

# To Grid or Not To Grid

## Atomic Methods for Sparse Inverse Problems

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under the direction of  
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co-supervision of  
Dr. Julien Fageot  
Dr. Matthieu Simeoni



June 12th, 2025



# Atomic Methods for Sparse Inverse Problems

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$$

$\in \mathbb{R}^L$        $\in \mathbb{R}^N$        $L \leq N$

On Grid

Deconvolution

Inpainting

Fourier sampling

# Atomic Methods for Sparse Inverse Problems

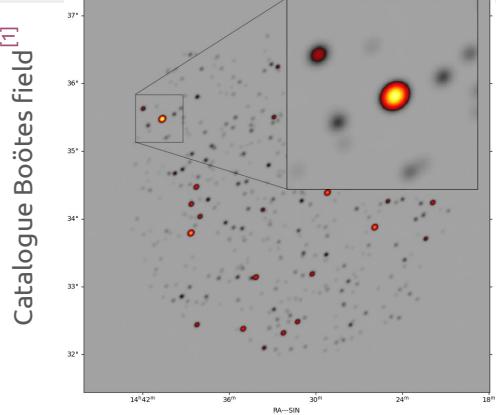
$$\mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathbf{f}) + \mathbf{n}$$

Super resolution

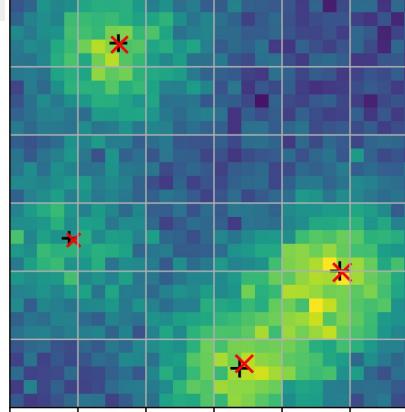
SMLM

$$\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Off-the-Grid

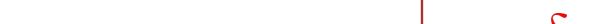


Continuous-Domain Gaussian deconvolution [*Chapter 5*]



$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$$
$$\mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathbf{f}) + \mathbf{n}$$

# Atomic Methods for **Sparse** Inverse Problems

$$m = \dots$$


[1] Williams WL et al., "LOFAR 150-MHz observations of the Boötes field: catalogue and source counts.", *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 2016

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} E(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{Ax}) + \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)} E(\mathbf{y}, \Phi(\mathbf{m})) + \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{m})$$

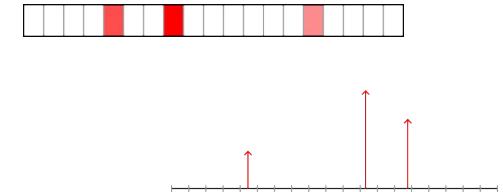
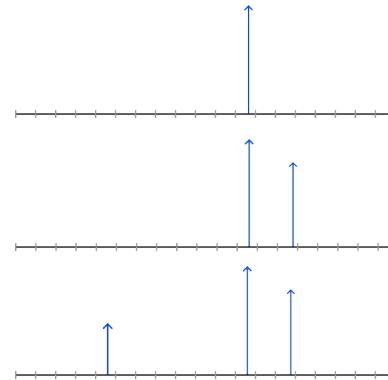
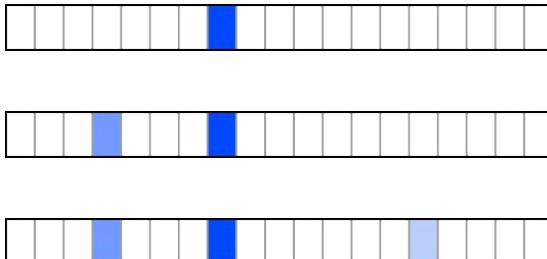
$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{n}$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \Phi(f) + \mathbf{n}$$

- Compressed sensing theory
- Representer theorems

## Principled

# Atomic Methods for Sparse Inverse Problems



# 1. The PolyCLEAN Journey

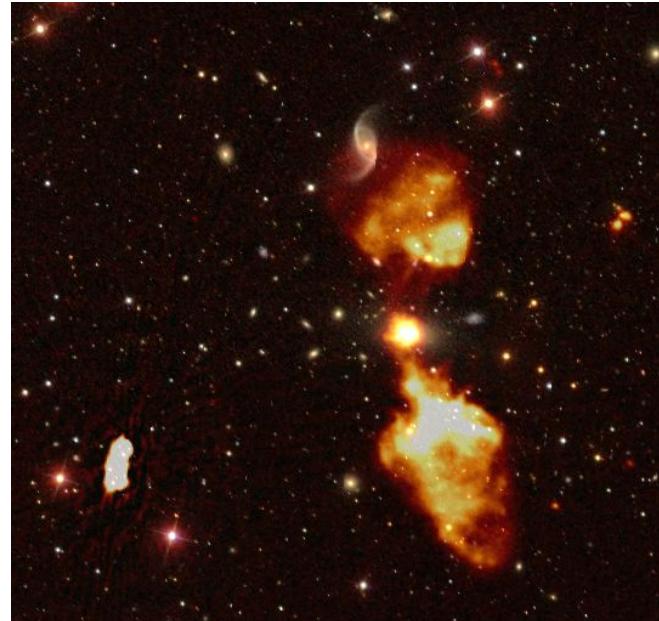
- a. Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe  
for the LASSO
- b. A competitive Imaging Framework

## 2. Reconstruction beyond the Grid

- a. Another Polyatomic Approach
- b. Decoupling of Composite  
Sparse-plus-Smooth problems

## 3. Conclusion

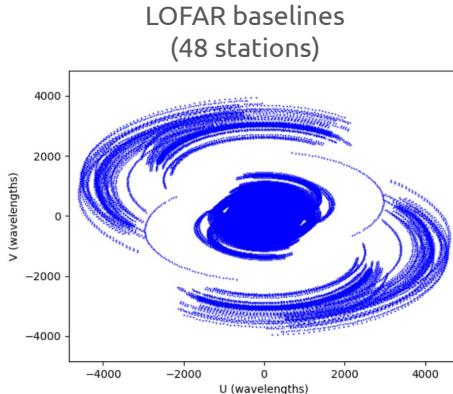
Chapter 7



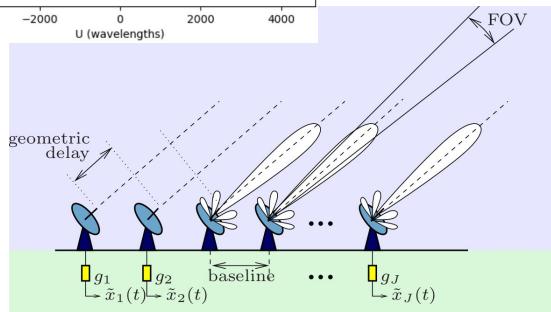
[ Credits: C. Tasse and the LOFAR surveys team.]

# Radio Interferometric Imaging

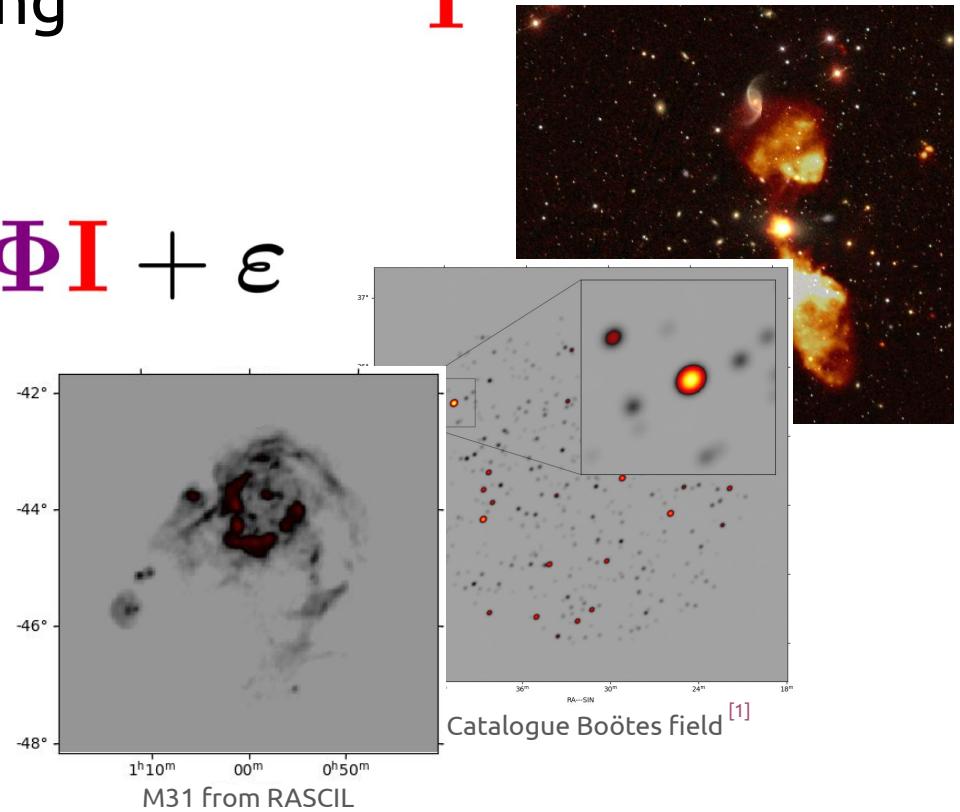
I



$\Phi$



$$\mathbf{V} = \boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$



[1] Williams WL et al., "LOFAR 150-MHz observations of the Boötes field: catalogue and source counts.", *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 2016

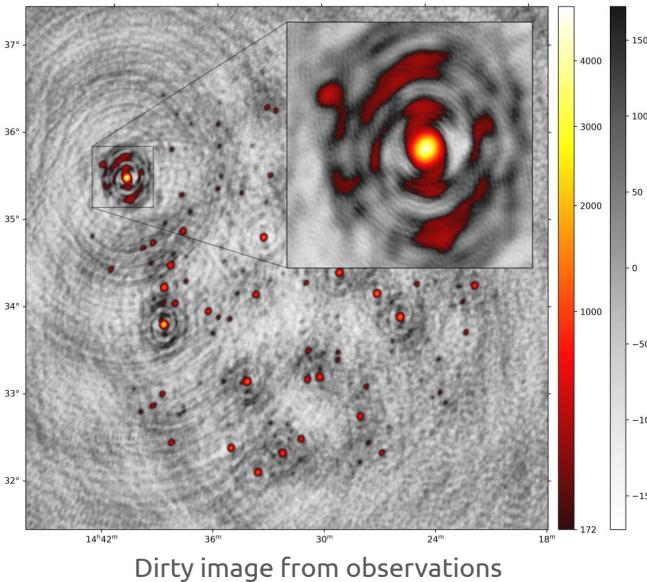
[2] Van der Veen et al. "Signal Processing for Radio Astronomy", 2019

[Credits: C. Tasse and the LOFAR surveys team.]

# Radio Interferometric Imaging - Dirty Image

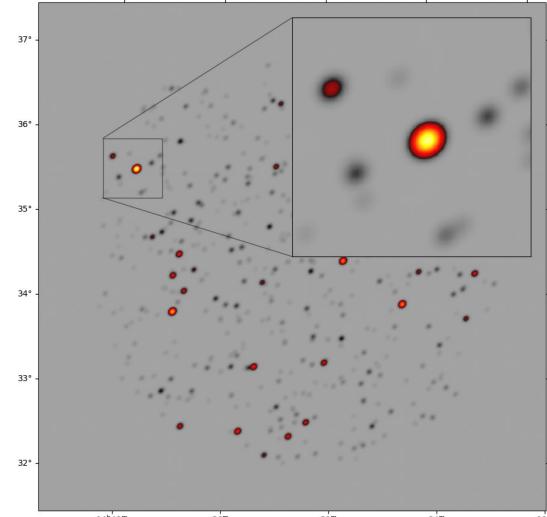
$$\mathbf{V} = \Phi \mathbf{I} + \epsilon$$

$$\mathbf{I}_D = \Phi^* \mathbf{V}$$



Dirty image from observations

**I**



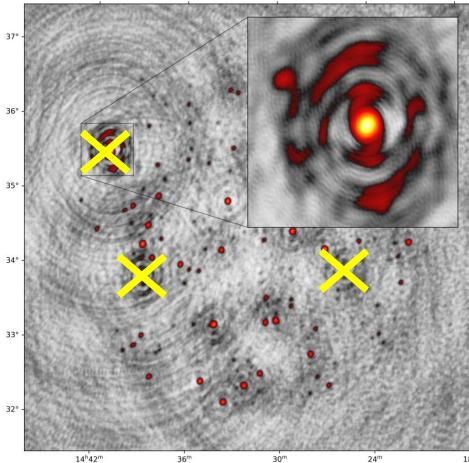
Catalogue Boötes field [1]

[1] Williams WL et al., "LOFAR 150-MHz observations of the Boötes field: catalogue and source counts.", *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 2016

# Classical Approaches

## The CLEAN family<sup>[3]</sup>

$I_D$



Intuitive and simple method,  
long-developed and fast



Sensitive to stop, objective function  
unclear, physically impossible artefacts

[3] Högbom JA, "Aperture Synthesis with a Non-Regular Distribution of Interferometer Baselines", *Astronomy and Astrophysics Supplement Series*, 1974.

## Optimization-based Methods<sup>[4]</sup>

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{I} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{I}\|_2^2 + \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{I})$$



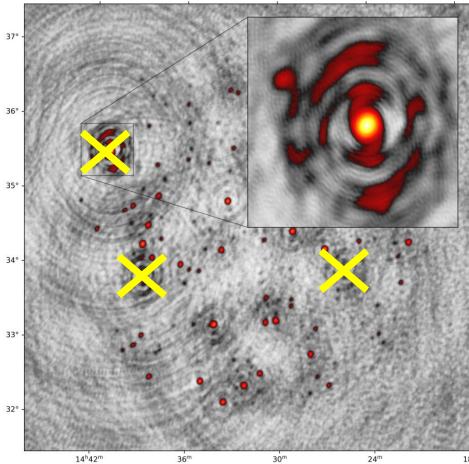
Controlled solutions, versatile priors,  
excellent results, additional tools

[4] Wiaux Y. et al., "Compressed sensing imaging techniques for radio interferometry", *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 2009.

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- ✓ Intuitive and simple method, long-developed and fast
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## Optimization-based Methods<sup>[4]</sup>

$$\underset{\mathbf{I} \in \mathbb{R}^N}{\arg \min} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \mathbf{I}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{I}\|_1$$

LASSO

- ✓ Controlled solutions, versatile priors, excellent results, additional tools
- ✗ Numerically heavy, little adoption in the field

[4] Wiaux Y. et al., "Compressed sensing imaging techniques for radio interferometry", *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 2009.

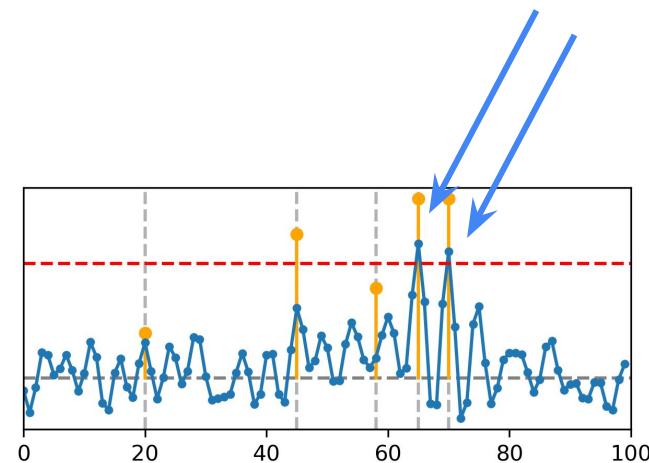
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- a. **Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe  
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- b. A competitive Imaging Framework

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## 3. Conclusion



# The Vanilla Frank-Wolfe Algorithm

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}} \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x})$$

- $\mathcal{J}$  : Convex, differentiable
- $\mathcal{D}$  : Convex, bounded domain

---

## Algorithm 1: Vanilla Frank-Wolfe algorithm [5]

---

Initialize  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathcal{D}$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

1) Find an update direction:

$$\mathbf{s}_k \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{D}} \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}_k) + \langle \nabla \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}_k), (\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{x}_k) \rangle$$

2.a) Step size:  $\gamma_k \leftarrow 2/(k+2)$

2.b) Reweight:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow (1 - \gamma_k)\mathbf{x}_k + \gamma_k \mathbf{s}_k = \mathbf{x}_k + \gamma_k (\mathbf{s}_k - \mathbf{x}_k)$$

---

[5] Frank M, Wolfe P., "An algorithm for quadratic programming", *Naval Research Logistics Quarterly*, 1956.

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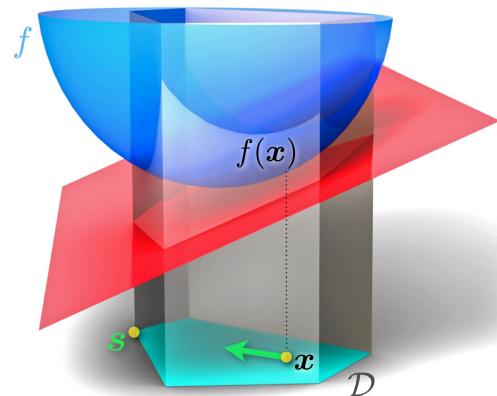
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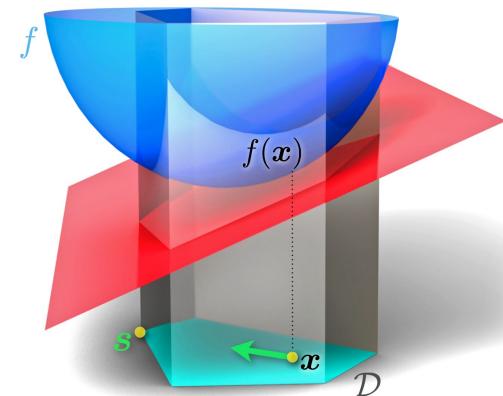
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Convergence<sup>[6]</sup>:

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}_k) - \mathcal{J}^* = \mathcal{O}(1/k)$$

[5] Frank M, Wolfe P., "An algorithm for quadratic programming", *Naval Research Logistics Quarterly*, 1956.

