

# On the barriers of AI and the trade-off between stability and accuracy in deep learning

Vegard Antun (Oslo, [vegarant@math.uio.no](mailto:vegarant@math.uio.no))

Matthew J. Colbrook (Cambridge, [m.colbrook@damtp.cam.ac.uk](mailto:m.colbrook@damtp.cam.ac.uk))

Joint work with:

Ben Adcock (SFU), Nina Gottschling (Cambridge), Anders Hansen (Cambridge),  
Clarice Poon (Bath), Francesco Renna (Porto)

Geilo Winter School, January 2021

## **MAIN GOAL**

*Determine the barriers of computations in deep learning  
(i.e. what is and what is not possible)*



*Stability and Accuracy in AI*

# Outline of lectures

<b>DAY I</b>	<b>DAY II</b>	<b>Day III</b>
Gravity of AI Image Classification Need for Foundations AI for Image Reconstruction	Inverse Problems Instabilities & Kernel Awareness Intriguing Barriers Algorithm Unrolling	Achieving Kernel Awareness FIRENETs Imaging Applications Numerical Examples

Slides will be hosted at <http://www.damtp.cam.ac.uk/user/mjc249/Talks.html>.

Useful references for further reading in grey boxes.

Comments and suggestions welcome! (vegarant@math.uio.no, m.colbrook@damtp.cam.ac.uk)

## Recap: Problem

Given measurements  $y = Ax + e$ , of  $x \in \mathcal{M}_1 \subset \mathbb{C}^N$ , recover  $x$ .

- ▶ In imaging  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  is a model of the sampling modality with  $m < N$ .
- ▶  $x$  is the **unknown** signal of interest,
- ▶ and  $e$  is noise or perturbations.

## Recap: How do we find sparse solutions?

Solve one of the problems:

**Quadratically constrained basis pursuit (QCBP):**

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \|z\|_{l^1} \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|Az - y\|_{l^2} \leq \eta \quad (P_1)$$

**Unconstrained LASSO (U-LASSO):**

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \|Az - y\|_{l^2}^2 + \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} \quad (P_2)$$

**Square-root LASSO (SR-LASSO):**

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \|Az - y\|_{l^2} + \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} \quad (P_3)$$

We let  $\Xi_j(y, A)$  denote the set of minimizers for  $(P_j)$ , given input  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{C}^m$ .

## Recap: Computational barriers

Nice classes  $\Omega \subset \{(y, A) : y \in \mathbb{C}^m, A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}\}$  where one can prove NNs with great approximation qualities exist. But:

- ▶ No algorithm, even randomised can train (or compute) such a NN accurate to  $K$  digits with probability greater than  $1/2$ .

Existence vs computation (universal approximation/interpolation theorems **not** enough).

**Conclusion:** Theorems on existence of neural networks may have little to do with the neural networks produced in practice.

## Recap: Very crude reason why...

Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function we want to minimize. Set

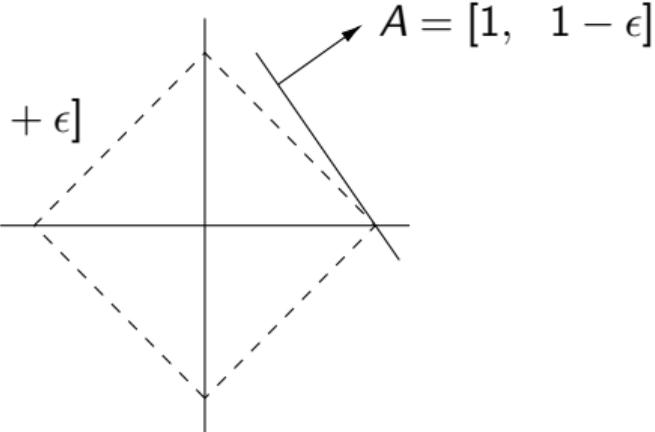
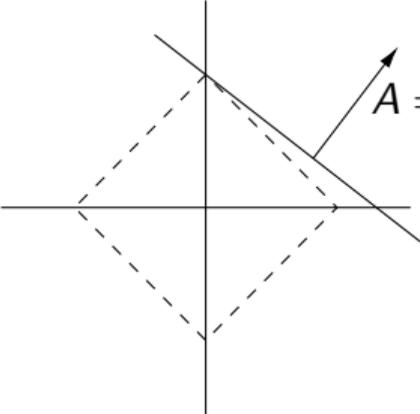
$$f^* = \min_{z \in \mathbb{R}^N} f(z).$$

Let  $\hat{x}$  be a minimizer of  $f$ . Suppose  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  satisfy

$$f(x) < f^* + \epsilon.$$

This does **not imply** that  $\|x - \hat{x}\| \lesssim \epsilon$ .

# Recap: Very crude reason why...



**Question:** Can we find 'good' input classes where

$$f(x) < f^* + \epsilon \implies \|x - \hat{x}\| \lesssim \epsilon$$

We shall see that the answer is yes!

## Robust null space property

**Notation:** Let  $\Omega \subset \{1, \dots, N\}$  and let  $P_\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  be the projection

$$P_\Omega x = \begin{cases} x_i & i \in \Omega \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

### Definition (Robust Null Space Property)

A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  satisfies the robust Null Space Property (rNSP) of order  $1 \leq s \leq N$  with constants  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$  if

$$\|P_\Omega x\|_{l^2} \leq \frac{\rho}{\sqrt{s}} \|P_\Omega^\perp x\|_{l^1} + \gamma \|Ax\|_{l^2},$$

for all  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$  and any  $\Omega \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$  with  $|\Omega| \leq s$ .

# $\mu$ -suboptimality for SR-LASSO

## Definition 1 ( $\mu$ -suboptimality for SR-LASSO)

A vector  $\tilde{x} \in \mathbb{C}^N$  is  $\mu$ -suboptimal for the problem  $(P_3)$  if

$$\lambda \|\tilde{x}\|_{l^1} + \|A\tilde{x} - y\|_{l^2} \leq \mu + \min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \{ \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} + \|Az - y\|_{l^2} \}.$$

## $\mu$ -suboptimality + rNSP implies closeness to minimizer

### Theorem 2

Suppose that  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  has the rNSP of order  $s$  with constants  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$ . Let  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$  and  $y = Ax + e \in \mathbb{C}^m$  and

$$\lambda \leq \frac{C_1}{C_2 \sqrt{s}},$$

where  $C_1, C_2 > 0$  are constant depending only on  $\rho$  and  $\gamma$ . Then, every vector  $\tilde{x} \in \mathbb{C}^N$  that is  $\mu$ -suboptimal for  $\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} + \|Az - y\|_{l^2}$  satisfies

$$\|\tilde{x} - x\|_{l^2} \leq 2C_1 \frac{\sigma_s(x)_{l^1}}{\sqrt{s}} + \frac{C_1}{\sqrt{s}\lambda} \mu + \left( \frac{C_1}{\sqrt{s}\lambda} + C_2 \right) \|e\|_{l^2}.$$

See:

Adcock, B., & Hansen, A. C., 'Compressive Imaging: Structure, Sampling, Learning', Cambridge University Press, 2021 (to appear). <https://www.compressiveimagingbook.com>

### Theorem 3 (Universal Instability Theorem)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$ , where  $m < N$ , and let  $\Psi : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N$  be a continuous map. Suppose there are  $x, x' \in \mathbb{C}^N$  and  $\eta > 0$  such that

$$\|\Psi(Ax) - x\| < \eta, \quad \text{and} \quad \|\Psi(Ax') - x'\| < \eta, \quad (1)$$

and

$$\|Ax - Ax'\| < \eta. \quad (2)$$

We then have the following:

- (i) **(Instability with respect to worst-case perturbations)** Then the local  $\varepsilon$ -Lipschitz constant at  $y = Ax$  satisfies

$$L^\varepsilon(\Psi, y) := \sup_{0 < \|z - y\| \leq \varepsilon} \frac{\|\Psi(z) - \Psi(y)\|}{\|z - y\|} \geq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (\|x - x'\| - 2\eta), \quad \forall \varepsilon \geq \eta. \quad (3)$$

See: Gottschling, Antun, Adcock, and Hansen, 2020. *The troublesome kernel: why deep learning for inverse problems is typically unstable.* [arXiv:2001.01258](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.01258).

## rNSP $\implies$ kernel awareness for sparse vectors

### Theorem 4

Suppose the matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  satisfies the robust null space property (rNSP) of order  $s$ , with constants  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$ . Then for all  $s$ -sparse vectors  $x, z \in \mathbb{C}^N$ ,

$$\|z - x\|_{\ell^2} \leq \frac{C_2}{2} \|A(z - x)\|_{\ell^2}$$

where

$$C_2 = \frac{(3\rho + 5)\gamma}{1 - \rho}. \quad (4)$$

See:

Foucart, S., & Rauhut, H., 'A Mathematical Introduction to Compressive Sensing', birkhäuser, 2013.

# Typical compressive sensing theorem

## Theorem 5

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  with  $m < N$  and let  $W \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$  be unitary. Suppose that  $AW^{-1}$  has the  $r$ NSP of order  $s$  with constants  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$ . Let  $y = Ax + e$  and let  $0 < \lambda \leq C_1/(\sqrt{s}C_2)$ . Then every minimizer  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{C}^N$  of the problem

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \lambda \|Wz\|_{l^1} + \|Az - y\|_{l^2} \quad (\text{P}_3)$$

satisfies

$$\|\hat{x} - x\|_{l^2} \leq 2C_1 \frac{\sigma_s(Wx)_{l^1}}{\sqrt{s}} + \left( \frac{C_1}{\sqrt{s}\lambda} + C_2 \right) \|e\|_{l^2},$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are the constants in (4), and

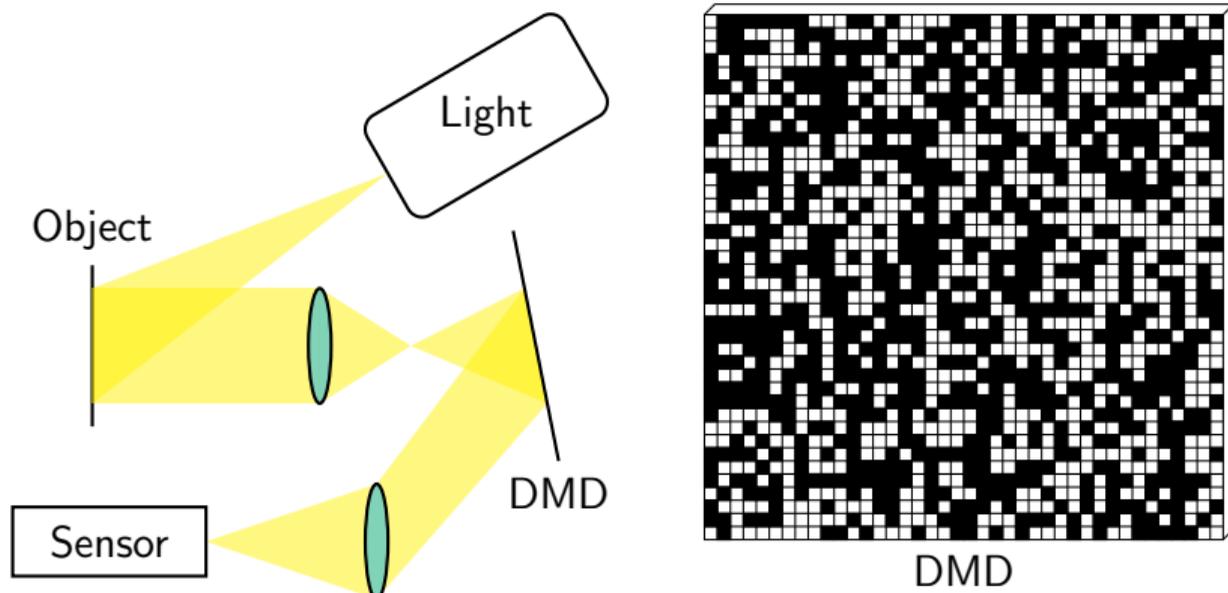
$$\sigma_s(z)_{l^1} := \inf \{ \|z - t\|_{l^1} : t \text{ is a } s\text{-sparse vector} \}$$

denotes the distance to a  $s$ -sparse vector.

*Do the matrices that we use in imaging have the robust null space property?*

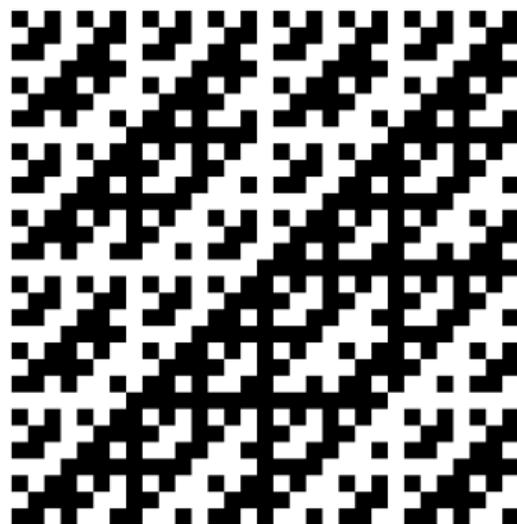
# Example 1: Binary imaging

Examples: Fluorescence microscopy and single-pixel imaging



## Example 1: Binary imaging – Walsh-Hadamard sampling

Three different ordering of the Hadamard matrix  $U_{\text{had}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ .



We select a subset  $\Omega \subset \{1, \dots, N\}$ ,  $|\Omega| = m$ , of the rows  $P_{\Omega} U_{\text{had}}$ .

