

# **Performance of Sparse Decomposition Algorithms with Deterministic versus Random Dictionaries**

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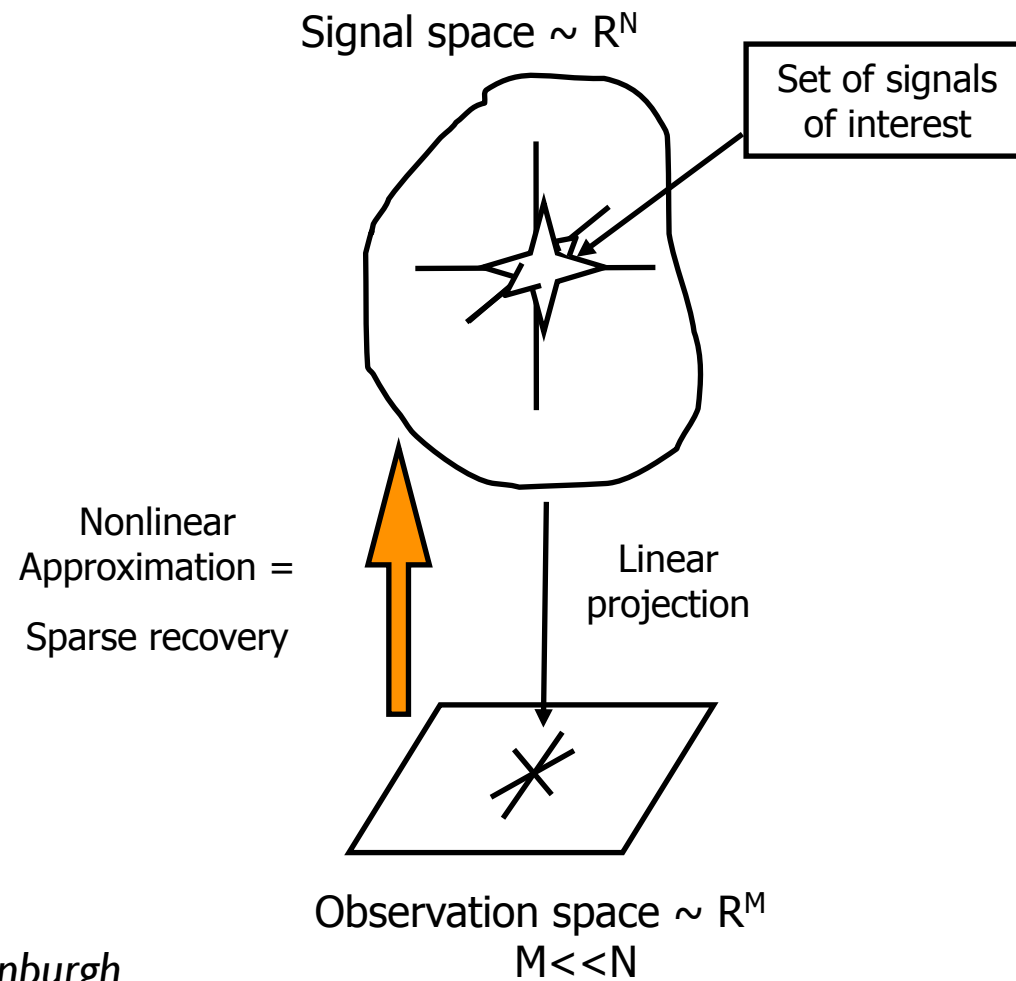
# Slides

- <http://www.irisa.fr/metiss/members/remi/talks/>

# Summary

- Session 1:
  - ✦ role of sparsity for compression and inverse problems
- Session 2:
  - ✦ Review of main algorithms & complexities
  - ✦ Success guarantees for  $L_1$  minimization to solve under-determined inverse linear problems
- Session 3:
  - ✦ Comparison of guarantees for different algorithms
  - ✦ Robust guarantees & Restricted Isometry Property
  - ✦ Explicit guarantees for various inverse problems

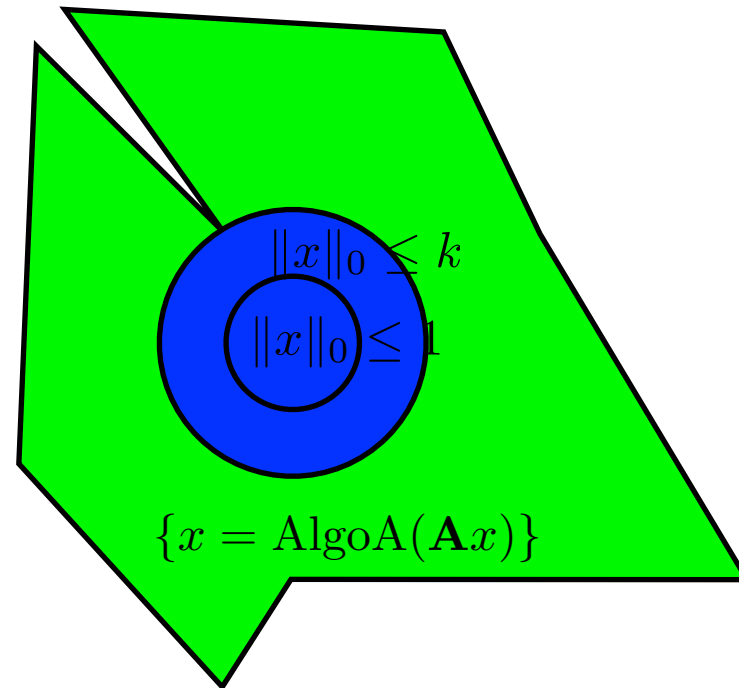
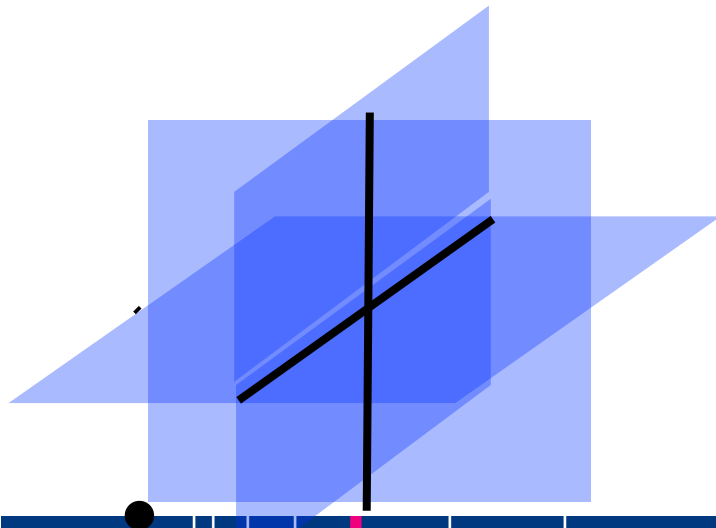
# Inverse problems



