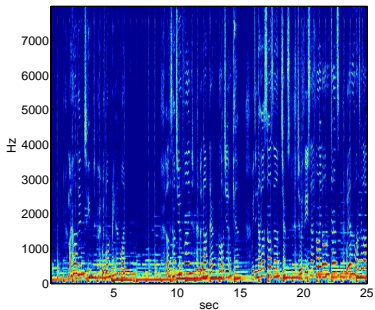
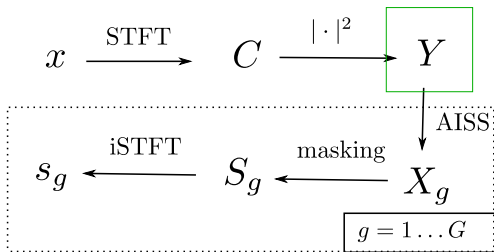
# Short time Fourier transform



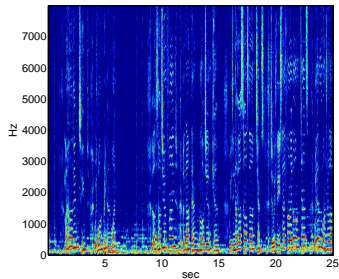
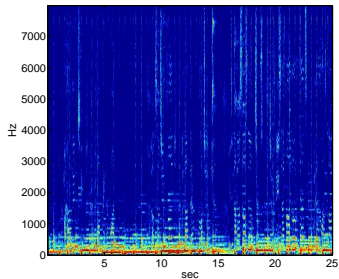
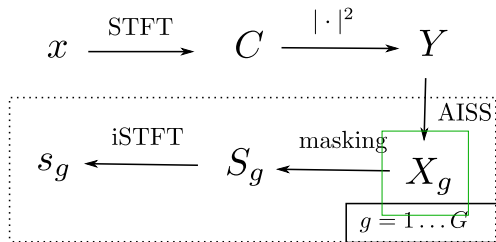
Short time Fourier transform

$$C_{fn} = \sum_{t=1}^F x_{t+(n-1)H} w_t \exp \left( -i \frac{2(f-1)\pi(t-1)}{F} \right)$$

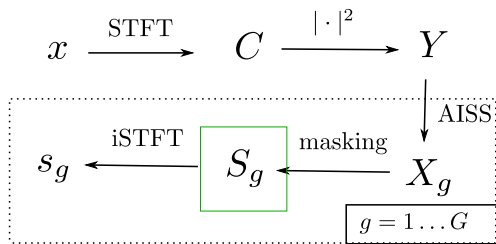
# Remove phase information



# Output of source separation program



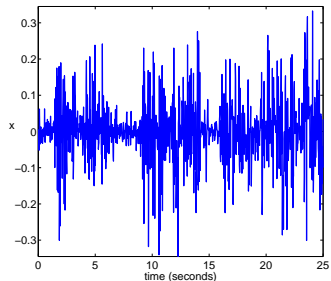
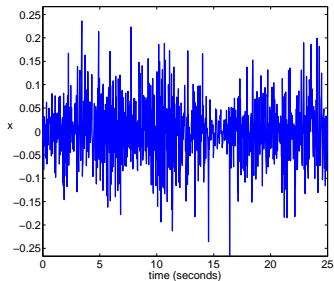
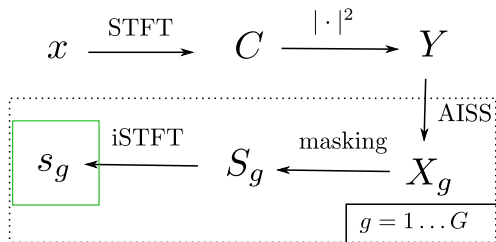
## Time-frequency masking



Estimates of each source's complex STFT are obtained by :

$$S_{g,fn} = \frac{X_{g,fn}}{\sum_l X_{l,fn}} C_{fn}$$

# Estimate waveforms from STFT





## Annotation informed source separation

[Lefèvre et al., 2012, Bryan and Mysore, 2013]: interaction between user and source separation software.

[Lefèvre et al., 2012]: detector trained on development database (random forest, SVM, nearest-neighbour, etc.).

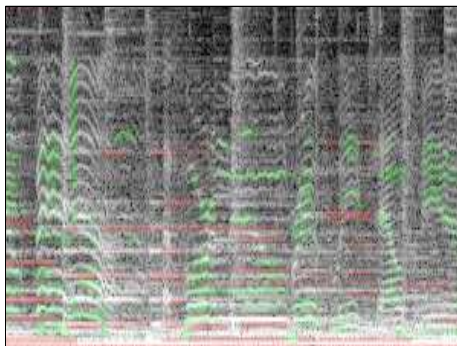


Figure: Detections in the spectrogram

## AISS\_nmf: non-convex

Annotation informed source separation.