[6] Jaggi M., "Revisiting Frank-Wolfe: Projection-Free Sparse Convex Optimization", *Proceedings of the 30th International Conference on Machine Learning, PMLR*, 2013.

# Frank-Wolfe for the LASSO

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_1$$

[7, 8]

---

**Algorithm 2:** Vanilla Frank-Wolfe algorithm

---

Initialize  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathcal{D}$

for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  do

1) Find an update direction:

$$\mathbf{s}_k = \mathbf{e}_{i_k} \text{ with } i_k = \arg \max_{k \in \{1, \dots, N\}} |\boldsymbol{\eta}_k|$$

2.a) Step size:  $\gamma_k \leftarrow 2/(k+2)$

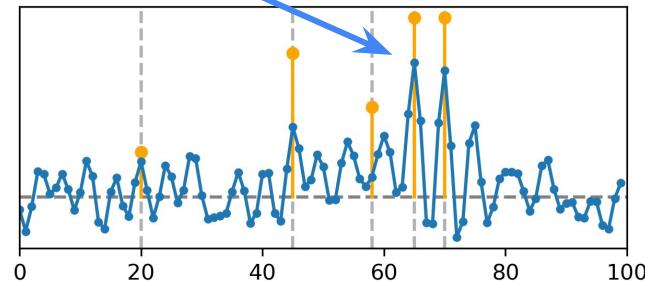
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Canonical basis vector

Empirical dual certificate

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}_k = \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathbf{A}^* (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{Ax}_k)$$



[7] Denoyelle Q et al. "The sliding Frank–Wolfe algorithm and its application to super-resolution microscopy", *Inverse Problems*, 2019.

[8] Harchaoui Z. et al., "Conditional gradient algorithms for machine learning", *NIPS Workshop on Optimization for ML*, 2013.

# Our Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_1$$

---

**Algorithm 3:** Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe algorithm of quality  $\delta^{[9]}$

---

Initialize  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_0 = \emptyset$

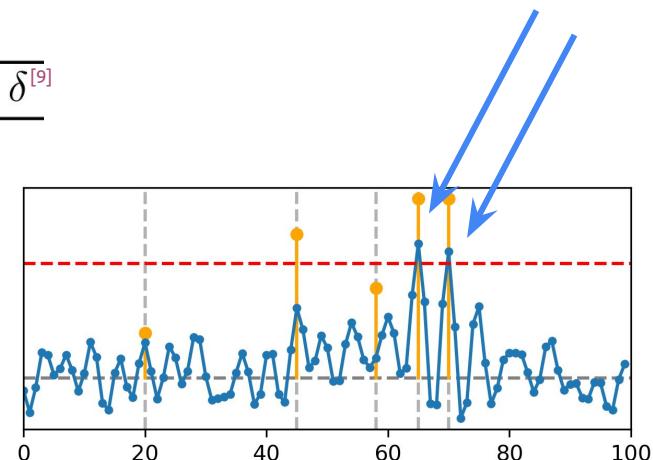
**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

1) Find update directions:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_k &\leftarrow \{1 \leq j \leq N : |\boldsymbol{\eta}_k[j]| \geq \|\boldsymbol{\eta}_k\|_\infty - \delta/k\} \\ \mathcal{S}_k &\leftarrow \mathcal{S}_{k-1} \cup \mathcal{I}_k \end{aligned}$$

2) Reweight:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \underset{\text{Supp}(\mathbf{x}) \subset \mathcal{S}_k}{\arg \min} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_1$$



[9] Jarret A, Fageot J, Simeoni M. "A Fast and Scalable Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the LASSO", IEEE Signal Processing Letters, 2022.

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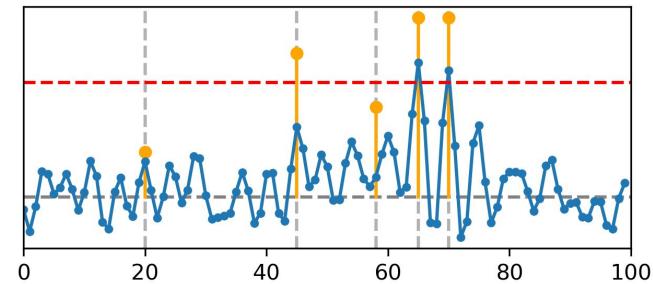
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$|\mathcal{S}_k| \ll N$

[9] Jarret A, Fageot J, Simeoni M. "A Fast and Scalable Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the LASSO", IEEE Signal Processing Letters, 2022.

# Benefits of Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe

- Polyatomic → **Fast**  $\mathcal{S}_k \leftarrow \mathcal{S}_{k-1} \cup \mathcal{I}_k$
- Sparse iterates → **Scalable**  $\mathbf{x}_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N_k} \alpha_i^{[k]} \mathbf{e}_i^{[k]}$
- Convergence → **Principled**

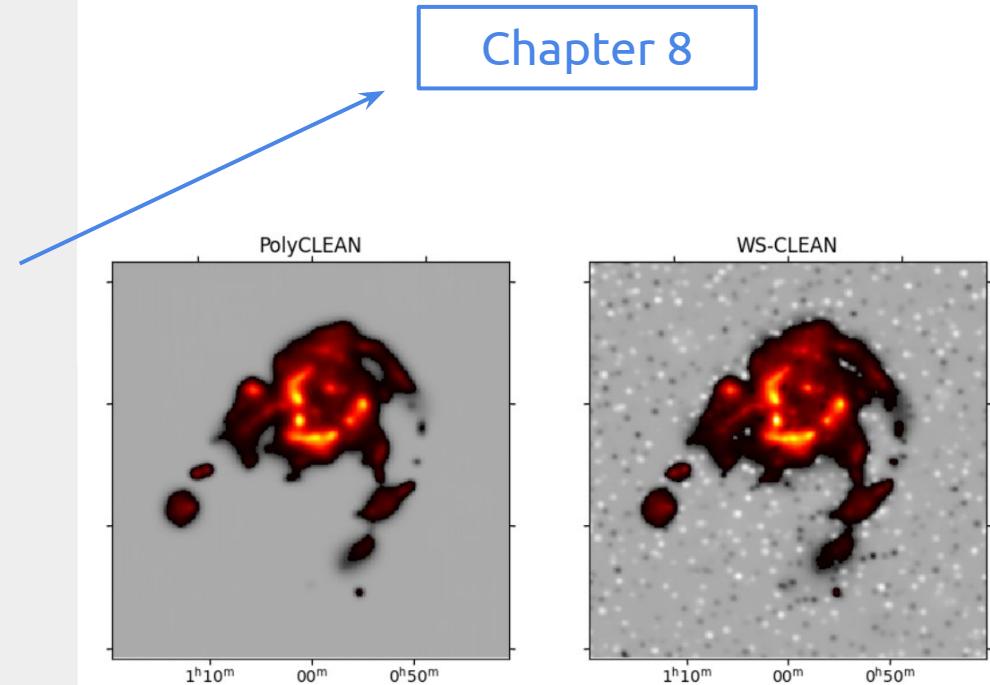
**Theorem 3.2** (Convergence of Polyatomic FW).<sup>[9]</sup>

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}_k) - \mathcal{J}^* \leq \frac{2}{k+2} (C_f + 2\delta)$$

[9] Jarret A, Fageot J, Simeoni M. "A Fast and Scalable Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the LASSO", *IEEE Signal Processing Letters*, 2022.

## Chapter 8

1. The PolyCLEAN Journey
  - a. Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe for the LASSO
  - b. **A Competitive Imaging Framework**
2. Reconstruction beyond the Grid
  - a. Another Polyatomic Approach
  - b. Decoupling of Composite Sparse-plus-Smooth problems
3. Conclusion



# What's in the name? "PolyCLEAN"

---

**Algorithm 8.1:** PolyCLEAN of quality  $0 < \delta \leq 1$

---

**Initialize:**  $\mathbf{I}_0 \leftarrow 0, \mathcal{S}_0 \leftarrow \emptyset, \Delta \leftarrow (1 - \delta) \|\Phi^* \mathbf{V}\|_\infty$

**for**  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

Dirty residual:  $\boldsymbol{\eta}_k \leftarrow \Phi^* (\mathbf{V} - \Phi(\mathbf{I}_k))$

1.a. Polyatomic exploration:

$$\mathcal{I}_{k+1} = \{1 \leq j \leq N : |\boldsymbol{\eta}_k|_j \geq \|\boldsymbol{\eta}_k\|_\infty - 2\Delta/(k+2)\}$$

1.b. Update active indices:

$$\mathcal{S}_{k+1} \leftarrow \mathcal{S}_k \cup \mathcal{I}_{k+1}$$

2. Update active weights:

$$\mathbf{I}_{k+1} \leftarrow \underset{\text{Supp}(\mathbf{I}) \subset \mathcal{S}_{k+1}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{V} - \Phi \mathbf{I}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{I}\|_1$$

3. Prune atoms:

$$\mathcal{S}_{k+1} \leftarrow \text{Supp}(\mathbf{I}_{k+1})$$

4. Check convergence:

STOP if a stopping criterion is verified.

**Output:**

Postprocess  $\mathbf{I}^{(k)}$  (e.g., convolution with synthetic beam, add residual image)

---

$$\mathbf{V} = \Phi \mathbf{I} + \epsilon$$

$$\underset{\mathbf{I} \in \mathbb{R}^N}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{V} - \Phi \mathbf{I}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{I}\|_1$$

**Empirical dual certificate**



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Empirical dual certificate

Polyatomic  
Frank-Wolfe  
steps

~ Major cycles of CLEAN

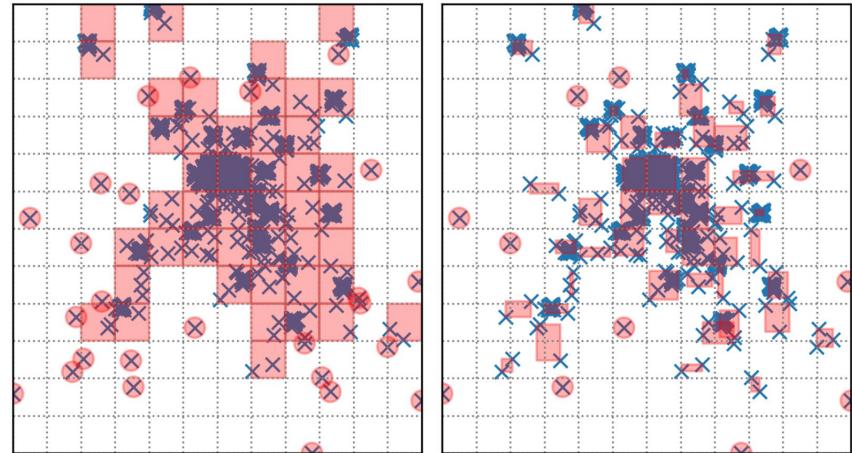
# Symbiosis with HVOX<sup>[10]</sup>



Sparsity-aware implementation  
of the forward operator:

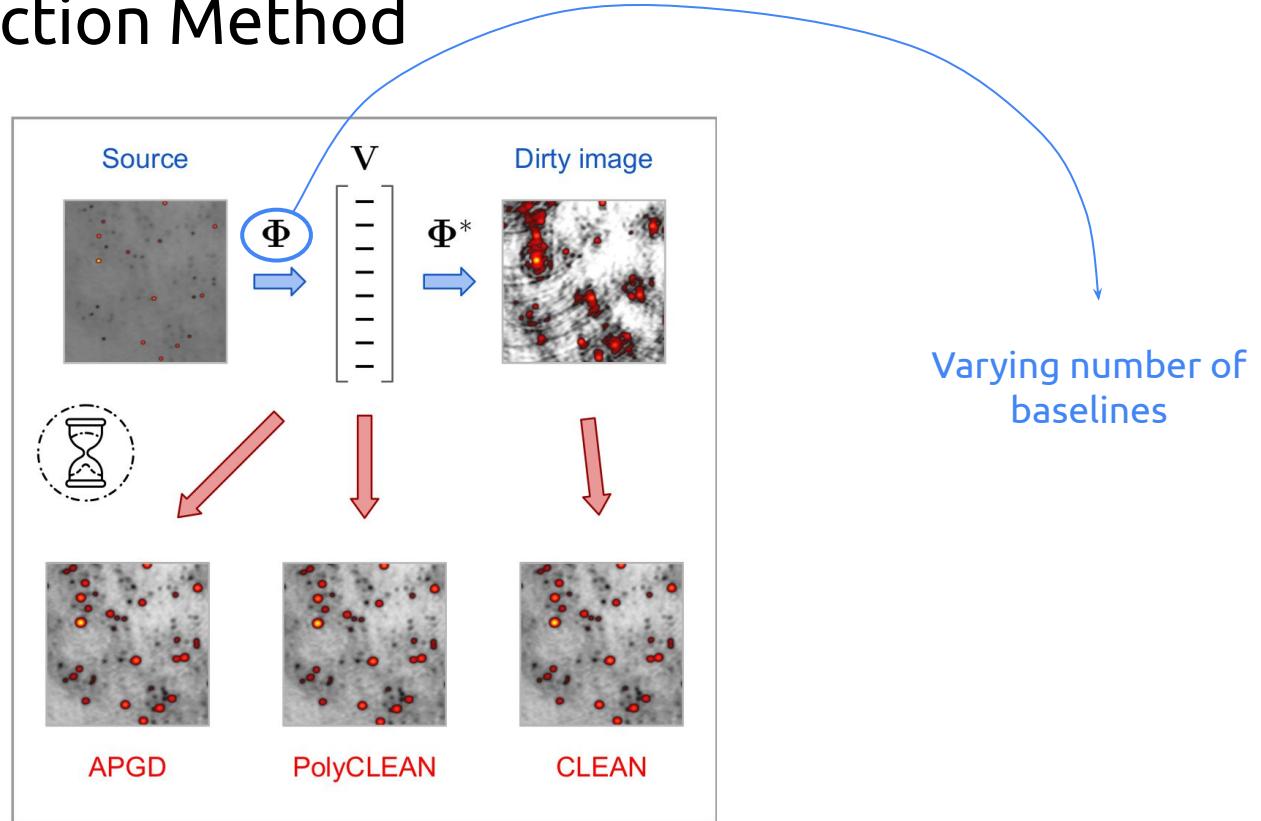
$$\mathbf{V} = \boxed{\Phi} \mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

NU Fourier sum:  $V_\ell = \sum_{i,j} w_{i,j} e^{-\langle \mathbf{x}_{i,j}, \mathbf{v}_\ell \rangle}$



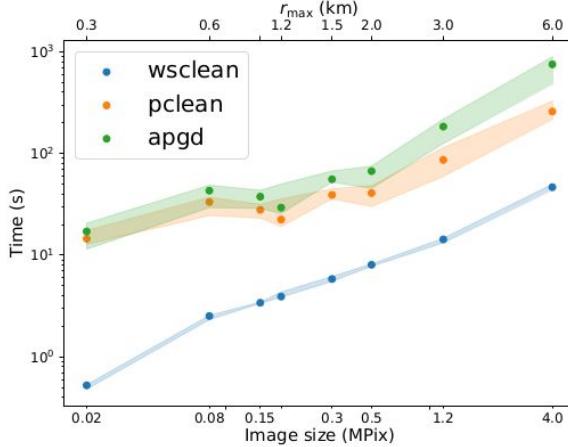
[10] Kashani S, Queralt JR, Jarret A, Simeoni M. "HVOX: Scalable Interferometric Synthesis and Analysis of Spherical Sky Maps", ArXiv pre-print, 2023.

# A Fast Reconstruction Method

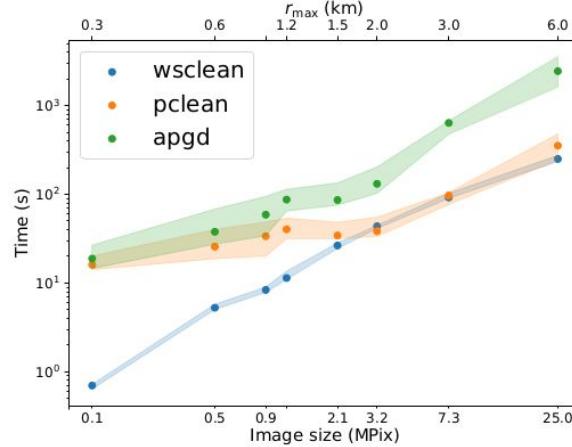


[11] Jarret A et al., "PolyCLEAN: Atomic optimization for super-resolution imaging and uncertainty estimation in radio interferometry", *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, 2025.

