

A Review of Proximal Splitting Methods

with a new one

Hugo Raguét
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Convex Optimization

Setting: $G : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$

\mathcal{H} : Hilbert space. Here: $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^N$.

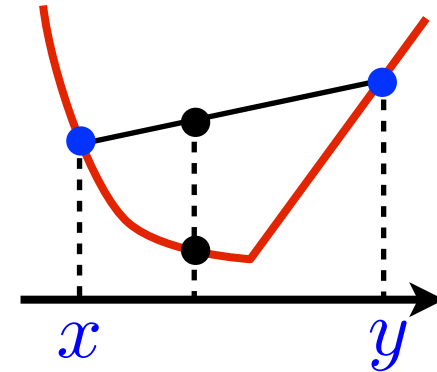
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Class of functions:

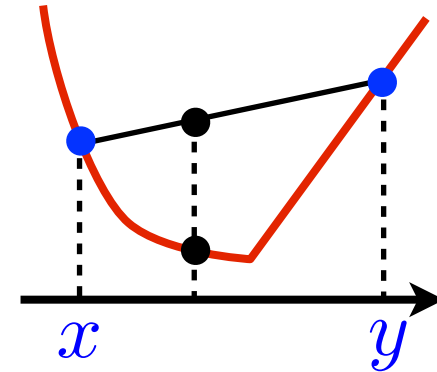
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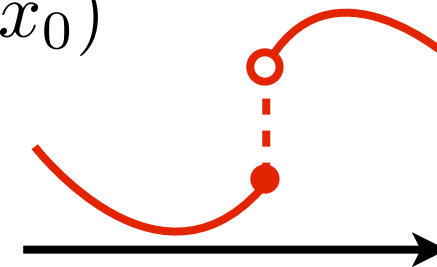


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$$\text{Lower semi-continuous: } \liminf_{x \rightarrow x_0} G(x) \geq G(x_0)$$

$$\text{Proper: } \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid G(x) \neq +\infty\} \neq \emptyset$$

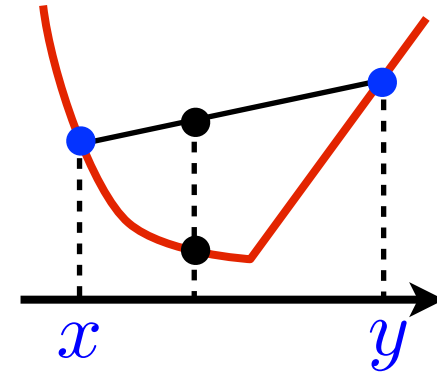


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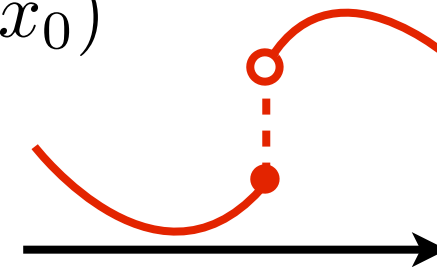


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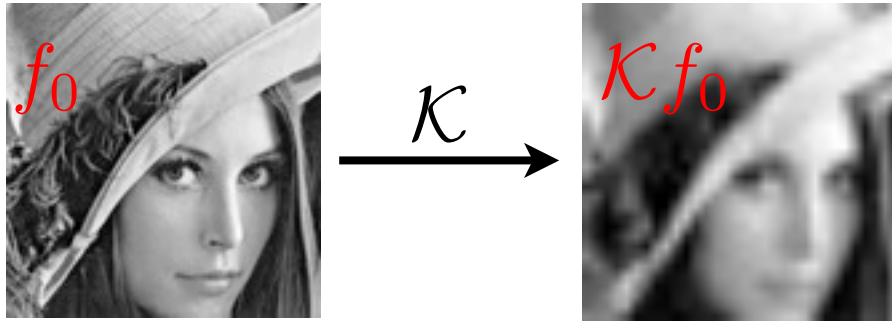


$$\text{Indicator: } \iota_{\mathcal{C}}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in \mathcal{C}, \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(\mathcal{C} closed and convex)

Example: ℓ^1 Regularization

Inverse problem: measurements $y = \mathcal{K}f_0 + w$



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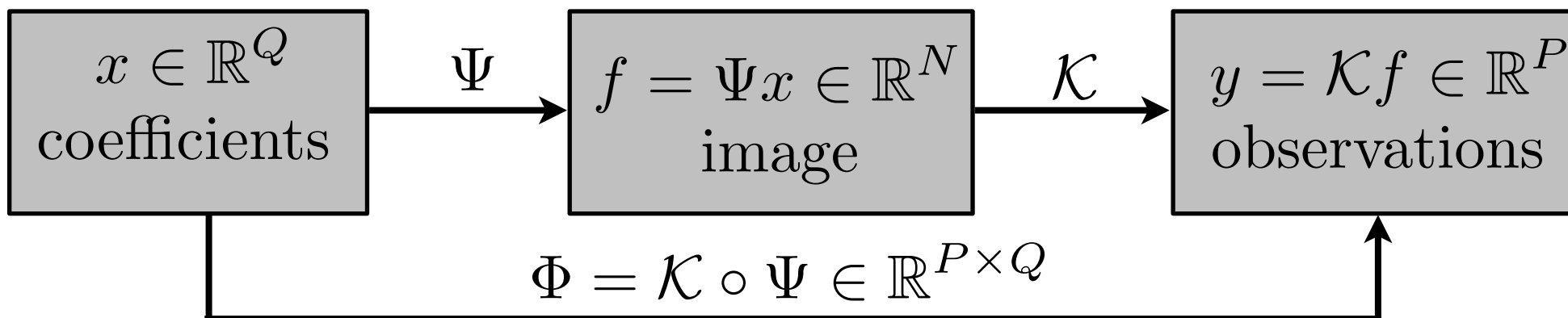


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Model: $f_0 = \Psi x_0$ sparse in dictionary $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times Q}$, $Q \geq N$.



