

# Introduction to Compressed Sensing

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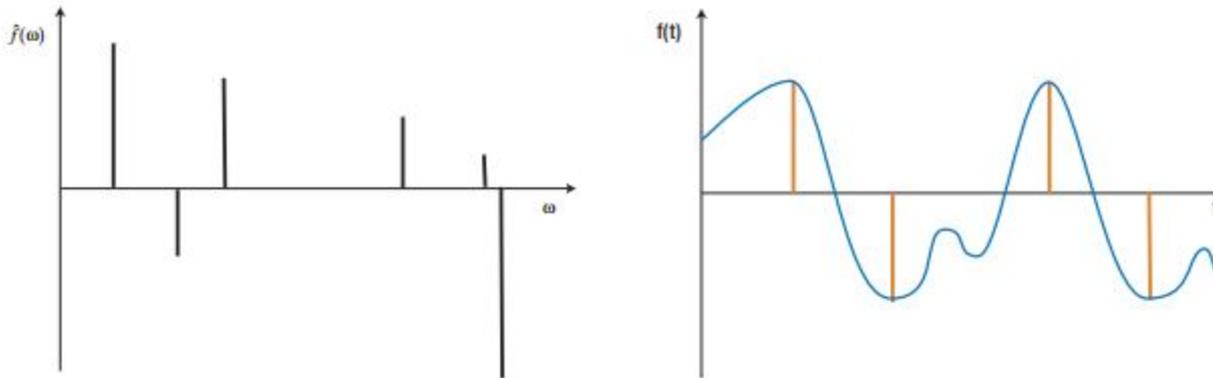
# Introduction

# The field of Compressive Sensing(CS)

- A powerful method of exactly recovering signals at sub-Nyquist rate given that the signal has some sparse structure.
- It is a wide field with overlaps in several distinct areas of science and technology:
  - \* Signal Processing:
    - (i) MRI imaging
    - (ii) Speech processing
  - \* Applied mathematics:
    - (i) Applied harmonic analysis
    - (ii) Random matrix theory
    - (iii) Geometric functional analysis
  - \* Statistics

# Data Acquisition

- For a signal bandlimited to  $B$  Hz, The Nyquist rate demands at least  $2B$  samples per second for perfect reconstruction.
  - Becomes pretty challenging for ADCs to deliver the high sampling rate in context of modern high bandwidth communication systems(e.g. radar).



- Can prior knowledge about sparse structure of the signal help perfect reconstruction from a sub – Nyquist sampling strategy?

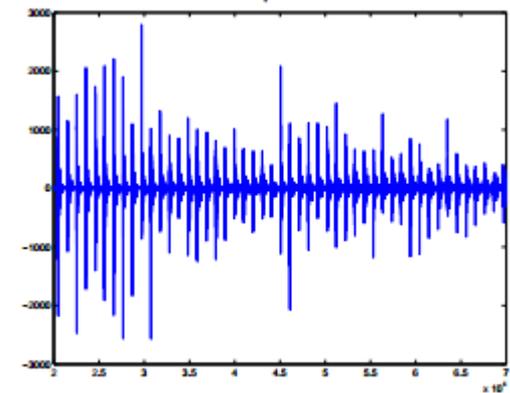
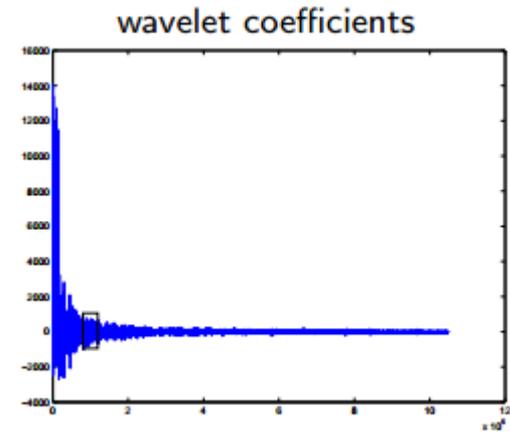
# Data Compression

- Many signals are sparse in transform domains, like Fourier, Wavelet etc.
- Can we use the sparse structure in the transform domains to get compression even without the full acquisition (all signal coordinates)?
- Specifically, instead of taking samples of the actual vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ , can we recover  $\mathbf{x}$ , from the linear measurements  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}$ , where,  $\mathbf{x}$  is known to be sparse in some domain, that is there is some (known) matrix  $\mathbf{\Psi}$ , such that  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{\Psi}\mathbf{z}$ , such that  $\mathbf{z}$  is sparse.

# Sparsity in Wavelet domain



1 megapixel image



zoom in

# The problem of compressive sensing and its solutions

# The $l_0$ "norm" optimization formulation

- A suitable optimization problem must be formulated that addresses these questions by seeking out an unknown vector which is *highly sparse*, i.e. with as few nonzero coordinates as possible.
- Mathematically, let the system of linear measurements be given by  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}$ , where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $\mathbf{\Phi} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ ,  $M \ll N$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  is highly sparse.
- Then the optimization problem we seek to solve is solving a constrained  $l_0$  "norm" minimization

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}: \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{x}\|_0$$

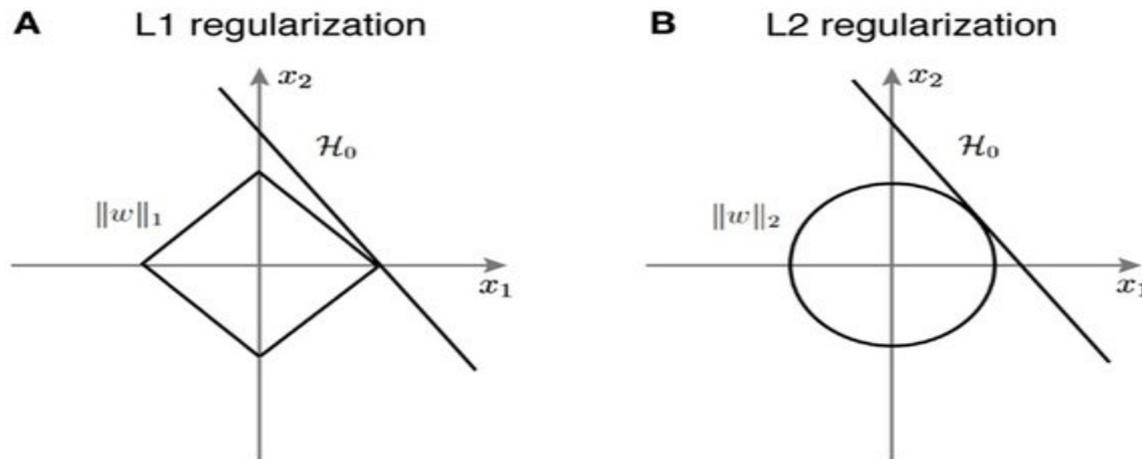
- However, this problem is a combinatorial one, and the complexity may be exponential. So, do we quit?

# A relaxed convex optimization problem

- Turns out a slight convexification of the problem does the job, i.e. instead of minimizing  $l_0$  "norm", minimize the  $l_1$  norm

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}: \mathbf{y} = \Phi \mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{x}\|_1$$

- The following diagram gives intuitive explanation to why  $l_1$  optimization finds a sparse solution, while  $l_2$  optimization does not



- Solution of this problem can recover unknown  $\mathbf{x}$  with high probability, if  $\mathbf{x}$  is  $K$  – sparse, and  $M$  satisfies,

$$M \geq cK \ln(N / K) \ll N$$

# The Restricted Isometry Property

- In order to recover a high dimensional sparse vector  $\mathbf{x}$ , from a low dimensional measurement vector  $\mathbf{y}$ , obtained as  $\mathbf{y} = \Phi\mathbf{x}$ , the sensing matrix  $\Phi$  must be “almost” orthonormal.
- This idea is captured by the *Restricted Isometry Property* (RIP):
  - A matrix  $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$  is said to satisfy RIP of order  $K$ , if  $\forall$   $K$  – sparse vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $\exists \delta > 0$  such that
$$(1 - \delta) \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \leq \|\Phi\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \delta) \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$
  - The smallest such constant  $\delta$  is denoted as  $\delta_K$
- In simple words,  $\Phi$  is an approximate isometry for all  $K$  – sparse vectors.