Courtesy: M. Davies, U. Edinburgh

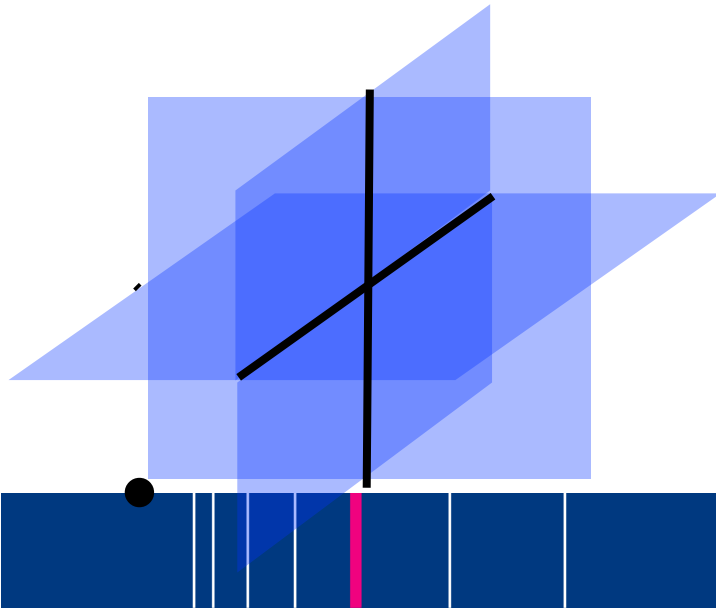
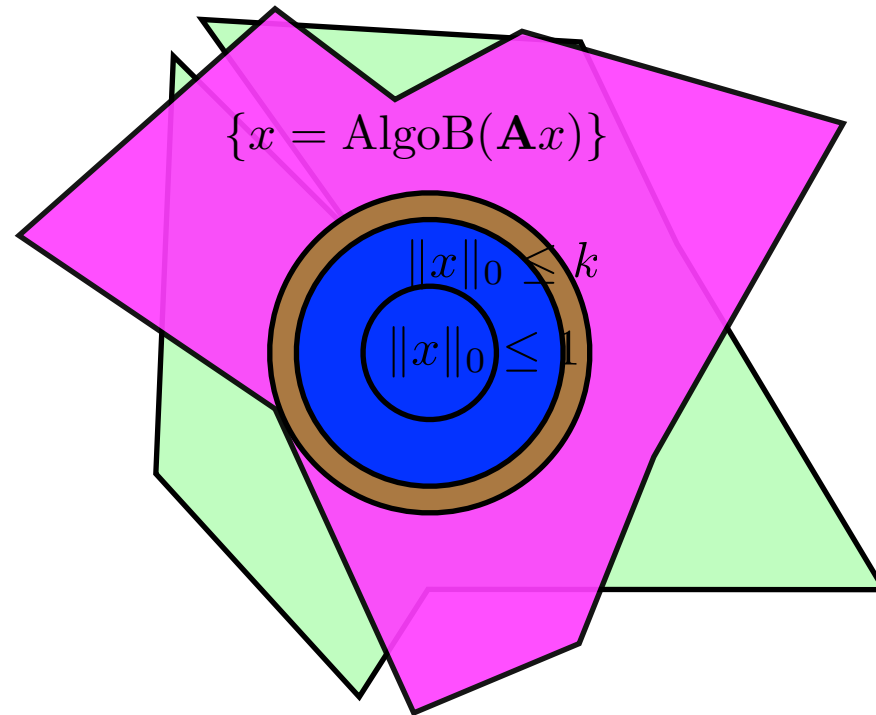
# Recovery analysis for inverse problem $b = Ax$

- Recoverable set for a given “inversion” algorithm
- Level sets of L0-norm
  - ✦ 1-sparse
  - ✦ 2-sparse
  - ✦ 3-sparse ...



# Recovery analysis for inverse problem $b = Ax$

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  - ✦ 3-sparse ...



# Some “simple” recovery conditions

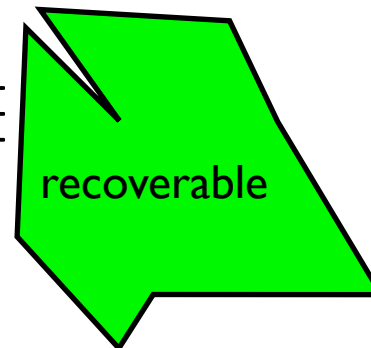
## Support

“recoverable supports” =  
subsets  $I \subset \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$   
such that