## Example 2: Fourier Sampling – MRI

Many sampling modalities can be modeled by the Fourier transform

$$\mathcal{F}f(\omega) = \int_{[0,1]^2} f(t) e^{-2\pi i \omega \cdot t} dt,$$

We discretize this integral to get a linear system

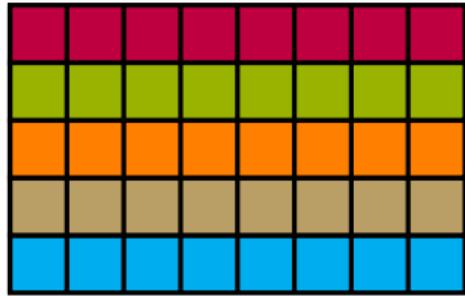
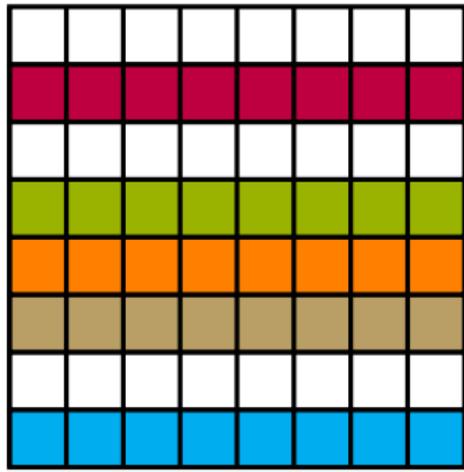
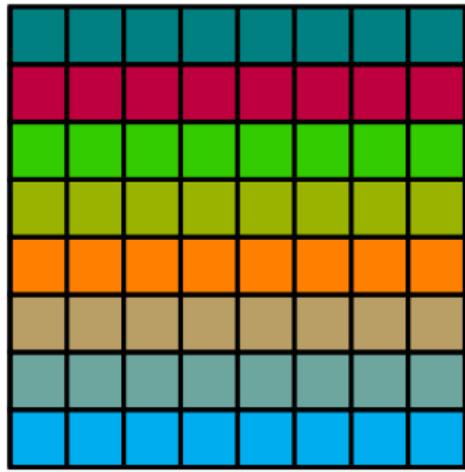
$$\mathcal{F}f(\omega_1, \omega_2) \approx \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} x_{j,k} \frac{1}{N} e^{2\pi i (\omega_1 j + \omega_2 k)/N}$$

where  $x_{j,k} = f(k/N, j/N)$  and  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2) \in \{-N/2 + 1, \dots, N/2\}^2$ . We write this system as

$$y = U_{\text{dft}} x$$

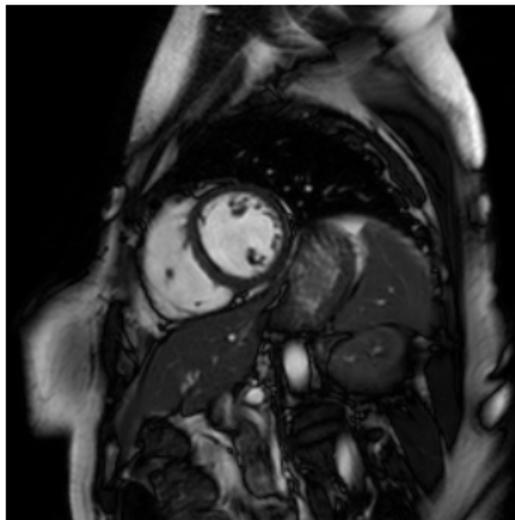
where  $U_{\text{dft}} \in \mathbb{C}^{N^2 \times N^2}$  is the Fourier matrix. This matrix is unitary.

The matrix  $P_\Omega U$  with  $\Omega = \{2, 4, 5, 6, 8\}$

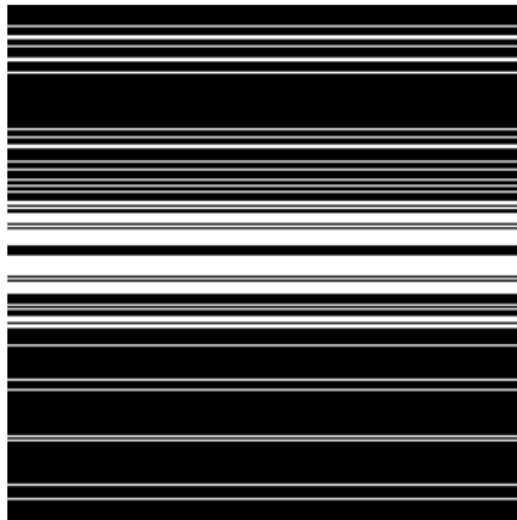


## Example 2: Fourier Sampling – MRI

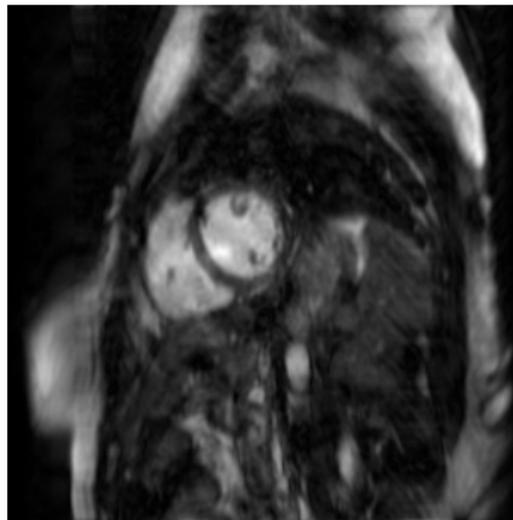
Let  $A = P_{\Omega}F$  and  $y = Ax$ .



Original  $x$



Sampling pattern  $\Omega$



Adjoint:  $A^*y$

# Sparse regularization in imaging

- ▶ Given the linear system

$$Ux_0 = y.$$

- ▶ Solve

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} + \|P_\Omega Uz - P_\Omega y\|_{l^2} \quad (P_3)$$

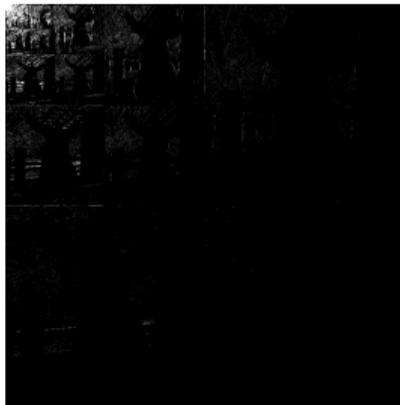
- ▶ In imaging we use for example  $U = U_{\text{dft}} U_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$

Original image



$$d = U_{\text{dwt}}^{-1} x_0$$

5% of the w. coeff.



$$P_{\tilde{\Omega}} x_0$$

Compressed image



$$\tilde{d} = U_{\text{dwt}}^{-1} P_{\tilde{\Omega}} x_0$$

# Sparse regularization in imaging

- ▶ Given the linear system

$$Ux_0 = y.$$

- ▶ Solve

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} + \|P_\Omega Uz - P_\Omega y\|_{l^2}$$

where  $P_\Omega$  is a projection and  $\Omega \subset \{1, \dots, N\}$  is subsampled with  $|\Omega| = m$ .

**Traditional idea:** If  $U$  is unitary,  $\Omega$  is chosen uniformly at random and

$$m \gtrsim N \cdot \mu(U) \cdot s \cdot L(\epsilon^{-1}, s, N)$$

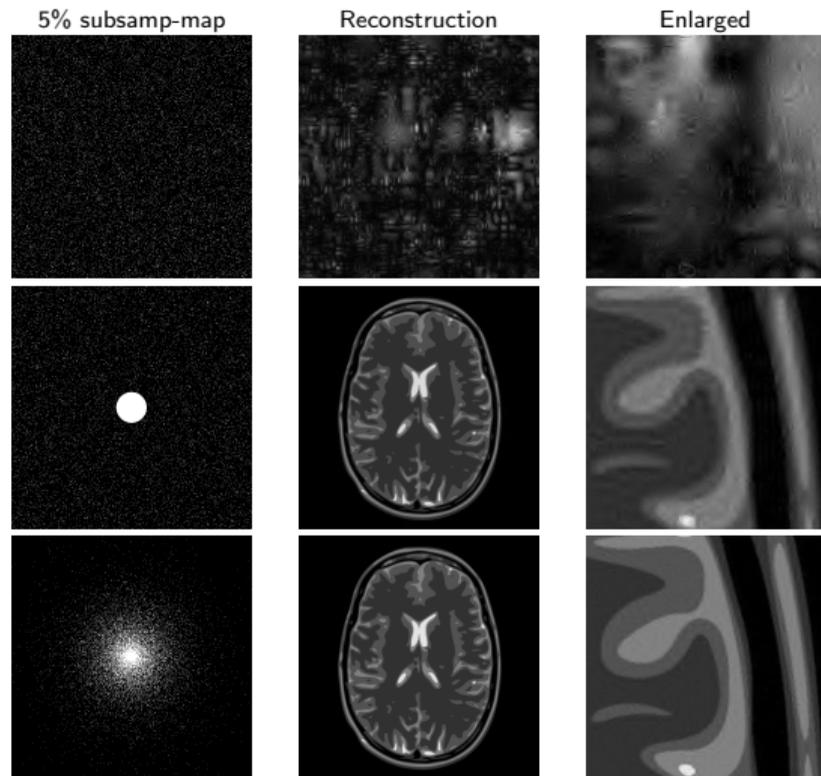
then with probability  $1 - \epsilon$ ,  $P_\Omega U$  has the robust null space property (rNSP) of order  $s$  (with certain constants). Here

$$\mu(U) := \max_{i,j} |U_{i,j}|^2 \in [1/N, 1]$$

is referred to as the incoherence parameter and  $L(\epsilon^{-1}, s, N)$  is a polylogarithmic factor.

# Uniform Random Subsampling

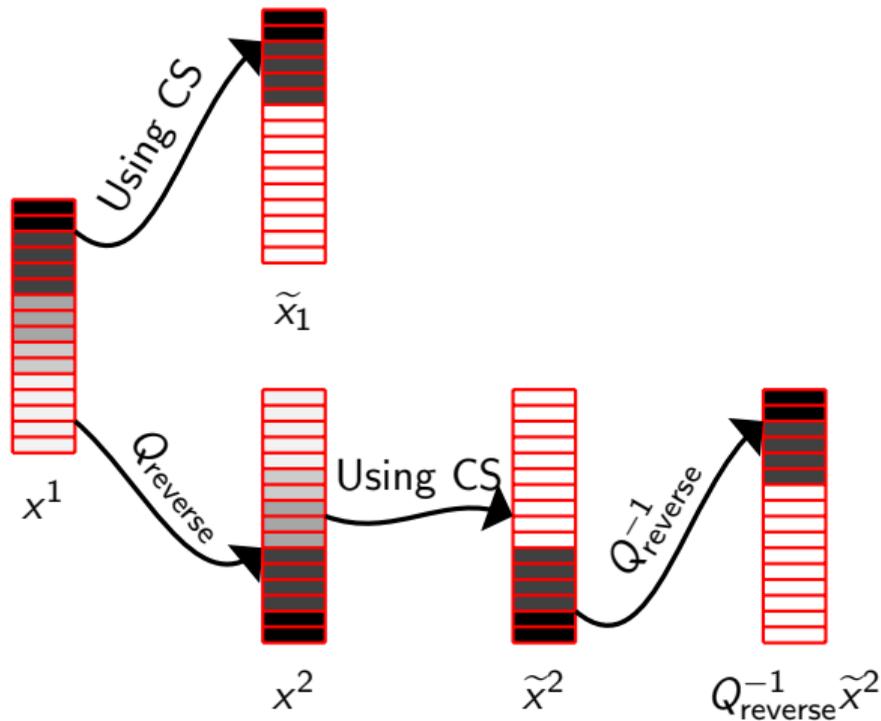
$$U = U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$



# Sparsity

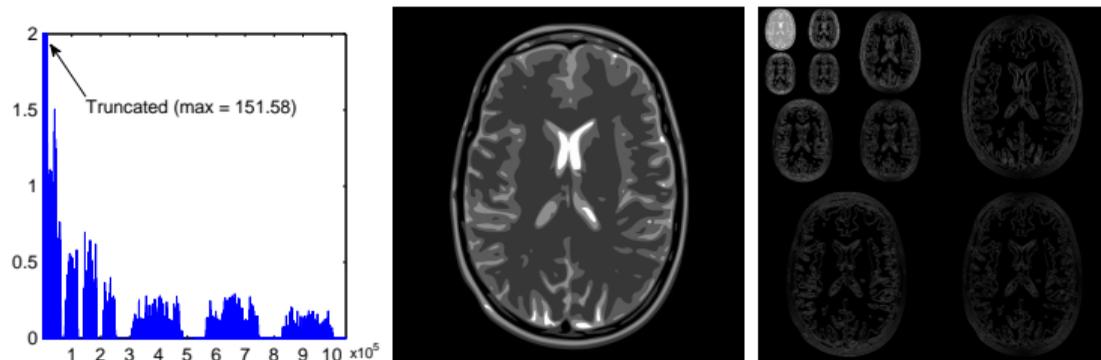
- ▶ The classical idea of sparsity in sparse regularization is that there are  $s$  important coefficients in the vector  $x_0$  that we want to recover.
- ▶ The location of these coefficients is arbitrary.

# The Flip Test and the rNSP



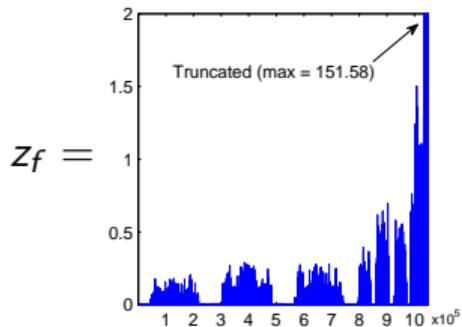
**Figure from:** Bastounis, A. & H. C, Anders Christian (2017). *On the absence of uniform recovery in many real-world applications of compressed sensing and the restricted isometry property and nullspace property in levels.* SIAM Journal of Imaging Sciences.

