

# Imaging Applications of Stochastic Minimal Graphs

A. O. Hero<sup>\*</sup>, B. Ma<sup>†</sup>, O. Michel<sup>#</sup>

University of Michigan<sup>\*</sup>, Intervideo, Inc.<sup>†</sup>, University of Nice<sup>#</sup>

hero@eecs.umich.edu

<http://www.eecs.umich.edu/~hero>

## Outline

1. Divergence and entropy measures
2. Plug-in and Graph Estimators of Entropy
3. Theoretical comparisons
4. Applications

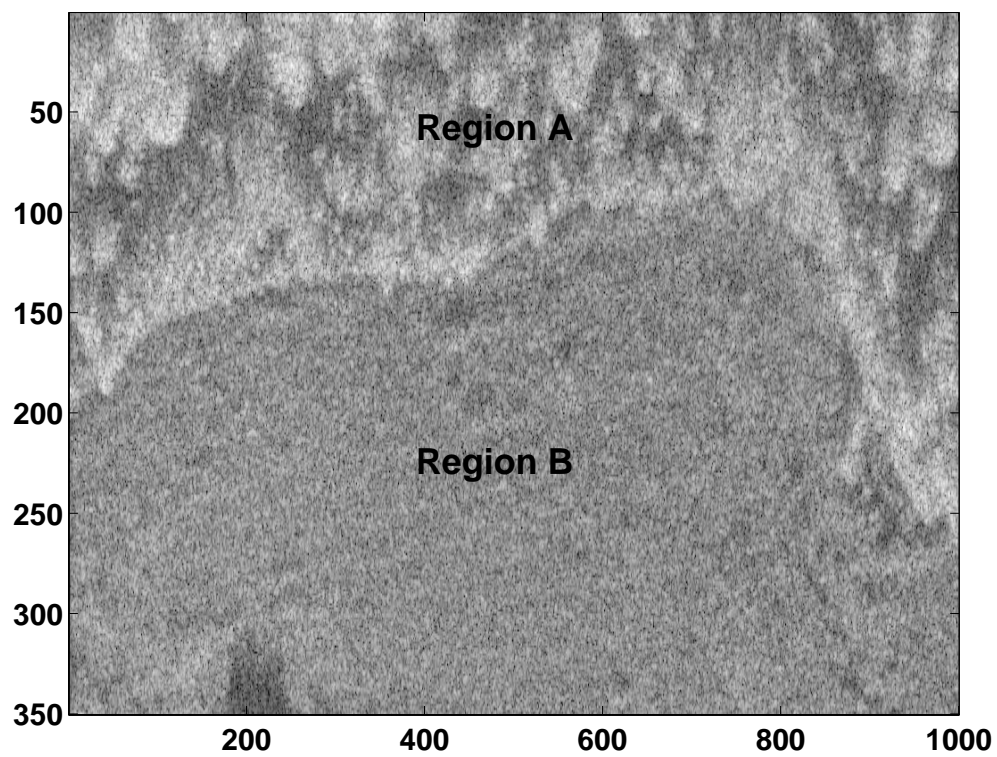
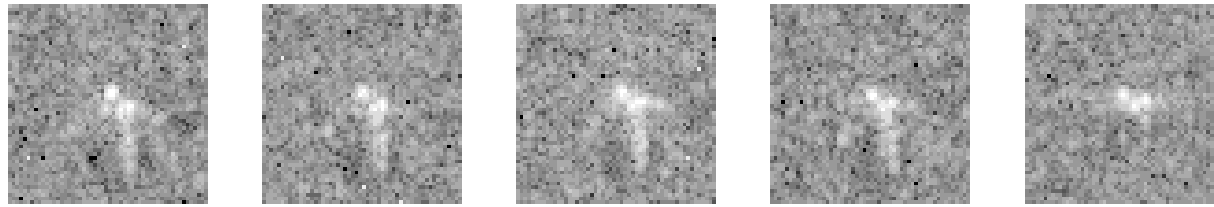


Figure 1: SAR clutter image



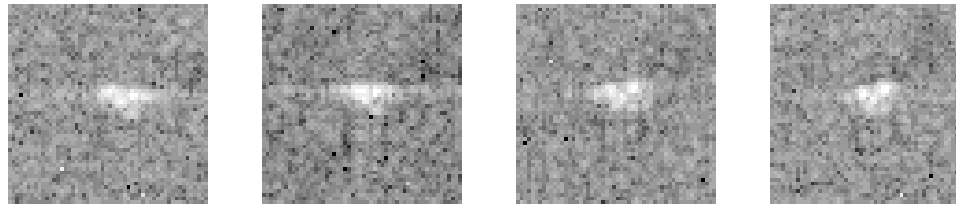
(a)  
142°

(b)  
147°

(c)  
152°

(d)  
157°

(e)  
163°



(f)  
169°

(g)  
175°

(h)  
187°

(i)  
193°

Figure 2: SLICY canonical target images.