$$\text{supp}(x) := \{k, x_k \neq 0\} \subset I$$



$x \in$



recoverable

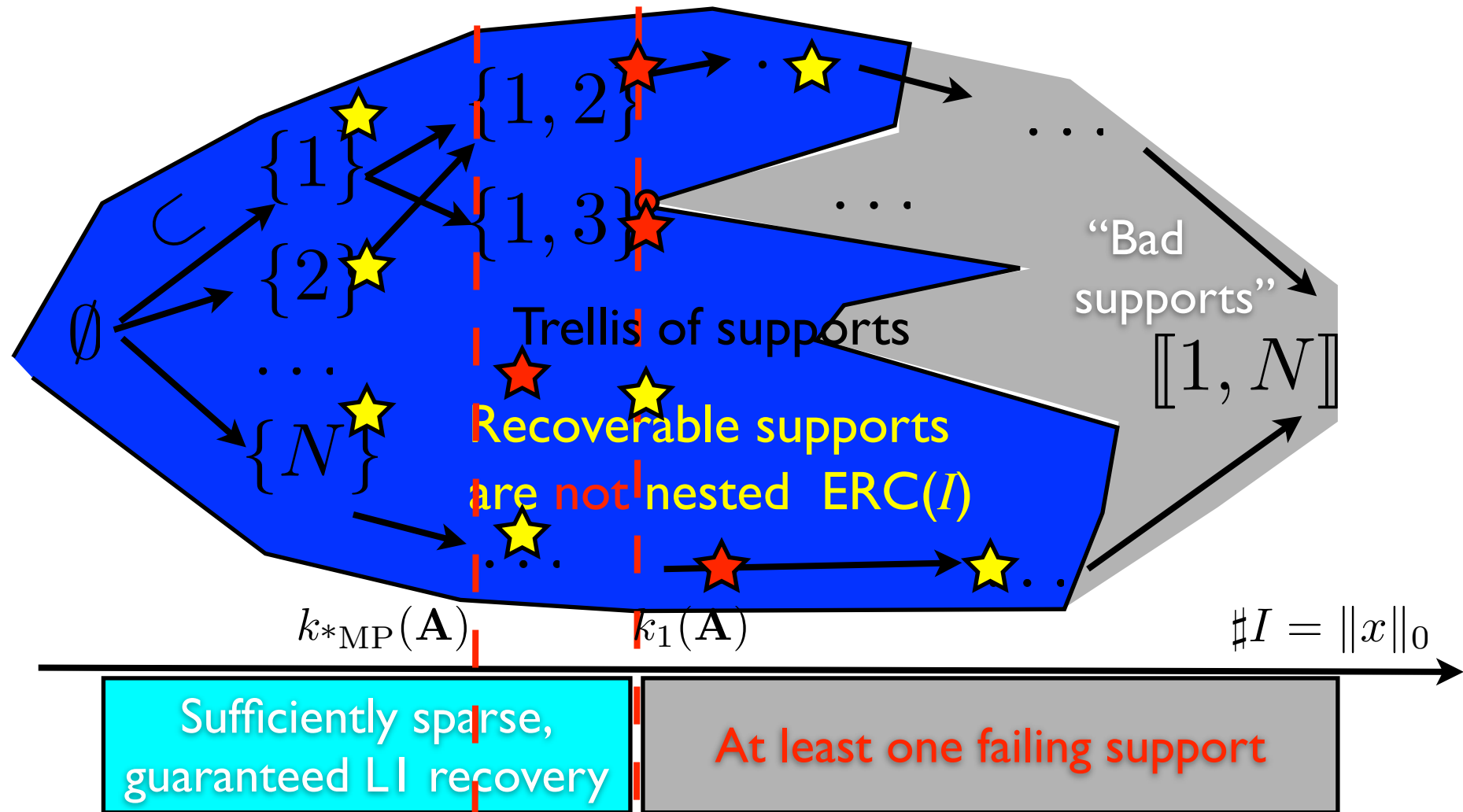
## Sparsity level

“recoverable sparsity” =  
integers  $k$   
such that

$$\|x_0\|_0 \leq k$$



# Greedy vs LI: summary





# Comparison between algorithms

- Recovery conditions based on number of nonzero components  $\|x\|_0$  for  $0 \leq p \leq q \leq 1$

$$k^*_{\text{MP}}(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_1(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_p(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_q(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_0(\mathbf{A}), \forall \mathbf{A}$$

- **Warning :**
  - ♦ there often exists vectors beyond these critical sparsity levels, which are recovered
  - ♦ there often exists vectors beyond these critical sparsity levels, where the successful algorithm is not the one we would expect

[Gribonval & Nielsen, ACHA 2007]

# Stability and robustness



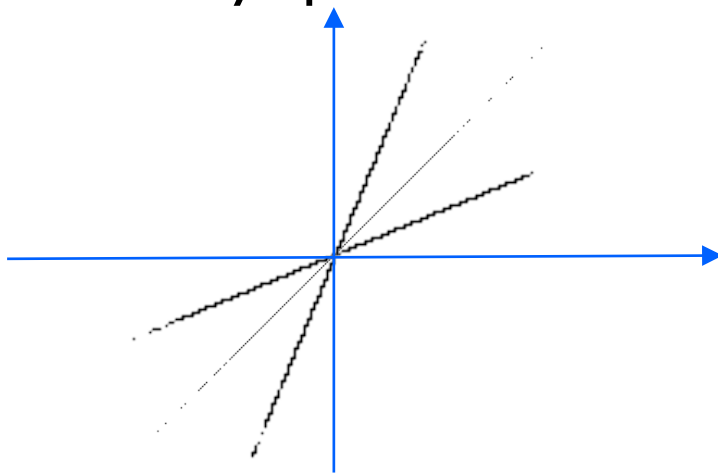
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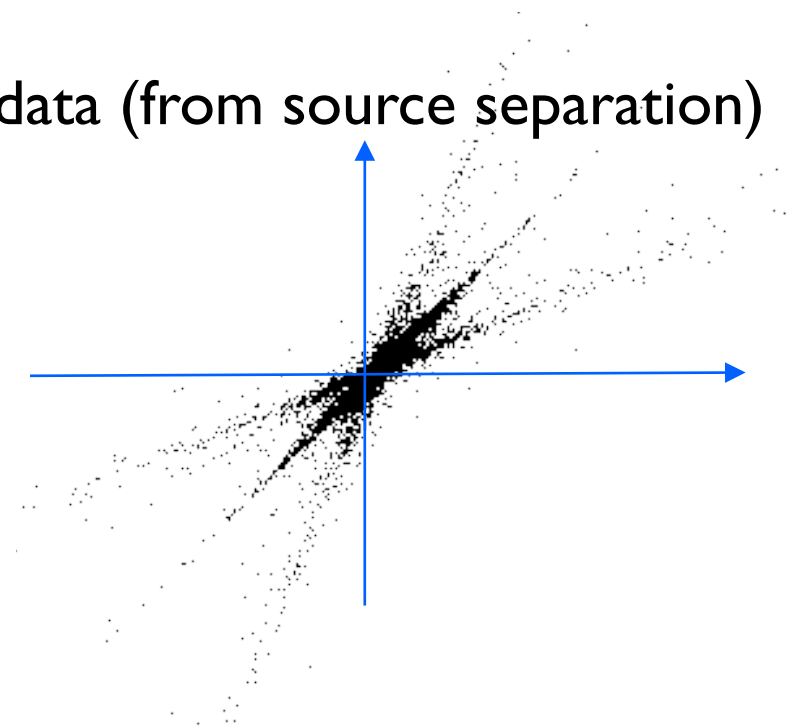
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# Need for stable recovery

Exactly sparse data



Real data (from source separation)



# Formalization of stability

- Toy problem: exact recovery from  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x$ 
  - ✦ Assume sufficient sparsity  $\|x\|_0 \leq k_p(\mathbf{A}) < m$
  - ✦ Wish to obtain  $x_p^*(\mathbf{b}) = x$

- Need to relax sparsity assumption
  - ✦ New benchmark = best k-term approximation

$$\sigma_k(x) = \inf_{\|y\|_0 \leq k} \|x - y\|$$

- ✦ Goal = stable recovery = *instance optimality*

$$\|x_p^*(\mathbf{b}) - x\| \leq C \cdot \sigma_k(x)$$

[Cohen, Dahmen & DeVore 2006]

# Stability for $L_p$ minimization

- Assumption: «stable Null Space Property»

$NSP(k, \ell^p, t)$

$$\|z_{I_k}\|_p^p \leq t \cdot \|z_{I_k^c}\|_p^p \quad \text{when } z \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}), z \neq 0$$

- Conclusion: *instance optimality* for all  $x$

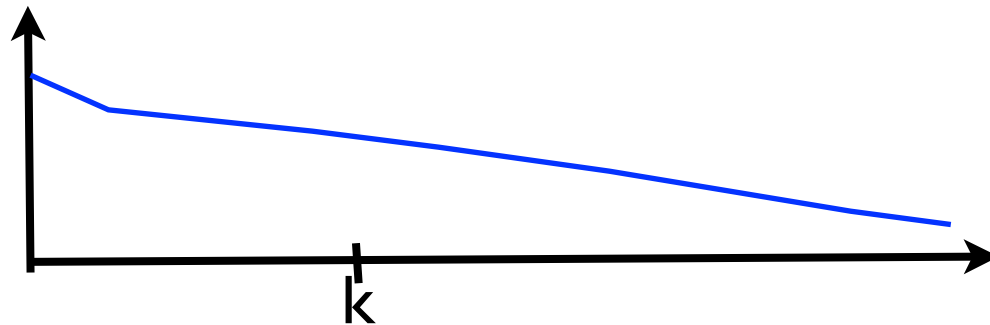
$$\|x_p^*(\mathbf{b}) - x\|_p^p \leq C(t) \cdot \sigma_k(x)_p^p$$

$$C(t) := 2 \frac{1+t}{1-t}$$

[Davies & Gribonval, SAMPTA 2009]

