

Step-by-Step Reconstruction Using Learned Dictionaries

Jon Tamir, PhD

www.jtsense.com

Electrical and Computer Engineering
The University of Texas at Austin

ISMIRM 2020 Virtual Conference





ONE COMMUNITY
ISMRM & SMRT
Virtual Conference & Exhibition
08-14 August 2020



Declaration of Financial Interests or Relationships

Speaker Name: Jonathan I Tamir

I have no financial interests or relationships to disclose with regard to the subject matter of this presentation.

Links

- Compressed sensing MRI overview:

https://www.ismrm.org/19/program_files/WE22.htm



CS-MRI Talk

- Hands-on examples:

https://github.com/utcsilab/dictionary_learning_ismrm_2020



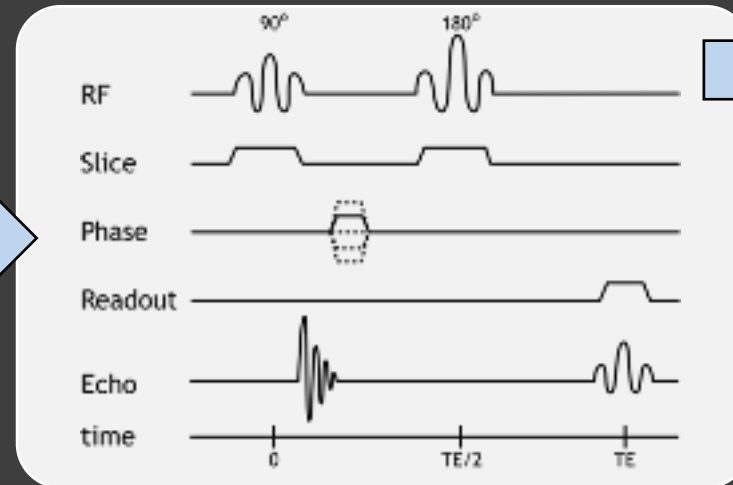
Hands-on code

MRI Background

Patient in MRI scanner



Pulse sequence controls MRI signal



Measurements are collected

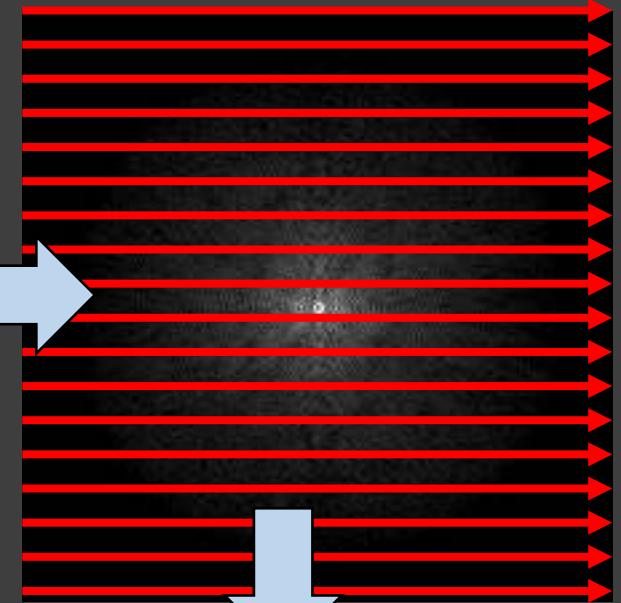
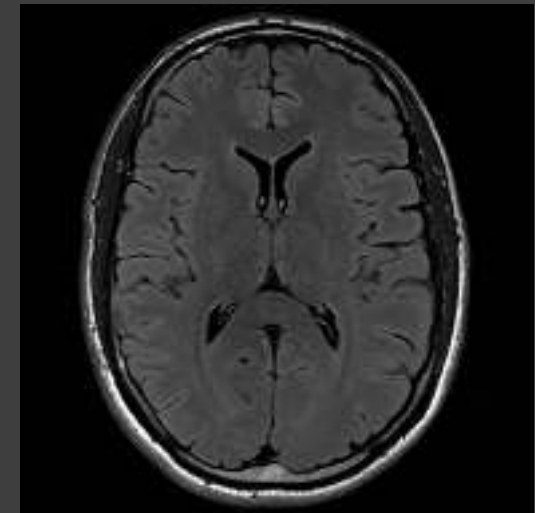
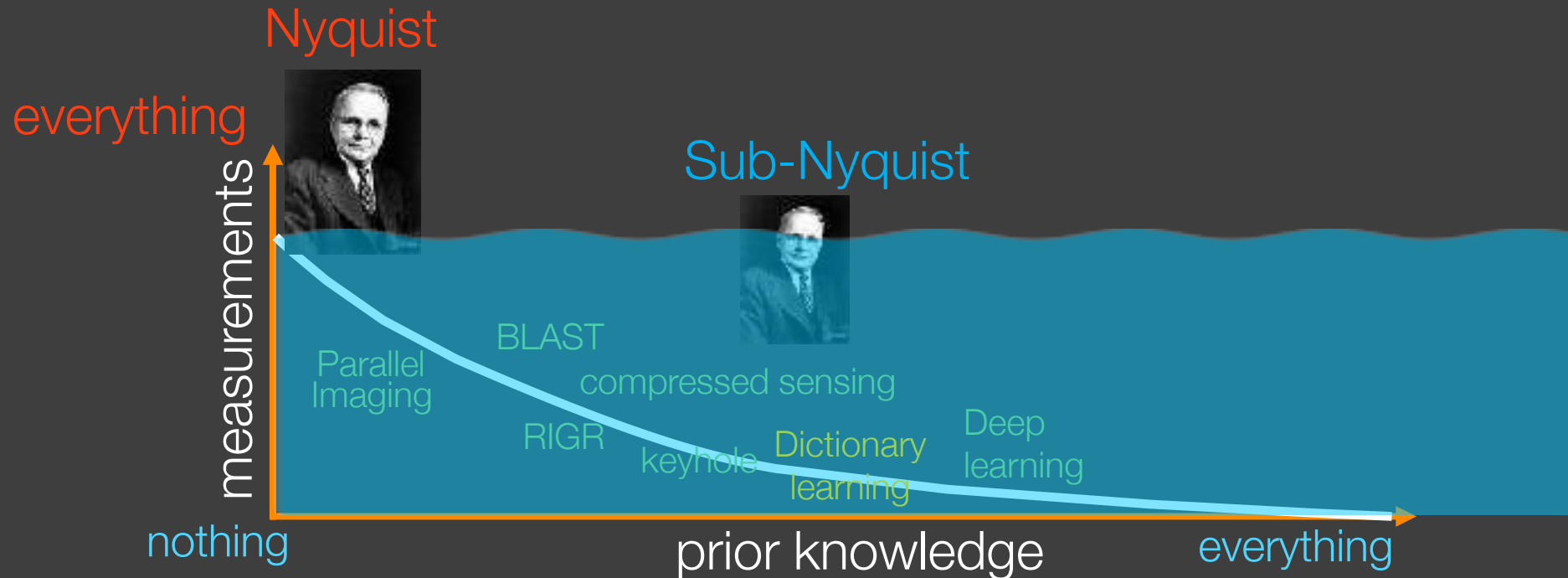


Image is reconstructed

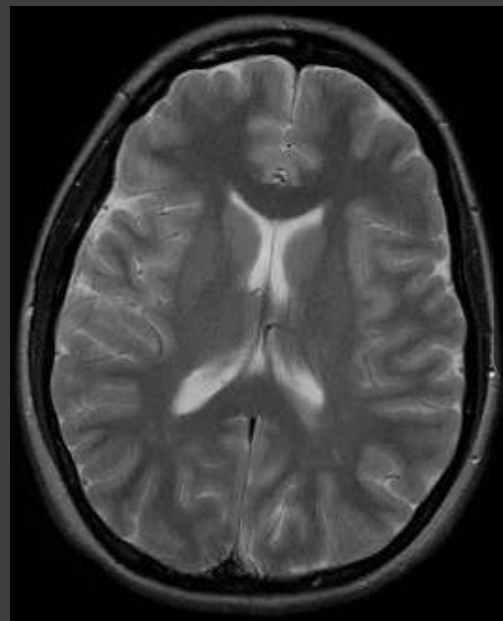


Data redundancy

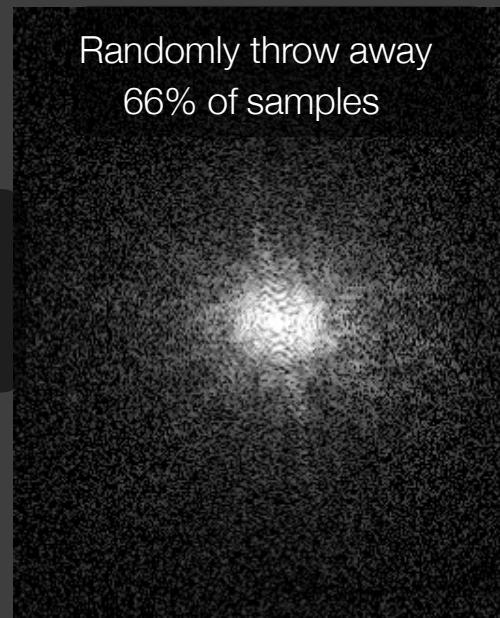
Redundancy reduces sampling requirements
(The more you know, the less you need)



