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 004 **Supplementary Material to “External Prior Guided Internal Prior Learning for**
 005 **Real Noisy Image Denoising”**
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In this supplementary material, we provide:

1. The closed-form solution of the proposed weighted sparse coding model in the main paper.
2. More denoising results on the real noisy images (with no “ground truth”) provided in the dataset [1].
3. More denoising results on the 15 cropped real noisy images (with “ground truth”) used in the dataset [2].
4. More denoising results on the 60 cropped real noisy images (with “ground truth”) from [2].

1. Closed-Form Solution of the Weighted Sparse Coding Problem (4)

The weighted sparse coding problem in the main paper is:

$$\min_{\alpha} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{D}\alpha\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{w}^T \alpha\|_1. \quad (1)$$

Since \mathbf{D} is an orthonormal matrix, problem (1) is equivalent to

$$\min_{\alpha} \|\mathbf{D}^T \mathbf{y} - \alpha\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{w}^T \alpha\|_1. \quad (2)$$

For simplicity, we denote $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{D}^T \mathbf{y}$. Since $\mathbf{w}_i = c * 2\sqrt{2}\sigma^2 / (\Lambda_i + \varepsilon)$ is positive (please refer to Eq. (18) in the main paper), problem (2) can be written as

$$\min_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^{p^2} ((\mathbf{z}_i - \alpha_i)^2 + \mathbf{w}_i |\alpha_i|). \quad (3)$$

The problem (3) is separable w.r.t. α_i and can be simplified to p^2 scalar minimization problems

$$\min_{\alpha_i} (\mathbf{z}_i - \alpha_i)^2 + \mathbf{w}_i |\alpha_i|, \quad (4)$$

where $i = 1, \dots, p^2$. Taking derivative of α_i in problem (4) and setting the derivative to be zero. There are two cases for the solution.

(a) If $\alpha_i \geq 0$, we have

$$2(\alpha_i - \mathbf{z}_i) + \mathbf{w}_i = 0. \quad (5)$$

The solution is

$$\hat{\alpha}_i = \mathbf{z}_i - \frac{\mathbf{w}_i}{2} \geq 0. \quad (6)$$

So $\mathbf{z}_i \geq \frac{\mathbf{w}_i}{2} > 0$, and the solution $\hat{\alpha}_i$ can be written as

$$\hat{\alpha}_i = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{z}_i) * (|\mathbf{z}_i| - \frac{\mathbf{w}_i}{2}), \quad (7)$$

where $\text{sgn}(\bullet)$ is the sign function.

(b) If $\alpha_i < 0$, we have

$$2(\alpha_i - \mathbf{z}_i) - \mathbf{w}_i = 0. \quad (8)$$

The solution is

$$\hat{\alpha}_i = \mathbf{z}_i + \frac{\mathbf{w}_i}{2} < 0. \quad (9)$$

So $\mathbf{z}_i < -\frac{\mathbf{w}_i}{2} < 0$, and the solution $\hat{\alpha}_i$ can be written as

$$\hat{\alpha}_i = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{z}_i) * (-\mathbf{z}_i - \frac{\mathbf{w}_i}{2}) = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{z}_i) * (|\mathbf{z}_i| - \frac{\mathbf{w}_i}{2}). \quad (10)$$

