

Design of Resilient Smart Highway Systems with Data- Driven Monitoring from Networked Cameras

August 2021



TECHNICAL REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

1. Report No.	2. Government Accession No.	3. Recipient's Catalog No.	
4. Design of Resilient Smart Highway Systems with Data-Driven Monitoring from Networked Cameras		5. Report Date August 2021	
		6. Performing Organization Code:	
7. Author(s) Li Jin, Chen Feng, Qian Xie, Xuchu Xu		8. Performing Organization Report No.	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Connected Cities for Smart Mobility towards Accessible and Resilient Transportation Center (C2SMART), 6 Metrotech Center, 4th Floor, NYU Tandon School of Engineering, Brooklyn, NY, 11201, United States		10. Work Unit No.	
		11. Contract or Grant No. 69A3551747119	
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address Office of Research, Development, and Technology Federal Highway Administration 6300 Georgetown Pike McLean, VA 22101-2296		13. Type of Report and Period Final report, 6/1/19-8/31/21	
		14. Sponsoring Agency Code	
15. Supplementary Notes			
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17. Key Words		18. Distribution Statement No restrictions. This document is available to the public through the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161. http://www.ntis.gov	
19. Security Classif. (of this report) Unclassified		20. Security Classif. (of this page) Unclassified	21. No. of Pages 43
		22. Price	

Design of Resilient Smart Highway Systems with Data-Driven Monitoring from Networked Cameras

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Acknowledgements

We appreciate the support from the US Department of Transportation, the NYU Tandon School of Engineering faculty startup funds, and the NYU Undergraduate Summer Research Internship program. Undergraduate students including Aiqi Zhou, Martin Buceta, Ziyan An, Eric Gan, and Weiyao Xie also contributed to this project. We also appreciate the discussion with Prof. Kaan Ozbay and the assistance from Shri Iyer, Joseph C. Williams, and John Petinos.

Executive Summary

This project aims to develop a systematic way to design smart highway systems with networked video monitoring and control resiliency against environment disruptions and sensor failures. On the video monitoring side, we investigate 1) efficient deep learning methods for extracting fine-grained local categorical traffic information from individual surveillance videos (e.g., traffic mixture, environment information, anomaly/extreme-weather detection in the scene), and 2) machine learning-based methods to correlate and propagate the local information through the highway network for global states estimation (e.g., vehicle tracking and reidentification, traffic prediction in unobserved area). On the system design side, we 1) establish dynamic models for capacity using video data, 2) model failure in either cyber or physical components, 3) study the relation between sensor deployment and observability for resilient traffic control (e.g. route guidance and ramp metering). The outcome is an implementable approach to designing resilient smart highway systems with trustworthy monitoring capability. We also expect our approach (with appropriate modification) to be applicable to general transportation systems.

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Section 1: Introduction

The growing deployment of surveillance cameras in highway systems can provide system operators with richer information such as weather, incidents, and other traffic-disrupting events, which conventional sensors (e.g. loop inductors) cannot provide. However, two important questions have to be addressed before extensive implementation. First, how to accurately and robustly retrieve relevant information from not only an individual camera but networked cameras, especially fine-grained vehicle recognition and tracking, anomaly detection, and predictions in unobserved areas. Second, how to design a resilient control system that maximizes the use of camera data while minimizing the negative impact of sensor failures and error in data processing. These questions have to be jointly addressed, since the performance of automatic video monitoring, the deployment (number and locations) of surveillance cameras, and traffic control algorithm based on real-time information are closely related and interdependent.

For the monitoring part, thanks to the recent development of deep learning techniques, especially convolutional neural networks (CNN), accurate, robust, and efficient object detection in images and videos has become more accessible, e.g., state-of-the-art CNN architectures like Fast-RCNN/SSD/Yolo/Mask-RCNN provide strong algorithm backbones to address the traditional challenges such as partial occlusion, cluttered scene, etc. However, most existing data-driven methods focus on traffic monitoring from single cameras. Very recently, researchers started to investigate data-driven analysis of networked videos for traffic analysis. However, these methods do not systematically take a transportation network structure into consideration using a data-driven approach.

For the system design part, although numerous efforts have been devoted to design of performance-improving traffic control systems, the existing approaches typically assume deterministic environment (demand/capacity) and fully functional sensors. This project considers a more realistic setting where the environment is subject to disruptions and the sensors (cameras) are subject to failures.

Subsection 1.1 Learning-based monitoring

Recent years have witnessed the tremendous success of deep neural networks in a variety of tasks. With its over-parameterization nature and hierarchical structure, deep neural networks achieve unprecedented performance on many challenging problems [1, 2, 3], but their strong approximation ability also makes it easy to overfit the training set, which greatly affects the generalization on unseen samples. Therefore, how to restrict the huge parameter space and properly regularize the deep networks becomes increasingly important. Regularizations for neural networks can be roughly categorized into implicit and explicit ones. Implicit regularizations usually do not directly impose explicit constraints on neuron weights, and instead they regularize the networks in an implicit manner in order to prevent overfitting and stabilize the training. A lot of prevailing methods fall into this category, such as batch normalization [4], dropout [5], weight normalization [6], etc. Explicit regularizations [7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12] usually introduce some penalty terms for neuron weights, and jointly optimize them along with the other objective functions.

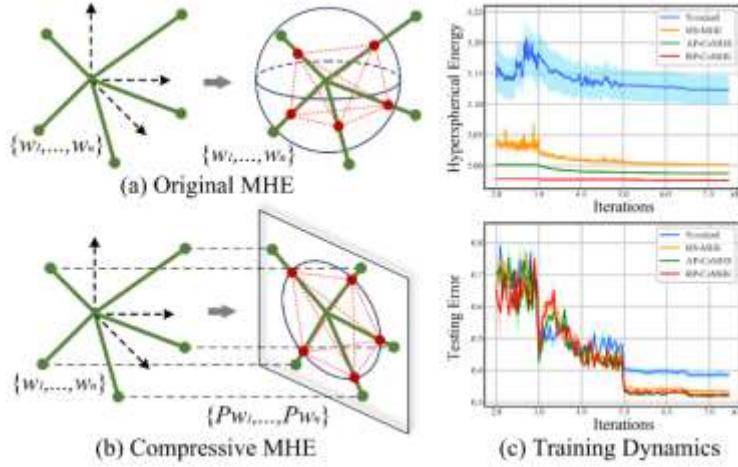


Figure 1.1: Comparison of original MHE and compressive MHE.

Among many existing explicit regularizations, minimum hyperspherical energy (MHE) [12] stands out as a simple yet effective regularization that promotes the hyperspherical diversity among neurons and significantly improves the network generalization. MHE regularizes the directions of neuron weights by minimizing a potential energy on a unit hypersphere that characterizes the hyperspherical diversity (such energy is defined as hyperspherical energy [12]). In contrast, standard weight decay only regularizes the norm of neuron weights, which essentially can be viewed as regularizing one dimension of the weights. MHE completes an important missing piece by regularizing the neuron directions (i.e., regularizing the rest dimensions of the weights).

Although minimizing hyperspherical energy has already been empirically shown useful in a number of applications [12], two fundamental questions remain unanswered:(1) what is the role that hyperspherical energy plays in training a well-performing neural network? and (2) How can the hyperspherical energy be effectively minimized? To study the first question, we plot the training dynamics of hyperspherical energy (on CIFAR-100) in Figure 1.1(c) for a baseline convolutional neural network (CNN) without any MHE variant, a CNN regularized by MHE [12] and a CNN regularized by our CoMHE. From the empirical results in Figure 1.1(c), we find that both MHE and CoMHE can achieve much lower hyperspherical energy and testing error than the baseline, showing the effectiveness of minimizing hyperspherical energy. It also implies that lower hyperspherical energy typically leads to better generalization. We empirically observe that a trained neural network with lower hyperspherical energy often generalizes better (i.e., higher hyperspherical diversity leads to better generalization), and therefore we argue that hyperspherical energy is closely related to the generalization power of neural networks. In the rest of the paper, we delve into the second question that remains an open challenge: how to effectively minimize hyperspherical energy.

By adopting the definition of hyperspherical energy as the regularization objective and naively minimizing it with back-propagation, MHE suffers from a few critical problems which limit it to further unleash its potential. First, the original MHE objective has a huge number of local minima and stationary points due to its highly non-convex and non-linear objective

function. The problem can get even worse when the space dimension gets higher and the number of neurons becomes larger [13, 14]. Second, the gradient of the original MHE objective w.r.t the neuron weight is deterministic. Unlike the weight decay whose objective is convex, MHE has a complex and non-convex regularization term. Therefore, deterministic gradients may make the solution quickly fall into one of the bad local minima and get stuck there. Third, MHE defines an ill-posed problem in general. When the number of neurons is smaller than the dimension of the space (it is often the case in neural net- works), it will be less meaningful to encourage the hyper- spherical diversity since the neurons cannot fully occupy the space. Last, in high-dimensional spaces, randomly initialized neurons are likely to be orthogonal to each other. Therefore, these high-dimensional neurons can be trivially “diverse”, leading to small gradients in original MHE that cause optimization difficulties.

In order to address these problems and effectively minimize hyperspherical energy, we propose the compressive minimum hyperspherical energy (CoMHE) as a generic regularization for neural networks. The high-level intuition behind CoMHE is to project neurons to some suitable subspaces such that the hyperspherical energy can get minimized more effectively. Specifically, CoMHE first maps the neurons from a high-dimensional space to a low-dimensional one and then minimizes the hyperspherical energy of these neurons. Therefore, how to map these neurons to a low-dimensional space while preserving the desirable information in high-dimensional space is our major concern. Since we aim to regularize the directions of neurons, what we care most is the angular similarity between different neurons. To this end, we explore multiple novel methods to perform the projection and heavily study two main approaches: random projection and angle-preserving projection, which can reduce the dimensionality of neurons while still partially preserving the pairwise angles.