# Reminder on NSP

- Geometry in coefficient space:
  - ✦ consider an element  $z$  of the Null Space of  $A$
  - ✦ order its entries in decreasing order



- ✦ the mass of the largest  $k$ -terms should not exceed a fraction of that of the tail  $\|z_{I_k}\|_p^p \leq t \cdot \|z_{I_k^c}\|_p^p$

All elements of the null space must be “flat”

# Robustness

- Toy model = noiseless  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x$
- Need to account for noise  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x + \mathbf{e}$ 
  - ✦ measurement noise
  - ✦ modeling error
  - ✦ numerical inaccuracies ...
- Goal: predict robust estimation

$$\|x_p^*(\mathbf{b}) - x\| \leq C\|e\| + C'\sigma_k(x)$$

- Tool: restricted isometry property

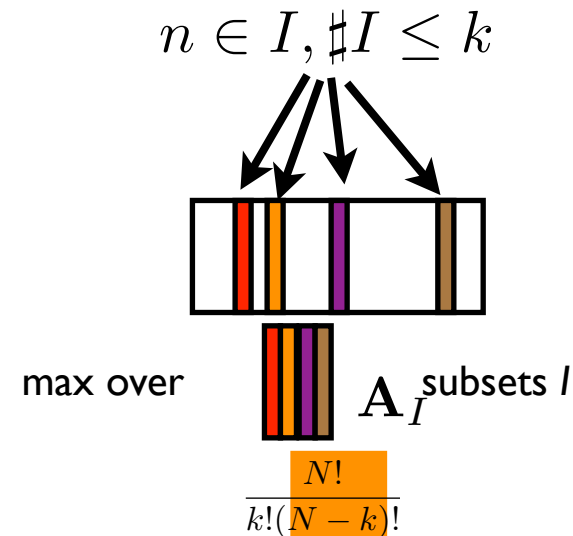
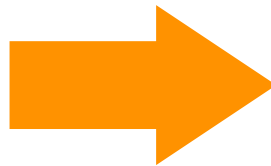


# Restricted Isometry Property

- Definition



N columns



- Computation ?

- ✦ naively: combinatorial
- ✦ **open question:** NP ? NP-complete ?

$$\delta_k := \sup_{\#I \leq k, c \in \mathbb{R}^k} \left| \frac{\|A_I c\|_2^2}{\|c\|_2^2} - 1 \right|$$



# Stability & robustness from RIP

RIP( $k, \delta$ )

$$\delta_{2k}(\mathbf{A}) \leq \delta$$

[Candès 2008]



$$t := \sqrt{2}\delta / (1 - \delta)$$

NSP( $k, \ell^1, t$ )

$$\|z_{I_k}\|_1 \leq t \cdot \|z_{I_k^c}\|_1 \quad \text{when} \quad z \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}), z \neq 0$$

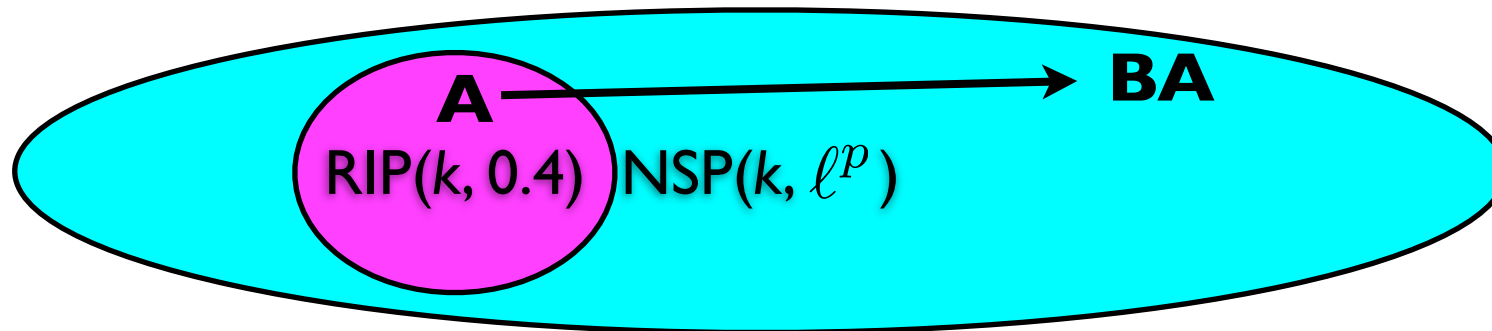
- Result: **stable + robust** L1-recovery under assumption that

$$\delta_{2k}(\mathbf{A}) < \sqrt{2} - 1 \approx 0.414$$

- ✦ Foucart-Lai 2008: L<sub>p</sub> with  $p < 1$ , and  $\delta_{2k}(\mathbf{A}) < 0.4531$
- ✦ Chartrand 2007, Saab & Yilmaz 2008: other RIP condition for  $p < 1$
- ✦ G., Figueras & Vandergheynst 2006: robustness with  $f$ -norms
- ✦ Needel & Tropp 2009, Blumensath & Davies 2009: RIP for greedy algorithms

# Is the RIP a sharp condition ?

- The Null Space Property
  - ♦ “algebraic” + sharp property for  $\ell_p$ , only depends on  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$
  - ♦ invariant by linear transforms  $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}$
- The  $\text{RIP}(k, \delta)$  condition
  - ♦ “metric” ... and not invariant by linear transforms
  - ♦ predicts performance + robustness of several algorithms



[Davies & Gribonval, IEEE Inf.Th. 2009]

# Remaining agenda

- Recovery conditions based on number of nonzero components  $\|x\|_0$   $0 \leq p \leq q \leq 1$

$$k^*_{\text{MP}}(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_1(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_p(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_q(\mathbf{A}) \leq k_0(\mathbf{A}), \forall \mathbf{A}$$

- **Question**

- ♦ what is the order of magnitude of these numbers ?
- ♦ how do we estimate them in practice ?