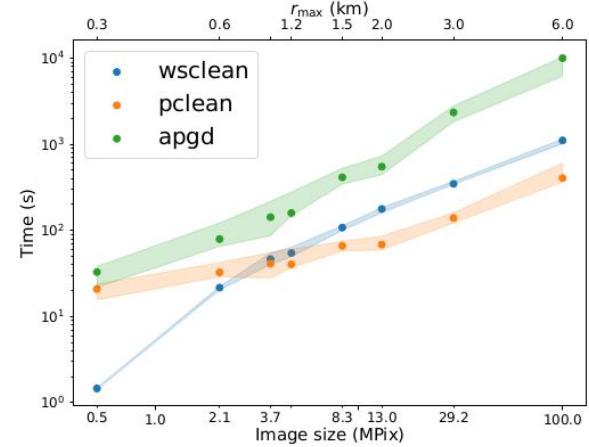
# A Fast Reconstruction Method



SRF 2



SRF 5

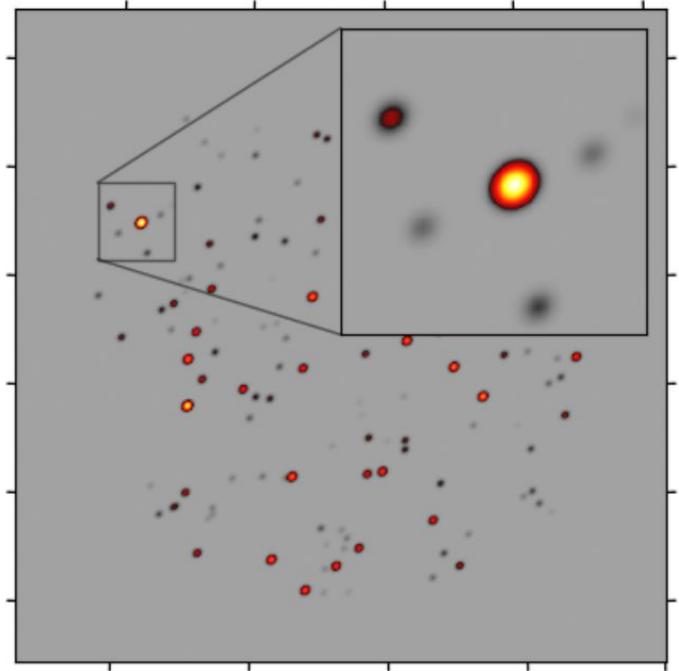


SRF 10

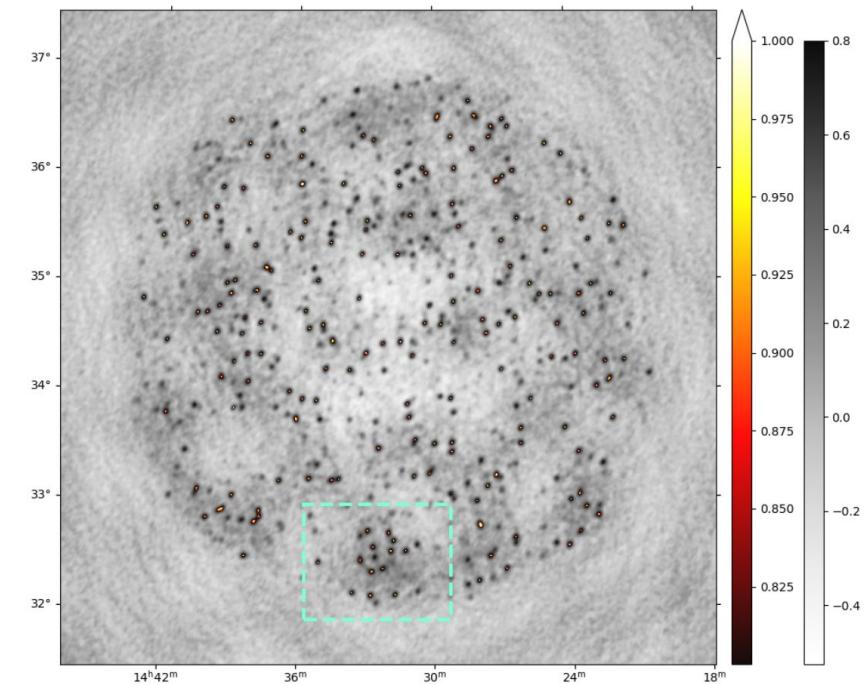
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# Towards Uncertainty Estimation

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}^* = \frac{1}{\lambda} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^* (\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\Phi} \mathbf{I}^*)$$



Catalogue Boötes field

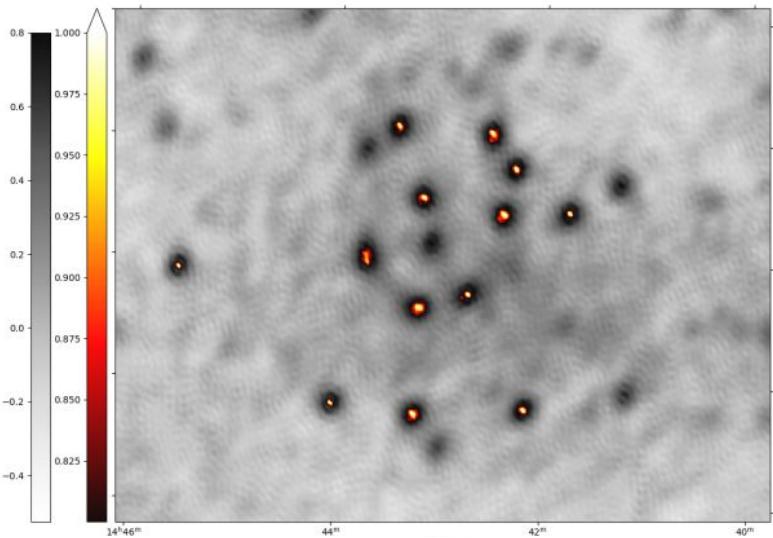


Empirical dual certificate

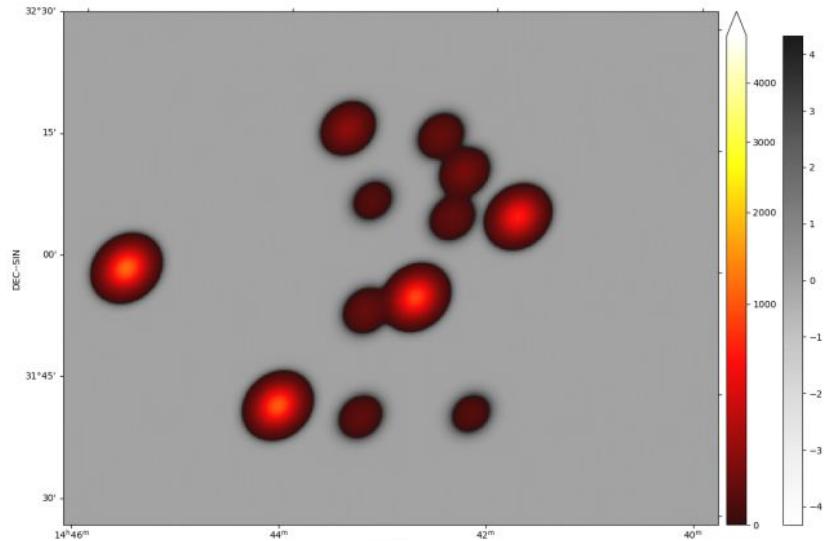
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Dual certificate

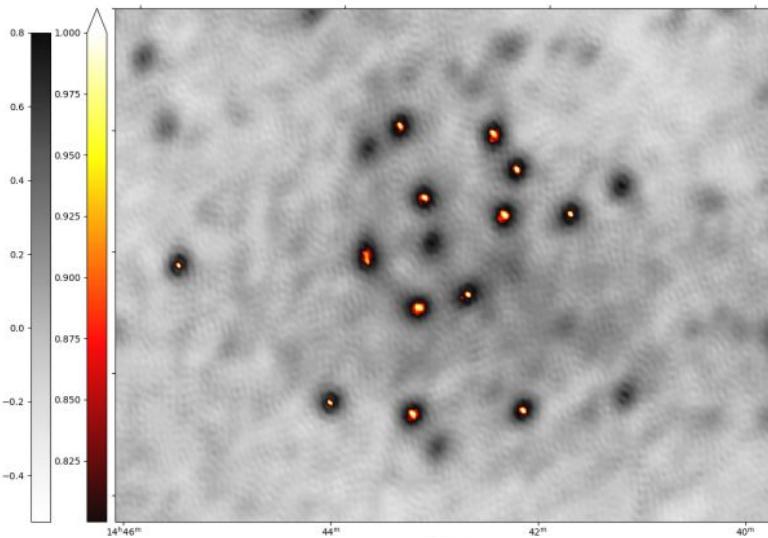


CLEAN reconstruction

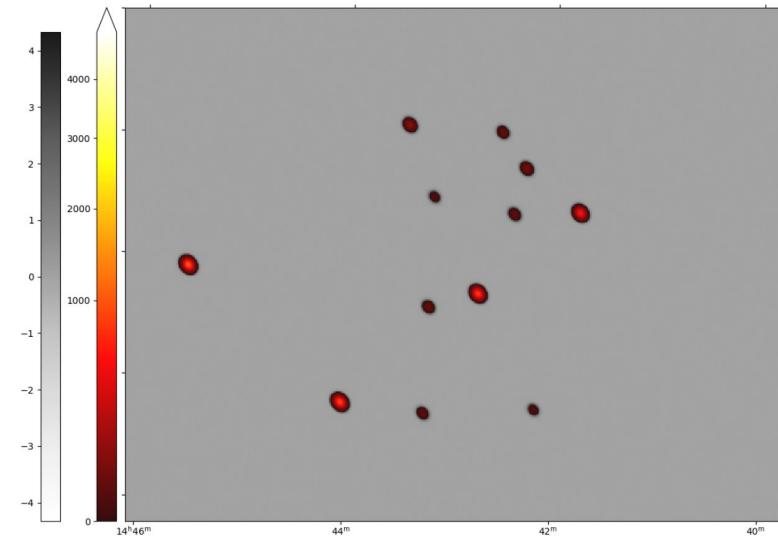
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# Towards Uncertainty Estimation

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Dual certificate



Certificate-based representation

[11] Jarret A et al., "PolyCLEAN: Atomic optimization for super-resolution imaging and uncertainty estimation in radio interferometry", *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, 2025.

# Summary



Design of optimization algorithm → Real world application



Best of both worlds:

- Benefits of CLEAN → **Atomic, fast**
- Benefits of convex optimization → **Accurate**
- Sparsity-aware processing (HVOX) → **Numerical efficiency**
- Question of resolution  
→ CLEAN beam is too coarse, certificate beam is **data-inspired**

## Chapter 4

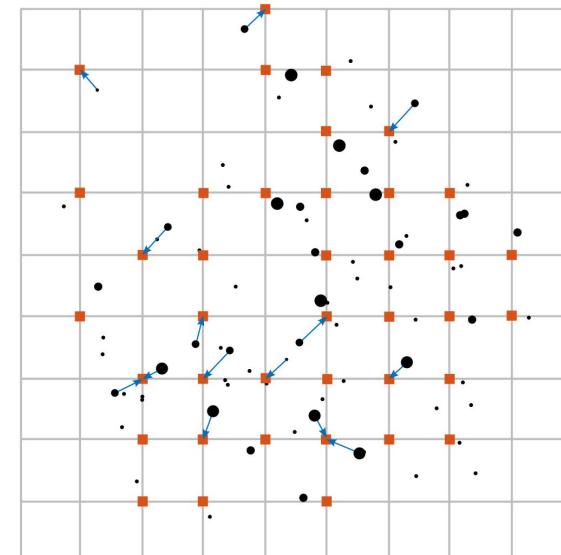
### 1. The PolyCLEAN Journey

- a. Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe  
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- b. A competitive Imaging Framework

### 2. Reconstruction beyond the Grid

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- b. Decoupling of Composite  
Sparse-plus-Smooth problems

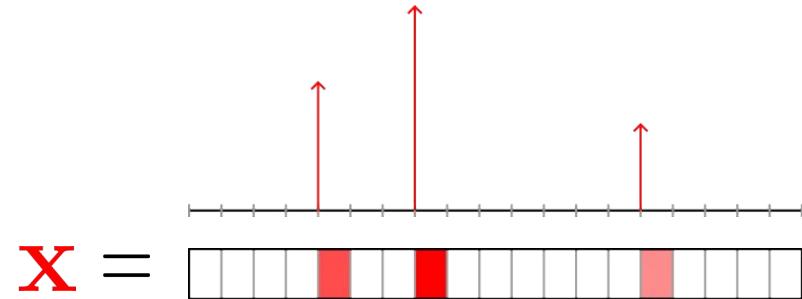
### 3. Conclusion



[ Credits: H. Pan et al., "LEAP", A&A, 2017.]

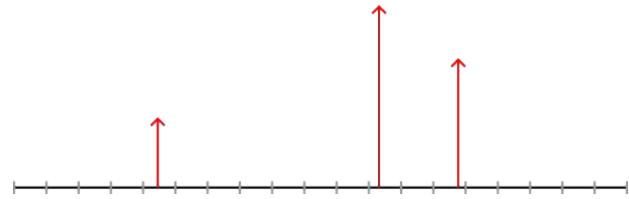
# The B-LASSO Problem

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$$



$$\mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathbf{m}) + \mathbf{n}$$

$$\mathbf{m} =$$



$$\boxed{\arg \min_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(\mathbf{m})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{m}\|_{\mathcal{M}}}$$

[12]

$$\|\mathbf{m}\|_{\mathcal{M}} = \sup_{\varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0(\mathcal{X}), \|\varphi\|_{\infty}=1} \langle \mathbf{m}, \varphi \rangle$$

[12] Bredies K, Piiroinen HK. "Inverse problems in spaces of measures", *ESAIM: COCV*, 2013.

# The B-LASSO Problem

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(\mathbf{m})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{m}\|_{\mathcal{M}}$$

[12]

- Representer theorem<sup>[13]</sup>:

$$\mathbf{m}^* = m[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}] = \sum_i a_i \delta_{x_i}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^K, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^K$$

$$K \leq L$$

- LASSO counterpart:

$$\|m[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}]\|_{\mathcal{M}} = \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

[12] Bredies K, Pikkarainen HK. "Inverse problems in spaces of measures", *ESAIM: COCV*, 2013.

[13] Unser M. "A Unifying Representer Theorem for Inverse Problems and Machine Learning", *Foundations of Computational Mathematics*, 2020.

## Chapter 5

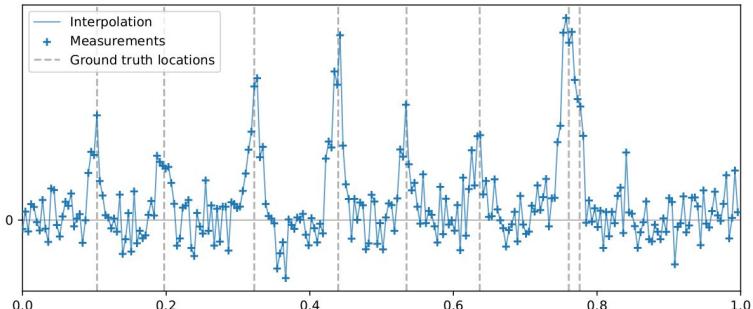
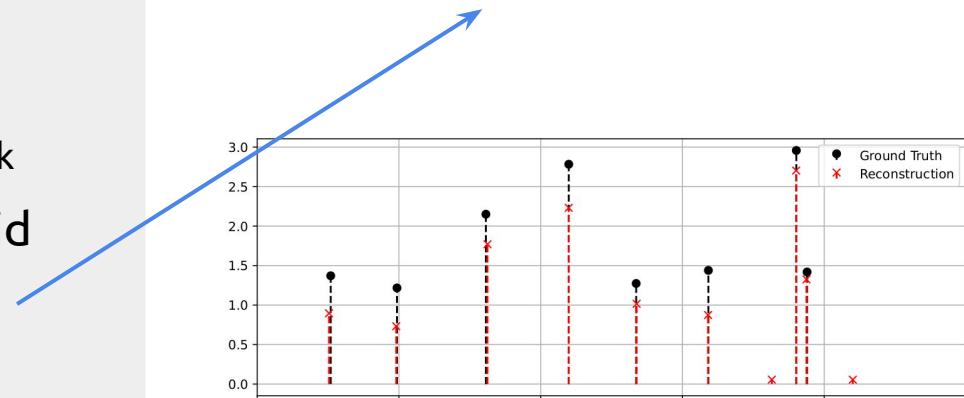
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# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

---

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

---

**Initialize:**  $m_0 \leftarrow 0_{\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_0 \leftarrow \emptyset$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

    Empirical dual certificate:  $\eta_{k-1} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\lambda} \Phi^* (\mathbf{y} - \Phi(m_{k-1}))$

    1.a) Candidate search:

$\mathcal{I}_k \leftarrow \text{Find\_candidates}(\eta_{k-1})$

    1.b) Update active locations:

$\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{k-1} \oplus \mathcal{I}_k$

    2) Full correction of the amplitudes:

$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \underset{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

    3) (Optional) Sliding step:

        Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \underset{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

        with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

        Prune the active set:

$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$

# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

Polyatomic step

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

**Initialize:**  $m_0 \leftarrow 0_{\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_0 \leftarrow \emptyset$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

Empirical dual certificate:  $\eta_{k-1} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\lambda} \Phi^* (\mathbf{y} - \Phi(m_{k-1}))$

Critical step !