Random projection (RP) is a natural choice to perform the dimensionality reduction in MHE due to its simplicity and nice theoretical properties. RP can provably preserve the angular information, and most importantly, introduce certain degree of randomness to the gradients, which may help CoMHE escape from some bad local minima. The role that the randomness serves in CoMHE is actually similar to the simulated annealing [15, 16] that is widely used to solve Thomson problem. Such randomness is often shown to benefit the generalization [17, 18]. We also provably show that using RP can well preserve the pairwise angles between neurons. Besides RP, we propose the angle-preserving projection (AP) as an effective alternative. AP is motivated by the goal that we aim to preserve the pairwise angles between neurons. Constructing an AP that can project neurons to a low-dimensional space that well preserves the angles is often difficult even with powerful non-linear functions, which is suggested by the strong conditions required for conformal mapping in complex analysis [19]. Therefore, we frame the AP construction as an optimization problem which can be solved jointly with hyperspherical energy minimization. More interestingly, we consider the adversarial projection for CoMHE, which minimizes the maximal energy attained by learning the projection. We formulate it as a min-max optimization and optimize it jointly with the neural network.

However, it is inevitable to lose some information in low-dimensional spaces and the neurons may only get diverse in some low-dimensional spaces. To address it, we adopt multiple projections to better approximate the MHE objective in the original high-dimensional space. Specifically, we project the neurons to multiple subspaces, compute the hyperspherical energy

in each space separately and then minimize the aggregation (i.e., average or max). Moreover, we reinitialize these projection matrices randomly every certain number of iterations to avoid trivial solutions.

In contrast to MHE that imposes a static regularization to the neurons, CoMHE dynamically regularizes the neurons based on the projection matrices. Such dynamic regularization is equivalent to adjusting the CoMHE objective function, making it easier to escape some bad local minima. Our contributions can be summarized as:

- We first show that hyperspherical energy is closely related to generalization and then reveal the role it plays in training a neural network that generalizes well.
- To address the drawbacks of MHE, we propose CoMHE as a dynamic regularization to effectively minimize hyperspherical energy of neurons for better generalizability.
- We explore different ways to construct a suitable projection for CoMHE. Random projection and angle-preserving projection are proposed to reduce the dimensionality of neurons while preserving the angular information. We also consider several variants such as adversarial projection CoMHE and group CoMHE.
- We provide some theoretical insights for the proposed projections on the quality of preserving the angular similarity between different neurons.
- We show that CoMHE consistently outperforms the original MHE in different tasks. Notably, a 9-layer plain CNN regularized by CoMHE outperforms a standard 1001-layer ResNet by more than 2% on CIFAR-100.

Subsection 1.2 Fault-tolerant traffic control

The rapidly growing deployment of traffic sensing and vehicle-to-vehicle/infrastructure (V2V/V2I) communications has enabled the concept of intelligent transportation system (ITS). In ITS, system operators and travelers have access to real-time traffic conditions and can thus make better decisions. Dynamic routing is a typical ITS capability, which is conducted via route guidance tools such as Google Maps and WAZE. System operators can also influence routing via tolling and instructions for traffic diversion, which also rely on real-time traffic conditions. A major challenge for dynamic routing in ITS is how to ensure system functionality and efficiency under a variety of sensing faults. Quality of sensing and communications significantly affects system performance. However, data health is a serious issue that system operators must face. On some highways, up to 30%-40% of loop sensors do not report accurate measurements [1, 2]; similar issue exists for camera sensors. Even though some routing guidance tools may have certain internal fault detection and correction actions, the benefits of such actions can be further evaluated. Moreover, without appropriate fault-tolerant mechanisms, feedback control algorithms may make decisions based on wrong information, and ITS may even perform worse than a comparable conventional transportation system. Therefore, ITS will not be well accepted by the public and transportation authorities unless the impact of sensing faults is adequately evaluated and addressed. However, such impact has not been well understood, and practically relevant fault-tolerant routing algorithms have not been developed.

Our modeling approach is innovative in that we model the occurrence and clearance of sensing faults as a finite-state, continuous-time Markov process. If the sensing on a link is normal, travelers know the true traffic state (traffic density) on the link. If the sensing is faulty, the traffic state will appear to be zero to the travelers. Besides such denial-of-service, our modeling approach can also be extended to incorporate other forms of sensing faults, such as bias and distortion. We adopt the classical logit model [15] for routing; the essential principle of this model is that more traffic will go to a less congested link. When the sensing on a link is faulty, travelers may mistakenly consider a congested link to be uncongested. We show that such faulty information may affect the network's throughput. The discrete states of the Markov process are essentially modes for the flow dynamics, which govern the evolution of the continuous states. Hence, our model belongs to a class of stochastic processes called piecewise-deterministic Markov processes [16, 17]. Similar models have been used for demand/capacity fluctuations [18, 19]; this paper extends the modeling approach to sensing faults.

A key step for resilience analysis is to determine the stability of the traffic densities under various combinations of parameters. We study the stability of the network based on the theory of continuous-time Markov processes [20]. We derive a necessary condition for stability by constructing a positively invariant set for the dynamic flow network. We derive a sufficient condition by considering a quadratic, switched Lyapunov function that verifies the Foster-Lyapunov drift condition. We exploit a special property of the flow dynamics, called cooperative dynamics [21, 22], to derive an easy-to-check stability criterion, which states that the network is stable if there exists a queuing state such that the rate of change of the fastest growing queue averaged over the modes is negative. Based on the stability analysis, we analyze the network's throughput (resilience score). We define throughput as the maximal inflow that the network can take while maintaining stable. As a baseline, we first study the behavior of the network if both links have the same flow functions. We perturb the baseline in multiple dimensions (probability and correlation of sensing faults on two links) and analyze how throughput can be affected. We also show that throughput reduces as the two link's asymmetry increases.

The main contributions of this project include

- A novel stochastic model for sensing fault-prone transportation networks,
- Easy-to-check stability conditions for the network, and
- Resilience analysis under various settings.

Section 2: Literature Review

Subsection 2.1 Learning-based monitoring

Diversity-based regularization has been found useful in sparse coding (Mairal et al. 09, Ramirez et al. 10), ensemble learning (Li et al. 12, Knuncheva & Whitaker 03), self-paced learning (Jiang et al. 14), metric learning (Xie et al. 18), latent variable models (Xie et al. 16), etc. Early studies in sparse coding (Mairal et al. 09, Ramirez et al. 10) model the diversity with the empirical covariance matrix and show that encouraging such diversity can improve the dictionary's generalizability (Xie et al. 17) promotes the uniformity among eigenvalues of the component matrix in a latent space model (Cogswell 16, Rodriguez 17, Xie et al. 17) characterize diversity among neurons with orthogonality, and regularize the neural network by promoting the orthogonality. Inspired by the Thomson problem in physics, MHE (Liu et al. 18) defines the hyperspherical energy to characterize the diversity on a unit hypersphere and shows significant and consistent improvement in supervised learning tasks. There are two MHE variants in (Liu et al. 18): full-space MHE and half-space MHE. Compared to full-space MHE, the half-space variant further eliminates the collinear redundancy by constructing virtual neurons with the opposite direction to the original ones and then minimizing their hyperspherical energy together. The importance of regularizing angular information is also discussed in (Liu et al. 16, Deng et al. 18, Wang et al. 18).

Subsection 2.2: Fault-tolerant traffic control

Existing model-based traffic management approaches typically assume complete knowledge of the traffic condition (Gomes & Horowitz 06, Coogan & Arcak 15, Reilly et al. 15, Yu & Krstic 19), but feedback traffic management for ITS in the face of sensing faults has not been well studied. Como et al. (12) studied the resilience of distributed routing in the face of physical disruptions to link capacities in a dynamic flow network. Lygeros et al. (00) proposed a conceptual framework for fault-tolerant traffic management, but the concrete algorithms are still yet to be developed. A body of work on fault-tolerant control has been developed for a class of dynamical systems (Patton 97, Blanke et al. 06, Zhang & Jiang 08). However, very limited results are available for recurrent and random faults. In addition, there exist some results on adaptive/learning-based fault-tolerant control with applications in electrical/mechanical/aerospace engineering (Zhang et al. 04, Mhaskar et al. 06, Tang et al. 07), but these results are not directly applicable to ITS, nor do they explicitly consider stochastic sensing faults.

Section 3: Multi-source data imputation

Subsection 3.1 Overview

We have investigated multiple deep neural network architecture designs and significantly improved the computer-vision-based vehicle detection and counting's efficiency and accuracy and updated the software prototype code for better visualization of the results. We also tested the performance on various weather conditions including raining. The investigation results demonstrated effectiveness of tracking and counting vehicles from existing traffic cameras. The experimental results not only showed that the overall vision-based vehicle counting performance is comparable to that of loop-detector-based method, but also showed that extra detail traffic statistics such as categorical vehicle counting (truck vs. car) is achievable now. Meanwhile, the investigation revealed several practical challenges in state-of-the-art vision-based object detection and tracking algorithms that results in inaccurate vehicle detection and counting. This includes both the various resolutions and mounting setups of real-world traffic camera images that leading to different vehicle size and visual features in the captured images, and also inconsistent sampling rate across different traffic cameras among which some often have non-smooth video stream or large time gaps between neighboring frames that challenges existing object tracking methods. This shows that to apply existing computer vision object detection and tracking algorithms that are usually designed and trained on datasets collected in self-driving scenes are not necessarily optimal for traffic video analysis from a transportation engineering perspective. A custom, human annotated, large-scale dataset focusing on traffic video collected from traffic cameras would greatly improve the performance and is recommended for future projects on the same topic. This effort has trained a team of two graduate students and four senior students from computer science to attend a closely related public vision-based transportation video analysis competition.

As mentioned above, deep neural network is the most fundamental building block that ensures the good performance of a data-driven monitoring system based on networked cameras or other sensors (e.g., Lidars). Current deep networks for 2D/3D object detection or tracking are usually trained by cross-entropy loss and L2 loss with simple L2-based regularization of the network parameters. To improve the network's generalization performance when tested on traffic surveillance data, we need to improve the network regularization method. Inspired by the Thomson problem in physics where the distribution of multiple propelling electrons on a unit sphere can be modeled via minimizing some potential energy, hyperspherical energy minimization has demonstrated its potential in regularizing neural networks and improving their generalization power. In this section, we first study the important role that hyperspherical energy plays in neural network training by analyzing its training dynamics. Then we show that naively minimizing hyperspherical energy suffers from some difficulties due to highly non-linear and non-convex optimization as the space dimensionality becomes higher, therefore limiting the potential to further improve the generalization. To address these problems, we propose the compressive minimum hyperspherical energy (CoMHE) as a more effective regularization for neural networks. Specifically, CoMHE utilizes projection mappings to reduce the dimensionality of neurons and minimizes their hyperspherical energy. According to different designs for the projection mapping, we propose several distinct yet well-performing variants and provide some

theoretical guarantees to justify their effectiveness. Our experiments show that CoMHE consistently outperforms existing regularization methods, and can be easily applied to different neural networks.

