Sparse Modeling of Data and its Relation to Deep Learning

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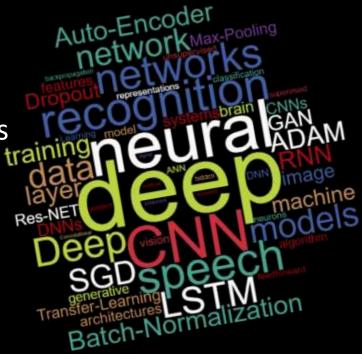


This Lecture is About ...

A Proposed Theory for Deep-Learning (DL)

Explanation:

- DL has been extremely successful in solving a variety of learning problems
- DL is an empirical field, with numerous tricks and know-how, but almost no theoretical foundations
- A theory for DL has become the holy-grail of current research in Machine-Learning and related fields





Who Needs Theory ?

We All Do !!

... because ... A theory

- ... could bring the next rounds of ideas to this field, breaking existing barriers and opening new opportunities
- ... could map clearly the limitations of existing DL solutions, and point to key features that control their performance
- ... could remove the feeling with many of us that DL is a "dark magic", turning it into a solid scientific discipline

Ali Rahimi: NIPS 2017 Test-of-Time Award "Machine learning has become alchemy"



Understanding is a good thing ... but another goal is inventing methods. In the history of science and technology, engineering

preceded theoretical understanding:

- Lens & telescope → Optics
- Steam engine → Thermodynamics
- Airplane → Aerodynamics
- Radio & Comm. \rightarrow Info. Theory
- Computer → Computer Science

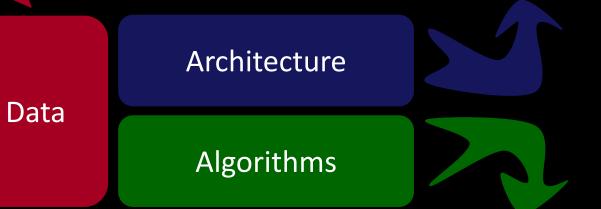


A Theory for DL ?

Stephane Mallat (ENS) & Joan Bruna (NYU): Proposed the scattering transform (wavelet-based) and emphasized the treatment of invariances in the input data

Richard Baraniuk & Ankit Patel (RICE): Offered a generative probabilistic model for the data, showing how classic architectures and learning algorithms relate to it **Raja Giryes (TAU):** Studied the architecture of DNN in the context of their ability to give distance-preserving embedding of signals

Gitta Kutyniok (TU) & Helmut Bolcskei (ETH): Studied the ability of DNN architectures to approximate families of functions



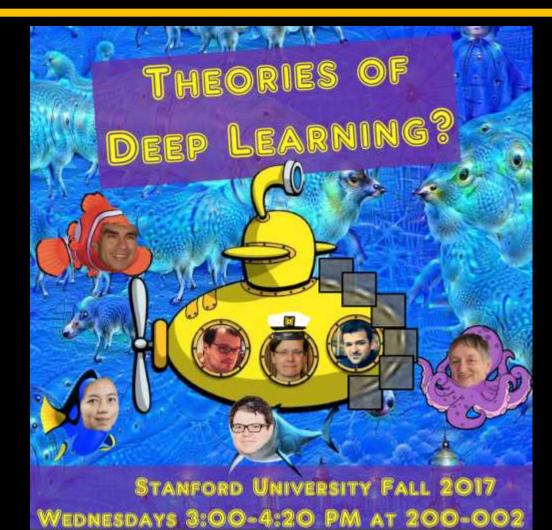
Rene Vidal (JHU): Explained the ability to optimize the typical nonconvex objective and yet get to a global minima

Naftali Tishby (HUJI): Introduced the Information Bottleneck (IB) concept and demonstrated its relevance to deep learning

Stefano Soatto's team (UCLA): Analyzed the Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD) algorithm, connecting it to the IB objective



So, is there a Theory for DL?



The answer is tricky:

There are already various such attempts, and some of them are truly impressive

... but ...

none of them is complete



Interesting Observations

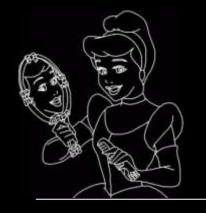
Theory origins: Signal Proc., Control Theory, Info. Theory, Harmonic Ο Analysis, Sparse Represen., Quantum Physics, PDE, Machine learning ...



Ron Kimmel: "DL is a dark monster covered with mirrors. Everyone sees his reflection in it ..."



David Donoho: "... these mirrors are taken from Cinderella's story, telling each that he is the most beautiful"

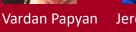


Data

Today's talk is on our proposed theory: Ο







Jeremias Sulam



... and yes, our theory is the best



Architecture

Algorithms



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This Lecture: More Specifically



Sparsity-Inspired Models

Deep-Learning

Another underlying idea that accompanies us

Generative modeling of data sources enables

- A systematic algorithm development, &
- A theoretical analysis of their performance

Disclaimer: Being a lecture on the theory of DL, this lecture is ... theoretical ... and mathematically oriented



Our eventual goal in today's talk is to present the ...

Multi-Layered Convolutional Sparse Modeling

So, lets use this as our running title, parse it into words, and explain each of them



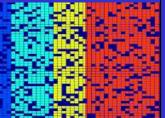
Multi-Layered Convolutional Sparse Modeling



Our Data is Structured

Text Documents







Voice Signals

Medical Imaging

Using models

Biological Signals

Still Images

- We are surrounded by various diverse sources of massive information
- Each of these sources have an internal structure, which can be exploited
- This structure, when identified, is the engine behind the ability to process data
- $\circ~$ How to identify structure?

Stock Market

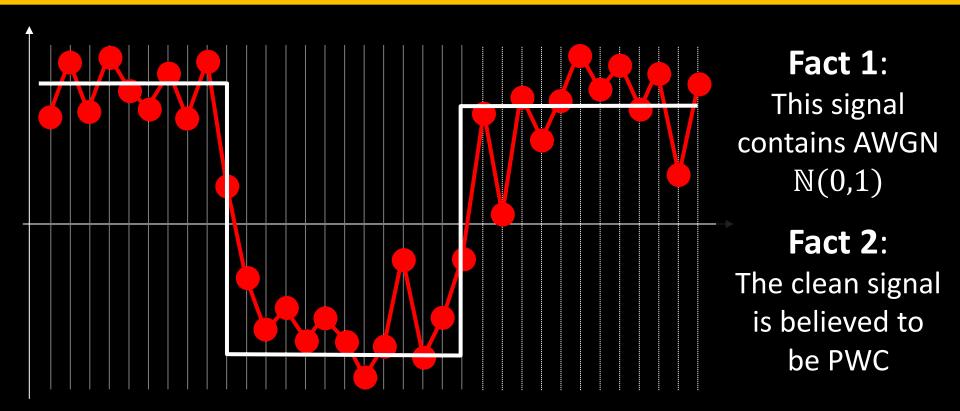


3D Objects

Seismic Data

Traffic info

Model?

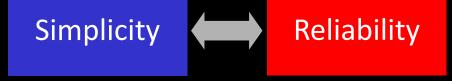


Effective removal of noise (and many other tasks) relies on an proper modeling of the signal



Models

- A model: a mathematical description of the underlying signal of interest, describing our beliefs regarding its structure
- The following is a partial list of commonly used models for images
- Good models should be simple while matching the signals



Models are almost always imperfect





What this Talk is all About?