1.a) Candidate search:

$\mathcal{I}_k \leftarrow \text{Find\_candidates}(\eta_{k-1})$

1.b) Update active locations:

$\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{k-1} \oplus \mathcal{I}_k$

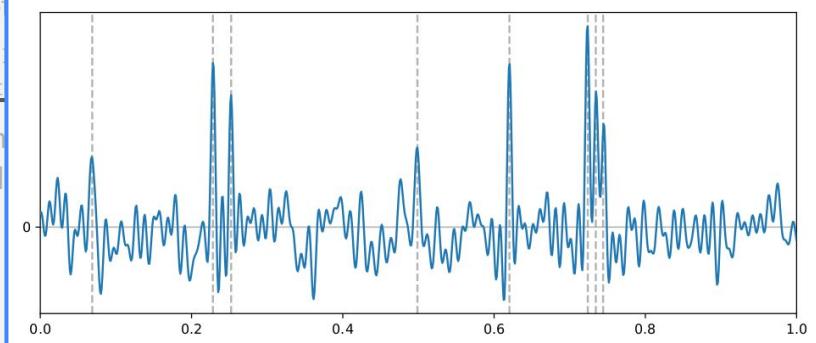
2) Full correction of

$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}}$

3) (Optional) Sliding

Find a local

Dual certificate  $\eta_0$



with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

Prune the active set:

$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$

# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

Polyatomic step

Same full correction

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

**Initialize:**  $m_0 \leftarrow 0_{\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_0 \leftarrow \emptyset$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

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1.a)

Candidate search:

$\mathcal{I}_k \leftarrow \text{Find\_candidates}(\eta_{k-1})$

1.b)

Update active locations:

$\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{k-1} \oplus \mathcal{I}_k$

2)

Full correction of the amplitudes:

$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \underset{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

3)

(Optional) Sliding step:

Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \underset{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

Prune the active set:

$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$

# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

Polyatomic step

Same full correction

Optional sliding

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

**Initialize:**  $m_0 \leftarrow 0_{\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_0 \leftarrow \emptyset$

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    2)

        Full correction of the amplitudes:

$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \underset{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$

    3)

        (Optional) Sliding step:

            Find a local minimum of the problem

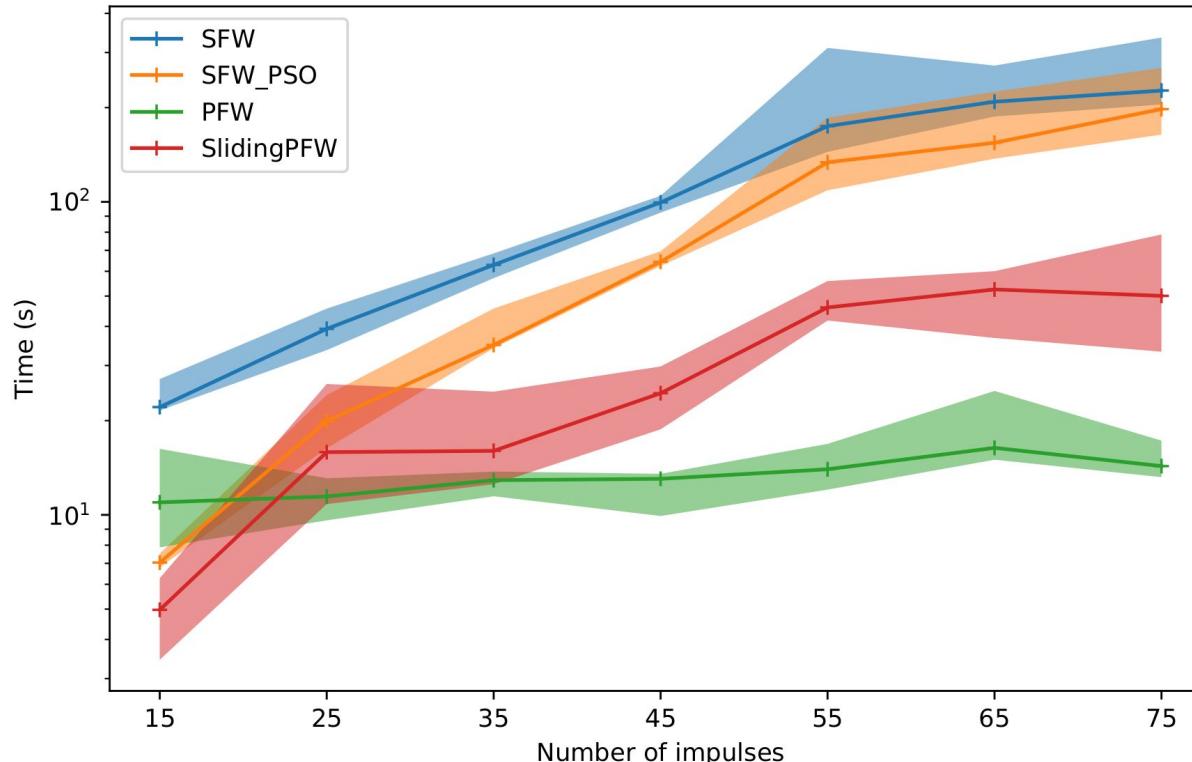
$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \underset{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$

            with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

        Prune the active set:

$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$

# Promising Results



## Chapter 6

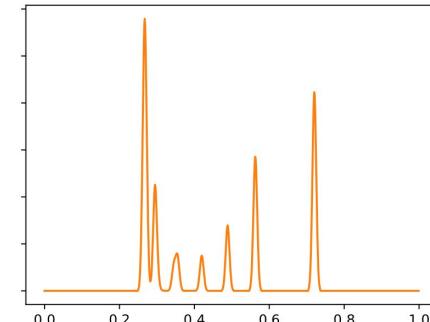
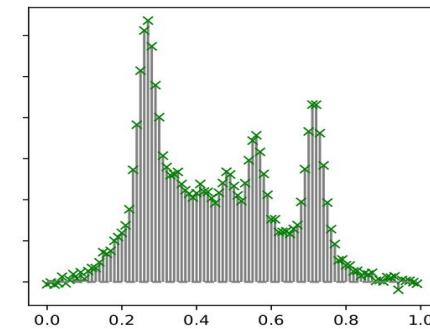
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### 3. Conclusion



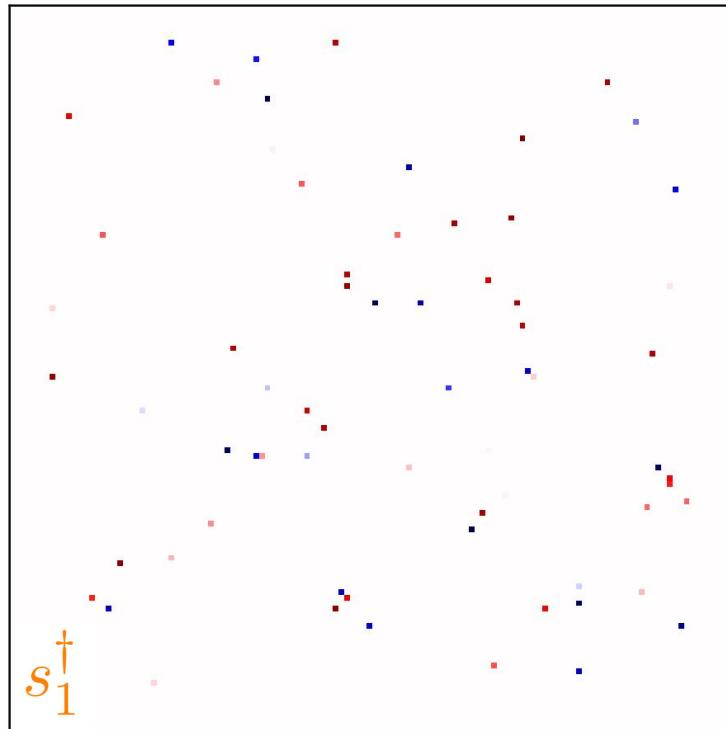
# Sparse-plus-Smooth Problems



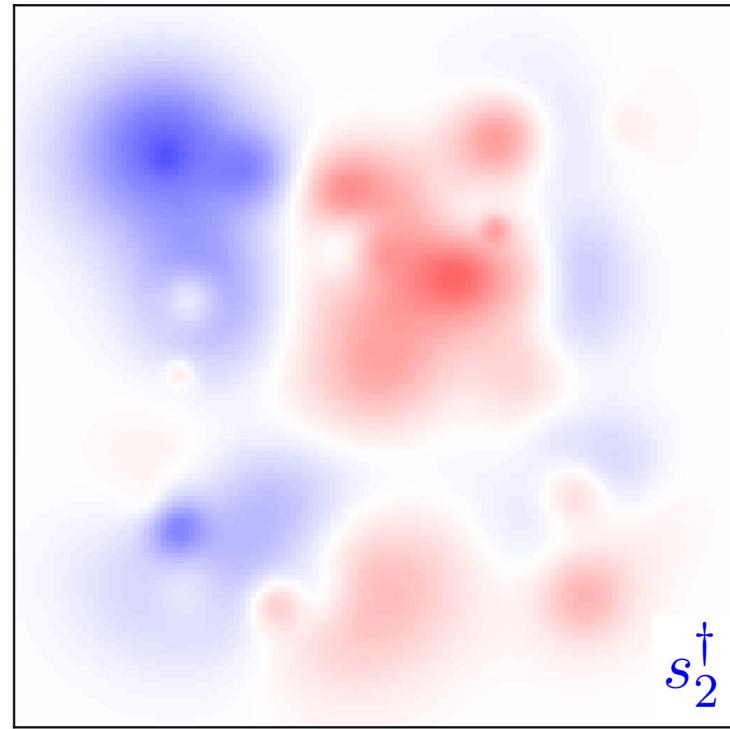
GLEAM survey of the radio sky, J2000 coordinates (9h37min15.21s, 50°25'03.1")

# Sparse-plus-Smooth Problems

$$s_1^\dagger + s_2^\dagger$$

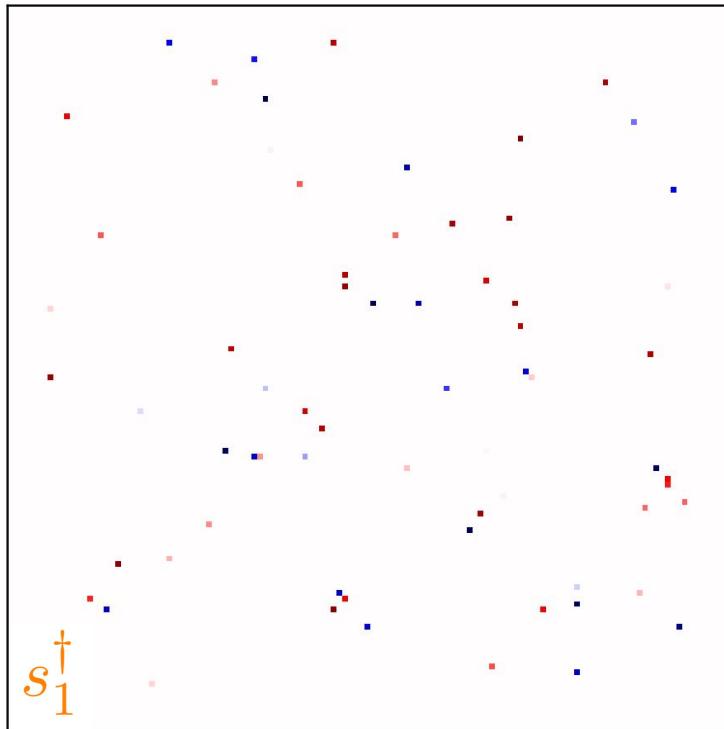


Sparse foreground

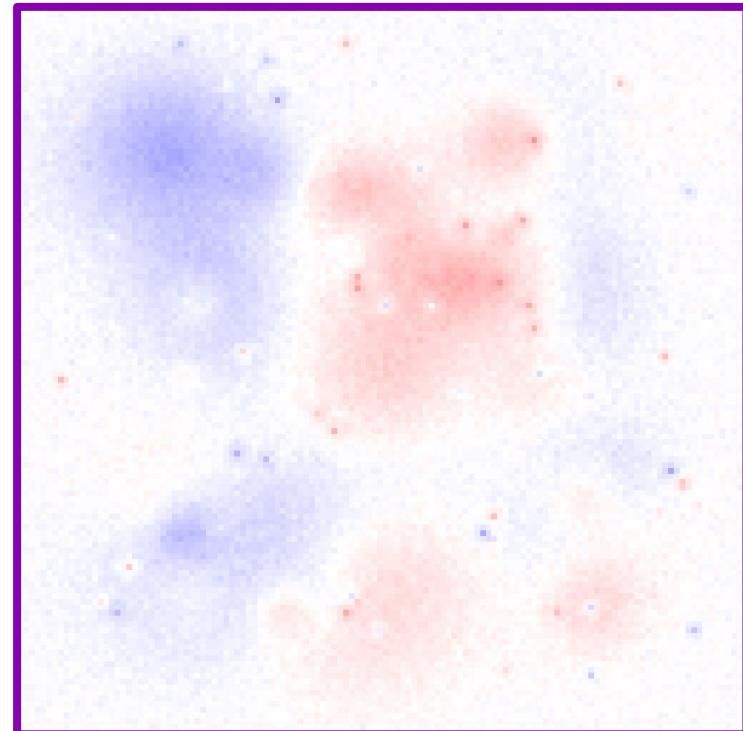


Smooth background

# Sparse-plus-Smooth Problems



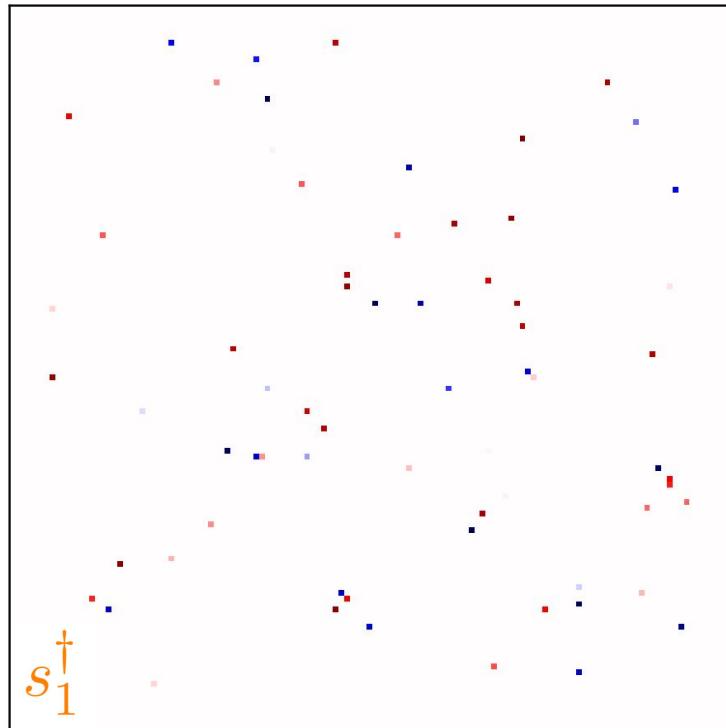
Sparse foreground



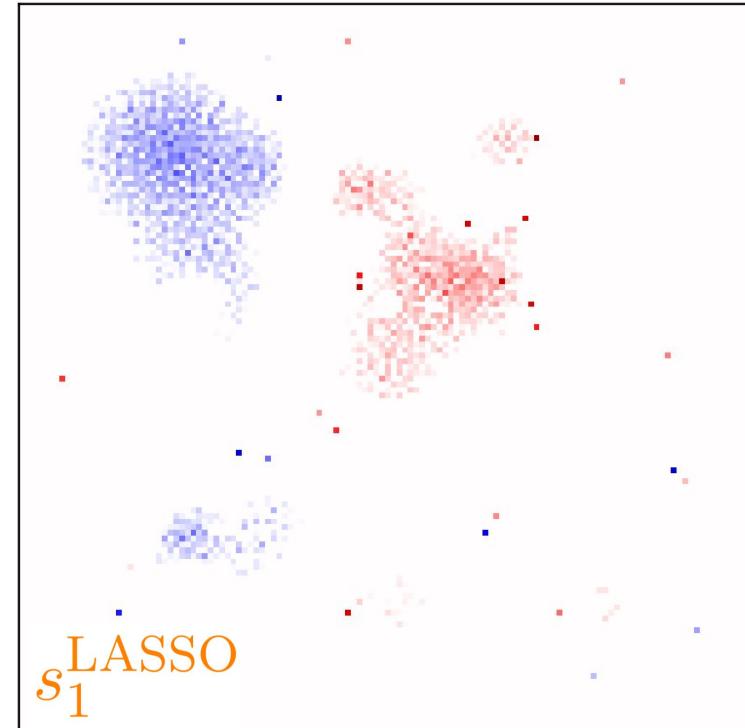
Dirty Image

[8] Jarret A et al. "A Decoupled Approach for Composite Sparse-Plus-Smooth Penalized Optimization", 32nd European Signal Processing Conference (EUSIPCO), 2024