# Sparsity - The Flip Test



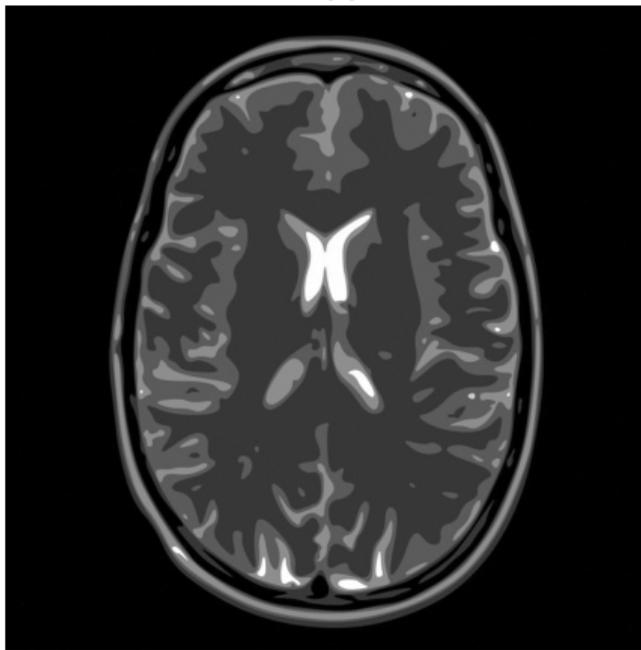
**Figure:** Wavelet coefficients and subsampling reconstructions from 10% of Fourier coefficients with distributions  $(1 + \omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2)^{-1}$  and  $(1 + \omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2)^{-3/2}$ .

If sparsity is the right model we should be able to flip the coefficients. Let

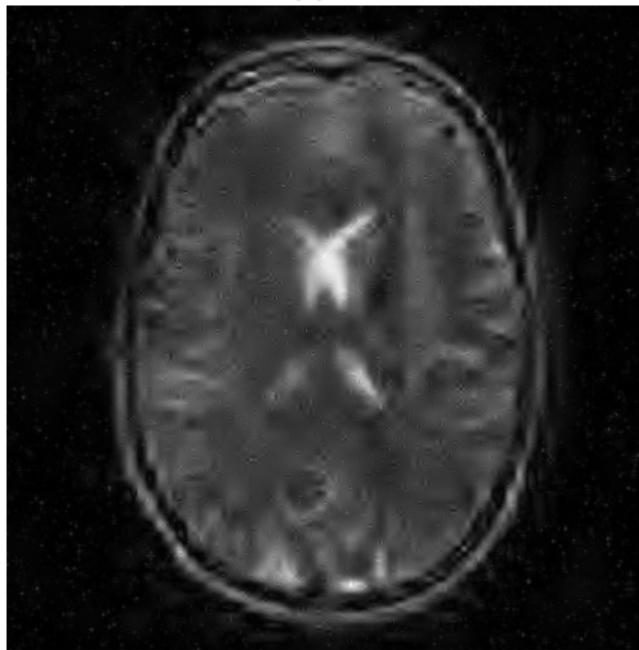


# Sparsity- The Flip Test: Results

Rec. not flipped coeff.



Rec. flipped coeff.



Conclusion: The ordering of the coefficients did matter. Moreover, this phenomenon happens with all wavelets, curvelets, contourlets and shearlets and any reasonable subsampling scheme.

Question: Is sparsity really the right model?

# The Flip Test and the rNSP

CS reconstr.

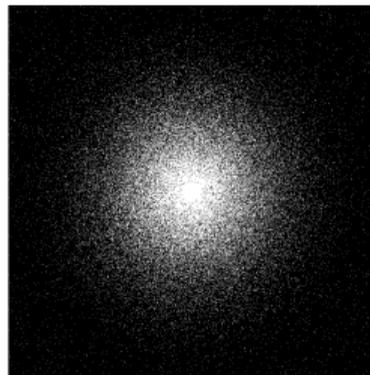
CS reconstr, w/ flip  
coeffs.

Subsampling  
pattern

2048, 12%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Magnetic  
Resonance  
Imaging



2048, 97%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Magnetic  
Resonance  
Imaging



# Sparsity - The Flip Test

CS reconstr.

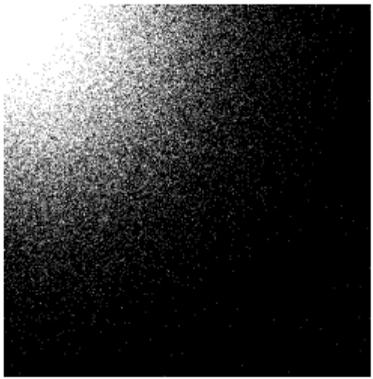
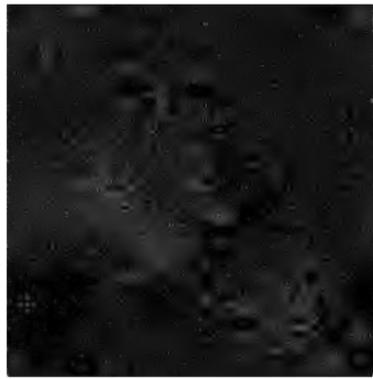
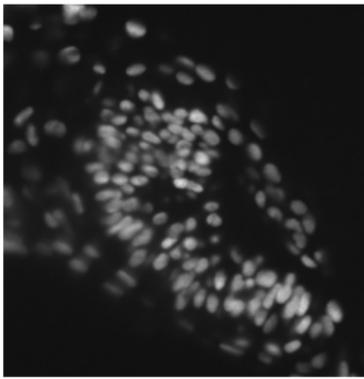
CS reconstr, w/ flip  
coeffs.

Subsampling  
pattern

512, 20%

$$U_{\text{Had}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

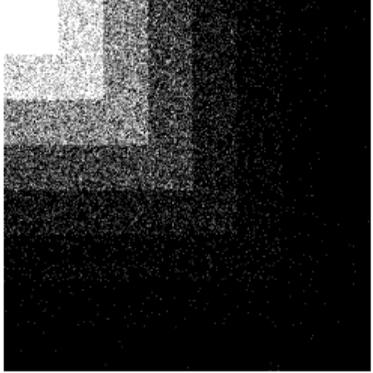
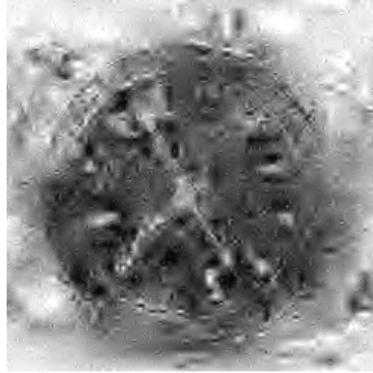
Fluorescence  
Microscopy



1024, 12%

$$U_{\text{Had}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Compressive  
Imaging,  
Hadamard  
Spectroscopy



# Sparsity - The Flip Test (contd.)

CS reconstr.

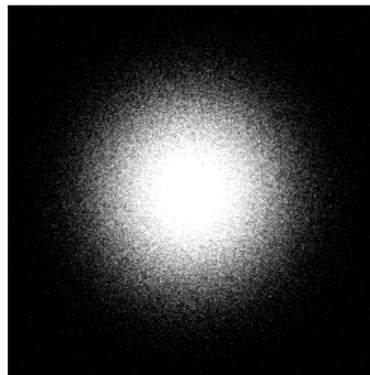
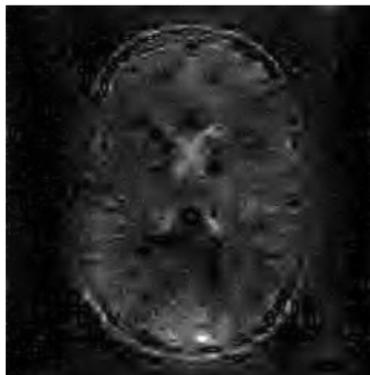
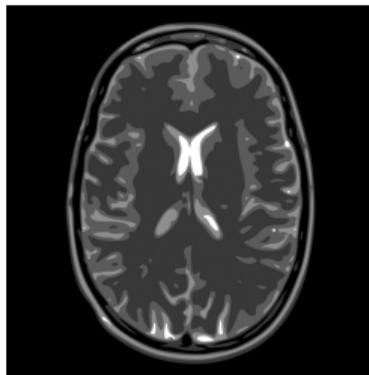
CS reconstr, w/ flip  
coeffs.

Subsampling  
pattern

1024, 20%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

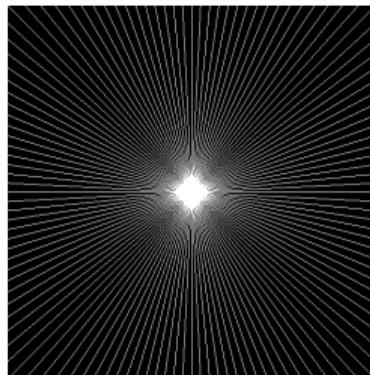
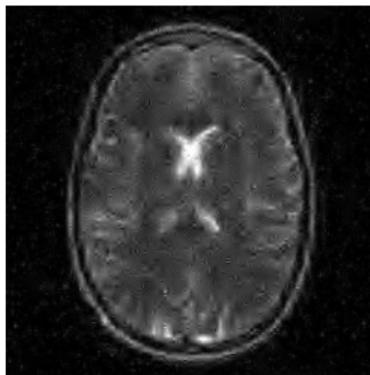
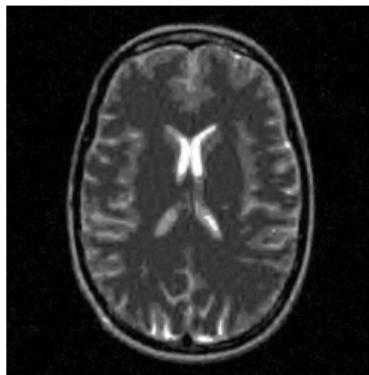
Magnetic  
Resonance  
Imaging



512, 12%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Tomography,  
Electron  
Microscopy



# Sparsity - The Flip Test (contd.)

CS reconstr.

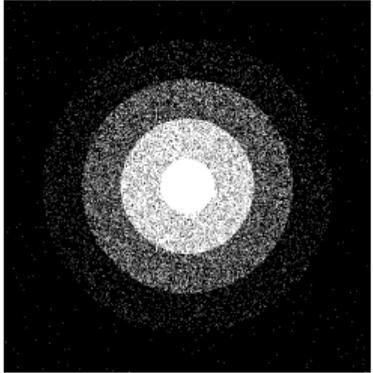
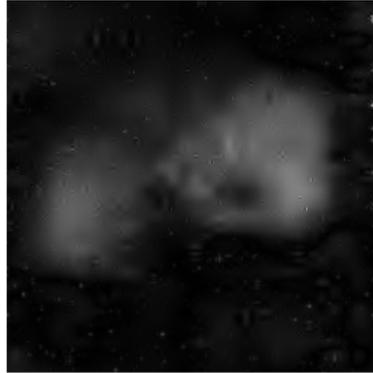
CS reconstr, w/ flip  
coeffs.

Subsampling  
pattern

1024, 10%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Radio  
interferometry



# The Flip Test and the rNSP

		Matrix method		rNSP
		$\text{DFT} \cdot \text{DWT}^{-1}$	$\text{HAD} \cdot \text{DWT}^{-1}$	
Problem	MRI	✓	✗	✗
	Tomography	✓	✗	✗
	Spectroscopy	✓	✗	✗
	Electron microscopy	✓	✗	✗
	Radio interferometry	✓	✗	✗
	Fluorescence microscopy	✗	✓	✗
	Lensless camera	✗	✓	✗
	Single pixel camera	✗	✓	✗
	Hadamard spectroscopy	✗	✓	✗

**Table:** A table displaying various applications of compressive sensing. For each application, a suitable matrix is suggested along with information on whether or not that matrix has the rNSP of a sufficiently large order  $s$ .

# Sparse regularization in imaging

- ▶ Given the linear system

$$Ux_0 = y.$$

- ▶ Solve

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} + \|P_\Omega Uz - P_\Omega y\|_{l^2}$$

where  $P_\Omega$  is a projection and  $\Omega \subset \{1, \dots, N\}$  is subsampled with  $|\Omega| = m$ .

**Traditional idea:** If  $U$  is unitary,  $\Omega$  is chosen uniformly at random and

$$m \gtrsim N \cdot \mu(U) \cdot s \cdot L(\epsilon^{-1}, s, N)$$

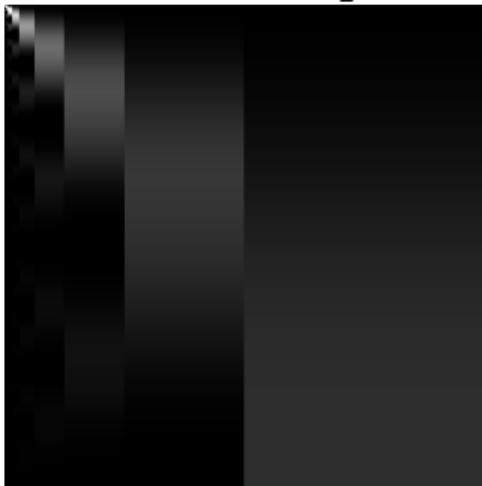
then with probability  $1 - \epsilon$ ,  $P_\Omega U$  has the robust null space property (rNSP) of order  $s$  (with certain constants). Here

$$\mu(U) := \max_{i,j} |U_{i,j}|^2 \in [1/N, 1]$$

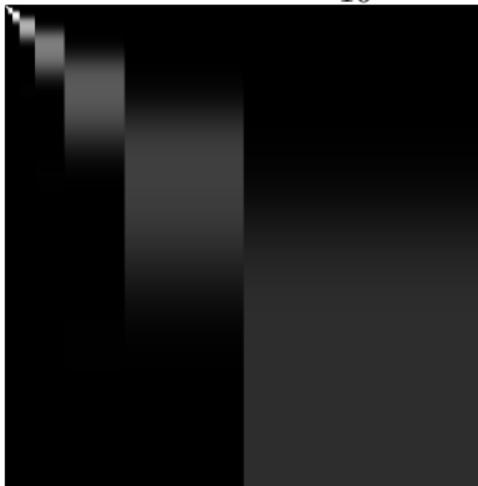
is referred to as the incoherence parameter and  $L(\epsilon^{-1}, s, N)$  is a polylogarithmic factor.

# What kind of structure do we have?

$\text{DFT} \cdot \text{DWT}_2^{-1}$



$\text{DFT} \cdot \text{DWT}_{10}^{-1}$



$\text{HAD} \cdot \text{DWT}_{\text{Haar}}^{-1}$



The three images display the absolute values of various sensing matrices. A lighter colour represents larger absolute values. Here DFT is the Discrete Fourier Transform, HAD the Hadamard transform and  $\text{DWT}_N^{-1}$  the Inverse Wavelet Transform corresponding to Daubechies wavelets with  $N$  vanishing moments.