Compressed sensing MRI



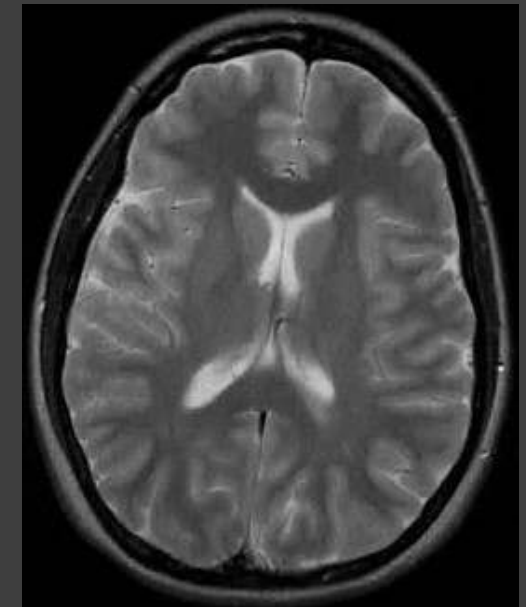
Fourier
→
transform



standard
→
recon

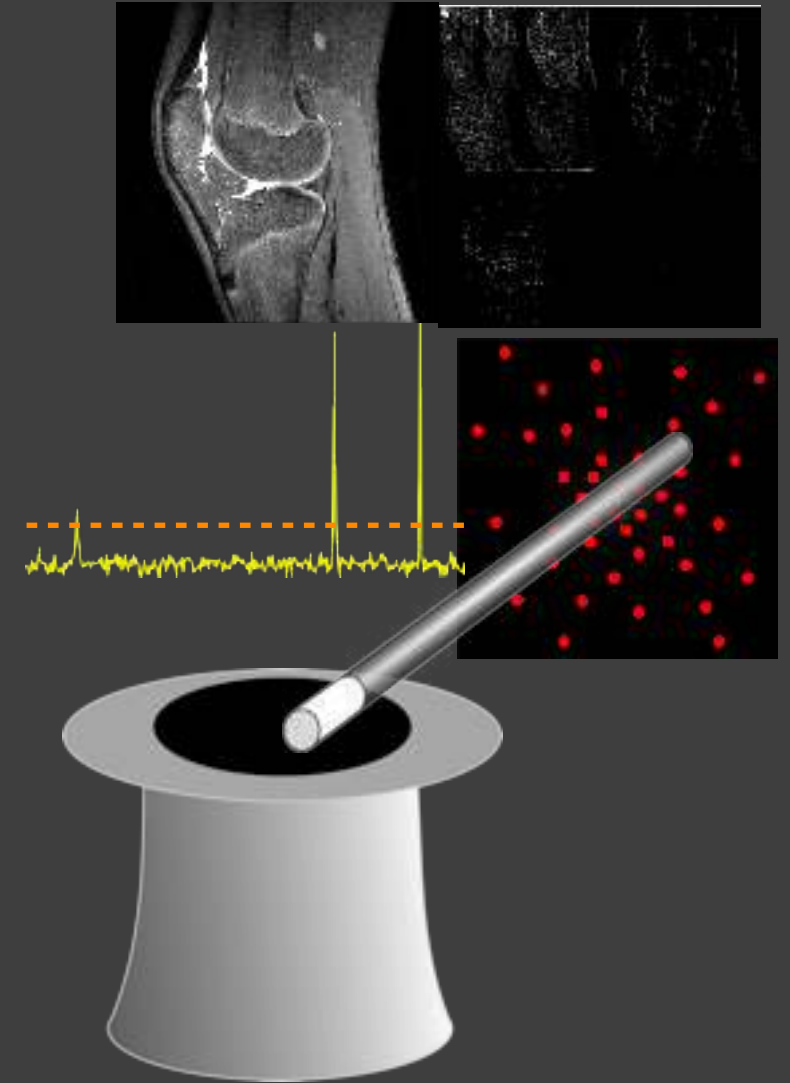


compressed
→
sensing



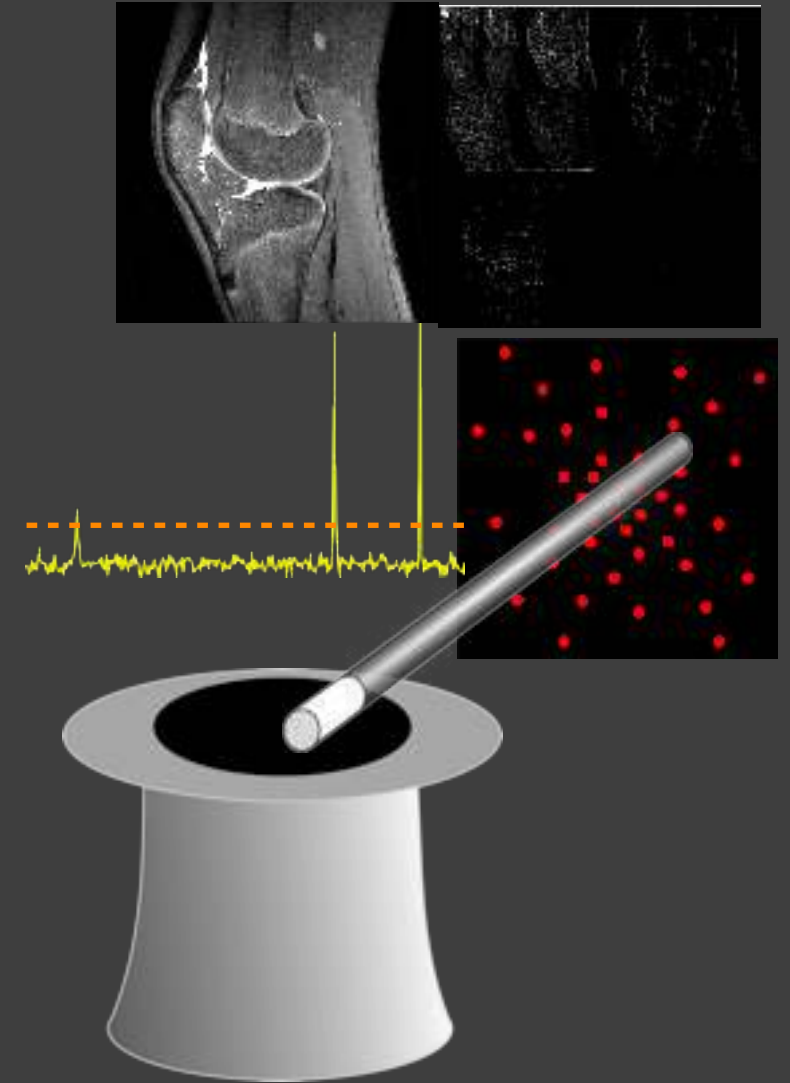
Compressed sensing recipe

1. Sparse signal model
2. Incoherent sensing operator
3. Non-linear reconstruction algorithm



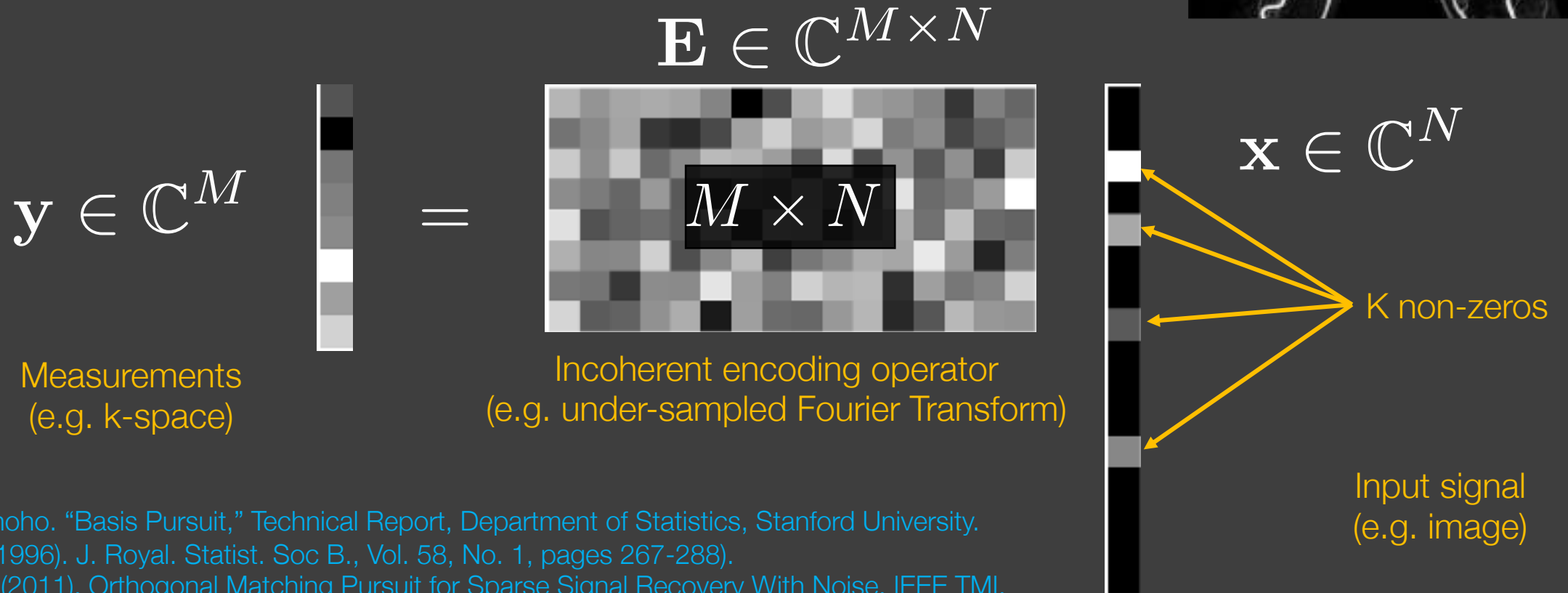
Compressed sensing recipe

1. Sparse signal model
2. Incoherent sensing operator
3. Non-linear reconstruction algorithm



Sparse signal modeling

- Assumption: \mathbf{x} is a **K-sparse** signal ($K \ll N$)
 - Make M ($K < M < N$) **incoherent** linear measurements



Sparse signal modeling

- Assumption: \mathbf{x} is a **K-sparse** signal ($K \ll N$)
 - Make **M** ($K < M < N$) **incoherent** linear measurements
 - Enforce sparsity during reconstruction

Greedy methods

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{E}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$

subject to $\|\mathbf{x}\|_0 \leq K$

Relaxation methods

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{E}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_1$$

Sparse signal modeling

- What if the signal (image) is not sparse (in the pixel domain)?