# Sparse-plus-Smooth Problems



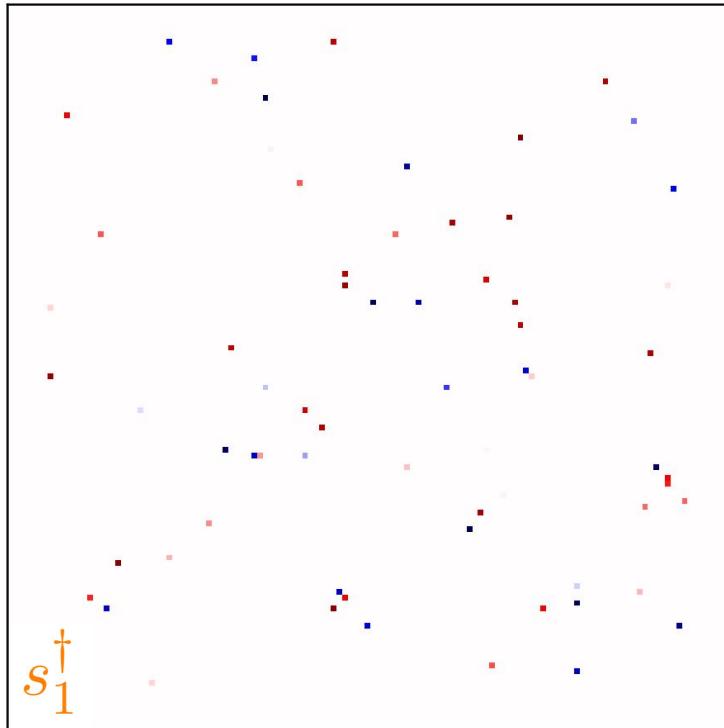
Sparse foreground



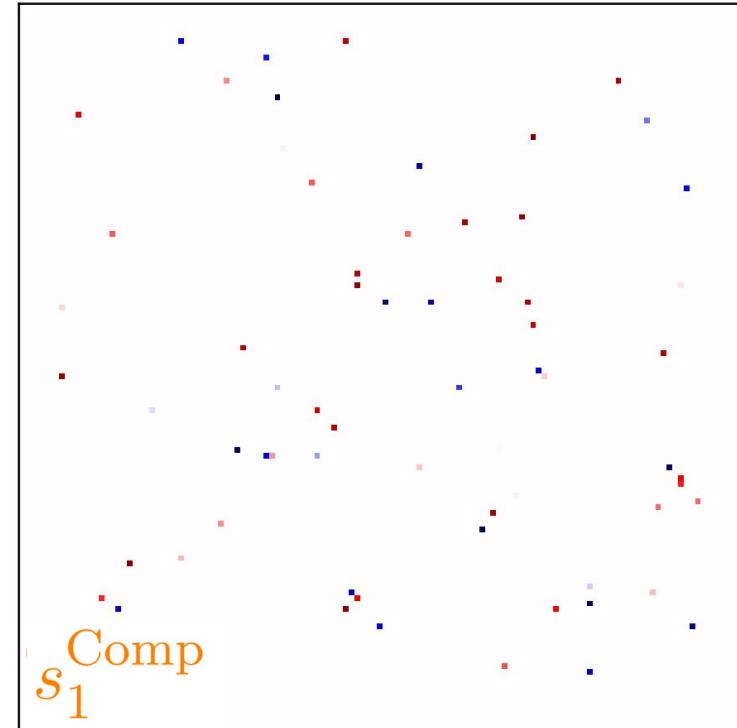
LASSO reconstruction

# Sparse-plus-Smooth Problems

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2} \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)$$



Sparse foreground



$\mathbf{s}_1^{\dagger}$   
Comp  
 $\mathbf{s}_1$

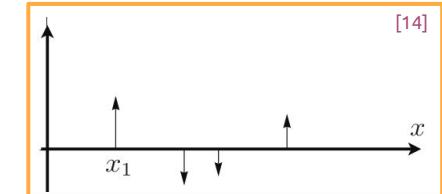
Composite model

# Composite Representer Theorem (in the literature)

$$\arg \min_{s_1, s_2 \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X}) \times L_2(\mathcal{X})} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi(s_1 + s_2)\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|s_1\|_{\mathcal{M}} + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|s_2\|_{L_2}^2$$

Representer theorem<sup>[13]</sup>:

- $s_1^* \rightarrow \text{Sparse measure}$   
 $s_1^* = m[\mathbf{a}^*, \mathbf{x}^*]$
- $s_2^* \rightarrow \text{Smooth quadratic solution}$   
 $s_2^* = \Phi^* \mathbf{u}^*$



[13] Debarre T et al. "Continuous-Domain Formulation of Inverse Problems for Composite Sparse-Plus-Smooth Signals", *IEEE Open Journal of Signal Processing*, 2021.

[14] Unser M et al., "Splines Are Universal Solutions of Linear Inverse Problems with Generalized TV Regularization", *SIAM Review*, 2017.

# Our Composite Representer Theorem

$$\arg \min_{s_1, s_2 \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X}) \times L_2(\mathcal{X})} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi(s_1 + s_2)\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|s_1\|_{\mathcal{M}} + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|s_2\|_{L_2}^2$$

**Our Representer  
Theorem**  
*[Theorem 6.1]*

$$\begin{cases} \hat{s}_1 \in \arg \min_{s_1 \in \mathcal{B}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}^{-\frac{1}{2}} (y - \Phi(s_1))\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|s_1\|_{\mathcal{B}} \\ \hat{s}_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \Phi^* \mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}^{-1} (y - \mathbf{w}) \end{cases}$$

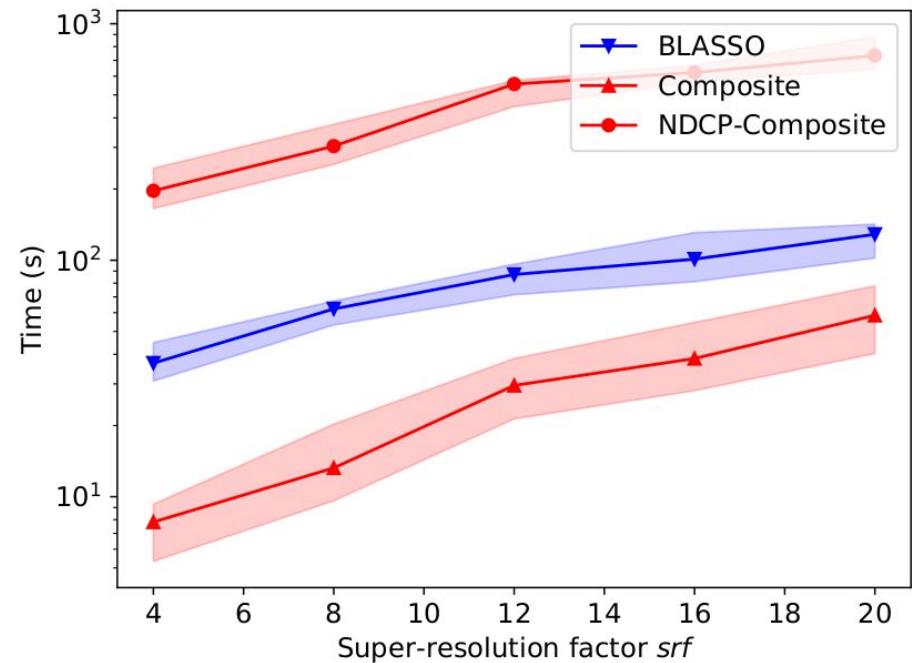
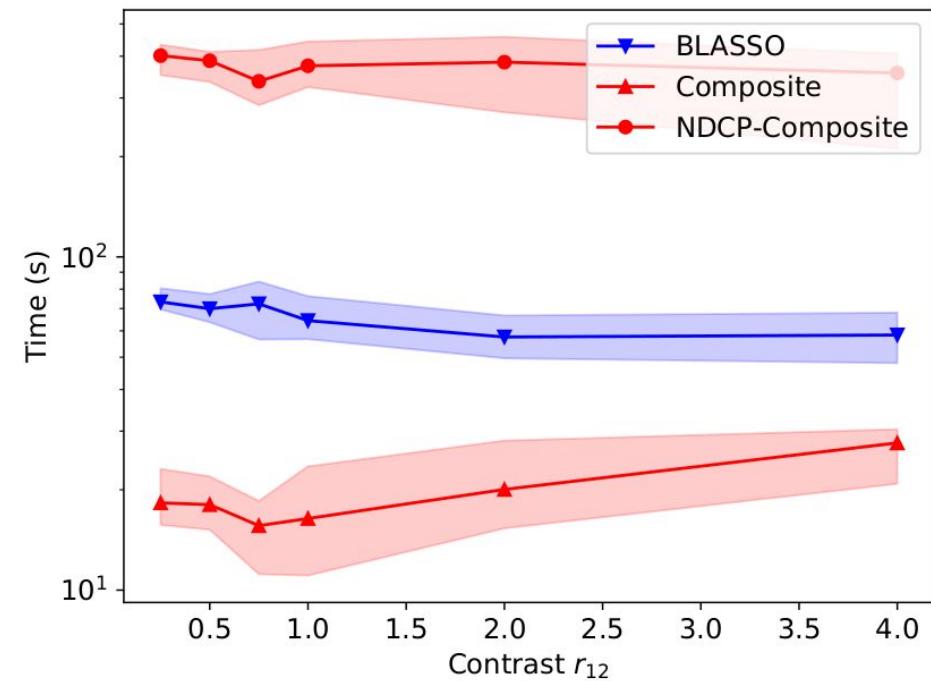
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2} &:= \frac{1}{\lambda_2} (\Phi \Phi^* + \lambda_2 \mathbf{I}_L) \\ \mathbf{w} &= \Phi(\hat{s}_1) \end{aligned}$$

**Consequences:**

- Decoupled reconstruction procedure
- Scaling of regularization parameters

# Advantages of a Decoupled Approach

$$r_{1/2} = \frac{\|\Phi(s_1^\dagger)\|_2}{\|\Phi(s_2^\dagger)\|_2}$$



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- 3. Conclusion**

# Conclusion and perspectives

## Mathematics-aware numerical solvers:

- Principled (poly)atomic methods
- Decoupled algorithms
- Sparsity-aware processing

Chapters 3, 5

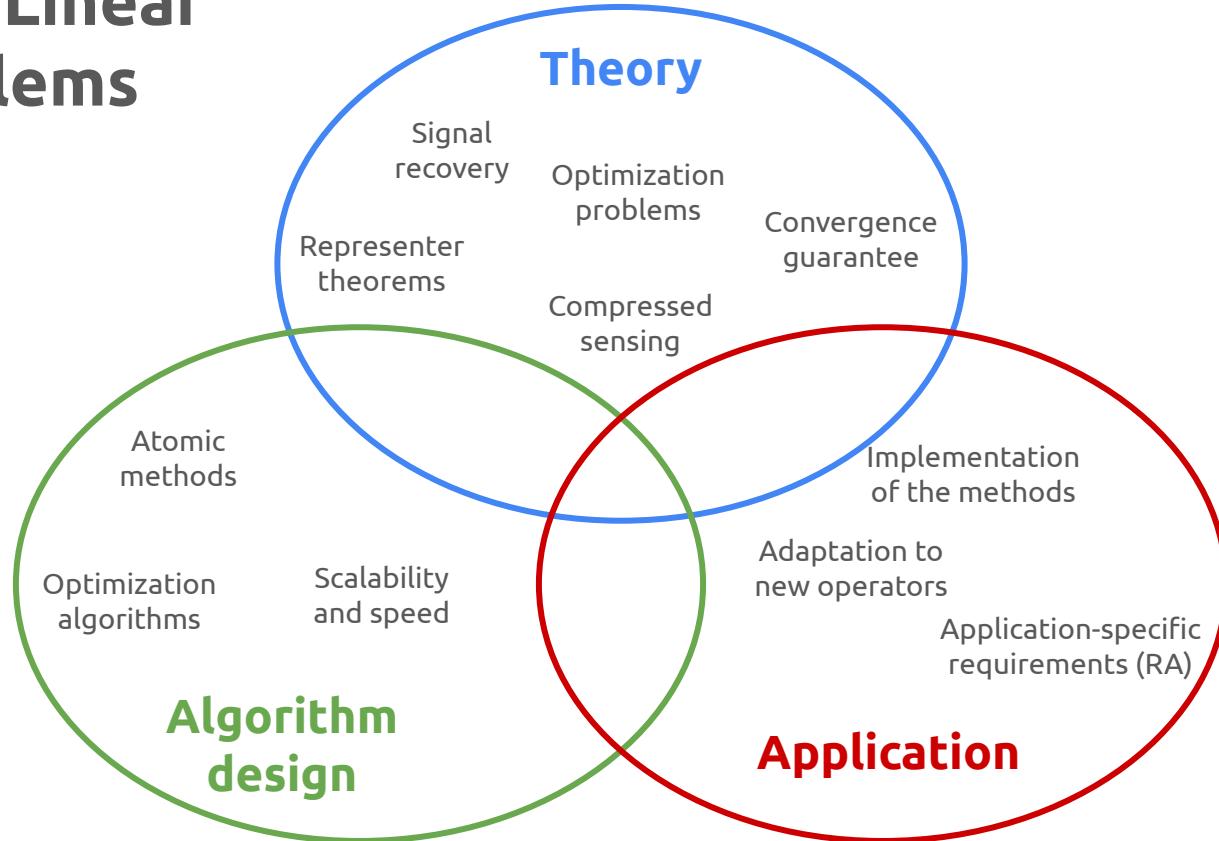
Chapter 6

Chapter 8

## Open questions:

- Resolution of the reconstruction and quantitative imaging
- More advanced *traditional* methods
- Mixed learning-based approaches

# Landscape of Linear Inverse Problems



# Contributions

[Chapter 3]

Part I

## Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe for the LASSO

Jarret A, Fageot J, Simeoni M,

"A Fast and Scalable Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the LASSO",  
*IEEE Signal Processing Letters*, 2022.

+ GRETSI 2022

[Chapter 6]

Part II

## Decoupling of Composite Sparse-plus-Smooth problems

Jarret A, Fageot J,

"Decoupled Solution for Composite Sparse-plus-Smooth Inverse Problems",  
*Submitted in June 2025*.

Jarret A, Costa V, Fageot J,

"A Decoupled Approach for Composite Sparse-Plus-Smooth Penalized Optimization",  
*Proceeding of EUSIPCO 2024*.

[Chapter 5]

Part II

## Polyatomic Continuous-Domain Reconstruction

Jarret A, Rochinha-Chaves D, Denoyelle Q, Vetterli M,

*Article in preparation*.

[Chapter 8]

Part III

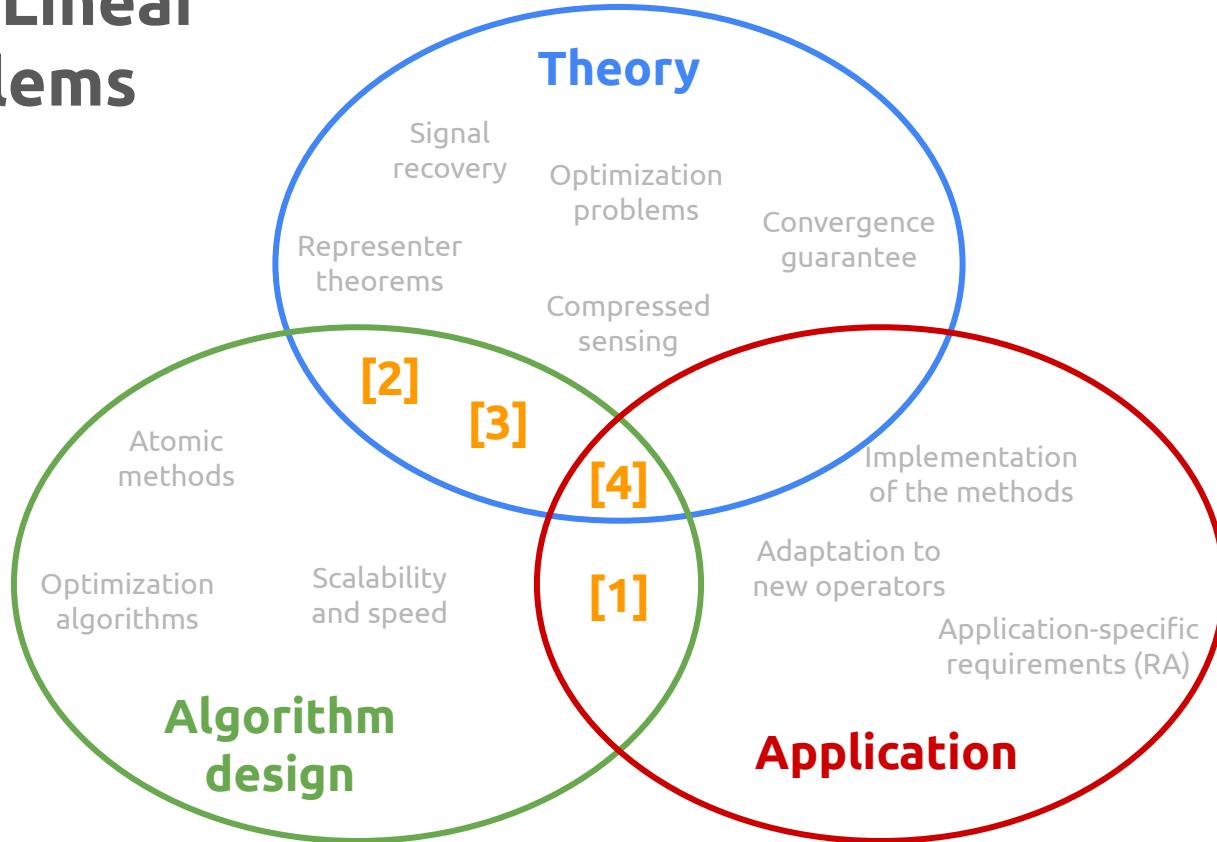
## Radio Interferometric Imaging with PolyCLEAN

Jarret A, Kashani S, Rué-Queralt J, Hurley P, Fageot J, Simeoni M,

"PolyCLEAN: Atomic optimization for super-resolution imaging and uncertainty  
estimation in radio interferometry",  
*Astronomy and Astrophysics*, 2025

# Landscape of Linear Inverse Problems

- [1] PFW
- [2] CD-PFW
- [3] Composite
- [4] PolyCLEAN



# Thank you !

## Advisors and collaborators:

Martin Vetterli

Julien Fageot

Matthieu Simeoni

Paul Hurley

Sepand Kashani

Quentin Denoyelle

David Rochinha-Chaves

Valérie Costa

## Labmates (past and present):

LCAV - IVRL - Center for Imaging

# Supplementary slides

# Penalized Optimization

## Discrete problems

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2}_{\text{Data-fidelity}} + \underbrace{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{Penalty}}$$

## Continuous-domain problems

$$\arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^d)} \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(f)\|_2^2}_{\text{Data-fidelity}} + \underbrace{\mathcal{R}(f)}_{\text{Penalty}}$$

LASSO<sup>[1]</sup>

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_1$$

B-LASSO<sup>[2]</sup>

$$\mathcal{R}(f) = \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{M}}$$

[1] Tibshirani R. "Regression Shrinkage and Selection via the Lasso", *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B (Methodological)*, 1996.