108 In summary, we have the final solution of the weighted sparse coding problem (1) as 162
 109 $\hat{\alpha} = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{D}^T \mathbf{y}) \odot \max(|\mathbf{D}^T \mathbf{y}| - \mathbf{w}/2, 0),$ 163
 110 where \odot means element-wise multiplication and $|\mathbf{D}^T \mathbf{y}|$ is the absolute value of each entry of the vector $\mathbf{D}^T \mathbf{y}.$ 164
 111
 112 **2. More Results on Real Noisy Images in [1]** 165
 113
 114 In this section, we give more visual comparisons of the competing methods on the real noisy images provided in [1]. The 166
 115 real noisy images in this dataset [1] have no “ground truth” images and hence we only compare the visual quality of the 167
 116 denoised images by different methods. As can be seen from Figures 1-4, our proposed method performs better than the state- 168
 117-of-the-art denoising methods. This validates the effectiveness of our proposed external prior guided internal prior learning 169
 118 framework for real noisy image denoising. 170
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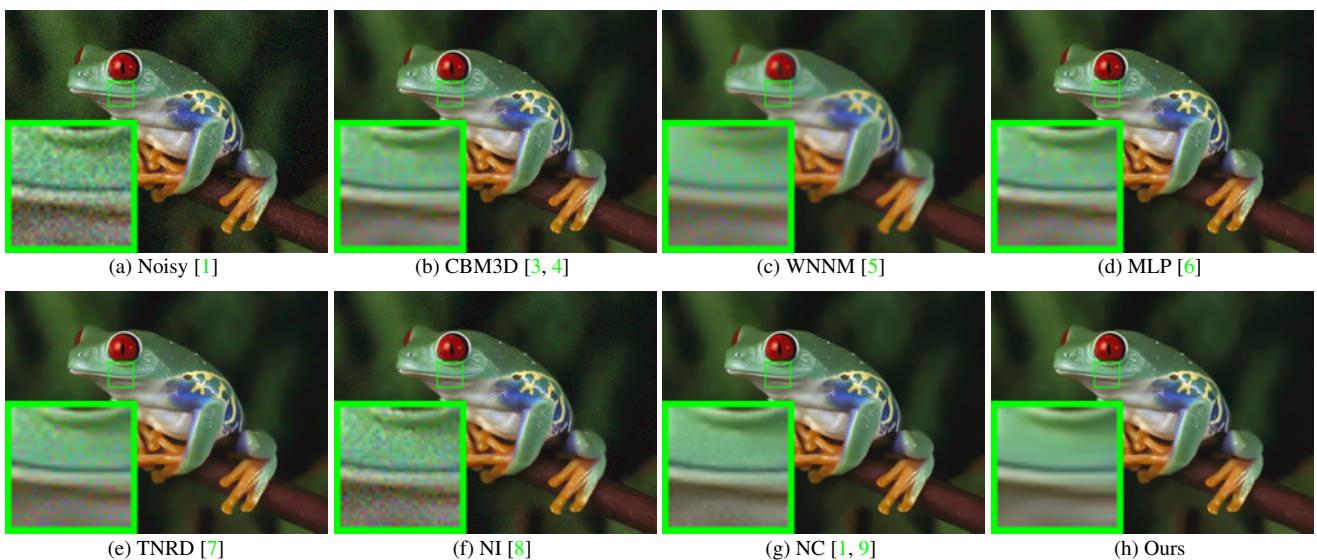


Figure 1. Denoised images of the real noisy image “Frog” [1] by different methods. The images are better to be zoomed in on screen.