## Statistical Framework

- $X$ : an image
- $Z = Z(X)$ : an image feature vector
- $\Theta$ : a parameter space
- $f(z|\theta)$ : feature density (likelihood)
- $X_R$  a reference image
- $\{X_i\}_i$  a database of  $K$  images

$$Z_R = Z(X_R) \sim f(z|\theta_R)$$

$$Z_i = Z(X_i) \sim f(z|\theta_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, K$$

$\Rightarrow$  Similarity btwn  $X_i, X_R$  lies in similarity btwn models

## Divergence Measures

Refs: [Csiszár:67,Basseville:SP89]

Define densities

$$f_i = f(z|\theta_i), \quad f_R = f(z|\theta_R)$$

The Rényi  $\alpha$ -divergence of fractional order  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  [Rényi:61,70 ]

$$\begin{aligned} D_\alpha(f_i \parallel f_R) = D(\theta_i \parallel \theta_R) &= \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \ln \int f_R \left( \frac{f_i}{f_R} \right)^\alpha dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \ln \int f_i^\alpha f_R^{1-\alpha} dx \end{aligned}$$

## Rényi $\alpha$ -Divergence: Special cases

- $\alpha$ -Divergence vs. Hellinger Affinity

$$D_{\frac{1}{2}}(f_i \parallel f_R) = \ln \left( \int \sqrt{f_i f_R} dx \right)^2$$

- $\alpha$ -Divergence vs. Kullback-Liebler divergence

$$\lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 1} D_{\alpha}(f_i \parallel f_R) = \int f_R \ln \frac{f_R}{f_i} dx.$$

- $\alpha$ -Divergence vs.  $\alpha$ -MI

$$\text{MI}_{\alpha}(f_{X,Y}) = D_{\alpha}(f_{X,Y} \parallel f_X f_Y)$$

- $\alpha$ -Divergence vs.  $\alpha$ -Entropy

$$H_{\alpha}(f_i) = D_{\alpha}(f_i \parallel U[0, 1]) = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} \ln \int f_i^{\alpha}(x) dx$$

## Indexing via $\alpha$ -divergence

Clairvoyant indexing rule:

$$X_i \prec X_j \Leftrightarrow D_\alpha(f_i \| f_R) < D_\alpha(f_j \| f_R)$$

Indexing problem: find  $\theta_i$  attaining  $\min_{\theta_i \neq \theta_R} D_\alpha(\theta_i \| \theta_R)$

1. Image classification:  $f_i$  index model classes [Stoica&etal:INRIA98]
2. Target detection:  $f_R$  is noise reference and  $f_i$  are target references.

Declare detection if  $\min_{\theta_i \neq \theta_R} D_\alpha(\theta_i \| \theta_R) > \text{threshold}$

## Methods of Divergence Estimation

- $Z = Z(X)$ : a statistic (MI, reduced rank feature, etc)
- $\{Z^{(n)}\}$ :  $n$  i.i.d. realizations from  $f(Z; \theta)$

Objective: Estimate  $\hat{D}_\alpha(f_I \| f_R)$  from  $\{Z_i^{(n)}, Z_R^{(n)}\}$ 's

1. Parametric density estimation methods
2. Non-parametric density estimation methods
3. Non-parametric minimal-graph estimation methods



## Non-parametric estimation methods

Given i.i.d. sample  $X = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$

Density “plug-in” estimator

$$H_\alpha(\hat{f}_n) = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} \ln \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} \hat{f}^\alpha(x) dx$$

Previous work limited to Shannon entropy  $H(f) = - \int f(x) \ln f(x) dx$

- Histogram plug-in [Gyorfi&VanDerMeulen:CSDA87]
- Kernel density plug-in [Ahmad&Lin:IT76]
- Sample-spacing plug-in [Hall:JMS86] ( $d = 1$ )
  - Performance degrades as density  $f$  becomes non smooth
  - Unclear how to robustify  $\hat{f}$  against outliers
  - $d$ -dimensional integration might be difficult
  - $\Rightarrow$  function  $\{f(x) : x \in \mathbf{R}^d\}$  over-parameterizes entropy functional

## Direct $\alpha$ -entropy estimation

- MST estimator of  $\alpha$ -entropy [Hero&Michel:IT99]:

$$\hat{H}_\alpha = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} \ln L_\gamma(X_n) / n^{-\alpha}$$

- Direct entropy estimator: faster convergence for nonsmooth densities
- Parameter  $\alpha$  is varied by varying interpoint distance measure
- Optimally pruned  $k$ -MST graphs robustify  $\hat{f}$  against outliers
- Greedy multi-scale MST approximations reduce combinatorial complexity

## Minimal Graphs: Minimal Spanning Tree (MST)

Let  $M_n = M(X_n)$  denote the possible sets of edges in the class of acyclic graphs spanning  $X_n$  (spanning trees).