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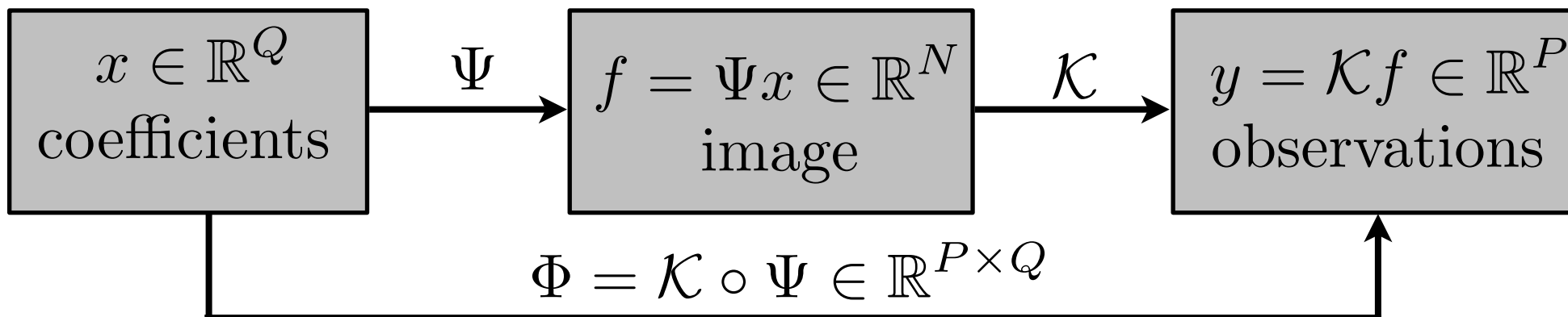


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Sparse recovery: $f^* = \Psi x^*$ where x^* solves

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$$

Fidelity

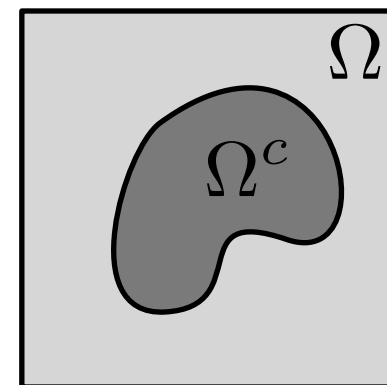
Regularization

Example: ℓ^1 Regularization

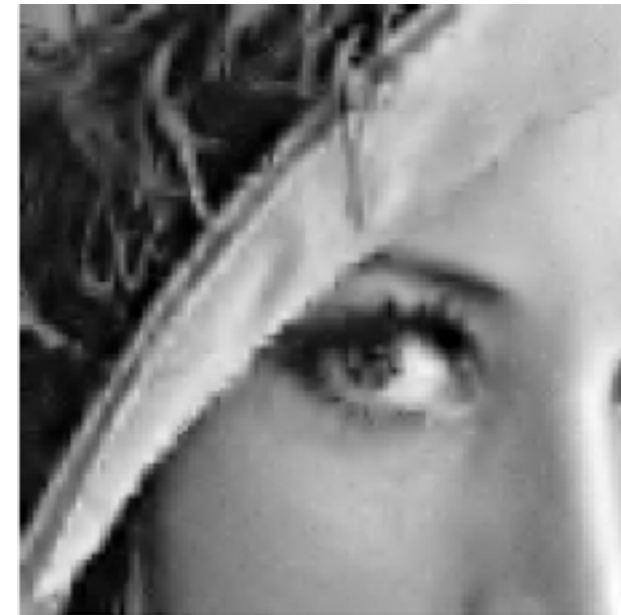
Inpainting: masking operator \mathcal{K}

$$(\mathcal{K}f)_i = \begin{cases} f_i & \text{if } i \in \Omega, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{K} : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^P \quad P = |\Omega|$$



$\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times Q}$ translation invariant wavelet frame.



Original $f_0 = \Psi x_0$

$y = \Phi x_0 + w$

Recovery Ψx^*

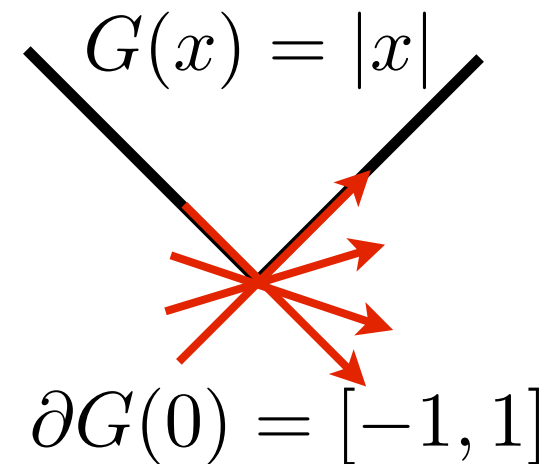
Overview

- **Subdifferential Calculus**
- Proximal Calculus
- Forward Backward
- Douglas Rachford
- Generalized Forward-Backward

Sub-differential

Sub-differential:

$$\partial G(x) = \{u \in \mathcal{H} \mid \forall z, G(z) \geq G(x) + \langle u, z - x \rangle\}$$