- **A first element:**

- ♦ if  $\mathbf{A}$  is  $m \times N$ , then  $k_0(\mathbf{A}) \leq \lfloor m/2 \rfloor$
- ♦ for almost all matrices (in the sense of Lebesgue measure in  $\mathbb{R}^{mN}$ ) this is an equality



# Explicit guarantees in various inverse problems



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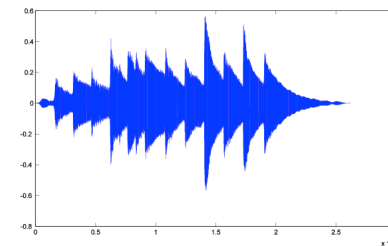
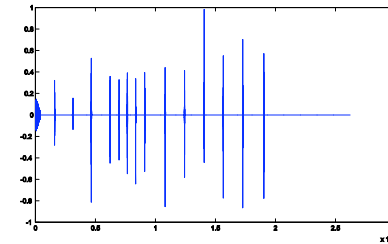
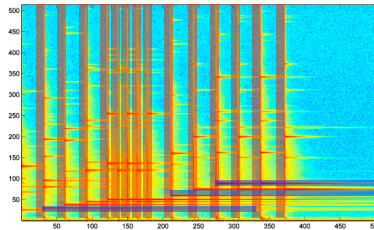
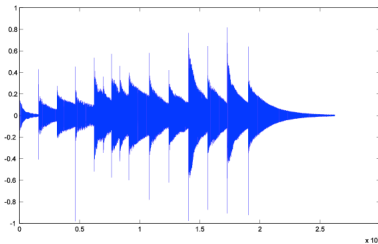
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# Scenarios

- Range of “choices” for the matrix **A**
  - ✦ Dictionary modeling structures of signals  
*union of wavelets + curvelets + spikes*
  - ✦ «Transfer function» from physics of inverse problem  
*convolution operator / transmission channel*
  - ✦ Designed Compressed Sensing matrix  
*random Gaussian matrix*
- Estimation of the recovery regimes
  - ✦ coherence for deterministic matrices
  - ✦ typical results for random matrices

# Multiscale Time-Frequency Structures

- Audio = superimposition of structures
- Example : glockenspiel



- ♦ transients = short, small scale
- ♦ harmonic part = long, large scale

- Gabor atoms  $\left\{ g_{s,\tau,f}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} w\left(\frac{t-\tau}{s}\right) e^{2i\pi ft} \right\}_{s,\tau,f}$

# Deterministic matrices and coherence

- **Lemma**

- ♦ Assume normalized columns  $\|\mathbf{A}_i\|_2 = 1$
- ♦ Define **coherence**  $\mu = \max_{i \neq j} |\mathbf{A}_i^T \mathbf{A}_j|$

- ♦ Consider index set  $I$  of size  $\#I \leq k$
- ♦ Then for any coefficient vector  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^I$

$$1 - (k - 1)\mu \leq \frac{\|\mathbf{A}_I \mathbf{c}\|_2^2}{\|\mathbf{c}\|_2^2} \leq 1 + (k - 1)\mu$$

♦ In other words

$$\delta_{2k} \leq (2k - 1)\mu$$



# Consequence

- Since  $\delta_{2k} \leq \mu \cdot (2k - 1)$  we obtain  $\delta_{2k} \leq \delta$  soon as

$$k < (1 + \delta/\mu) / 2$$

- Combining with best known RIP condition for stable LI recovery  $\delta \approx 0.4531$

$$k_1(\mathbf{A}) \geq \lfloor (1 + 0.4531/\mu) / 2 \rfloor$$

- In fact, can prove with other techniques that

$$k_0(\mathbf{A}) \geq k_1(\mathbf{A}) \geq \lfloor (1 + 1/\mu) / 2 \rfloor$$

[G. Nielsen 2003]



# Example: convolution operator

- Deconvolution problem  $y = h \star s + e$ 
  - ✦ Matrix-vector form  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x + \mathbf{e}$  with  $\mathbf{A}$  = Toeplitz or circulant matrix  $[\mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_N]$

$$\mathbf{A}_n(i) = h(i - n) \quad \text{by convention } \|\mathbf{A}_n\|_2^2 = \sum_i h(i)^2 = 1$$

- ✦ Coherence = autocorrelation, can be large

$$\mu = \max_{n \neq n'} \mathbf{A}_n^T \mathbf{A}_{n'} = \max_{\ell \neq 0} h \star \tilde{h}(\ell)$$

- ✦ Recovery guarantees
  - ✦ Worst case = close spikes, usually difficult and not robust
  - ✦ Stronger results assuming distance between spikes [Dossal 2005]

# Example: image inpainting

Courtesy of: G. Peyré, Ceremade, Université Paris 9 Dauphine



Inpainting



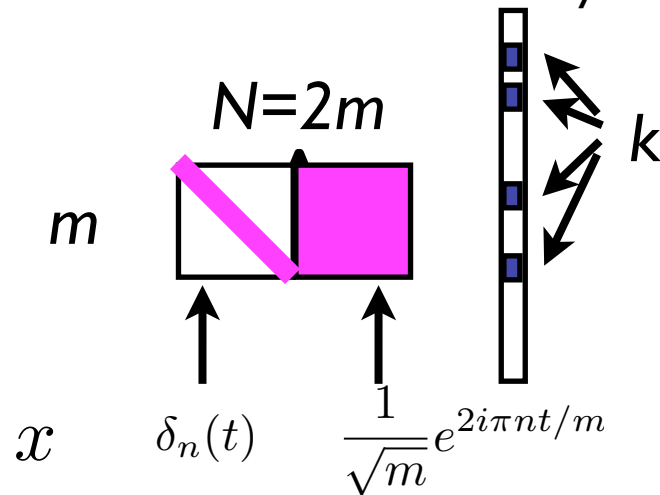
$$y = \Phi x$$



$$b = My = M\Phi x$$

# Coherence vs RIP

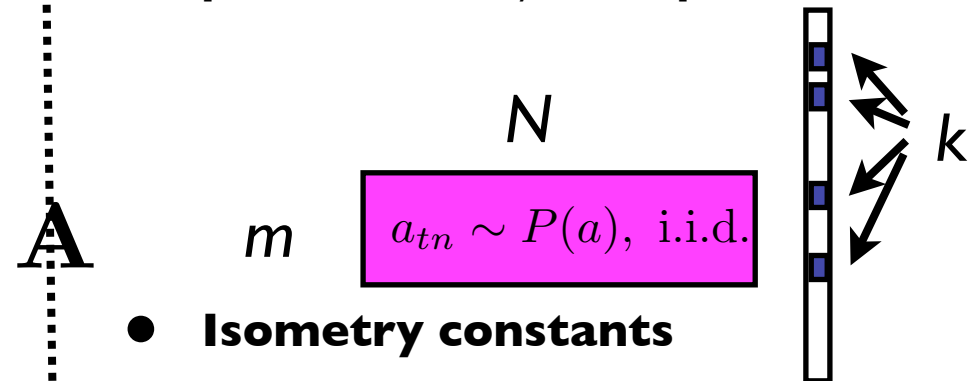
- **Deterministic** matrix, such as Dirac-Fourier dictionary



- **Coherence**

$$\mu = 1/\sqrt{m}$$

- **“Generic”** (random) dictionary  
[Candès & al 2004, Vershynin 2006, ...]