Data Models and Their Use

- Almost any task in data processing requires a model true for denoising, deblurring, super-resolution, inpainting, compression, anomaly-detection, sampling, recognition, separation, and more
- Sparse and Redundant Representations offer a new and highly effective model – we call it

Sparseland

 We shall describe this and descendant versions of it that lead all the way to ... deep-learning

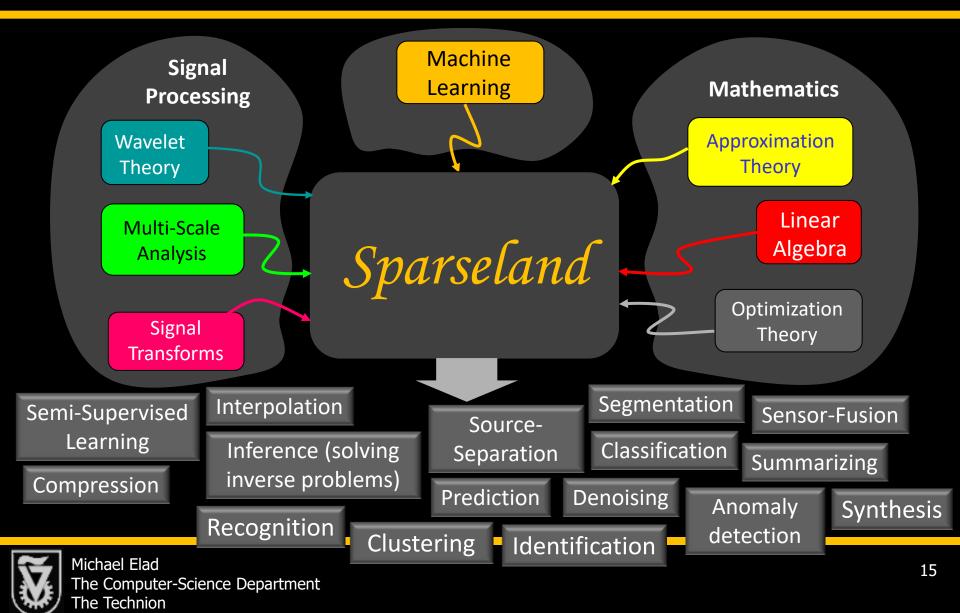


Multi-Layered Convolutional

Sparse Modeling

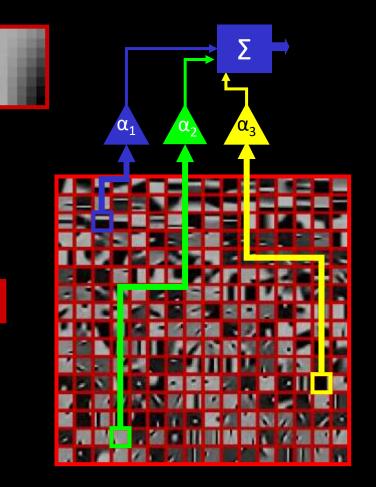


A New Emerging Model



The Sparseland Model

- Task: model image patches of size 8×8 pixels
- We assume that a dictionary of such image patches is given, containing 256 atom images
- The *Sparseland* model assumption:
 every image patch can be described as a linear
 combination of **few** atoms



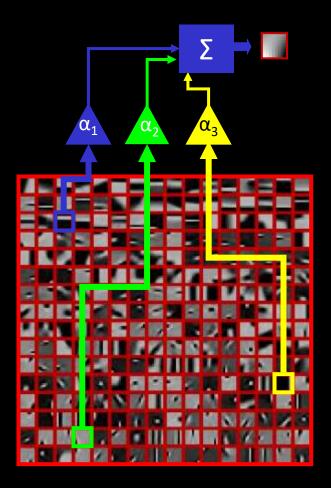


The Sparseland Model

Properties of this model: Sparsity and Redundancy

- We start with a 8-by-8 pixels patch and represent it using 256 numbers

 This is a redundant representation
- However, out of those 256 elements in the representation, only 3 are non-zeros
 This is a sparse representation
- Bottom line in this case: 64 numbers representing the patch are replaced by 6 (3 for the indices of the non-zeros, and 3 for their entries)

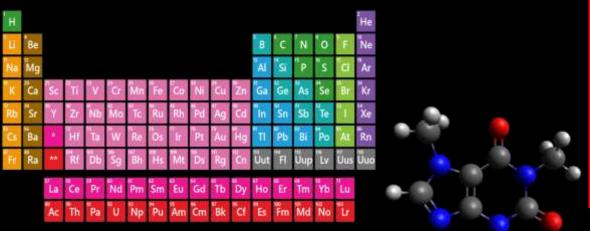


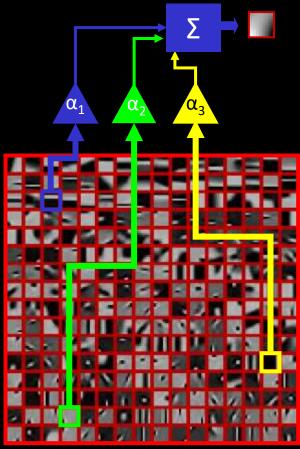


Chemistry of Data

We could refer to the *Sparseland* model as the chemistry of information:

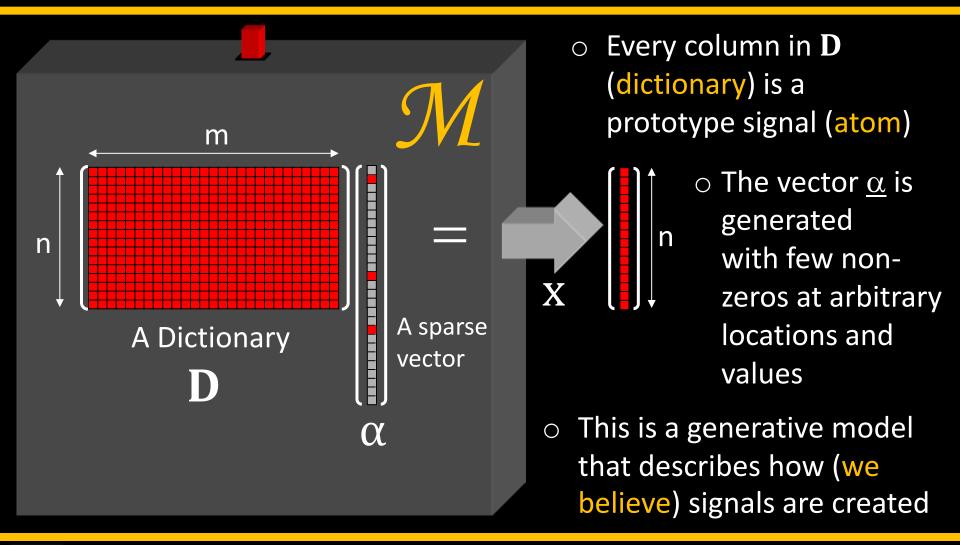
- Our dictionary stands for the Periodic Table containing all the elements
- Our model follows a similar rationale:
 Every molecule is built of few elements







