



Inverse problems and sparse models (6/6)

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Overview of the course

● Introduction

- ✓ sparsity & data compression
- ✓ inverse problems in signal and image processing
 - ✦ image deblurring, image inpainting,
 - ✦ channel equalization, signal separation,
 - ✦ tomography, MRI
- ✓ sparsity & under-determined inverse problems
 - ✦ relation to subset selection problem

● Pursuit Algorithms

- ✓ Greedy algorithms: Matching Pursuit & al
- ✓ L1 minimization principles
- ✓ L1 minimization algorithms
- ✓ (Complexity of Pursuit Algorithms)

Overview of the course

- **Recovery guarantees for Pursuit Algorithms**
 - ✓ Well-posedness
 - ✓ Coherence vs Restricted Isometry Constant
 - ✓ Worked examples
 - ✓ Summary

Exercice at home

- Implement in Matlab / Scilab:
 - ✓ Matching Pursuit (MP), Orthonormal MP (OMP)
 - ✓ Basis Pursuit = L1 minimization [with CVX] (BP)
- Generate test problems
 - ✓ Create matrix A (random Gaussian, normalize columns)
 - ✓ Create k-sparse x and $b=Ax$
- Compute $mp(b,A,k)$ / $omp(b,A,k)$ / $bp(b,A)$
- Measure quality (SNR on x) & computation time
- Curves of success as function of sparsity k

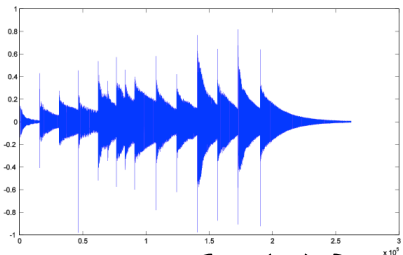
Recovery guarantees in various inverse problems

Scenarios

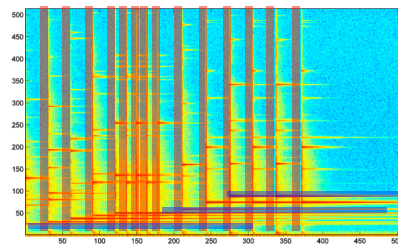
- Range of “choices” for the matrix **A**
 - ✦ Ex 1: Dictionary modeling structures of signals
 - **Constrained** choice = to fit the data.
 - *Ex: union of wavelets + curvelets + spikes*
 - ✦ Ex2: «Transfer function» from physics of inverse problem
 - **Constrained** choice = to fit the direct problem.
 - *Ex: convolution operator / transmission channel*
 - ✦ Ex3-4: Hybrid setting
 - ✦ Ex5: Designed / chosen «Compressed Sensing» matrix
 - «**Free**» design = to maximize recovery performance vs cost of measures
 - *Ex: random Gaussian matrix... or coded aperture, etc.*
- Estimation of the recovery regimes
 - ✓ coherence for deterministic matrices
 - ✓ typical results for random matrices

Example 1: Multiscale Time-Frequency Structures

- Audio = superimposition of structures



$$\mathbf{b} = \{b(t)\}_t$$

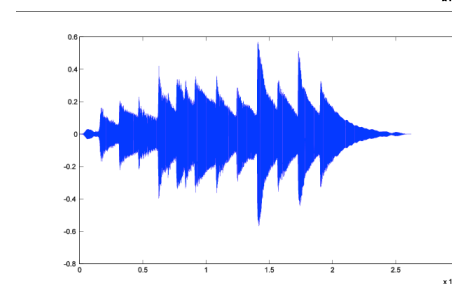
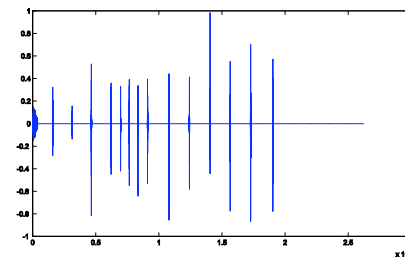


$$x = \{x(s, \tau, f)\}_{s, \tau, f}$$

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

- Gabor atoms $g_{s, \tau, f}(t) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} w\left(\frac{t - \tau}{s}\right) e^{2i\pi f t}$
- Dictionary matrix: $\mathbf{A}_n = \{g_{s_n, \tau_n, f_n}(t)\}_t$

$$\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{A}_1 \dots \mathbf{A}_N]$$



Recovery conditions based on coherence

- **Convention:** normalized columns $\|\mathbf{a}_i\|_2 = 1$
- **Definition:** coherence of dictionary

$$\mu(\mathbf{A}) := \max_{i \neq j} |\langle \mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{a}_j \rangle|$$

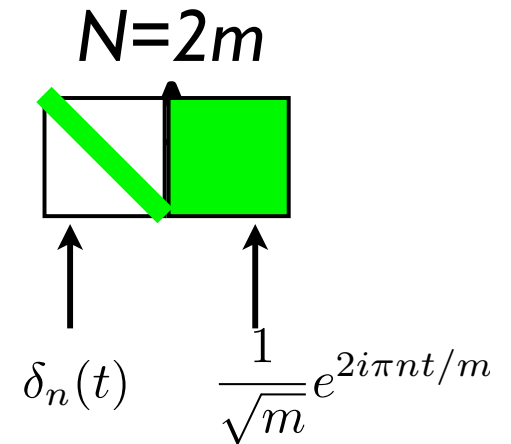
- **Theorem:**
 - ✓ Assume that

$$k = \|x\|_0 < \frac{1}{2}(1 + 1/\mu)$$

- ✓ Then
 - ♦ x minimizes the L_0 and L_1 norm among all solutions x' to the linear inverse problem $\mathbf{A}x' = \mathbf{A}x$
 - ♦ k steps of **OMP** performed on $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x$ recover x