- **Isometry constants**

if  $m \geq Ck \log N/k$

then  $P(\delta_{2k} < \sqrt{2} - 1) \approx 1$

## Recovery regimes

$$k_1(\mathbf{A}) \approx 0.914\sqrt{m}$$

$$k_{*MP}(\mathbf{A}) \geq 0.5\sqrt{m}$$

$$k_1(\mathbf{A}) \approx \frac{m}{2e \log N/m}$$

with high probability

[Elad & Bruckstein 2002]

[Donoho & Tanner 2009]

# Compressed sensing

- Approach = acquire some data  $y$  with a limited number  $m$  of (linear) measures, modeled by a measurement matrix  $\mathbf{b} \approx \mathbf{K}y$
- Key hypotheses
  - ✦ Sparse model: the data can be sparsely represented in some dictionary  $y \approx \Phi x$   $\sigma_k(x) \ll \|x\|$
  - ✦ The overall matrix  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{K}\Phi$  leads to robust + stable sparse recovery, e.g.  $\delta_{2k}(\mathbf{A}) \ll 1$
- Reconstruction = sparse recovery algorithm

# Key constraints to use Compressed Sensing

- Availability of sparse model= dictionary  $\Phi$ 
  - ✦ should fit well the **data**, not always granted. E.g.: cannot acquire white Gaussian noise!
  - ✦ require appropriate *choice* of dictionary, or **dictionary learning from training data**
- Measurement matrix  $K$ 
  - ✦ must be associated with **physical sampling process** (hardware implementation)
  - ✦ should guarantee **recovery** from  $K\Phi$  hence incoherence
  - ✦ should ideally enable fast algorithms through **fast computation** of  $Ky, K^T b$

# Remarks

- Worthless if high-res. sensing+storage = cheap  
*i.e., not for your personal digital camera!*
- Worth it whenever
  - ✦ High-res. = impossible (no miniature sensor, e.g, certain wavelength)
  - ✦ Cost of each measure is high
    - ✧ Time constraints [fMRI]
    - ✧ Economic constraints [well drilling]
    - ✧ Intelligence constraints [furtive measures]?
  - ✦ Transmission is lossy  
(robust to loss of a few measures)

# Excessive pessimism ?



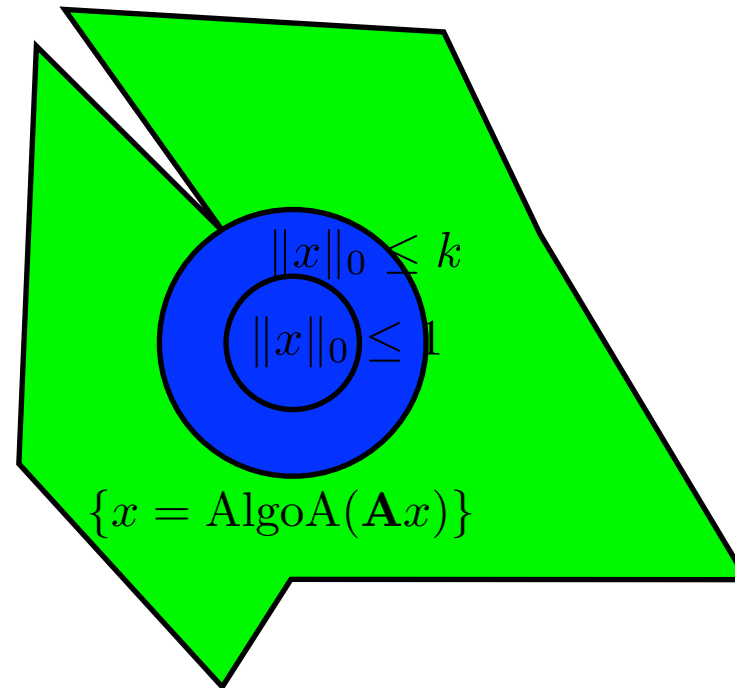
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# Recovery analysis $b = Ax$

- Recoverable set for a given “inversion” algorithm
- Level sets of L0-norm
- Worst case  
= too pessimistic!

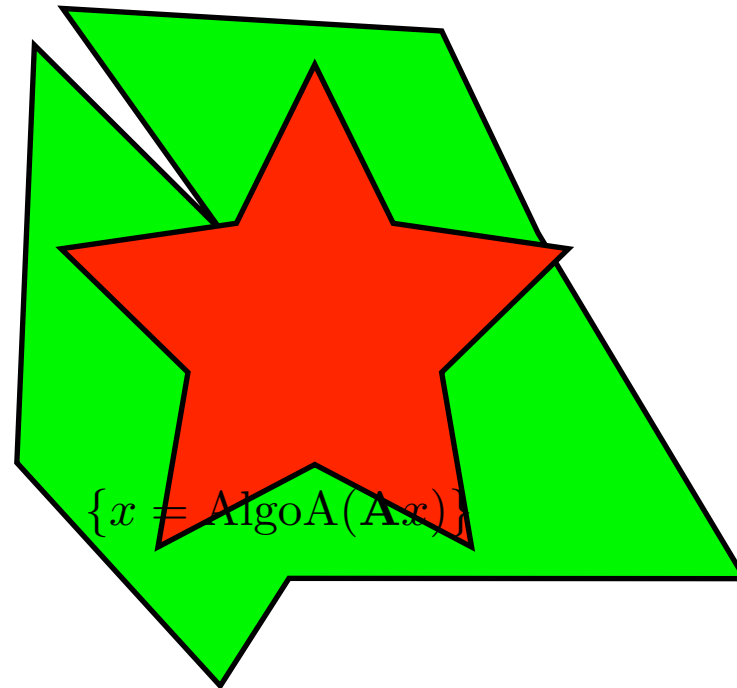




# Recovery analysis $b = Ax$

- Recoverable set for a given “inversion” algorithm
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- Worst case  
= too pessimistic!
- Finer “structures” of  $x$   
 $\text{support}(x), \text{sign}(x)$

*Borup, G. & Nielsen ACHA 2008,  $A$  = Wavelets U Gabor,  
recovery of infinite supports for analog signals*