not sparse



not sparse



not sparse



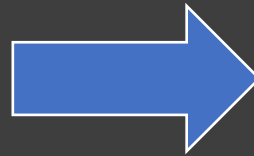
not sparse



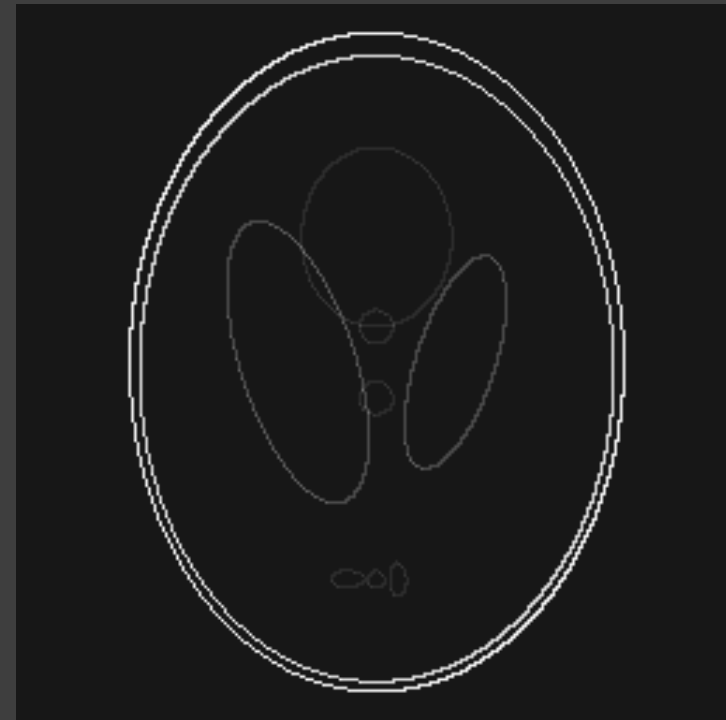
Transform sparsity

- Most medical images are sparse in an alternative representation

not sparse in pixel domain



sparse edges



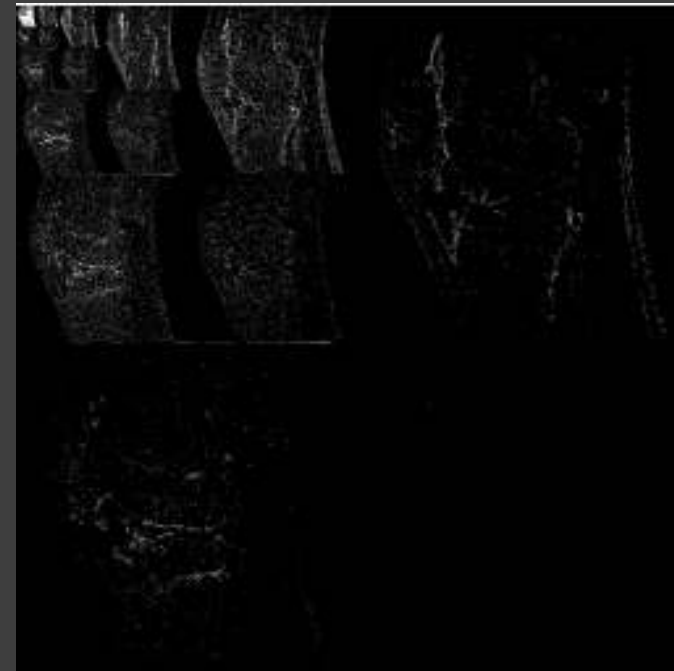
Transform sparsity

- Most medical images are sparse in an alternative representation

not sparse in pixel domain



sparse in wavelet domain



Transform sparsity

- Most medical images are sparse in an alternative representation

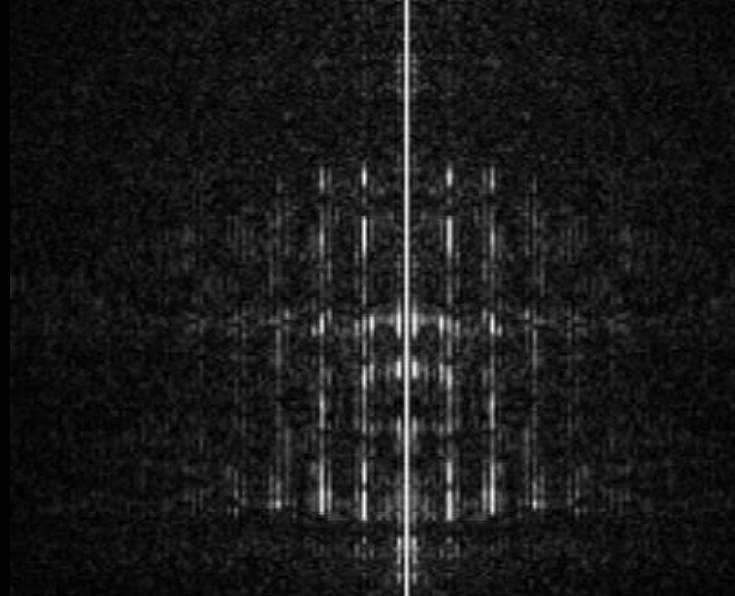
not sparse



sparse temporal
finite differences

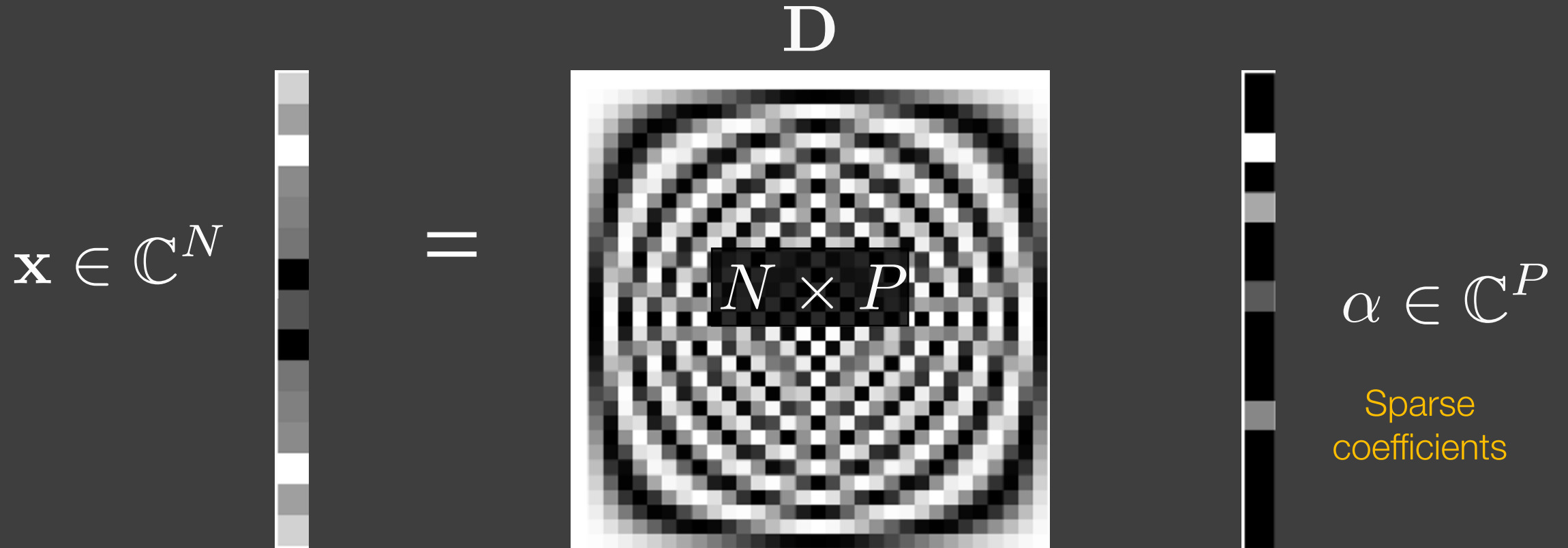


sparse temporal
frequency



Transform sparsity

- Represent the original signal as sparse in a transform domain



Dictionary: prototype atoms make a signal

Transform sparsity

- Represent the original signal as sparse in a transform domain
- Enforce sparsity on transformed coefficients

Greedy methods

$$\min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{ED}\alpha\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\alpha\|_1$$

Relaxation methods

$$\min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{ED}\alpha\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to } \|\alpha\|_0 \leq K$$

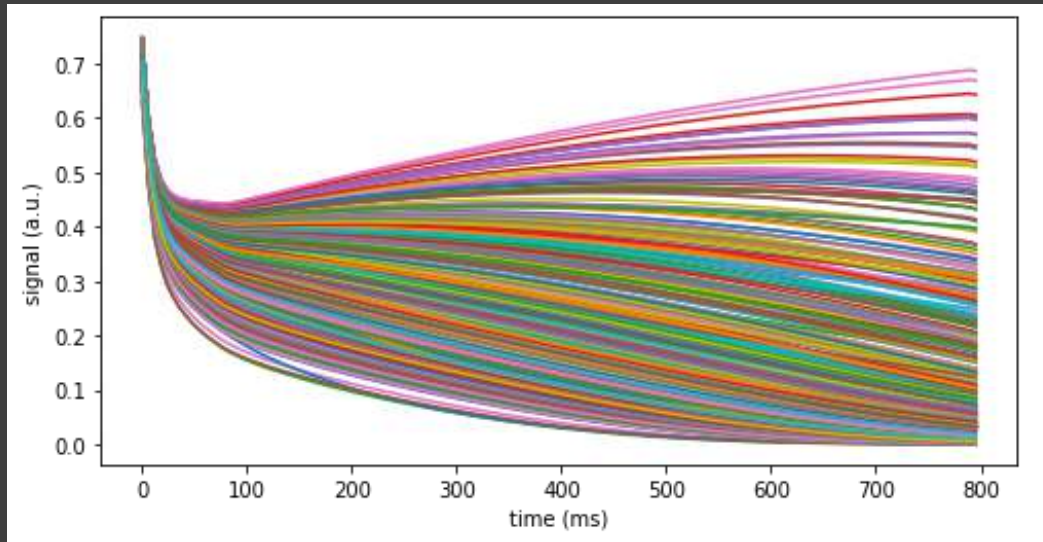
Transform sparsity

- Problem:
 - Sparsity is only as good as our transform
 - Need to choose the right transform for each signal
- Solution?
 - Learn the transform! → Dictionary Learning

Dictionary learning

Given training data (1D, 2D, N-D,...):

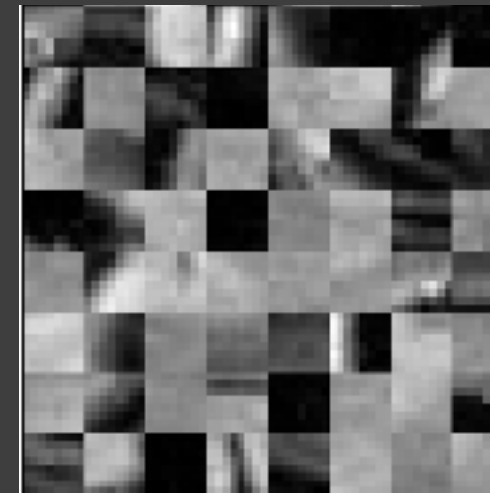
Temporal relaxation curves



Images



Patches

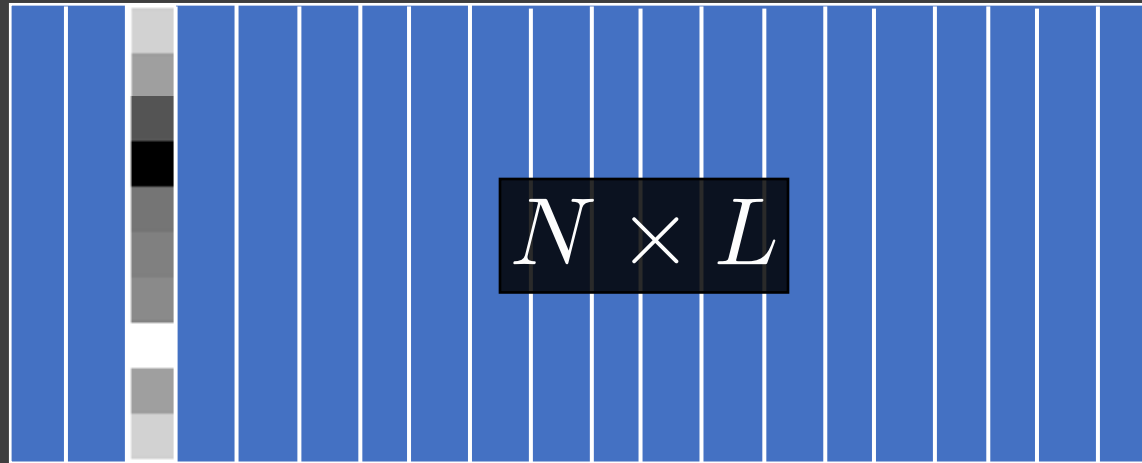


Dictionary learning

Given training data: form a data matrix

Data matrix

\mathbf{X}



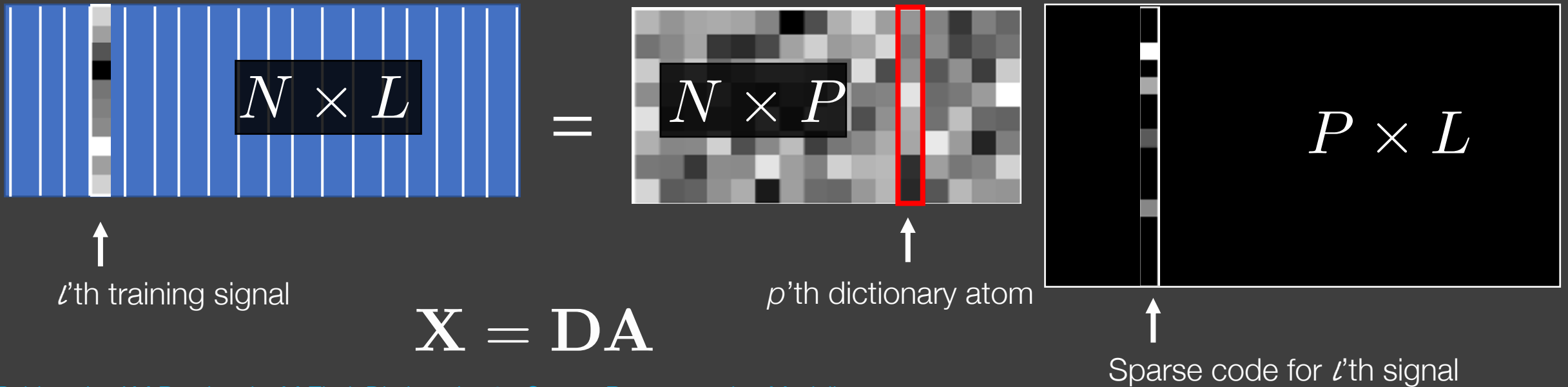
ℓ 'th training signal,
vectorized into a
column

L training examples
Each length- N

Dictionary learning

Given training data: form a data matrix

- Jointly learn the dictionary and the sparse representation



Dictionary learning

Given training data: form a data matrix

- Jointly learn the dictionary and the sparse representation

$$\min_{\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{A}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{DA}\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to } \|\alpha_l\|_0 \leq K \quad l = 1, \dots, L$$
$$\|\mathbf{d}_p\|_2 \leq 1 \quad p = 1, \dots, P$$

L: number of training examples
P: number of dictionary elements (atoms)

Dictionary learning

Given training data: form a data matrix

- Jointly learn the dictionary and the sparse representation
- Approach: alternating minimization

Step 1: Update coefficients (sparse coding)

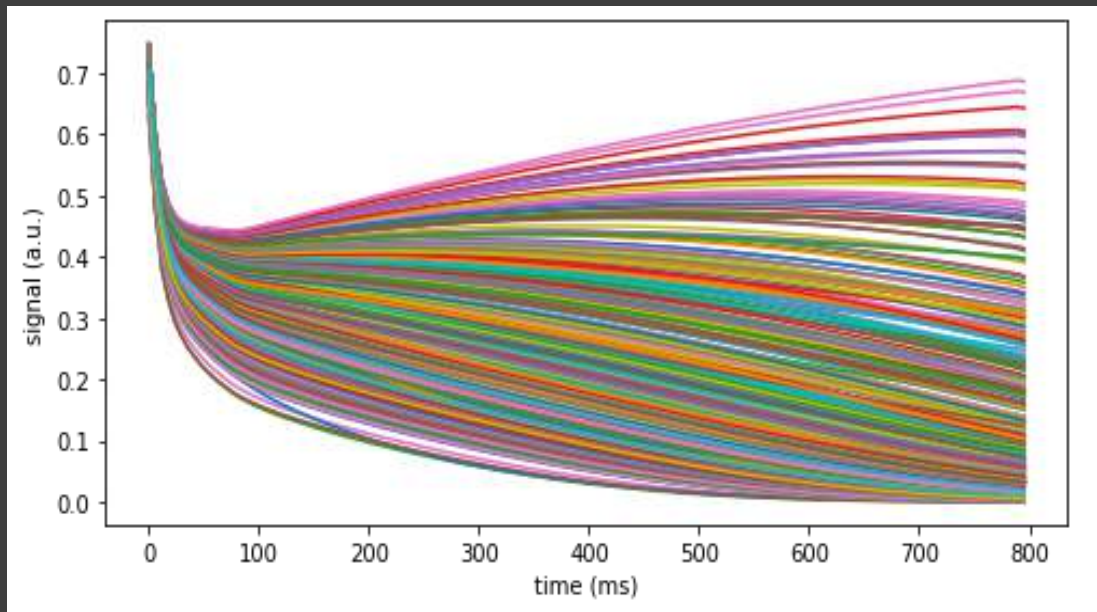
$$\min_{\mathbf{A}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to } \|\alpha_l\|_0 \leq K \\ l = 1, \dots, L$$