- RIP is fundamentally related to eigenvalues of a matrix

$$\delta_K = \max_{S \subset \{1,2,\dots,N\}; |S|=K} \|\mathbf{I} - \Phi_S^T \Phi_S\|_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

- We can prove this as below

- Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a  $K$  – sparse vector so that  $\Phi \mathbf{x} = \Phi_S \mathbf{x}_S$ , where  $S$  is the support of  $\mathbf{x}$

- Then, by definition of maximum and minimum eigenvalues of a

$$\text{matrix, } \lambda_{\min}(\Phi_S^T \Phi_S) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}} \frac{\mathbf{u}^T \Phi_S^T \Phi_S \mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|_2}, \lambda_{\max}(\Phi_S^T \Phi_S) =$$

$$\arg \max_{\mathbf{u}} \frac{\mathbf{u}^T \Phi_S^T \Phi_S \mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|_2}$$

- Hence, from the definition of RIP, any  $\delta$ , that satisfies the RIP

of order  $K$ , also satisfies,  $\lambda_{\min}(\Phi_S^T \Phi_S) \geq (1 - \delta)$ ,  $(1 + \delta) \geq$

$$\lambda_{\max}(\Phi_S^T \Phi_S) \Rightarrow \delta \geq \|\mathbf{I} - \Phi_S^T \Phi_S\|_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

- Since this is true for any set  $S$  of indices with cardinality  $K$ , we can write, for any such  $\delta$  satisfying the RIP property of order

$$K, \max_{S:|S|=K} \|\mathbf{I} - \Phi_S^T \Phi_S\|_{2 \rightarrow 2} \leq \delta$$

- Since, by definition,  $\delta_K$  is the smallest such  $\delta$ , we have

$$\delta_K = \max_{S:|S|=K} \|\mathbf{I} - \Phi_S^T \Phi_S\|_{2 \rightarrow 2}$$

- Another nice property of RIP is that if RIC is small, after transformation, orthogonal vectors remain *almost* orthogonal, as stated in the following form :

$$|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| \leq \delta_{|S_1|+|S_2|} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2$$

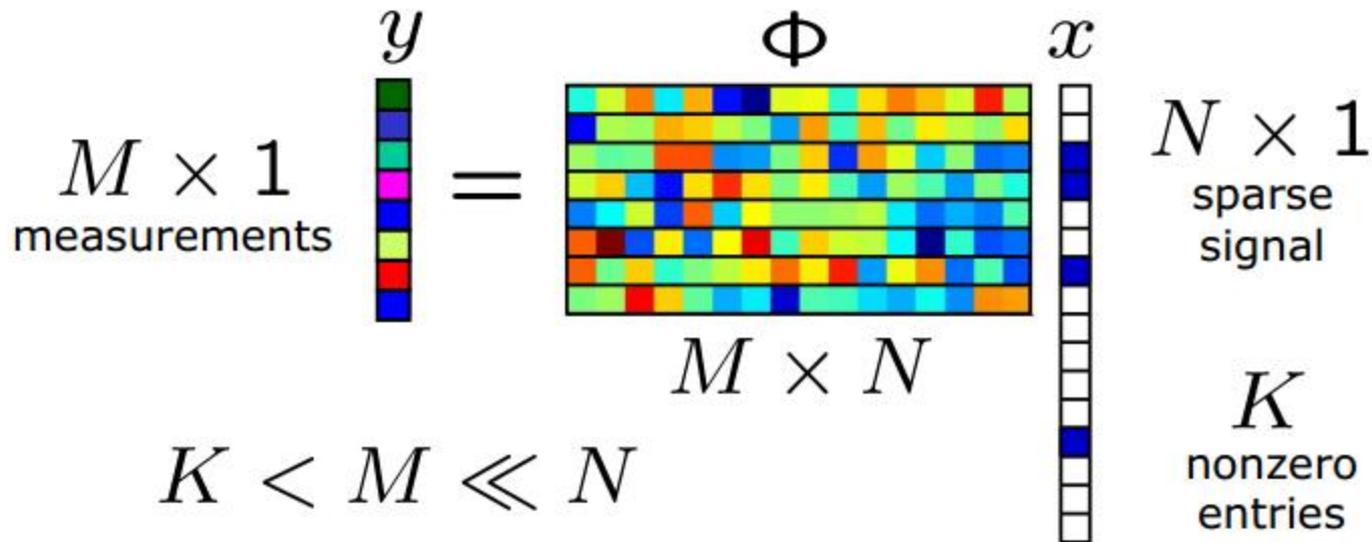
where  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ , with supports  $S_1, S_2$  such that  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$

- To prove this, note that,  $|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| = 0$ , since  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$ , which allows us to write

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| &= |\mathbf{x}^T (\mathbf{I} - \Phi^T \Phi) \mathbf{y}| \\ &= |\mathbf{x}_{S_1 \cup S_2}^T (\mathbf{I}_{S_1 \cup S_2} - \Phi_{S_1 \cup S_2}^T \Phi_{S_1 \cup S_2}) \mathbf{y}_{S_1 \cup S_2}| \\ &\leq \|\mathbf{x}_{S_1 \cup S_2}\|_2 \|(\mathbf{I}_{S_1 \cup S_2} - \Phi_{S_1 \cup S_2}^T \Phi_{S_1 \cup S_2}) \mathbf{y}_{S_1 \cup S_2}\|_2 \\ &\quad \text{(due to Cauchy – Schwartz)} \\ &\leq \|\mathbf{x}_{S_1 \cup S_2}\|_2 \|\mathbf{I}_{S_1 \cup S_2} - \Phi_{S_1 \cup S_2}^T \Phi_{S_1 \cup S_2}\|_{2 \rightarrow 2} \|\mathbf{y}_{S_1 \cup S_2}\|_2 \\ &\leq \delta_{|S_1|+|S_2|} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

# How to find good sensing matrix ?

- A unique minimizer of the  $l_0$  minimization problem is guaranteed if every  $2K$  columns of the sensing matrix is linearly independent, equivalently,  $\delta_{2K} \in (0,1)$ ; but how to find it?
- How to design a sensing matrix such that  $\delta_{2K} \in (0,1)$ ?