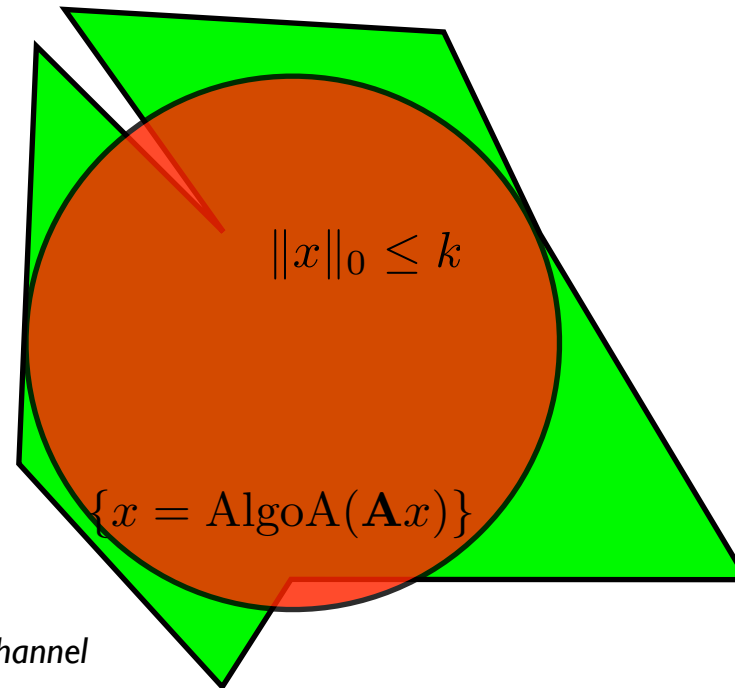
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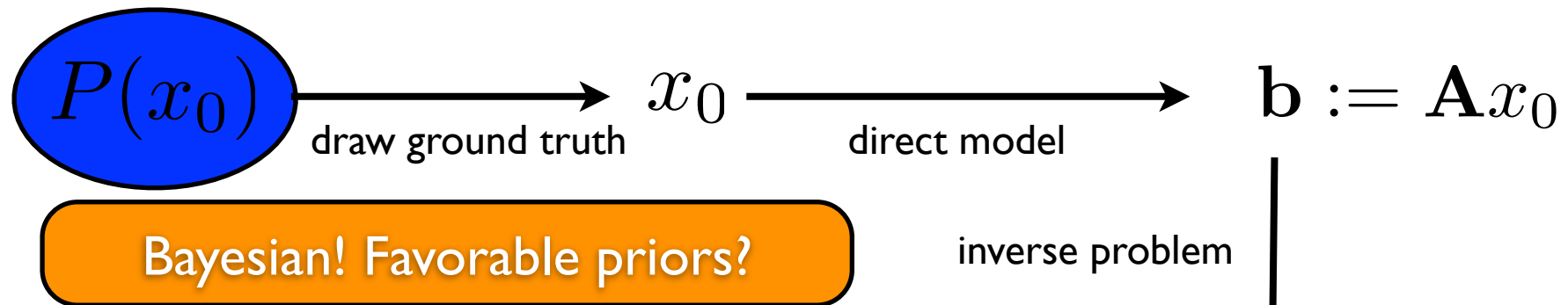
*Borup, G. & Nielsen ACHA 2008,  $A$  = Wavelets U Gabor,  
recovery of infinite supports for analog signals*

- Average/typical case

*G., Rauhut, Schnass & Vandergheynst, JFAA 2008,  
“Atoms of all channels, unite! Average case analysis of multichannel  
sparse recovery using greedy algorithms”.*

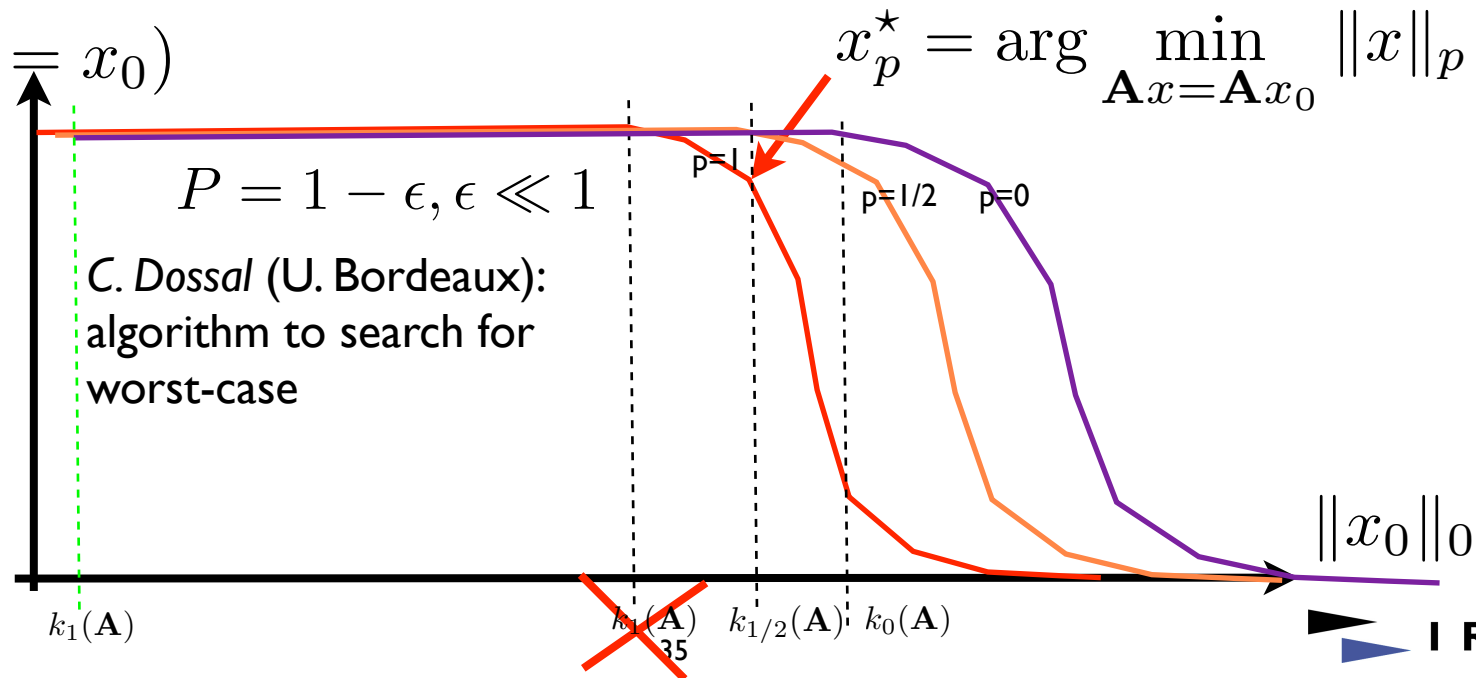


# Average case analysis ?



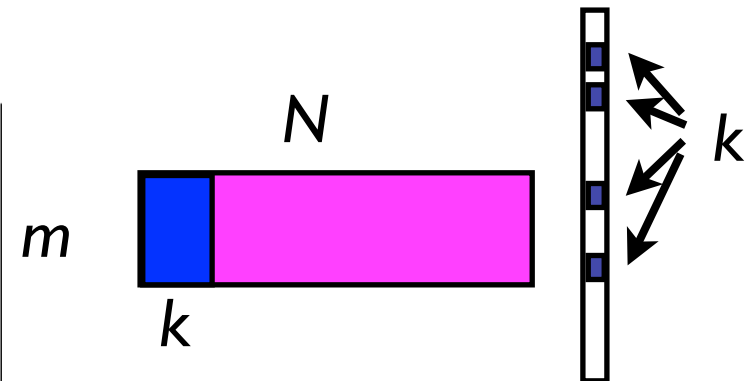
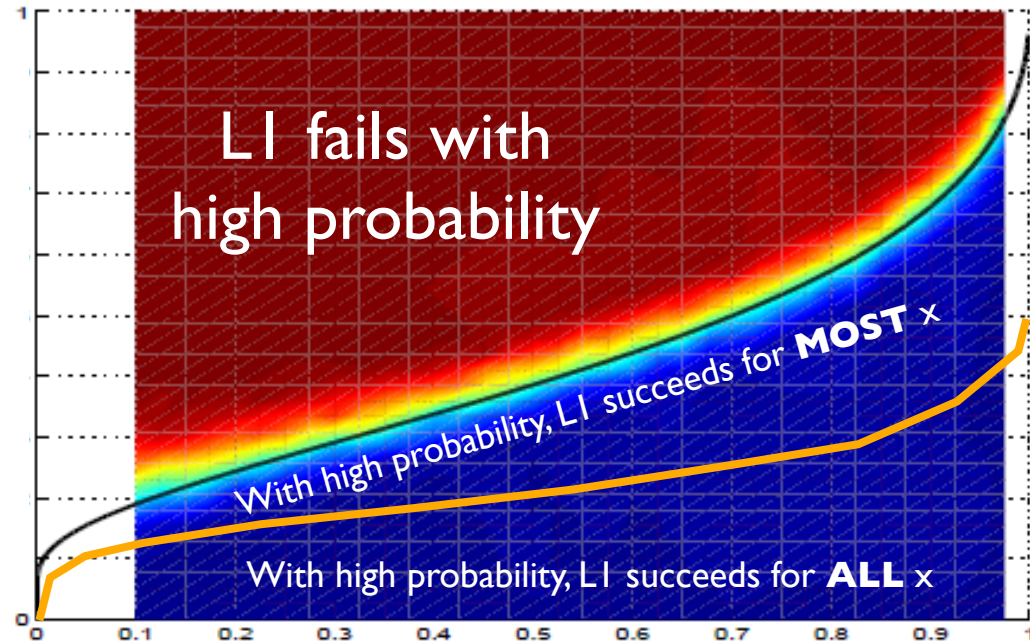
Typical observation