Step 2: Update dictionary

$$\min_{\mathbf{D}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to } \|\mathbf{d}_p\|_2 \leq 1 \\ p = 1, \dots, P$$

Dictionary learning: example

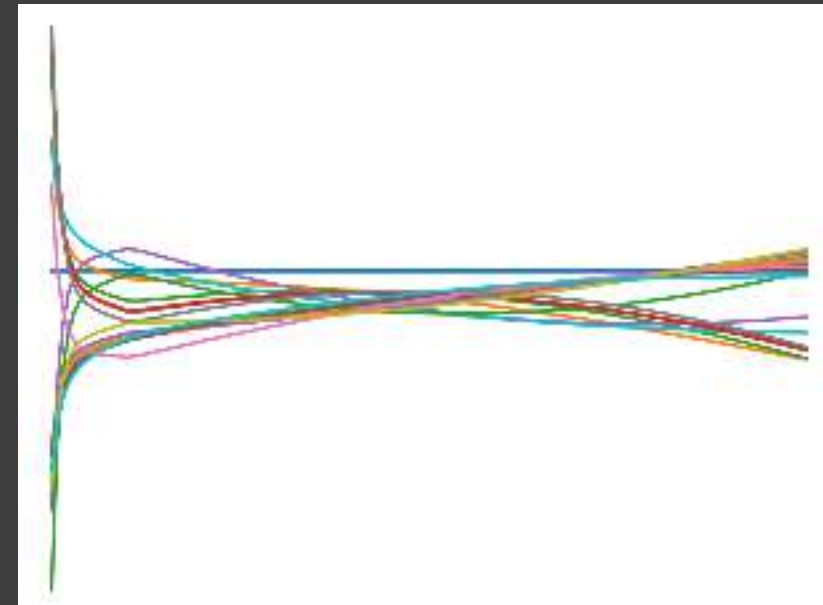
Temporal relaxation curves



$N = 130$

\mathbf{X}

$=$



$P = 20$

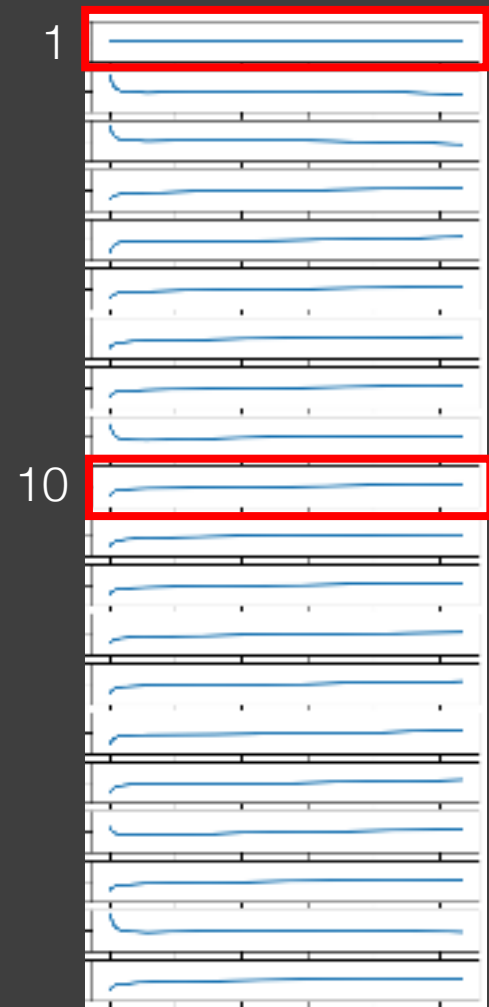
\mathbf{D}

$K=2$



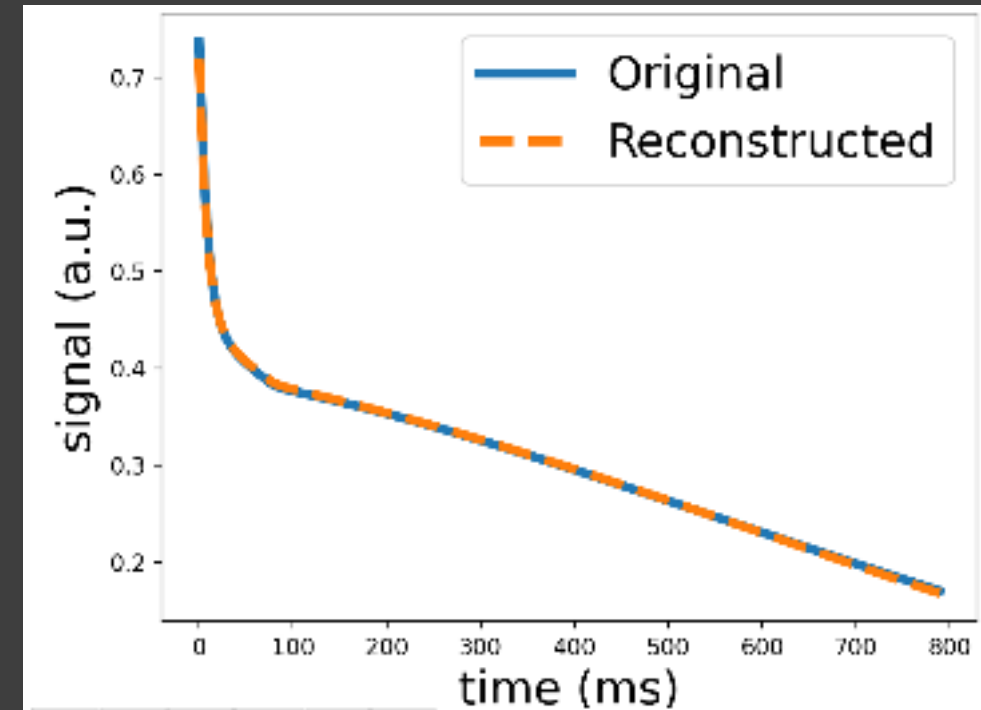
α

Dictionary learning: example



α

$=$



$$\mathbf{d}_1 \alpha_1 + \mathbf{d}_{10} \alpha_{10} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

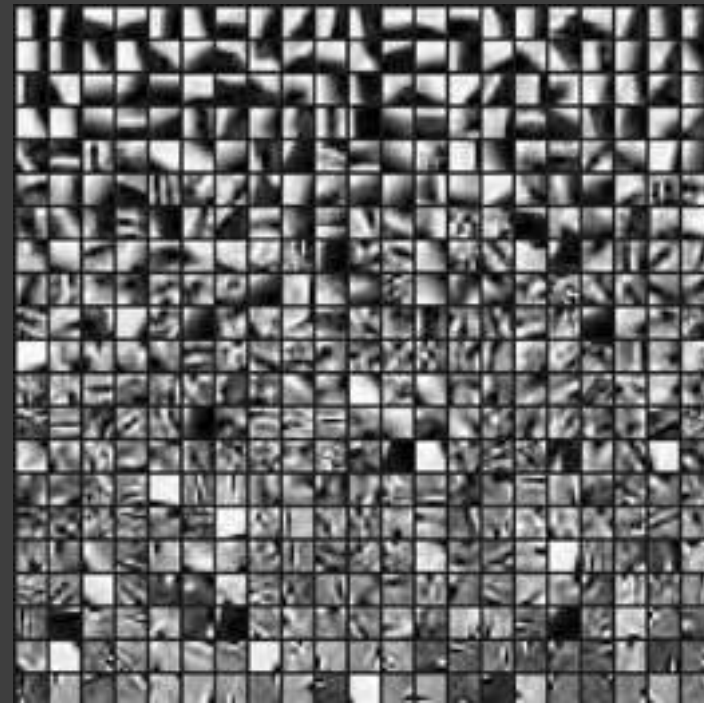
Dictionary learning: example

Image patches



\mathbf{X} $N = 8 \times 8$

=



\mathbf{D}_α

$P=441$



$K=7$

From image space to k-space

- We can learn the dictionary directly from training examples...
 - At “inference time”, solve the sparse coding problem
- But we can **also learn** the dictionary **directly from the MRI data!**

Dictionary learning MRI

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{A}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{E}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{D}\mathbf{A})\|_2^2$$

Data consistency

Dictionary fit

Converts from data matrix (patches) to image

subject to

$$\|\alpha_l\|_0 \leq K$$

$$\|\mathbf{d}_p\|_2 \leq 1$$

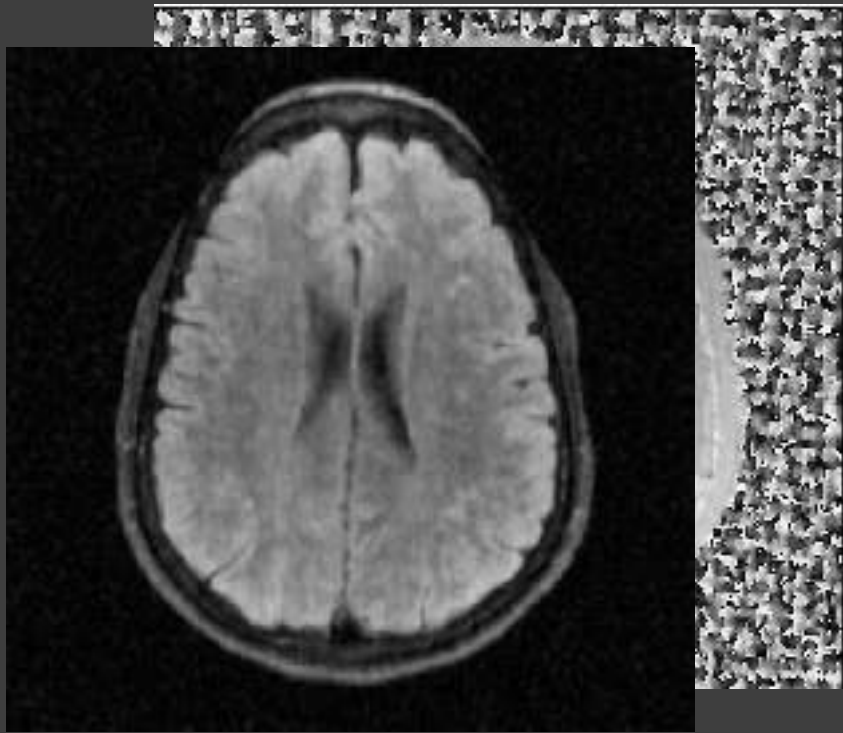
$$l = 1, \dots, L$$

$$p = 1, \dots, P$$

Solution: → Alternating minimization (again!)

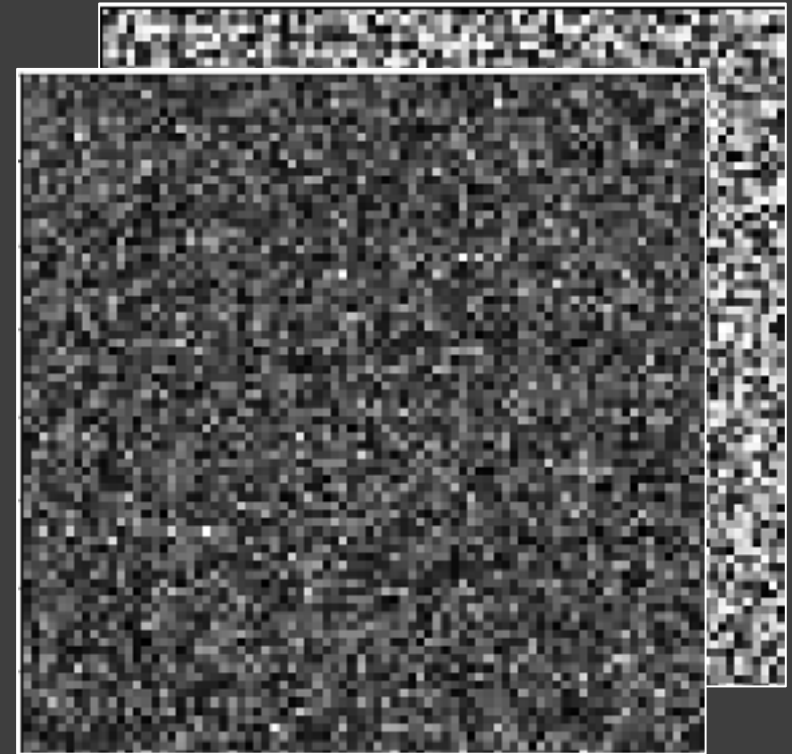
Dictionary learning MRI

Step 0. Initialize image and dictionary



X

(mag + phase)