Caricature of two-scale Gabor dictionary

- **Dirac-Fourier dictionary** $\mathbf{A} = m$



- **Coherence** $\mu = 1/\sqrt{m}$
- **Sparsity thresholds** $k_{\text{MP}}^*(\mathbf{A}) \geq 0.5\sqrt{m}$

Example 2: convolution operator

- Deconvolution problem with spikes

$$b = h \star x + e$$

- ✓ Matrix-vector form $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x + \mathbf{e}$ with \mathbf{A} = Toeplitz or circulant matrix $[\mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_N]$

$$\mathbf{A}_n(i) = h(i - n)$$

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 guarantees assuming distance between spikes [Dossal]

Example 3: Inpainting Problem

- Unknown image with N pixels

$$\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

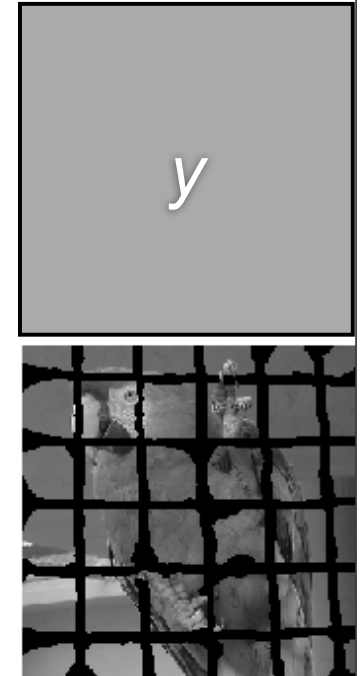
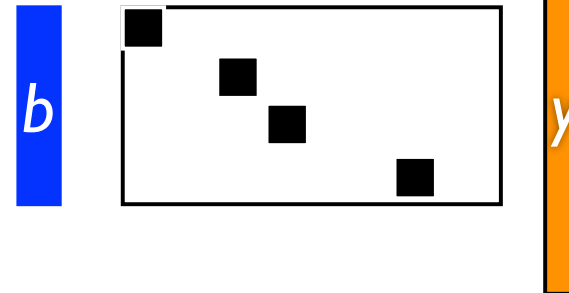
- Partially observed image:

✓ $m < N$ observed pixels

$$b[\vec{p}] = y[\vec{p}], \vec{p} \in \text{Observed}$$

- Measurement matrix

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{y}$$



Example 3: Inpainting Problem

- Unknown image with N pixels

$$\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

- Sparse Model in wavelet domain

- ♦ wavelets coefficients are sparse

$$\mathbf{x} \approx \Phi^T \mathbf{y}$$

- ♦ sparse representation of unknown image

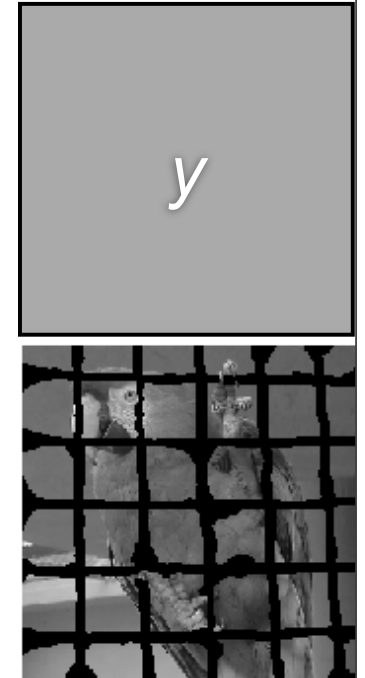
$$\mathbf{y} \approx \Phi \mathbf{x}$$

- Measurement matrix

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{b} \approx \mathbf{M}\Phi \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{A} := \mathbf{M}\Phi$$