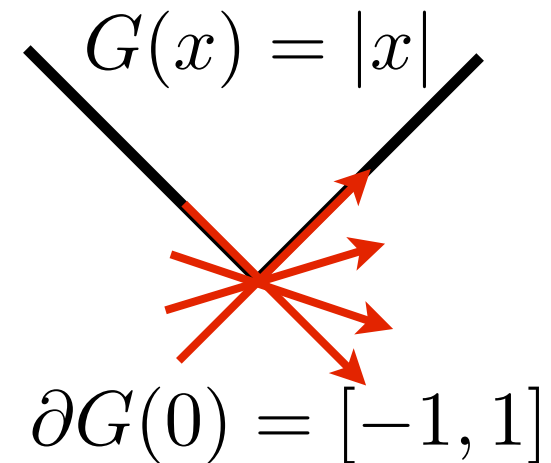
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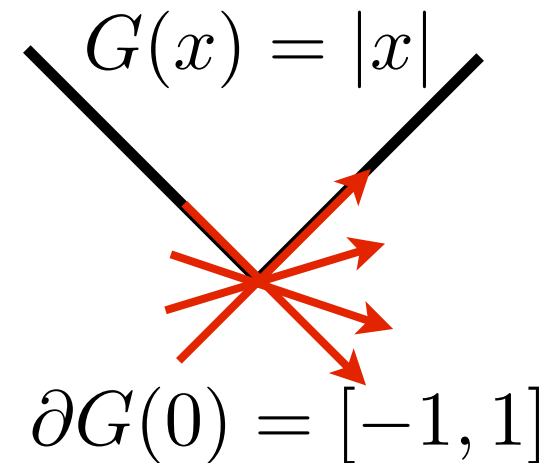
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$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathcal{H}} G(x) \iff 0 \in \partial G(x^*)$$



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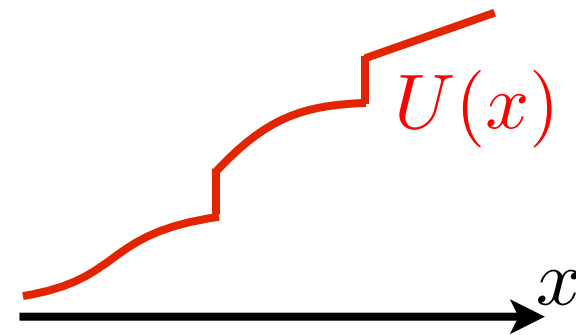
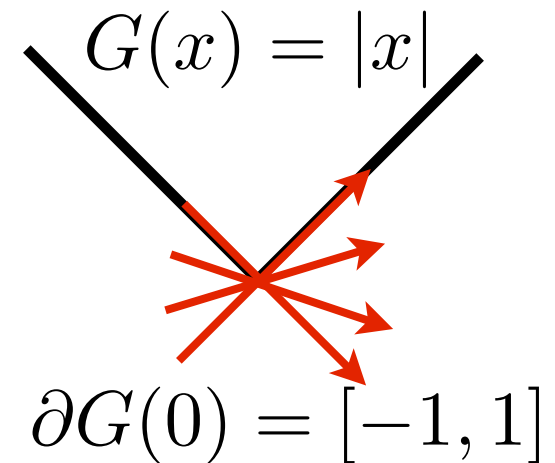
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Monotone operator: $U(x) = \partial G(x)$

$$\forall (u, v) \in U(x) \times U(y), \quad \langle y - x, v - u \rangle \geq 0$$



Example: ℓ^1 Regularization

$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^Q} G(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$$

$$\partial G(x) = \Phi^* (\Phi x - y) + \lambda \partial \|\cdot\|_1(x)$$

$$\partial \|\cdot\|_1(x)_i = \begin{cases} \operatorname{sign}(x_i) & \text{if } x_i \neq 0, \\ [-1, 1] & \text{if } x_i = 0. \end{cases}$$

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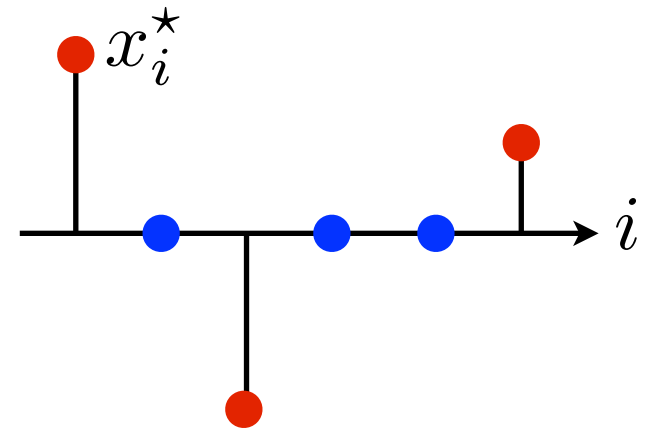
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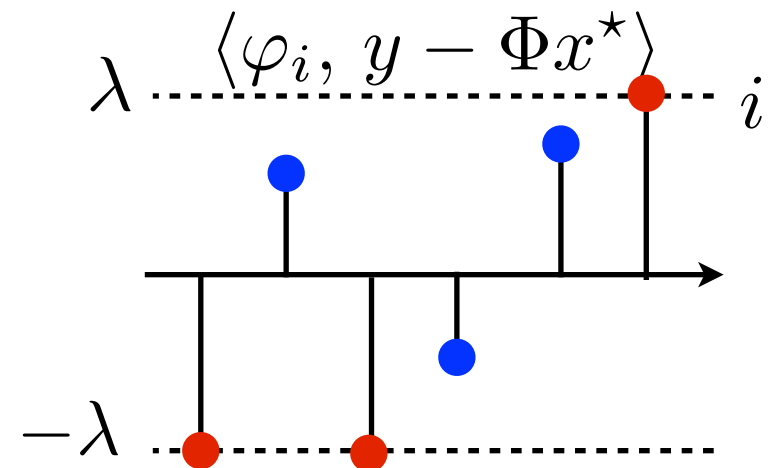
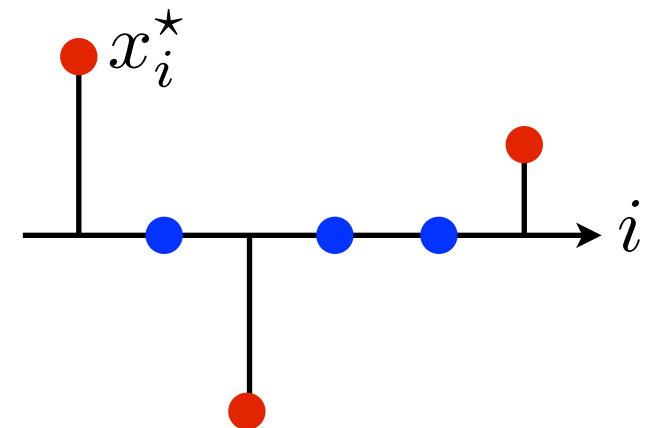
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$$I = \{i \in \{0, \dots, N-1\} \mid x_i^* \neq 0\}$$