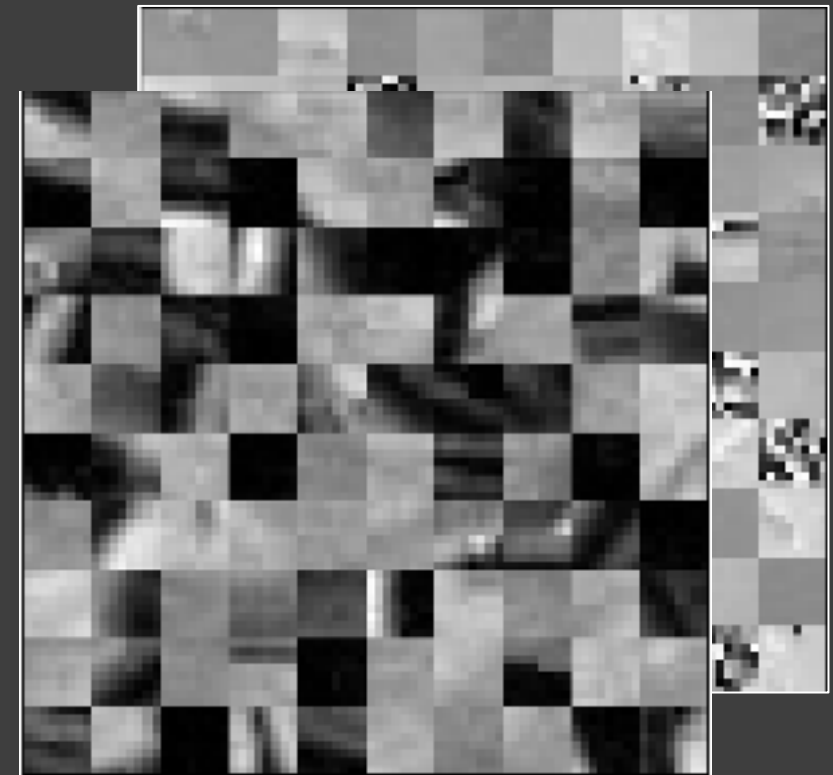
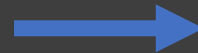
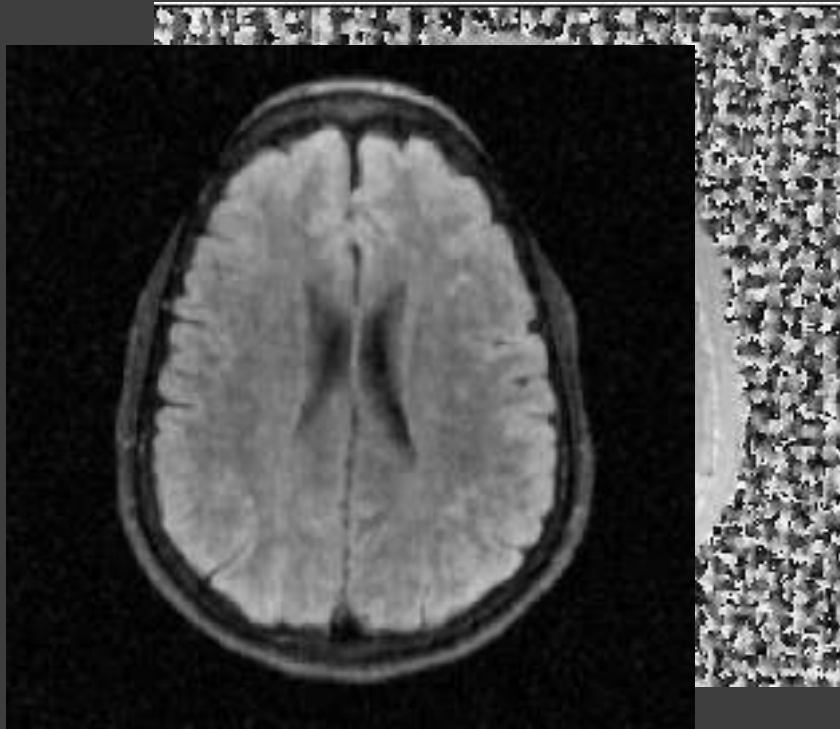
D

(mag + phase)

Dictionary learning MRI

For iterations 1:T

Step 1. Extract patches from image



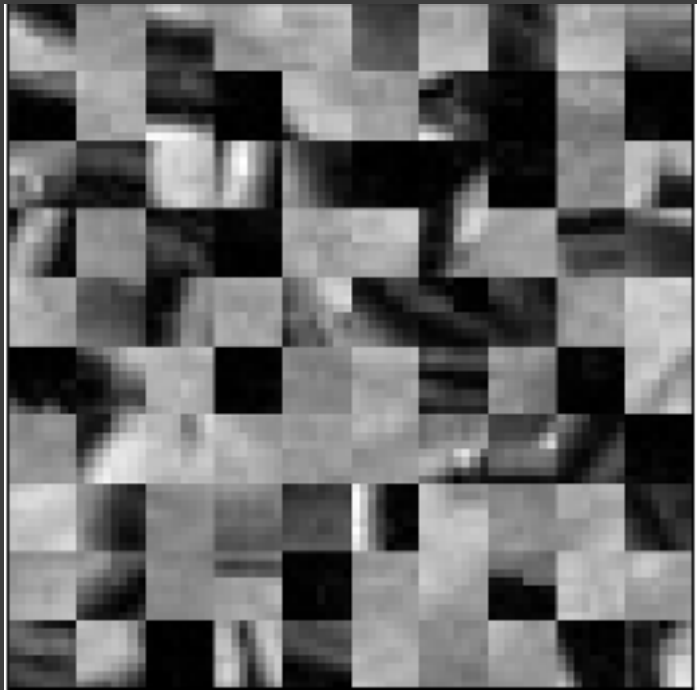
$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{x}$$

(mag + phase)

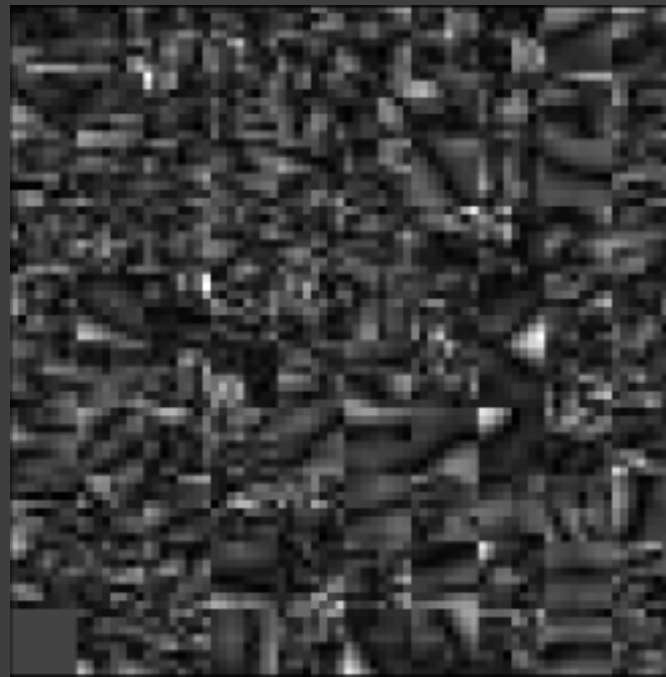
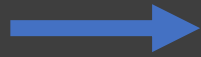
Dictionary learning MRI

For iterations 1:T

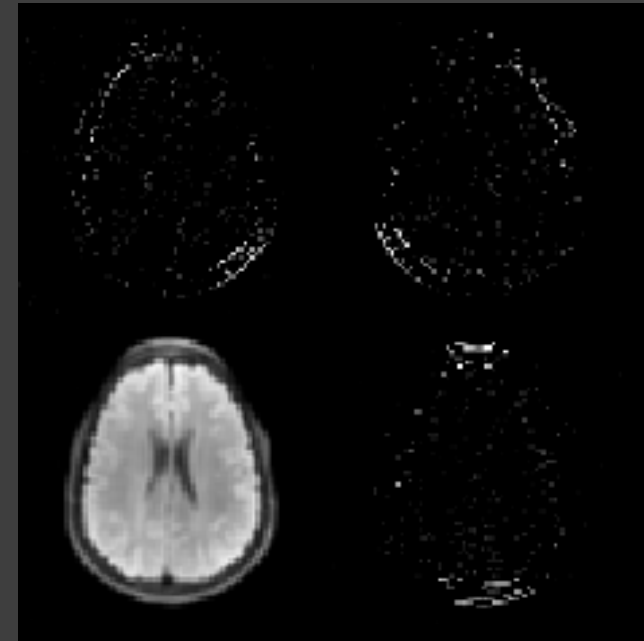
Step 2. Fit dictionary and sparse codes to patches



X



D

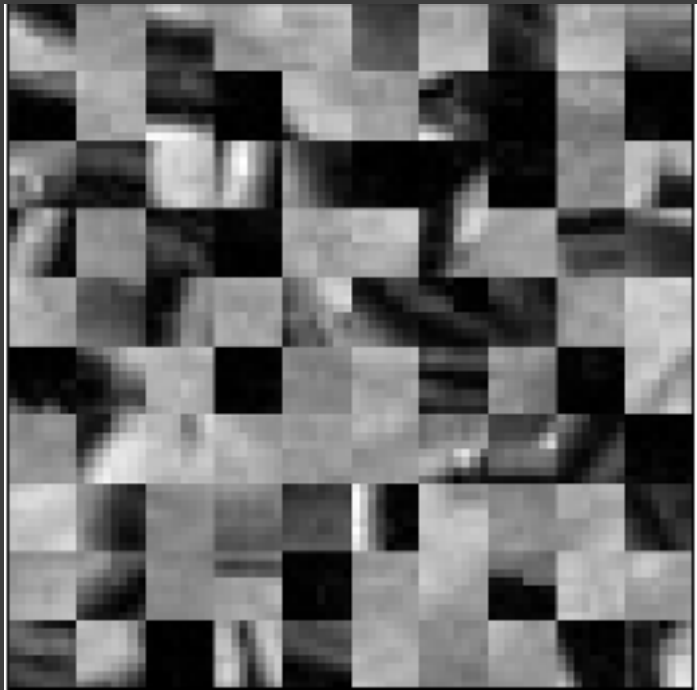


A

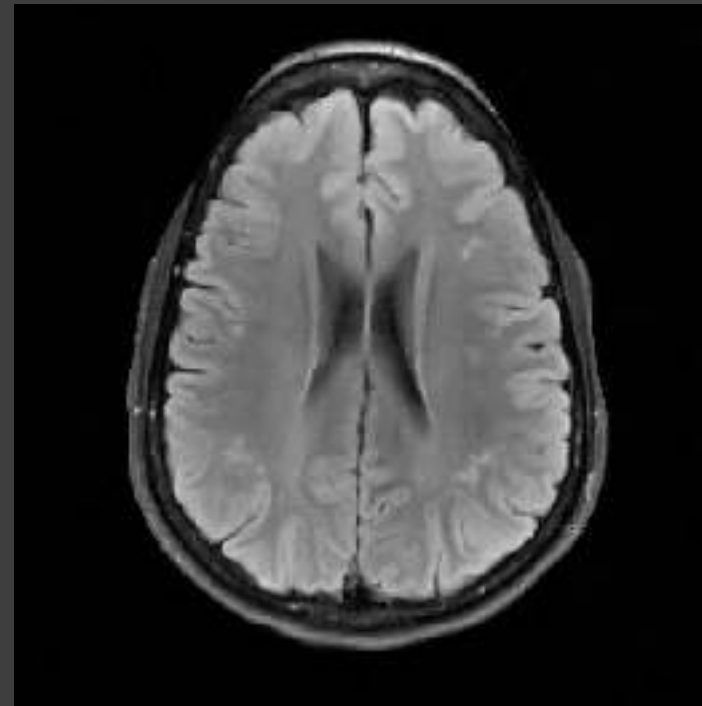
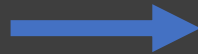
Dictionary learning MRI