Example 3: image inpainting

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



Inpainting



Wavelets
 $y = \Phi x$



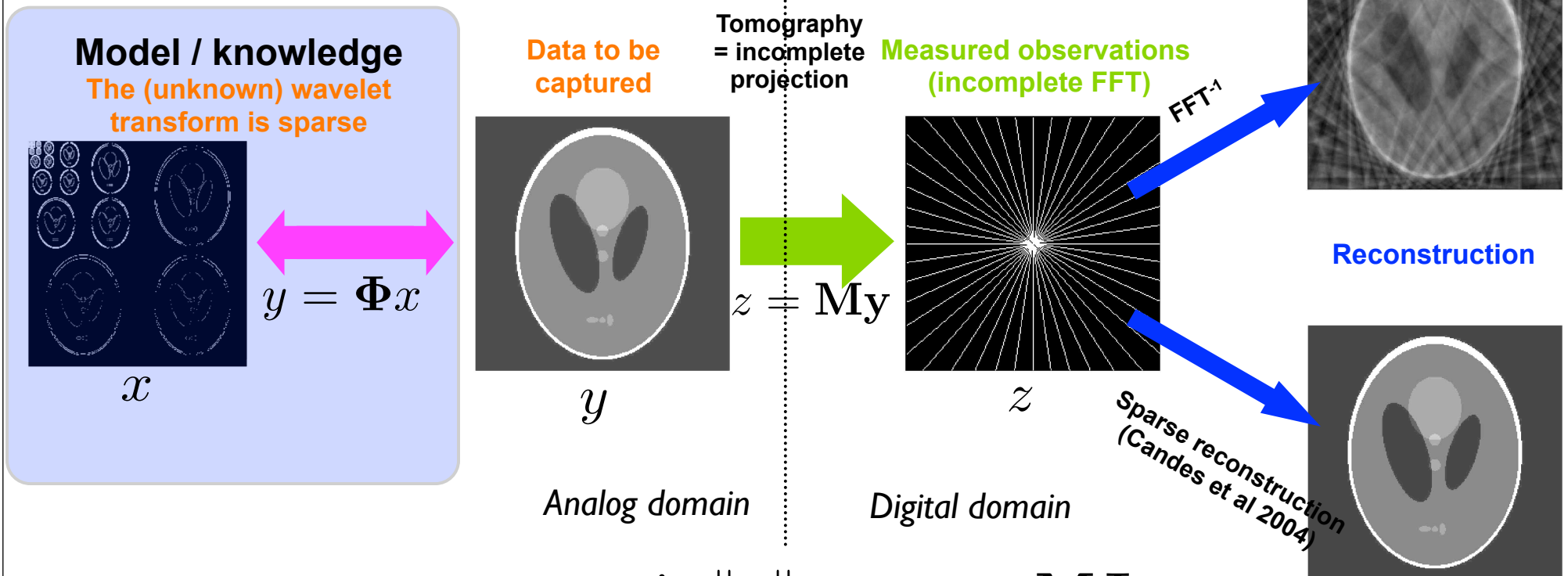
$$b = My = M\Phi x$$

$$A = M\Phi$$

Example 4: tomography

- MRI from incomplete data

[Candès, Romberg & Tao]



$$\min \|x\|_1 \text{ s.t. } z = M\Phi x$$

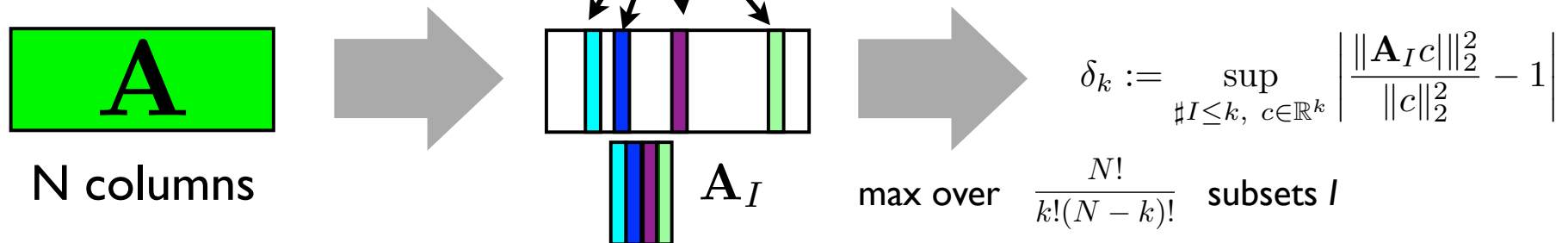
$$A = M\Phi$$

Restricted Isometry Constants (RIC)

- **Definition:** smallest δ_k such that for any k -sparse x

$$1 - \delta_k \leq \frac{\|\mathbf{A}x\|_2^2}{\|x\|_2^2} \leq 1 + \delta_k$$

- **Computation ?** $n \in I, \#I \leq k$



- **NP-complete** [Kloiran & Zouzias 2011, Tillmann & Pfetsch 2012, Bandeira & al 2012]

Recovery conditions based on RIC

- **Definition:** RIC of dictionary of order $2k$

- ✓ for any $2k$ -sparse vector z

$$(1 - \delta_{2k}) \|z\|_2^2 \leq \|\mathbf{A}z\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \delta_{2k}) \|z\|_2^2$$

- **Theorem:**

- ✓ Assume that

$$\|x\|_0 \leq k \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_{2k} < \sqrt{2} - 1 \approx 0.414$$

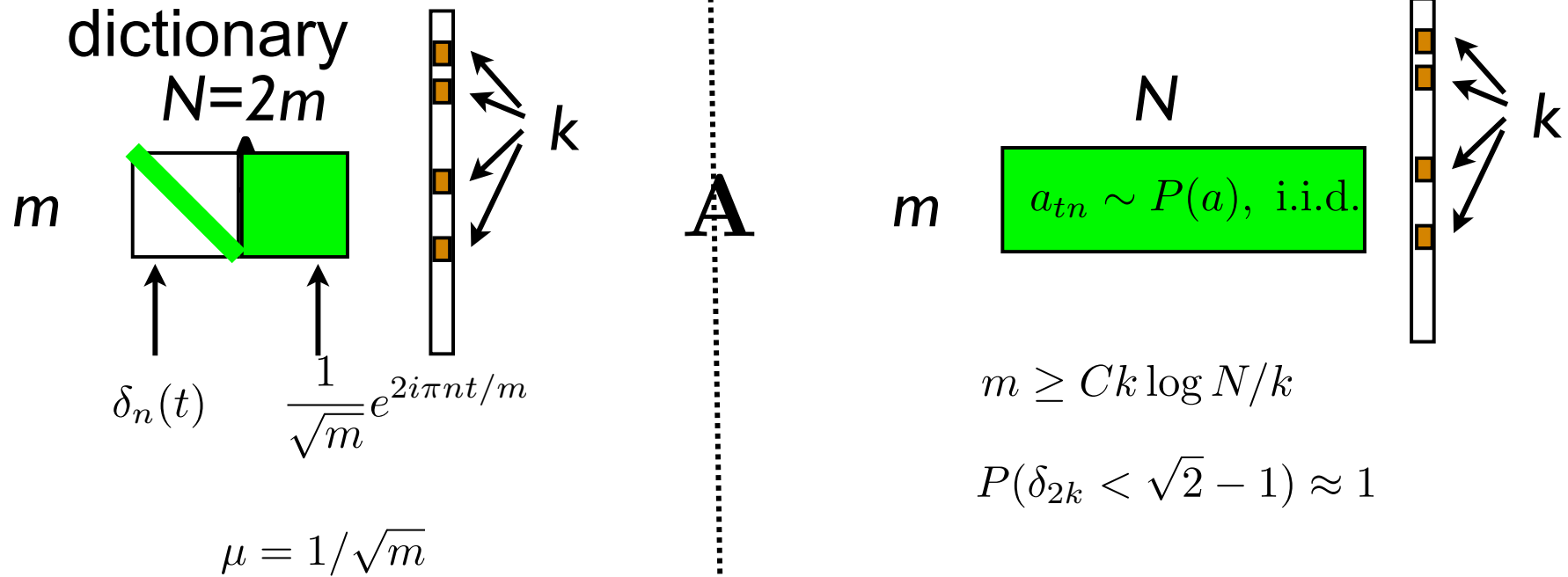
Restricted Isometry Property (RIP)