Sparseland: A Formal Description



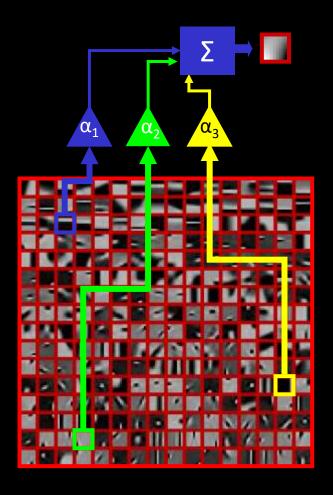


Difficulties with Sparseland

- Problem 1: Given a signal, how can we find its atom decomposition?
- A simple example:
 - There are 2000 atoms in the dictionary
 - The signal is known to be built of 15 atoms

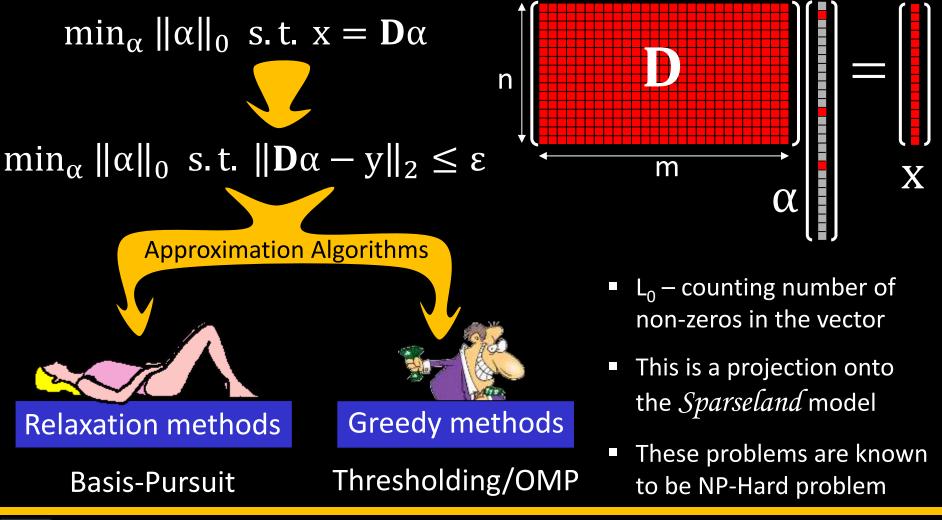
 $\begin{pmatrix} 2000\\ 15 \end{pmatrix} \approx 2.4e + 37 \text{ possibilities}$

- If each of these takes 1nano-sec to test, will take ~7.5e20 years to finish !!!!!!
- o So, are we stuck?



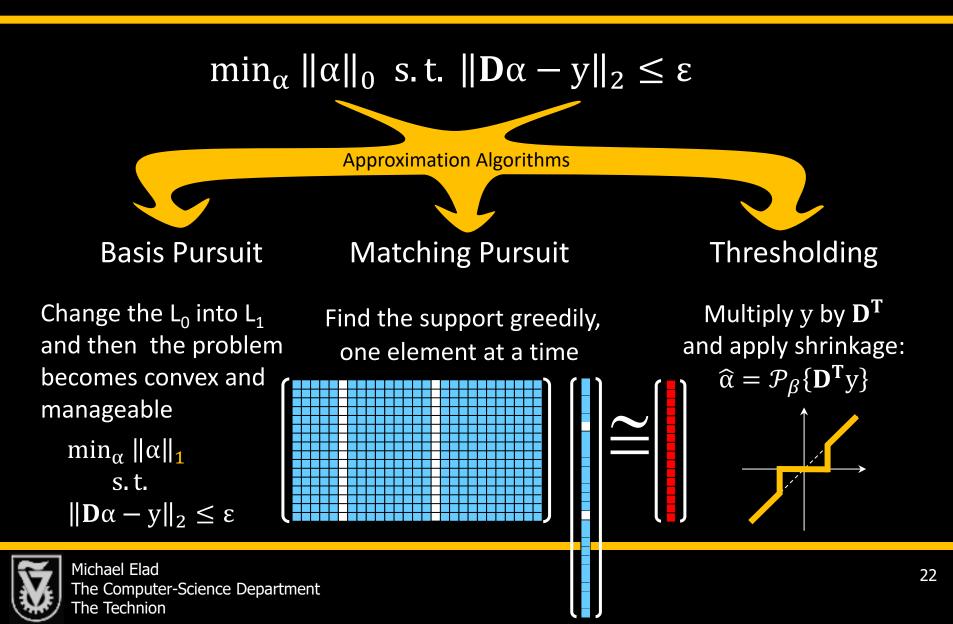


Atom Decomposition Made Formal



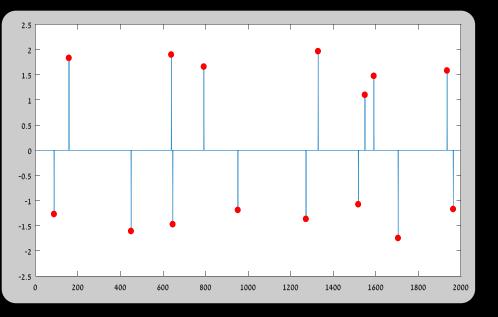


Pursuit Algorithms

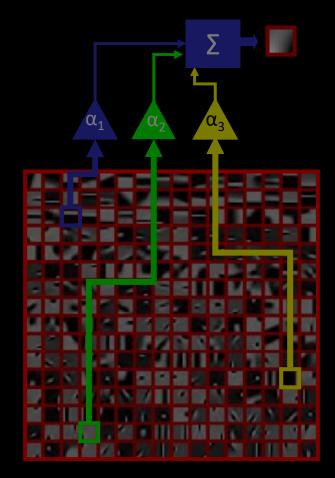


Difficulties with Sparseland

- There are various pursuit algorithms
- Here is an example using the Basis Pursuit (L_1) :



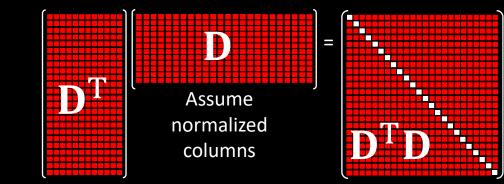
 Surprising fact: Many of these algorithms are often accompanied by theoretical guarantees for their success, if the unknown is sparse enough





The Mutual Coherence

 \circ Compute



- $\circ~$ The Mutual Coherence $\mu(D)$ is the largest off-diagonal entry in absolute value
- We will pose all the theoretical results in this talk using this property, due to its simplicity
- You may have heard of other ways to characterize the dictionary (Restricted Isometry Property - RIP, Exact Recovery Condition - ERC, Babel function, Spark, ...)

