# Iterative Feature Transformation for Fast and Versatile Universal Style Transfer

Tai-Yin Chiu and Danna Gurari

University of Texas at Austin

This document supplements Sections 3 and 4 of the main paper. In particular, it includes the following:

- Derivation of the analytical gradient (supplements Section 3.2).
- Training details of the autoencoders (supplements Section 4).
- Stylized results for quantitative analysis of photo-realistic transfer (supplements **Section 4.2**).
- Formulation of NST and WCT for multi-style transfer and double-style transfer results from AdaIN and Avatar-net (supplements **Section 4.3**).

# 1 Derivation of the analytical gradient

For simplicity, we suppress the subscript N. Here we show that if

$$l_j(\mathbf{F}) = ||\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}^{(j)}||_F^2 + \lambda ||\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m}\mathbf{F}_s\mathbf{F}_s^{\mathrm{T}}||_F^2,$$
(1)

then

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}l}{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{F}} = 2(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}^{(j)}) + \frac{4\lambda}{n} (\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m} \mathbf{F}_{s} \mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}) \mathbf{F}.$$
(2)

Proof.

$$||\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}^{(j)}||_{F}^{2} \tag{3}$$

$$=\operatorname{tr}[(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}^{(j)})(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}^{(j)})^{\mathrm{T}}]$$
(4)

$$= \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - 2\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{F}^{(j)})^{\mathrm{T}} + \mathbf{F}^{(j)}(\mathbf{F}^{(j)})^{\mathrm{T}}], \qquad (5)$$

and

$$||\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}||_{F}^{2}$$

$$\tag{6}$$

$$= \operatorname{tr}\left[\left(\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}\right)\left(\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}\right)\right]$$
(7)

$$= \operatorname{tr}\left[\frac{1}{n^{2}}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{2}{nm}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}} + \frac{1}{m^{2}}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}\right].$$
(8)

Let  $\mathbf{F} = [f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n]$ ,  $\mathbf{F}^{(j)} = [f_1^{(j)}, f_2^{(j)}, \dots, f_n^{(j)}]$ , and  $\mathbf{F}_s = [f_1^s, f_2^s, \dots, f_m^s]$ . We first find the partial derivatives with respect to  $f_i$ :

$$\frac{\partial ||\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}^{(j)}||_F^2}{\partial f_i} = \frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_i} - 2\frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{F}^{(j)})^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_i},\tag{9}$$

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$$\frac{\partial ||\frac{1}{n}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}||_{F}^{2}}{\partial f_{i}} = \frac{1}{n^{2}}\frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_{i}} - \frac{2}{nm}\frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_{i}}, \quad (10)$$

where  $\operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}] = \sum_{a=1}^{n} f_{a}^{\mathrm{T}} f_{a}, \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{F}^{j})^{\mathrm{T}}] = \sum_{a=1}^{n} f_{a}^{\mathrm{T}} f_{a}^{(j)},$ 

$$\operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}]_{n}$$
(11)

$$=\operatorname{tr}\left[\sum_{a=1}^{T} f_a f_a^{\mathrm{T}} \sum_{b=1}^{T} f_b f_b^{\mathrm{T}}\right]$$
(12)

$$=\sum_{a=1}^{n}\sum_{b=1}^{n}\operatorname{tr}[f_{a}f_{a}^{\mathrm{T}}f_{b}f_{b}^{\mathrm{T}}]$$
(13)

$$=\sum_{a=1}^{n}\sum_{b=1}^{n}(f_{a}^{\mathrm{T}}f_{b})^{2},$$
(14)

and similar to tr[**FF**<sup>T</sup>**FF**<sup>T</sup>], we have tr[**FF**<sup>T</sup>**F**<sub>s</sub>**F**<sub>s</sub><sup>T</sup>] =  $\sum_{a=1}^{n} \sum_{b=1}^{m} (f_{a}^{T} f_{b}^{s})^{2}$ . For the partial derivatives with respect to  $f_{i}$ , we only have to focus on the terms associated with  $f_{i}$ . Therefore,

$$\frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_{i}} = \frac{\partial f_{i}^{\mathrm{T}}f_{i}}{\partial f_{i}} = 2f_{i}, \qquad (15)$$