- ✓ Then

- ✦ x minimizes the L_0 and L_1 norm among all solutions x' to the linear inverse problem $\mathbf{A}x' = \mathbf{A}x$

Coherence vs RIP

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



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

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

Recovery regimes

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

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

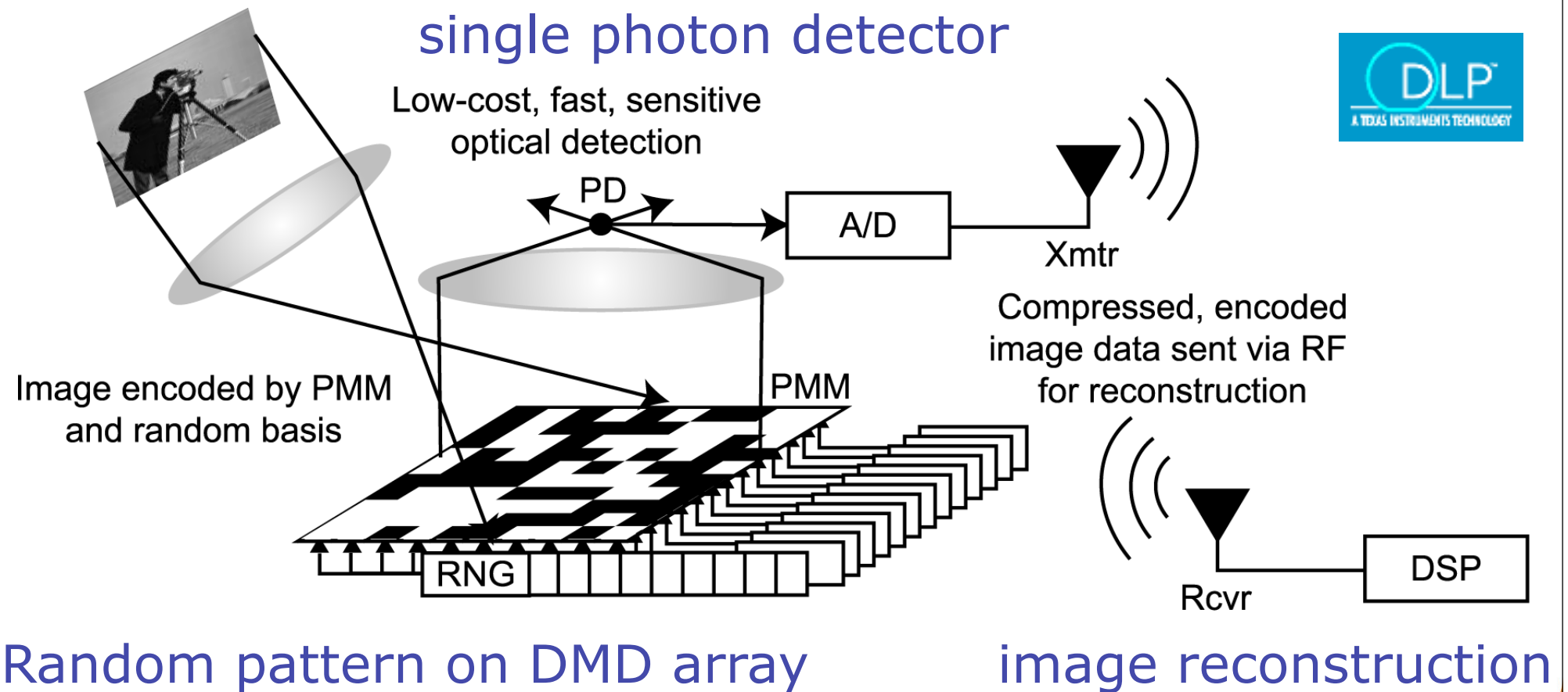
[Elad & Bruckstein 2002]

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

with high probability for Gaussian \mathbf{A}

[Donoho & Tanner 2009]

Example : single-pixel camera, Rice University



Summary

Inverse problems

- **Inverse problem** : exploit indirect or incomplete observation to reconstruct some data