Subsection 3.2 Compressive MHE

Revisiting Standard MHE

MHE characterizes the diversity of N neurons ($W_N = \{w_1, \dots, w_N \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}\}$) on a unit hypersphere using hyperspherical energy which is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} E_{s,d}(\hat{w}_i |_{i=1}^N) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N f_s(\|\hat{w}_i - \hat{w}_j\|) \\ &= \begin{cases} \sum_{i \neq j} \|\hat{w}_i - \hat{w}_j\|^{-s}, s > 0 \\ \sum_{i \neq j} \log(\|\hat{w}_i - \hat{w}_j\|^{-1}), s = 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where $\|\cdot\|$ denotes l_2 norm, $f_s(\cdot)$ is a decreasing realvalued function (we use $f_s(z) = z^{-s}, s > 0$, i.e., Riesz s -kernels), and $\hat{w}_i = w_i / \|w_i\|$ is the i -th neuron weight projected onto the unit hypersphere $\mathbb{S}^d = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} \mid \|v\| = 1\}$. For convenience, we denote $\hat{W}_N = \{\hat{w}_1, \dots, \hat{w}_N \in \mathbb{S}^d\}$, and $E_s = E_{s,d}(\hat{w}_i |_{i=1}^N)$. Note that, each neuron is a convolution kernel in CNNs. MHE minimizes the hyperspherical energy of neurons using gradient descent during back-propagation, and MHE is typically applied to the neural network in a layer-wise fashion. We first write down the gradient of E_2 w.r.t \hat{w}_i and make the gradient to be zero:

$$\nabla_{\hat{w}_i} E_2 = \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \frac{-2(\hat{w}_i - \hat{w}_j)}{\|\hat{w}_i - \hat{w}_j\|^4} = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{w}_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_j \hat{w}_j}{\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \alpha_j} \quad (2)$$

where $\alpha_j = \|\hat{w}_i - \hat{w}_j\|^{-4}$. We use toy and informal examples to show that high dimensional space (i.e, d is large) leads to much more stationary points than low-dimensional one. Assume there are $K = K_1 + K_2$ stationary points in total for \hat{W}_N to satisfy Eq.2, where K_1 denotes the number of stationary points in which every element in the solution is distinct and K_2 denotes the number of the rest stationary points. We give two examples: (i) For $(d+2)$ -dimensional space, we can extend the solutions in $(d+1)$ -dimensional space by introducing a new dimension with zero value. The new solutions satisfy Eq.2. Because there are $d+2$ ways to insert the zero, we have at least $(d+2)K$ stationary points in $(d+2)$ -dimensional space. (ii) We denote $K'_1 = \frac{K_1}{(d+1)!}$ as the number of unordered sets that construct the stationary points. In $(2d+2)$ -dimensional space, we can construct $\hat{w}_j^E = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \{\hat{w}_j; \hat{w}_j\} \in \mathbb{S}^{2d+1}$, $\forall j$ that satisfies Eq.2. Therefore, there are at least $\frac{(2d+2)!}{2^{d+1}} K'_1 + K_2$ stationary points for \hat{W}_N in $(2d+2)$ -dimensional space, and besides this construction, there are much more stationary points. Therefore, MHE have far more stationary points in higher dimensions.

General Framework

To overcome MHE's drawbacks in high dimensional space, we propose the compressive MHE that projects the neurons to a low-dimensional space and then minimizes the hyperspherical energy of the projected neurons. In general, CoMHE minimizes the following form of energy:

$$E_s^C(\widehat{W}_N) := \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N f_s \left(\|g(\widehat{w}_i) - g(\widehat{w}_j)\| \right) \quad (3)$$

where $g: \mathbb{S}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^k$ takes a normalized $(d+1)$ -dimensional input and outputs a normalized $(k+1)$ -dimensional vector. $g(\cdot)$ can be either linear or nonlinear mapping. We only consider the linear case here. Using multi-layer perceptrons as $g(\cdot)$ is one of the simplest nonlinear cases. Similar to MHE, CoMHE also serves as a regularization in neural networks.

Random Projection for CoMHE

Random projection is in fact one of the most straightforward way to reduce dimensionality while partially preserving the angular information. More specifically, we use a random mapping $g(v) = Pv / \|Pv\|$ where $P \in \mathbb{R}^{(k+1) \times (d+1)}$ is a Gaussian distributed random matrix (each entry follows i.i.d. normal distribution). In order to reduce the variance, we use C random projection matrices to project the neurons and compute the hyperspherical energy separately:

$$E_s^R(\widehat{W}_N) := \frac{1}{C} \sum_{c=1}^C \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N f_s \left(\left\| \frac{P_c \widehat{w}_i}{\|P_c \widehat{w}_i\|} - \frac{P_c \widehat{w}_j}{\|P_c \widehat{w}_j\|} \right\| \right) \quad (4)$$

where $P_c, \forall c$ is a random matrix with each entry following the normal distribution $N(0,1)$. According to the properties of normal distribution[41], every normalized row of the random matrix P is uniformly distributed on a hypersphere \mathbb{S}^d , which indicates that the projection matrix P is able to cover all the possible subspaces. Multiple projection matrices can also be interpreted as multi-view projection because we are making use of information from multiple projection views. In fact, we do not necessarily need to average the energy for multiple projections, and instead we can use maximum operation (or some other meaningful aggregation operations. Then the objective becomes $\max_c \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N f_s \left(\left\| \frac{P_c \widehat{w}_i}{\|P_c \widehat{w}_i\|} - \frac{P_c \widehat{w}_j}{\|P_c \widehat{w}_j\|} \right\| \right)$). Considering that we aim to minimize this objective, the problem is in fact a min-max optimization. Note that, we will typically reinitialize the random projection matrices every certain number of iterations to avoid trivial solutions. Most importantly, using RP can provably preserve the angular similarity.

Angle-preserving Projection for CoMHE

Recall that we aim to find a projection to project the neurons to a low-dimensional space that best preserves angular information. We transform the goal to an optimization:

$$P^* = \operatorname{argmin}_P \mathcal{L}_P := \sum_{i \neq j} \left(\theta_{(\widehat{w}_i, \widehat{w}_j)} - \theta_{(P\widehat{w}_i, P\widehat{w}_j)} \right)^2 \quad (5)$$

where $P \in \mathbb{R}^{(k+1) \times (d+1)}$ is the projection matrix and $\theta_{(v_1, v_2)}$ denotes the angle between v_1 and v_2 . For implementation convenience, we can replace the angle with the cosine value (e.g use $\cos(\theta_{(\widehat{w}_i, \widehat{w}_j)})$ to replace $\theta_{(\widehat{w}_i, \widehat{w}_j)}$), so that we can directly use the inner product of normalized

vectors to measure the angular similarity. With \hat{P} obtained in Eq.5, we use a nested loss function

$$E_s^A(\hat{W}_N, P^*) := \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N f_s \left(\left\| \frac{P^* \hat{w}_i}{\|P^* \hat{w}_i\|} - \frac{P^* \hat{w}_j}{\|P^* \hat{w}_j\|} \right\| \right)$$

$$\text{s.t. } P^* = \operatorname{argmin}_P \sum_{i \neq j} \left(\theta_{(\hat{w}_i, \hat{w}_j)} - \theta_{(P \hat{w}_i, P \hat{w}_j)} \right)^2 \quad (6)$$

for which we propose two different ways to optimize the projection matrix P . We can approximate P^* using a few gradient descent updates. Specifically, we use two different ways to perform the optimization. Naively, we use a few gradient descent steps to update P in order to approximate P^* and then update WN , which proceeds alternately. The number of iteration steps that we use to update P is a hyperparameter and needs to be determined by cross-validation. Besides the naive alternate one, we also use a different optimization of WN by unrolling the gradient update of P .

Alternating optimization. The alternating optimization is to optimize P alternately with the network parameters WN . Specifically, in each iteration of updating the network parameters, we update P every number of inner iterations and use it as an approximation to P^* (the error depends on the number of gradient steps we take). Essentially, we are alternately solving two separate optimization problems for P and WN with gradient descent.

Unrolled optimization. Instead of naively updating WN with approximate P^* in the alternating optimization, the unrolled optimization further unrolls the update rule of P and embed it within the optimization of network parameters WN . If we denote the CoMHE loss with a given projection matrix P as $E_s^A(W_N, P)$ which takes WN and P as input, then the unrolled optimization is essentially optimizing $E_s^A(W_N, P - \eta \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_P}{\partial P})$. It can also be viewed as minimizing the CoMHE loss after a single step of gradient descent w.r.t. the projection matrix. This optimization includes the computation of second-order partial derivatives. Note that, it is also possible to unroll multiple gradient descent steps. Similar unrolling is also applied in (Finn et al. 17, Liu et al. 18, Dai et al. 18).

Notable CoMHE Variants

We provide more interesting CoMHE variants as an extension. We will have some preliminary empirical study on these variants, but our main focus is still on RP and AP.

Adversarial Projection for CoMHE. We consider a novel CoMHE variant that adversarially learns the projection. The intuition behind is that we want to learn a projection basis that maximizes the hyperspherical energy while the final goal is to minimize this maximal energy. With such intuition, we can construct a min-max optimization:

$$\min_{\hat{W}_N} \max_P E_s^V(W_N, P) := \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N f_s \left(\left\| \frac{P w_i}{\|P w_i\|} - \frac{P w_j}{\|P w_j\|} \right\| \right) \quad (7)$$

which can be solved by gradient descent similar to (Goodfellow et al. 14). From a game-theoretical perspective, P and \hat{W}_N can be viewed as two players that are competing with each

other. However, due to the instability of solving the min-max problem, the performance of this projection is unstable.

