

# Hierarchical Reconstruction of Sparse Signals

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# Background

## Compressed Sensing

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### Example (Compressed Sensing)

Can one recover a sparse signal with the fewest possible number of linear measurements?

- $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is our target signal.
- $A$  is a linear measurement matrix:
  - $A$  is a given matrix (DCT, etc).
  - $A$  is constructed with certain properties.
- We only know  $Ax \in \mathbf{R}^m$
- In particular,  $x$  has  $\ell$  non-zero entries, we do not know where they are, and what the values are.

Can we recover  $x$  with  $m \ll n$ ? If so, how?

# Sampling Principle

Yes for sparse  $x$  ( $\ell < m \ll n$ ):

## Compressive Sensing Principle

Sparse signal statistics can be recovered from a relatively small number of non-adaptive linear measurements.

Then how? We can find it through the following  $\ell_p$  minimization:

### Problem

*Given  $A$  and  $b$ , we want to find the sparsest  $x$ , such that  $Ax = b$ . This leads to:*

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \{ \|x\|_{\ell_p} \mid Ax = b \} \quad (1)$$

Then what would be a suitable  $p$ ?

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# The Constrained Minimal $\ell_p$ -Norm

$\ell_2$ ,  $\ell_0$ , and  $\ell_1$

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## Problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \{ \|x\|_p \mid Ax = b \} \quad (2)$$

- $p = 2$ ,  $x = A^T(AA^T)^{-1}b$ , not sparse!!
- $0 \leq p \leq 1$ , it enforces sparsity.
- $p = 0$ ,  $m = \ell + 1$ , it's NP hard<sup>1</sup>.
- $p = 1$ ,  $m = C\ell \log(n)$ , it is a convex problem.<sup>2</sup>

But why is the  $\ell_1$ -norm more appropriate?

---

<sup>1</sup> $\ell_0(\cdot)$  measures the number of non-zero entries; and proof done in B.K.Natarajan, 95

<sup>2</sup>D. Dohono, 04; E.J.Candes & T.Tao, 04

# 2-Dimensional Example

## Dense Vs. Sparse

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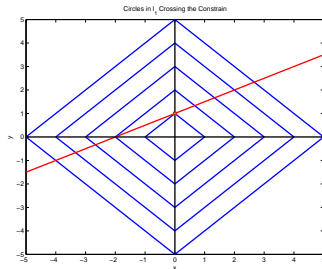
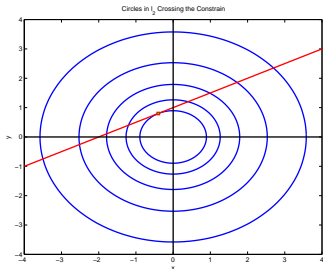


Figure: the  $l_2$  and  $l_1$  Minimizers

The  $l_1$  problem gives a sparse solution, while the  $l_2$  one does not.



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# Tikhonov Regularization

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With the  $\ell_1$  problem possibly being ill-posed, we can add Tikhonov Regularization<sup>3</sup> to (2) ( $p = 1$ ):

Problem (Tikhonov Regularization)

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \left\{ \|x\|_1 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|b - Ax\|_2^2 \right\} \quad (3)$$

- (3) becomes an unconstrained minimization.
- The minimizer depends on the regularization parameter  $\lambda$  (scale).
- Small  $\lambda$  leads to  $x = \mathbf{0}$ ; larger  $\lambda$  leads to the minimizer of (2). So we need large enough  $\lambda$ .
- Our goal is to find a suitable range for  $\lambda$ .

<sup>3</sup>Different from Lagrange Multiplier

# Tikhonov Regularizations, Cont.

## An Extremal Pair

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It is proven<sup>4</sup> that  $x$  being a solution of (3) is equivalent to then  $x$  and  $r(x) = b - Ax$  satisfying the following:

### Theorem (Validation Principles)

$$\langle x, A^T r(x) \rangle = \|x\|_1 \|A^T r(x)\|_\infty \quad (4)$$

$$\|A^T r(x)\|_\infty = \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad (5)$$

$x$  and  $r(x)$  are called an extremal pair. The validation principles are achieved only when  $\lambda$  is sufficiently large,

$$\frac{1}{\|A^T b\|_\infty} \leq \lambda \quad (6)$$

<sup>4</sup>Y. Meyer; E. Tadmor, et al, 04 and 08

# The Signum Equation

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The sub-gradient of (3) is:

$$T(x) = \text{sign}(x) + \lambda A^T(Ax - b) \quad (7)$$

- $0 \in T(x_{opt}) \Leftrightarrow x_{opt} = \arg \min_{x \in R^n} \{ \|x\|_1 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2 \}$
- $T(x)$  is a maximal monotone operator<sup>5</sup>.
- We can split  $T(x)$  by letting  $T_2(x) = A^T(Ax - b)$  and  $T_1(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \text{sign}(x)$ , also making sure  $I + \tau T_1$  is invertible.
- A fixed point formula:  $x = (I + \tau T_1)^{-1}(I - \tau T_2)x$