[2] Bredies K, Pikkarainen HK. "Inverse problems in spaces of measures", *ESAIM: COCV*, 2013.

## 2. Regularized Optimization (*continued*)

Representer theorem: [3]

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \sum_{i=1}^L a_i \mathbf{e}_i$$



$$f^* = \sum_{i=1}^L a_i \delta_{x_i}$$

Benefits of the optimization approach:

- Implicit model
- Decorrelate methodology and implementation
- Versatility
- Understandability (objective function)
- Principled: exact reconstruction in low noise regime
- Bayesian interpretation

[3] Unser M. "A Unifying Representer Theorem for Inverse Problems and Machine Learning", *Foundations of Computational Mathematics*, 2020.

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# Inverse problem in radio astronomy

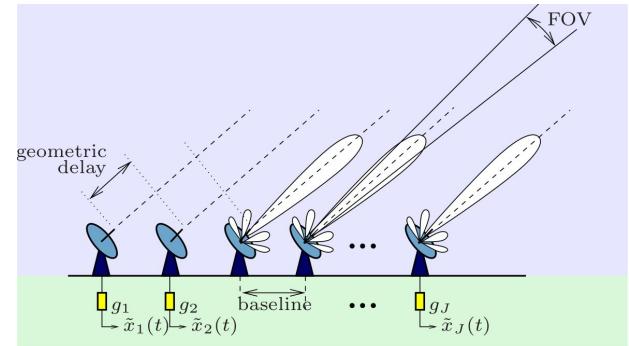
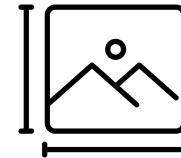
- Noisy measurements

$$\mathbf{V} = \Phi \mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

- Ill-posed problem

$$\text{Null}(\Phi) \neq \{0\}$$

- Huge volumes of data



# Conventional solving methods

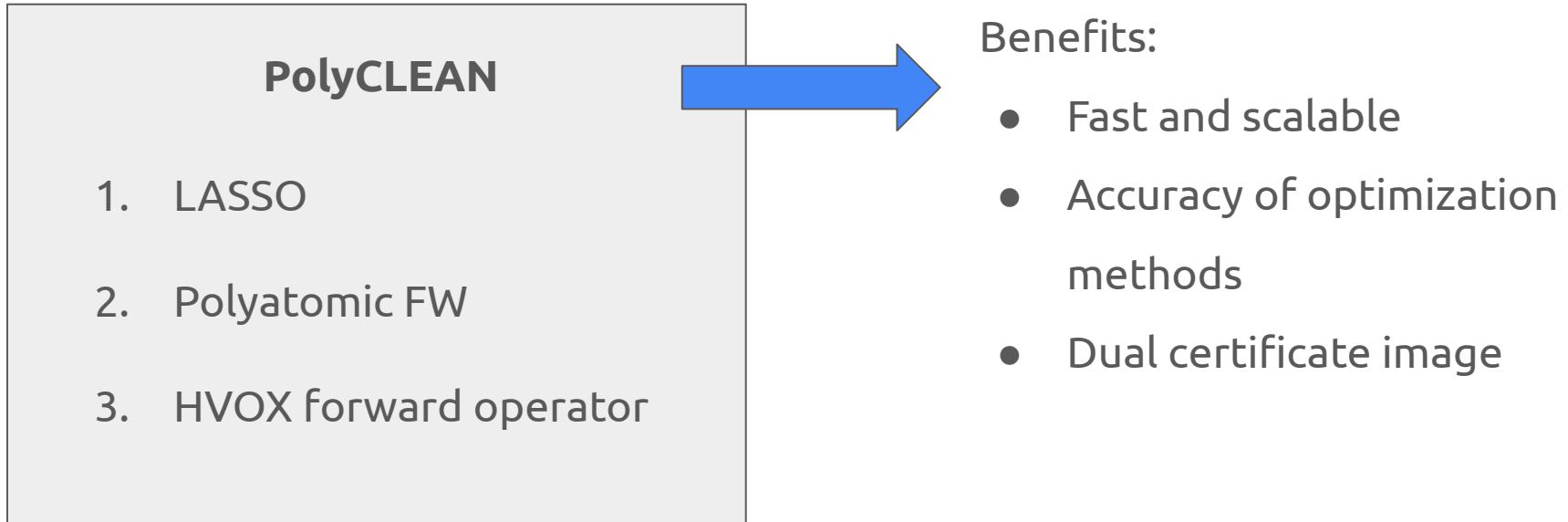
- The CLEAN family :

- ✓ Simple and accelerated -> fast
  - ✓ Many variants:
    - MS-CLEAN, MFS-CLEAN, ...
  - ✓ Long term standard
  - ✓ Calibration
- 
- ✗ Sensitive to stop
  - ✗ No denoising
  - ✗ Objective function unclear
  - ✗ Physically impossible artefacts

- The optimization methods :

- ✓ Principled and controlled solutions
  - ✓ Optimization solvers
  - ✓ Versatile priors
  - ✓ Uncertainty quantification
  - ✓ Active field
  - ✓ Improved results
- 
- ✗ Potentially slow to converge
  - ✗ Numerically heavy
  - ✗ Little adoption in the field

# The PolyCLEAN framework



## Chapter 3

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# Simulations

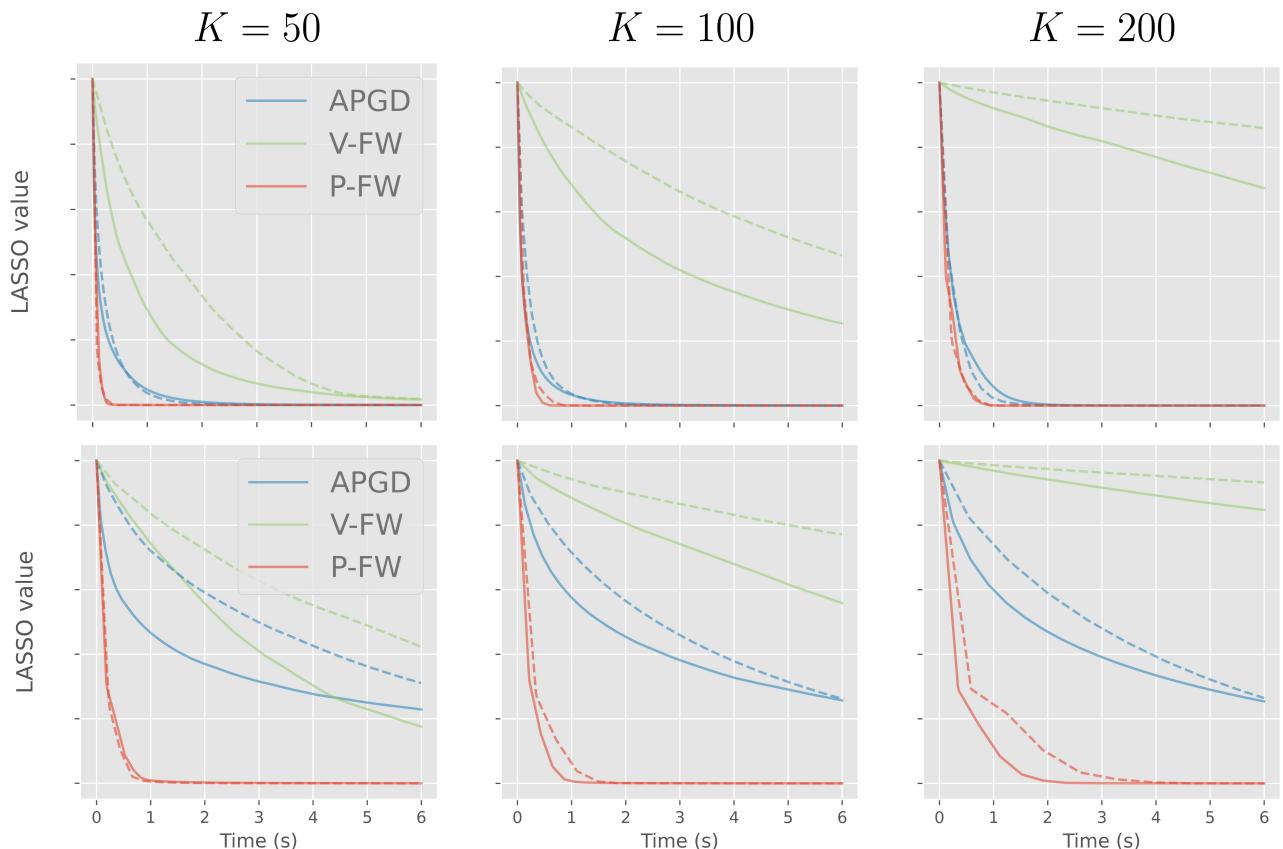
- Simulated LASSO problem:

$$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times K}$$

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

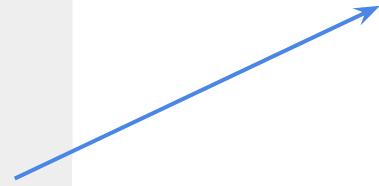
$$L = 8K \text{ or } 16K$$

- Benefits:
  - Faster
  - Dependency on  $K$



## Chapter 8

1. The PolyCLEAN Journey
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for the LASSO
  - b. **A Competitive Imaging Framework**
2. Reconstruction beyond the Grid
  - a. Another Polyatomic Approach
  - b. Decoupling of Composite  
Sparse-plus-Smooth problems
3. Conclusion



## Chapter 4

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3. Conclusion



## Chapter 5

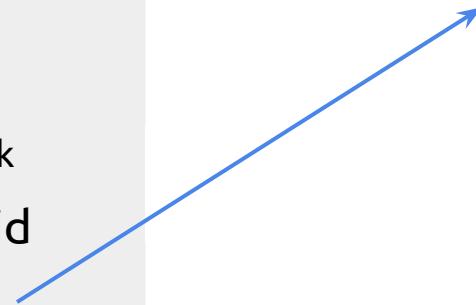
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### 3. Conclusion



# The B-LASSO for Sparse Continuous-Domain Recovery

$$\arg \min_{m \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(m)\|_2^2 + \lambda \|m\|_{\mathcal{M}} \quad \mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{C}_0(\mathcal{X}), \|\cdot\|_\infty) \quad \mathcal{X} = \mathbb{T}^d$$

$$\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X}) = \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A}'$$

$$\|m\|_{\mathcal{M}} = \sup_{\varphi \in \mathcal{C}_0(\mathcal{X}), \|\varphi\|_\infty=1} \langle m, \varphi \rangle = \|m\|_*$$

$$m[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}] = \sum_i a_i \delta_{x_i}, \quad \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^K, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^K, \quad \|m[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}]\|_{\mathcal{M}} = \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

[3] Unser M. "A Unifying Representer Theorem for Inverse Problems and Machine Learning", *Foundations of Computational Mathematics*, 2020.

# The Sliding Frank-Wolfe Algorithm

---

## Algorithm 5.3: Sliding Frank-Wolfe for the B-LASSO

---

**Initialize:**  $\mathbf{a}_0 \leftarrow []$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_0 \leftarrow []$

$$m_k = m[\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k]$$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

    Empirical dual certificate:  $\eta_{k-1} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\lambda} \Phi^* (\mathbf{y} - \Phi(m_{k-1}))$

    1.a) New impulse location:

$$x_k \in \arg \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} |\eta_{k-1}(x)|$$

    1.b) Update active locations:

$$\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{k-1} \oplus x_k \quad // \text{ Concatenation}$$

    2) Full correction of the amplitudes:

$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

    3) Sliding step:

        Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

        with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

        Prune the active set:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

---

[5] Denoyelle Q et al. "The sliding Frank-Wolfe algorithm and its application to super-resolution microscopy", *Inverse Problems*, 2019.

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$$m_k = m[\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k]$$

// Concatenation

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$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

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[5] Denoyelle Q et al. "The sliding Frank-Wolfe algorithm and its application to super-resolution microscopy", *Inverse Problems*, 2019.

# The Sliding Frank-Wolfe Algorithm

*"Fully-Corrective  
Continuous-Domain  
Frank-Wolfe algorithm"*

Convergence:

$$P(m_k) - P^* = \mathcal{O}(1/k)$$

---

## Algorithm 5.3: Sliding Frank-Wolfe for the B-LASSO

---

**Initialize:**  $\mathbf{a}_0 \leftarrow [], \mathbf{x}_0 \leftarrow []$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

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// Concatenation

    2) Full correction of the amplitudes:

$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

    3) Sliding step:

        Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

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Prune the active set:

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---

[5] Denoyelle Q et al. "The sliding Frank-Wolfe algorithm and its application to super-resolution microscopy", *Inverse Problems*, 2019.

# The Sliding Frank-Wolfe Algorithm



Finite steps exact convergence  
(under mild assumptions)



Computationally heavy steps  
(candidate search and sliding)

---

## Algorithm 5.3: Sliding Frank-Wolfe for the B-LASSO

---

**Initialize:**  $\mathbf{a}_0 \leftarrow [], \mathbf{x}_0 \leftarrow []$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

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1.b) Update active locations:

$$\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{k-1} \oplus x_k$$

$$m_k = m[\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k]$$

// Concatenation

2) Full correction of the amplitudes:

$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

3) Sliding step:

Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

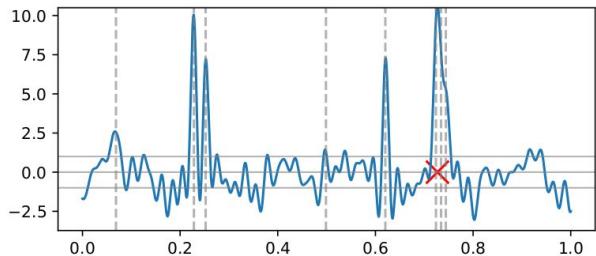
Prune the active set:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

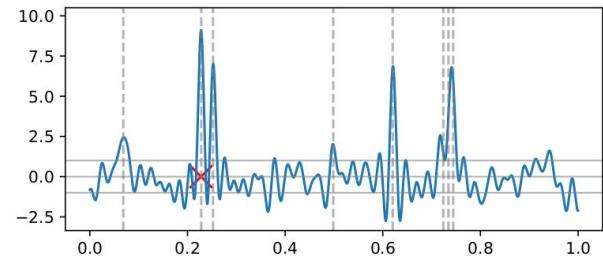
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[5] Denoyelle Q et al. "The sliding Frank-Wolfe algorithm and its application to super-resolution microscopy", *Inverse Problems*, 2019.

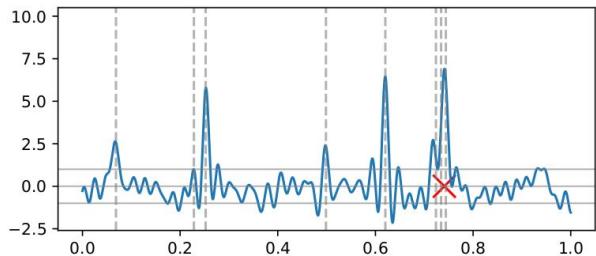
# The Sliding Frank-Wolfe Algorithm



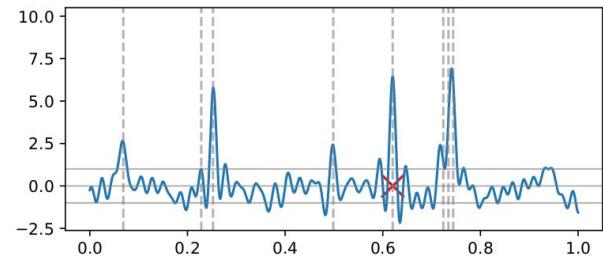
(a)  $\eta_0$  and  $x_1$



(b)  $\eta_1$  and  $x_2$



(c)  $\eta_2$  and  $x_3$



(d)  $\eta_3$  and  $x_4$

# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

---

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

---

**Initialize:**  $m_0 \leftarrow 0_{\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_0 \leftarrow \emptyset$

**for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

Empirical dual certificate:  $\eta_{k-1} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\lambda} \Phi^* (\mathbf{y} - \Phi(m_{k-1}))$

- 1.a) Candidate search:  
 $\mathcal{I}_k \leftarrow \text{Find\_candidates}(\eta_{k-1})$
- 1.b) Update active locations:  
 $\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2} \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_{k-1} \oplus \mathcal{I}_k$  // Concatenation
- 2) Full correction of the amplitudes:  
$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$
- 3) (Optional) Sliding step:  
Find a local minimum of the problem  
$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$
  
with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

Prune the active set:  
 $\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$

# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

Polyatomic step

---

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

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// Concatenation

    2) Full correction of the amplitudes:

$$\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2} \in \underset{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

    3) (Optional) Sliding step:

        Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \underset{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

        with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

Prune the active set:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

Polyatomic step

Same full correction

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

**Initialize:**  $m_0 \leftarrow 0_{\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_0 \leftarrow \emptyset$

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        Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \underset{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

        with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

Prune the active set:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

# Our Polyatomic Algorithm (once again)

Polyatomic step

Same full correction

Optional sliding

---

## Algorithm 5.4: Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe Algorithm for the B-LASSO

---

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    3) (Optional) Sliding step:

        Find a local minimum of the problem

$$(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k) \in \underset{(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_k} \times \mathcal{X}^{N_k}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi_{\mathbf{x}_{k-1/2}}(\mathbf{a})\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{a}\|_1$$

        with initialization  $(\mathbf{a}_{k-1/2}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1/2})$ .