The Euclidean Power Weighted MST achieves

$$L_{\text{MST}}(X_n) = \min_{M_n} \sum_{e \in M_n} \|e\|^\gamma.$$

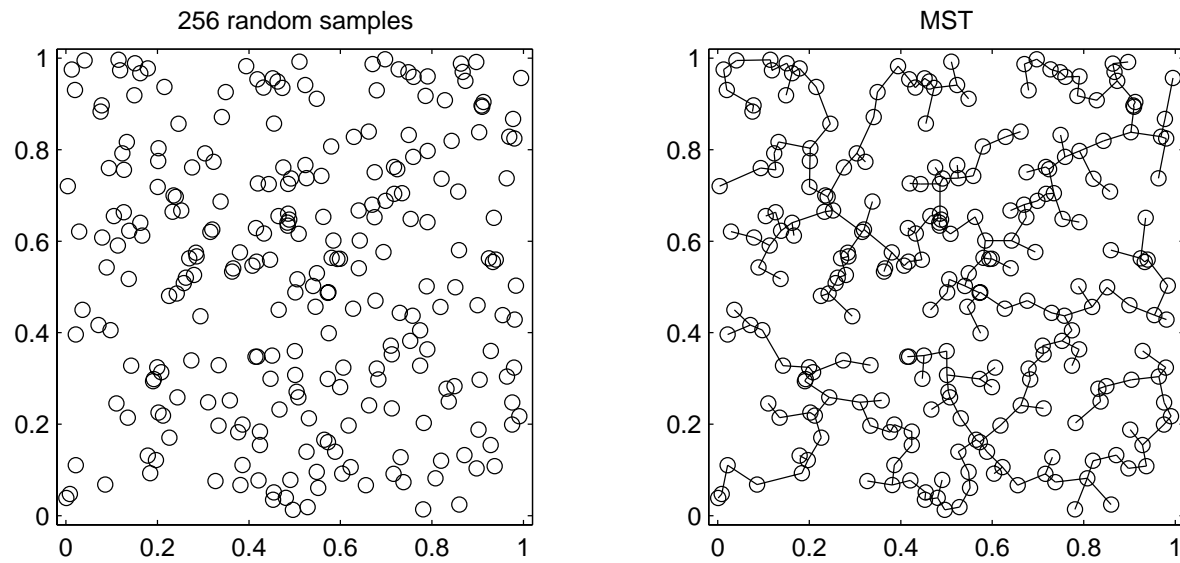


Figure 3: *A sample data set and the MST*

## Minimal Graphs: Pruned MST

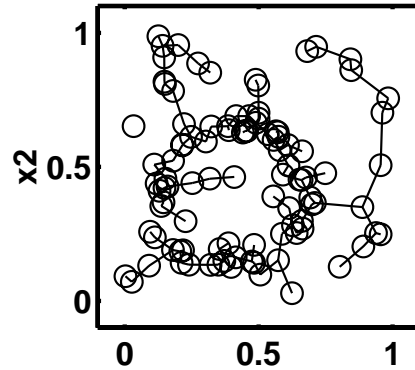
Fix  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .

Let  $M_{n,k} = M(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_k})$  be a minimal graph connecting  $k$  distinct vertices  $x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_k}$ .

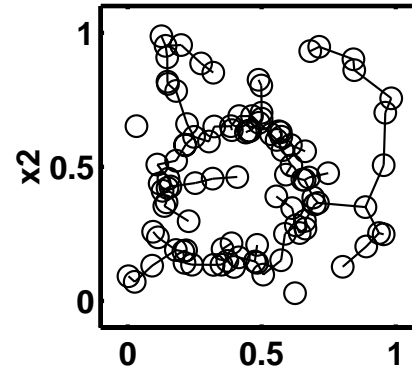
The  $k$ -MST  $T_{n,k}^* = T^*(x_{i_1}^*, \dots, x_{i_k}^*)$  is minimum of all  $k$ -point MST's

$$L_{n,k}^* = L^*(X_{n,k}) = \min_{i_1, \dots, i_k} \min_{M_{n,k}} \sum_{e \in M_{n,k}} \|e\|^\gamma$$

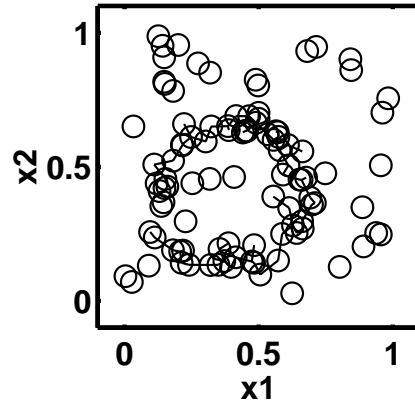
**k-MST (k=99): 1 outlier rejection**



**(k=98): 2 outlier rejection**



**k-MST (k=62): 38 outlier rejection**



**(k=25): 75 outlier rejection**

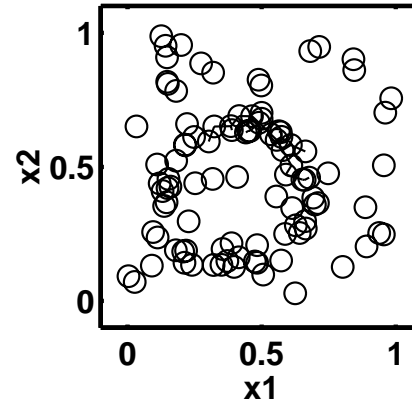


Figure 4: *k*-MST for 2D torus density with and without the addition of uniform “outliers”.