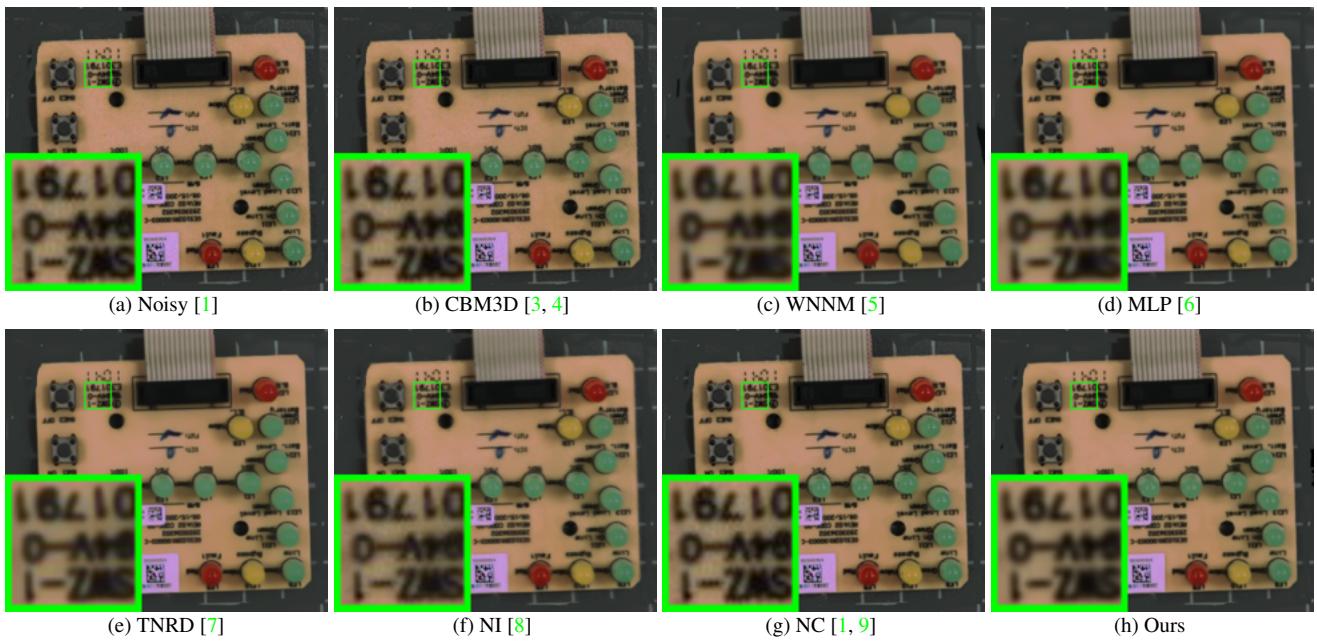


Figure 2. Denoised images of the real noisy image “Circuit” [1] by different methods. The images are better to be zoomed in on screen.

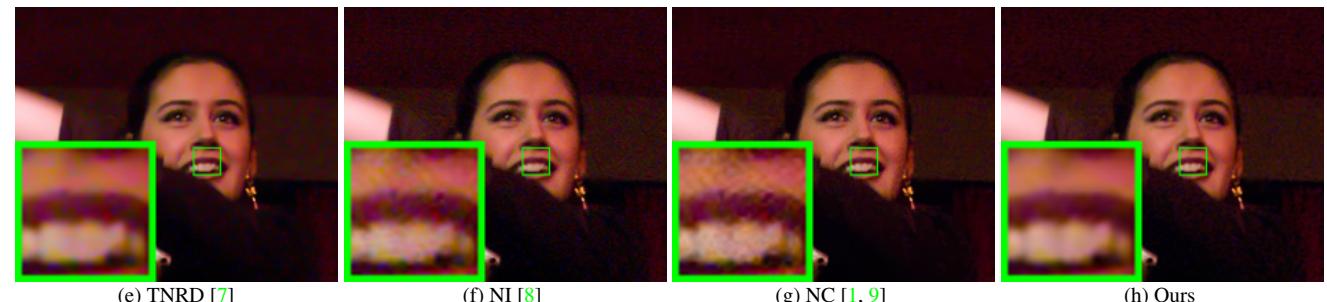
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226(a) Noisy [1] (b) CBM3D [3, 4] (c) WNNM [5] (d) MLP [6]
(e) TNRD [7] (f) NI [8] (g) NC [1, 9] (h) Ours227
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Figure 3. Denoised images of the real noisy image “Woman” [1] by different methods. The images are better to be zoomed in on screen.

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(a) Noisy [1] (b) CBM3D [3, 4] (c) WNNM [5] (d) MLP [6]

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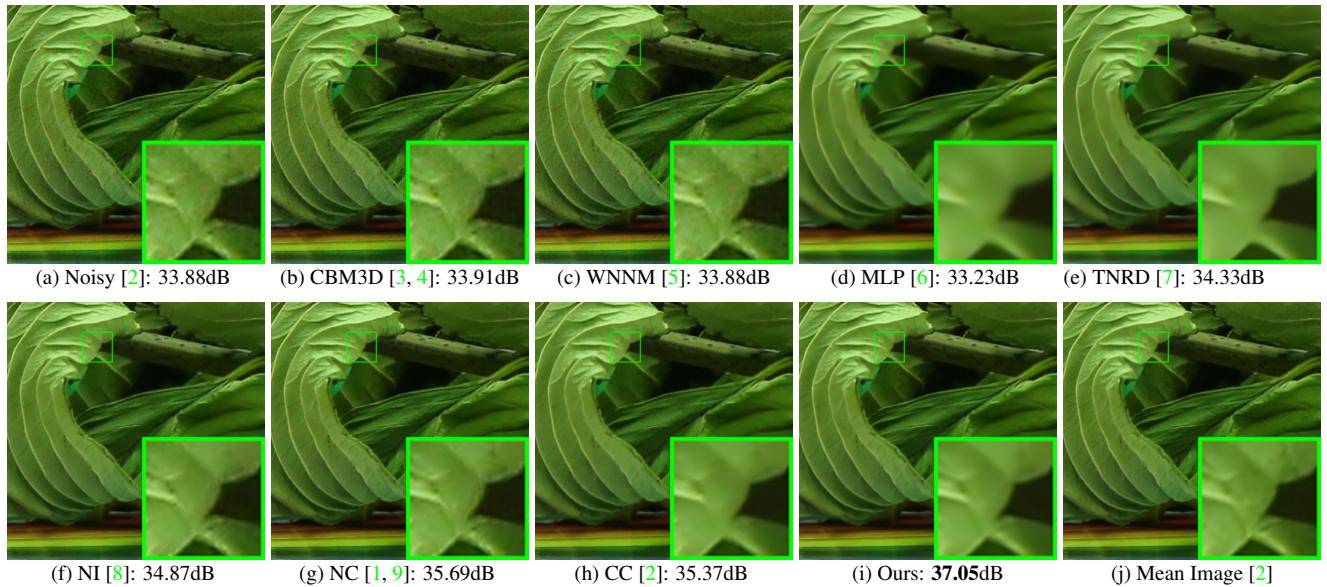
(e) TNRD [7] (f) NI [8] (g) NC [1, 9] (h) Ours

