

Universal Image Restoration Pre-training via Degradation Classification

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Restoration model can classify degradation

Preliminary experiment:

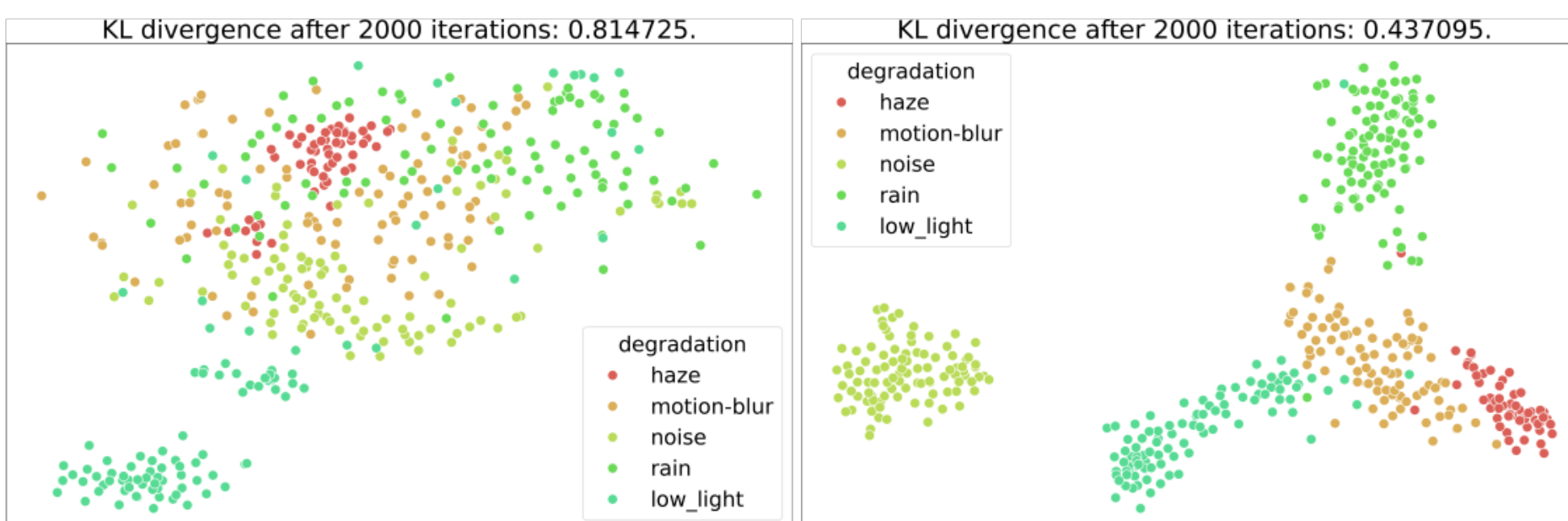
- Given restoration models trained on **three** degradation. (haze, rain, Gaussian noise)
- Their features are required to classify **five** degradation. (haze, rain, Gaussian noise, **motion blur**, and **low-light**)

Methods	NAFNet	SwinIR	Restormer	PromptIR
Acc. on Random initialized (%)	52 ± 1	64 ± 4	71 ± 4	55 ± 3
Acc. on 3D all-in-one trained 200k iterations (%)	90 ± 5	92 ± 6	93 ± 3	93 ± 5
Acc. on 3D all-in-one trained 400k iterations (%)	94 ± 4	95 ± 4	95 ± 4	95 ± 4
Acc. on 3D all-in-one trained 600k iterations (%)	94 ± 5	95 ± 4	97 ± 2	95 ± 4

Results:

- Randomly initialized models** can achieve 52 ~ 71 % degradation classification accuracy.
- After the 3D all-in-one training**, models achieve an accuracy of 94% or higher in classifying degradation, including **unseen** ones.

Visualization: T-SNE results of PromptIR on five degradation after random initialization and 3D all-in-one training.