Information is used as additional constraints :  $M_g \odot X_g = M_g \odot T_g$ .

[Lefèvre et al., 2012] : nonnegative matrix factorization (nmf) with constraints :

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{D,A} \quad & \|Y - \sum_g D_g A_g\|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & D \in \mathbb{R}_+^{F \times K}, A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{K \times N} \\ & M_g \odot (D_g A_g) = M_g \odot T_g \end{aligned}$$

$Y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{F \times N}$  is the input *spectrogram*.

Need only  $D_1 A_1 \geq 0$ , but impose stronger constraint :  $D_1 \geq 0$ ,  $A_1 \geq 0$  (NMF).

nmf is a hard problem.

## AISS\_lownuc : convex

Informed source separation :  $X_1, \dots, X_G \in \mathbb{R}^{F \times N}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \min_X \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|Y - \sum_{g=1}^G X_g\|_F^2 + \lambda \sum_{g=1}^G \|X_g\|_* \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & M_g \odot X_g = M_g \odot T_g \\ & X_g \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

The rank of a matrix is revealed in its SVD :  $X = P\Sigma Q^\top$ .

$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_F \geq 0$  singular values.

$$\|X_g\|_* = \sum_{f=1}^F \sigma_f.$$

Projecting on  $X_g \geq 0$  is straightforward.

Instead of one nmf, we will make repeated calls to svd to compute

$\|X_g\|_*$  and additional information.

# Algorithms for informed source separation

Convex but **nonsmooth** problem.

Related approaches if no noise and no inequality constraints (Recht et al., 2010) :

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \|X\|_* \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathcal{A}(X) = b \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{F \times NG} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^p$  ( $p \ll m \times n$ ) is linear.

Link with SDP optimization :

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & t \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathcal{A}(X) = b \\ & \begin{pmatrix} t & X \\ X & t \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Use interior-point solver, which has superlinear convergence rate.

BUT Hessian has size  $O(F^2 N^2)$ , i.e.  $10^{10}$  for a ten seconds audio track. This is too large !

# Subgradient descent

Objective function  $f$  is convex so it admits derivatives in all directions :

$$f'(X; D) = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{f(X + tD) - f(X)}{t}$$

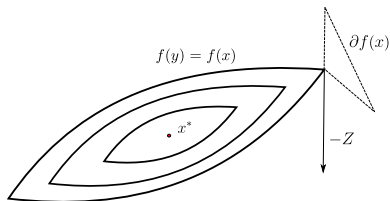
Subgradients generalize the gradient :

$$Z \in \partial f(X) \Leftrightarrow f'(X; D) \geq \langle Z, D \rangle$$

$$\langle Z, D \rangle = \sum_g \text{Tr } Z_g^\top D_g$$

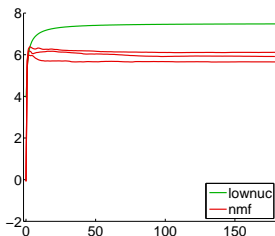
Projected subgradient descent :  $X^{(t+1)} = \Pi(X^{(t)} - \mu_t Z^{(t)})$ .

**Warning :**  $f(X^{(t+1)}) \not\leq f(X^{(t)})$ .

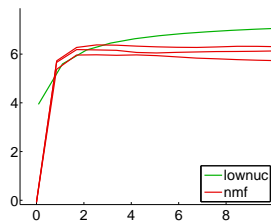


**Guarantee :**  $\mu_t = \mu_0(1 + t)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Rightarrow \|X^{(t)} - X^*\| \searrow 0$ .

# Controlled experiments



(a) Overall

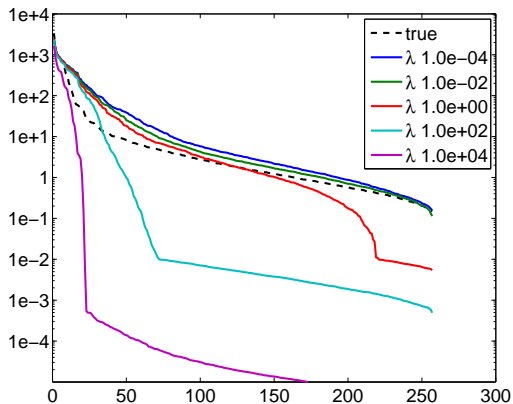


(b) First few seconds

**Figure:** (Left) Evolution of SDR as a function of CPU time (in seconds), for (green) our method and (red) NMF started from several initial points.

SDR is a measure of how well we have separated sources (the higher the better).

# Shrinkage of singular values



**Figure:** Magnitude of singular values in decreasing order, for various values of  $\lambda$ . Dotted line is the true singular value profile.