- An easy answer is *random matrices*, i.e., matrices with elements independent and identically distributed according to some distribution
- Fantastic examples are :
  - Gaussian sensing matrices, i.e., elements are i.i.d. Gaussian
  - Bernoulli sensing matrices with elements i.i.d. 0,1 with probabilities  $1-p$ ,  $p$

# Recovery algorithms

# $l_1$ minimization algorithms

- Basis pursuit :

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

- Quadratically constrained basis pursuit or Basis pursuit denoising (BPDN):

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

- Dantzig Selector :

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \|\mathbf{\Phi}^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x})\|_\infty \leq \tau \end{aligned}$$

# Greedy algorithms

Some of the most important greedy algorithms for sparse recovery are :

- Matching pursuit (MP), Orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP), Orthogonal least squares (OLS)
- Compressive sampling matching pursuit (CoSaMP), Subspace Pursuit (SP)
- Iterative Hard Thresholding (IHT), Hard Thresholding Pursuit (HTP)

# Matching Pursuit

- Given that  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ , the goal is to, iteratively, find the best linear representation of  $\mathbf{y}$  in the dictionary  $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_N\}$ 
  - In other words, find  $\mathbf{x}$ , iteratively, such that  $\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi\mathbf{x}\|_2$  is minimum where  $\Phi = [\phi_1 \cdots \phi_N]$
- In matching pursuit
  - Initialize the residual  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{y}$
  - Find the atom most correlated to the residual, i.e., find  $\phi_i$  such that  $i = \arg \max_{1 \leq j \leq N} |\rho_j|$ , where  $\rho_j = \langle \phi_j, \mathbf{r} \rangle$
  - Update the residual:  $\mathbf{r} \leftarrow \mathbf{r} - \rho_i \phi_i$ , and return to step 1

# Orthogonal matching pursuit

- Same as matching pursuit, except that the dictionary representation is known to be  $K$  – sparse
- The Orthogonal matching pursuit goes as below :
  - Initialize residual  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{y}$ , and the temporary support  $\Lambda = \emptyset$
  - Find the atom most correlated to the residual  $\mathbf{r}$ , i.e., find  $\phi_i$  such that  $i = \arg \max_{1 \leq j \leq N} |\rho_j|$ , where  $\rho_j = \langle \phi_j, \mathbf{r} \rangle$
  - Enlarge the temporary support by augmenting this new index, i.e.  $\Lambda \leftarrow \Lambda \cup \{i\}$
  - Find the best  $K$  – sparse representation of  $\mathbf{y}$  with the atoms from the dictionary supported on  $\Lambda$ , i.e. find  $\mathbf{x}$ , such that  $\mathbf{x}_\Lambda = \mathbf{\Phi}_\Lambda^\dagger \mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_{(\Lambda)^c} = \mathbf{0}$
  - Update residual  $\mathbf{r} \leftarrow \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{\Phi}_\Lambda \mathbf{x}$  and return to step 1

- Many types of conditions have been found for the sensing matrix  $\Phi$ , to ensure perfect recovery of the  $K$  – sparse vector  $\mathbf{x}$  from the measurement  $\mathbf{y} = \Phi\mathbf{x}$  vector in  $K$  iterations
- RIP based recovery conditions :
  - Davenport and Wakin [1] found the condition  $\delta_{K+1} < \frac{1}{3\sqrt{K}}$
  - Wang et.al [2] improved the condition to  $\delta_{K+1} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{K} + 1}$
  - To date the best condition is established by chang et.al [3],  
 which is  $\delta_{K+1} < \frac{\sqrt{4K+1}-1}{2K}$

Another type of recovery conditions are given by the *worst – case coherence*  $\mu$ , and the *average – case coherence*  $\nu$

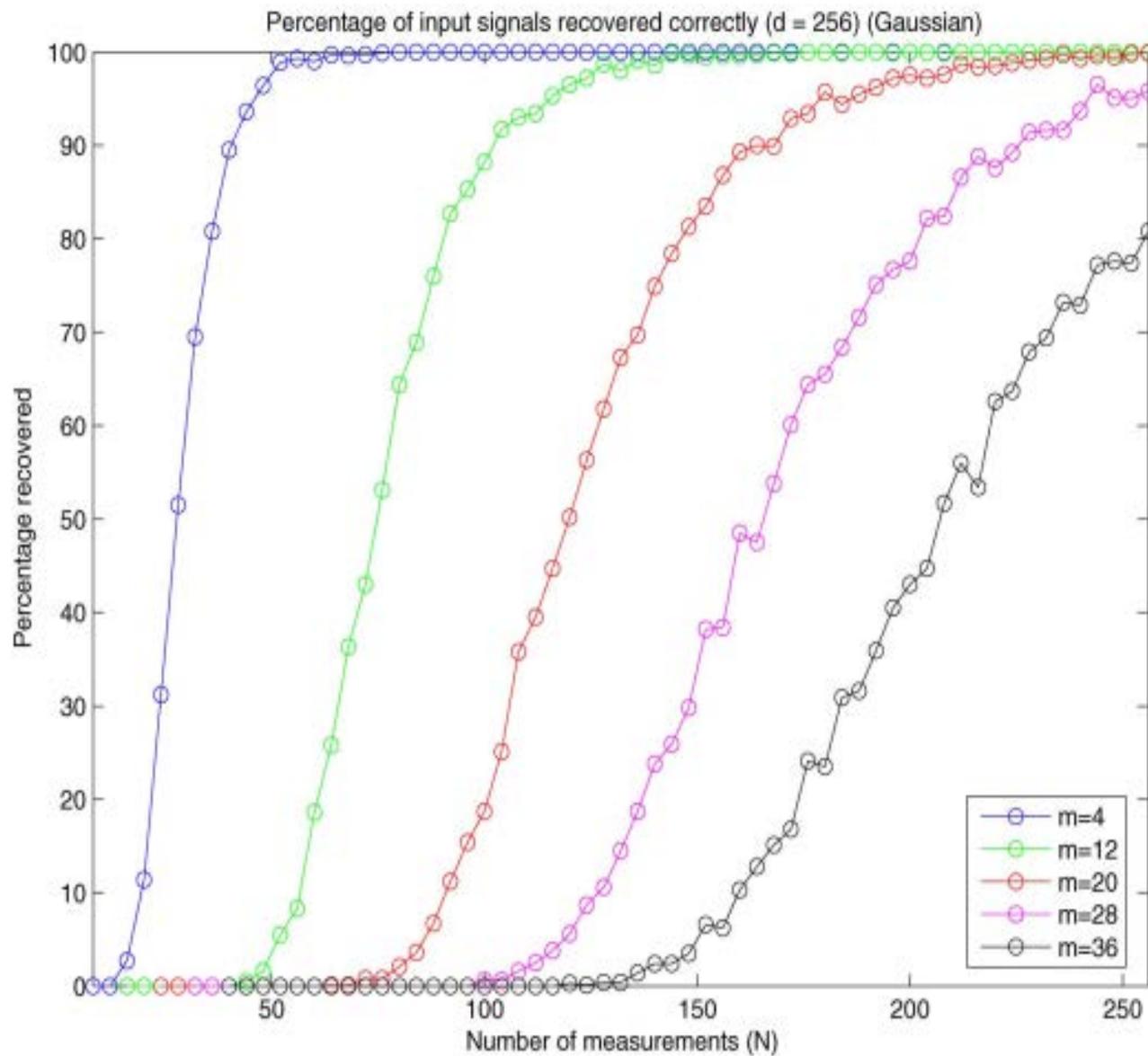
- Worst case coherence is defined as the maximum absolute cross – correlation among the columns of the sensing matrix, in other words  $\mu := \max_{i \neq j} |\langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle|$
- Average case coherence is defined as the maximum among all the absolute values of row averages (excluding the diagonal in that row) of the Gram matrix  $\Phi^T \Phi$ , in other words,

$$\nu := \frac{1}{N-1} \max_i \left| \sum_{j:i \neq j} \langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle \right|$$

- Tropp. [4] gives recovery condition in terms of  $\mu$  as  $\mu < \frac{1}{2K-1}$
- Chi and Calderbank. [5] give conditions  $\mu < \frac{1}{240 \log N}$ , and

$$\nu < \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{M}}, \text{ with } N \geq 128$$

- Tropp and Gilbert. [6] have shown that OMP can indeed recover a  $K$  – sparse vector with very high probability if an "uncorrelated" (that is the mutual correlation between the columns of the matrix is very low with high probability) sensing matrices are used : specifically, if  $\delta \in (0, 0.36)$ , and if an "admissible" sensing matrix  $\Phi$  is chosen with dimension  $M \times N$ , with  $M \geq C \ln(N\delta)$ , for some constant  $C$ , then, OMP can recover the original,  $K$  – sparse vector  $\mathbf{x}$  from the measurements  $\mathbf{y} = \Phi\mathbf{x}$ , with probability exceeding  $1 - \delta$