For iterations 1:T

Step 3. Reshape and average patches into image



\mathbf{DA}

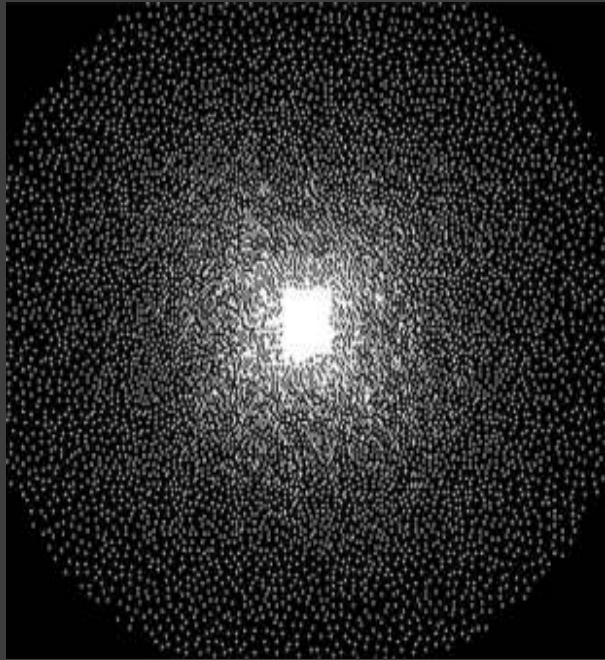


$\mathbf{x}_D = \mathbf{RDA}$

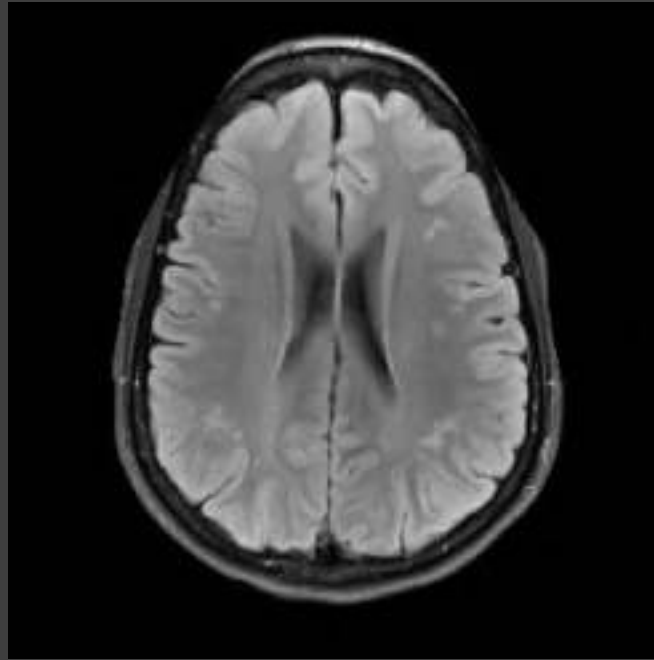
Dictionary learning MRI

For iterations 1:T

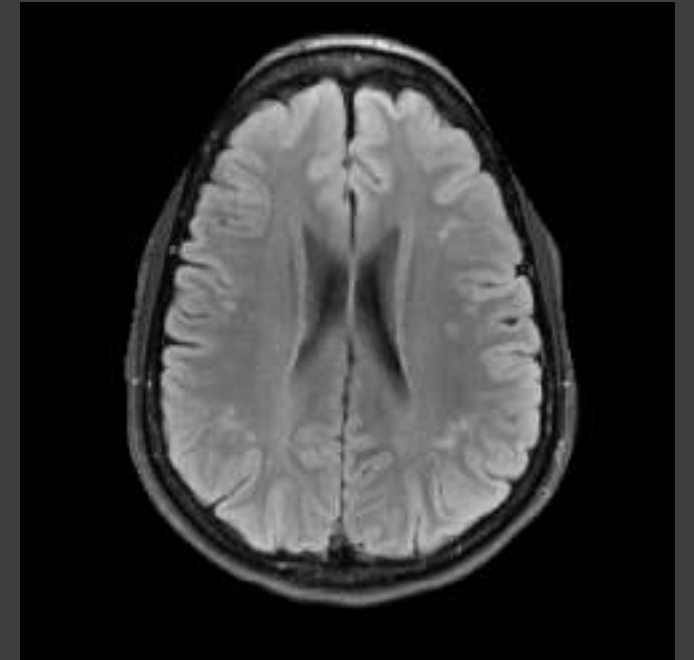
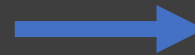
Step 4. Enforce data consistency with dictionary fit



y

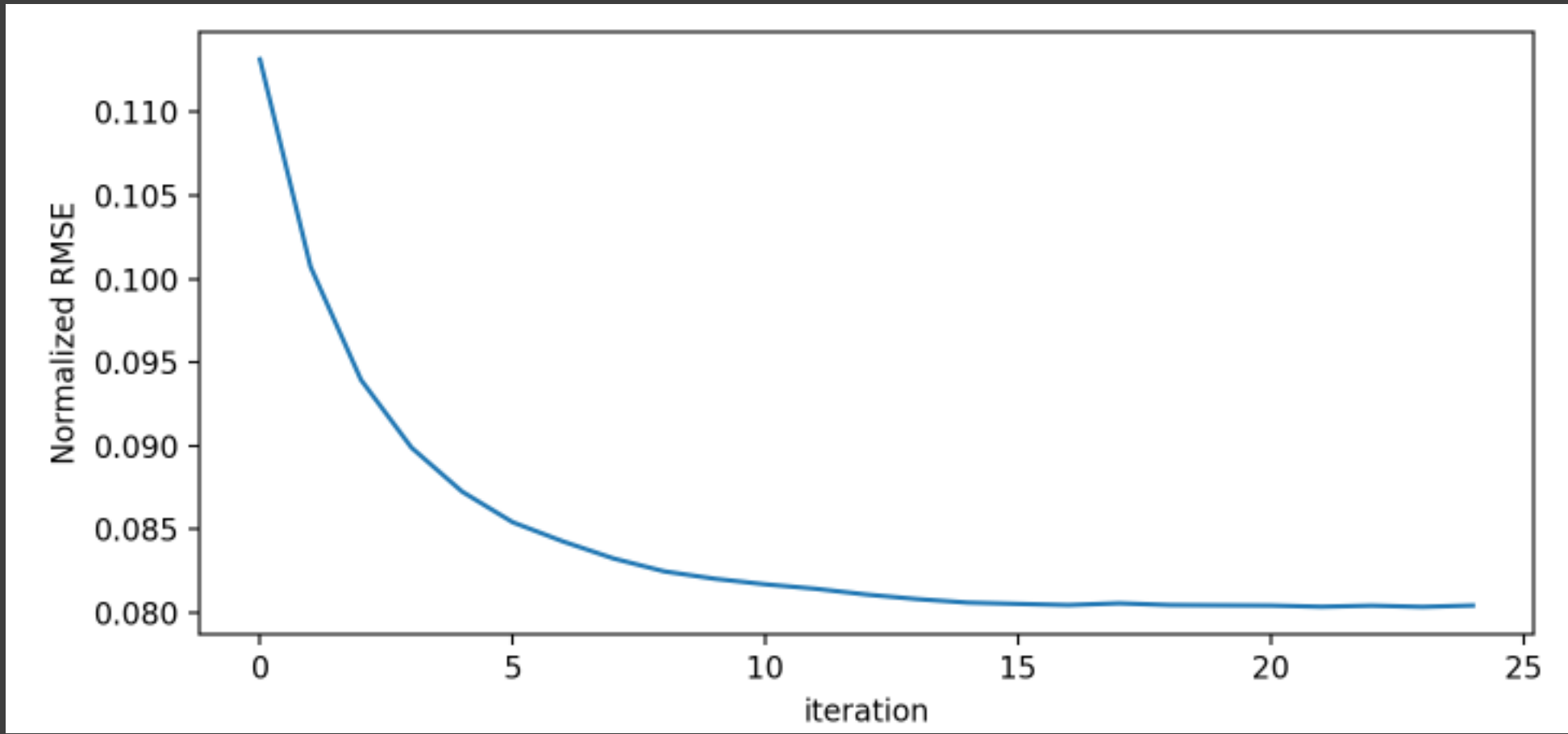


x_D



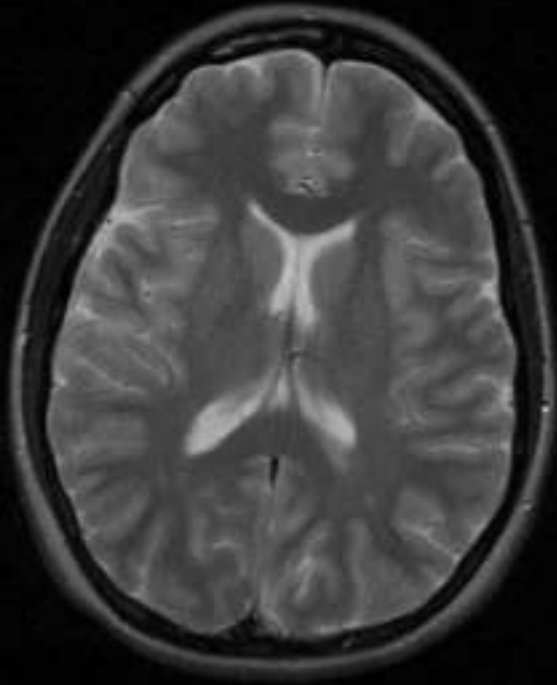
x

Dictionary learning MRI

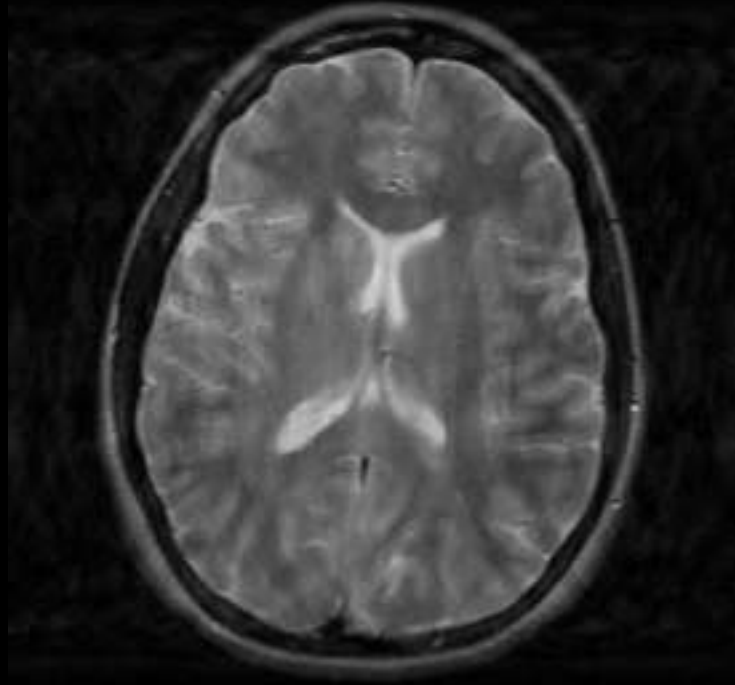


Error decreases with number of iterations

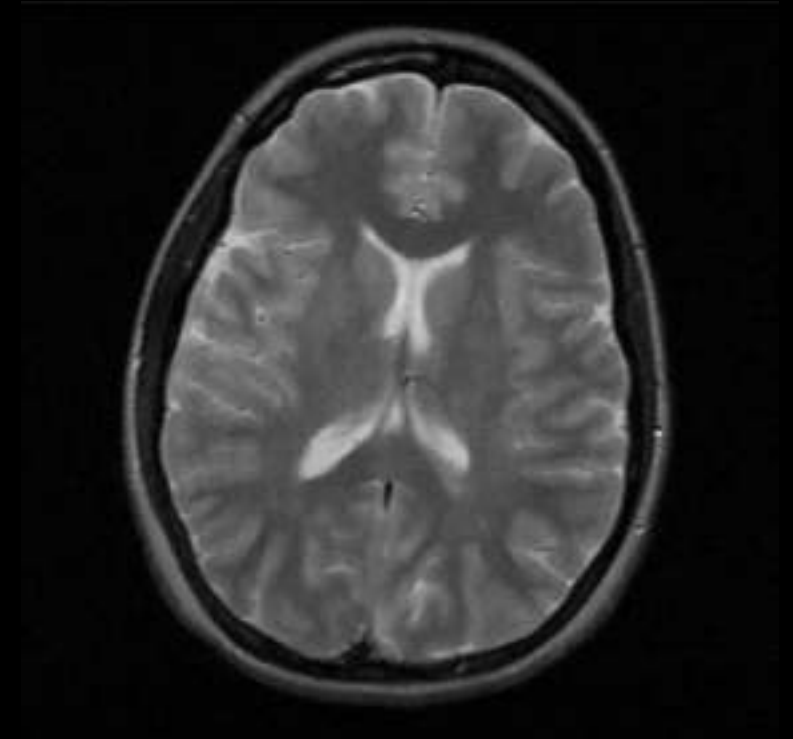
Dictionary learning MRI



Ground-truth



CS-MRI



Dictionary Learning

The Devil's in the details...

? How should I remove
“bad” atoms?

? How big should
the dictionary be?

? How sparse should
the signal be?

? Should I update the
dictionary all at once?

? How should I initialize
the dictionary?

? How should I
enforce sparsity?