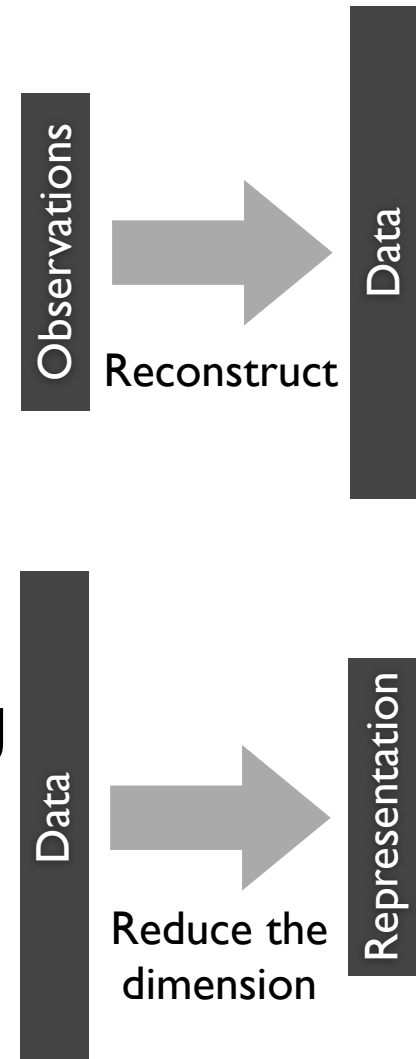
$$z = \mathbf{M}y$$

fewer equations than unknowns

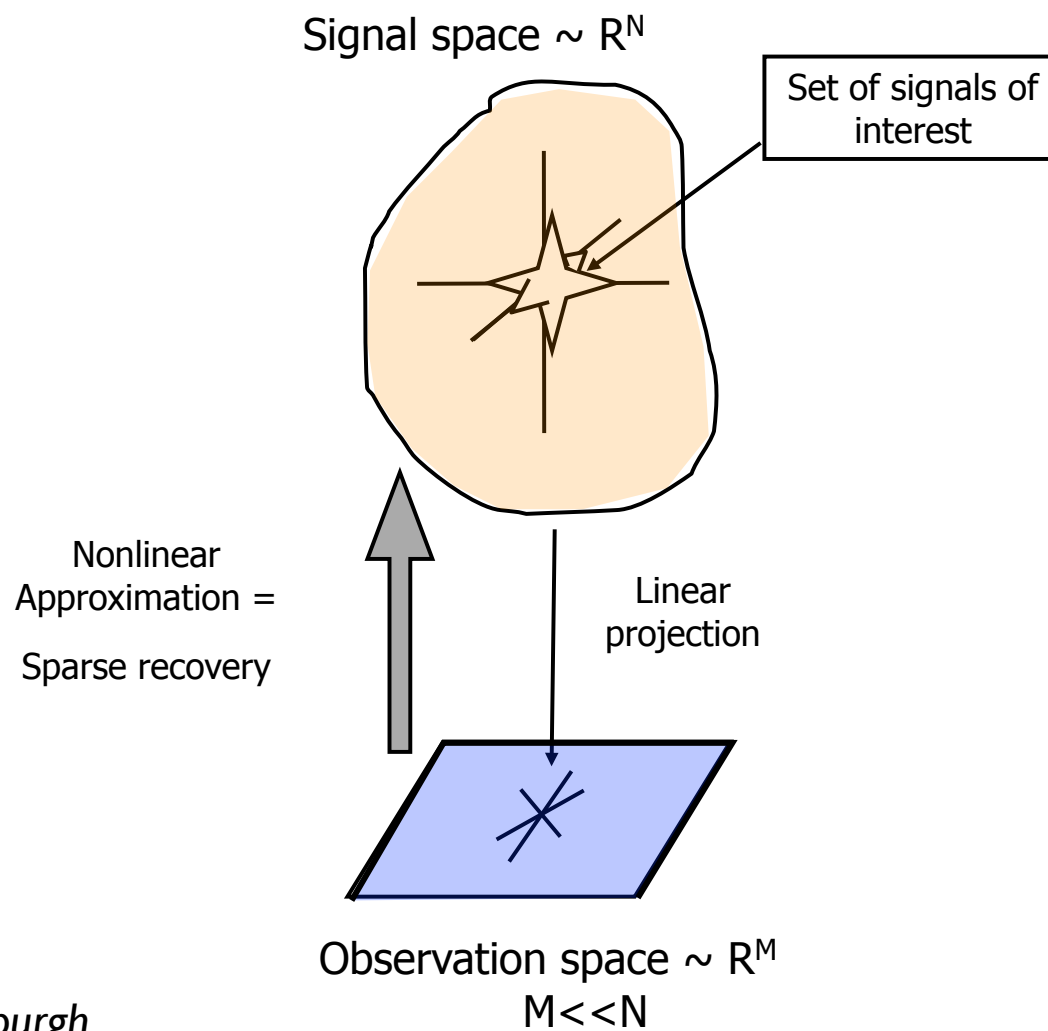
- **Sparsity** : represent / approximate high-dimensional & complex data using few parameters

$$y \approx \Phi x$$

few nonzero components



Inverse problems



Courtesy: M. Davies, U. Edinburgh

Linear inverse problems

- **Definition:** a problem where a high-dimensional vector must be estimated from its low dimensional projection

- **Generic form:**

$$\begin{array}{c} \nearrow \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{e} \nwarrow \\ \text{observation/measure} \quad \uparrow \quad \text{unknown} \quad \text{noise} \\ \text{projection matrix} \end{array}$$

- ✓ m observations / measures $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- ✓ N unknowns $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N$

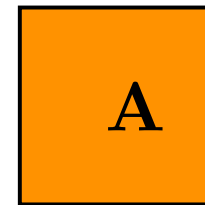
$$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times N}$$

Classes of linear inverse problems

- **Determined:** the matrix **A** is square and invertible

- ✓ Unique solution to $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$
- ✓ Linear function of observations

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$



- **Over-determined:** more equations than unknowns

- ✓ Unique solution to $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$:
- ✓ Linear function of observations
- ✓ with pseudo-inverse $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}^\dagger\mathbf{b}$



- **Under-determined:** fewer equations than unknowns

- ✓ Infinitely many solutions to $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$
- ✓ Need to choose one?