## Smoothing technique [Nesterov, 2003]

$$\begin{aligned} \min_X \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|Y - \sum_{g=1}^G X_g\|_F^2 + \lambda \sum_{g=1}^G \|X_g\|_{*,\mu} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & M_g \odot X_g = M_g \odot T_g \\ & X_g \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\|\cdot\|_{*,\mu}$  is  $C^{(1,1)}$  with Lipschitz constant  $\frac{1}{\mu}$  and :

$$\|X\|_{*,\mu} \leq \|X\|_* \leq \|X\|_{*,\mu} + \mu C \quad \forall X \in \mathbb{R}^{F \times N}$$

$$\|X\|_* = \max\{\text{Tr } U^\top X, \sigma_1(U) \leq 1\}$$

$$\|X\|_{*,\mu} = \max\{\text{Tr } U^\top X - \|U\|_F^2, \sigma_1(U) \leq 1\}$$

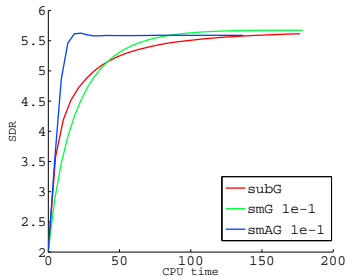
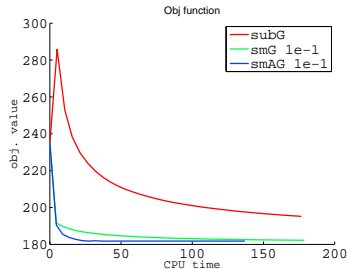
Apply accelerated gradient descent to the smooth minimization problem.

$\mu = 0$  : slow convergence but accurate solutions.

Large  $\mu$  : fast but inaccurate solutions.

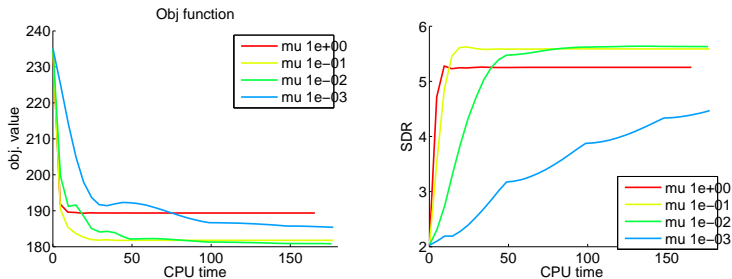


# Comparison with subgradient



**Figure:** Decrease of the objective function as a function of the allowed CPU time, for various algorithms

## Effect of $\mu$



**Figure:** Decrease of the objective function as a function of the allowed CPU time, for various values of  $\mu$ .

We display the *original* objective function :

$$\frac{1}{2} \left\| Y - \sum_{g=1}^G X_g \right\|_F^2 + \lambda \sum_{g=1}^G \|X_g\|_* .$$

# Conclusion

Our formulation contributes to the field of *informed* source separation methods, where knowledge is directly *relevant* to the query audio track, and involves *interaction with the user*.

These methods are the state of the art in single-channel source separation benchmarks.

Our convex formulation compares well with its NMF counterpart, even with a subgradient algorithm.

The smoothing technique allows to retrieve more accurate solutions for a given CPU budget.

More complex constraints ? E.g., source estimates should classify correctly :  $\langle W, X_g \rangle + b \leq 0$ .

Proximal operator :

$$\text{prox}(\bar{X}) = \underset{\text{s.t.}}{\arg \min_X} \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{X} - X\|_F^2 + \lambda \|X\|_*,$$
$$M_g \odot X_g = M_g \odot T_g,$$

Necessary and sufficient conditions :

$$0 \in X - \bar{X} + \lambda(PQ^T + W) + M \odot E$$

$$W^T X = 0$$

$$WX^T = 0$$

$$M \odot X = M \odot T$$

$$\|W\|_{\text{op}} \leq 1$$

where  $E \in \mathbb{R}^{F \times N}$  are Lagrangian multipliers associated with the constraint  $M \odot X = 0$ . Note that here,  $X = P\Sigma Q^T$  is an economy-size SVD of  $X$  and not  $\bar{X}$ , so  $P$  and  $Q$  depend on  $X$ .

- N.J. Bryan and G.J. Mysore. Interactive Refinement of Supervised and Semi-supervised Sound Source Separation Estimates. In *ICASSP*, 2013.
- A. Lefèvre, F. Bach, and C. Févotte. Semi-supervised NMF with time-frequency annotations for single-channel source separation. In *International Conference on Music Information Retrieval (ISMIR)*, 2012.
- Y. Nesterov. *Introductory lectures on convex optimization: A basic course*, volume 87. Springer, 2003.