## OMP with more than $K$ iterations

- Recently a variant of OMP has been studied where OMP is run for more than  $K$  iterations, where  $K$  is the sparsity of the unknown vector
- Allowing the algorithm to run for more iterations improve the recovery condition
  - Recovery conditions found by Zhang : OMP can recover a  $K$  sparse vector with  $30K$  iterations if  $\delta_{31K} < \frac{1}{3}$
  - Recovery conditions found by Livshitz : OMP reconstructs a  $K$  sparse signals in  $\left[ \alpha\sqrt{K} \right]$  , if  $\delta_{\alpha\sqrt{K}} = \frac{\beta}{\sqrt{K}}$  for proper choices of  $\alpha, \beta$  ( $\alpha \sim 2 \cdot 10^6$ ,  $\beta \sim 10^{-6}$ )

- Sahoo and Makur [7] has shown that if OMP is allowed to run for  $K + \lfloor \alpha K \rfloor$  iterations ( $\alpha \in [0,1]$ ), the algorithm can recover a  $K$  sparse vector with high probability with only

$\mathcal{O}\left(K \ln \frac{n}{\lfloor \alpha K \rfloor + 1}\right)$  measurements, pretty close to the number of

measurements required for success for Basis pursuit, that is

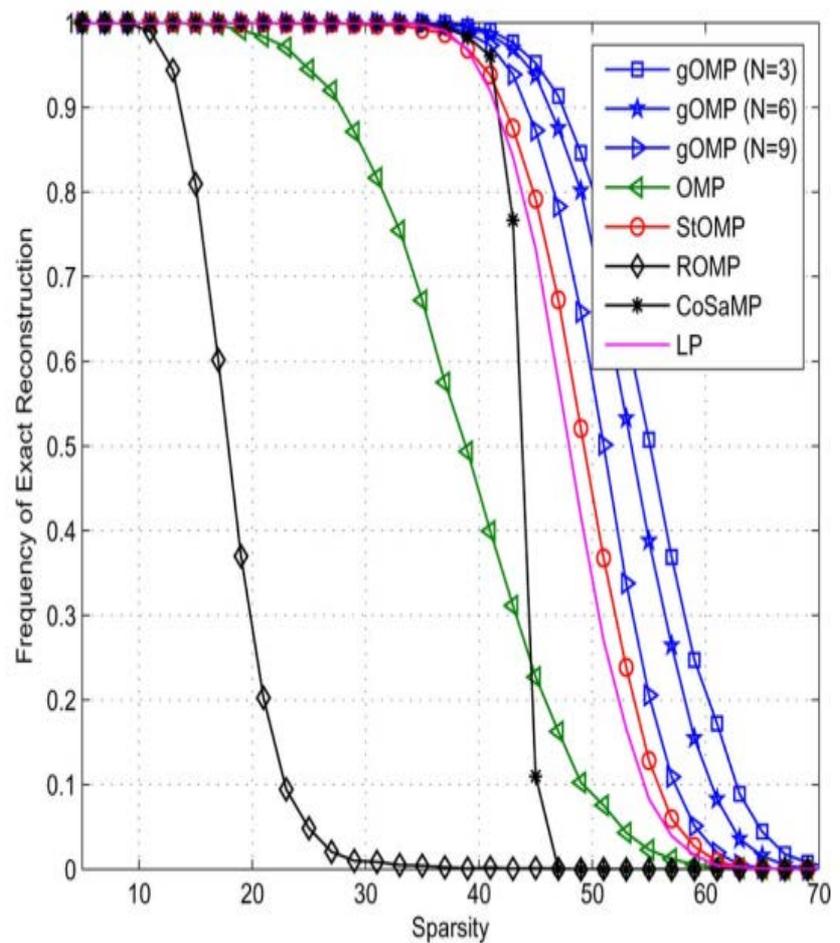
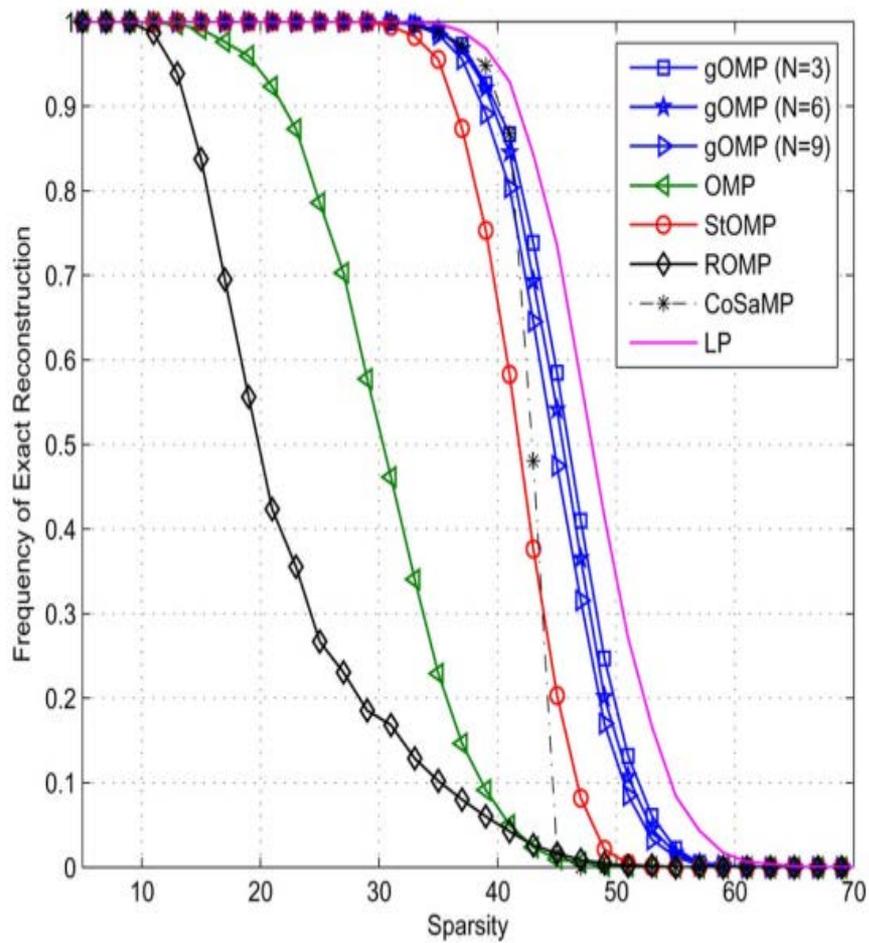
$$\mathcal{O}\left(K \ln \frac{n}{K}\right)$$

# Generalized orthogonal matching pursuit

- Wang. et.al [8] proposed a generalized orthogonal matching pursuit algorithm (gOMP) where at the augmentation step, instead of augmenting one index,  $N(N \geq 1)$  indices are added, which are chosen according to decreasing order of absolute correlation with the residual vector.
- Recovery conditions for this algorithm are given as

- $\delta_{KN} < \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{K} + 3\sqrt{N}}$  [8]

- $\delta_{KN} < \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{K} + 2\sqrt{N}}, \delta_{NK+1} < \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{K} + \sqrt{N}}$  [9]



Courtesy of Wang et.al. [8].