Inverse Problems & Sparsity: Mathematical foundations

- Bottleneck 1990-2000 : under-determined = fewer equations than unknowns = ill-posed

$$\mathbf{A}x_0 = \mathbf{A}x_1 \not\Rightarrow x_0 = x_1$$

- Novelty 2001-2006 :

- ✓ **Uniqueness** of sparse solution:

- ♦ if x_0, x_1 are “sufficiently sparse” (in an appropriate «domain»),

- ♦ then $\mathbf{A}x_0 = \mathbf{A}x_1 \Rightarrow x_0 = x_1$

- ✓ Recovery of x_0 with **efficient** algorithms

- ♦ Thresholding, Matching Pursuits, Minimisation of L_p norms $p \leq 1, \dots$

Sparsity: definition

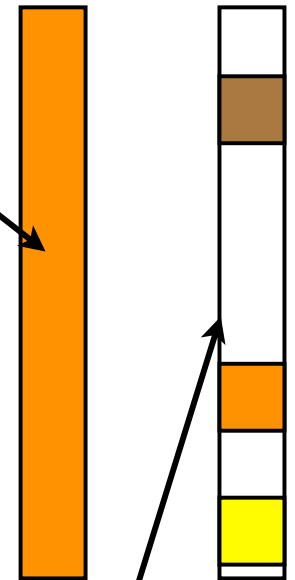
- A vector is
 - ✓ **sparse** if it has (many) zero coefficients
 - ✓ **k-sparse** if it has *at most* k nonzero coefficients
- Symbolic representation as column vector
- **Support** = indices of nonzero components
- Sparsity measured with **L0 pseudo-norm**

$$\|x\|_0 := \#\{n, x_n \neq 0\} = \sum_n |x_n|^0$$

- *In french:*

- ♦ sparse → «creux», «parcimonieux»
- ♦ sparsity, sparseness → «parcimonie», ~~«sparsité»~~

Not sparse



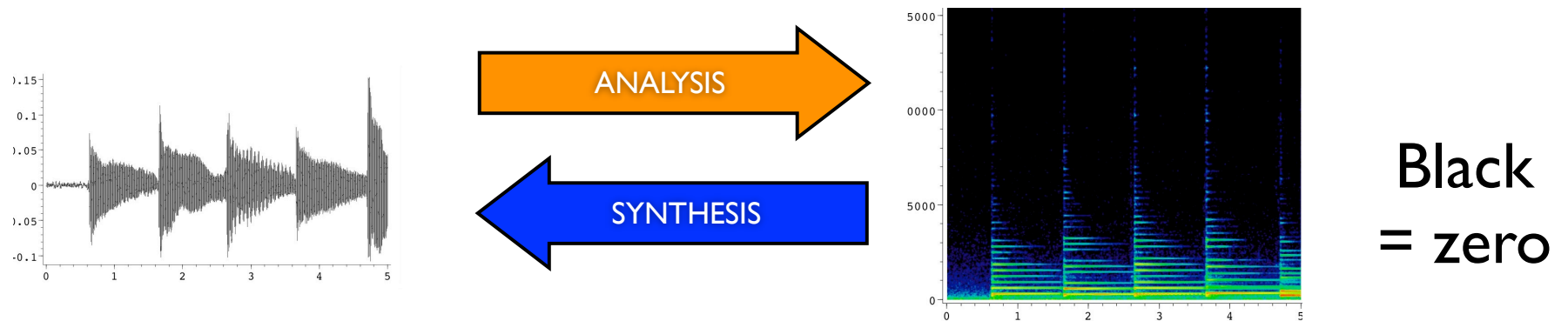
3-sparse

Convention here

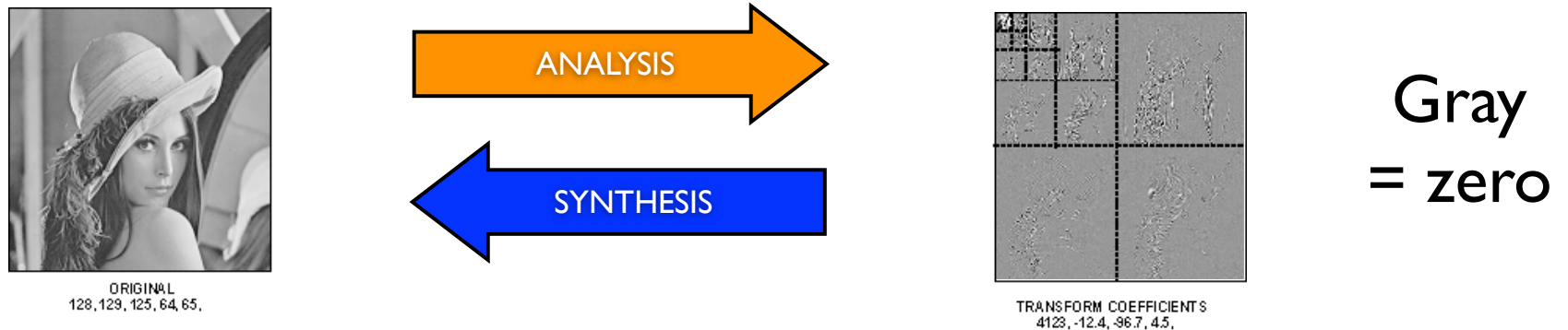
$$a^0 = 1(a > 0); 0^0 = 0$$

Notion of sparse representation

- Audio : time-frequency representations (MP3)