First-order conditions:

$$\exists s \in \mathbb{R}^N, \quad \Phi^* (\Phi x^* - y) + \lambda s = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} s_I = \operatorname{sign}(x_I), \\ \|s_{I^c}\|_\infty \leq 1. \end{cases}$$



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- **Proximal Calculus**
- Forward Backward
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Proximal Operators

Proximal operator of G :

$$\text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x) = \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|x - z\|^2 + \gamma G(z)$$

Proximal Operators

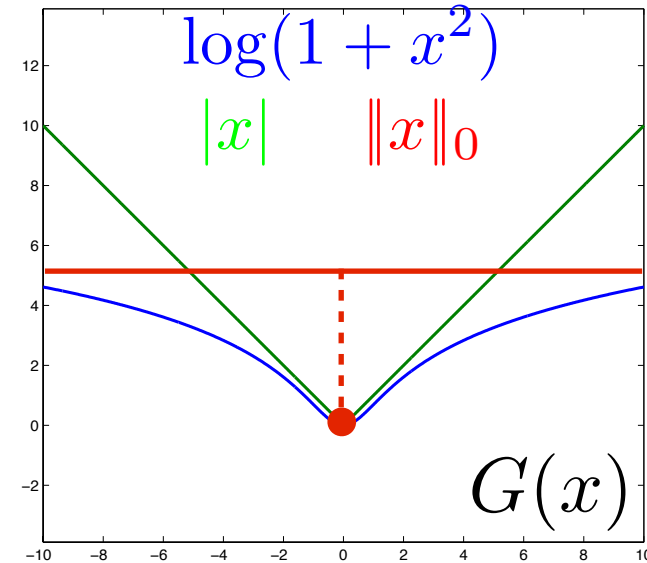
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$$G(x) = \|x\|_0 = |\{i \mid x_i \neq 0\}|$$

$$G(x) = \sum_i \log(1 + |x_i|^2)$$



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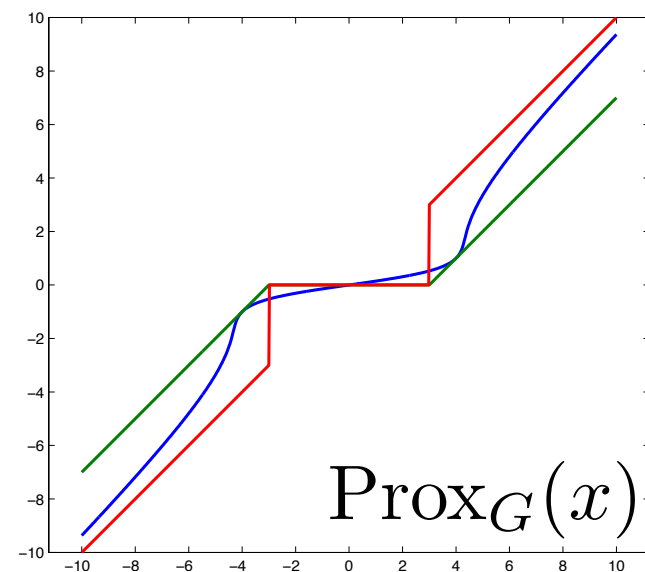
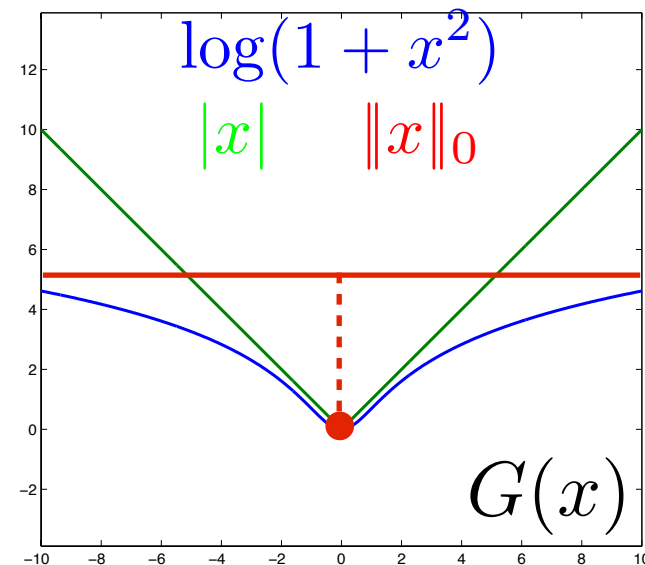
$$\text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x)_i = \max \left(0, 1 - \frac{\gamma}{|x_i|} \right) x_i$$

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$$\text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x)_i = \begin{cases} x_i & \text{if } |x_i| \geq \sqrt{2\gamma}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$G(x) = \sum_i \log(1 + |x_i|^2)$$

→ 3rd order polynomial root.