$$\frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{F}^{(j)})^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_{i}} = \frac{\partial f_{i}^{\mathrm{T}} f_{i}^{(j)}}{\partial f_{i}} = f_{i}^{(j)}, \qquad (16)$$

$$\frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_{i}} \tag{17}$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial f_i} \left( \sum_{a \neq i} (f_a^{\mathrm{T}} f_i)^2 + \sum_{b \neq i} (f_i^{\mathrm{T}} f_b)^2 + (f_i^{\mathrm{T}} f_i)^2 \right)$$
(18)

$$=2\sum_{a\neq i} (f_a^{\mathrm{T}} f_i) f_a + 2\sum_{b\neq i} (f_i^{\mathrm{T}} f_b) f_b + 4(f_i^{\mathrm{T}} f_i) f_i$$
(19)

$$=4\sum_{a\neq i} (f_a^{\mathrm{T}}f_i)f_a + 4(f_i^{\mathrm{T}}f_i)f_i$$

$$\tag{20}$$

$$=4\sum_{a=1}^{n} (f_a^{\mathrm{T}} f_i) f_a \tag{21}$$

$$=4\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}f_{i},\tag{22}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial \operatorname{tr}[\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}]}{\partial f_{i}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial f_{i}}\sum_{b=1}^{m}(f_{i}^{\mathrm{T}}f_{b}^{s})^{2} = 2\sum_{b=1}^{m}(f_{i}^{\mathrm{T}}f_{b}^{s})f_{b}^{s} = 2\sum_{b=1}^{n}((f_{b}^{s})^{\mathrm{T}}f_{i})f_{b}^{s} = 2\mathbf{F}_{s}\mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}f_{i}.$$
(23)

Putting everything together, we have

$$\frac{\partial l_j(\mathbf{F})}{\partial f_i} = 2f_i - 2f_i^{(j)} + \lambda (4\frac{1}{n^2}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}f_i - 4\frac{1}{nm}\mathbf{F}_s\mathbf{F}_s^{\mathrm{T}}f_i)$$
(24)

$$= 2(f_i - f_i^{(j)}) + \frac{4\lambda}{n} (\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m} \mathbf{F}_s \mathbf{F}_s^{\mathrm{T}}) f_i.$$
(25)

Finally,

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}l_j(\mathbf{F})}{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{F}} = \left[\frac{\partial l_j}{\partial f_1}, \frac{\partial l_j}{\partial f_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial l_j}{\partial f_n}\right]$$
(26)

$$= 2(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}^{(j)}) + \frac{4\lambda}{n} (\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m} \mathbf{F}_{s} \mathbf{F}_{s}^{\mathrm{T}}) \mathbf{F}.$$
 (27)

## 2 Multiple-style transfer

Starting from equation 8 in the main paper:

$$\min_{\mathbf{F}_{N}} ||\mathbf{F}_{N} - \mathbf{F}_{N}^{(j)}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{q} \lambda_{N}^{k} || \frac{1}{n_{N}} \mathbf{F}_{N} \mathbf{F}_{N}^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m_{N}^{k}} \mathbf{F}_{N,s}^{k} (\mathbf{F}_{N,s}^{k})^{\mathrm{T}} ||_{F}^{2}, \quad (28)$$

since the following equivalence

$$\min_{\mathbf{X}} a ||\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}||_F^2 + b ||\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Z}||_F^2 \equiv \min_{\mathbf{X}} (a+b) ||\mathbf{X} - \frac{a}{a+b} \mathbf{Y} - \frac{b}{a+b} \mathbf{Z}||_F^2 \quad (29)$$

holds, which can be shown by completing the square and removing the constant parts, we can rewrite equation 28 into an equivalent form with  $\lambda_N \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^q \lambda_N^k$ :

$$\min_{\mathbf{F}_N} ||\mathbf{F}_N - \mathbf{F}_N^{(j)}||_F^2 + \lambda_N || \frac{1}{n_N} \mathbf{F}_N \mathbf{F}_N^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{\lambda_N} \sum_{k=1}^q \frac{\lambda_N^k}{m_N^k} \mathbf{F}_{N,s}^k (\mathbf{F}_{N,s}^k)^{\mathrm{T}} ||_F^2.$$
(30)

The gradient of objective is then given by

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}l_j}{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{F}_N} = 2(\mathbf{F}_N - \mathbf{F}_N^{(j)}) + \frac{4\lambda_N}{n_N} (\frac{1}{n_N} \mathbf{F}_N \mathbf{F}_N^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{\lambda_N} \sum_{k=1}^q \frac{\lambda_N^k}{m_N^k} \mathbf{F}_{N,s}^k (\mathbf{F}_{N,s}^k)^{\mathrm{T}}) \mathbf{F}_N.$$
(31)

Note that when q = 1, equation 31 reduces to equation 2.