<sup>5</sup>R. Rockafellar, Convex Analysis

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# Relationship between (2) and (3)

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From (7), we can derive the following:

## Theorem

*Given that  $A$  has the Null Space Property<sup>a</sup>, the minimizer  $x_*$  of (3) converges to the minimizer  $x_c$  of (2).*

---

<sup>a</sup>R. Gribonval, 2002

We sketch the proof as the following:

- We show that  $\|Ax - b\|_p$  is bounded by  $\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{\lambda})$ .
- Then we show that  $|\|x_c\|_1 - \|x_*\|_1|$  is bounded by  $\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{\lambda})$ .
- Null Space Property ensures that (2) has unique minimizer.

# Convergence of the Unconstrained Minimizer

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We looked at the difference,  $|\|x_C\|_1 - \|x_*\|_1|$ , and obtained the following:

$\lambda$	$ \ x_C\ _1 - \ x_*\ _1 $	ratio
$2.0869e + 000$	$1.5700e + 002$	
$4.1738e + 000$	$1.3911e + 002$	$1.1286e + 000$
$8.3476e + 000$	$8.3440e + 001$	$1.6672e + 000$
$1.6695e + 001$	$4.1722e + 001$	$1.9999e + 000$
$3.3390e + 001$	$2.0861e + 001$	$2.0000e + 000$
$6.6781e + 001$	$1.0430e + 001$	$2.0000e + 000$
$1.3356e + 002$	$5.2152e + 000$	$2.0000e + 000$

Table: Convergence Rate Using GPSR Basic

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# Motivation

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Using similar ideas from Image Processing<sup>6</sup>, we start out by letting  $(x_\lambda, r_\lambda)$  be an extremal pair, that is:

$$b = Ax_\lambda + r_\lambda, \quad [x_\lambda, r_\lambda] = \arg \min_{Ax+r=b} \{ \|x\|_1 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|r\|_2^2 \}$$

We can extract useful signal from  $r_\lambda$  on a refined scale, say  $2\lambda$ :

$$r_\lambda = Ax_{2\lambda} + r_{2\lambda}, \quad [x_{2\lambda}, r_{2\lambda}] = \arg \min_{Ax+r=r_\lambda} \{ \|x\|_1 + \frac{2\lambda}{2} \|r\|_2^2 \}$$

We end up with a better two-scale approximation:

$b = A(x_\lambda + x_{2\lambda}) + r_{2\lambda} \approx A(x_\lambda + x_{2\lambda})$ . We can keep on extracting, ...

---

<sup>6</sup>E. Tadmor, et al, 04 and 08

# Hierarchical Reconstruction

## The Algorithm

**Data:**  $A$  and  $b$ , pick  $\lambda_0$  (from (6))

Initialize:  $r_0 = b$ ,  $x_{HRSS} = 0$ , and  $j = 0$ ;

**while**  $j \leq J$  **do**

$$x_j := \arg \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \left\{ \|x\|_1 + \frac{\lambda_j}{2} \|r_j - Ax\|_2^2 \right\};$$

$$r_{j+1} = r_j - Ax_j;$$

$$\lambda_{j+1} = 2 * \lambda_j;$$

$$x_{HRSS} = x_{HRSS} + x_j;$$

$$j = j + 1;$$

**end**

**Result:**  $x = \sum_{j=0}^J x_j$

- $b = Ax_{HRSS} + r_{J+1}$  and  $\|A^T r_{J+1}\|_\infty = \frac{1}{\lambda_{J+1}} \rightarrow 0$  as  $\lambda_{J+1} \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Some Theoretical Bounds

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Using (7), we can show that:

$$\|A^T Ax_k\|_\infty \leq \frac{3}{2\lambda_k} \quad (8)$$

Hence  $Ax_k \rightarrow \text{textNull}(A)$  as  $\lambda_k \rightarrow \infty..$  And we also have

$$A^T(b - Ax_{HRSS}) = \frac{1}{\lambda_J} \text{sign}(x_J) \quad (9)$$

If  $b$  is noise free, that is  $b = Ax_c$ , then

$\|A^T A(x_c - x_{HRSS})\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_J}$ . If  $b = Ax_c + \epsilon$ , then we to want pick a  $\lambda_J$  such that  $\frac{1}{\lambda_J} \text{sign}(x_J) - A^T \epsilon$  is small.