Group CoMHE. Group CoMHE is a very special case in the CoMHE framework. The basic idea is to divide the weights of each neuron into several groups and then minimize the hyperspherical energy within each group. For example in CNNs, group MHE divides the channels into groups and minimizes within each group the MHE loss. Specifically, the objective function of group CoMHE is.

$$E_s^G(\widehat{W}_N) := \frac{1}{c} \sum_{c=1}^C \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N f_s \left(\left\| \frac{P_c \widehat{w}_i}{\|P_c \widehat{w}_i\|} - \frac{P_c \widehat{w}_j}{\|P_c \widehat{w}_j\|} \right\| \right) \quad (8)$$

where P_c is a diagonal matrix with every diagonal entry being either 0 or 1, and $\sum_c P_c = I$ (in fact, this is optional). There are multiple ways to divide groups for the neurons, and typically we will divide groups according to the channels, similar to (Wu et al. 18). More interestingly, one can also divide the groups in a stochastic fashion.

Shared Projection Basis in Neural Networks

In general, we usually need different projection bases for neurons in different layers of the neural network. However, we find it beneficial to share some projection bases across different layers. We only share the projection matrix for the neurons in different layers that have the same dimensionality. For example in a neural network, if the neurons in the first layer have the same dimensionality with the neurons in the second layer, we will share their projection matrix that reduces the dimensionality. Sharing the projection basis can effectively reduce the number of projection parameters and may also reduce the inconsistency within the hyperspherical energy minimization of projected neurons in different layers. Most importantly, it can empirically improve the network generalizability while using much fewer parameters and saving more computational overheads.

Subsection 3.3 Theoretical Insights

Angle Preservation

We start with highly relevant properties of random projection and then delve into the angular preservation.

Lemma 1 (Mean Preservation of Random Projection). For any $w_1, w_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and any random Gaussian distributed matrix $P \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}$ where $P_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} r_{ij}$, if $r_{ij}, \forall i, j$ are i.i.d. random variables from $N(0, 1)$, we have $\mathbb{E}(\langle Pw_1, Pw_2 \rangle) = \langle w_1, w_2 \rangle$.

This lemma indicates that the mean of randomly projected inner product is well preserved, partially justifying why using random projection actually makes sense.

Johnson-Lindenstrauss lemma (JLL, Kaban 15) establishes a guarantee for the Euclidean distance between randomly projected vectors. However, JLL does not provide the angle preservation guarantees. It is nontrivial to provide a guarantee for angular similarity from JLL.

Theorem 1 (Angle Preservation I). Given $w_1, w_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $P \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}$ is a random projection matrix that has i.i.d. 0-mean σ -subgaussian entries, and $Pw_1, Pw_2 \in \mathbb{R}^k$ are the randomly projected vectors of w_1, w_2 under P . Then $\forall \epsilon \in (0, 1)$, we have that

$$\frac{\cos(\theta_{(w_1, w_2)}) - \epsilon}{1 + \epsilon} < \cos(\theta_{(Pw_1, Pw_2)}) < \frac{\cos(\theta_{(w_1, w_2)}) + \epsilon}{1 - \epsilon} \quad (9)$$

which holds with probability $\left(1 - 2 \exp\left(-\frac{k\epsilon^2}{8}\right)\right)^2$.

Theorem 2 (Angle Preservation II). Given $w_1, w_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $P \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}$ is a Gaussian random projection matrix where $P_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}r_{ij}$ ($r_{ij}, \forall i, j$ are i.i.d. random variables from $N(0, 1)$). and $Pw_1, Pw_2 \in \mathbb{R}^k$ are the randomly projected vectors of w_1, w_2 under P . Then $\forall \epsilon \in (0, 1)$ and $w_1^\top w_2 > 0$, we have that

$$\frac{1+\epsilon}{1-\epsilon} \cos(\theta_{(w_1, w_2)}) - \frac{2\epsilon}{1-\epsilon} < \cos(\theta_{(Pw_1, Pw_2)}) < \frac{1-\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} \cos(\theta_{(w_1, w_2)}) + \frac{1+2\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} - \frac{\sqrt{(1-\epsilon^2)}}{1+\epsilon} \quad (10)$$

which holds with probability $1 - 6 \exp\left(-\frac{k}{2}\left(\frac{\epsilon^2}{2} - \frac{\epsilon^3}{3}\right)\right)$.

Theorem 1 is one of our main theoretical results and reveals that the angle between randomly projected vectors is well preserved. Note that, the parameter σ of the subgaussian distribution is not related to our bound for the angle, so any Gaussian distributed random matrix has the property of angle preservation. The projection dimension k is related to the probability that the angle preservation bound holds. Theorem 2 is a direct result from [49]. It again shows that the angle between randomly projected vectors is provably preserved.

Both Theorem 1 and Theorem 2 give upper and lower bounds for the angle between randomly projected vectors. If $\theta(w_1, w_2) > \arccos\left(\frac{\epsilon+3\epsilon^2}{3\epsilon+\epsilon^2}\right)$, then the lower bound in Theorem 1 is tighter than the lower bound in Theorem 2. If $\theta(w_1, w_2) > \arccos\left(\frac{1-3\epsilon^2-(1-\epsilon)\sqrt{1-\epsilon^2}}{3\epsilon-\epsilon^2}\right)$, the upper bound in Theorem 1 is tighter than the upper bound in Theorem 2.

To conclude, Theorem 1 gives tighter bounds when the angle of original vectors is large. Since AP is randomly initialized every certain number of iterations and minimizes the angular difference before and after the projection, AP usually performs better than RP in preserving angles. Without the angle-preserving optimization, AP reduces to RP.

Statistical Insights

We can also draw some theoretical intuitions from spherical uniform testing (Cuesta-Albertos et al. 09) in statistics. Spherical uniform testing is a nonparametric statistical hypothesis test that checks whether a set of observed data is generated from a uniform distribution on a hypersphere or not. Random projection is in fact an important tool in statistics to test the uniformity on hyperspheres, while our goal is to promote the same type of hyperspherical uniformity(i.e., diversity). Specifically, we have N random samples w_1, \dots, w_N of S^d -valued random variables, and the random projection p which is another random variable independent

of $w_i, \forall i$ and uniformly distributed on S^d . The projected points of $w_i, \forall i$ is $y_i = p^\top w_i, \forall i$. The distribution of $y_i, \forall i$ uniquely determines the distribution of w_1 , as is specified by Theorem 3.

Theorem 3 (Unique Distribution Determination of Random Projection). Let w be a S^d -valued random variable and p be a random variable that is uniformly distributed on S^d and independent of w . With probability one, the distribution of w is uniquely determined by the distribution of the projection of w on p . More specifically, if w_1 and w_2 are S^d -valued random variables, independent of p and we have a positive probability for the event that P takes a value P_0 such that the two distributions satisfy $p_0^\top w_1 \sim p_0^\top w_2$, then w_1 and w_2 are identically distributed.

Theorem 3 shows that the distributional information is well preserved after random projection, providing the CoMHE framework a statistical intuition and foundation. We emphasize that the randomness here is in fact very crucial. For a fixed projection p_0 , Theorem 3 does not hold in general. As a result, random projection for CoMHE is well motivated from the statistical perspective.

Insights from Random Matrix Theory

Random projection may also impose some implicit regularization to learning the neuron weights.[51] proves that random projection serves as a regularizer for the Fisher linear discrimination classifier. From metric learning perspective, the inner product between neurons $w_1^\top w_2$ will become $w_1^\top P^\top P w_2$ where $P^\top P$ defines a specific form of (lowrank) similarity (Durrant et al. 15). Baranujk et al. (08) proves that random projection satisfying the JLL w.h.p also satisfies the restricted isometry property(RIP) w.h.p under sparsity assumptions. In this case, the neuron weights can be well recovered (Plan & Vershynin 13). These results imply that randomly projected neurons in CoMHE may implicitly regularize the network.

Bilateral projection for CoMHE. If we view the neurons in one layer as a matrix $W = \{w_1, \dots, w_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ where m is the dimension of neurons and n is the number of neurons, then the projection considered throughout the paper is to left-multiply a projection matrix $P_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times m}$ to W . In fact, we can further reduce the number of neurons by right-multiplying an additional projection matrix $P_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ to W . Specifically, we denote that $Y_1 = P_1 W$ and $Y_2 = WP_2$. Then we can apply the MHE regularization separately to column vectors of Y_1 and Y_2 . The final neurons are still W . More interestingly, we can also approximate W with a low-rank factorization [56]: $\tilde{W} = Y_2(P_1 Y_2)^{-1} Y_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$. It inspires us to directly use two set of parameters Y_1 and Y_2 to represent the equivalent neurons W and apply the MHE regularization separately to their column vectors. Different from the former case, we use \tilde{W} as the final neurons.

Constructing random projection matrices. In random projection, we typically construct random matrices with each element drawn i.i.d. from a normal distribution. However, there are many more choices for constructing a random matrices that can provably preserve distance information. For example, we have subsampled randomized Hadamard transform (Ailon & Chazelle 06) and count sketch-based projections (Charikar et al. 04).

Comparison to existing works. One of the widely used regularizations is the orthonormal regularization [32,59] that minimizes $\|W^\top W - I\|_F$ where W denotes the weights of a group of

neurons with each column being one neuron and I is an identity matrix. [9,29] are also built upon orthogonality. In contrast, both MHE and CoMHE do not encourage orthogonality among neurons and instead promote hyperspherical uniformity and diversity.

Randomness improves generalization. Both RP and AP introduce randomness to CoMHE, and the empirical results show that such randomness can greatly benefit the network generalization. It is well-known that stochastic gradient is one of the key ingredients that help neural networks generalize well to unseen samples. Interestingly, randomness in CoMHE also leads to a stochastic gradient (Kawaguchi et al. 18) also theoretically shows that randomness helps generalization, partially justifying the effectiveness of CoMHE.

Subsection 3.4 Experiments & Results

Image Recognition

We perform image recognition to show the improvement of regularizing CNNs with CoMHE. Our goal is to show the superiority of CoMHE rather than achieving state-of-the-art accuracies on particular tasks. For all the experiments on CIFAR-10 and CIFAR-100 in the paper, we use the same data augmentation as (He et al. 16). For ImageNet-2012, we use the same data augmentation in (Liu et al. 17). We train all the networks using SGD with momentum 0.9. All the networks use BN (Ioffe & Szegedy 15) and ReLU if not otherwise specified. By default, all CoMHE variants are built upon half-space MHE.

Ablation Study and Exploratory Experiments

Method	Error (%)
Baseline	28.03
Orthogonal	27.01
SRIP	25.80
MHE	26.75
HS-MHE	25.96
G-CoMHE	25.08
RP-CoMHE (max)	24.77
AP-CoMHE (alter.)	24.95
AP-CoMHE (unroll)	24.33

Table 3.1: CoMHE variants on C-100.