# Orthogonal least squares

- OLS has the same functional structure as OMP
- The key difference is in the identification step:
  - Recall that OMP searches for a new index by finding the largest among the absolute correlations  $|\langle \phi_i, \mathbf{r}^k \rangle|$
  - OLS searches for an index such that inclusion of the corresponding column will minimize the projection error, i.e., find the index  $i$  such that  $\|\mathbf{P}_{T^k \cup \{i\}}^\perp \mathbf{r}^k\|^2$  is minimized where  $i$  is searched over all indices in  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} \setminus T^k$

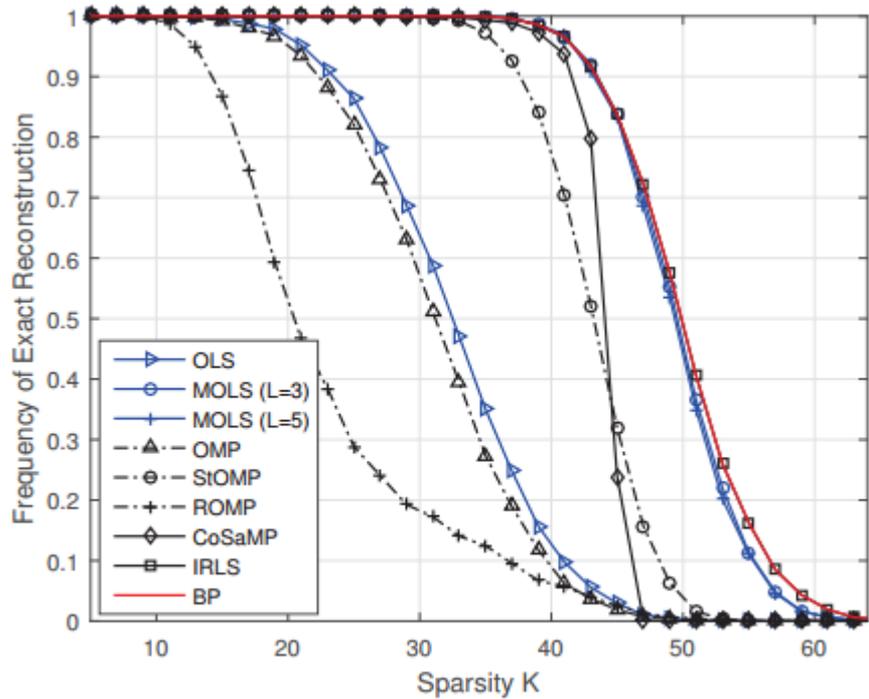
- There seems to be not much work on OLS in the literature.
- Soussen et.al [10] has numerically shown that OLS has uniformly higher recovery probability compared to OMP.
- Mukhopadhyay et.al [11] has tried to characterize the recovery performance of OLS in terms of recovery probability and explained why OLS has higher recovery probability, compared to OMP, in correlated dictionaries.

# Multiple Orthogonal least squares

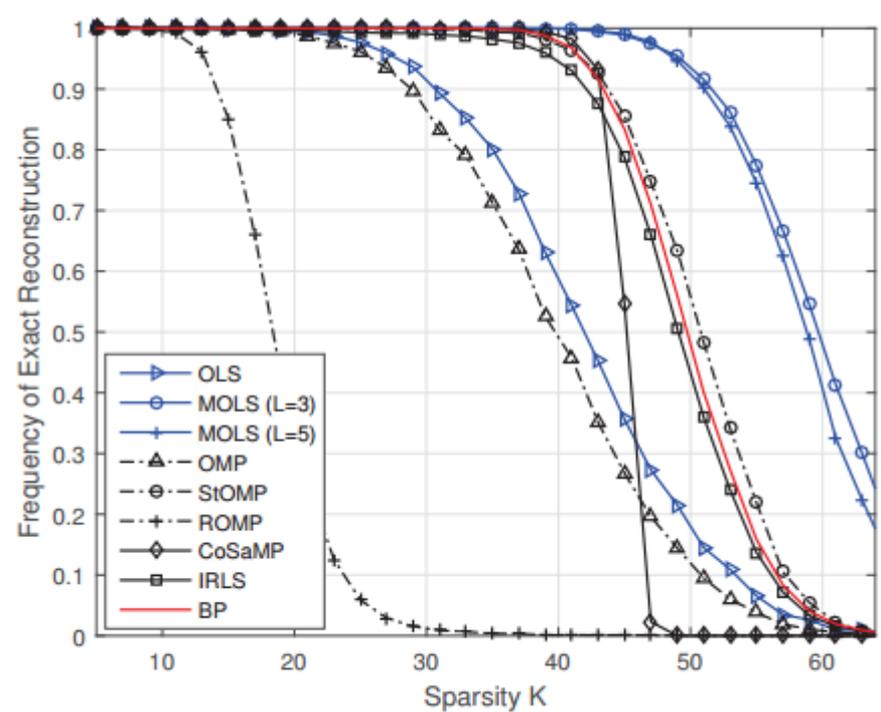
- MOLS is a generalization of OLS, proposed by Wang et.al [12].
- The generalization is realized in identification step, where instead of choosing one new index, a set of  $L$  indices ( $L \geq 1$ ) is chosen such that the sum of projection errors by individually appending an atom from that set is minimized, i.e.

$$\sum_{i \in S} \left\| \mathbf{P}_{T^k \cup \{i\}}^\perp \mathbf{r}^k \right\|^2 \text{ is minimized.}$$

- A recovery condition has been found by them :  $\delta_{LK} < \frac{\sqrt{L}}{\sqrt{K} + 2\sqrt{L}}$ .



(b) Sparse 2-PAM signal



(a) Sparse Gaussian signal.

Courtesy of Wang et.al. [8].

# Compressive sampling matching pursuit (CoSaMP)

**Input** : Measurement vector  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , sensing matrix  $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  
sparsity level  $K$ , initial estimate  $\mathbf{x}^0$ ,  $\epsilon$

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**Initialize** : counter  $k = 0$

**While** ( $\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k\|_2 > \epsilon$ )

*Identification* :  $h^{k+1} = \text{supp}\left(H_{2K}\left(\Phi^T(\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k)\right)\right)$

*Augmentation* :  $U^{k+1} = S^k \cup h^{k+1}$  where  $S^k = \text{supp}(\mathbf{x}^k)$

*Estimation* :  $\mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \text{supp}(\mathbf{u}) \subset U^{k+1}} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{u}\|_2$

*Update* :  $\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = H_{2K}(\mathbf{u}^{k+1})$

$k = k + 1$

**End While**

---

**Output** :  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x}^{k-1}$

---

- Needell and Tropp. [13] proposed CoSaMP as a sparse signal recovery algorithm. They proved the following recovery condition :

- Let the measurement model be given by  $\mathbf{y} = \Phi \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}$  where  $\mathbf{x}$  is  $K$  – sparse and where  $\mathbf{e}$  is the measurement noise vector. Then, for each iteration  $k \geq 0$ , the signal approximation  $\mathbf{x}^k$  satisfies:

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{k+1}\|_2 \leq 0.5 \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^k\|_2 + 10 \|\mathbf{e}\|_2,$$

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^k\|_2 \leq 2^{-k} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 + 20 \|\mathbf{e}\|_2$$

- Foucart [14] later improved the recovery condition to

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^k\|_2 \leq \rho^k \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^0\|_2 + \tau \|\mathbf{e}\|_2 \text{ where } \rho \text{ and } \tau \text{ depend on}$$

$$\delta_{4K}, \text{ and } \delta_{4K} < \sqrt{\frac{5}{4 + \sqrt{73}}} \approx 0.3847.$$

- Satpathi and Chakraborty [15] showed that the number of iterations for the convergence of the CoSaMP algorithm is

$$\lceil cK \rceil, \text{ where } c = \frac{\log(4 / \rho_{4K}^2)}{\log(1 / \rho_{4K}^2)}, \text{ where } \rho_{4K} = \sqrt{\frac{2\delta_{4K}^2 (1 + \delta_{4K}^2)}{1 - \delta_{4K}^2}}$$