- Images : wavelet transform (JPEG2000)



Mathematical expression of the sparsity assumption

- Signal / image = high dimensional vector

$$y \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

- Definition:

- ✓ **Atoms:** basis vectors $\varphi_k \in \mathbb{R}^N$

- ✦ ex: time-frequency atoms, wavelets

- ✓ **Dictionary:**

- ✦ collection of atoms $\{\varphi_k\}_{1 \leq k \leq K}$

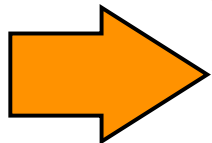
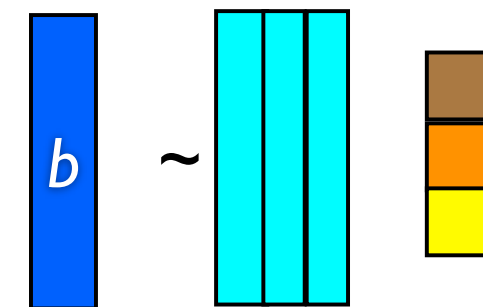
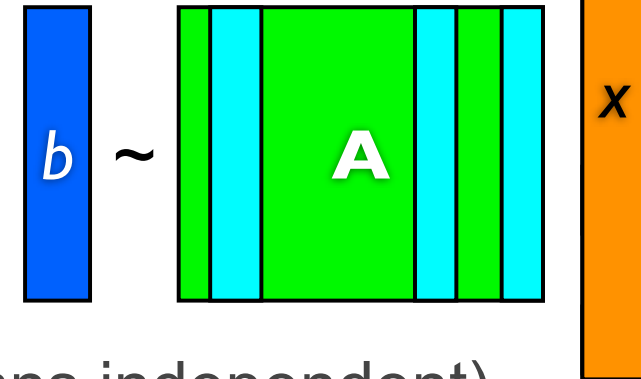
- ✦ matrix $\Phi = [\varphi_k]_{1 \leq k \leq K}$ which columns are the atoms

- Sparse **signal model** = combination of few atoms

$$y \approx \sum_k x_k \varphi_k = \Phi x$$

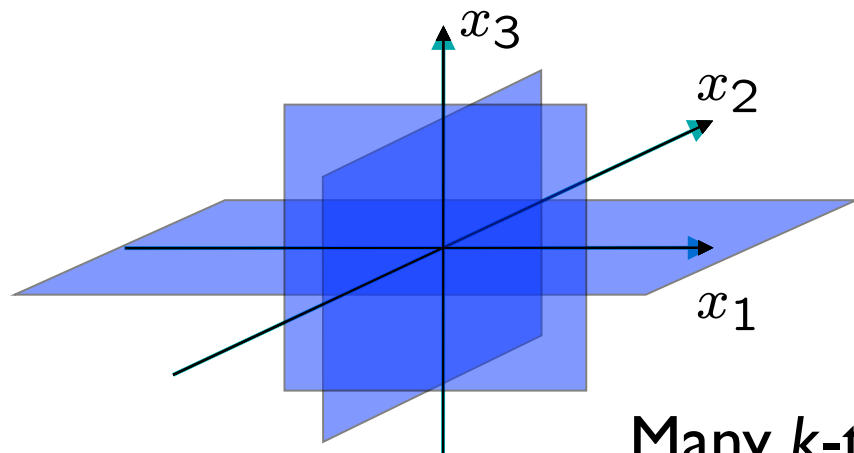
Sparsity and subset selection

- Under-determined system
 - ✓ Infinitely many solutions
- If vector is sparse:
 - ✓ If support is known (and columns independent)
 - ✦ nonzero values characterized by (over)determined linear problem
 - ✓ **If support is unknown**
 - ✦ Main issue = finding the support!
 - ✦ This is the **subset selection problem**
- Objectives of the course
 - ✦ **Well-posedness** of subset selection
 - ✦ Efficient subset selection algorithms = **pursuit algorithms**
 - ✦ **Stability guarantees** of pursuits



Complexity of Ideal Sparse Approximation

- Naive: Brute force search



$$\min_x \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}x\|_2 \text{ s.t. } \text{support}(x) = I$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

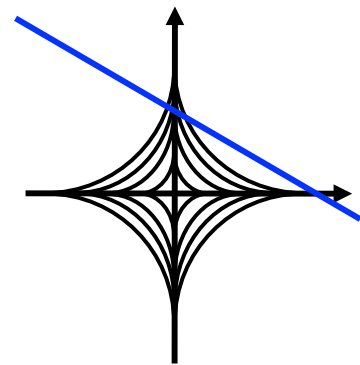
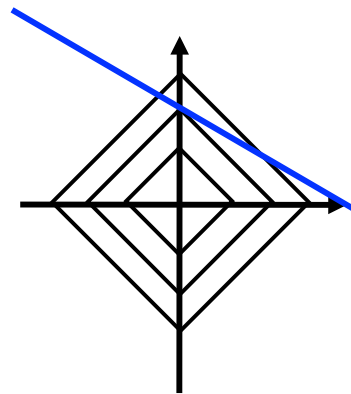
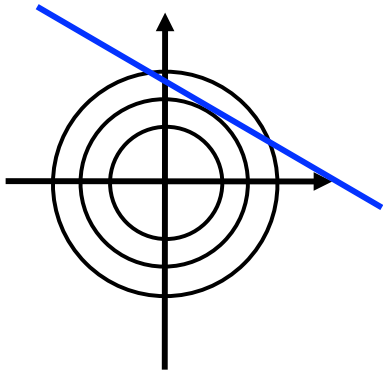
Many k -tuples to try!