Proximal Calculus

Separability: $G(x) = G_1(x_1) + \dots + G_n(x_n)$

$$\text{Prox}_G(x) = (\text{Prox}_{G_1}(x_1), \dots, \text{Prox}_{G_n}(x_n))$$

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Quadratic functionals: $G(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|\Phi x - y\|^2$

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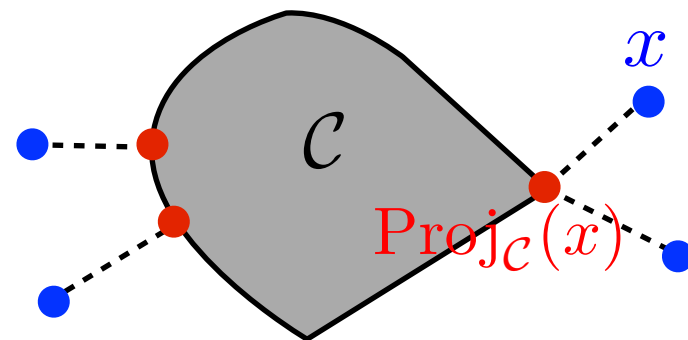
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Indicators: $G(x) = \iota_C(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x) &= \text{Proj}_C(x) \\ &= \underset{z \in C}{\text{argmin}} \|x - z\| \end{aligned}$$



Prox and Subdifferential

Resolvent of ∂G :

$$\begin{aligned} z = \text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x) &\iff 0 \in z - x + \gamma \partial G(z) \\ \iff x \in (\text{Id} + \gamma \partial G)(z) &\iff z = (\text{Id} + \gamma \partial G)^{-1}(x) \end{aligned}$$

Inverse of a set-valued mapping:

$$\text{where } x \in U(y) \iff y \in U^{-1}(x)$$

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Fix point: $x^* \in \underset{x}{\text{argmin}} G(x)$

$$\iff 0 \in \partial G(x^*) \iff x^* \in (\text{Id} + \gamma \partial G)(x^*)$$

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Gradient and Proximal Descents

Gradient descent: $x^{(\ell+1)} = x^{(\ell)} - \gamma_\ell \nabla G(x^{(\ell)})$ [explicit]

G is C^1 and ∇G is L -Lipschitz

Theorem: If $0 < \gamma_\ell < 2/L$, $x^{(\ell)} \rightarrow x^*$ a solution.

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→ Problem: slow.

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Proximal-point algorithm: $x^{(\ell+1)} = \text{Prox}_{\gamma_\ell G}(x^{(\ell)})$ [implicit]

Theorem: If $\gamma_\ell \geq c > 0$, $x^{(\ell)} \rightarrow x^*$ a solution.

→ $\text{Prox}_{\gamma G}$ hard to compute.

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- **Forward Backward**
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Proximal Splitting Methods

Solve $\min_{x \in \mathcal{H}} E(x)$

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Splitting:
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Smooth Simple

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Smooth Simple

Iterative algorithms using: $\begin{cases} \nabla F(x) \\ \text{Prox}_{\gamma G_i}(x) \end{cases}$

Forward-Backward: $\xrightarrow{\text{solves}} F + G$
Douglas-Rachford: $\longrightarrow \sum G_i$
Primal-Dual: $\longrightarrow \sum G_i \circ A$
Generalized FB: $\longrightarrow F + \sum G_i$

Smooth + Simple Splitting

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Model: $f_0 = \Psi x_0$ sparse in dictionary Ψ .

Sparse recovery: $f^* = \Psi x^*$ where x^* solves

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \boxed{F(x)} + \boxed{G(x)}$$

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Data fidelity: $F(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2$ $\Phi = \mathcal{K} \circ \Psi$

Regularization: $G(x) = \|x\|_1 = \sum_i |x_i|$

Forward-Backward

Fix point equation:

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Projected gradient descent: $G = \iota_C$

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If $\gamma < 2/L$, $x^{(\ell)} \rightarrow x^*$ a solution of (\star)

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→ Multi-step accelerations (Nesterov, Beck-Teboule).

Example: L1 Regularization

$$\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|\Phi x - y\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1 \iff \min_x F(x) + G(x)$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|\Phi x - y\|^2$$

$$\nabla F(x) = \Phi^* (\Phi x - y) \qquad L = \|\Phi^* \Phi\|$$

$$G(x) = \lambda \|x\|_1$$

$$\text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x)_i = \max \left(0, 1 - \frac{\gamma \lambda}{|x_i|} \right) x_i$$

Forward-backward \iff Iterative soft thresholding

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Douglas Rachford Scheme

$$\min_x \boxed{G_1(x)} + \boxed{G_2(x)} \quad (\star)$$

Simple Simple

Douglas-Rachford iterations:

$$z^{(\ell+1)} = \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) z^{(\ell)} + \frac{\alpha}{2} \text{RProx}_{\gamma G_2} \circ \text{RProx}_{\gamma G_1} (z^{(\ell)})$$

$$x^{(\ell+1)} = \text{Prox}_{\gamma G_2} (z^{(\ell+1)})$$

Reflexive prox:

$$\text{RProx}_{\gamma G}(x) = 2\text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x) - x$$

Douglas Rachford Scheme

$$\min_x \boxed{G_1(x)} + \boxed{G_2(x)} \quad (\star)$$

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Theorem: If $0 < \alpha < 2$ and $\gamma > 0$,

$$x^{(\ell)} \rightarrow x^* \quad \text{a solution of } (\star)$$

DR Fix Point Equation

$$\min_x G_1(x) + G_2(x) \iff 0 \in \partial(G_1 + G_2)(x)$$

$$\iff \exists z, z - x \in \partial(\gamma G_1)(x) \quad \text{and} \quad x - z \in \partial(\gamma G_2)(x)$$

$$\iff x = \text{Prox}_{\gamma G_1}(z) \quad \text{and} \quad (2x - z) - x \in \partial(\gamma G_2)(x)$$

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Example: Constrained L1

$$\min_{\Phi x=y} \|x\|_1 \iff \min_x G_1(x) + G_2(x)$$

$$G_1(x) = i_{\mathcal{C}}(x), \quad \mathcal{C} = \{x \mid \Phi x = y\}$$

$$\text{Prox}_{\gamma G_1}(x) = \text{Proj}_{\mathcal{C}}(x) = x + \Phi^*(\Phi\Phi^*)^{-1}(y - \Phi x)$$

$$G_2(x) = \|x\|_1 \quad \text{Prox}_{\gamma G_2}(x) = \left(\max \left(0, 1 - \frac{\gamma}{|x_i|} \right) x_i \right)_i$$

→ efficient if $\Phi\Phi^*$ easy to invert.