Variants of CoMHE. We compare different variants of CoMHE with the same plainCNN-9. Specifically, we evaluate the baseline CNN without any regularization, half-space MHE(HS-MHE) which is the best MHE variant from [12], random projection CoMHE(RP-CoMHE), RP-CoMHE (max) that uses max instead of average for loss aggregation, angle-preserving projection CoMHE(AP-CoMHE), adversarial projection CoMHE(Adv-CoMHE) and group

Projection Dimension	10	20	30	40	80
RP-CoMHE	25.48	25.32	24.60	24.75	25.46
AP-CoMHE (alter.)	25.21	24.60	24.95	24.97	24.99
AP-CoMHE (unroll.)	25.32	24.59	24.33	24.93	25.12

Table 3.2: Error (%) on CIFAR-100 under different dimension of projection.

CoMHE(G-CoMHE) on CIFAR-100. For RP, we set the projection dimension to 30(i.e., k=29) and the number of projection to 5(i.e, C=5). For A, the number of projection is 1and the projection dimension is set to 30. For AP, we evaluate both alternating optimization and unrolled optimization. In alternating optimization, we update the projection matrix every 10 steps of network update. In unrolled optimization, we only unroll one-step gradient in the optimization. For G-CoMHE, we construct a group with every 8 consecutive channels. All these design choices are obtained using cross-validation. We will also study how these hyperparameters affect the performance in the following experiments. The results in Table 3.1 show that all of our proposed CoMHE variants can outperform the original half-space MHE by a large margin. The unrolled optimization in AP-CoMHE shows the significant advantage over alternating one and achieves the best accuracy. Both Adv-CoMHE and G-CoMHE achieve decent performance gain over HS-MHE, but not as good as RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE. Therefore, we will mostly focus on RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE in the remaining experiments.

Dimension of projection. We evaluate how the dimension of projection (i.e., k) affects the performance. We use the plain CNN-9 as the backbone network and teston CIFAR-100. We fix the number of projections in RP-CoMHE to 20. Because AP-CoMHE does not need to use multiple projections to reduce variance, we only use one projection in AP-CoMHE. Results are given in Table 3.2. In general, RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE with different projection dimensions can consistently and significantly outperform the half-space MHE, validating the effectiveness and superiority of the proposed CoMHE framework. Specifically, we find that both RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE usually achieve the best accuracy when the projection dimension is 20 or 30. Since the unrolled optimization in AP-CoMHE is consistently better than the alternating optimization, we stick to the unrolled optimization for AP-CoMHE in the remaining experiments if not otherwise specified.

Number of projections. We evaluate RP-CoMHE under different numbers of projections. We use the plain CNN-9 as the baseline and test on CIFAR-100.Results in Table 3.3 show that the performance of RP-CoMHE is generally not very sensitive to the number of projections. Surprisingly, we find that it is not necessarily better to use more projections for variance reduction. Our experiment show that using 5 projections can achieve the best accuracy. It may be because large variance can help the solution escape bad local minima in the optimization. Note that, we generally do not use multiple projections in AP-CoMHE, because AP-CoMHE optimizes the projection and variance reduction is unnecessary. Our results do not show performance gain by using multiple projections in AP-CoMHE.

# Proj.	RP-CoMHE	AP-CoMHE
---------	----------	----------

1	25.11	24.33
5	24.39	24.34
10	25.11	24.36
20	24.60	24.38
30	24.82	24.52
80	24.92	24.56

Table 3.3: Error (%) on CIFAR-100 under different numbers of projections.

Width	t=1	t=2	t=4	t=8	t=16	t=20
Baseline	47.72	38.64	28.13	24.95	24.44	23.77
MHE	36.84	30.05	26.75	24.05	23.14	22.36
HS-MHE	35.16	29.33	25.96	23.38	21.83	21.22
RP-CoMHE	34.73	28.92	24.39	22.44	20.81	20.62
AP-CoMHE	34.89	29.01	24.33	22.6	20.72	20.50

Table 3.4: Error (%) on CIFAR-100 with different network width.

Network width. We evaluate RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE with different network width on CIFAR-100. We use the plain CNN-9 as our backbone network architecture, and set its filter number in Conv1.x, Conv2.x and Conv3.x to 16xt, 32xt and 64xt, respectively. Specifically, we test the cases where t=1,2,4,8,16. Taking t=2 as an example, then the filter numbers in Conv1.x, Conv2.x and Conv3.x are 32,64 and 128, respectively. For RP, we set the projection dimension to 30 and the number of projection to 5. For AP, the number of projection is 1 and the projection dimension is set to 30. The results are shown in Table 3.4. Note that, we use the unrolled optimization in AP-CoMHE. From Table 3.4, one can observe that the performance gains of both RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE are very consistent and significant. With wider network, CoMHE also achieves better accuracy. Compared to the strong results of half-space MHE, CoMHE still obtains more than 1% accuracy boost under different network width.

Network depth. We evaluate RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE with different network depth on CIFAR-100. We use three plain CNNs with 6,9 and 15 convolution layers, respectively. For all the networks, we set the filter number in Conv1.x, Conv2.x and Conv3.x to 64,128 and 256, respectively. For RPC, we set the projection dimension to 30 and the number of projection to 5. For AP, the number of projection is 1 and the projection dimension is set to 30. Table 3.5 shows that both RP-CoMHE and AP-

Depth	CNN-6	CNN-9	CNN-15
Baseline	32.08	28.13	N/C
MHE	28.16	26.75	26.90

	HS-MHE	27.56	25.96	25.84
	RP-CoMHE	26.73	24.39	24.21
	AP-CoMHE	26.55	24.33	24.55

Table 3.5: Error on CIFAR-100 with different network depth. N/C denotes Not Converged.

CoMHE can outperform half-space MHE by a considerable margin while regularizing a plain CNN with different depth.

Effectiveness of optimization. To verify that our CoMHE can better minimize the hyperspherical energy, we compute the hyperspherical energy E_2 (Eq.1) for baseline CNN and CNN regularized by orthogonal regularization, HS-MHE, RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE during

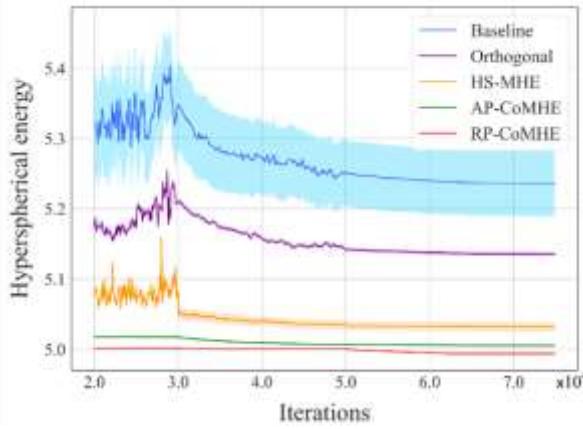


Figure 3.2: Hyperspherical energy during training.

training. Note that, we compute the original hyper-spherical energy rather than the energy after projection. All the networks use exactly the same initialization (the initial hyperspherical energy is the same). The results are averaged over five independent runs. We show the hyperspherical energy after the 20000-th iteration, because at the beginning of the training, hyperspherical energy fluctuates dramatically and is unstable. From Figure 3.2, one can observe that both RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE can better minimize the hyperspherical energy. RP-CoMHE can achieve the lowest energy with smallest standard deviation. From the absolute scale, the optimization gain is also very significant. In the high-dimensional space, the variance of hyperspherical energy is usually small(already close to the smallest energy value) and is already difficult to minimize.

ResNet with CoMHE. All the above experiments are performed using VGG-like plain CNNs, so we use the more powerful ResNet [1] to show that CoMHE is architectur-eagnostic. We use the same experimental setting in [60] for fair comparison. We use a standard ResNet-32 as our baseline. From the results in Table 3.6, one can observe that both RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE can consistently outperform half-space MHE, showing that CoMHE can boost the performance across different network architectures. More interestingly, the ResNet-32 regularized by CoMHE achieves impressive accuracy and is able to outperform the 1001-layer ResNet by a large margin. Additionally, we note that from Table 3.4, we can regularize a plain VGG-like 9-layer

CNN with CoMHE and achieve 20.81% error rate, which is nearly 2% improvement over the 1001-layer ResNet.

Method	C-10	C-100
ResNet-110	6.61	25.16
ResNet-1001	4.92	22.71
Baseline	5.19	22.87
Orthogonal	5.02	22.36
SRIP	4.75	22.08
MHE	4.72	22.19
HS-MHE	4.66	22.04
RP-CoMHE	4.59	21.82
AP-CoMHE	4.57	21.63

Table 3.6: Error (%) using ResNets.

Large-scale Recognition on ImageNet-2012

Method	Res-18	Res-34	Res-50
Baseline	32.95	30.04	25.30
Orthogonal	32.65	29.74	25.19
Orthonormal	32.61	29.75	25.21
SRIP	32.53	29.55	24.91
MHE	32.50	29.60	25.02
HS-MHE	32.45	29.50	24.98
RP-CoMHE	31.90	29.38	24.51
AP-CoMHE	31.80	29.32	24.53

Table 3.7: Top-1 center crop error on ImageNet.

We evaluate CoMHE for image recognition on ImageNet-2012 (Russakovsky et al. 14). We perform the experiment using ResNet-18, ResNet-34 and ResNet-50, and then report the top-1 validation error (center crop) in Table 3.7. Our results show consistent and significant performance gain of CoMHE in all ResNet variants. Compared to the baselines, CoMHE can reduce the top-1 error for more than 1%. Since the computational overhead of CoMHE is almost neglectable, the performance gain is obtained without many efforts. Most importantly, as a plug-in regularization, CoMHE is shown to be architecture-agnostic and produces considerable accuracy gain in most circumstances.

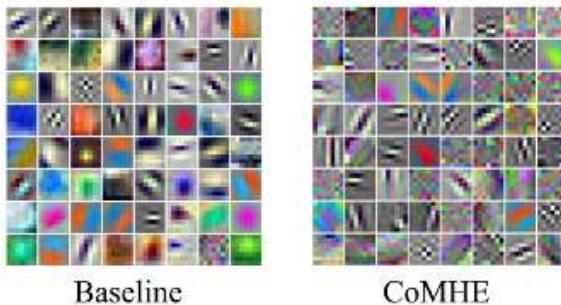


Figure 3.3: Visualized first-layer filters.