## Reading material

- ▶ Adcock, B., & Hansen, A. C., '*Compressive Imaging: Structure, Sampling, Learning*', Cambridge University Press, 2021 (to appear).  
<https://www.compressiveimagingbook.com>
- ▶ Bastounis, A., Adcock, B., & Hansen, A. C. (2017). '*From global to local: Getting more from compressed sensing*'. SIAM News, Oct.
- ▶ Adcock, B., Hansen, A. C., Poon, C., & Roman, B. (2017). '*Breaking the coherence barrier: A new theory for compressed sensing*'. In Forum of Mathematics, Sigma (Vol. 5). Cambridge University Press.
- ▶ Adcock, B., Antun, V., & Hansen, A. C. (2019). '*Uniform recovery in infinite-dimensional compressed sensing and applications to structured binary sampling*'. arXiv:1905.00126.
- ▶ Roman, B., Hansen, A., & Adcock, B. (2014). '*On asymptotic structure in compressed sensing*'. arXiv:1406.4178.

# Sparsity in levels

## Definition 6 (Sparsity in levels)

Let  $\mathbf{M} = (M_1, \dots, M_r) \in \mathbb{N}^r$ , where  $1 \leq M_1 < \dots < M_r = N$ , and  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_r) \in \mathbb{N}_0^r$ , where  $s_k \leq M_k - M_{k-1}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, r$  and  $M_0 = 0$ . A vector  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$  is  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$ -sparse in levels if

$$|\text{supp}(x) \cap \{M_{k-1} + 1, \dots, M_k\}| \leq s_k, \quad k = 1, \dots, r.$$

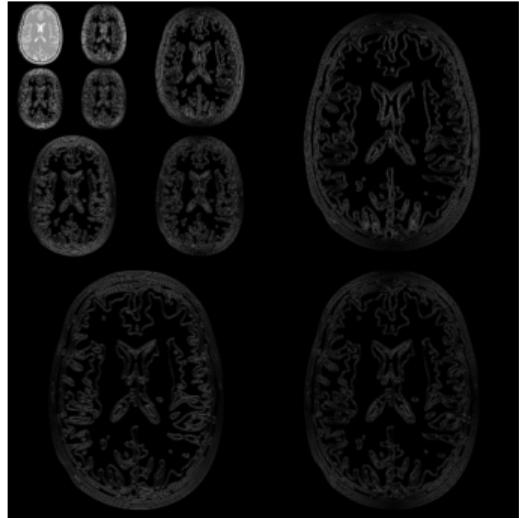
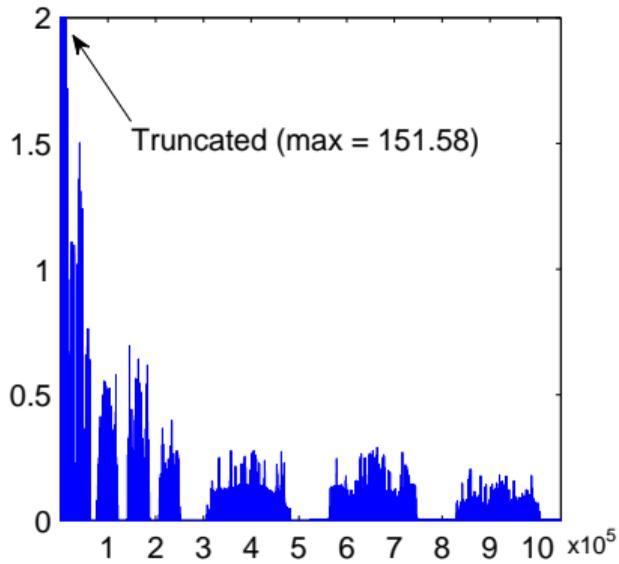
The total sparsity is  $s = s_1 + \dots + s_r$ . We denote the set of  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$ -sparse vectors by  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}$ . We also define the following measure of distance of a vector  $x$  to  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}$  by

$$\sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}(x)_{l_w^1} = \inf \{ \|x - z\|_{l_w^1} : z \in \Sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}} \}.$$

Here  $\|z\|_{l_w^1} := \sum_{j=1}^N w_j |z_j|$ , is the weighted  $l^1$ -norm for positive weights  $\{w_j\}$ .

# Sparsity - The Flip Test in Levels

Let



denote the vector of the wavelet coefficients. Let  $z_f^L$  denote the flipped version of  $z$  where the flipping of coefficients only happens within the levels.

# Sparsity - The Flip Test in Levels

- ▶ Let

$$\tilde{y} = U_{\text{dft}} U_{\text{dwt}}^{-1} z_f^L$$

- ▶ Solve

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^N} \lambda \|z\|_{l^1} + \|P_{\Omega} U_{\text{dft}} U_{\text{dwt}}^{-1} z - P_{\Omega} \tilde{y}\|_{l^2} \quad (\text{P}_3)$$

to get  $\hat{z}_f^L$ .

- ▶ Flip the coefficients of  $\hat{z}_f^L$  back to get  $\hat{z}$ , and let  $\hat{x} = U_{\text{dwt}}^{-1} \hat{z}$ .

# The Flip Test in levels

CS reconstr.

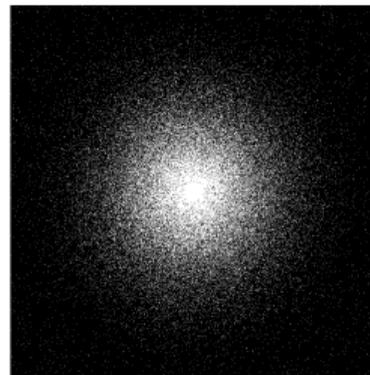
CS rec., w/ flip (levels)  
coeffs.

Subsampling  
pattern

2048, 12%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Magnetic  
Resonance  
Imaging



2048, 97%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Magnetic  
Resonance  
Imaging



# The Flip Test in levels

CS reconstr.

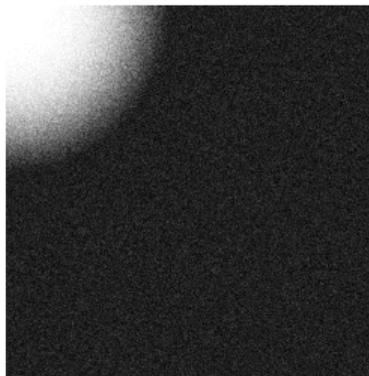
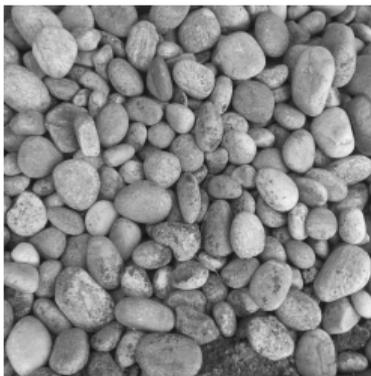
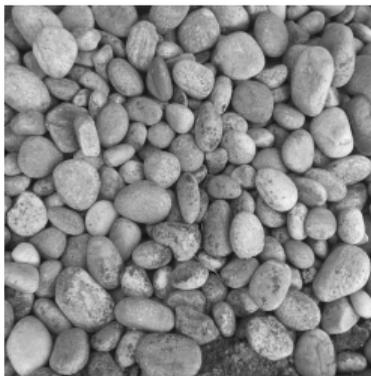
CS rec., w/ flip (levels)  
coeffs.

Subsampling  
pattern

2048, 12%

$$U_{\text{Had}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

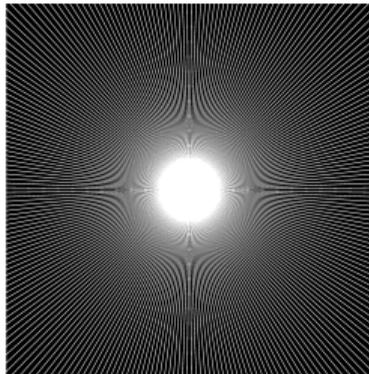
Fluorescence  
microscopy



2048, 27.5%

$$U_{\text{dft}} V_{\text{dwt}}^{-1}$$

Tomography



# The weighted Robust Nullspace Property in Levels (wrNSPL)

## Definition 7 (wrNSP in levels)

Let  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  be local sparsities and sparsity levels respectively. For weights  $\{w_j\}_{j=1}^N$  ( $w_j > 0$ ), we say that  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  satisfies the weighted robust null space property in levels (wrNSPL) of order  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  with constants  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$  if for any  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  support set  $\Omega$ ,

$$\|P_{\Omega}x\|_{\ell^2} \leq \frac{\rho \|P_{\Omega^c}x\|_{\ell_w^1}}{\sqrt{\xi}} + \gamma \|Ax\|_{\ell^2}, \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{C}^N.$$

## Some key points so far ...

- ▶ In general no NN can solve the problems  $(P_j)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3$  for arbitrary input, but if  $A$  has the rNSP or wrNSPL we can.
- ▶ The assumption of sparsity and uniformly random subsampling is too general to explain the success of sparse regularization in imaging. Additional structure is needed!
- ▶ The wrNSPL provide sufficient conditions for kernel awareness for images which are sparse in wavelets.
- ▶ By sampling in a structured way we can achieve the wrNSPL.

*Fast Iterative REstarted NETworks  
(FIRENETs)*

# The model

**Definition [Sparsity in levels]:** Let  $\mathbf{M} = (M_1, \dots, M_r) \in \mathbb{N}^r$ , where  $1 \leq M_1 < \dots < M_r = N$ , and  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_r) \in \mathbb{N}_0^r$ , where  $s_k \leq M_k - M_{k-1}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, r$  and  $M_0 = 0$ . A vector  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$  is  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$ -sparse in levels if

$$|\text{supp}(x) \cap \{M_{k-1} + 1, \dots, M_k\}| \leq s_k, \quad k = 1, \dots, r.$$

The total sparsity is  $s = s_1 + \dots + s_r$ . We denote the set of  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$ -sparse vectors by  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}$ . We also define the following measure of distance of a vector  $x$  to  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}$  by

$$\sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}(x)_{l_w^1} = \inf \{ \|x - z\|_{l_w^1} : z \in \Sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}} \}.$$

For simplicity, assume  $s_k > 0$  and  $l_w^1$  weights constant in each level:

$$w_i = w_{(j)}, \quad \text{if } M_{j-1} + 1 \leq i \leq M_j.$$

## Kernel awareness: the robust nullspace property

**Definition [weighted rNSP in levels]:** Let  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  be local sparsities and sparsity levels respectively. For weights  $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^N$  ( $w_i > 0$ ), we say that  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  satisfies the weighted robust null space property in levels (weighted rNSPL) of order  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  with constants  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$  if for any  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  support set  $\Delta$ ,

$$\|x_\Delta\|_{l^2} \leq \frac{\rho \|x_{\Delta^c}\|_{l_w^1}}{\sqrt{\xi}} + \gamma \|Ax\|_{l^2}, \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{C}^N.$$

# The goal of this section

**Simplified version of Theorem:** *We provide an algorithm such that:*

Input: *Sparsity parameters  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$ , weights  $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^N$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  (with the input  $A$  given by  $\{A_l\}$ ) satisfying the rNSPL with constants  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and positive  $\{\delta, b_1, b_2\}$ .*

Output: *A neural network  $\phi_n$  with  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  layers and the following property.*

*For any  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$  and  $y \in \mathbb{C}^m$  with*

$$\underbrace{\sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}(x)_{l_w^1}}_{\text{distance to sparse in levels vectors}} + \underbrace{\|Ax - y\|_{l_2}}_{\text{noise of measurements}} \lesssim \delta, \quad \|x\|_{l_2} \lesssim b_1, \quad \|y\|_{l_2} \lesssim b_2,$$

*we have the following **stable** and **exponential convergence** guarantee in  $n$*

$$\|\phi_n(y) - x\|_{l_2} \lesssim \delta + e^{-n}.$$

# Comments

- ▶ Strategy: restarted & reweighted unrolling of primal-dual algorithm applied to:

$$(P_3) \quad \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{C}^N} F_3^A(x, y, \lambda) := \lambda \|x\|_{l_w^1} + \|Ax - y\|_{l^2}.$$

- ▶ As well as stability, rNSPL allows exponential convergence.
- ▶ Even ignoring stability, naive unrolling of iterative methods only gives slow convergence  $\mathcal{O}(\delta + n^{-1})$  (and in certain regimes  $\mathcal{O}(\delta + n^{-2})$ ).
- ▶ If we do not know  $\rho$  or  $\gamma$  (constants for rNSPL), can perform log-scale grid search for suitable parameters (increase number of layers by a factor of  $\log(n)$ ). Sometimes (see below) we know  $\rho$  and  $\gamma$  with probabilistic bounds.

# Precise definition of neural network

$\phi: \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N$  s.t.  $\phi(y) = V_T(\rho_{T-1}(\dots\rho_1(V_1(y))))$ , and

- ▶ Each  $V_j$  is an affine map  $\mathbb{C}^{N_{j-1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{N_j}$  given by  $V_j(x) = W_j x + b_j(y)$  where  $W_j \in \mathbb{C}^{N_j \times N_{j-1}}$  and the  $b_j(y) = R_j y + c_j \in \mathbb{C}^{N_j}$  are affine functions of the input  $y$ .
- ▶ Each  $\rho_j: \mathbb{C}^{N_j} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{N_j}$  is one of two forms:
  - (i)  $I_j \subset \{1, \dots, N_j\}$  s.t.  $\rho_j$  applies  $f_j: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  element-wise on components with indices in  $I_j$ :

$$\rho_j(x)_k = \begin{cases} f_j(x_k), & \text{if } k \in I_j \\ x_k, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (ii)  $f_j: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  s.t. after decomposing the input vector  $x$  as  $(x_0, X^\top, Y^\top)^\top$  for scalar  $x_0$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{C}^{m_j}$ ,  $Y \in \mathbb{C}^{N_j-1-m_j}$ ,

$$\rho_j: \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ f_j(x_0)X \\ Y \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Precise definition of neural network

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} &\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} f_j(x_0) \\ X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} f_j(x_0)\mathbf{1} \\ X \\ f_j(x_0)\mathbf{1} + X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} \\ &\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} f_j(x_0)^2\mathbf{1} \\ X^2 \\ [f_j(x_0)\mathbf{1} + X]^2 \\ Y \end{pmatrix} \\ &\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} [[f_j(x_0)\mathbf{1} + X]^2 - f_j(x_0)^2\mathbf{1} - X^2] = f_j(x_0)X \\ Y \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

# Precise definition of neural network

- ▶ Recall that we assume knowledge  $A_l \in \mathbb{Q}[i]^{m \times N}$  such that

$$\|A_l - A\| \leq 2^{-l}, \quad \forall l \in \mathbb{N}.$$

- ▶ Our nonlinear activation functions will be built using square roots. We assume that we have access to a routine “ $\text{sqrt}_\theta$ ” such that  $|\text{sqrt}_\theta(x) - \sqrt{x}| \leq \theta$ .
- ▶ An interpretation of  $\theta$ : numerical stability, or accumulation of errors, of the forward pass of the NN. A key point is that  $\theta$  doesn't need to be small.