Conclusions:

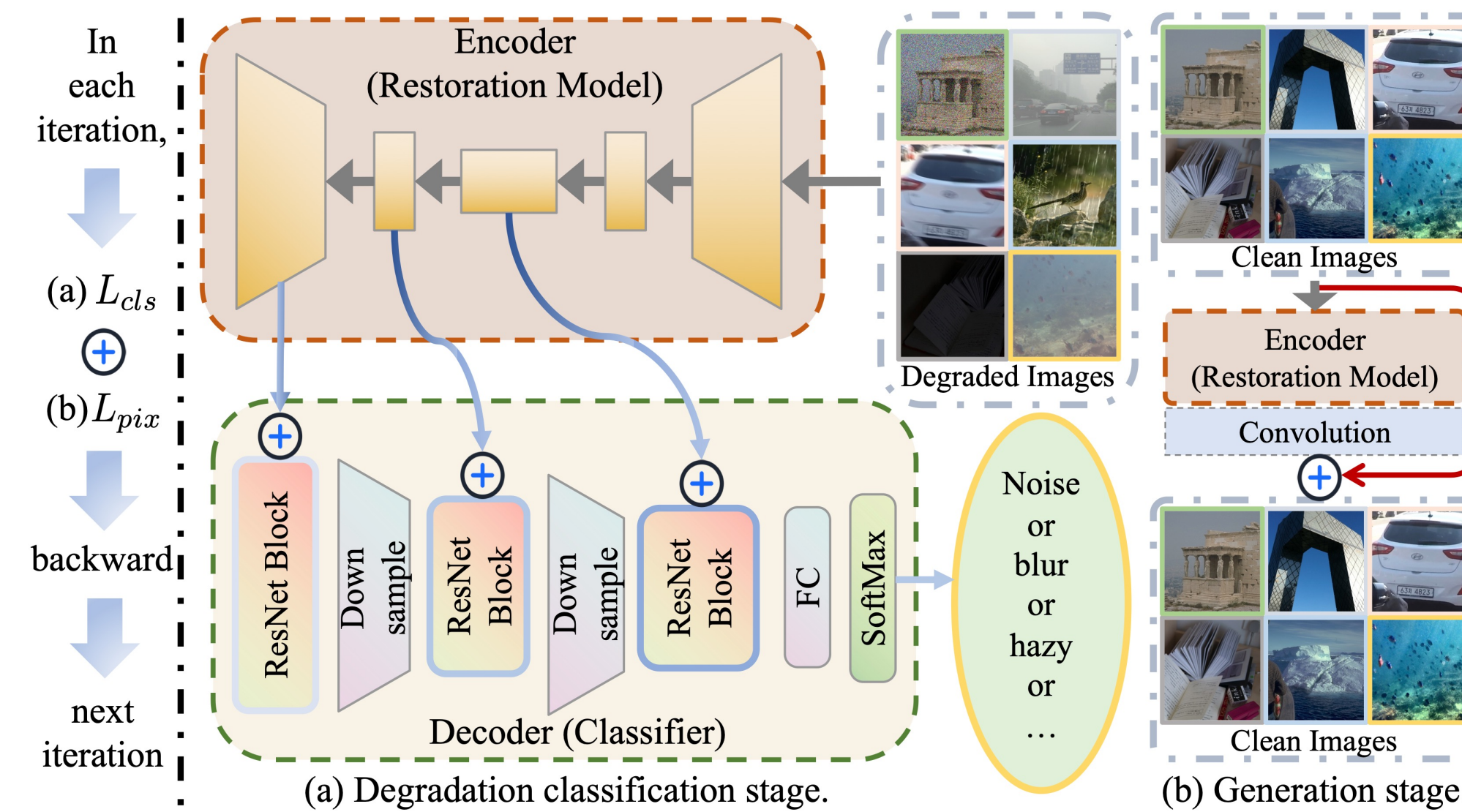
- Randomly initialized models demonstrate an inherent capability to classify degradation.
- Models trained on the all-in-one task exhibit the ability to discern unknown degradation.
- There is a degradation understanding step in the early training of the restoration model.

Motivation:

!!! bringing the degradation classification stage forward !!!