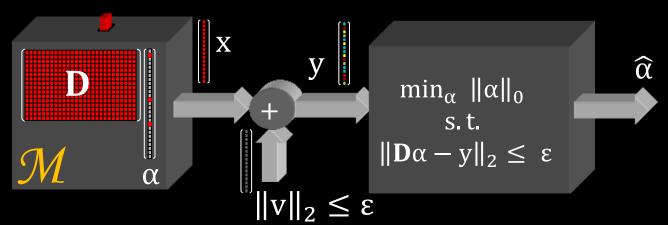


Basis-Pursuit Success

Theorem: Given a noisy signal $y = \mathbf{D}\alpha + v$ where $||v||_2 \le \varepsilon$ and α is sufficiently sparse, $||\alpha||_0 < \frac{1}{4} \left(1 + \frac{1}{u}\right)$

then Basis-Pursuit: $\min_{\alpha} \|\alpha\|_1$ s.t. $\|\mathbf{D}\alpha - y\|_2 \le \varepsilon$ leads to a stable result: $\|\widehat{\alpha} - \alpha\|_2^2 \le \frac{4\varepsilon^2}{1 - \mu(4\|\alpha\|_0 - 1)}$

Donoho, Elad & Temlyakov ('06)



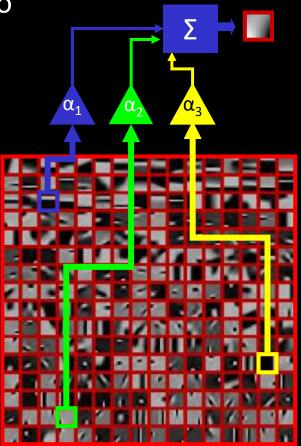
Comments:

- If $\varepsilon = 0 \rightarrow \widehat{\alpha} = \alpha$
- This is a worst-case analysis – better bounds exist
- Similar theorems exist for many other pursuit algorithms



Difficulties with Sparseland

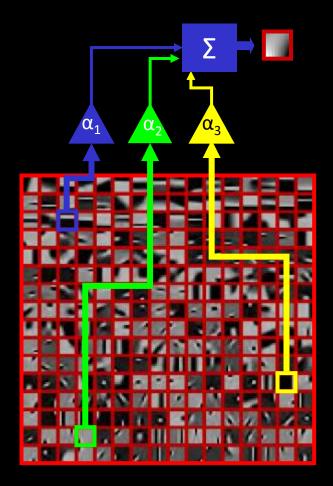
- Problem 2: Given a family of signals, how do we find the dictionary to represent it well?
- Solution: Learn! Gather a large set of signals (many thousands), and find the dictionary that sparsifies them
- Such algorithms were developed in the past 10 years (e.g., K-SVD), and their performance is surprisingly good
- We will not discuss this matter further in this talk due to lack of time





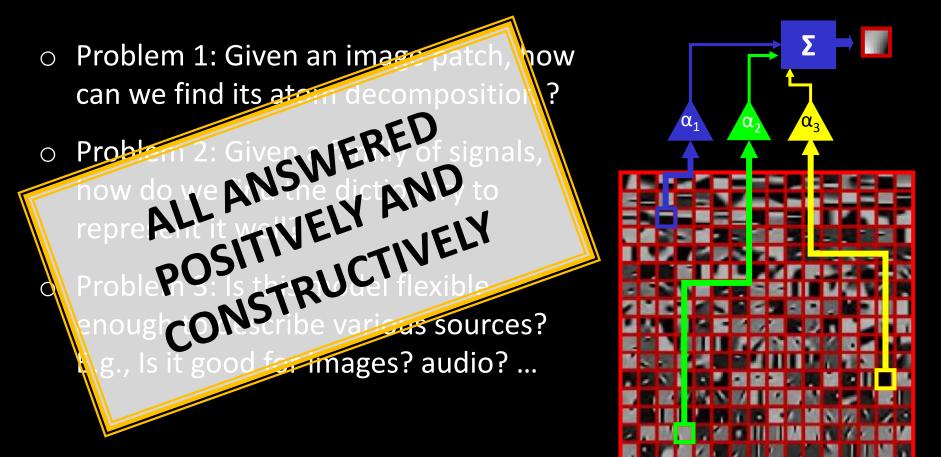
Difficulties with Sparseland

- Problem 3: Why is this model suitable to describe various sources? e.g., Is it good for images? Audio? Stocks? ...
- General answer: Yes, this model is extremely effective in representing various sources
 - Theoretical answer: Clear connection to other models
 - Empirical answer: In a large variety of signal and image processing (and later machine learning), this model has been shown to lead to state-of-the-art results





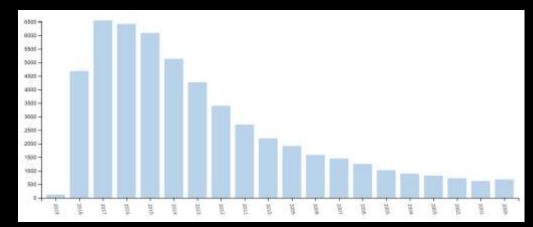
Difficulties with Sparseland?

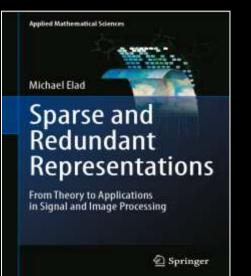




This Field has been rapidly $\mathsf{GROWING}$...

- Sparseland has a great success in signal & image processing & machine learning
- In the past 8-9 years, many books were published on this and closely related fields







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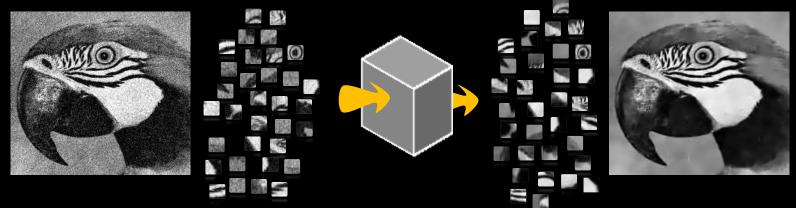


Yaniv Romano

Michael Elad

Sparseland for Image Processing

When handling images, Sparseland is typically deployed on small overlapping patches due to the desire to train the model to fit the data better



- The model assumption is: each patch in the image is believed to have a sparse representation w.r.t. a common local dictionary
- What is the corresponding global model? This brings us to ... the Convolutional Sparse Coding (CSC)



Multi-Layered Convolutional Sparse Modeling

Joint work with







Yaniv Romano

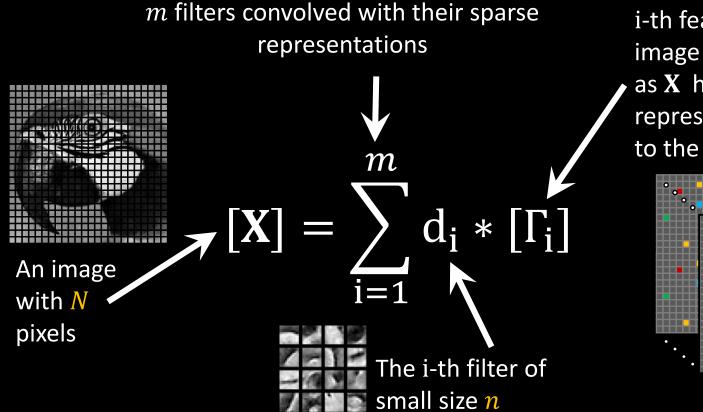
Vardan Papyan

Jeremias Sulam

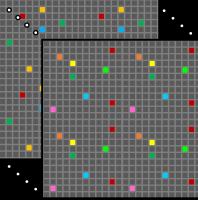


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Convolutional Sparse Coding (CSC)



i-th feature-map: An image of the same size as X holding the sparse representation related to the i-filter



This model emerged in 2005-2010, developed and advocated by Yan LeCun and others. It serves as the foundation of Convolutional Neural Networks