For brevity, will ignore these points in presentation below.

## Step 1: Preliminary constructions

$$\psi_{\beta}^0(x) = \max \left\{ 0, 1 - \frac{\beta}{\|x\|_{l^2}} \right\} x, \quad \psi^1(x) = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{1}{\|x\|_{l^2}} \right\} x.$$

**Lemma:** Let  $M \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\beta \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$  and  $\theta \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ . Then there exists NNs  $\phi_{\beta,\theta}^0, \phi_{\theta}^1$  with  $T = 3$  s.t.

$$\|\phi_{\beta,\theta}^0(x) - \psi_{\beta}^0(x)\|_{l^2} \leq \theta, \quad \|\phi_{\theta}^1(x) - \psi^1(x)\|_{l^2} \leq \theta.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{E.g. } \phi_{\beta,\theta}^0 : x &\xrightarrow{L} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{NL}} \begin{pmatrix} |x_1|^2 \\ |x_2|^2 \\ \vdots \\ |x_M|^2 \\ x \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{L} \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^M |x_j|^2 \\ x \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{NL}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \max \left\{ 0, 1 - \frac{\beta}{\text{sqrt}_{\theta}(\|x\|_{l^2}^2)} \right\} x \end{pmatrix} \\ &\xrightarrow{L} \max \left\{ 0, 1 - \frac{\beta}{\text{sqrt}_{\theta}(\|x\|_{l^2}^2)} \right\} x. \end{aligned}$$

## Step 1: Preliminary constructions

**Lemma:** Let  $s, \theta \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ ,  $w \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}^N$  and for  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{C}^N$  consider the minimisation problem

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{C}^N} \|x\|_{l_w^1} + s\|x - \hat{x}\|_{l^2}^2. \quad (5)$$

Let  $\tilde{x}_s(\hat{x})$  be the solution of (5). Then, there exists NNs  $\phi_{s,\theta}$  ( $T = 2$ ) s.t.

$$\|\phi_{s,\theta}(\hat{x}) - \tilde{x}_s(\hat{x})\|_{l^2} \leq \theta\|w\|_{l^2}.$$

Proof.

Fun exercise in algorithm unrolling!



## Step 2: Unrolling primal-dual iterations

$X, Y$  finite-dimensional real vectors spaces,  $K : X \rightarrow Y$  linear

$$\min_{x \in X} \max_{y \in Y} \langle Kx, y \rangle + G(x) - F^*(y)$$

For convex  $H : Z \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ , define

$$(I + \tau \partial H)^{-1}(w) = \operatorname{argmin}_z H(z) + \frac{\|z - w\|_2^2}{2\tau}$$

If easy to compute for  $H = G, F$ , then iterate updates of primal and dual variables.

Chambolle, A. and Pock, T., 2011. *A first-order primal-dual algorithm for convex problems with applications to imaging*. Journal of mathematical imaging and vision, 40(1), pp.120-145.

## Step 2: Unrolling primal-dual iterations

### Algorithm 1

- Initialization: Choose  $\tau, \sigma > 0, \theta \in [0, 1], (x^0, y^0) \in X \times Y$  and set  $\bar{x}^0 = x^0$ .
- Iterations ( $n \geq 0$ ): Update  $x^n, y^n, \bar{x}^n$  as follows:

$$\begin{cases} y^{n+1} = (I + \sigma \partial F^*)^{-1}(y^n + \sigma K \bar{x}^n) \\ x^{n+1} = (I + \tau \partial G)^{-1}(x^n - \tau K^* y^{n+1}) \\ \bar{x}^{n+1} = x^{n+1} + \theta(x^{n+1} - x^n) \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

We can use previous constructions for the proximal maps!

$\Rightarrow$  unrolled primal-dual iterations

Chambolle, A. and Pock, T., 2016. *On the ergodic convergence rates of a first-order primal–dual algorithm*. *Mathematical Programming*, 159(1-2), pp.253-287.

## Step 2: Unrolling primal-dual iterations

**Theorem:** Suppose  $L_A \geq 1$  is an upper bound for  $\|A\|$ , and that  $\tau, \sigma > 0$  are such that  $\tau\sigma L_A^2 < 1$ . Let  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ , then there exists an algorithm that constructs a sequence of neural networks  $\phi_{p,\lambda}^A$  (each with  $T = \mathcal{O}(p)$ ) such that:

- (i)  $\phi_{p,\lambda}^A : \mathbb{C}^{m+N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N$  takes an input  $y \in \mathbb{C}^m$  and an initial guess  $x_0 \in \mathbb{C}^N$ .
- (ii) For any inputs  $y \in \mathbb{C}^m$  and  $x_0 \in \mathbb{C}^N$ , and for any  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ ,

$$\underbrace{\lambda \|\phi_{p,\lambda}^A(y, x_0)\|_{l_w^1} + \|A\phi_{p,\lambda}^A(y, x_0) - y\|_{l^2}}_{F_3^A(\phi_{p,\lambda}^A(y, x_0), y, \lambda)} - \underbrace{\lambda \|x\|_{l_w^1} + \|Ax - y\|_{l^2}}_{-F_3^A(x, y, \lambda)} \leq \frac{1}{p} \left( \frac{\|x - x_0\|_{l^2}^2}{\tau} + \frac{1}{\sigma} \right).$$

$$(P_3) \quad \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{C}^N} F_3^A(x, y, \lambda) := \lambda \|x\|_{l_w^1} + \|Ax - y\|_{l^2}.$$

### Step 3: “Recalling” some compressed sensing results

$$\xi := \sum_{k=1}^r w_{(k)}^2 s_k, \quad \zeta := \min_{k=1, \dots, r} w_{(k)}^2 s_k, \quad \kappa := \frac{\xi}{\zeta}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rNSPL} \Rightarrow \|z_1 - z_2\|_{l^2} &\leq \frac{2C_1}{\sqrt{\xi}} \sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}(z_2)_{l_w^1} + 2C_2 \|Az_2 - y\|_{l^2} \\ &+ \frac{C_1}{\lambda \sqrt{\xi}} (\lambda \|z_1\|_{l_w^1} + \|Az_1 - y\|_{l^2} - \lambda \|z_2\|_{l_w^1} - \|Az_2 - y\|_{l^2}), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Set } G(z_1, z_2, y) &:= \lambda \|z_1\|_{l_w^1} + \|Az_1 - y\|_{l^2} - \lambda \|z_2\|_{l_w^1} - \|Az_2 - y\|_{l^2}, \\ &= F_3^A(z_1, y, \lambda) - F_3^A(z_2, y, \lambda) \end{aligned}$$

$$c(z, y) := \frac{2C_1}{C_2 \sqrt{\xi}} \cdot \sigma_{\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}}(z)_{l_w^1} + 2\|Az - y\|_{l^2}.$$

Choosing  $\lambda \leq C_1 / (C_2 \sqrt{\xi})$ ,

$$\|z_1 - z_2\|_{l^2} \leq \frac{C_1}{\lambda \sqrt{\xi}} (c(z_2, y) + G(z_1, z_2, y)), \quad (7)$$

which holds for completely general  $z_1, z_2$  and  $y$ .

## Step 4: Combine with constructed neural networks

Define the following map from unrolled primal-dual iterations

$$H_p^\beta : \mathbb{C}^m \times \mathbb{C}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N, \quad H_p^\beta(y, x_0) = p\beta\phi_{p,\lambda}^A \left( \frac{y}{p\beta}, \frac{x_0}{p\beta} \right).$$

Use previous theorem ( $\tau, \sigma \sim \|A\|^{-1}$ ) to get

$$G \left( H_p^\beta(y, x_0), x, y \right) \leq C_3 \left( \frac{\|A\|}{p^2\beta} \|x - x_0\|_p^2 + \|A_I\|\beta \right).$$

Combine with (7) to get

$$G \left( H_p^\beta(y, x_0), x, y \right) \leq \frac{C_4}{p^2\beta} [c(x, y) + G(x_0, x, y)]^2 + C_5\|A_I\|\beta. \quad (8)$$

## Step 5: Perform a reweight and restart

**Idea:** Balance the two terms in (8) so that every  $p$  iterations we have errors decreasing by a constant factor (up to  $\delta$ ). Optimal parameters give

$$\epsilon_0 \approx b_2, \quad \epsilon_n = e^{-1}(\delta + \epsilon_{n-1}), \quad \beta_n = \frac{\epsilon_n}{2\|A\|}.$$

$$\phi_n(y, x_0) = H_p^{\beta_n}(y, \phi_{n-1}(y, x_0))$$

$$\Rightarrow G(\phi_n(y, x_0), x, y) \leq \epsilon_n \lesssim \delta + e^{-n}$$

Combining this with (6), we obtain (for  $x_0 = 0$ )

$$\|\phi_n(y) - x\|_{l^2} \lesssim \underbrace{\sigma_{s, \mathbf{M}}(x)_{l_w^1}}_{\text{distance to sparse in levels vectors}} + \underbrace{\|Ax - y\|_{l^2}}_{\text{noise of measurements}} + \delta + \underbrace{e^{-n}}_{\text{“convergence” error}}.$$

□

**Algorithm 1:** FIRENET<sub>comp</sub> constructs a FIRENET which corresponds to  $n$  iterations of InnerIt with a rescaling scheme. We write the output as the map  $\phi_n$  to emphasise that FIRENET<sub>comp</sub> defines a NN. InnerIt performs  $p$  iterations of Chambolle and Pock's primal-dual algorithm for square-root LASSO (the order of updates is swapped compared to [37]). The functions  $\varphi_s$  and  $\psi^1$  are proximal maps:

$$[\varphi_s(x)]_j = \max \left\{ 0, 1 - \frac{s}{|x_j|} \right\} x_j, \quad \psi^1(y) = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{1}{\|y\|_{l^2}} \right\} y.$$

Both of these are approximated by NNs in our proof.

**Function** FIRENET<sub>comp</sub> ( $A, p, \tau, \sigma, \lambda, \{w_j\}_{j=1}^N, \epsilon_0, \delta, n$ )

Initiate with  $\phi_0 \equiv 0$  (other initial vectors can also be chosen).

(NB:  $\epsilon_0$  should be of the same order as  $\|y\|_{l^2}$  for inputs  $y \in \mathbb{C}^m$ .)

**for**  $k = 1, \dots, n$  **do**

$$\epsilon_k = e^{-1}(\delta + \epsilon_{k-1}),$$

$$\beta_k = \frac{\epsilon_k}{2\|A\|}$$

$$\phi_k(\cdot) = p\beta_k \cdot \text{InnerIt} \left( \frac{\cdot}{p\beta_k}, \frac{\phi_{k-1}(\cdot)}{p\beta_k}, A, p, \sigma, \tau, \lambda, \{w_j\}_{j=1}^N \right)$$

**end**

**return:** FIRENET  $\phi_n : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N$

**end**

**Function** InnerIt ( $y, x_0, A, p, \tau, \sigma, \lambda, \{w_j\}_{j=1}^N$ )

Set  $B = \text{diag}(w_1, \dots, w_N) \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$ .

Initiate with  $x^0 = x_0, y^0 = 0 \in \mathbb{C}^m$  (the superscripts denote indices not powers).