Hands-on dictionary learning

- Tutorial code for dictionary learning:

https://github.com/utcsilab/dictionary_learning_ismrm_2020



Tutorial Code

- Based on SigPy, a Python toolbox for iterative signal processing

<https://sigpy.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>



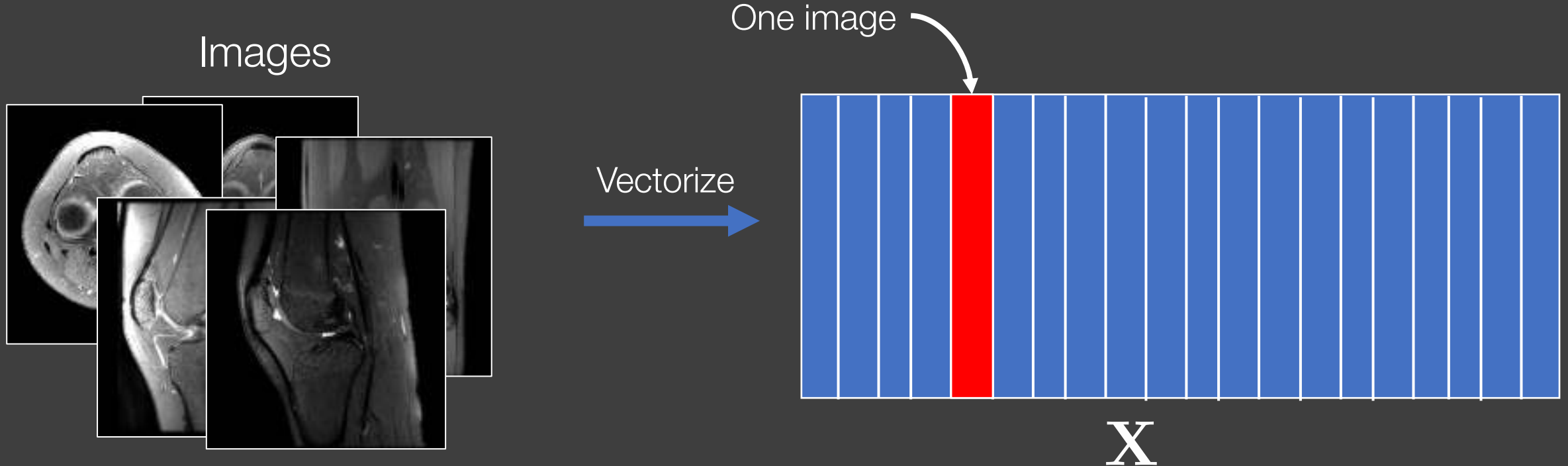
SigPy

From local to global modeling

- Dictionary learning: local representation
 - The dictionary is built to represent local patches
 - Each patch is a sparse combination of the dictionary
 - The patches are reshaped and averaged to form the image
- Can we create a sparse global model?

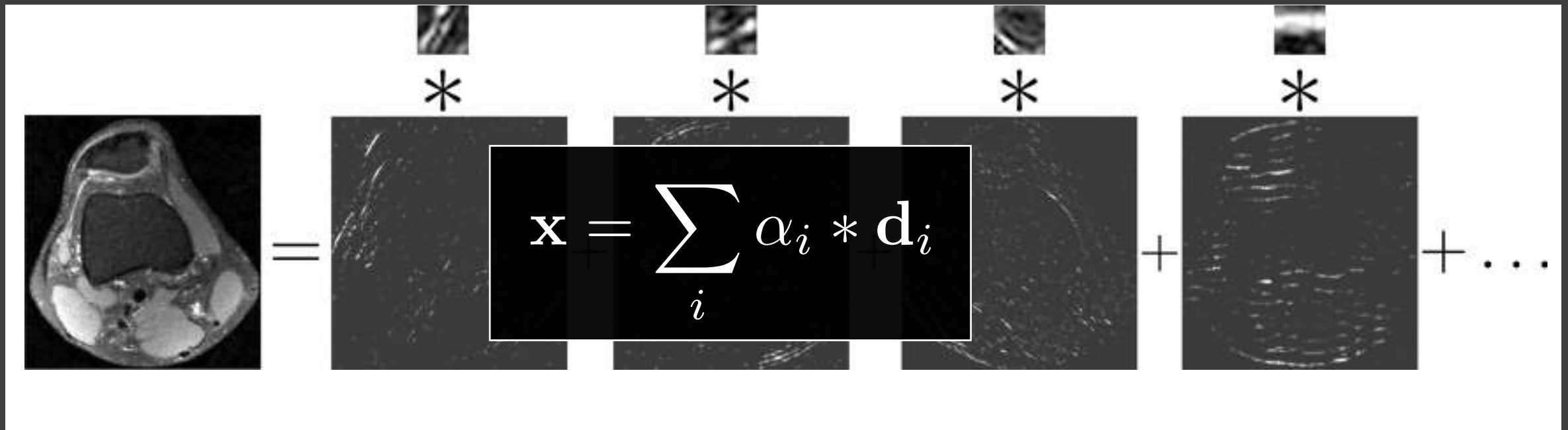
From local to global modeling

- Can we create a sparse global model?
 - Could we represent the image as a sparse combination of *images*?
 - Our dictionary is $N \times P$, where N is the number of pixels!!
→ Not feasible!



Alternative: convolutional sparse coding

- Represent the full image as a sum of dictionary filters convolved with sparse coefficients



Convolutional sparse coding (CSC)

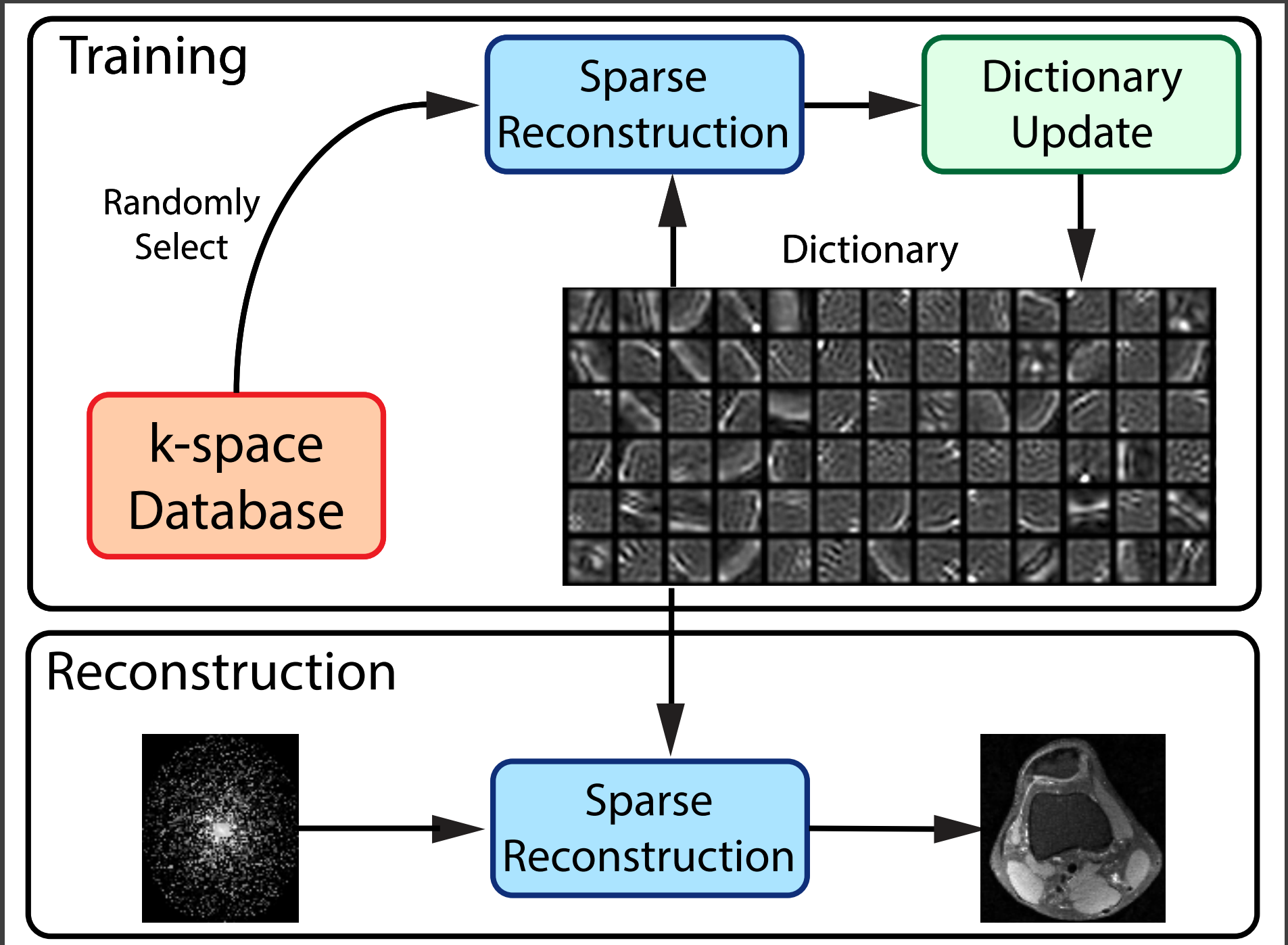
- In k-space, over multiple data sets:

$$\min_{\alpha_j, \mathbf{D}} \sum_j \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y}_j - \mathbf{E}_j \sum_i \alpha_{ij} * \mathbf{d}_i\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\alpha_{ij}\|_1$$