# Convergence of MST

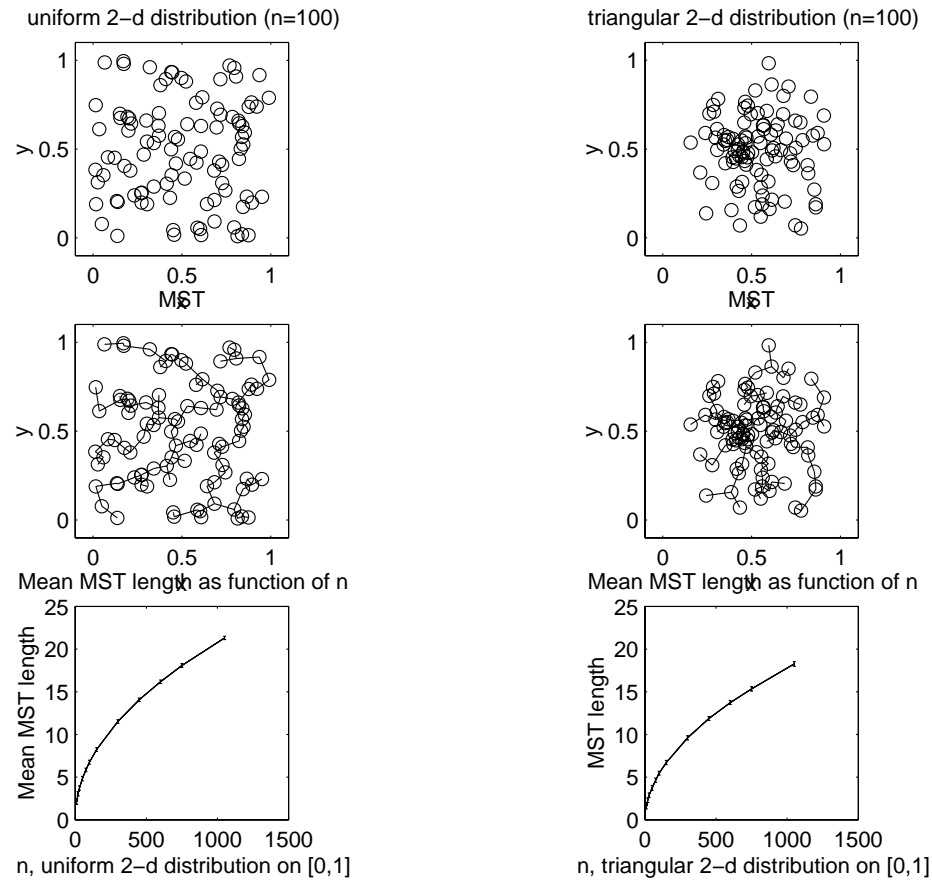


Figure 5: *2D Triangular vs. Uniform sample study for MST.*

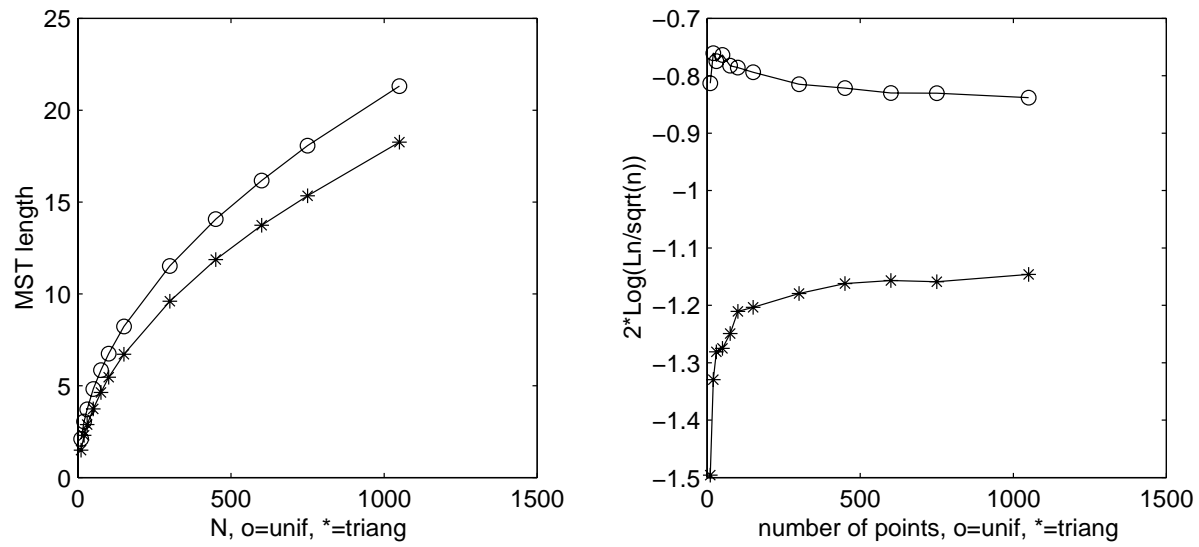


Figure 6: *MST and log MST weights as function of number of samples for 2D uniform vs. triangular study.*