**for**  $k = 0, \dots, p-1$  **do**

$$x^{k+1} = B\varphi_{\tau\lambda}(B^{-1}(x^k - \tau A^* y^k))$$

$$y^{k+1} = \psi^1(y^k + \sigma A(2x^{k+1} - x^k) - \sigma y)$$

**end**

$$X = \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{x^k}{p}$$

**return:**  $X \in \mathbb{C}^N$  (ergodic average of  $p$  iterates)

**end**

*Applications in compressive imaging.*

# Demonstration of convergence

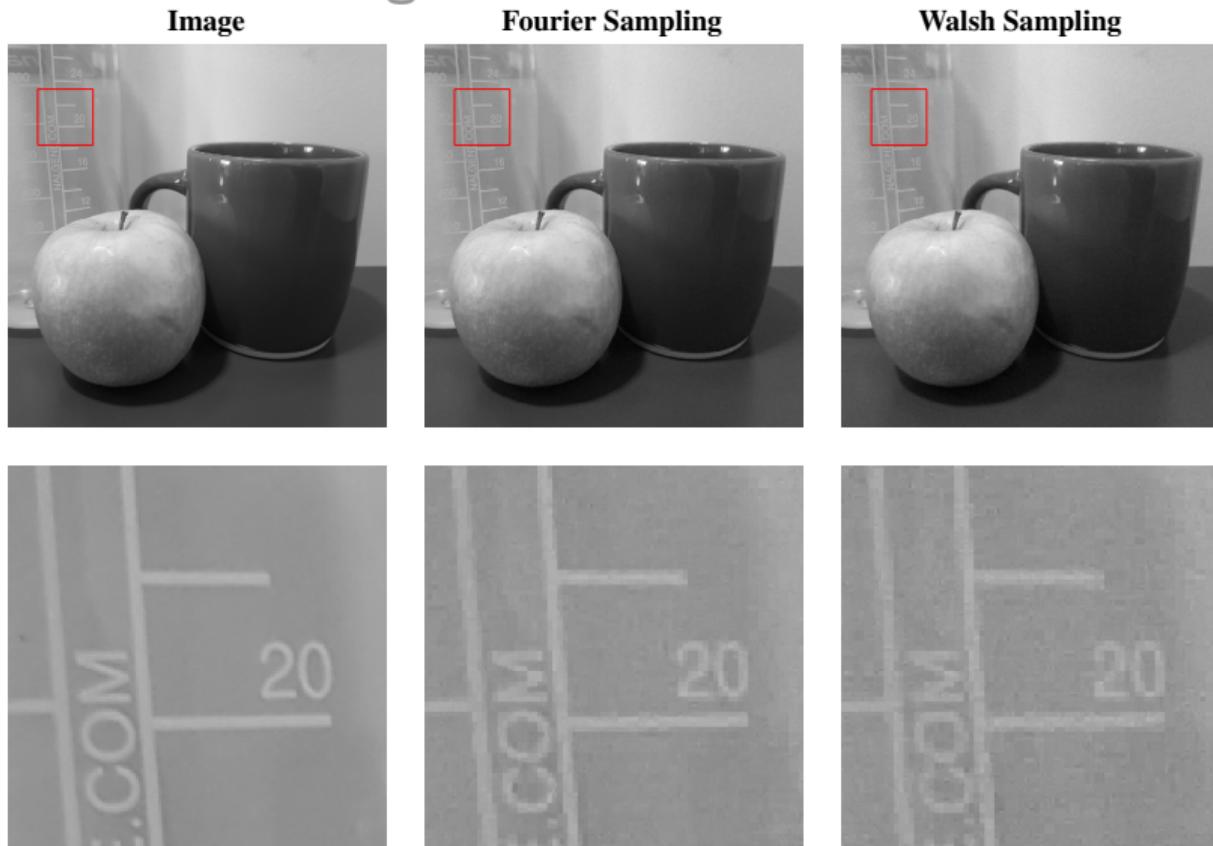
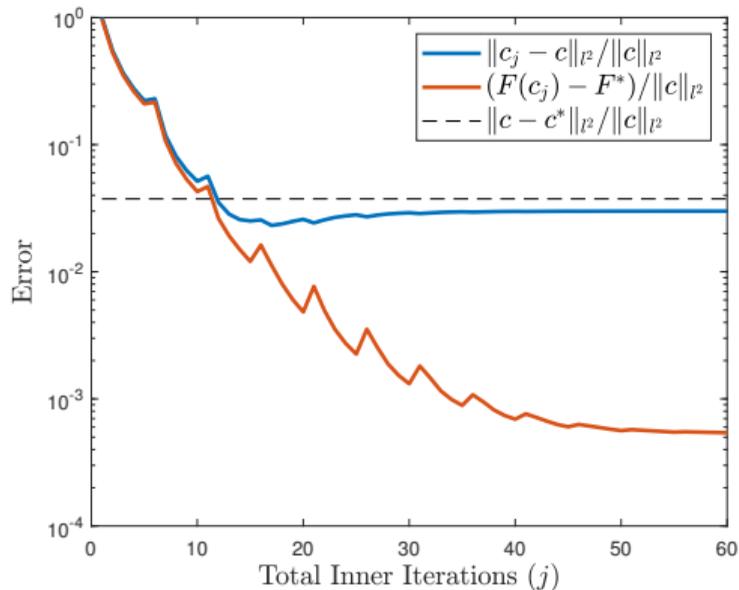


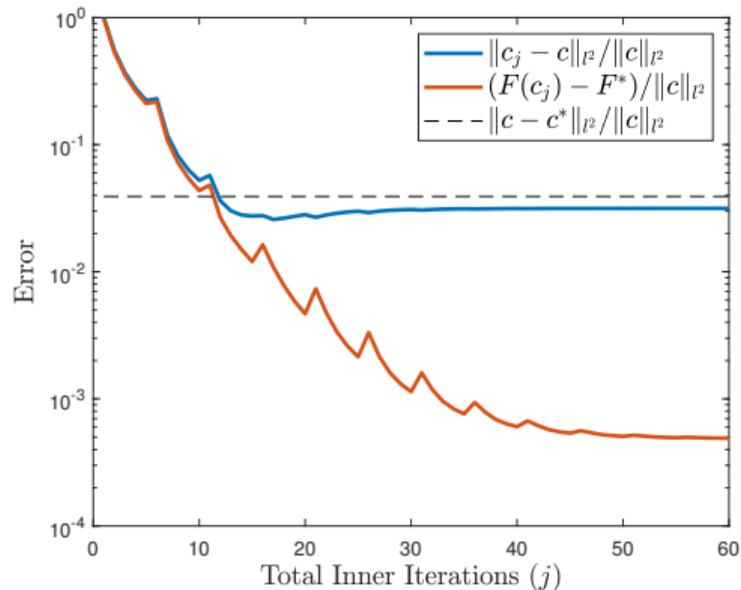
Figure: Images corrupted with 2% Gaussian noise and reconstructed using only 15% sampling with  $n = p = 5$ .

# Demonstration of convergence

## Convergence, Fourier Sampling



## Convergence, Walsh Sampling



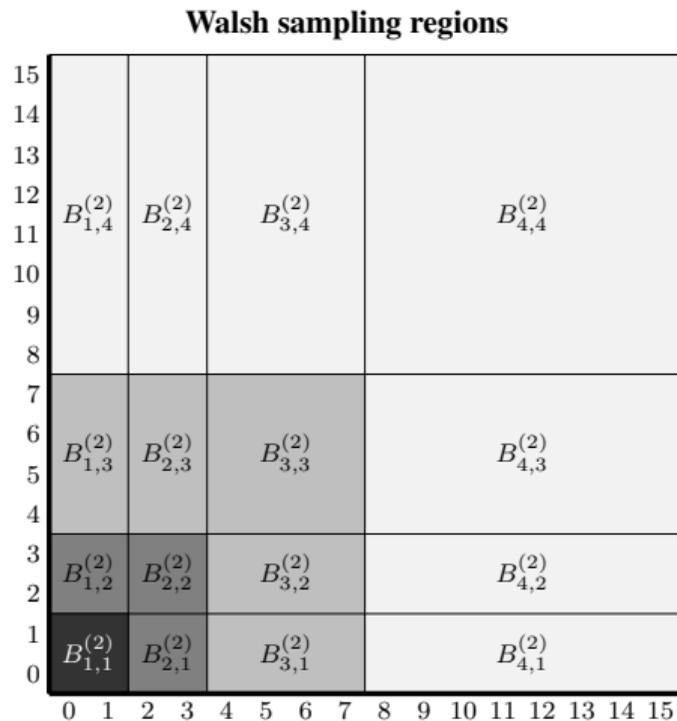
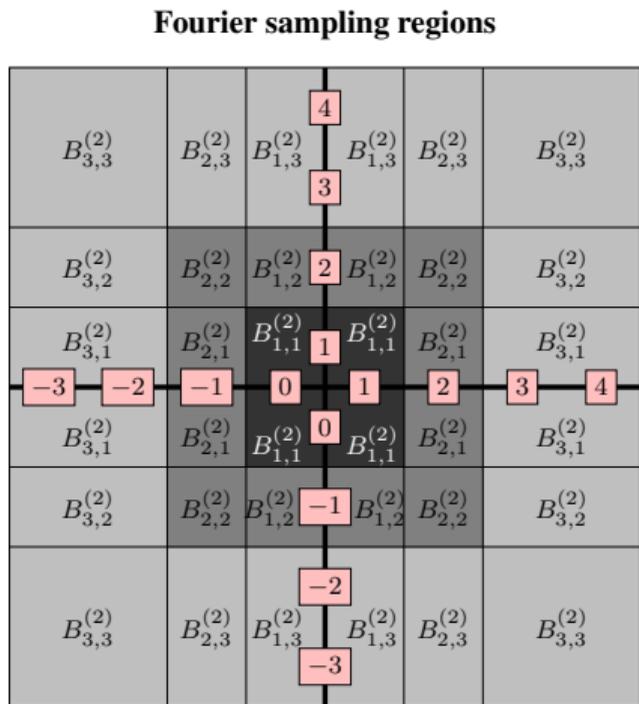
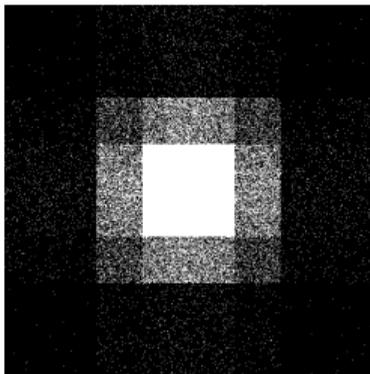


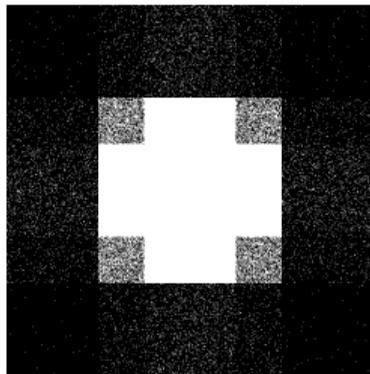
Figure: The different sampling regions used for the sampling patterns for Fourier (left,  $r = 3$ ) and Walsh (right,  $r = 4$ ). The axis labels correspond to the frequencies in each band and the annular regions are shown as the shaded greyscale regions.

## Fourier sampling patterns

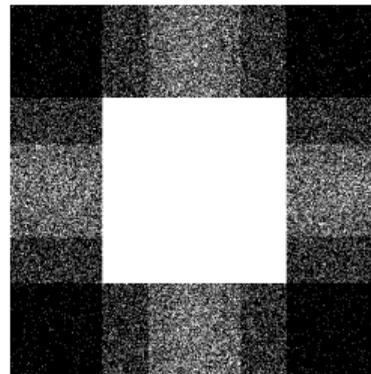
15%



25%

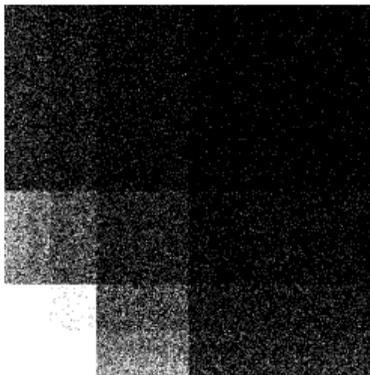


40%

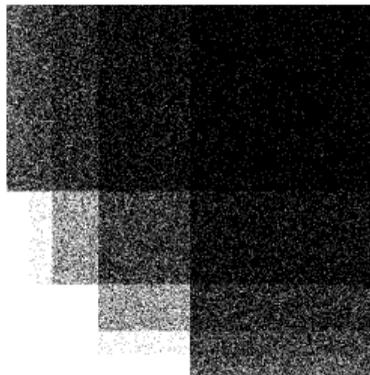


## Walsh sampling patterns

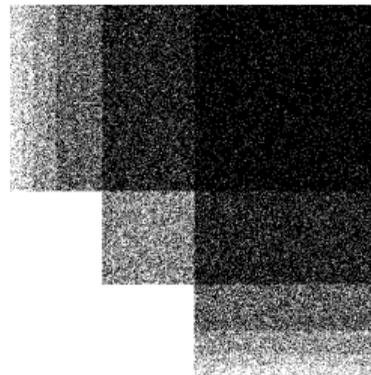
15%



25%



40%



# The main result of this section

## Theorem

Let  $\epsilon_{\mathbb{P}} \in (0, 1)$  and  $\mathcal{L} = \log^3(N) \cdot \log(m) \cdot \log^2(s \cdot \log(N)) + \log(\epsilon_{\mathbb{P}}^{-1})$ . Suppose:

- ▶ (a) In the Fourier case:  $m_{\mathbf{k}} \gtrsim \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{F}}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathcal{L}$ .
- ▶ (b) In the Walsh case:  $m_{\mathbf{k}} \gtrsim \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathcal{L}$ .

For  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , let  $\mathcal{J}(\delta, s, M, w)$  be collection of all  $y \in \mathbb{C}^m$  with  $y = Ac + e$  where

$$\|c\|_{l^2} \leq 1, \quad \max \left\{ \frac{\sigma_{s, M}(\Psi c)_{l^1_w}}{\sqrt{\xi}}, \|e\|_{l^2} \right\} \leq \delta.$$

We provide an algorithm that computes a neural network  $\phi$  with  $\mathcal{O}(\log(\delta^{-1}))$  layers s.t. with probability at least  $1 - \epsilon_{\mathbb{P}}$ ,

$$\|\phi(y) - c\|_{l^2} \lesssim \delta, \quad \forall y = Ac + e \in \mathcal{J}(\delta, s, M, w).$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{F}}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{k}) := \sum_{j=1}^{\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}} s_j \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i-j|} + \sum_{j=\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}+1}^r s_j 2^{-2(j-\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty})} \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i-j|}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{k}) := s_{\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}} \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i-\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}|}.$$

## Remarks

- ▶ Up to log-factors, measurement condition equivalent to the currently best-known oracle estimator (where one assumes apriori knowledge of the support of the vector).
- ▶ Consider number of samples per annular region

$$m_k = \sum_{\|\mathbf{k}\|_{j_\infty} = k} m_{\mathbf{k}}, \quad k = 1, \dots, r,$$

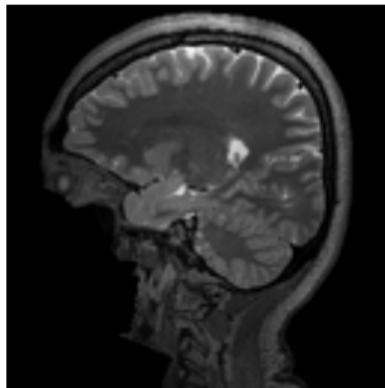
then up to logarithmic factors and exponentially small terms,  $s_k$  measurements are needed in each region.

**Take home message:** Using the above machinery, we get optimal recovery in terms of the number of samples needed and only need  $\mathcal{O}(\log(\delta^{-1}))$  many layers!!