DCPT: Degradation Classification Pre-Training

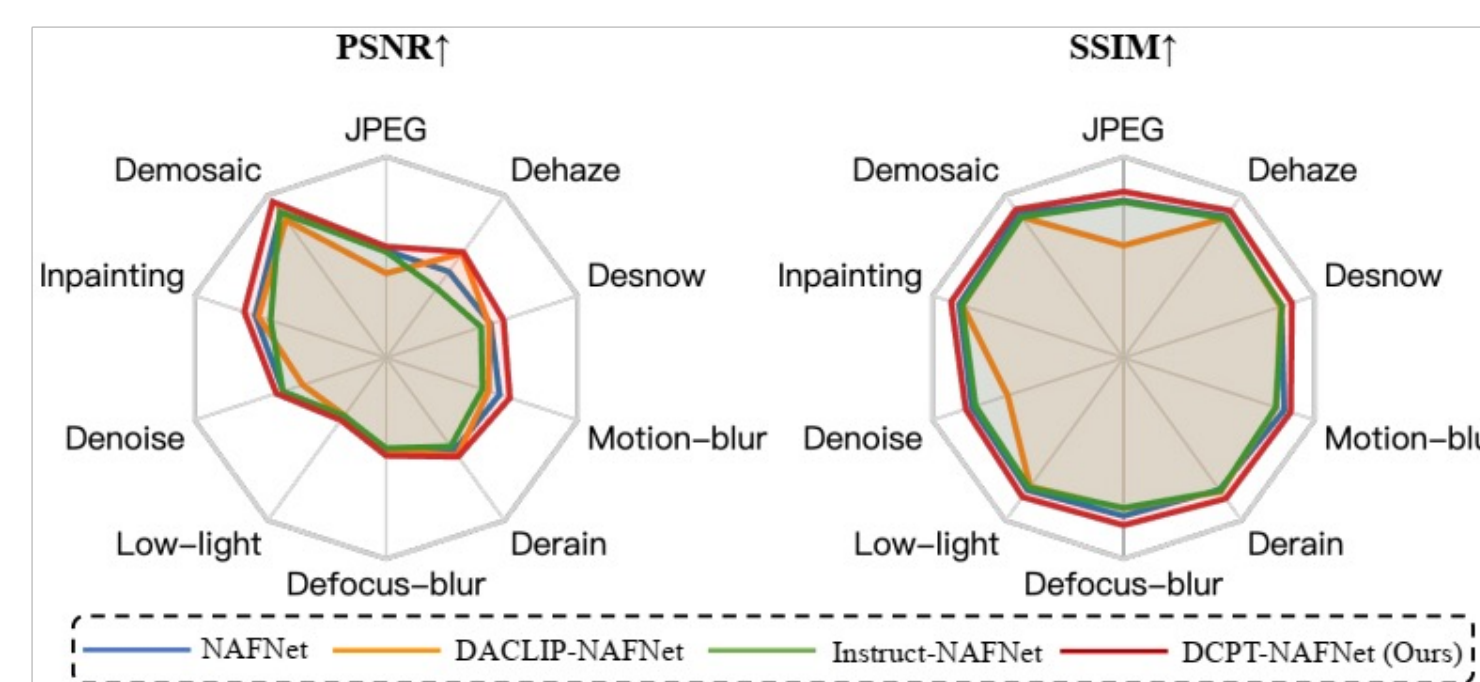
DCPT combines **degradation discrimination** and **generation** in single restoration model.



Quantitative Results: Universal image restoration

- Applicable to **various network structures**. DCPT consistently achieves average PSNR improvements of **2.08 dB and above**.
- Archiving **SoTA performance** in all-in-one restoration.
- More **efficient than other degradation embedding**, e.g., physical degradation models (IDR) and human instructs (InstructIR).

Method	Dehazing	Deraining	Denoising	Deblurring	Low-Light	Average
	PSNR↑/SSIM↑	PSNR↑/SSIM↑	PSNR↑/SSIM↑	PSNR↑/SSIM↑	PSNR↑/SSIM↑	PSNR↑/SSIM↑
AirNet	21.04 / 0.884	32.98 / 0.951	30.91 / 0.882	24.35 / 0.781	18.18 / 0.735	25.49 / 0.846
IDR	25.24 / 0.943	35.63 / 0.965	31.60 / 0.887	27.87 / 0.846	21.34 / 0.826	28.34 / 0.893
InstructIR	27.10 / 0.956	36.84 / 0.973	31.40 / 0.887	29.40 / 0.886	23.00 / 0.836	29.55 / 0.907
SwinIR	21.50 / 0.891	30.78 / 0.923	30.59 / 0.868	24.52 / 0.773	17.81 / 0.723	25.04 / 0.835
DCPT-SwinIR	28.67 / 0.973	35.70 / 0.974	31.16 / 0.882	26.42 / 0.807	20.38 / 0.836	28.47 / 0.894
NAFNet	25.23 / 0.939	35.56 / 0.967	31.02 / 0.883	26.53 / 0.808	20.49 / 0.809	27.76 / 0.881
DCPT-NAFNet	29.47 / 0.971	35.68 / 0.973	31.31 / 0.886	29.22 / 0.883	23.52 / 0.855	29.84 / 0.914
Restormer	24.09 / 0.927	34.81 / 0.962	31.49 / 0.884	27.22 / 0.829	20.41 / 0.806	27.60 / 0.881
DCPT-Restormer	29.86 / 0.973	36.68 / 0.975	31.46 / 0.888	28.95 / 0.879	23.26 / 0.842	30.04 / 0.911
PromptIR	25.20 / 0.931	35.94 / 0.964	31.17 / 0.882	27.32 / 0.842	20.94 / 0.799	28.11 / 0.883
DCPT-PromptIR	30.72 / 0.977	37.32 / 0.978	31.32 / 0.885	28.84 / 0.877	23.35 / 0.840	30.31 / 0.911