- **Theorem** (Davies et al, Natarajan)

Solving the L0 optimization problem is **NP-complete**

L_p “norms” level sets

- Strictly convex when $p > 1$
- Convex $p = 1$
- Nonconvex $p < 1$



Observation: *the minimizer is sparse*

— $\{x \text{ s.t. } b = Ax\}$

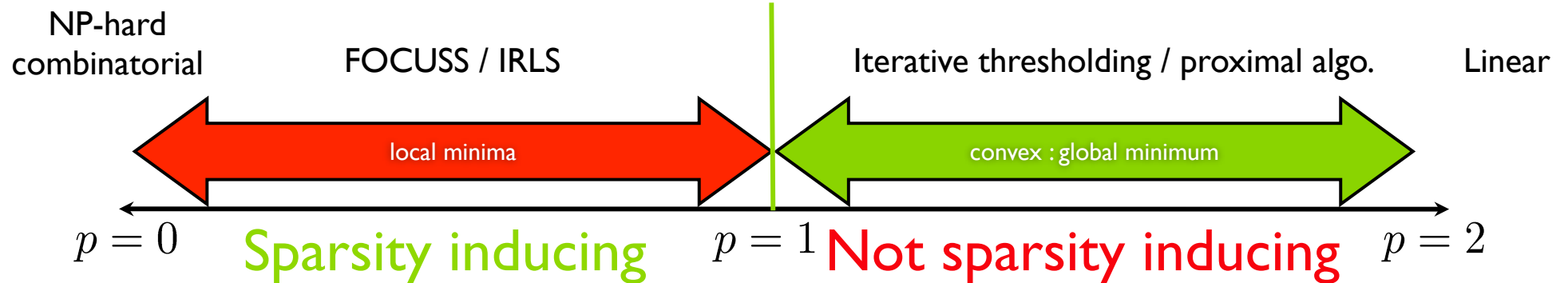
Global Optimization : from Principles to Algorithms

- Optimization principle

$$\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}x - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|x\|_p^p$$

- ✓ Sparse representation
- ✓ Sparse approximation

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \rightarrow 0 & \quad \mathbf{A}x = \mathbf{b} \\ \lambda > 0 & \quad \mathbf{A}x \approx \mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$



Lasso [Tibshirani 1996], Basis Pursuit (Denoising) [Chen, Donoho & Saunders, 1999]

Linear/Quadratic programming (interior point, etc.)

Homotopy method [Osborne 2000] / Least Angle Regression [Efron & al 2002]

Iterative / proximal algorithms [Daubechies, de Frise, de Mol 2004, Combettes & Pesquet 2008, Beck & Teboulle 2009 ...]

Summary

Global optimization

Iterative greedy algorithms

Principle	$\min_x \frac{1}{2} \ \mathbf{A}x - \mathbf{b}\ _2^2 + \lambda \ x\ _p^p$	iterative decomposition $\mathbf{r}_i = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}x_i$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • select new components • update residual
Tuning quality/sparsity	regularization parameter λ	stopping criterion (nb of iterations, error level, ...) $\ x_i\ _0 \geq k \quad \ \mathbf{r}_i\ \leq \epsilon$
Variants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • choice of sparsity measure p • optimization algorithm • initialization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • selection criterion (weak, stagewise ...) • update strategy (orthogonal ...)

Notions of Kruskal rank / spark

Well-posedness of L0 problem

- **Definition:** Kruskal rank $K\text{-rank}(\mathbf{A})$:
 - ✓ maximal L such that *every L columns linearly indep.*
- **Definition:** $\text{spark}(\mathbf{A})$
 - ✓ size of minimal set of linearly dependent columns
- **Property:** $K\text{-rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{spark}(\mathbf{A}) - 1 \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$
- **Theorem:** let $\mathbf{b} := \mathbf{A}x$
 - ✓ if x is k -sparse with $2k \leq K\text{-rank}(\mathbf{A})$
 - ✓ then x is the **unique** k -sparse vector satisfying $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x$

✓ hence
$$x = \arg \min_{x' | \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x'} \|x\|_0$$

Recovery conditions based on coherence

- **Convention:** normalized columns $\|\mathbf{a}_i\|_2 = 1$
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 - ♦ k steps of **OMP** performed on $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}x$ recover x

Conclusions

- Sparsity: prior to solve **ill-posed inverse problems**
- If solution sufficiently sparse, **reasonable algorithms are guaranteed to find it**
- **Computational efficiency still a challenge**
 - ✦ problem sizes up to 1000×10000 efficiently tractable.
- Theoretical guarantees are **mostly worst-case**
 - ✦ Empirical recovery goes far beyond, but is not fully understood.
- Challenging practical issues include:
 - ✓ choosing / learning / designing dictionaries;
 - ✓ exploiting structures beyond sparsity;
 - ✓ designing feasible compressed sensing hardware.

Hot Topics, not covered in this course

- Structured sparsity: group LASSO, etc.
- Analysis vs synthesis sparsity
- Combinatorial algorithms: submodular functions, etc.
- Approximate Message Passing algorithms