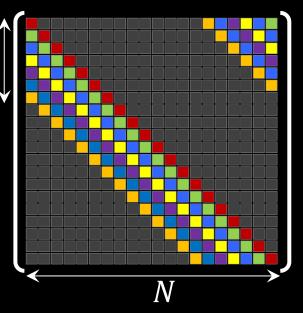
 \odot Here is an alternative global sparsity-based model formulation

$$\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \mathbf{C}^{i} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}^{1} \cdots \mathbf{C}^{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{1} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^{m} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{D} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}$$

 $\circ \mathbf{C}^{i} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ is a banded and Circulant matrix containing a single atom with all of its shifts

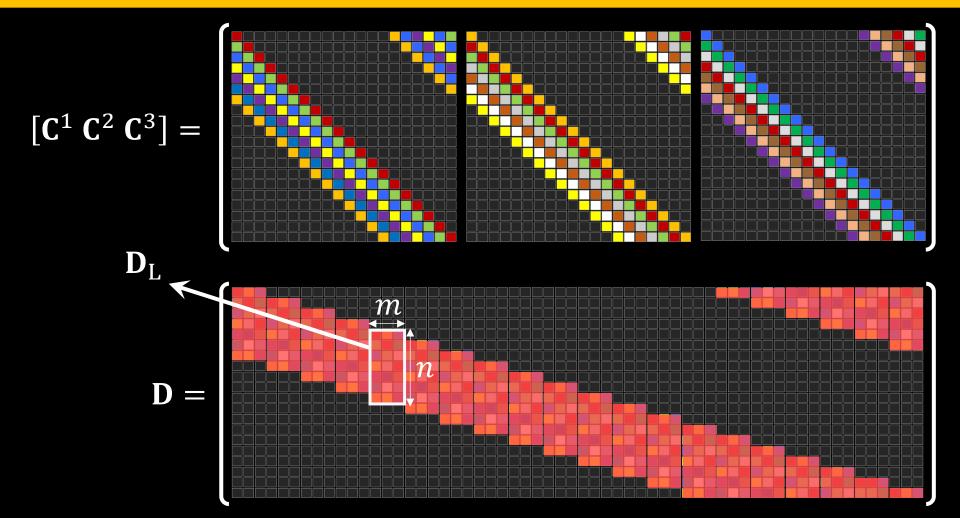


 $\circ \mathbf{\Gamma}^{i} \in \mathbb{R}^{N}$ are the corresponding coefficients ordered as column vectors





The CSC Dictionary





Classical Sparse Theory for CSC ?

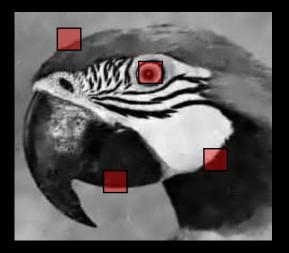
$$\min_{\mathbf{\Gamma}} \|\mathbf{\Gamma}\|_0 \quad \text{s. t. } \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{\Gamma}\|_2 \le \varepsilon$$

Theorem: BP is guaranteed to "succeed" if $\|\Gamma\|_0 < \frac{1}{4} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4}\right)$

 \circ Assuming that m=2 and n=64 we have that [Welch, '74]

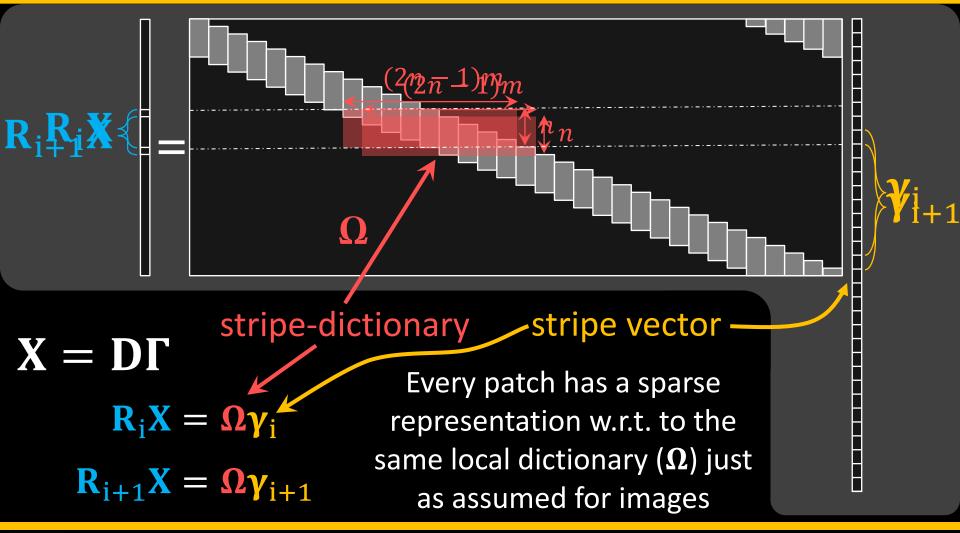
 $\mu \ge 0.063$







Why CSC?





Moving to Local Sparsity: Stripes

$$\ell_{0,\infty} \text{ Norm: } \|\Gamma\|_{0,\infty}^{s} = \max_{i} \|\gamma_{i}\|_{0}$$

$$\min_{\Gamma} \|\Gamma\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \text{ s.t. } \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{D}\Gamma\|_{2} \leq \varepsilon$$

 $\|\Gamma\|_{0,\infty}^{s}$ is low \rightarrow all γ_{i} are sparse \rightarrow every patch has a sparse representation over Ω

The main question we aim to address is this:

Can we generalize the vast theory of *Sparseland* to this new notion of local sparsity? For example, could we provide guarantees for success for pursuit algorithms?



Yi+1

Success of the Basis Pursuit

$$\Gamma_{\rm BP} = \min_{\Gamma} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{D}\Gamma\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\Gamma\|_1$$

Theorem: For $\mathrm{Y}=\mathbf{D}\Gamma+\mathrm{E}$, if $\lambda=4\|\mathrm{E}\|_{2,\infty}^{\mathrm{p}}$, if

 $\|\Gamma\|_{0,\infty}^{s} < \frac{1}{3} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\mu(\mathbf{D})}\right)$

then Basis Pursuit performs very-well:

- **1.** The support of Γ_{BP} is contained in that of Γ
- 2. $\|\Gamma_{\mathrm{BP}} \Gamma\|_{\infty} \le 7.5 \|E\|_{2,\infty}^{\mathrm{p}}$
- 3. Every entry greater than $7.5 ||E||_{2,\infty}^p$ is found
- 4. $\Gamma_{\rm BP}$ is unique

This is a much better result – it allows few non-zeros locally in each stripe, implying a permitted O(N) non-zeros globally