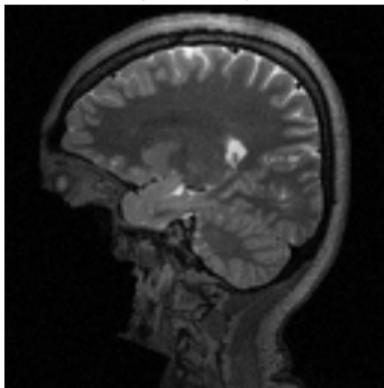
*Numerical experiments.*

# Stable? AUTOMAP X

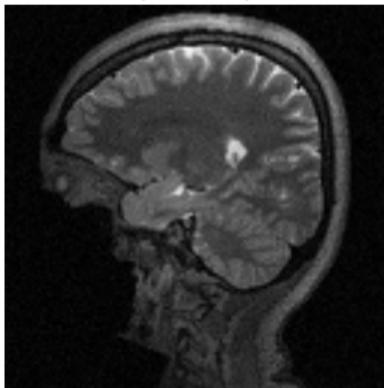
Original  $x$



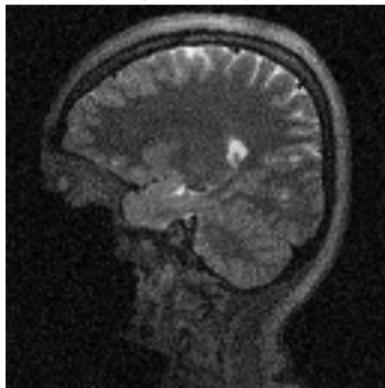
$|x + r_1|$



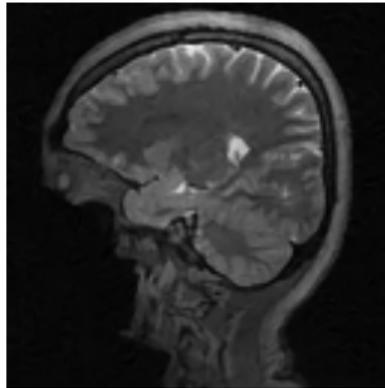
$|x + r_2|$



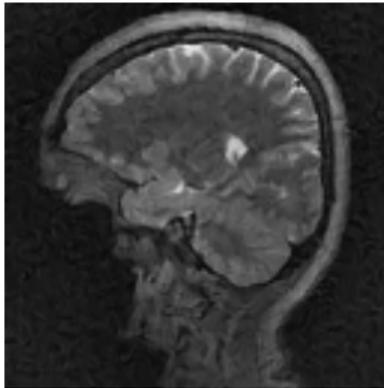
$|x + r_3|$



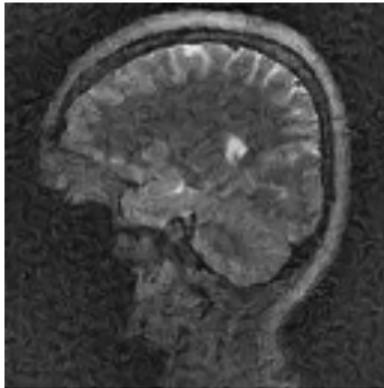
$\Psi(A(x))$



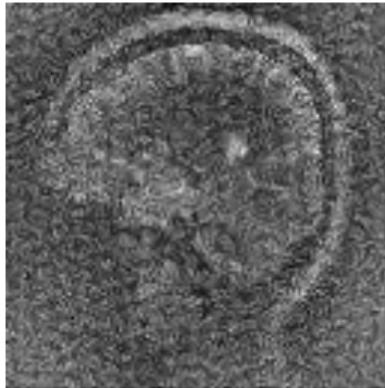
$\Psi(A(x + r_1))$



$\Psi(A(x + r_2))$

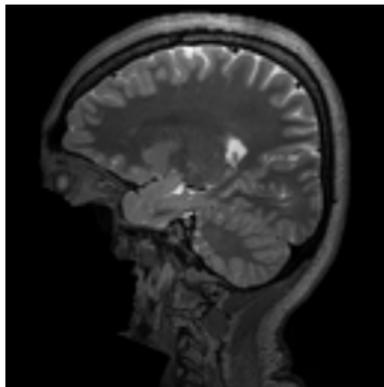


$\Psi(A(x + r_3))$

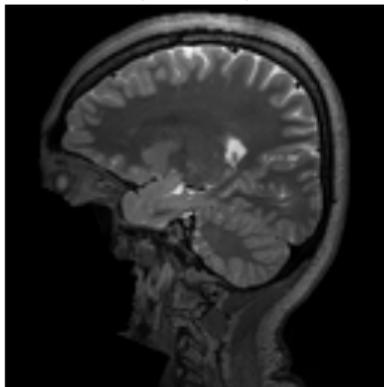


# Stable? FIRENETs ✓

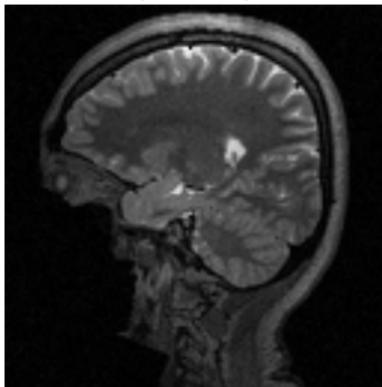
Original  $x$



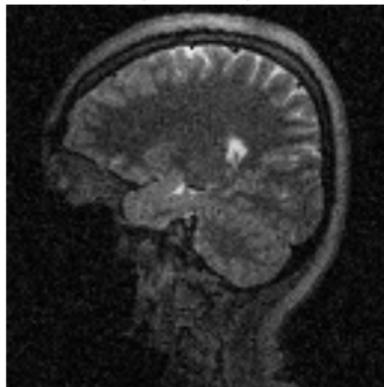
$|x + v_1|$



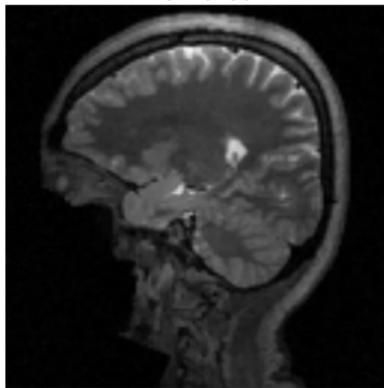
$|x + v_2|$



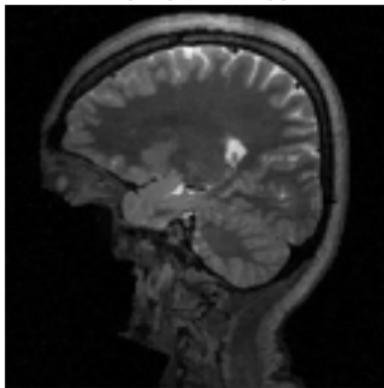
$|x + v_3|$



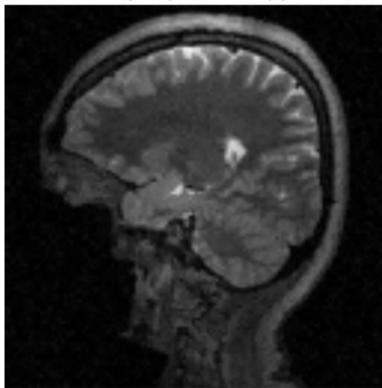
$\Phi(A(x))$



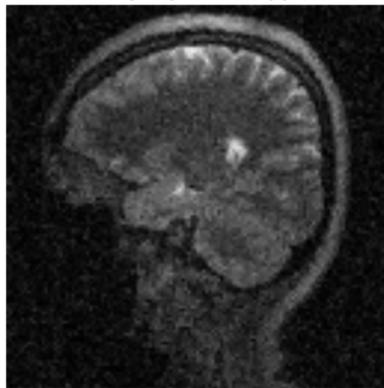
$\Phi(A(x + v_1))$



$\Phi(A(x + v_2))$

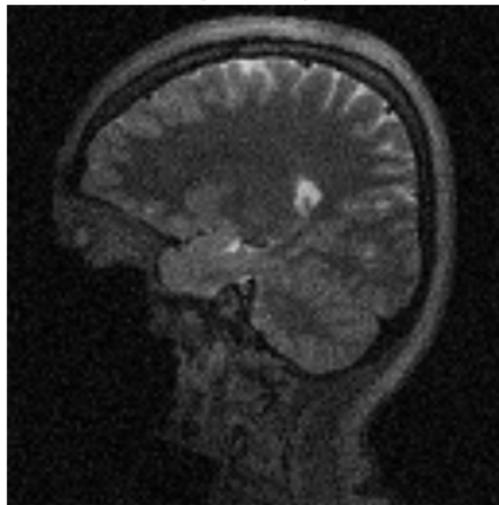


$\Phi(A(x + v_3))$

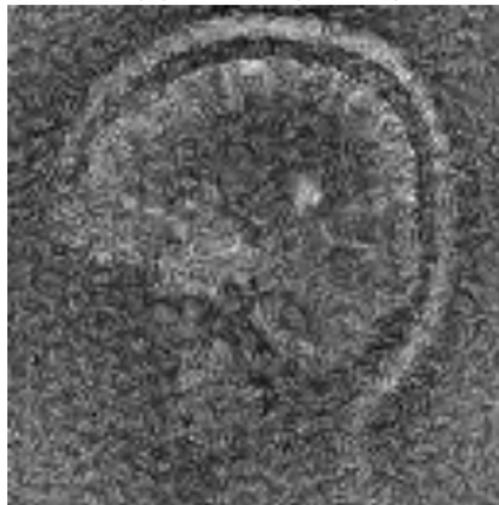


# Adding FIRENET layers stabilises AUTOMAP

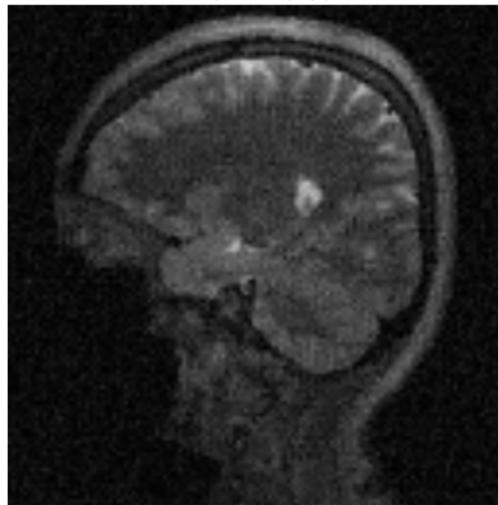
$$|x + r_3|$$



$$\Psi(\tilde{y}), \tilde{y} = A(x + r_3)$$

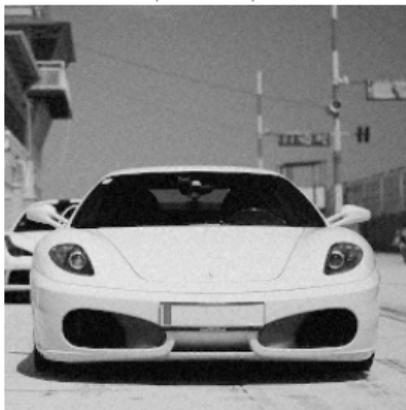


$$\Phi(\tilde{y}, \Psi(\tilde{y}))$$



# FIRENET withstand worst-case perturbations and generalises well

$|x_1 + v_1|$



$|x_2 + v_2|$



$|x_3 + v_3|$



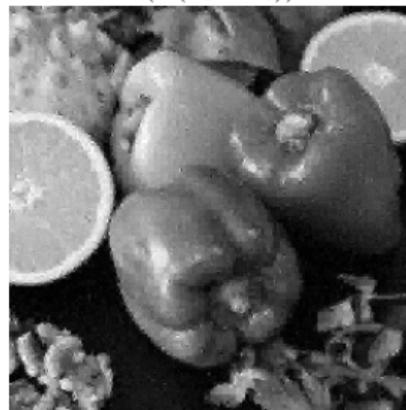
$\Phi(A(x_1 + v_1))$



$\Phi(A(x_2 + v_2))$

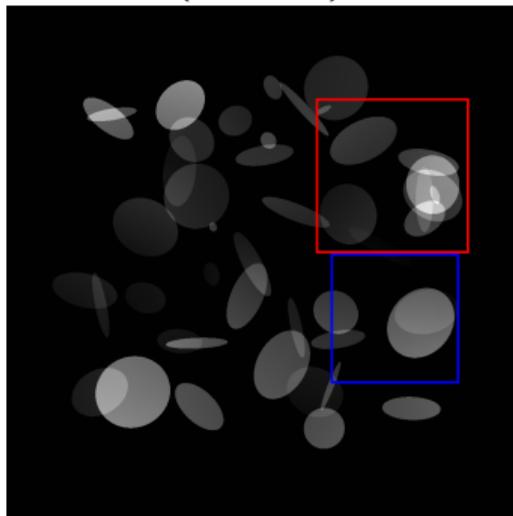


$\Phi(A(x_3 + v_3))$

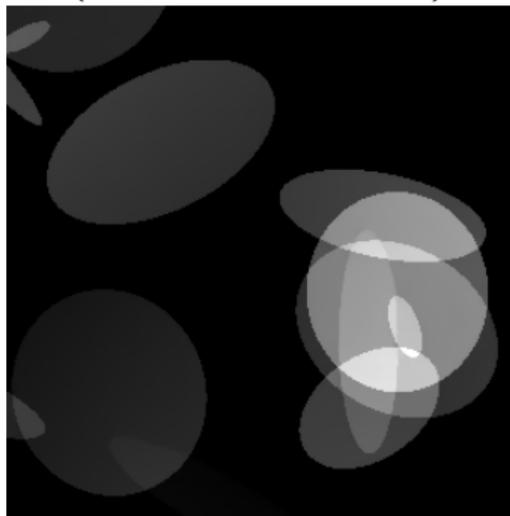


# Stability and accuracy, and false negative

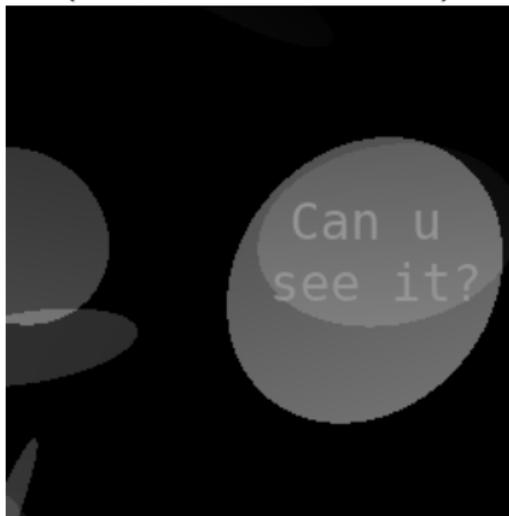
Original  $x$   
(full size)