# Subspace Pursuit (SP)

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**Input :** Measurement vector  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , sensing matrix  $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  
sparsity level  $K$ , initial estimate  $\mathbf{x}^0$ ,  $\epsilon$

---

**Initialize :** counter  $k = 0$

**While** ( $\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k\|_2 > \epsilon$ )

*Identification :*  $h^{k+1} = \text{supp}\left(H_K\left(\Phi^T(\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k)\right)\right)$

*Augmentation :*  $U^{k+1} = S^k \cup h^{k+1}$  where  $S^k = \text{supp}(\mathbf{x}^k)$

*Estimation :*  $\mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}: \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \text{supp}(\mathbf{u}) \subset U^k} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{u}\|_2$

*Update :*  $S^{k+1} = \text{supp}(\mathbf{u}^{k+1})$

$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}: \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \text{supp}(\mathbf{u}) \subset S^{k+1}} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{u}\|_2$

$k = k + 1$

**End While**

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**Output :**  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x}^{k-1}$

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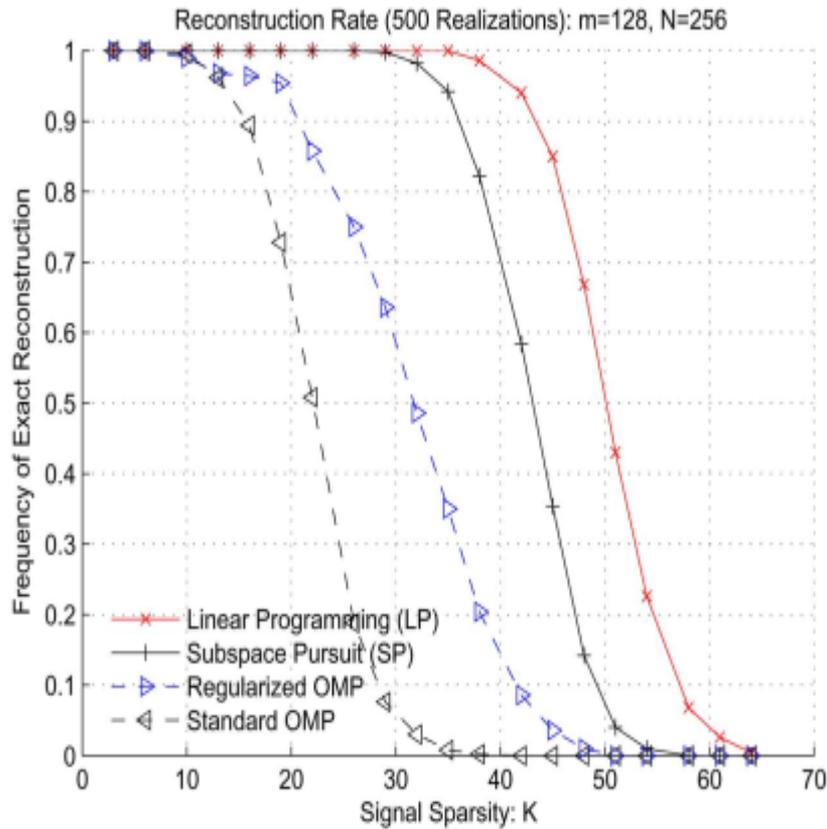
- Dai and Milenkovic [16] proposed SP almost at the same time Needel and Tropp proposed CoSaMP.
  - SP is quite similar to CoSaMP with the difference that SP has to compute two orthogonal projections, while CoSaMP requires to compute only one projection.
  - Dai and Milenkovic showed that if  $\mathbf{x}$  is a  $K$  sparse unknown vector and  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}$  is the measurement vector with the sensing matrix  $\mathbf{\Phi}$  satisfying  $\delta_{3K} < 0.165$ , then, SP converges to the unknown vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in a finite number of steps.
  - Dai and Milenkovic also found an upper bound for the number of iterations necessary for SP to converge as

$$n_{\text{it}} \leq \min \left\{ \frac{\log \rho_{\min}}{\log c_K} + 1, \frac{125K}{-\log c_K} \right\}, \text{ where}$$

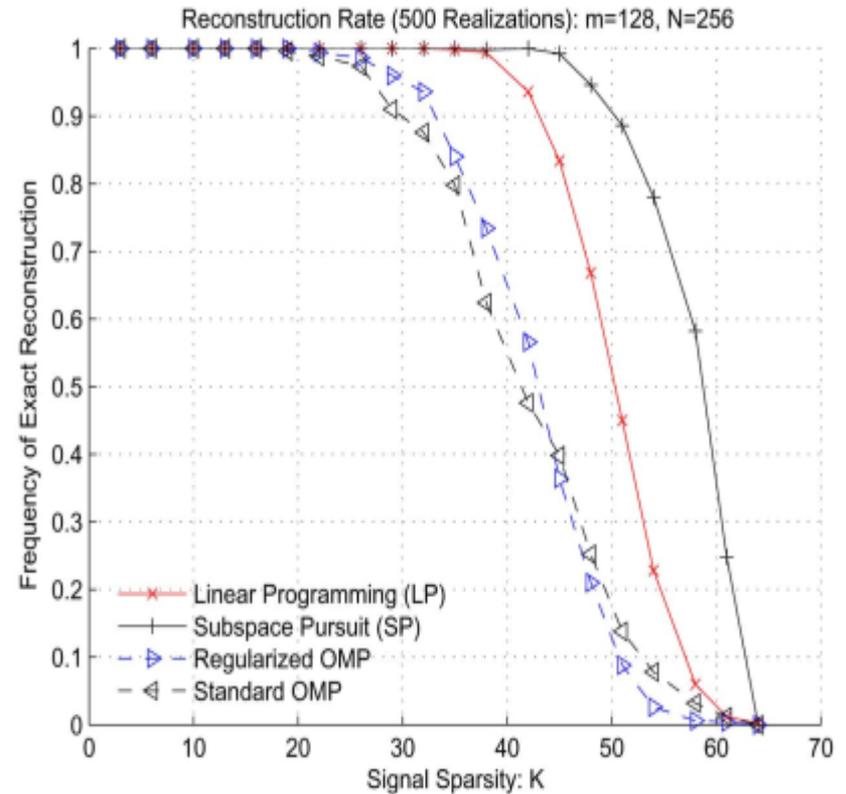
$$\rho_{\min} = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i| / \|\mathbf{x}\|, \text{ and } c_K := \frac{2\delta_{3K}(1 + \delta_{3K})}{(1 - \delta_{3K})^3}$$

- Satpathi and Chakraborty [15] later found the number of iterations for convergence to  $\lceil ck \rceil$ , where  $c = \frac{\log(4 / \rho_{3K}^2)}{\log(1 / \rho_{4K}^2)}$ ,

where  $\rho_{mK} := \sqrt{\frac{2\delta_{mK}^2 (1 + \delta_{mK}^2)}{1 - \delta_{mK}^2}}$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .



(b) Simulations for zero-one sparse signals: both OMP and ROMP starts to fail when  $K \geq 10$ ,  $\ell_1$ -LP begins to fail when  $K \geq 35$ , and the SP algorithm fails when  $K \geq 29$ .



(a) Simulations for Gaussian sparse signals: OMP and ROMP start to fail when  $K \geq 19$  and when  $K \geq 22$  respectively,  $\ell_1$ -LP begins to fail when  $K \geq 35$ , and the SP algorithm fails only when  $K \geq 45$ .