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# Numerical Advantages

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- The **Hierarchical Reconstruction** needs only a one scale solver (GPSRs or FPC).
- When there is no noise, we will stop the algorithm using small update and small residual.
- When there is some noise, we want to stop the algorithm when  $A^T \epsilon - \frac{1}{\lambda_J} \text{sign}(x_J)$  is small.
- It has built-in de-biasing step: decreasing the residual through the unconstrained minimization and also try to keep the  $\ell_1$  term small, it is better than de-biasing.

# Validation Results I

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Since the residual at  $k^{\text{th}}$  iterate satisfies (7), we found that it is bounded above by  $\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{\lambda})$ :

$\ r = b - Ax_{HRSS}\ _2$	ratio
$5.3806e + 000$	
$1.5936e + 000$	$3.3763e + 000$
$8.1145e - 001$	$1.9639e + 000$
$4.1502e - 001$	$1.9552e + 000$
$2.2065e - 001$	$1.8809e + 000$
$1.2048e - 001$	$1.8314e + 000$
$6.6032e - 002$	$1.8246e + 000$
$3.5953e - 002$	$1.8366e + 000$

Table: Convergence Rate of Residual with Noise Level  $\sigma = 0$

# Validation Results II

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The convergence rate should not be affected by noise:

$\ r = b - Ax_{HRSS}\ _2$	ratio
$6.3408e + 000$	
$2.4855e + 000$	$2.5511e + 000$
$1.3479e + 000$	$1.8440e + 000$
$7.0396e - 001$	$1.9148e + 000$
$3.6064e - 001$	$1.9520e + 000$
$1.8339e - 001$	$1.9665e + 000$
$9.2890e - 002$	$1.9743e + 000$
$4.6838e - 002$	$1.9832e + 000$

Table: Convergence Rate of Residual with Noise Level  $\sigma = 0.1$

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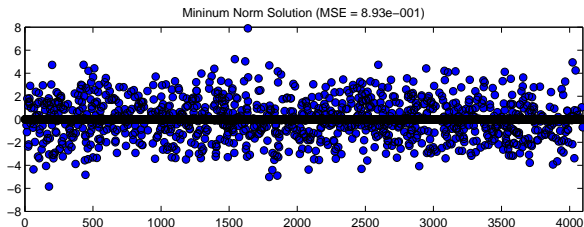
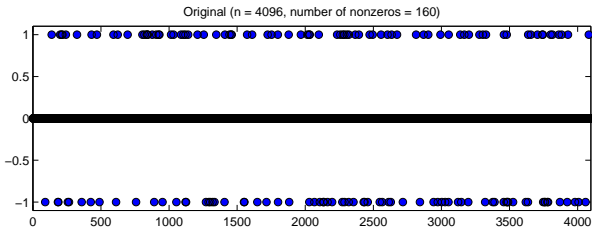
We test the HRSS algorithm with the following case:

- $m = 1024$ ,  $n = 4096$ , and  $A$  is obtained by first filling it with independent samples of a standard Gaussian distribution and then orthonormalizing the rows.
- The original signal has only  $k = 160$  non-zeros, and they are  $\pm 1$ 's.
- $b = Ax + \epsilon$ , where  $\epsilon$  is a white noise with variance  $\sigma^2 = 10^{-4}$ .
- The error is measured in  $\text{MSE} = \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \|x - x_{true}\|_2^2$ .

# Test Results 0

## The Original Signal And Minimum Norm Solution

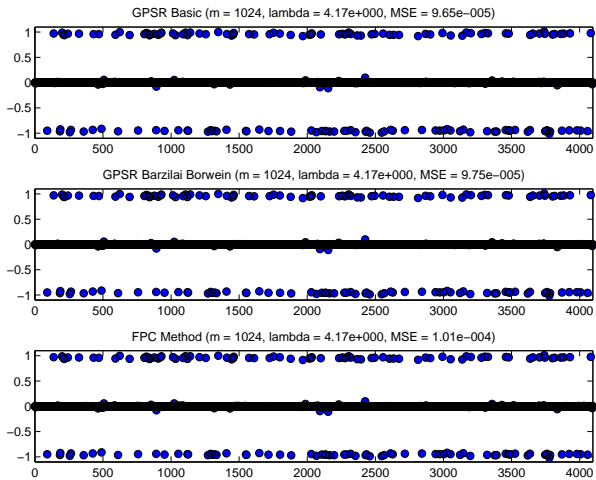
We obtain the following results for HRSS:



# Test Results I

## HRSS with 3 different solvers

And compare HRSS solutions among 3 different solvers:



# Test Results II

## Reconstruction Process with no noise

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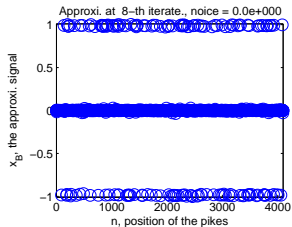
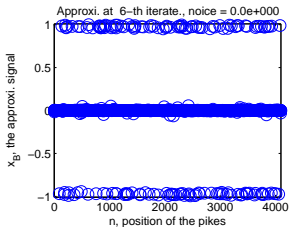
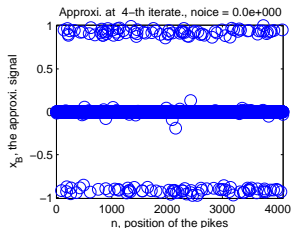
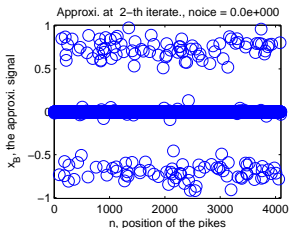
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# Test Results III

## Reconstruction Process with some noise

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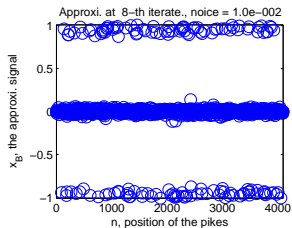
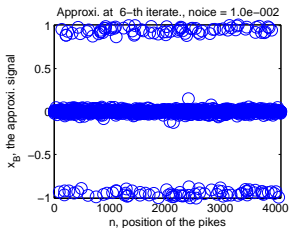
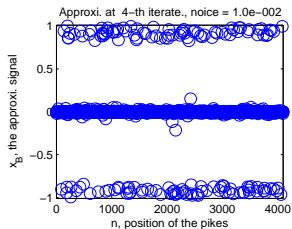
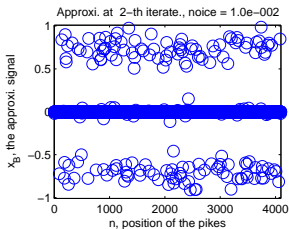
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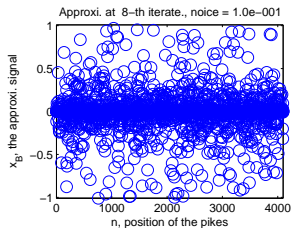
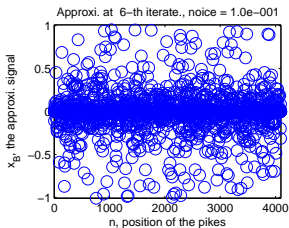
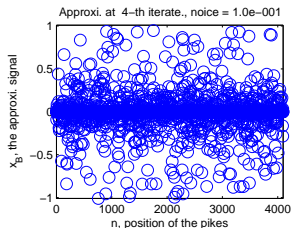
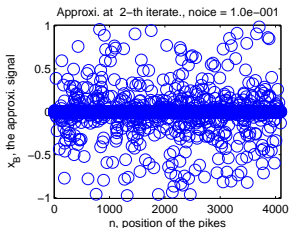
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# Test Results IV

## Reconstruction Process with a lot of noise

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- Project Background Research started on 08/29/2013.
- Presentation given on 10/02/2012 and Project Proposal written on 10/05/2012.
- Implementation of the GPSR algorithm finished and debugged on 11/05/2012, validation finished on 11/21/2012.
- Preparation for mid-year report and presentation started on 11/22/2012, FPC implementation started.



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- Implementation of FPC done by 12/21/2012, debugged and validated by 01/22/2013.
- Implementation of HRSS finished by 02/22/2013, Near-Completion Presentation on 03/07/2013.
- Validation of HRSS done by 03/22/2013, theoretical results obtained by 04/22/2013.
- More tests done by 04/30/2013, End-of-year Presentation on 05/07/2013.

# Deliverables

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Given Scale  
Theoretical Bounds

Multi-scale  
Construction -  
Hierarchical  
Reconstruction

Introduction  
Implementation

Numerics and  
Summary

Test Results  
Summary

- Whole Matlab Package for GPSR, FPC, and HRSS
- Test results and graphs.
- Proposal, mid-year, mid-spring, and end-of-year presentation slides.
- Complete project document.

# Thank You Note

HRoSS

M. Zhong

Introduction  
and  
Background

Signal Processing  
 $\ell_p$  Minimizations

Single Scale  
Reconstruction

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Thank you!