Supplementary for Flow-based Kernel Prior with Application to Blind Super-Resolution

Jingyun Liang¹ Kai Zhang^{1,*} Shuhang Gu^{1,2} Luc Van Gool^{1,3} Radu Timofte¹ ¹ Computer Vision Lab, ETH Zurich, Switzerland ² The University of Sydney, Australia ³ KU Leuven, Belgium {jinliang, kai.zhang, vangool, timofter}@vision.ee.ethz.ch shuhanggu@gmail.com https://github.com/JingyunLiang/FKP



Figure 1: The effects of different numbers of flow blocks and FCN depths on negative log-likelihood (NLL) of kernels.

1. Ablation Study on FKP

To evaluate the effects of the total number of flow blocks and fully-connected network (FCN) depths in FKP, we generate a testing set by sampling kernels with a kernel width step of 0.3 and rotation angle step of 0.2. We compare different parameter settings by the average NLL of the last epoch on the testing set as the NLL loss used in training reflects the kernel modeling likelihood. It can be observed from Fig. 1(a) that NLL has a decreasing tendency with the number of flow blocks, indicating that more flow blocks generally improve the modeling ability of FKP. From Fig. 1(b), one can see that too shallow or too deep FCN lead to performance drop, maybe due to under-fitting or overfitting, respectively. As a result, to balance kernel modeling performance and computation cost, we use 5 flow blocks and 3 fully-connected layers in FKP.

2. Kernel Estimation Under Ideal Circumstance

As a kernel prior, FKP can generate a kernel under the guidance of kernel estimation loss functions. To show how FKP works, we use the mean absolute error (MAE) between



Figure 2: The intermediate results of kernel estimation under the guidance of an ideal kernel reconstruction loss. The PSNR of kernel is shown below each kernel estimation.

kernel estimation and the ground-truth as an ideal kernel estimation loss. As shown in Figure 2, FKP converges quickly and is able to generate kernels accurately in 20 iterations even though the kernel initialization is far from the groundtruth. When we optimize it for more iterations, there are further improvements in accuracy. It is noteworthy that, in this specific case, we can also input the ground-truth kernel into FKP in order to obtain the corresponding latent variable as FKP is a bijection, though it is not applicable in the kernel estimation problem.

3. More Visual Comparisons

We provide more visual comparisons to show the superiority of the proposed DIP-FKP and KernelGAN-FKP, as shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4.

References

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^{*}Corresponding author.



Figure 3: More visual results of different methods on synthetic and real-world images for scale factor 4. Estimated/ground-truth kernels are shown on the top right of images.



Figure 4: More visual results of different methods on synthetic and real-world images for scale factor 4. Estimated/ground-truth kernels are shown on the top right of images.

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