Courtesy Dai and Milenkovic [16]

# Iterated Hard Thresholding (IHT)

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**Input :** Measurement vector  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , sensing matrix  $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  
sparsity level  $K$ , initial estimate  $\mathbf{x}^0$ ,  $\epsilon$

---

**Initialize :** counter  $k = 0$

**While** (  $\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k\|_2 > \epsilon$  )

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = H_K \left( \mathbf{x}^k + \Phi^T (\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k) \right)$$

$$k = k + 1$$

**End While**

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**Output :**  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x}^{k-1}$

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- This algorithm is motivated by the constrained gradient descent approach :

- The IHT algorithm solves the following problem :

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}: \|\mathbf{x}\|_0 \leq K} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$

- The problem is non – convex in nature as the constraint set is non – convex.
- However, an heuristic approach is to use gradient descent to first solve the unconstrained convex problem  $\min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}\|_2^2$  by the following update at each step

$$\mathbf{x}^k + \mu \Phi^T (\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k)$$

then restrict each update of the gradient descent to a  $K$  – sparse vector.

- This amounts to projecting the gradient descent update on the

*union of the  $\binom{n}{K}$  subspaces containing  $K$  – sparse vectors*

- The resulting update becomes

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = H_K(\mathbf{x}^k + \mu\Phi^T(\mathbf{y} - \Phi\mathbf{x}^k))$$

- The “heuristic” approach of deriving IHT has been formalized by Blumensath and Gilbert [17].
  - Instead of directly solving the actual constrained optimization problem, they attempt to solve another constrained optimization problem where the objective function is a majorization of the actual objective function, with the constraint set unchanged.
  - Specifically, they define the following functional :
 
$$C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 - \|\Phi\mathbf{x} - \Phi\mathbf{z}\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|_2^2$$
  - Note that  $C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x})$  is the actual objective function, and under the condition  $\|\Phi\|_{2 \rightarrow 2} < 1$ ,  $C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) \leq C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{z}$ .

- Thus the prescription for the minimization follows the so called “Maximization – Minimization” (MM) approach, formally,  
$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}: \|\mathbf{u}\|_0 \leq K} C(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}^k), \forall k \geq 0.$$
- The updates turn out to be the updates of IHT.
- Also note that,  $C(\mathbf{x}^{k+1}, \mathbf{x}^{k+1}) \leq C(\mathbf{x}^{k+1}, \mathbf{x}^k) \leq C(\mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{x}^k)$ , where the first inequality follows from the majorization property, and the second inequality follows from the minimization property.

- A very simple convergence proof has been given by Foucart [14]
  - Assume the measurement model  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}$ , with the unknown  $\mathbf{x}$  having known sparsity  $K$
  - Then, from the  $k^{\text{th}}$  update of IHT, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{x}^{k+1} - (\mathbf{x}^k + \mathbf{\Phi}^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}^k))\|_2^2 &\leq \|\mathbf{x} - (\mathbf{x}^k + \mathbf{\Phi}^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}^k))\|_2^2 \\ \Rightarrow \|\mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2 &\leq 2\langle \mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^k + \mathbf{\Phi}^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}^k) - \mathbf{x} \rangle \\ \Rightarrow \|\mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2 &\leq 2\langle \mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{\Phi}^T\mathbf{\Phi})(\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{x}) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- Let the supports of  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^k$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^{k+1}$  be  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Lambda_k$ ,  $\Lambda_{k+1}$  respectively, and let  $V_{k+1} = \Lambda \cup \Lambda_k \cup \Lambda_{k+1}$ , so that  $|V_{k+1}| \leq 3K$ .
- The, it follows from Cauchy – Scwartz inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2 &\leq 2 \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{V_{k+1}}^T \mathbf{\Phi}_{V_{k+1}}\|_{2 \rightarrow 2} \|\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \\ \Rightarrow \|\mathbf{x}^{k+1} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 &\leq 2\delta_{3K} \|\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\mathbf{x}^k \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ , as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , if  $\delta_{3K} < \frac{1}{2}$

# Hard Thresholding Pursuit (HTP)

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**Input :** Measurement vector  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , sensing matrix  $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  
sparsity level  $K$ , initial estimate  $\mathbf{x}^0$ ,  $\epsilon$

---

**Initialize :** counter  $k = 0$

**While** (  $\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k\|_2 > \epsilon$  )

$$L^{k+1} = \text{supp} \left( H_K \left( \mathbf{x}^k + \Phi^T (\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{x}^k) \right) \right)$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}: \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \text{supp}(\mathbf{u}) \subset L^{k+1}} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{u}\|_2$$

$$k = k + 1$$

**End While**

---

**Output :**  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x}^{k-1}$

---

- Foucart [18] proposed HTP motivated by the observation that the number of iterations taken by IHT to converge can be reduced by taking orthogonal projections of the updates on the set of  $K$  indices found at an iteration
- Foucart found the recovery condition for HTP for perfect measurements to be  $\delta_{3K} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$
- Bouchot et.al [19] has found an upper bound on the number of iteration that HTP take to converge, as  $n \leq cK$ , where  $c$  is a constant such that  $c \leq 3$ , whenever,  $\delta_{3K} \leq 1/\sqrt{5}$

# Hard Thresholding Pursuit (HTP)

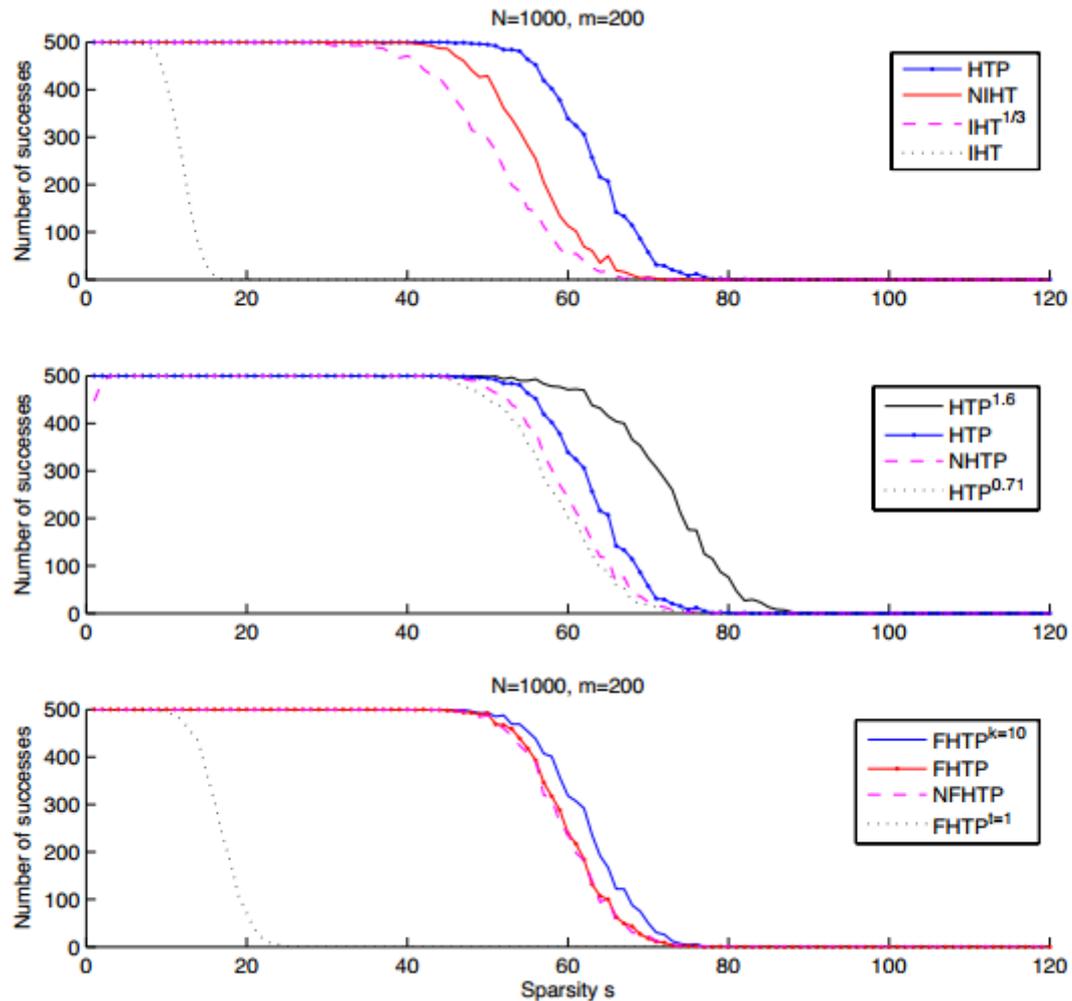


FIG. 4.2. Number of successes for IHT and HTP algorithms (Gaussian matrices and vectors)

Courtesy of Foucart [18].