$$P(x^* = x_0)$$



# Phase transitions

$k/m$



$$m \geq Ck \log N/k$$

$$P(\delta_{2k} < \sqrt{2} - 1) \approx 1$$

$m/N$

$$k_1(\mathbf{A}) \approx \frac{m}{2e \log N/m}$$

# Conclusions

- Sparsity helps solve ill-posed inverse problems (more unknowns than equations).
- If the solution is sufficiently sparse, any reasonable algorithm will find it (even simple thresholding!).
- Computational efficiency is still a challenge, but problem sizes up to  $1000 \times 10000$  already tractable efficiently.
- Theoretical guarantees are mostly worst-case, empirical recovery goes far beyond but is not fully understood!
- Challenging practical issues include:
  - ◆ choosing / learning / designing dictionaries;
  - ◆ designing feasible compressed sensing hardware.

# Thanks to

- F. Bimbot, G. Gonon, S. Krstulovic, B. Roy
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- M. Nielsen, L. Borup (Aalborg Univ.)
- P. Vandergheynst, R. Figueras, P. Jost, K. Schnass (EPFL)
- H. Rauhut (U. Vienna)
- M. Davies (U. Edinburgh)
- and several other collaborators ...

# The end

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# The Bayesian bit: LI minimization and the Laplacian distribution



# Bayesian modeling

- Observation :  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x$
- “True” Bayesian model  $P(x_k) \propto \exp(-f(|x_k|))$
- Maximum likelihood estimation

$$\max_x \prod_k P(x_k) \Leftrightarrow \min_x \sum_k f(|x_k|)$$

- LI minimization equivalent to MAP with Laplacian model

$$\hat{P}(x_k) \propto \exp(-|x_k|)$$

- Does LI minimization fit Laplacian data ?

# L1 minimization for Laplacian data ...

- Gaussian matrix

$$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times N} \quad N = 128 \quad 1 \leq m \leq 100$$

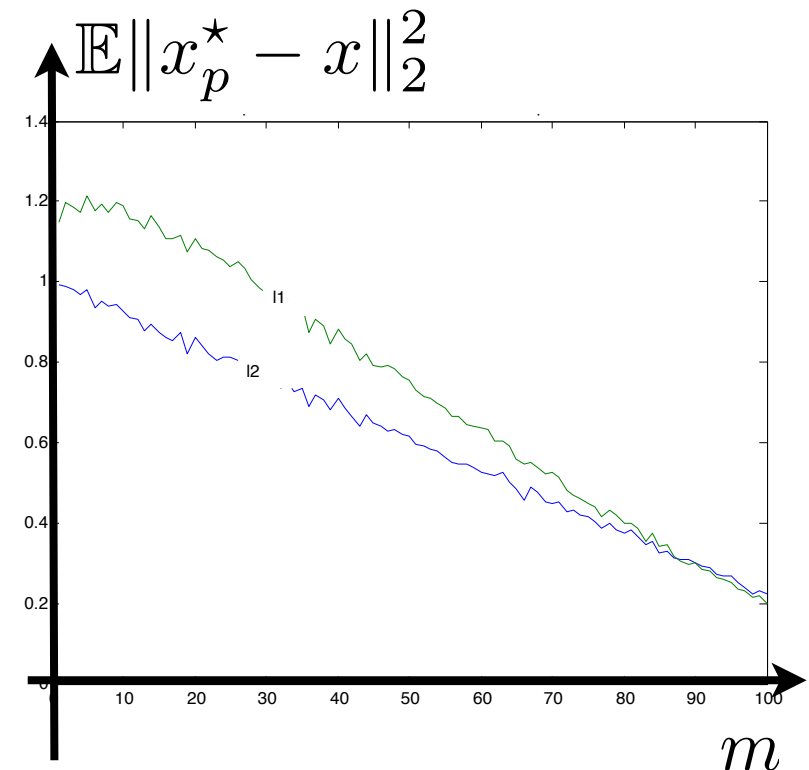
- Laplacian data, 500 draws

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^N \longrightarrow \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x$$

- Reconstruction L1 or L2

$$x_p^* := \arg \min \|x\|_p, \quad p = 1, 2$$

= ML with Laplacian / Gaussian prior

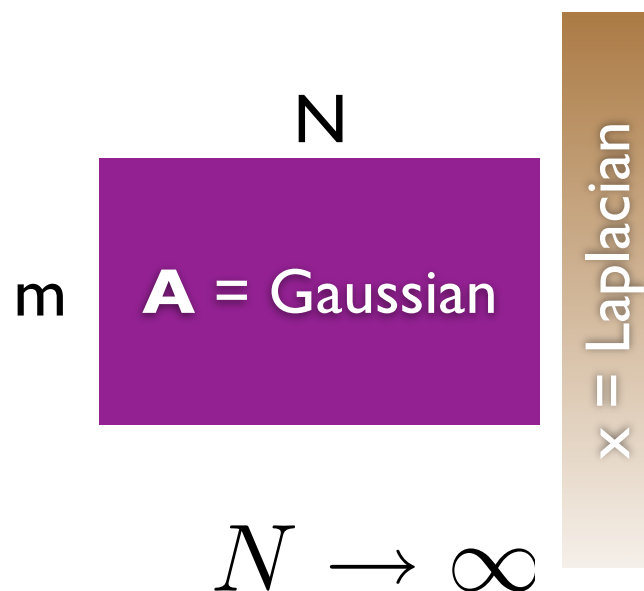


cf also Seeger and Nickish, ICML 2008

MAP is bad when the model fits the data!  
Mikolova 2007, Inverse Problems and Imaging

# Sparse recovery for Laplacian data ?

- Asymptotic analysis with “oracle” sparse estimation



work in progress, G. & Davies