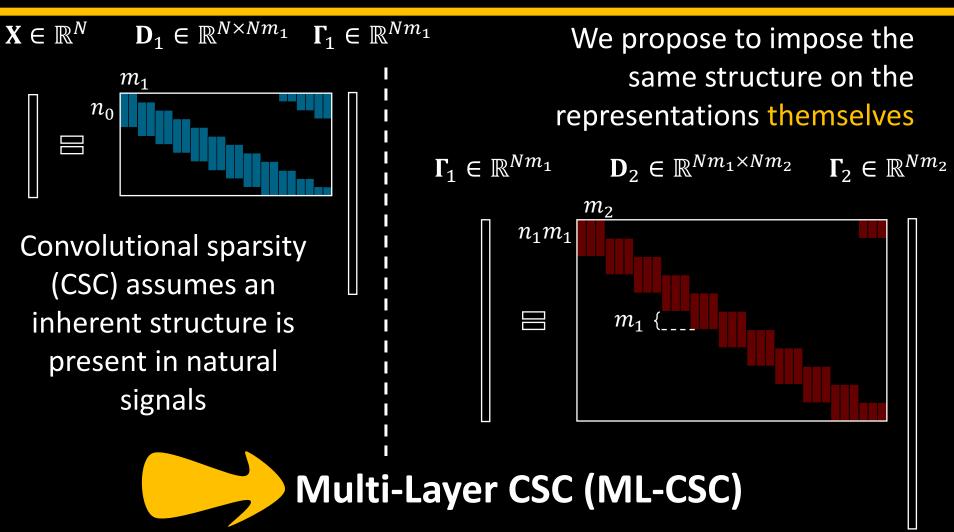
> Papyan, Sulam & Elad ('17)



Multi-Layered Convolutional Sparse Modeling

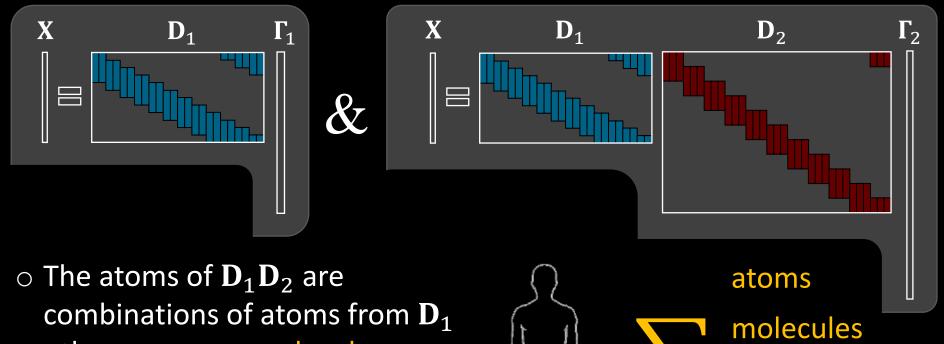


From CSC to Multi-Layered CSC

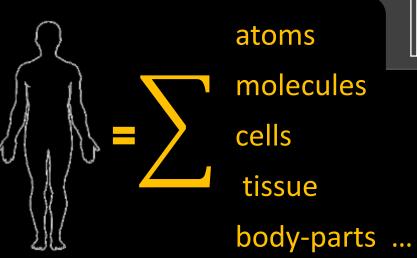




Intuition: From Atoms to Molecules

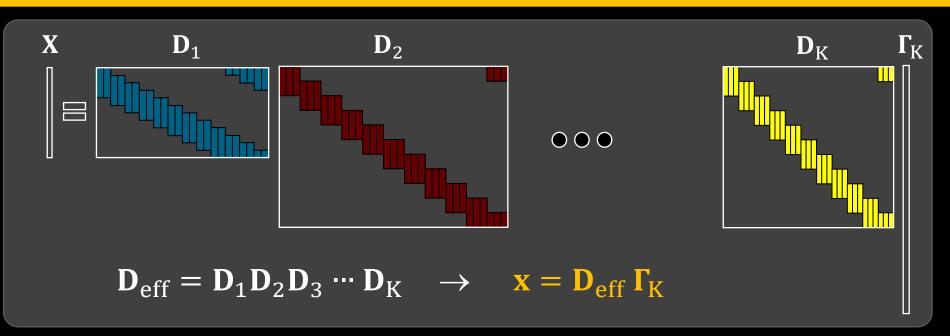


- these are now molecules
- Thus, this model offers
 different levels of abstraction
 in describing X





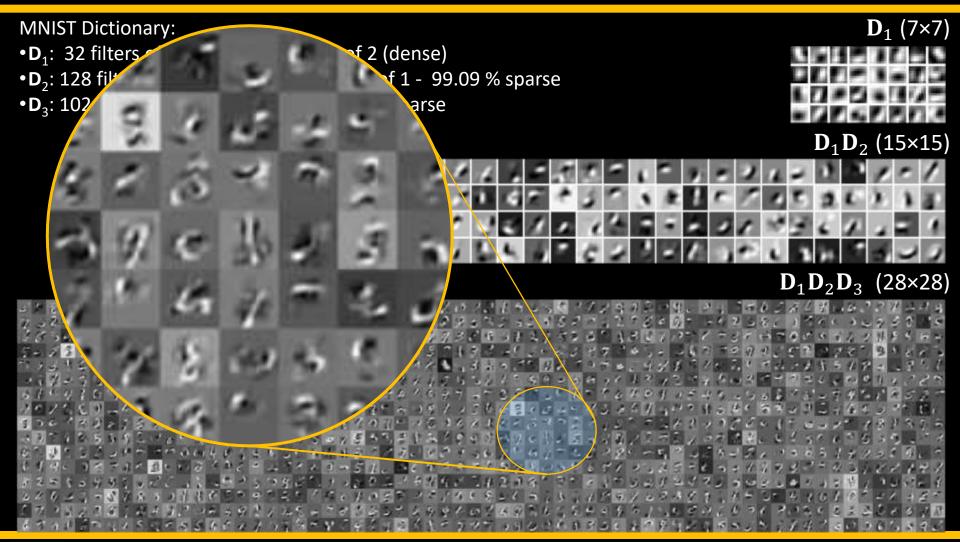
Intuition: From Atoms to Molecules



- This is a special *Sparseland* (indeed, a CSC) model
- However: A key property in our model: the intermediate representations are required to be sparse as well



A Small Taste: Model Training (MNIST)





ML-CSC: Pursuit

• Deep–Coding Problem (DCP_{λ}) (dictionaries are known):

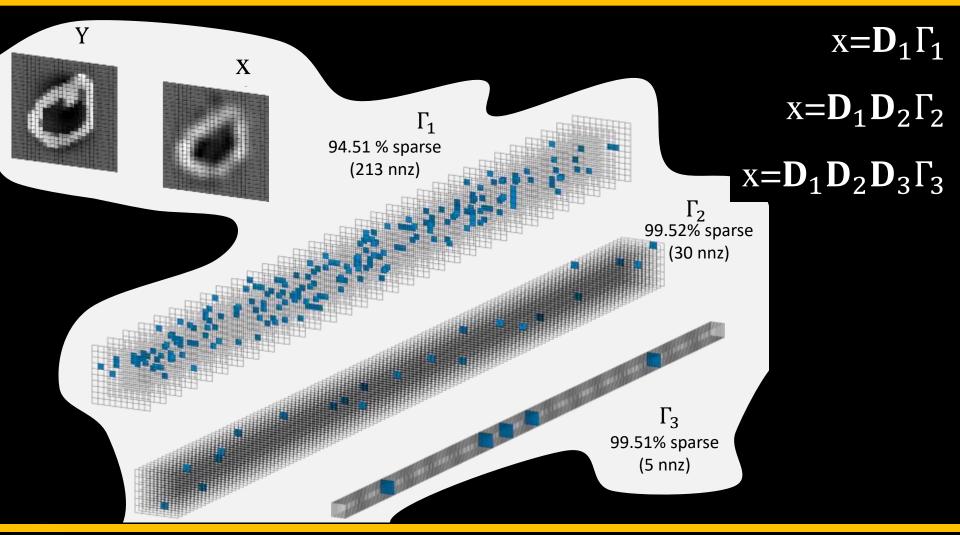
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{D}_{1}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{1} \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{1} = \mathbf{D}_{2}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{K-1} = \mathbf{D}_{K}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{K} \end{cases}$$