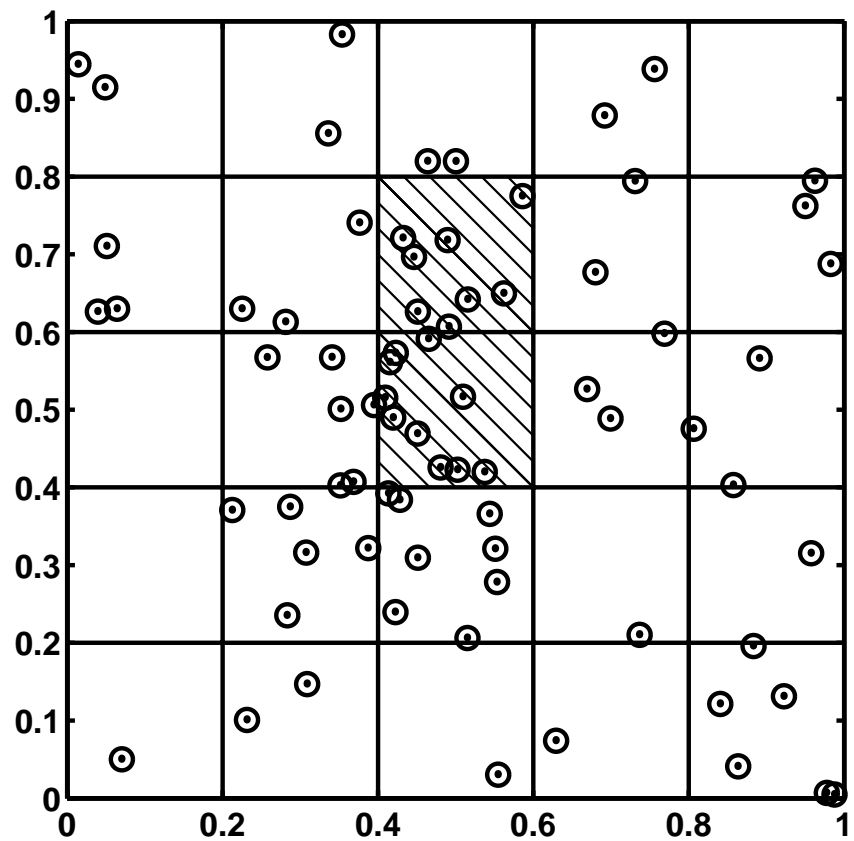


Figure 7: *Continuous quasi-additive euclidean functional satisfies “self-similarity” property on any scale.*

## Asymptotics: Plug-in estimation of $H_\alpha(f)$

Class of Hölder continuous functions over  $[0, 1]^d$

$$\Sigma_d(\kappa, c) = \left\{ f(x) : |f(x) - p_x^{\lfloor \kappa \rfloor}(z)| \leq c \|x - z\|^\kappa \right\}$$

Class of functions of Bounded Variation (BV) over  $[0, 1]^d$

$$\text{BV}_d(c) = \left\{ f(x) : \sup_{\{x_i\}} \sum_i |f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})| \leq c \right\}.$$

**Proposition 1 (Hero&Ma:IT01)** *Assume that  $f^\alpha \in \Sigma_d(\kappa, c)$ . Then, if  $\hat{f}^\alpha$  is a **minimax estimator***

$$\sup_{f^\alpha \in \Sigma_d(\kappa, c)} E^{1/p} \left[ \left| \int \hat{f}^\alpha(x) dx - \int f^\alpha(x) dx \right|^p \right] = O\left(n^{-\kappa/(2\kappa+d)}\right)$$

## Asymptotics: Minimal-graph estimation of $H_\alpha(f)$

**Proposition 2 (Hero&Ma:IT01)** *Let  $d \geq 2$  and  $\alpha = (d - \gamma)/d \in [1/2, (d - 1)/d]$ . Assume that  $f^\alpha \in \Sigma_d(\kappa, c)$  where  $\kappa \geq 1$  and  $c < \infty$ . Then for any continuous quasi-additive Euclidean functional  $L_\gamma$*

$$\sup_{f^\alpha \in \Sigma_d(\kappa, c)} E^{1/p} \left[ \left| \frac{L_\gamma(X_1, \dots, X_n)}{n^\alpha} - \beta_{L_\gamma, d} \int f^\alpha(x) dx \right|^p \right] \leq O\left(n^{-1/(d+1)}\right)$$