Besides the accuracy improvement, we also visualize in Figure 3.3 the 64 filters in the first-layer learned by the baseline ResNet and the proposed CoMHE-regularized ResNet. The filters look quite different after we regularize the network using CoMHE. Each filter learned by baseline focuses on a particular local pattern (e.g., edge, color and shape) and each one has a clear local semantic meaning. In contrast, filters learned by CoMHE focuses more on edges, textures and global patterns which do not necessarily have a clear local semantic meaning. However, from a representation basis perspective, having such global patterns may be beneficial to the recognition accuracy. We also observe that filters learned by CoMHE pay less attention to color.

Point Cloud Recognition

We evaluate CoMHE on point cloud recognition. Our goal is to validate the effectiveness of CoMHE on a totally different network architecture with a different form of input data structure, rather than achieving state-of-the-art performance on point cloud recognition. To this end, we conduct experiments on widely used neural networks that handles point clouds: Point-Net (PN, Qi et al. 17) and PointNet++ (PN++, Qi et al. 17). We combine half-space MHE, RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE into PN(without T-Net), PN(with T-Net) and PN++. We test the performance on ModelNet-40 (Wu et.al 15). Specifically, since PN can be viewed as 1×1 convolutions before the max pooling layer, we can apply all these MHE variants similarly to CNN. After the max pooling layer, there is a standard fully connected network where we can still apply the MHE variants. We compare the performance of regularizing PN and PN++with half-space MHE, RP-COMHE or AP-CoMHE.

Table 3.8 shows that all MHE variants consistently improve PN and PN++, while RP-CoMHE and AP-CoMHE again perform the best among all. We demonstrate that CoMHE is generally useful for different types of input data (not limit to images) and different types of neural networks. CoMHE is also useful in graph neural networks.

Method	PN	PN (T)	PN++
Original	87.1	89.20	90.07
MHE	87.31	89.33	90.25
HS-MHE	87.44	89.41	90.31
RP-CoMHE	87.82	89.69	90.52

AP-CoMHE	87.85	89.70	90.56
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Table 3.8: Accuracy (%) on ModelNet-40.

Subsection 3.5 Concluding remarks

Since naively minimizing hyperspherical energy yields suboptimal solutions, we propose a novel framework which projects the neurons to suitable spaces and minimizes the energy there. Experiments validate CoMHE's superiority.

Section 4: Traffic control under faulty sensing

Subsection 4.1: Introduction

In this section, we study the traffic routing problem in the presence of unreliable sensing. Feedback dynamic routing is a commonly used control strategy in transportation systems. This class of control strategies relies on real-time information about the traffic state in each link. However, such information may not always be observable due to temporary sensing faults. In this article, we consider dynamic routing over two parallel routes (e.g. in Fig. 4.1), where the sensing on each link is subject to recurrent and random faults. The faults occur and clear according to a finite-state Markov chain. When the sensing is faulty on a link, the traffic state on that link appears to be zero to the controller. Building on the theories of Markov processes and monotone dynamical systems, we derive lower and upper bounds for the resilience score, i.e. the guaranteed throughput of the network, in the face of sensing faults by establishing stability conditions for the network. We use these results to study how a variety of key parameters affect the resilience score of the network. The main conclusions are: (i) Sensing faults can reduce throughput and destabilize a nominally stable network; (ii) A higher failure rate does not necessarily reduce throughput, and there may exist a worst rate that minimizes throughput; (iii) Higher correlation between the failure probabilities of two links leads to greater throughput; (iv) A large difference in capacity between two links can result in a drop in throughput.

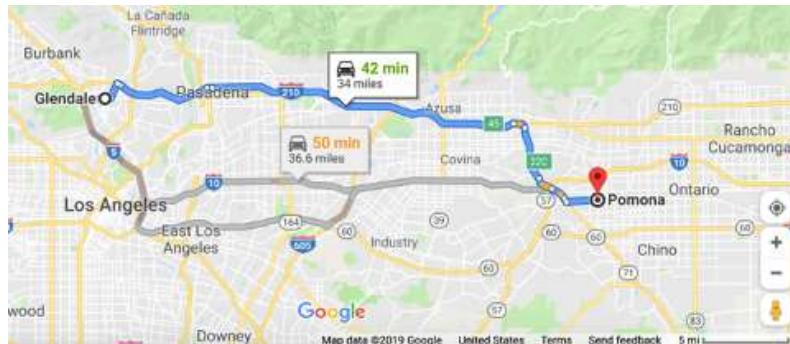


Figure 4.1: Selection over parallel routes.

Subsection 4.2: Modeling

Consider the two-link network in Figure 4.2. Let $U_k(t)$ be the flow into link $k \in \{1, 2\}$ and $X_k(t)$ be the traffic density of link k at time t . The capacity of link k is $F_k \in [0, 1]$ where $F_1 + F_2 = 1$. The flow out of link k is $f_k(X_k(t))$, which is specified by the flow function

$$f_k(x_k) = F_k(1 - e^{-x_k}), \quad k = 1, 2.$$

The source node is subject to a constant demand $\eta \geq 0$, which is considered as a model parameter rather than a state or input variable in the subsequent analysis.

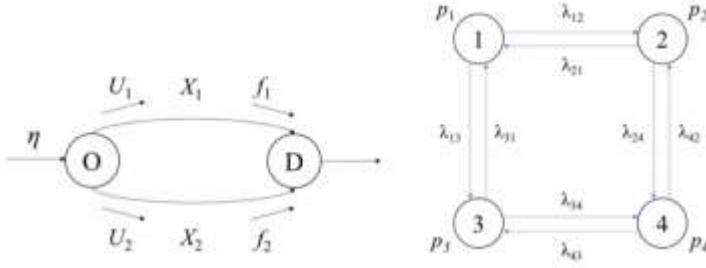


Figure 4.2: Two parallel routes (left) with four failure modes (right).

Travelers can observe the state $X(t)$. However, the observation is not always accurate. We consider the sensing on each link to be stochastically switching between a “good” and a “bad” mode. That is, we consider a set $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ of sensing fault modes. The network switches between the two modes according to the Markov chain in Figure 4.2. Each mode $s \in S$ is characterized by a fault mapping $T_s : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$ such that

$$T_1(x) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}, T_2(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}, T_3(x) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, T_4(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In mode s , the observed state is $\hat{x} = T_s(x)$. At the source node, the demand η is distributed to each link according to a routing policy $\mu : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$, which specifies the fraction of inflow that goes to each link according to the logit model

$$\mu_k(x) = \frac{e^{-\beta \hat{x}_k}}{\sum_{j=1}^2 e^{-\beta \hat{x}_j}}, \quad k = 1, 2.$$

Note that the routing is based on the observed state rather than the true state.

For notational convenience, with a slight abuse of notation, we write $\mu(s, x) = \mu(T_s(x))$. That is, the routing policy can be viewed as a switching function $\mu : S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]^2$ with a discrete argument $s \in S$ and a continuous argument $x \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$. Finally, we emphasize that we consider η as a model parameter rather than a state or input variable in the subsequent analysis.

Then, we define the dynamics of the hybrid-state process $\{(S(t), X(t)); t > 0\}$ as follows. The discrete-state process $\{S(t); t > 0\}$ of the mode is a time-invariant finite-state Markov process that is independent of the continuous-state process $\{X(t); t > 0\}$ of the traffic densities. The state space of the finite-state Markov process is S . The transition rate from mode s to mode s_0 is λ_{s,s_0} . Without loss of generality, we assume that $\lambda_{s,s} = 0$ for all $s \in S$ [23]. Hence, the discrete-state process evolves as follows:

$$\Pr\{S(t + \delta) = s' | S(t) = s\} = \lambda_{s,s'} \delta + o(\delta), \quad \forall s' \neq s, \forall s \in S.$$

where δ denotes infinitesimal time. We assume that the discrete-state process is ergodic [24] and admits a unique steady-state probability distribution $\{p_s; s \in S\}$ satisfying

$$p_s \sum_{s' \neq s} \lambda_{s,s'} = \sum_{s' \neq s} p_{s'} \lambda_{s',s}, \quad \forall s \in S,$$

$$p_s \geq 0, \quad \forall s \in S,$$

$$\sum_{s \in S} p_s = 1.$$

The continuous-state process $\{X(t); t > 0\}$ is defined as follows. For any initial condition $S(0) = s$ and $X(0) = x$,

$$\frac{d}{dt} X_k(t) = \eta \mu_k(S(t), X(t)) - f_k(X(t)), \quad t \geq 0, k = 1, 2.$$

Note that the routing policy μ and the flow function f ensure that $X(t)$ is continuous in t . We can define the flow dynamics with a vector field $G : S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ as follows: $G(s, x) := \eta \mu(s, x) - f(x)$. The joint evolution of $S(t)$ and $X(t)$ is in fact a piecewise-deterministic Markov process and can be described compactly using an infinitesimal generator

$$\mathcal{L}g(s, x) = (\eta \mu(s, x) - f(x))^T \nabla_x g(s, x) + \sum_{s' \in S} \lambda_{s, s'} (g(s', x) - g(s, x)).$$

for any differentiable function g .

The network is stable if there exists $Z < \infty$ such that for any initial condition $(s, x) \in S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_{r=0}^t E[|X(r)|] dr \leq Z.$$

This notion of stability follows a classical definition [25], some authors name it as “first-moment stable” [26]. The rest of this paper is devoted to establishing and analyzing the relation between the stability of the continuous-state process $\{X(t); t > 0\}$ and the demand η .

Subsection 4.2: Analysis

The main result of this section is as follows.

Theorem 1. *Consider two parallel links with sensors switching between two modes as defined in section 4.1.*

i) *A necessary condition for stability is that*

$$\begin{aligned} \eta \left(\frac{1}{e^{-\beta \underline{x}_2} + 1} p_2 + \frac{1}{2} p_4 \right) &\leq F_1, \\ \eta \left(\frac{1}{e^{-\beta \underline{x}_1} + 1} p_3 + \frac{1}{2} p_4 \right) &\leq F_1, \\ \eta &< 1. \end{aligned}$$

where \underline{x}_k is the solution to

$$\eta \frac{e^{-\beta \underline{x}_k}}{1 + e^{-\beta \underline{x}_k}} = F_k (1 - e^{-\underline{x}_k})$$

for $k = 1, 2$.

ii) *A sufficient condition for stability is that there exists $\theta \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$ such that*

$$\sum_{s=1}^4 p_s \max_{k \in \{1,2\}} \left\{ \eta \frac{e^{-\beta T_{s,k}(\theta_k)}}{e^{-\beta T_{s,k}(\theta_2)} + e^{-\beta T_{s,k}(\theta_1)}} - F_k(1 - e^{-\theta_k}) \right\} < 0.$$

The rest of this subsection is devoted to the proof of the above result.