## 3 Training details of the autoencoders

The four autoencoders are trained by minimizing an image reconstruction loss and a perceptual loss. In particular, if the functions of the *encoder<sub>N</sub>* and *decoder<sub>N</sub>* are denoted  $\phi_N(\cdot)$  and  $\psi_N(\cdot)$ , respectively, the *decoder<sub>N</sub>* is trained by minimizing the loss  $\mathcal{L}_{AE}$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_{AE} = ||\psi_N(\phi_N(I)) - I||_F^2 + ||\phi_N(\psi_N(\phi_N(I))) - \phi_N(I)||_F^2, \quad (32)$$

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where I is an input image. We train the autoencoders on the MS-COCO dataset. To support batch training, each image from the dataset is resized to  $512 \times 512$  and randomly cropped to  $256 \times 256$  as a training example in a batch. For the autoencoders associated with *relu4\_1* and *relu3\_1* layers, they are trained with a batch size of 8 for 5 epochs, while for *relu2\_1* and *relu1\_1* cases, the autoencoders are trained for 3 epochs, due to their smaller sizes. We use Adam optimizer with the learning rate  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  and without weight decay. Moreover, we use upsampling layers with bilinear interpolation in the decoders as the symmetric part of the max-pooling layers in the encoders.

# 4 Stylized results for quantitative analysis of photo-realistic transfer

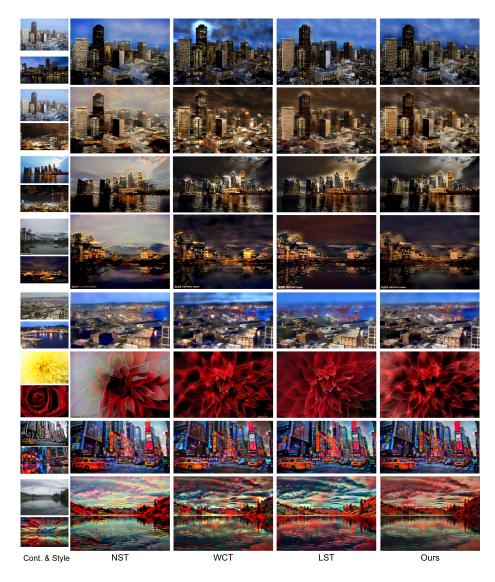


Fig. 1: Photo-realistically stylized images from 30 pairs of a content and a style images for quantitative analysis. No spatial control and no post-processing are applied (Part 1/4).

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**Table 1:** Speed performance of our method under  $n_{upd} = 15$  and  $n_{iter} = 1$  for generating the results in figures 1, 2, 3, and 4. Unit: Second.

	$\bf 256 \times 256$	${\bf 512}\times{\bf 512}$	$\bf 768 \times 768$	$1024\times1024$
$\operatorname{time}$	0.13	0.31	0.62	0.92

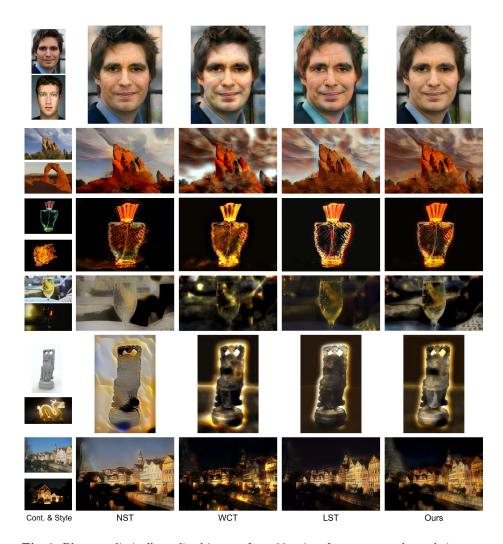


Fig. 2: Photo-realistically stylized images from 30 pairs of a content and a style images for quantitative analysis. No spatial control and no post-processing are applied (Part 2/4).