**Conclude:** minimal-graph estimator converges faster for

$$\kappa < \frac{d}{d-1}$$

As  $\Sigma_d(1, c) \subset \text{BV}_d(c)$ , we have

**Corollary 1 (Hero&Ma:IT01)** *Let  $d \geq 2$  and  $\alpha = (d - \gamma)/d \in [1/2, (d - 1)/d]$ . Assume that  $f^\alpha$  is of bounded variation over  $[0, 1]^d$ . Then*

$$\sup_{f^\alpha \in \text{BV}_d(c)} E^{1/p} \left[ \left| \int \widehat{f}^\alpha(x) dx - \beta_{L_\gamma, d} \int f^\alpha(x) dx \right|^p \right] \geq O\left(n^{-1/(d+2)}\right)$$

$$\sup_{f^\alpha \in \text{BV}_d(c)} E^{1/p} \left[ \left| \frac{L_\gamma(X_1, \dots, X_n)}{n^\alpha} - \beta_{L_\gamma, d} \int f^\alpha(x) dx \right|^p \right] \leq O\left(n^{-1/(d+1)}\right)$$

## Observations

- Minimal graph rates valid for MST,  $k$ -NN graph, TSP, Steiner Tree, etc
- Analogous rate bound holds for progressive-resolution algorithm

$$L_{\gamma}^G(X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{m^d} L_{\gamma}(X_n \cap Q_i)$$

$\{Q_i\}$  is uniform partition of  $[0, 1]^d$  into cell volumes  $1/m^d$

- Optimal sequence of cell volumes is:

$$m^{-d} = n^{-1/(d+1)}$$

- These results also apply to greedy multi-resolution  $k$ -MST

## Application: Image Registration

Two independent data samples from unknown distributions

- $X = [X_1, \dots, X_m] \sim f(x)$

- $Y = [Y_1, \dots, Y_n] \sim g(x)$

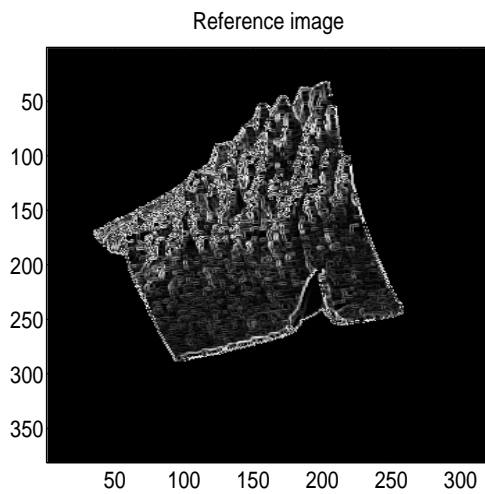
Suppose:  $g(x) = f(Ax + b)$ ,  $A^T A = I$

Objective: find rigid transformation  $A, b$

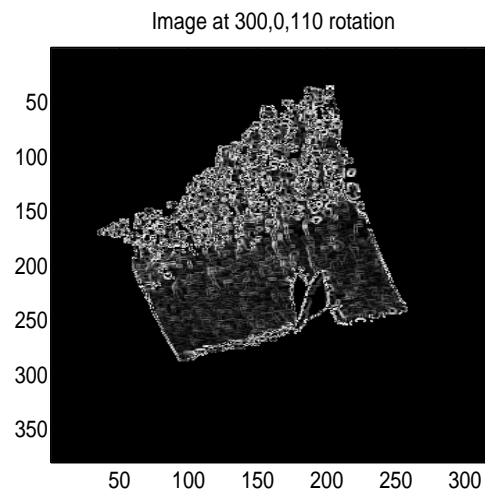
- Two methods:

1.  $\alpha$ -MI of  $\{(X_i, Y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$

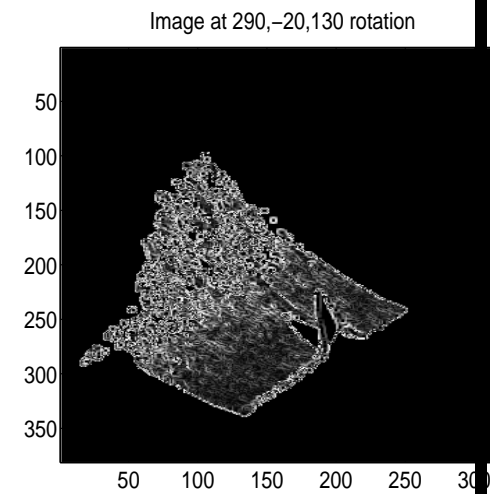
2.  $\alpha$ -Entropy of  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^m \cup \{Y_i\}_{i=1}^n$



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 8: Reference and target SAR/DEM images

$O(n^{-1/(2d+1)})$  algorithm for  $\alpha$ -MI estimation

$$\text{MI}_\alpha(X, Y) = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \ln \int f_{X,Y}^\alpha(x, y) (f_X(x) f_Y(y))^{1-\alpha} dx dy.$$

Algorithm:

1. Kernel estimates  $\hat{f}_X, \hat{f}_Y$  ( $O(n^{-1/(d+2)})$ )
2. Uniformizing probability transformations:  
 $\tilde{X} = F_X(X), \tilde{Y} = F_Y(Y)$
3. Graph entropy estimate of  $\text{MI}_\alpha(X, Y)$  ( $O(n^{-1/(2d+1)})$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{L_\gamma(\{(\tilde{X}_1, \tilde{Y}_1), \dots, (\tilde{X}_n, \tilde{Y}_n)\})}{n^\alpha} &\rightarrow \beta_{L_\gamma, d} \int f_{\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}}^\alpha(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \beta_{L_\gamma, d} \int f_{X, Y}^\alpha(x, y) (f_X(x) f_Y(y))^{1-\alpha} dx dy \quad (\text{w.p.}) \end{aligned}$$