Proof of sufficiency:

An apparent necessary condition for stability is $\eta < 1$. If this does not hold, then the network is unstable even in the absence of sensing faults [27]. First, an invariant set of the process $\{X(t); t > 0\}$ is $M = [\underline{x}_1, \infty) \times [\underline{x}_2, \infty)$. To see this, note that for any $s \in S$ and for any $(x_1, x_2) \in M^c$, the vector G of time derivatives of the traffic densities has a non-zero component that points to the interior of the invariant set M ; see Figure 4.3.

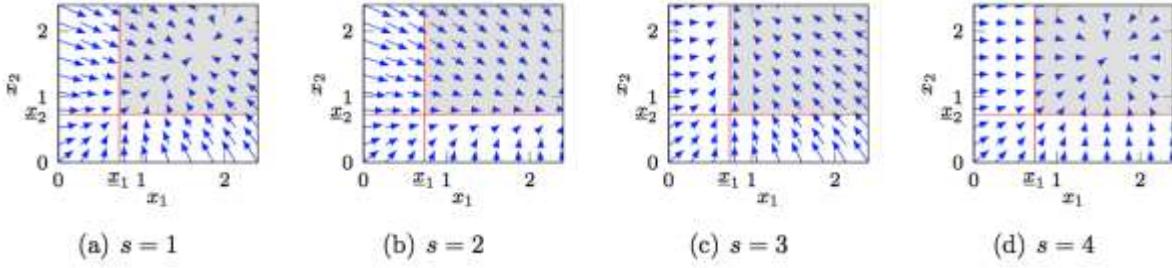


Figure 4.3: Illustration of the continuous state process and the invariant set M . The arrows represent the vector field G defined in (7) for the four states.

Second, by ergodicity of the process $\{(S(t), X(t)); t > 0\}$, we have for $k \in \{1, 2\}$,

$$X_k(t) = X_k(0) = \int_{\tau=0}^t (u_k(\tau) - f_k(\tau)) d\tau,$$

where $u_k(\tau)$ and $f_k(\tau)$ are inflow and outflow of link k at time τ . Since $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} X_k(0) = 0$ and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} X_k(t) = 0$ a.s., then

$$0 = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \left(\int_0^t (u_k(\tau) - f_k(\tau)) d\tau + X_k(0) - X_k(t) \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t (u_k(\tau) - f_k(\tau)) d\tau \text{ a.s.}$$

Note that $f_k(\tau) \leq F_k$ for any $\tau \geq 0$ and $k \in \{1, 2\}$, hence

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t u_k(\tau) d\tau = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t f_k(\tau) d\tau \leq \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t F_k d\tau = F_k.$$

According to the definition of steady-state probability,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=s} d\tau = p_s, \quad \text{a.s. } \forall s \in S.$$

Combining with (12), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
F_1 &\geq \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t u_1(\tau) d\tau = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \eta \mu_1(S(\tau), X(\tau)) d\tau = \eta \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \sum_{s=1}^4 \int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=s} \mu_1(S(\tau), X(\tau)) d\tau \\
&\geq \eta \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \left(\int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=1} 0 d\tau + \int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=2} \frac{1}{1+e^{-\beta\underline{x}_2}} d\tau + \int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=3} 0 d\tau \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=4} \frac{1}{2} d\tau \right) = \eta \left(\frac{1}{1+e^{-\beta\underline{x}_2}} \int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=2} d\tau + \frac{1}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \mathbb{I}_{S(\tau)=4} d\tau \right) \\
&= \eta \left(\frac{p_2}{1+e^{-\beta\underline{x}_2}} + \frac{p_4}{2} \right),
\end{aligned}$$

which gives (9a). We can prove (9b) in a similar way.

Proof of necessity:

Suppose that there exists a vector $\theta \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$ satisfying (10). Then, for the hybrid process $\{(S(t), X(t)); t > 0\}$, consider the Lyapunov function

$$V(s, x) = \frac{1}{2}((x_1 - \theta_1)_+ + (x_2 - \theta_2)_+)^2 + a_s((x_1 - \theta_1)_+ + (x_2 - \theta_2)_+)$$

where $(x_k - \theta_k)_+ = \max\{0, x_k - \theta_k\}$, $k = 1, 2$, and the coefficients as are given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sum_{i \neq 1} \lambda_{1i} & \lambda_{12} & \lambda_{13} & \lambda_{14} \\ \lambda_{21} & -\sum_{i \neq 2} \lambda_{2i} & \lambda_{23} & \lambda_{24} \\ \lambda_{31} & \lambda_{32} & -\sum_{i \neq 3} \lambda_{3i} & \lambda_{34} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{G} - G(1, \theta) \\ \bar{G} - G(2, \theta) \\ \bar{G} - G(3, \theta) \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where G is defined in (7) and $\bar{G} = \sum_{s \in S} p_s G(s, \theta)$. Based on the ergodicity assumption of the mode switching process, the matrix in the above must be invertible. This Lyapunov function is valid in that $V(s, x) \rightarrow \infty$ as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ for all s . Define

$$\mathcal{D}_s = \max_{k \in \{1, 2\}} (\mu_k(s, \theta) - f_k(\theta_k)), \quad s \in S.$$

The Lyapunov function V essentially penalizes the quantity $(x - \theta)_+$, which can be viewed as a “derived state”. Apparently, boundedness of $X(t)$ is equivalent to the boundedness of $(X(t) - \theta)_+$. Note that the dynamic equation of the derived state $(x - \theta)_+$ is slightly different from that of x :

$$\frac{d}{dt} (X_k(t) - \theta_k)_+ = D_k(S(t), X(t)) := \begin{cases} \mu_k(S(t), X(t)) - f_k(X(t)) & X_k(t) > \theta_k, \\ (\mu_k(S(t), X(t)) - f_k(X(t)))_+ & X_k(t) = \theta_k, \quad k = 1, 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

Applying the infinitesimal generator to the Lyapunov function, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}V(s, x) &= \sum_{k=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 D_j(s, x)(x_k - \theta_k)_+ \\
&\quad + \sum_{s' \neq s} \left(\lambda_{s,s'}(a_{s'} - a_s) \sum_{k=1}^2 (x_k - \theta_k)_+ \right) + \sum_{k=1}^2 a_{s,k} D_k(s, x) \\
&= \left(\sum_{k=1}^2 D_k(s, x) + \sum_{s' \neq s} \lambda_{s,s'}(a_{s'} - a_s) \right) |(x_k - \theta_k)_+| + \sum_{k=1}^2 a_{s,k} D_k(s, x).
\end{aligned}$$

This proof establishes the stability of the process $\{(S(t), X(t)); t > 0\}$ by verifying that the Lyapunov function V as defined above satisfies the Foster-Lyapunov drift condition for stability

$$\mathcal{L}V(s, x) \leq -c|x| + d \quad \forall (s, x) \in S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$$

for some $c > 0$ and $d < \infty$, where $|x|$ is the one-norm of x ; this condition will imply (8). To proceed, we partition $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$, the space of x , into two subsets:

$$\mathcal{X}_0 = \{x: 0 \leq x \leq \theta\}, \mathcal{X}_1 = \mathcal{X}_0^C;$$

that is, X_0 and X_1 are the complement to each other in the space $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$. In the rest of this proof, we first verify (16) over X_0 and then over X_1 . To verify (16) over X_0 , note that μ and f are bounded functions, so, for any $a_{s,k}$, there exists $d < \infty$ such that

$$d_1 \geq a_s \sum_{k=1}^2 D_k(s, x) \quad \forall (s, x) \in S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2.$$

In addition, $(x_k - \theta_k)_+ = 0$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, K$ for all $x \in X_0$; this and (15) imply $\mathcal{L}V(s, x) \leq d_1$. Furthermore, for any $c > 0$, there exists $d_2 = c|\theta|$ such that $d_2 \geq c|x|$ for all $x \in X_0$. Hence, letting $d = d_1 + d_2$, we have

$$\mathcal{L}V(s, x) \leq -c|x| + d \quad \forall (s, x) \in S \times \mathcal{X}_0.$$

To verify (16) over X_1 , we further decompose X_1 into the following subsets:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{X}_1^1 &= \{x \in \mathcal{X}_1: x_1 \geq \theta_1, x_2 < \theta_2\}, \\
\mathcal{X}_1^2 &= \{x \in \mathcal{X}_1: x_1 < \theta_1, x_2 \geq \theta_2\}, \\
\mathcal{X}_1^3 &= \{x \in \mathcal{X}_1: x_1 \geq \theta_1, x_2 \geq \theta_2\}.
\end{aligned}$$

For each $x \in X_1^1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}V(s, x) &= \left(D_1(s, x) + \sum_{s' \neq s} \lambda_{s,s'}(a_{s'} - a_s) \right) |(x - \theta)_+| + a_s \sum_{k=1}^2 D_k(s, x) \\
&\leq \left((\mu_1(s, x) - f_1(x_1)) + \sum_{s' \neq s} \lambda_{s,s'}(a_{s'} - a_s) \right) |(x - \theta)_+| + d_1 \\
&\leq \left(\mathfrak{D}_s + \sum_{s' \neq s} \lambda_{s,s'}(a_{s'} - a_s) \right) |(x - \theta)_+| + d_1.
\end{aligned}$$

From the definition of a_s , we have

$$\mathfrak{D}_s + \sum_{s' \neq s} \lambda_{s,s'} (a_{s'} - a_s) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{s' \in S} p_{s'} \mathfrak{D}_{s'}.$$

The above and (20) imply

$$LV(s, x) \leq \frac{1}{4} (\sum_{s' \in S} p_{s'} \mathfrak{D}_{s'}) |x| + d, \quad x \in \mathcal{X}_1^1.$$

Let $c := -\frac{1}{4} \sum_{s' \in S} p_{s'} D_{s'}$. Hence, we have

$$LV(s, x) \leq -c|x| + d \quad \forall (s, x) \in S \times \mathcal{X}_1^1.$$

Analogously, we can show

$$LV(s, x) \leq -c|x| + d \quad \forall (s, x) \in S \times (\mathcal{X}_1^2 \cup \mathcal{X}_1^3),$$

which completes the proof.