        Prune the active set:

$$\mathbf{x}_k \leftarrow \text{Prune}(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

# Choice of the atoms

1.a)

Candidate search:

$$\mathcal{I}_k \leftarrow \text{Find\_candidates}(\eta_{k-1})$$

Critical step:

- Global optimality
- Relevant candidates (make progress)
- Spatial diversity

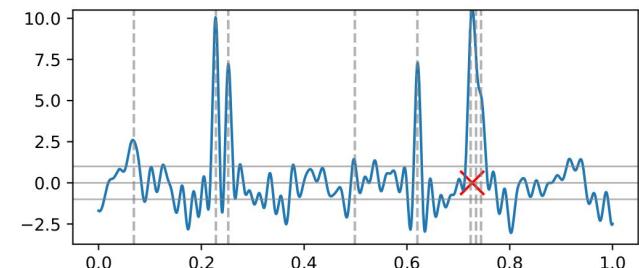
$$\left( \arg \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} |\eta_{k-1}(x)| \right) \cap \mathcal{I}_k \neq \emptyset$$

$$\forall x \in \mathcal{I}_k, \quad |\eta_{k-1}(x)| \geq 1$$



Target:

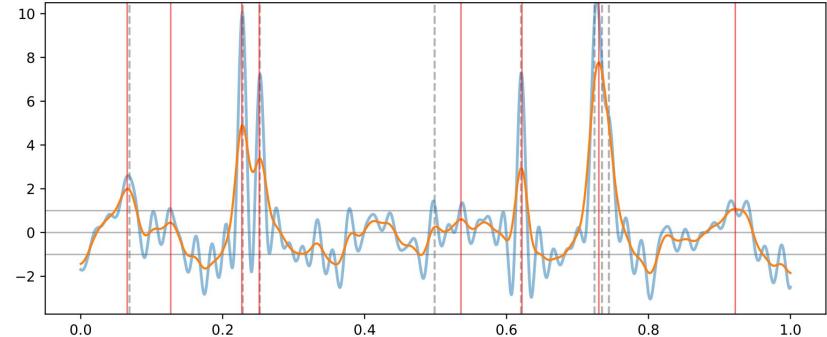
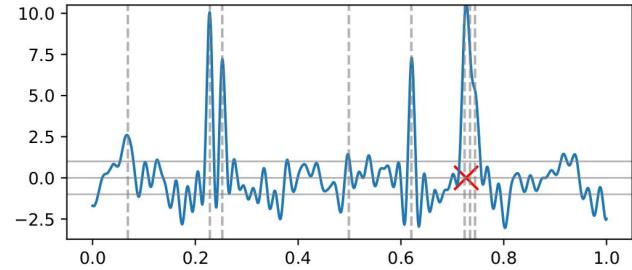
Local maxima  
of the dual certificate



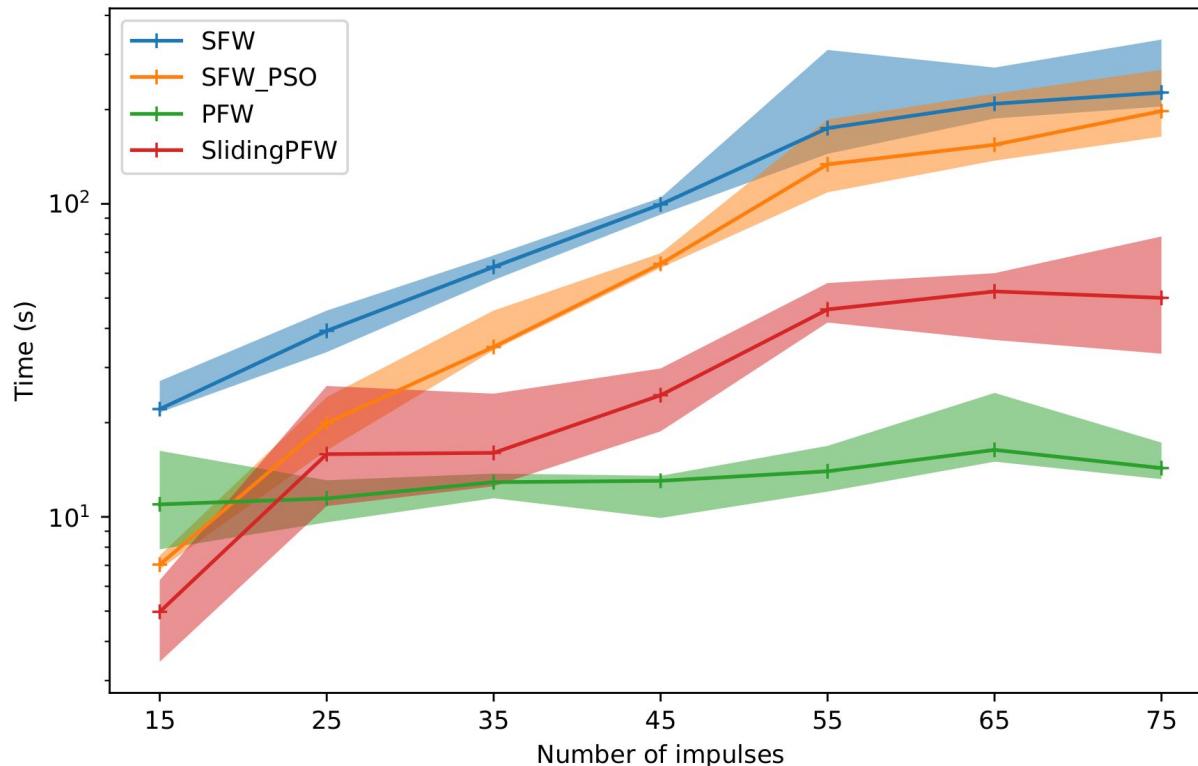
(a)  $\eta_0$  and  $x_1$

# Candidate Selection Strategies

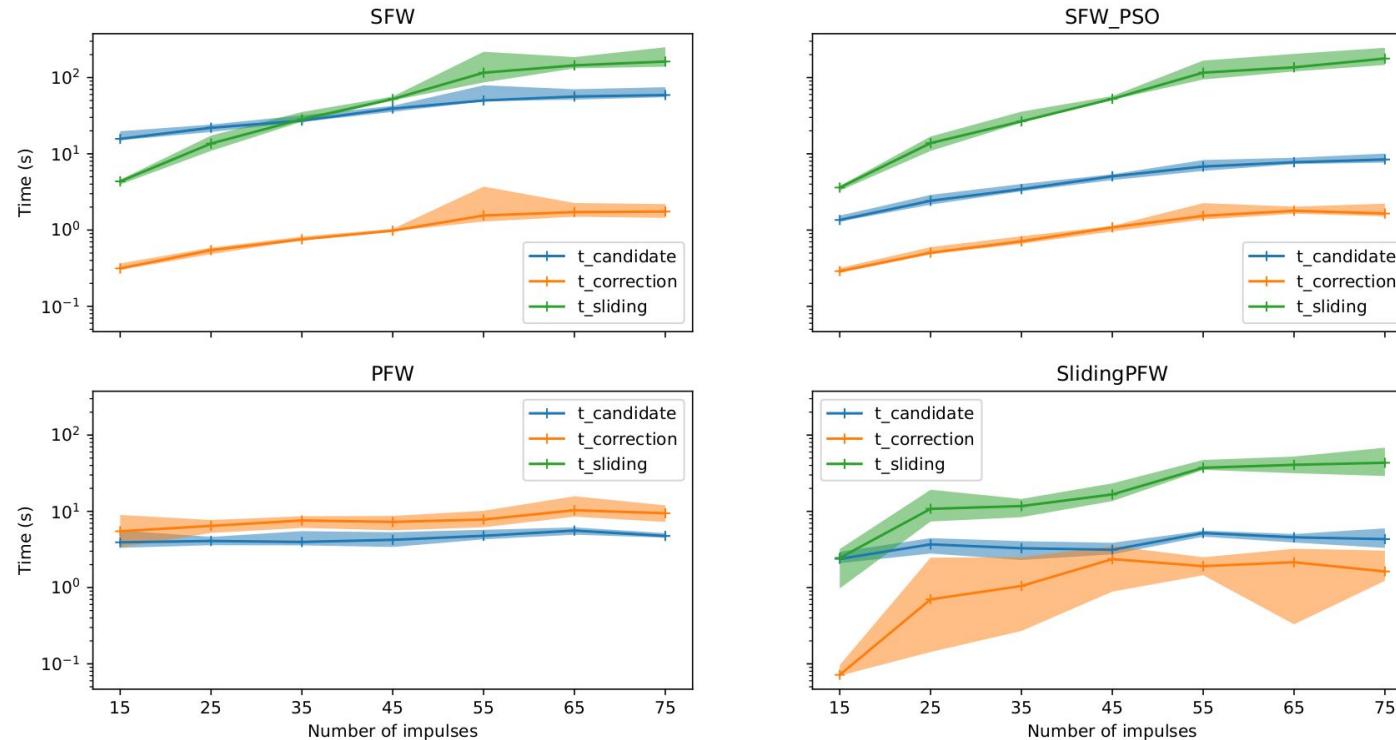
- Particles swarm optimization:
  - Fast, 0<sup>th</sup>-order
  - Initialization-dependent, lack of accuracy and stability
- Particles gradient descent (p-GD)
  - Locally optimal
  - Initialization-dependent, computationally heavy
- Smoothing initialization
  - Filtering of non-relevant candidates



# Results in Simulations



# Results in Simulations



# Conclusions

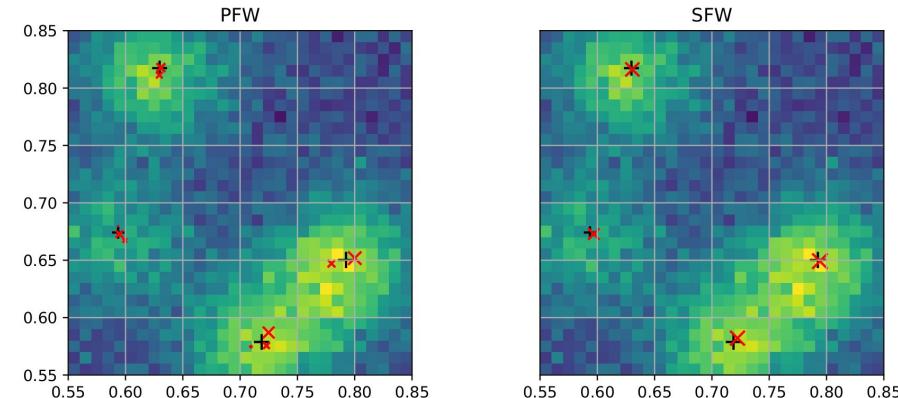
- PFW is faster in challenging contexts (high dimensions, large number of Dirac impulses)
- May be less precise than the reconstruction of SFW

Alternatives and solutions (WIP):

- Mix a few sliding steps (akin to minor/major cycles of CLEAN)
- Sparsify the solution (simplex algorithm)

	PFW	SFW
Recovery time (s)	13.8	24.9
Time for:		
- Candidate search	9.7	10.1
- Full correction	4.2	0.2
- Sliding	—	14.5
Objective function ( $\times 10^6$ )	4.373	4.370
Flat metric:		
- parameter = 0.002	0.031	0.027
- parameter = 0.01	0.085	0.058

Results for 2D Gaussian measurements



## Chapter 6

1. The PolyCLEAN Journey
  - a. Polyatomic Frank-Wolfe  
for the LASSO
  - b. A competitive Imaging Framework
2. Reconstruction beyond the Grid
  - a. Another Polyatomic Approach
  - b. **Decoupling of Composite  
Sparse-plus-Smooth problems**
3. Conclusion



# Composite Sparse-plus-Smooth Problems

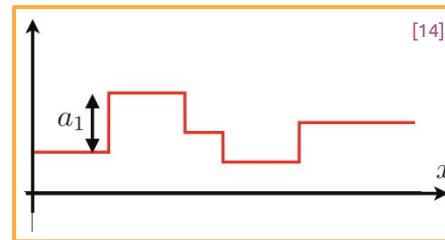
$$\mathbf{y} = \Phi(\textcolor{orange}{s_1} + \textcolor{blue}{s_2}) + \mathbf{n}$$

Sparse foreground  
Smooth background

$$\arg \min_{\textcolor{orange}{s_1}, \textcolor{blue}{s_2}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(\textcolor{orange}{s_1} + \textcolor{blue}{s_2})\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{L}_1(\textcolor{orange}{s_1})\|_{\mathcal{M}} + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|\mathbf{L}_2(\textcolor{blue}{s_2})\|_{L_2}^2$$

Representer theorem<sup>[6]</sup>:

- $s_1^* \rightarrow$  Sparse spline
- $s_2^* \rightarrow$  Smooth quadratic solution



[13] Debarre T et al. "Continuous-Domain Formulation of Inverse Problems for Composite Sparse-Plus-Smooth Signals", *IEEE Open Journal of Signal Processing*, 2021.

[14] Unser M et al., "Splines Are Universal Solutions of Linear Inverse Problems with Generalized TV Regularization", *SIAM Review*, 2017.

# Composite Sparse-plus-Smooth Problems

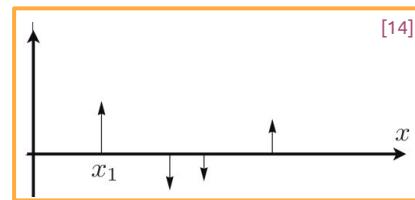
$$\mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathbf{s}_1 + \mathbf{s}_2) + \mathbf{n}$$

Sparse foreground  
Smooth background

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(\mathbf{s}_1 + \mathbf{s}_2)\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{s}_1\|_{\mathcal{M}} + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|\mathbf{s}_2\|_{L_2}^2$$

Representer theorem<sup>[6]</sup>:

- $s_1^* \rightarrow$  Sparse measure
- $s_2^* \rightarrow$  Smooth quadratic solution



$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_1 = m[\hat{\mathbf{a}}, \hat{\mathbf{x}}]$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_2 = \Phi^* \hat{\mathbf{u}}$$

[13] Debarre T et al. "Continuous-Domain Formulation of Inverse Problems for Composite Sparse-Plus-Smooth Signals", *IEEE Open Journal of Signal Processing*, 2021.

[14] Unser M et al., "Splines Are Universal Solutions of Linear Inverse Problems with Generalized TV Regularization", *SIAM Review*, 2017.

# Our Decoupling Representer Theorem

$$\arg \min_{s_1, s_2 \in \mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(s_1 + s_2)\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|s_1\|_{\mathcal{B}} + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|s_2\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

[Theorem 6.1]

$$\begin{cases} \hat{s}_1 \in \arg \min_{s_1 \in \mathcal{B}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}^{-\frac{1}{2}} (\mathbf{y} - \Phi(s_1))\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|s_1\|_{\mathcal{B}} \\ \hat{s}_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \Phi^* \mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{w}) \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2} := \frac{1}{\lambda_2} (\Phi \Phi^* + \lambda_2 \mathbf{I}_L)$$
$$\mathbf{w} = \Phi(\hat{s}_1)$$

**Consequences:**

- Decoupled reconstruction procedure
- Scaling of regularization parameters

# Decoupling for Hilbert-plus-Banach Problems

$$\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2} := \frac{1}{\lambda_2} (\Phi \Phi^* + \lambda_2 \mathbf{I}_L)$$

**Theorem 6.1.** Let  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^L$ ,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 > 0$ ,  $\Phi \in (\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{H})^L$ . Then, the solution set  $\mathcal{W}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  is non-empty, convex, and weak\*-compact in  $\mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{H}$ . Moreover, we can write

$$\mathcal{W}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}, \lambda_1) \times \{\hat{f}_2\} \quad (6.14)$$

with

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}, \lambda_1) = \underset{s_1 \in \mathcal{B}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \quad \|\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}^{-\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{y} - \Phi(s_1))\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|s_1\|_{\mathcal{B}}, \quad (6.15)$$

$$\hat{s}_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \Phi^* \mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{w}), \quad (6.16)$$

where the vector  $\mathbf{w} = \Phi(\hat{s}_1)$  is unique and independent of the solution  $\hat{s}_1 \in \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}, \lambda_1)$ .