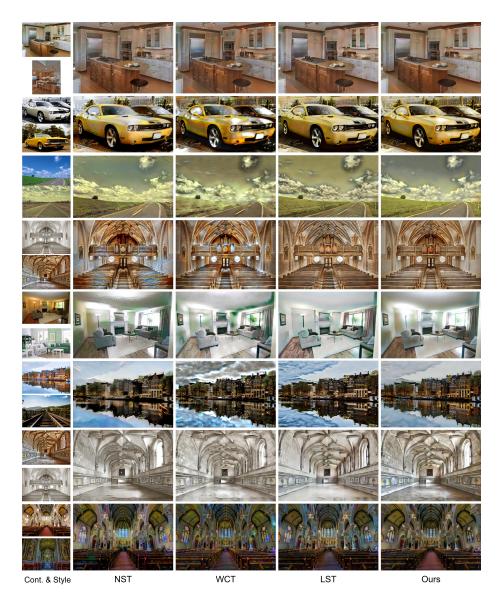


Fig. 3: Photo-realistically stylized images from 30 pairs of a content and a style images for quantitative analysis. No spatial control and no post-processing are applied (Part 3/4).

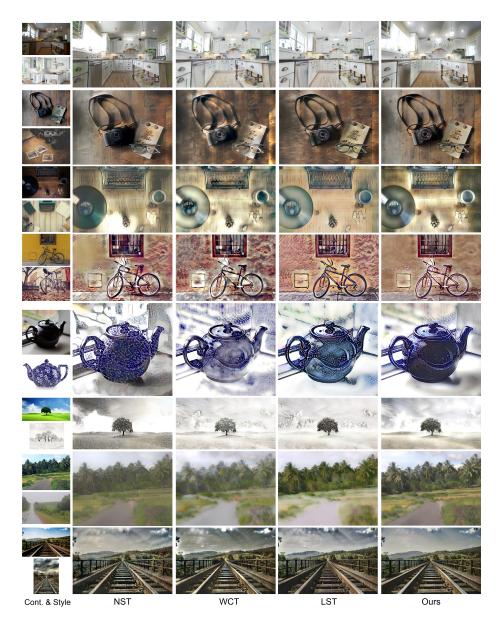


Fig. 4: Photo-realistically stylized images from 30 pairs of a content and a style images for quantitative analysis. No spatial control and no post-processing are applied (Part 4/4).

# 5 Formulation of NST and WCT for multi-style transfer

The objective of NST for multi-style transfer is as follows:

$$\min_{I} ||\mathbf{F}_{4}(I) - \mathbf{F}_{4,c}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{N=1}^{4} \sum_{k=1}^{q} \lambda_{N}^{k} || \frac{1}{n_{N}} \mathbf{F}_{N}(I) \mathbf{F}_{N}(I)^{\mathrm{T}} - \frac{1}{m_{N}^{k}} \mathbf{F}_{N,s}^{k} (\mathbf{F}_{N,s}^{k})^{\mathrm{T}} ||_{F}^{2},$$
(33)

where  $\mathbf{F}_{N,s}^{k}$ 's are the feature maps of q style images extracted from *encoder*<sub>N</sub>. The stylized image is then derived by solving equation 33 using gradient descent by back-propagation. How different style features are included in equation 33 is non-linear.

On the other hand, WCT realizes multiple-style transfer by linear interpolation of transformed features. By applying WCT to each style feature  $\mathbf{F}_{N,s}^k$  and the content feature  $\mathbf{F}_{N,c}$ , we can derive a transformed feature  $\mathbf{F}_{N,wct}^k$ . The final feature  $\mathbf{F}_{N,wct}$  to be decoded is an affine combination:

$$\mathbf{F}_{N,wct} = \sum_{k=1}^{q} w_k \mathbf{F}_{N,wct}^k, \text{ with } \sum_{k=1}^{q} w_k = 1.$$
 (34)

As such, each style is weakened due to  $w_k < 1$  in the stylized image and could even not be observed.

# 6 Double-style transfer results from AdaIN and Avatar-net



Fig. 5: Double-style transfer results from AdaIN and Avatar-net. Unlike our method that preserves the integrity of each style, styles in doubly stylized images from AdaIN and Avatar-net might be weakened due to the linear interpolation of feature maps.