Original  
(cropped, red frame)

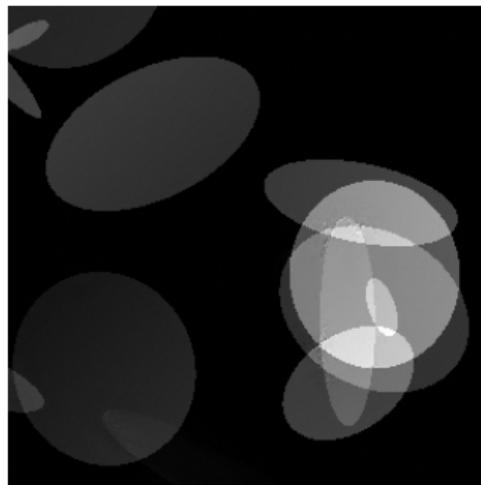


Original + detail ( $x + h_1$ )  
(cropped, blue frame)

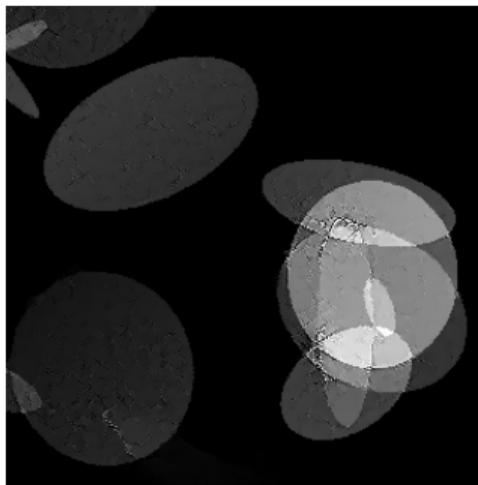


# U-net trained without noise

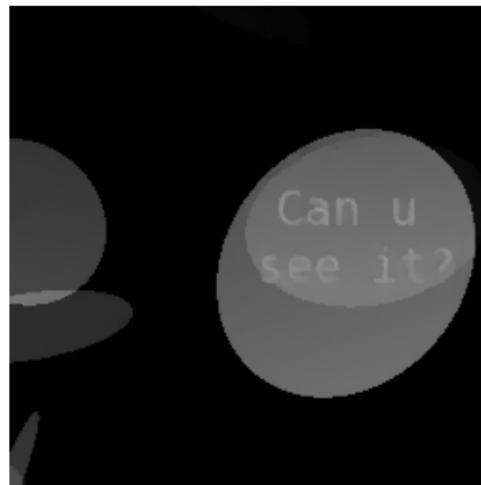
Orig. + worst-case noise



Rec. from worst-case noise

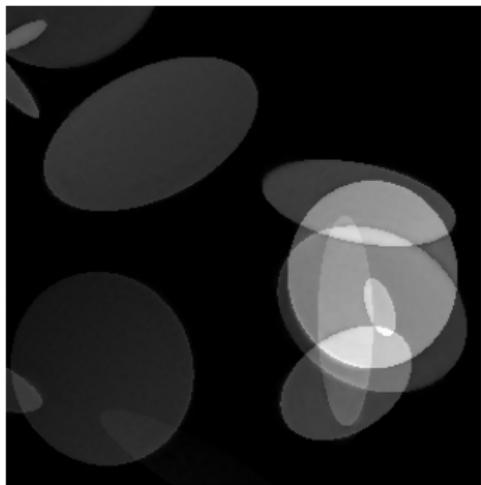


Rec. of detail

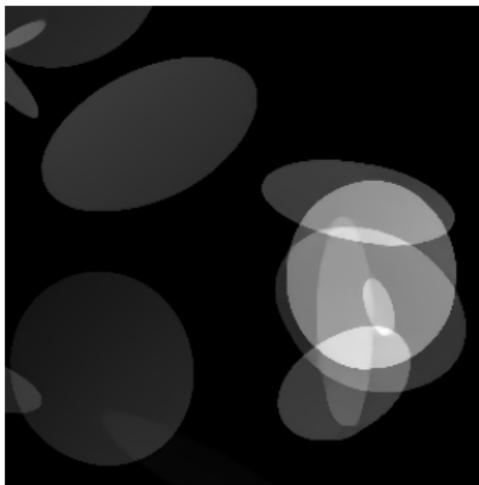


# U-net trained with noise

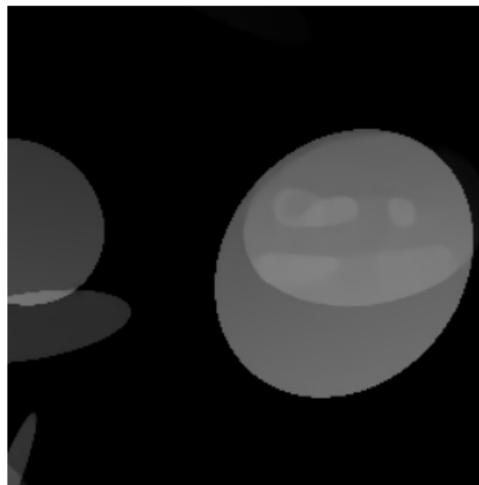
Orig. + worst-case noise



Rec. from worst-case noise

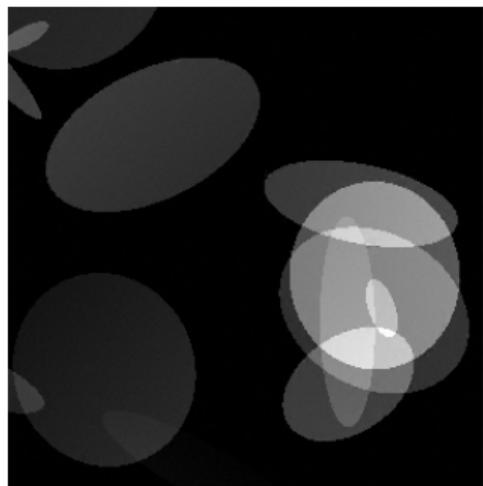


Rec. of detail

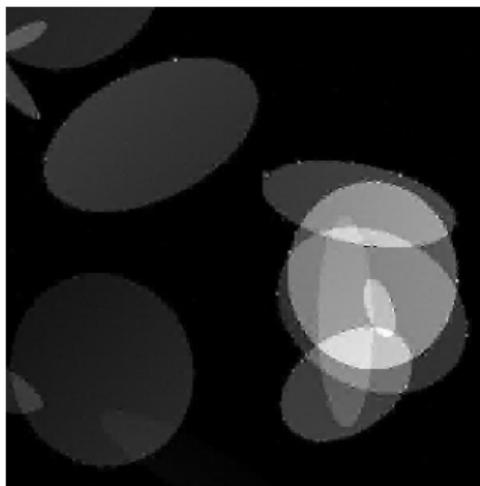


# FIRENET

Orig. + worst-case noise



Rec. from worst-case noise



Rec. of detail



**Final question:** How do we optimally traverse the stability & accuracy trade-off?

FIRENETs provide a balance but are likely not the end of the story.

Answering this question will require a foundations framework for AI.

Hopefully we've inspired you to build on these results and take up the challenge!

Extra slides.

# Multilevel random subsampling

**Definition [Multilevel random subsampling]:** Let  $N = (N_1, \dots, N_l) \in \mathbb{N}^l$ , where  $1 \leq N_1 < \dots < N_l = N$  and  $m = (m_1, \dots, m_l) \in \mathbb{N}^l$  with  $m_k \leq N_k - N_{k-1}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, l$ , and  $N_0 = 0$ . For each  $k = 1, \dots, l$ , let  $\mathcal{I}_k = \{N_{k-1} + 1, \dots, N_k\}$  if  $m_k = N_k - N_{k-1}$  and if not, let  $t_{k,1}, \dots, t_{k,m_k}$  be chosen uniformly and independently from the set  $\{N_{k-1} + 1, \dots, N_k\}$  (with possible repeats), and set  $\mathcal{I}_k = \{t_{k,1}, \dots, t_{k,m_k}\}$ . If  $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_{N,m} = \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{I}_l$  we refer to  $\mathcal{I}$  as an  $(N, m)$ -multilevel subsampling scheme.

**Definition [Multilevel subsampled unitary matrix]:** A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  is an  $(N, m)$ -multilevel subsampled unitary matrix if  $A = P_{\mathcal{I}} D U$  for a unitary matrix  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$  and  $(N, m)$ -multilevel subsampling scheme  $\mathcal{I}$ .  $D$  is a diagonal scaling matrix:

$$D_{ii} = \sqrt{\frac{N_k - N_{k-1}}{m_k}}, \quad i = N_{k-1} + 1, \dots, N_k, \quad k = 1, \dots, l$$

and  $P_{\mathcal{I}}$  is the projection onto the linear span of the subset of the canonical basis indexed by  $\mathcal{I}$ .

# The orthonormal bases

$K = 2^r$  for  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ , and consider  $d$ -dimensional tensors in  $\mathbb{C}^{K \times \dots \times K} = \mathbb{C}^{K^d}$ ,  $N = K^d$ .

$V \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$ : corresponds to  $d$ -dimensional discrete Fourier or Walsh transform.

**Fourier case:** divide frequencies  $\{-K/2 + 1, \dots, K/2\}^d$  into dyadic bands. For  $d = 1$ ,  $B_1 = \{0, 1\}$  and  $B_k = \{-2^{k-1} + 1, \dots, -2^{k-2}\} \cup \{2^{k-2} + 1, \dots, 2^{k-1}\}$  for  $k = 2, \dots, r$ .

**Walsh case:**  $B_1 = \{0, 1\}$  and  $B_k = \{2^{k-1}, \dots, 2^k - 1\}$  for  $k = 2, \dots, r$ .

**$d$ -dimensional case:**  $B_{\mathbf{k}}^{(d)} = B_{k_1} \times \dots \times B_{k_d}$ ,  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_d) \in \mathbb{N}^d$ .

**Observe:** subsampled measurements of  $V(c)$ .

**Sparse rep:** Haar wavelet coefficients  $\Psi c$ ,  $U = V\Psi^*$ .

**Sampling:** Given  $\{m_{\mathbf{k}=(k_1, \dots, k_d)}\}_{k_1, \dots, k_d=1}^r$ , use a multilevel random sampling such that  $m_{\mathbf{k}}$  measurements are chosen from  $B_{\mathbf{k}}^{(d)}$ .

## Reduction to previous theorem

$U = [U^{(\mathbf{k},j)}]_{\mathbf{k}=1,j=1}^{\|\mathbf{k}\|_1 \leq r,r}$  be defined as above. Then the  $(\mathbf{k},j)$ th local coherence of  $U$  is

$$\mu(U^{(\mathbf{k},j)}) = \left| B_{\mathbf{k}}^{(d)} \right| \max_{p,q} |(U^{(\mathbf{k},j)})_{pq}|^2, \quad \text{where } \left| B_{\mathbf{k}}^{(d)} \right| \text{ is the cardinality of } B_{\mathbf{k}}^{(d)}.$$

**Proposition:** Let  $\epsilon_{\mathbb{P}} \in (0,1)$ ,  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  be local sparsities and sparsity levels with  $2 \leq s \leq N$ , and consider the  $(N, m)$ -multilevel subsampling scheme to form  $A$ . Let

$$t_j = \min \left\{ \left\lceil \frac{\xi(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M}, w)}{w_{(j)}^2} \right\rceil, M_j - M_{j-1} \right\}, \quad j = 1, \dots, r,$$

and suppose that

$$m_k \gtrsim \mathcal{L}' \cdot \sum_{j=1}^r t_j \mu(U^{(\mathbf{k},j)}), \quad k = 1, \dots, l$$

where  $\mathcal{L}' = r \cdot \log(2m) \cdot \log^2(t) \cdot \log(N) + \log(\epsilon_{\mathbb{P}}^{-1})$ . Then with probability at least  $1 - \epsilon_{\mathbb{P}}$ ,  $A$  satisfies the weighted rNSPL of order  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{M})$  with constants  $\rho = 1/2, \gamma = \sqrt{2}$ .

## Coherence bound for Fourier case

**Lemma:** Consider the  $d$ -dimensional Fourier–Haar–wavelet matrix with blocks  $U^{\mathbf{k},j}$ , then the local coherences satisfy

$$\mu(U^{\mathbf{k},j}) \lesssim 2^{-2(j-\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty})_+} \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i-j|},$$

where for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $t_+ = \max\{0, t\}$ . It follows that

$$\sum_{j=1}^r s_j \mu(U^{\mathbf{k},j}) \lesssim \sum_{j=1}^{\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}} s_j \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i-j|_+} + \sum_{j=\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}+1}^r s_j 2^{-2(j-\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty})} \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i-j|} = \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{F}}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{k}).$$

**Proof.**

Exercise in using the discrete Fourier transform and some trigonometric identities.  $\square$

## Coherence bound for Walsh case

**Lemma:** Consider the  $d$ -dimensional Walsh–Haar–wavelet matrix with blocks  $U^{(\mathbf{k},j)}$ , then the local coherences satisfy

$$\mu(U^{(\mathbf{k},j)}) \lesssim \begin{cases} \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i-j|} & \text{if } k_i \leq j \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, d \text{ with at least one equality,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} .$$

It follows that

$$\sum_{j=1}^r s_j \mu(U^{(\mathbf{k},j)}) \lesssim s_{\|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}} \prod_{i=1}^d 2^{-|k_i - \|\mathbf{k}\|_{l^\infty}|} = \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{k}).$$

**Proof.**

Exercise in keeping track of supports of Haar wavelet basis. □