Subsection 4.3: Results

In this section, we study the resilience score, i.e. the guaranteed throughput (the supremum of η that maintains stability), under various scenarios. We first consider two symmetric links and focus on the impact of transition rates of the discrete state. Then, we study how the throughput varies with the asymmetry of the links.

If the two links are homogeneous in the sense that they have same flow functions $f_1 = f_2$, we have the main result of this section as follows:

Proposition 1. *For the homogeneous network, the resilience score η^* , i.e. the guaranteed throughput has a lower bound of*

$$\eta^* \geq \frac{1}{1 + p_2 + p_3}.$$

Next, we discuss how characteristics of link failures (specifically, link failure rate and link failure correlation) affect the resilience score. Table 4.1 lists the nominal values considered in this subsection.

Parameter	Notation	Nominal value
Link 1 capacity	F_1	0.5
Link 2 capacity	F_2	0.5
Routing sensitivity to congestion	β	1

Table 4.1: Nominal model parameters

Link failure rate: Suppose that the health of each link is independent of the other link. Furthermore, suppose that the failure rates of both links are identical, denoted as p , then

$$p_2 + p_4 = p = p_3 + p_4,$$

$$\underline{\eta}^* = \frac{1}{1 + p_2 + p_3} = \frac{1}{1 + 2p(1 - p)}.$$

When the link failure rate is either 0 or 1, the two-link network becomes open-loop, the lower bound can naturally be 1. The lower bound reaches minimum when the link failure rate is 0.5; see Figure 4.4.

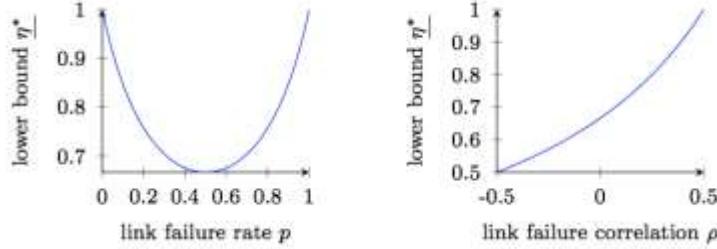


Figure 4.4: Impact of link failure probability ($\rho = 0$) and link failure correlation ($p = 0.5$) on the lower bound of resilience score.

Link failure correlation: Suppose that the health of each link is correlated with the other link while the failure rates of both links are still identical. Denote the correlation as ρ , then

$$\rho = \frac{p_4 - (p_2 + p_4)(p_3 + p_4)}{\sqrt{p_2 p_3}} = \frac{p - p_2 - p^2}{p},$$

$$\underline{\eta}^* = \frac{1}{1 + p_2 + p_3} = \frac{1}{1 + 2p(1 - p - \rho)}.$$

As the link failure correlation increases from $-p$ to $1 - p$, the lower bound increases from $\frac{1}{1+2p}$ to 1. When the failure of the two links are strongly (positively) correlated, the two-link network also turns to be open-loop and hence the lower bound reaches 1; see Figure 4.4.

Now we relax the assumption of symmetric links and allow $F_1 \neq F_2$. Without loss of generality, we assume that $F_1 \geq F_2$. Instead, we will consider symmetric failure rate, i.e. $p_2 = p_3$. The following result links the resilience score to $|F_1 - F_2|$, which quantifies the asymmetry of links:

Proposition 2. Suppose that $p_2 = p_3$ and $F_1 \geq F_2$. Then, the resilience score has a lower bound of

$$\eta^* \geq \min \left\{ \frac{1 - (F_1 - F_2)}{1 - p_1}, \frac{1 - p_4(F_1 - F_2)}{1 + 2p_2} \right\}.$$

The proofs of Propositions 1 and 2 are available in (Xie & Jin 2020).

Now we are ready to discuss how link capacity difference affects the resilience score. When $F_1 = F_2$, the lower bound is $\frac{1}{1+2p_2}$, in consistence with our lower bound in subsection 4.1, and the upper bound is 1 (note that when $\sqrt{2} \max\{p_2, p_3\} + p_4 \leq 1$, we can derive $\eta < 1$ from the necessary condition).

As $F_1 - F_2$ increases, the lower bound gradually drops and after certain point, it drops faster to 0 while the upper bound remains 1 for a while and then drops to 0. It means that when the difference between two link capacities gets larger, one link starts getting more congested than the other, then the system can be less stable.

When $F_1 \rightarrow 1, F_2 \rightarrow 0$, the network has weak resilience to the sensing faults and the resilience score tends to be zero.

Subsection 4.4: Extension to general networks

We also briefly introduce an important extension that we made for the model described in Subsection 4.1. In this extension, we extend our analysis from a two parallel routes to general networks. Here we elaborate on our methodology and the main results. Mathematical details are available in (Tang & Jin).

We consider a single-origin-single-destination, acyclic network with a time-invariant inflow at the origin; see Figure 4.5. Our model considers rather general flow dynamics and control actions; importantly, it allows congestion propagation (i.e. spillback). We use finite-state Markov process to model the occurrence and clearance of a broad class of cyber-physical disruptions. Cyber disruptions can either modify the mapping from the true states to the observed states (sensing faults) or disable/corrupt actuators so that no control instruction or a biased control instruction is implemented (actuating faults), and physical disruptions can influence the flow functions. The proposed model belongs to a class of models called piecewise-deterministic Markov processes (PDMP), where continuous states (traffic densities) evolve according to multiple sets of ordinary differential equations and a discrete state (modes) determines the mode of the continuous dynamics (Davis 84). Besides, our model is also related to stochastic hybrid systems (Hu et al. 00) and Markov jump systems (Zhang et al. 08).

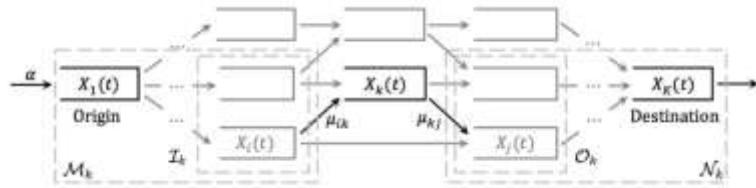


Figure 4.5: Network structure.

With the PDMP network model, we study the impact of cyber-physical disruptions on network throughput. We define throughput as the maximal inflow at the origin under which the network can be stabilized, i.e. traffic densities in all links being bounded on average. Our stability analysis is based on a Lyapunov-function approach (Meyn & Tweedie 93) and properties of PDMPs (Davis 84). Although the generic theory is well developed, the implementation in our problem is challenging due to the non-linear and possibly non-smooth flow dynamics. To address this challenge, we utilize properties of the monotone dynamics (Hirsch 85, Smith 08) of the network model to establish an easy-to-check stability condition (Tang & Jin, Theorem 1). Our stability analysis contributes to the literature on stochastic fluid models, which has been focusing on the steady-state distribution of single or tandem links with Markovian inflow or capacity (Anick et al. 82, Kulkarni 97, Kroese & Scheinhardt 01).

Next, we propose control design based on the stability analysis. In practice, a key challenge for resilient control is that one cannot always have a full observation of network states and disruption modes. We focus on three typical cases. In the first case, the network links may have finite storage spaces, and the system operator can observe disruption modes. For this case, we show that there must exist a mode-dependent control that will attain the expected-min-cut capacity of the network (Tang & Jin, Theorem 2). In the second case, all of the network links have infinite storage space, and the system operator has no observation but perfect knowledge of disruptions. For this case, we propose an open-loop control that attains the min-expected-cut capacity of the network (Tang & Jin, Theorem 3). These results are analogous to the classical max-flow min-cut theorem (Dantzig & Fulkerson 03). In the third case, the system observer can only observe traffic densities. We propose a density-dependent control that mitigates congestion spillback and provide a lower bound for the guaranteed throughput (Tang & Jin, Theorem 4). Finally, we use numerical examples to demonstrate that our control design approach can enhance the network resiliency.

Subsection 4.5: Subsequent work: Simulation of I210

As a follow-up work of this project, we will validate our results on I210. We have created a simulation testbed for traffic flow on Interstate I210 near Los Angeles. This model will be used for simulating sensing faults and the impact of feedback ramp control.

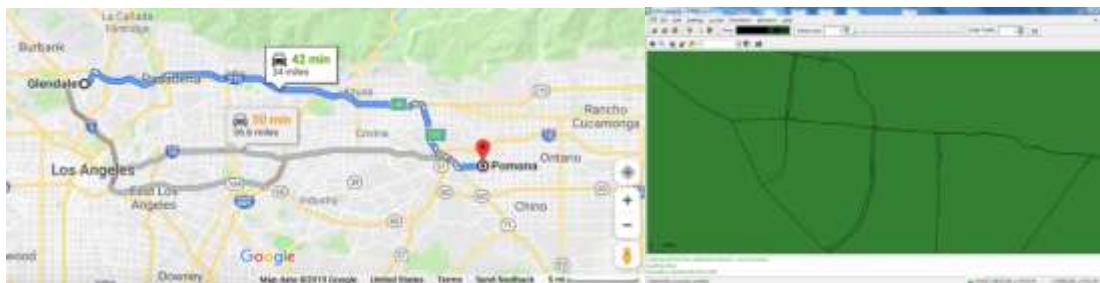


Figure 4.6: Simulation testbed for I210 near Los Angeles.

Section 5: Conclusions

In this project, we considered the traffic monitoring and control problem in the presence of unstable sensing. We explored ideas from computer vision and traffic control, which provides a basis for subsequent implementation.

For traffic control, we propose a two-link dynamic flow model with sensing faults to study the stability conditions and guaranteed throughput of the network. Based on this model, we are able to derive lower and upper bounds of the resilience score and analyze the impact of transition rates and heterogeneous link capacities on them. This work can be extended in several directions. First, we can consider a complicated network with k links (not necessarily parallel) rather than a simple two parallel link network. Second, other forms of flow functions can be assumed in the model. Third, the logit model can be replaced with other routing policies. Last, several variations of fault modes can also be discussed.

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