• Or, more realistically for noisy signals,

Find
$$\{\mathbf{\Gamma}_{j}\}_{j=1}^{K}$$
 s.t.
$$\begin{cases} \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{D}_{1}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1}\|_{2} \leq \mathcal{E} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{1} \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{1} = \mathbf{D}_{2}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{K-1} = \mathbf{D}_{K}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{K} \end{cases}$$



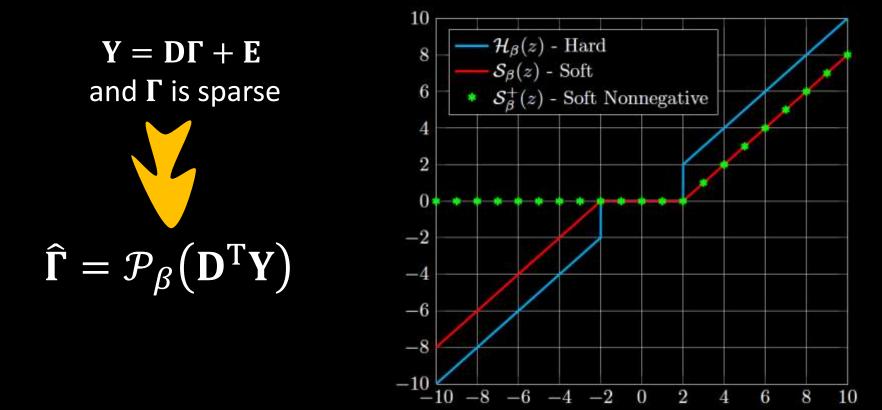
A Small Taste: Pursuit





ML-CSC: The Simplest Pursuit

Keep it simple! The simplest pursuit algorithm (single-layer case) is the THR algorithm, which operates on a given input signal Y by:





Consider this for Solving the DCP

 \odot Layered Thresholding (LT): Estimate Γ_1 via the THR algorithm

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}}_{2} = \mathcal{P}_{\beta_{2}} \left(\boldsymbol{D}_{2}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathcal{P}_{\beta_{1}} (\boldsymbol{D}_{1}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{Y}) \right)$$

Estimate Γ_2 via the THR algorithm

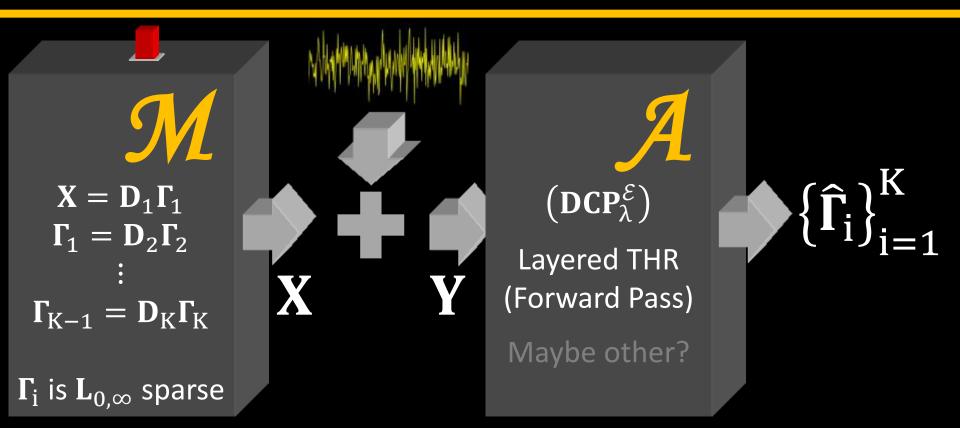
 $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{D}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{P}_{\lambda}^{\mathcal{E}} \end{pmatrix}: \text{ Find } \left\{ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{j} \right\}_{j=1}^{K} \quad s. t. \\ \begin{cases} \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{D}_{1}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1}\|_{2} \leq \mathcal{E} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{1} \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{1} = \mathbf{D}_{2}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{K-1} = \mathbf{D}_{K}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{K} \end{cases}$

○ Now let's take a look at how Conv. Neural Network operates: $f(\mathbf{Y}) = \text{ReLU}(\mathbf{b}_2 + \mathbf{W}_2^T \text{ReLU}(\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{W}_1^T \mathbf{Y}))$

> The layered (soft nonnegative) thresholding and the CNN forward pass algorithm are the very same thing !!!



Theoretical Path



Armed with this view of a generative source model, we may ask new and daring theoretical questions



Success of the Layered-THR

Theorem: If $\|\Gamma_{i}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} < \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\mu(D_{i})} \cdot \frac{|\Gamma_{i}^{min}|}{|\Gamma_{i}^{max}|}\right) - \frac{1}{\mu(D_{i})} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon_{L}^{i-1}}{|\Gamma_{i}^{max}|}$ then the Layered Hard THR (with the proper thresholds) finds the correct supports and $\|\Gamma_{i}^{LT} - \Gamma_{i}\|_{2,\infty}^{p} \leq \varepsilon_{L}^{i}$, where we have defined $\varepsilon_{L}^{0} = \|E\|_{2,\infty}^{p}$ and $\varepsilon_{L}^{i} = \sqrt{\|\Gamma_{i}\|_{0,\infty}^{p}} \cdot (\varepsilon_{L}^{i-1} + \mu(D_{i})(\|\Gamma_{i}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} - 1)|\Gamma_{i}^{max}|)$

Papyan, Romano & Elad ('17)

The stability of the forward pass is guaranteed if the underlying representations are **locally** sparse and the noise is **locally** bounded

- 1. Contrast
- 2. Error growth
- 3. Error even if no noise



Layered Basis Pursuit (BP)

 $\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{1}^{\text{LBP}} = \min_{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{1}} \frac{1}{2} \| \boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{D}_{1} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{1} \|_{2}^{2} + \lambda_{1} \| \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{1} \|_{1}^{2}$

 We chose the Thresholding algorithm due to its simplicity, but we do know that there are better pursuit methods – how about using them?

 \odot Lets use the Basis Pursuit instead ...