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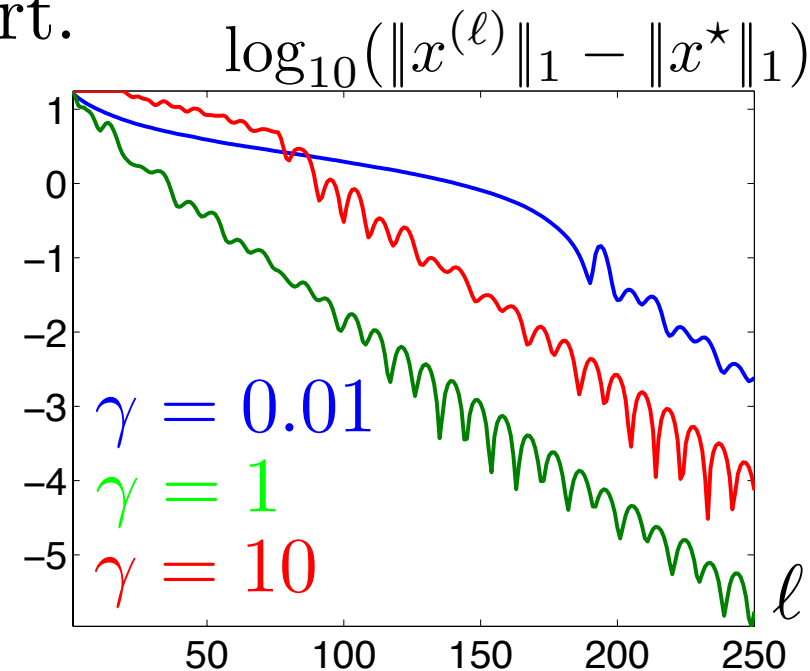
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Example: compressed sensing

$$\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 400} \quad \text{Gaussian matrix}$$

$$y = \Phi x_0 \quad \|x_0\|_0 = 17$$



More than 2 Functionals

$$\min_x G_1(x) + \dots + G_k(x) \quad \text{each } F_i \text{ is simple}$$

$$\iff \min_x G(x_1, \dots, x_k) + \iota_{\mathcal{C}}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$$

$$G(x_1, \dots, x_k) = G_1(x_1) + \dots + G_k(x_k)$$

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G and $\iota_{\mathcal{C}}$ are simple:

$$\text{Prox}_{\gamma G}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = (\text{Prox}_{\gamma G_i}(x_i))_i$$

$$\text{Prox}_{\gamma \iota_{\mathcal{C}}}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = (\tilde{x}, \dots, \tilde{x}) \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{x} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_i x_i$$

Overview

- Subdifferential Calculus
- Proximal Calculus
- Forward Backward
- Douglas Rachford
- **Generalized Forward-Backward**

GFB Splitting

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \boxed{F(x)} + \boxed{\sum_{i=1}^n G_i(x)} \quad (\star)$$

Smooth

Simple

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, n,$$

$$z_i^{(\ell+1)} = z_i^{(\ell)} + \text{Prox}_{n\gamma G_i} (2x^{(\ell)} - z_i^{(\ell)} - \gamma \nabla F(x^{(\ell)})) - x^{(\ell)}$$

$$x^{(\ell+1)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i^{(\ell+1)}$$

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$n = 1 \longrightarrow$ Forward-backward.

$F = 0 \longrightarrow$ Douglas-Rachford.

GFB Fix Point

$$x \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} F(x) + \sum_i G_i(x) \iff 0 \in \nabla F(x^*) + \sum_i \partial G_i(x^*)$$

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 +  \longrightarrow Fix point equation on (x^*, z_1, \dots, z_n) .

Block Regularization

$\ell^1 - \ell^2$ block sparsity: $G(x) = \sum_{b \in \mathcal{B}} \|x^{[b]}\|$, $\|x^{[b]}\|^2 = \sum_{m \in b} x_m^2$

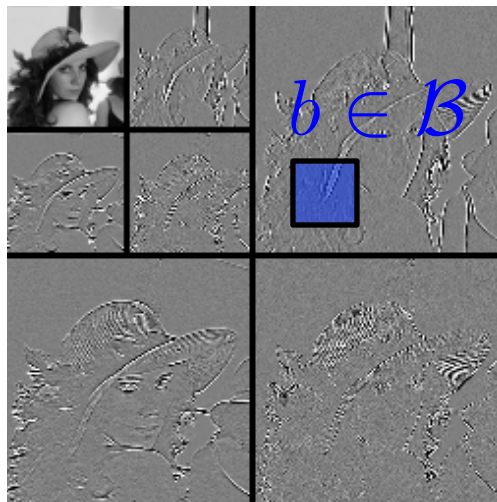


Image $f = \Psi x$ Coefficients x .