$O(n^{-1/(d+1)})$  criterion:  $\alpha$ -Jensen difference

- Jensen's difference btwn  $f_0, f_1$ :

$$\Delta J_\alpha = H_\alpha(\varepsilon f_1 + (1 - \varepsilon)f_0) - \varepsilon H_\alpha(f_1) - (1 - \varepsilon)H_\alpha(f_0) \geq 0$$

- $f_0, f_1$  are two densities,  $\varepsilon$  satisfies  $0 \leq \varepsilon \leq 1$
- Let  $X, Y$  be i.i.d. features extracted from two images

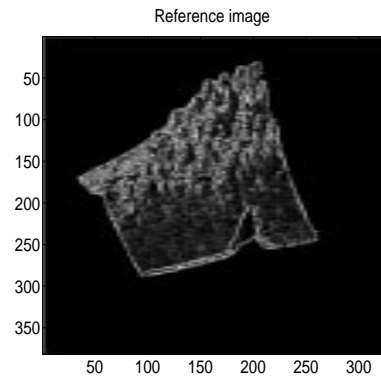
$$X = \{X_1, \dots, X_m\}, \quad Y = \{Y_1, \dots, Y_n\}$$

- Each realization in *unordered* sample  $Z = \{X, Y\}$  has marginal

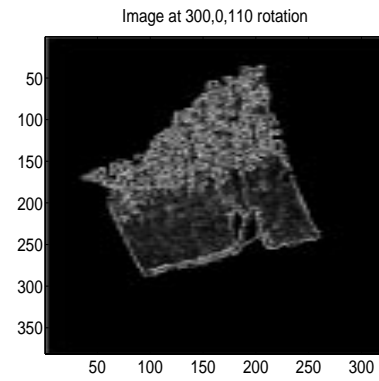
$$f_Z(z) = \varepsilon f_X(z) + (1 - \varepsilon)f_Y(z), \quad \varepsilon = \frac{m}{n + m}$$

- $\alpha$ -Jensen difference for rigid transformation  $T$

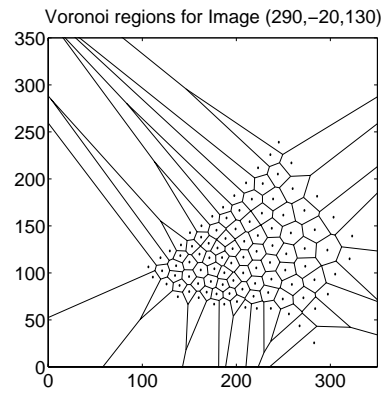
$$\Delta J_\alpha(T) = H_\alpha(\varepsilon f_X + (1 - \varepsilon)f_Y) - \underbrace{\varepsilon H_\alpha(f_X) - (1 - \varepsilon)H_\alpha(f_Y)}_{\text{constant}}$$



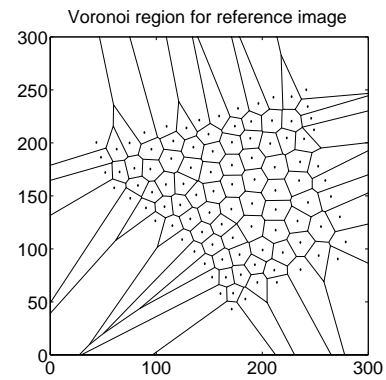
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Figure 9: Reference and target SAR/DEM images