# Models of sparsity

# Block sparsity

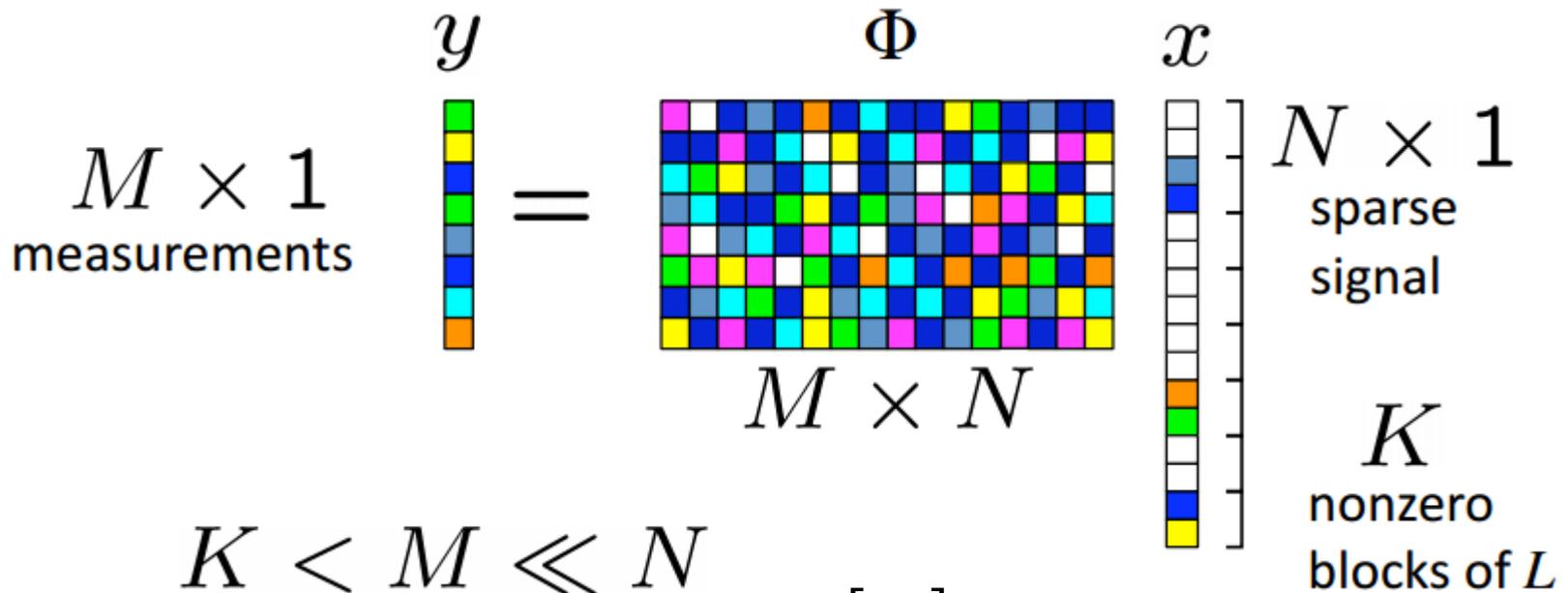
- These are sparse vectors where the non – zero coefficients occur in clusters.

- Let a vector can be written as

$$\mathbf{x} = [x_1 \cdots x_d \ x_{d+1} \cdots x_{2d} \cdots x_{N-d+1} \cdots x_N]^T. \text{ Let } N = Ld,$$

and let  $\mathbf{x}[l] := [x_{(l-1)d+1} \cdots x_{ld}]^T$ , so that each of these  $\mathbf{x}[\cdot]$

represents a block of length  $d$ .

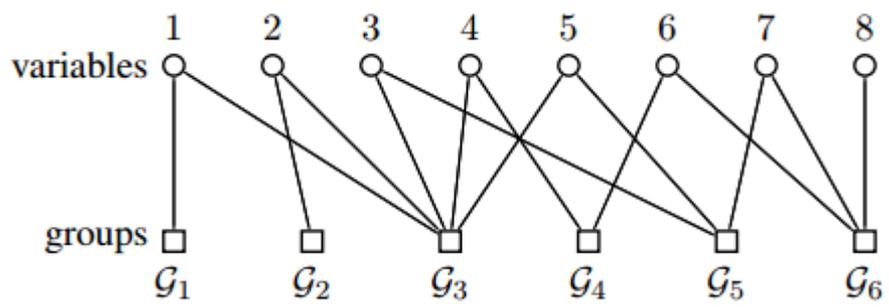


- The block sparsity has been defined [20] as.

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_{2,0} = \sum_{l=1}^L I(\|\mathbf{x}[l]\|_2 > 0)$$

# Group Sparsity

- A generalization of block sparsity, where the blocks may not be overlapping
- Consider a set of indices  $\mathcal{N} = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , and consider a class  $\mathfrak{G}$ , called a group structure, which is a collection of some subsets of  $\mathcal{N}$ , i.e,  $\mathfrak{G} = \{\mathcal{G}_1, \dots, \mathcal{G}_L\}$ , such that  $\mathcal{G}_i \subseteq \mathcal{N}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq L$ , and  $\bigcup_{\mathcal{G} \in \mathfrak{G}} \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{N}$
- A vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is called a  $G$  – *group – sparse* vector [21] with respect to the group structure  $\mathfrak{G}$ , if the support of  $\mathbf{x}$  is contained in the union of at most  $G$  groups form the group structure  $\mathfrak{G}$



# Union of Subspace (UoS) model and Model sparse signals

- Another generalization of block sparse model that tries to capture the effect of overlapping blocks
- Let  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  be a  $K$  – sparse vector, but with unknown support, i.e. the support of  $\mathbf{x}$  can be any of the  $\binom{N}{K}$  supports of cardinality  $K$ , numbered as  $\Lambda_1$  through  $\Lambda_{\binom{N}{K}}$
- For each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \binom{N}{K}$ , define the sets
$$\mathcal{V}_i = \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^N \mid u_i = 0 \ \forall i \in \Lambda_i\}$$
- It is not difficult to see that each  $V_i$  is a subspace of dimension  $K$ , but are, in general, overlapping, that is, in general,  $\mathcal{V}_i \cap \mathcal{V}_j \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\} \neq \emptyset$

- Thus,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{U}$  where  $\mathcal{U} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{K}} \mathcal{V}_i$
- In general, let  $\mathcal{M}_K = \cup_{i=1}^{m_K} \mathcal{V}_i$ , where  $1 \leq m_K \leq \binom{N}{K}$  then  $\mathcal{M}_K$  defines the  $K$  – model sparse signal model and the elements of  $\mathcal{M}_K$  are called the  $K$  – model sparse signals.

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