## Consequences:

- Decoupled reconstruction procedure
- Scaling of regularization parameters

# Scaling of Regularization Parameters

**Proposition 6.3** (Maximum value of  $\lambda_1$ ). *Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a continuous domain  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  or  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{T}^d$  for  $d \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .*

We consider the composite optimization problem (6.12) where  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{X})$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{B}} = \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{M}}$ . We define

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_{1,\max} &= \|\Phi^* \mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}^{-1} \mathbf{y}\|_{\infty} \\ &= \lambda_2 \|\Phi^* (\Phi \Phi^* + \lambda_2 \mathbf{I}_L)^{-1} \mathbf{y}\|_{\infty}.\end{aligned}\tag{6.18}$$

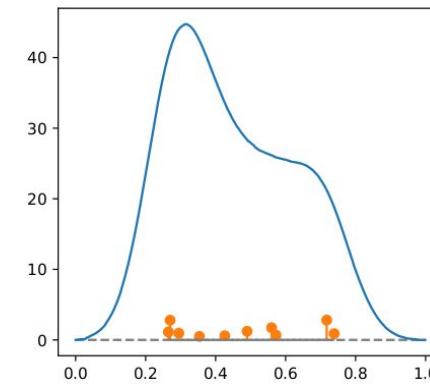
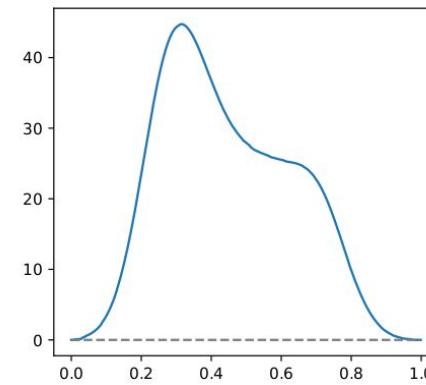
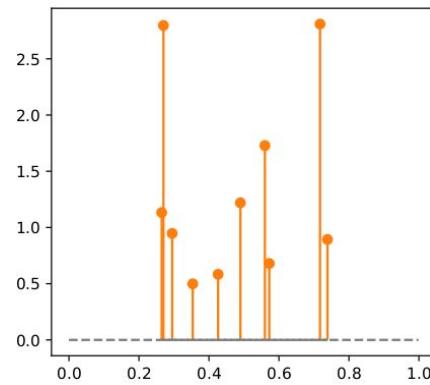
For any  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_{1,\max}$ , the solution set for the Banach component is reduced to the singleton zero

$$\mathcal{V}(\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2}, \lambda_1) = \{0\}$$

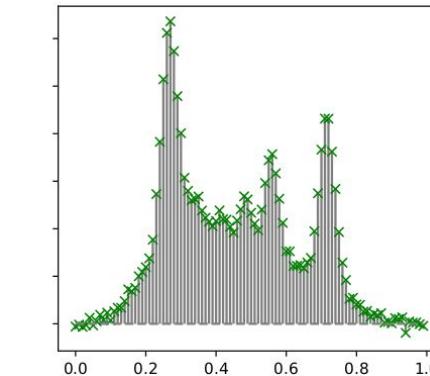
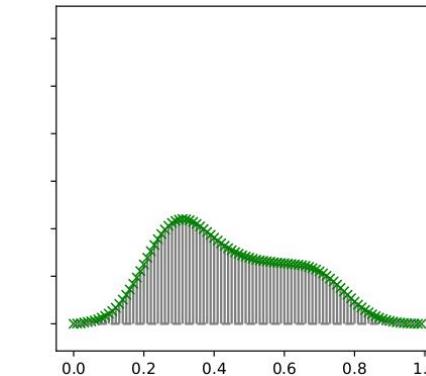
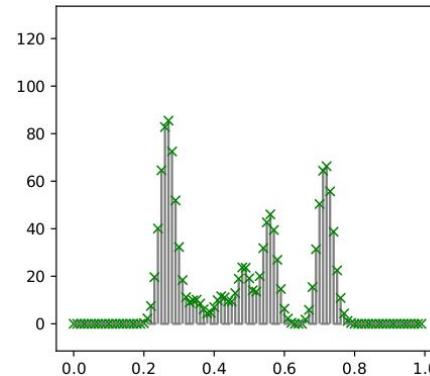
and Problem (6.12) is equivalent to a single-component Hilbert problem.

# Simple reconstruction - Simulation

Ground  
truth

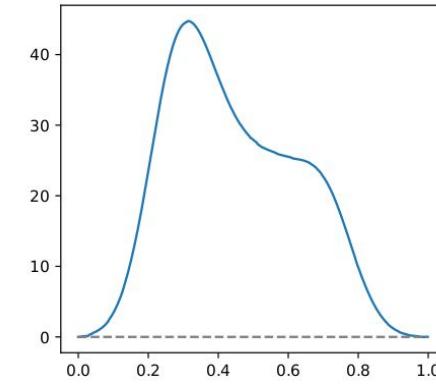
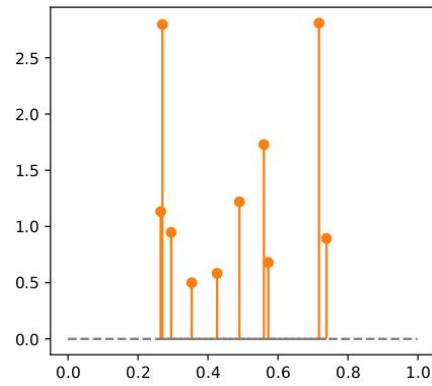


Measurements

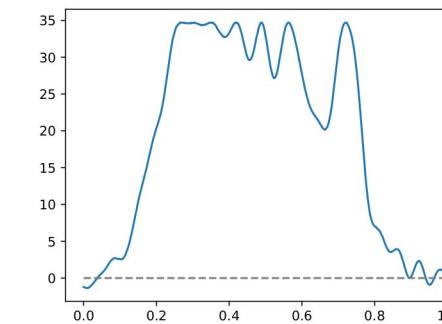
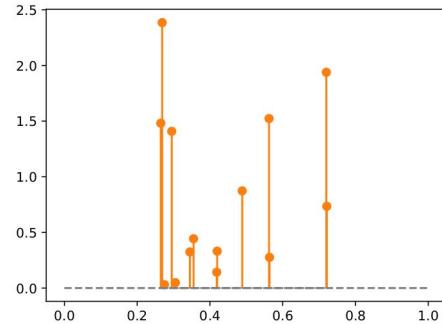


# Simple reconstruction - Results

Ground  
truth

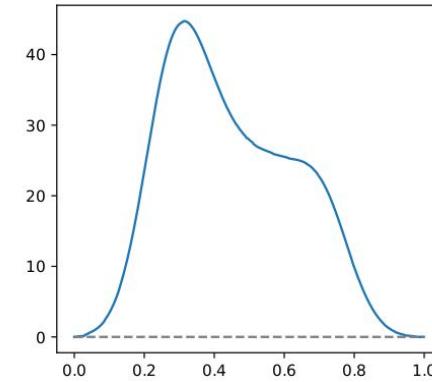
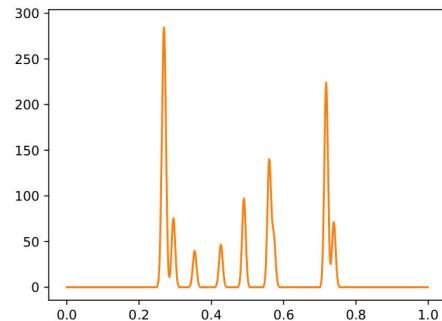


Reconstruction

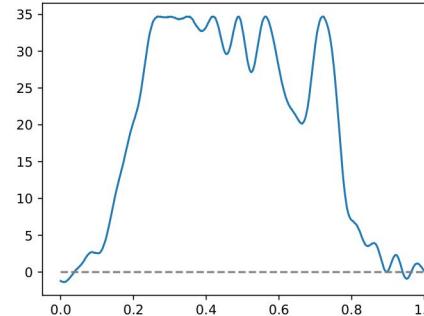
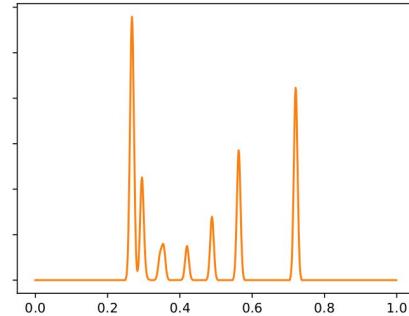


# Simple reconstruction - Results

Ground  
truth



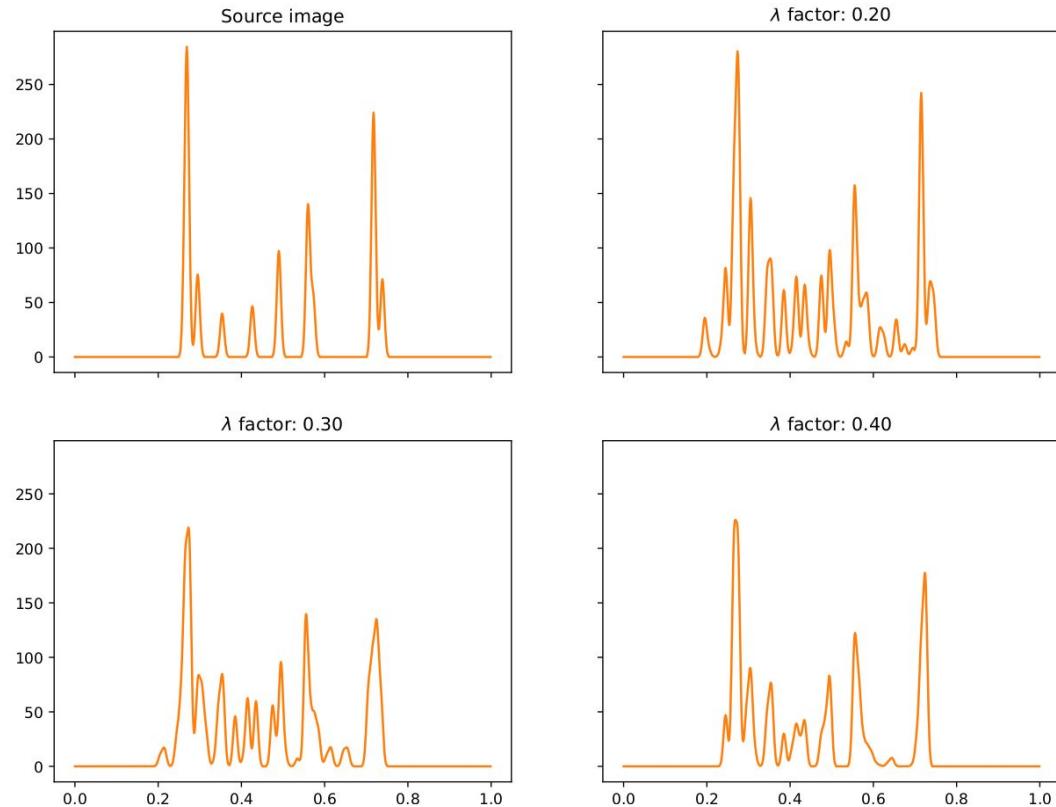
Reconstruction



# Comparison with single-component reconstruction

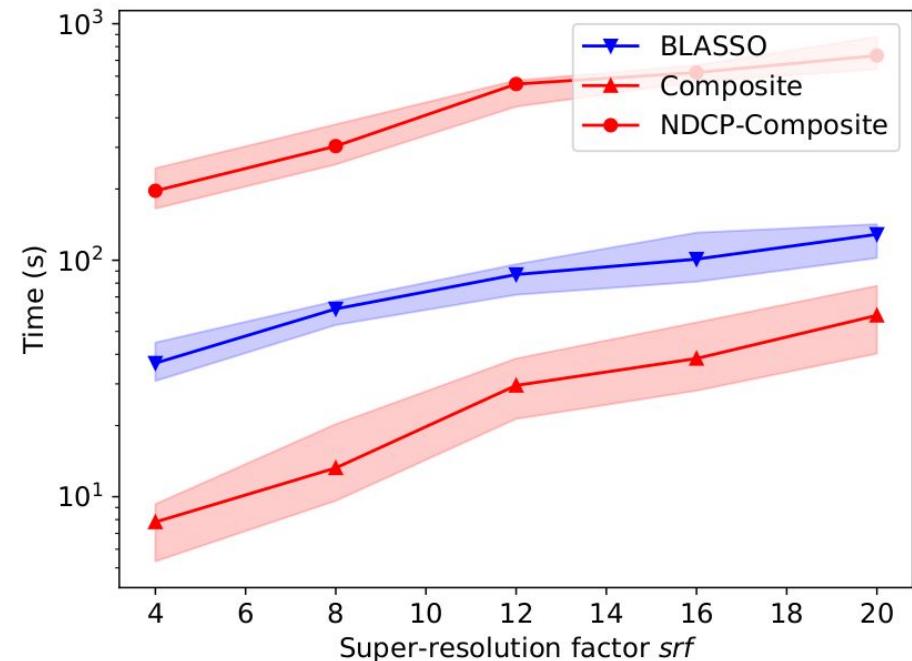
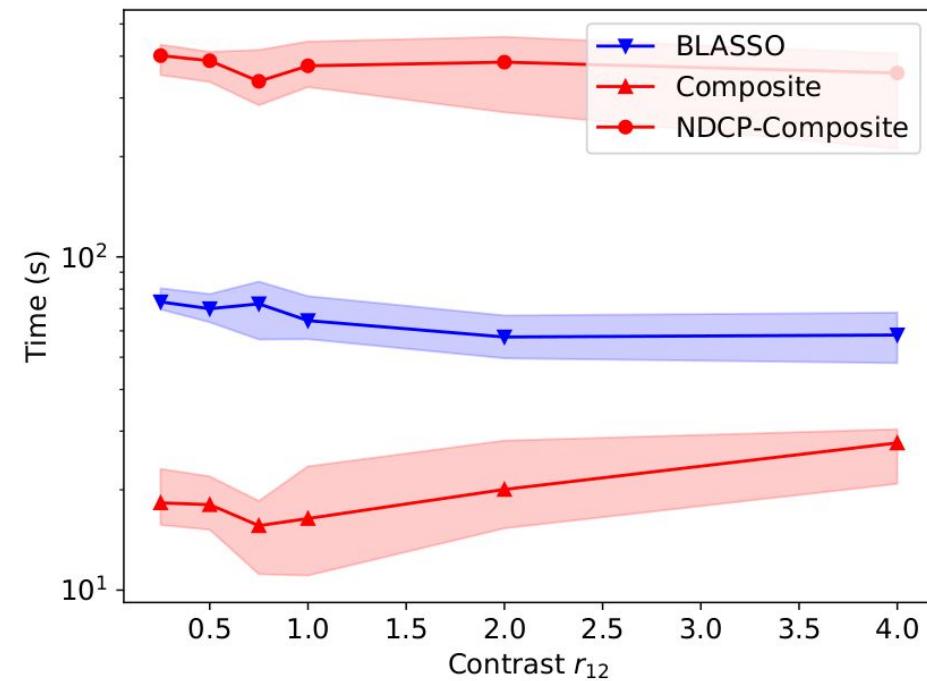
$$\arg \min_{s_1 \in \mathcal{B}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(s_1)\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|s_1\|_{\mathcal{B}} \right\}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_f \cdot \lambda_{1,\max}$$



# Comparison with non-decoupled solving

$$r_{1/2} = \frac{\|\Phi(s_1^\dagger)\|_2}{\|\Phi(s_2^\dagger)\|_2}$$



# Bonus: Discrete Problems with Operators

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^N} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2)\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{L}_1 \mathbf{x}_1\|_1 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|\mathbf{L}_2 \mathbf{x}_2\|_2^2$$

**Theorem 1** [8] (RT for the composite problem  $(P_{12})$ ). Under Assumptions 1, 2 and 3, the solution set  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $(P_{12})$  can be written as the Cartesian product

$$\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_1 \times \mathcal{V}_2$$

where :

- 1) The sparse variable  $\mathbf{x}_1$  belongs to the set  $\mathcal{V}_1$  defined as

$$\mathcal{V}_1 = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^N} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_1)^T \mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_1) + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{L}_1 \mathbf{x}_1\|_1 \right\} \quad (P_1)$$

with  $\mathbf{M}_{\lambda_2} = \lambda_2 \mathbf{\Lambda}_2 \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T + \lambda_2 \mathbf{\Lambda}_2 \right)^{-1}$ ;

- 2) All the sparse component solutions share the same measurement vector, that is there exists  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{C}^L$  such that any  $\mathbf{x}_1^* \in \mathcal{V}_1$  satisfies  $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_1^* = \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  ;
- 3) The smooth component solution is unique and independent of the sparse component, so that  $\mathcal{V}_2 = \{\mathbf{x}_2^*\}$ .  $\mathbf{x}_2^*$  is the unique solution of the minimization problem

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^N} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_2\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|\mathbf{L}_2 \mathbf{x}_2\|_2^2, \quad (P_2)$$

given by  $\mathbf{x}_2^* = \mathbf{A}^T \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T + \lambda_2 \mathbf{\Lambda}_2 \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \tilde{\mathbf{y}})$ .

[8] Jarret A et al. "A Decoupled Approach for Composite Sparse-Plus-Smooth Penalized Optimization", 32nd European Signal Processing Conference (EUSIPCO), 2024

# Bonus: Discrete Problems with Operators

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^N} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2)\|_2^2 + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{L}_1 \mathbf{x}_1\|_1 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|\mathbf{L}_2 \mathbf{x}_2\|_2^2$$

**Assumption 1.** The forward matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times N}$  is surjective, i.e., has full row rank, so that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T$  is invertible.

**Assumption 2.** The nullspaces of the forward matrix and the regularization matrix  $\mathbf{L}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{M_2 \times N}$  have a trivial intersection, that is  $\ker \mathbf{A} \cap \ker \mathbf{L}_2 = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ .

**Assumption 3.** The vector space  $\ker(\mathbf{A})^\perp$  is an invariant subspace of the operation  $\mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{L}_2$ , i.e., the following holds:  $\mathbf{x} \in \ker(\mathbf{A})^\perp \Rightarrow \mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{L}_2 \mathbf{x} \in \ker(\mathbf{A})^\perp$ .

Under Assumption 1, we define the matrix  $\Lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times L}$  as

$$\Lambda_2 = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A}\mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{L}_2 \mathbf{A}^T. \quad (1)$$