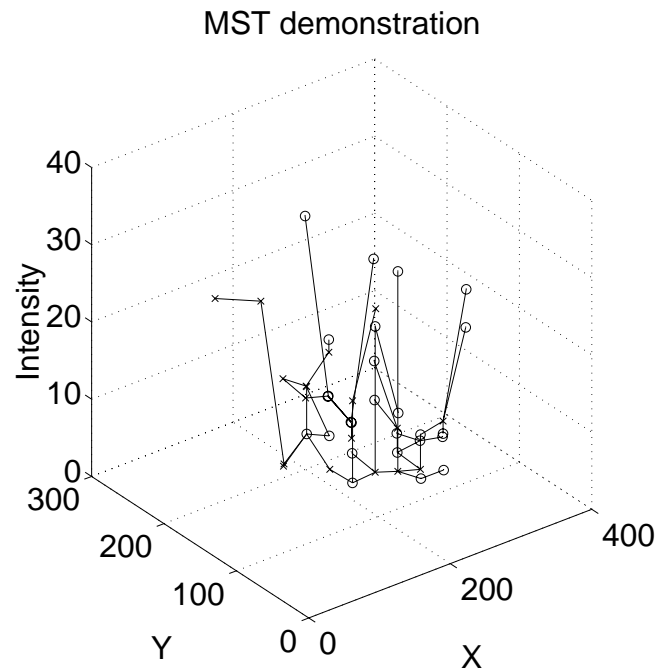
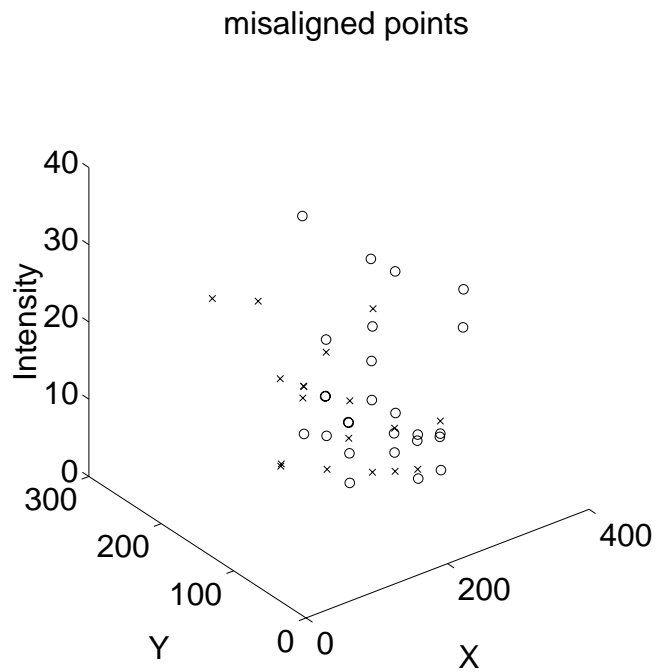
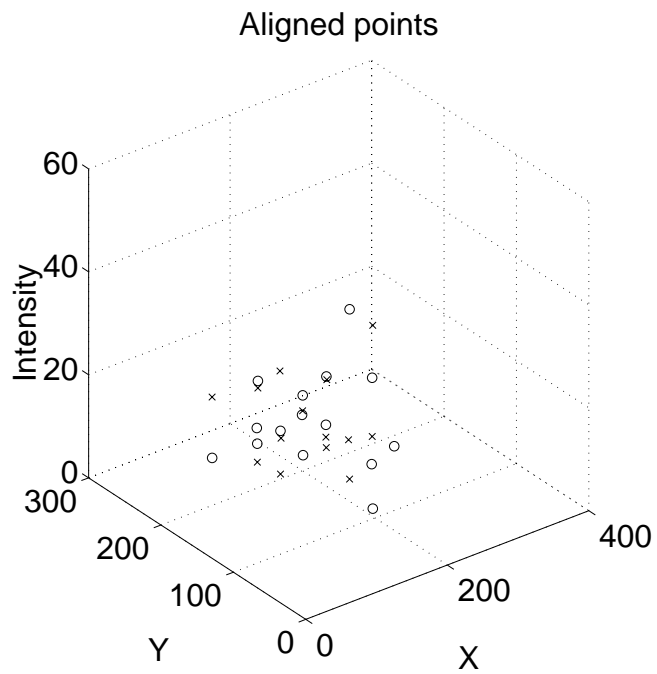
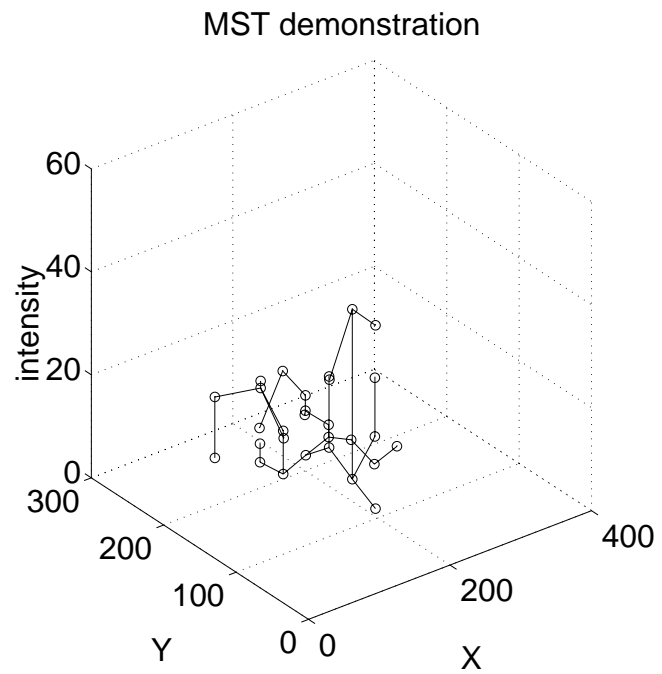


Figure 10: MST demonstration for misaligned images



(a)



(b)

Figure 11: MST demonstration for aligned images

## Conclusions

1.  $\alpha$ -divergence for indexing can be justified via decision theory
2. Non-parametric estimation of Jensen's difference is low complexity alternative to  $\alpha$ -divergence estimation
3. Non-parametric estimation of Jensen's difference is possible without density estimation
4. Minimal-graph estimation outperforms plug-in estimation for non-smooth densities