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LEVERAGING SPATIAL CONTEXT DATA TO IMPROVE HOLODEC SEGMENTATION MODEL PERFORMANCE

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MOTIVATION

- HOLODEC-ii hydrometeor sensor from NCAR EOL¹
- Samples 20 cubic centimeter atmosphere sample
- Returns inline complex hologram, use fourier transform to reconstruct three-dimensional image



Mounted HOLODEC Sensor





HOLODEC Hardware

EOL HOLODEC Schematic

MOTIVATION

- Raw sensor data to hydrometeor attributes
- Requires holograms be reconstructed at target depth
- Wave propagation algorithm to unpack sensor depth dimension²



HOLOSUITE METHOD



IMAGE REFOCUSING

- Sensor data is noisy and particles are sparse
- Water particles only for geometric simplicity
- Synthetic data here onwards





HOLODEC-ML

- 3D complex tensor -> 2D propagation image
- NCAR MILES: ML Powered particle segmentation algorithm³
- PyTorch SMP network trained on synthetic particle data
- Images treated as independent, classical segmentation problem
- Higher false positive rate in sensor depth direction, particle spans reconstruction depths

O PyTorch



(a) CNN segmentation mask estimation



1. HOLOGRAM PHASE DATA

- Sensor data is complex wave representation (a+bi)
- Include magnitude and phase
- Old method: absolute value to convert into SMP compatible image
- New method: give magnitude and phase tensors to model, capture Z depth detail better
- Wave phase more variable with respect to propagation distance



Sample Network Input

1. SENSOR DEPTH CONTEXT DATA

- Don't treat propagation distance frames as independent
- Give model propagation context in positive sensor direction
- Stacked in tensor color channel along with phase/magnitude components



2. FULL-HOLOGRAM INFERENCE

- Goal: HOLODEC hologram -> particle prediction mask data
- New metric area under receiver operating characteristic curve (0.5 is worst, 1.0 is best)
- Evaluated on small fixed sample, realistic inference simulation
- Greatly improved optimization time w.r.t. Minimizing FPR





HYPERPARAMETER OPTIMIZATION

- Tuned on ECHO, NCAR MILES optimizer
 - Extension of Optuna
- Optimal configuration of hundreds of trial configurations
- Powered by CISL
 Casper



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PERFORMANCE

- Best validation dice loss with added context: 0.073
- Best AUC maximizing AUROC: ~0.7, dice loss of ~0.03
- Greatly improved optimization speeds



HOLODECML Performance with Dice and AUC Objective Functions



ECHO Dice Coefficient Loss and Best Value Across Time



FUTURE WORK

- GAN-stylized synthetic data to mirror real data⁴
- Ice particulate segmentation
- Goal: on-the-fly image inference
- Evaluate performance on different sensors, datasets, campaigns





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Ice particle segmentation

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NCAR Miles Team at Vaisala in Louisville



McLovin the Australian Shepherd wearing a CISL hat



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