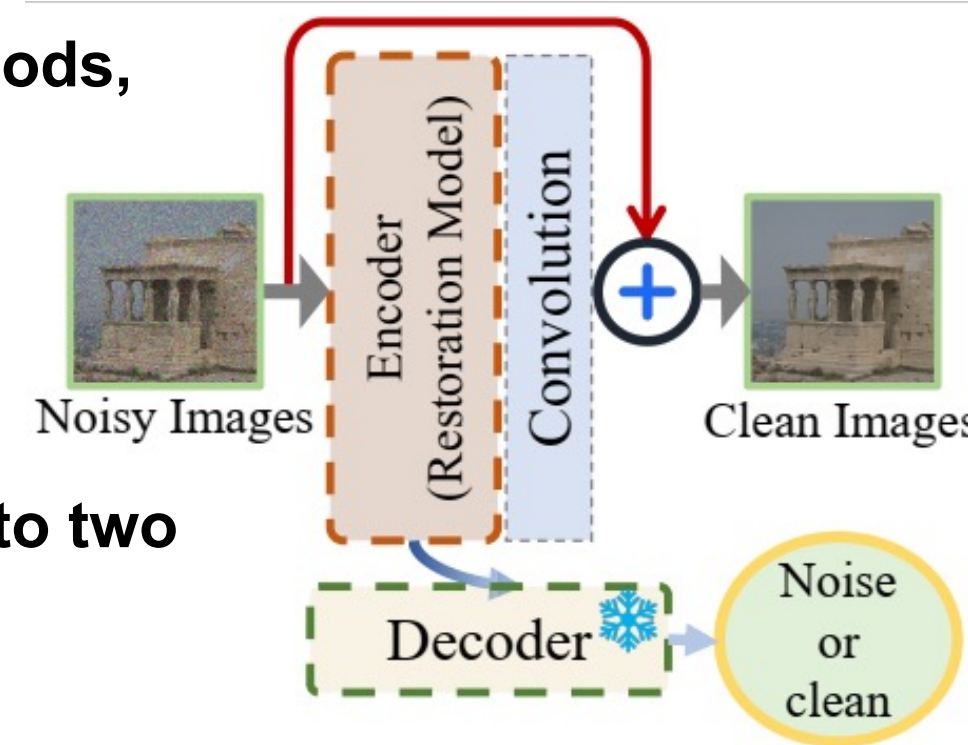


Method	10D-Average PSNR↑/SSIM↑
AirNet	26.41 / 0.842
TransWeather	22.83 / 0.779
WeatherDiff	24.60 / 0.793
PromptIR	27.93 / 0.851
DiffUIR-L	28.75 / 0.869
NAFNet	27.17 / 0.837
+DACLIP	27.42 / 0.798
+Instruct	28.30 / 0.862
+DCPT (Ours)	29.72 / 0.888

Decoder helps cross-degradation generalization

Unlike previous pre-training methods, our decoder is not discarded.

In **DC-guided training**, the role of the decoders is limited to classifying the input images into two categories: **clean** and **degraded**.



DC-guided training achieves greater performance gains on tasks that are more difficult to generalize to.

DC-guided	Target task	Denoise		Deblur		Derain	
	Source task	Deblur	Derain	Denoise	Derain	Denoise	Deblur
✗	PSNR ↑	31.50	31.65	25.44	27.51	31.99	32.85
✓	PSNR ↑	31.62	31.69	30.36	28.79	36.29	35.77
Supervised	PSNR ↑	31.78		32.92		36.74	

Qualitative Results: Universal image restoration