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{D}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{P}_{\lambda}^{\mathcal{E}} \end{pmatrix}: \text{ Find } \left\{ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{j} \right\}_{j=1}^{K} \quad s. t. \\ \begin{cases} \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{D}_{1}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1}\|_{2} \leq \mathcal{E} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{1}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{1} \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{1} = \mathbf{D}_{2}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{2}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{\Gamma}_{K-1} = \mathbf{D}_{K}\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K} & \|\mathbf{\Gamma}_{K}\|_{0,\infty}^{s} \leq \lambda_{K} \end{cases}$$

rks

$$\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{2}^{\text{LBP}} = \min_{\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{2}} \frac{1}{2} \| \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{1}^{\text{LBP}} - \boldsymbol{D}_{2} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{2} \|_{2}^{2} + \lambda_{2} \| \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{2} \|_{1}$$
Deconvolutional netwo

[Zeiler, Krishnan, Taylor & Fergus '10]



Success of the Layered BP

Theorem: Assuming that $\|\Gamma_i\|_{0,\infty}^s < \frac{1}{3} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\mu(D_i)}\right)$ then the Layered Basis Pursuit performs very well:

- 1. The support of Γ_i^{LBP} is contained in that of Γ_i
- 2. The error is bounded: $\|\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{i}^{LBP} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{i}\|_{2,\infty}^{p} \leq \varepsilon_{L}^{i}$, where $\varepsilon_{L}^{i} = 7.5^{i} \|\boldsymbol{E}\|_{2,\infty}^{p} \prod_{j=1}^{i} \sqrt{\|\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{j}\|_{0,\infty}^{p}}$
- 3. Every entry in Γ_i greater than $\epsilon_L^i / \sqrt{\|\Gamma_i\|_{0,\infty}^p}$ will be found

Papyan, Romano & Elad ('17)

Problems:

- 1. Contrast
- 2. Error growth
- 3. Error even if no noise



Layered Iterative Thresholding

Layered BP:
$$\Gamma_{j}^{\text{LBP}} = \min_{\Gamma_{j}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \Gamma_{j-1}^{\text{LBP}} - \mathbf{D}_{j} \Gamma_{j} \right\|_{2}^{2} + \xi_{j} \left\| \Gamma_{j} \right\|_{1}^{j}$$

Layered Iterative Soft-Thresholding Algorithm (ISTA):

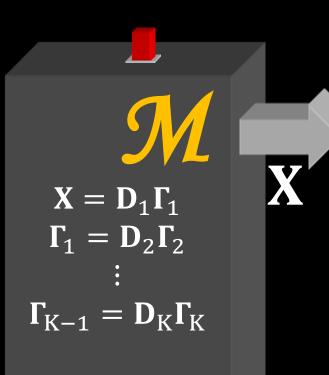
t
$$\Gamma_{j}^{t} = S_{\xi_{j}/c_{j}} \left(\Gamma_{j}^{t-1} + \mathbf{D}_{j}^{T} (\widehat{\Gamma}_{j-1} - \mathbf{D}_{j} \Gamma_{j}^{t-1}) \right)$$

Note that our suggestion implies that groups of layers share the same dictionaries



Michael Elad The Computer-Science Department The Technion Can be seen as a very deep recurrent neural network [Gregor & LeCun '10]

Where are the Labels?



Answer 1:

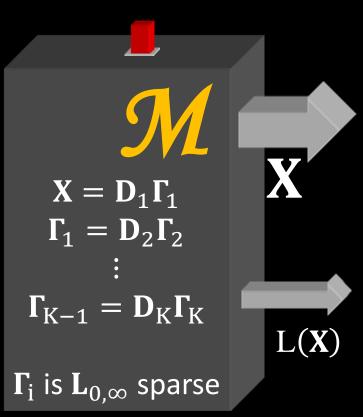
 We do not need labels because everything we show refer to the unsupervised case, in which we operate on signals, not necessarily in the context of recognition

 Γ_i is $L_{0,\infty}$ sparse

We presented the ML-CSC as a machine that produces signals **X**



Where are the Labels?



We presented the ML-CSC as a machine that produces signals **X**

Answer 2:

 This model could be augmented by a synthesis of the corresponding label by:

$$L(\mathbf{X}) = sign\{c + \sum_{j=1}^{K} w_j^{T} \Gamma_j\}$$

- This assumes that knowing the representations suffice for identifying the label
- A successful pursuit algorithm can lead to an accurate recognition if the network is augmented by a FC classification layer
- See our recent paper (on ArXiv), analyzing bounds on adversarial noise permitted and the influence of the pursuit algorithm



What About Learning?

Sparseland Sparse Representation Theory





ML-CSC Multi-Layered Convolutional Sparse Coding

All these models rely on proper Dictionary Learning Algorithms to fulfil their mission:

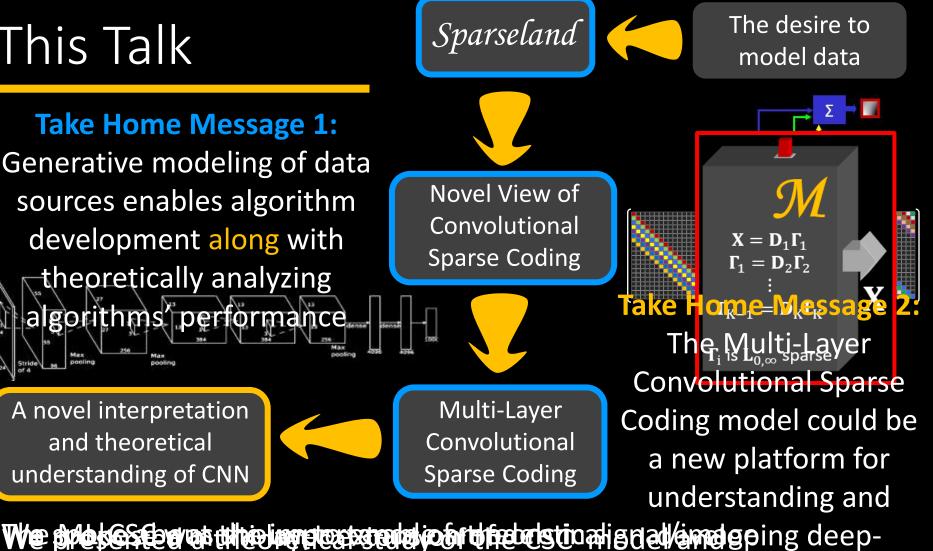
- Sparseland: We have unsupervised and supervised such algorithms, and a beginning of theory to explain how these work
- CSC: We have few and only unsupervised methods, and even these are not fully stable/clear
- ML-CSC: We proposed two such algorithms see ArXiv (handling both unsupervised and supervised learning)



Time to Conclude

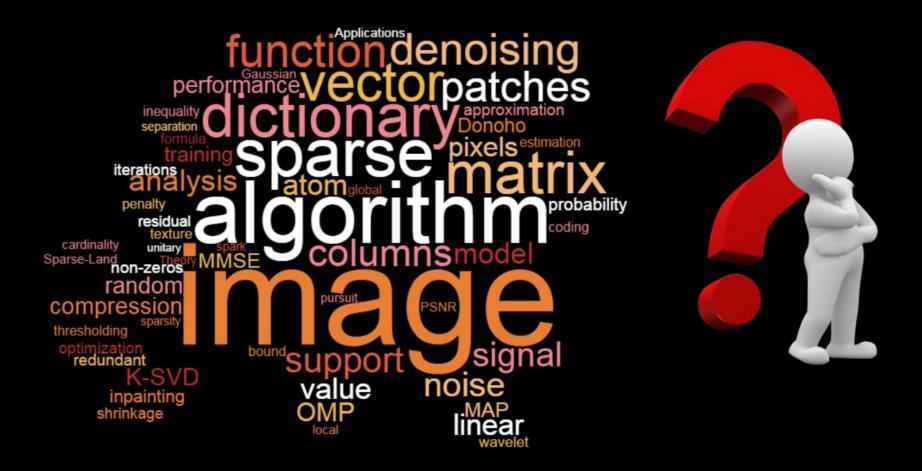


This Talk



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More on these (including these slides and the relevant papers) can be found in http://www.cs.technion.ac.il/~elad