Same filters for
all datasets

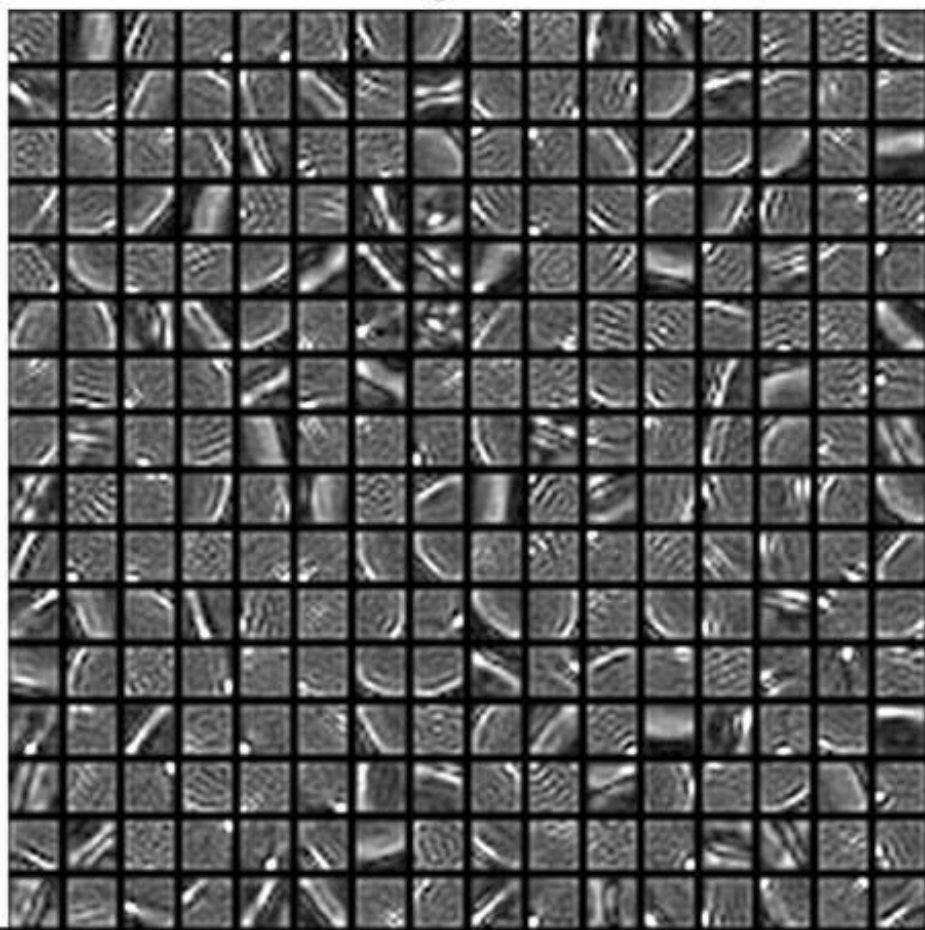
j'th k-space dataset

i'th sparse channel for j'th dataset

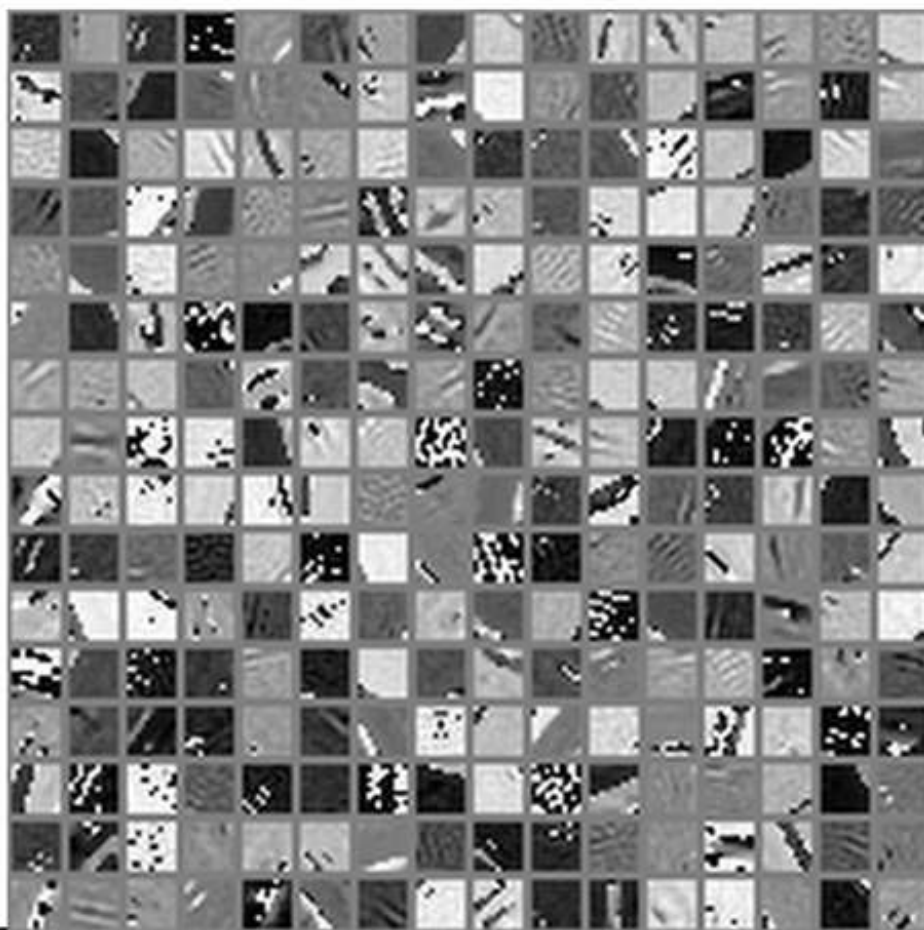


Dictionary Learned from Under-sampled Datasets

Magnitude

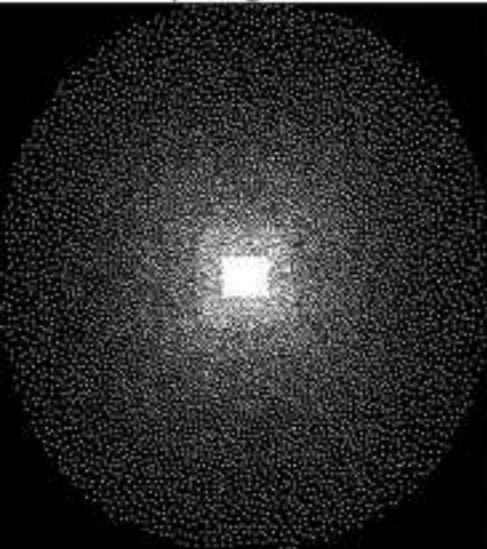


Phase

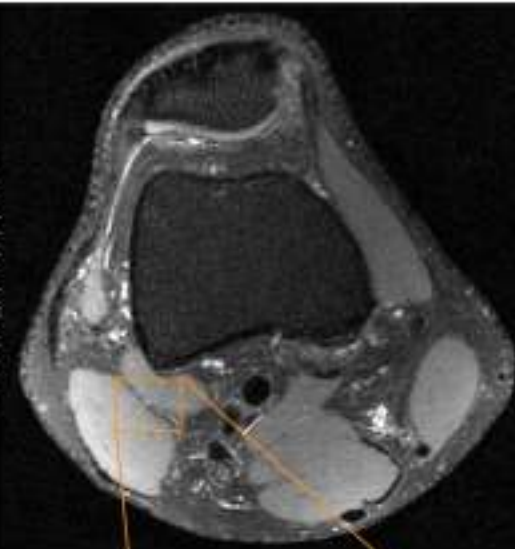


CSC MRI

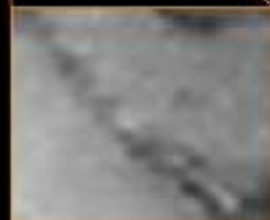
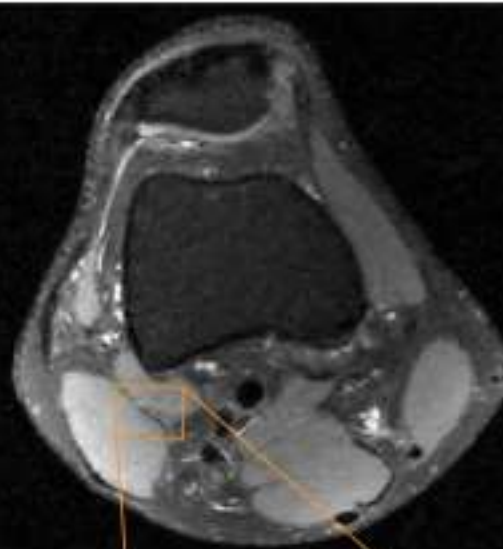
8x Poisson Disk
Sampling Pattern



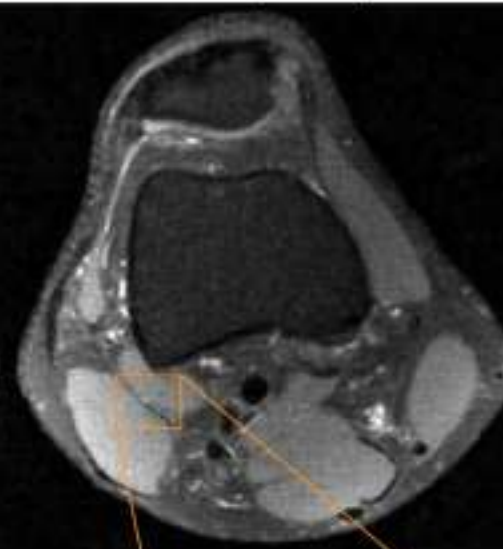
Ground Truth



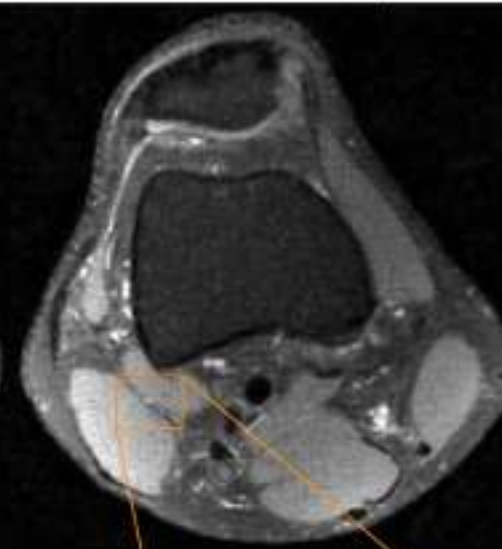
l1 Wavelet Recon



Recon w/ Dict. learned
from fully-sampled



Recon w/ Dict. learned
from under-sampled

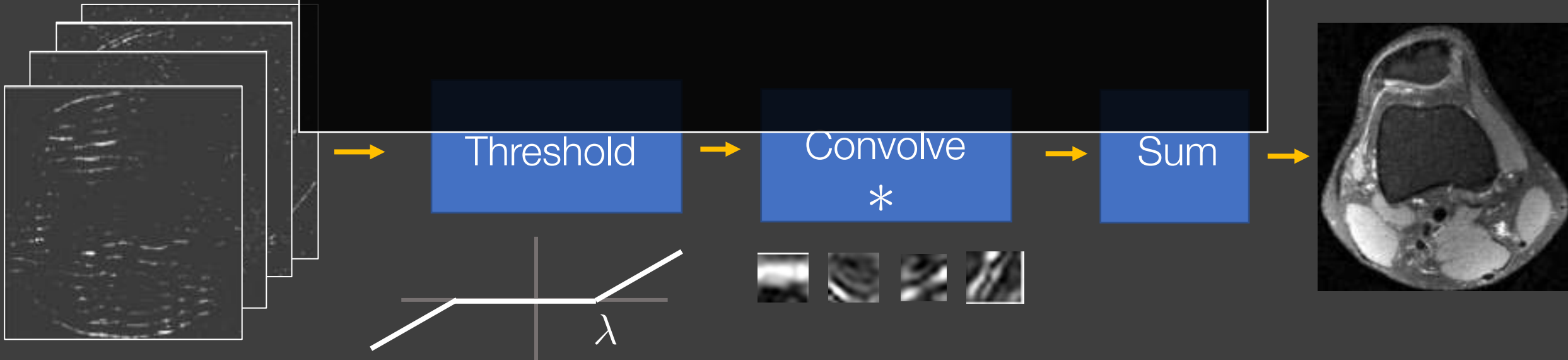


From CSC to deep learning

CSC recovery algorithm:

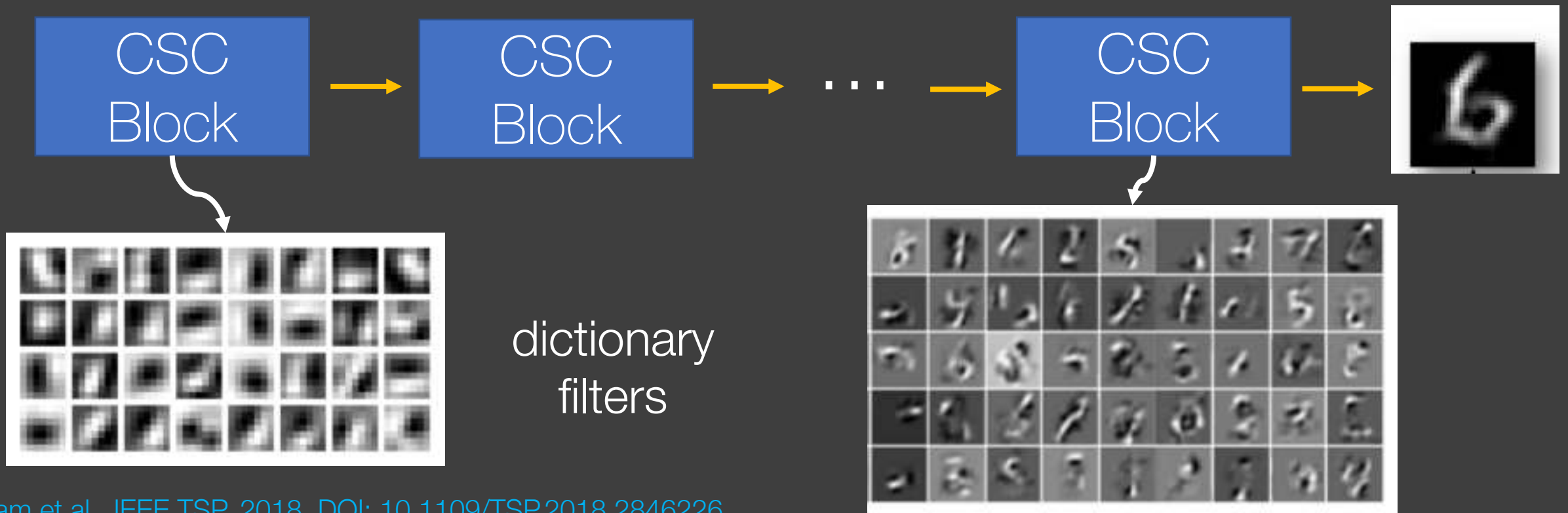
- Threshold coefficients to enforce sparsity
- Convolve multi-channel coefficients with multi-channel filters
- Sum across channels to form the image
- Repeat for T iterations

One layer of a convolutional neural network?



Multi-layer convolutional sparse coding

- Apply CSC multiple times, learn filters at each stage
- Like deep learning, but with performance guarantees!!



Summary

- Dictionary learning extends compressed sensing to learned sparsifying transforms
- Application to MRI is straightforward
- Choice of hyper-parameters greatly impacts performance
- Connections between Dictionary Learning (DL) and Deep Learning (DL) in more than just initials



Thanks!

Slides/images

Miki Lustig, Joseph Cheng,
Josh Trzasko, Frank Ong