Block Regularization

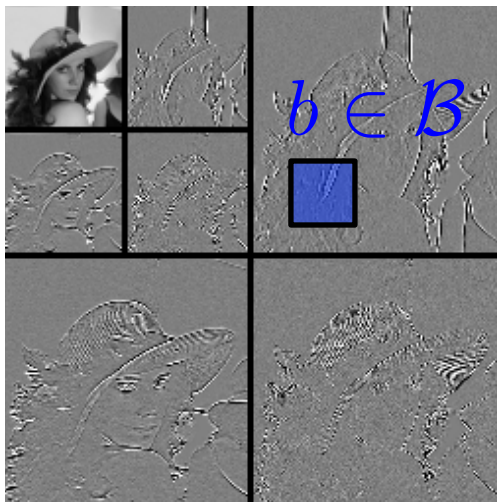
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Non-overlapping decomposition: $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{B}_n$

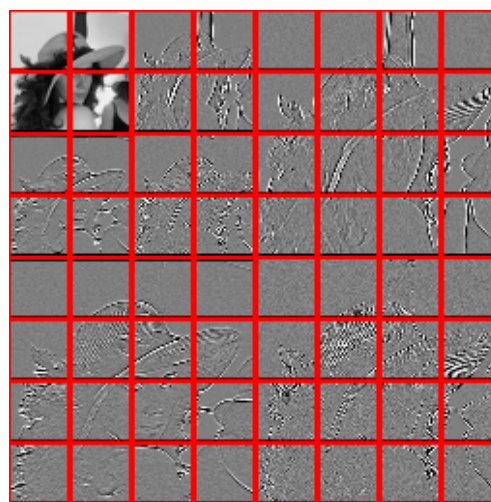
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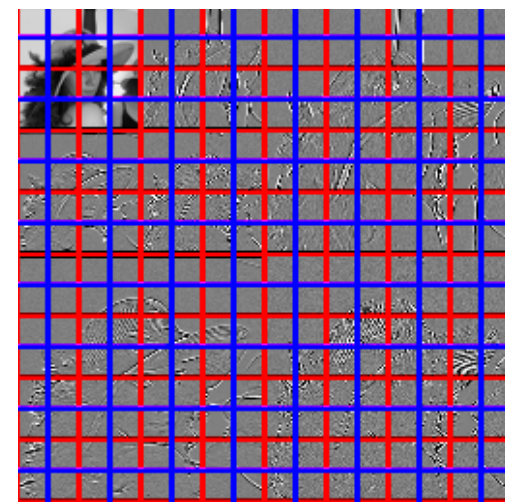
Image $f = \Psi x$



Coefficients x .



Blocks \mathcal{B}_1



$\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$

Block Regularization

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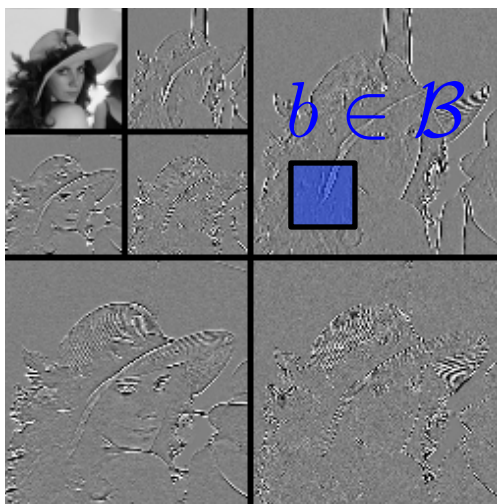
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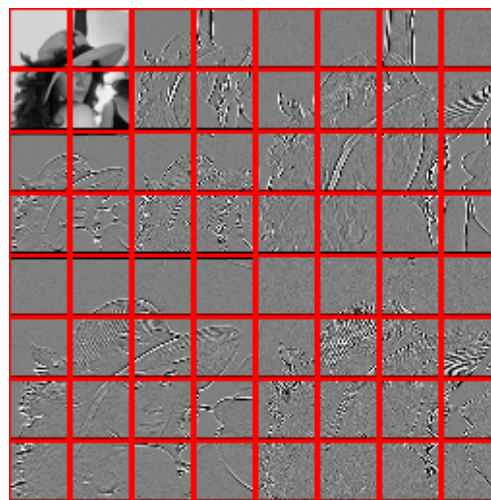
$$\forall m \in b \in \mathcal{B}_i, \quad \text{Prox}_{\gamma G_i}(x)_m = \max\left(0, 1 - \frac{\gamma}{\|x^{[b]}\|}\right) x_m$$



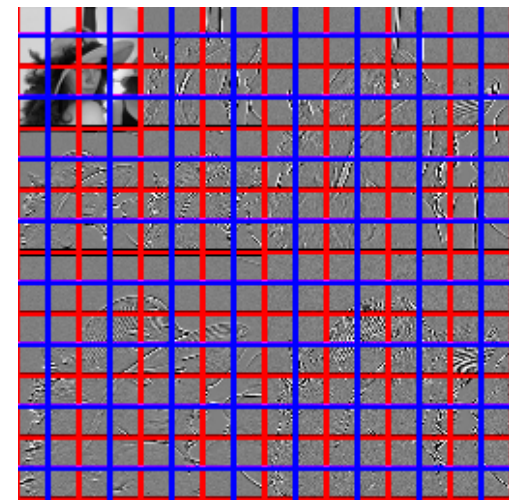
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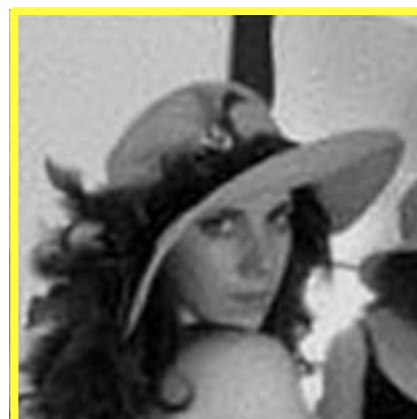
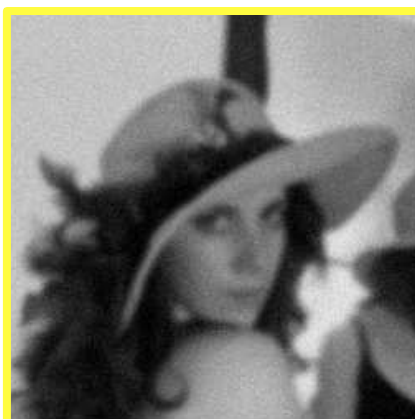
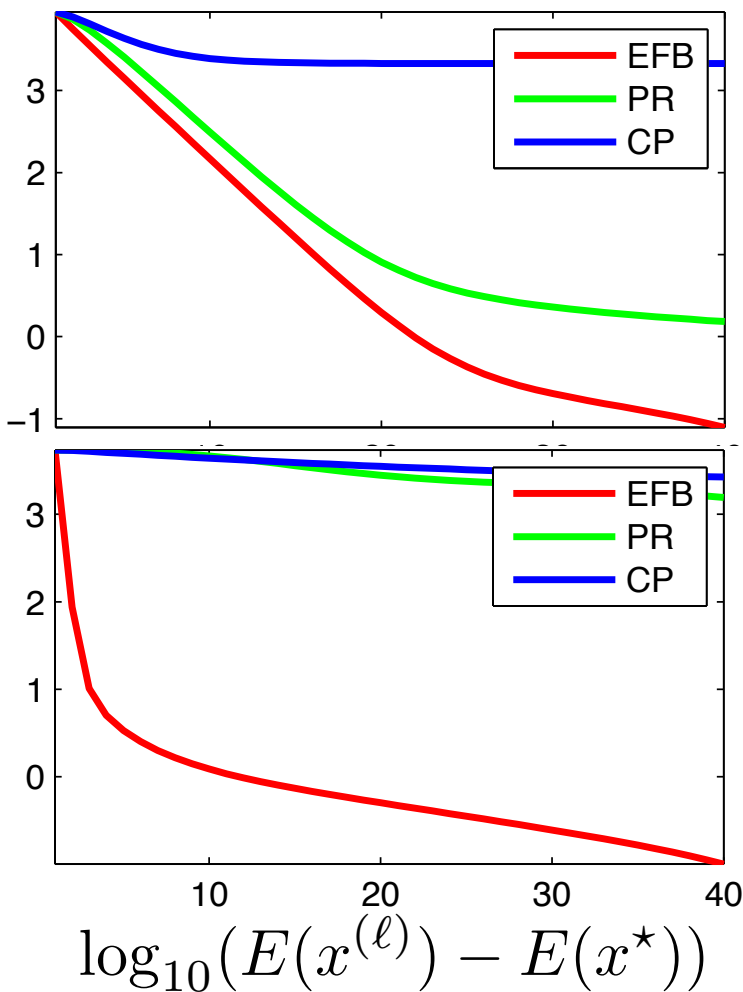
Numerical Illustration

$$\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi \Psi x\|^2 + \lambda \sum_i G_i(x)$$

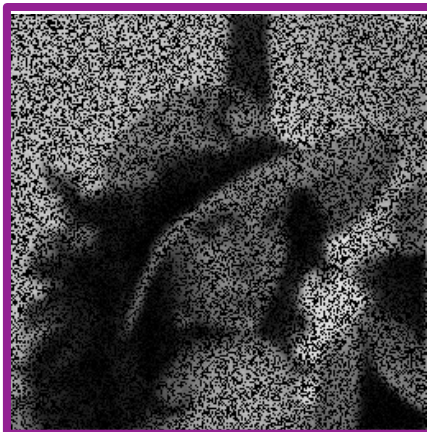
$\Psi =$ TI wavelets

$\Phi =$ convolution

$\Phi =$ inpainting+convolution



x_0



$y = \Phi x_0 + w$

x^*

Conclusion

Inverse problems in imaging:

- Large scale, $N \geq 10^6$.
- Non-smooth (sparsity, TV, ...)
- (Sometimes) convex.
- Highly structured (separability, ℓ^p norms, ...).



Conclusion

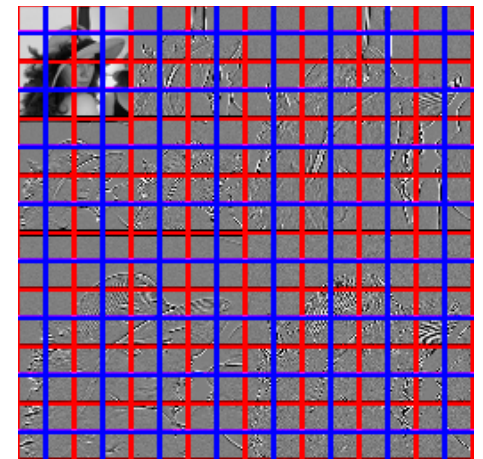
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Proximal splitting:

- Unravel the structure of problems.
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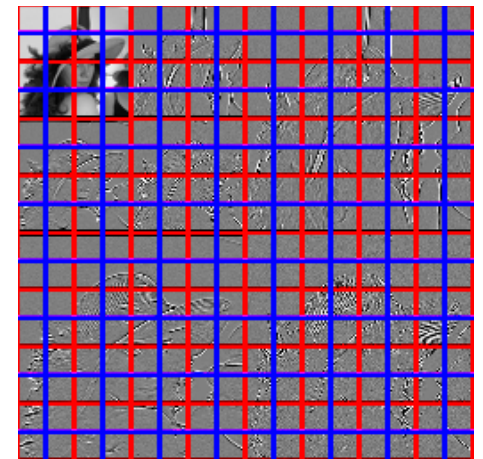
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Proximal splitting:

- Unravel the structure of problems.
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Open problems:

- Less structured problems without smoothness.
- Non-convex optimization.