Figure 4. Denoised images of the real noisy image “Vehicle” [1] by different methods. The images are better to be zoomed in on screen.

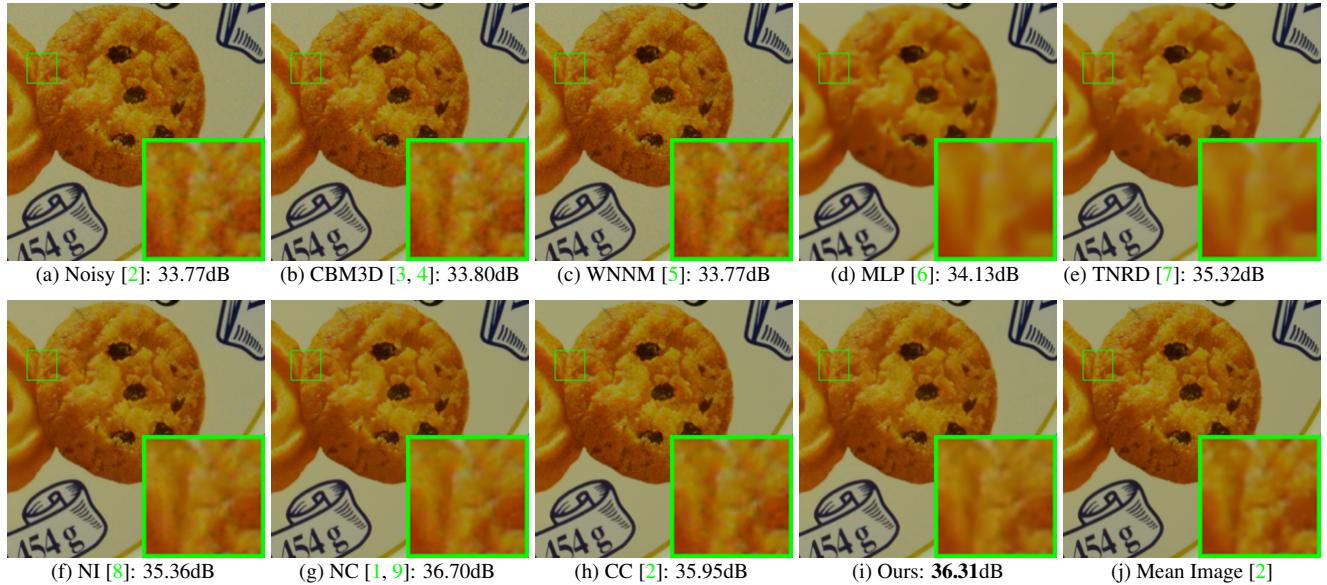
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324 3. More Results on the 15 Cropped Images in [2] 378
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326 In this section, we provide more visual comparisons of the proposed method with the state-of-the-art denoising methods
 327 on the 15 cropped real noisy images used in [2]. As can be seen from Figures 5-9, on most cases, our proposed method
 328 achieves better performance than the competing methods. This validates the effectiveness of our proposed external prior
 329 guided internal prior learning framework for real noisy image denoising.
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341 350 Figure 5. Denoised images of a region cropped from the real noisy image “Canon 5D Mark 3 ISO 3200 2” [2] by different methods. The
 351 images are better to be zoomed in on screen.
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353 373 Figure 6. Denoised images of a region cropped from the real noisy image “Canon 5D Mark 3 ISO 3200 2” [2] by different methods. The
 374 images are better to be zoomed in on screen.
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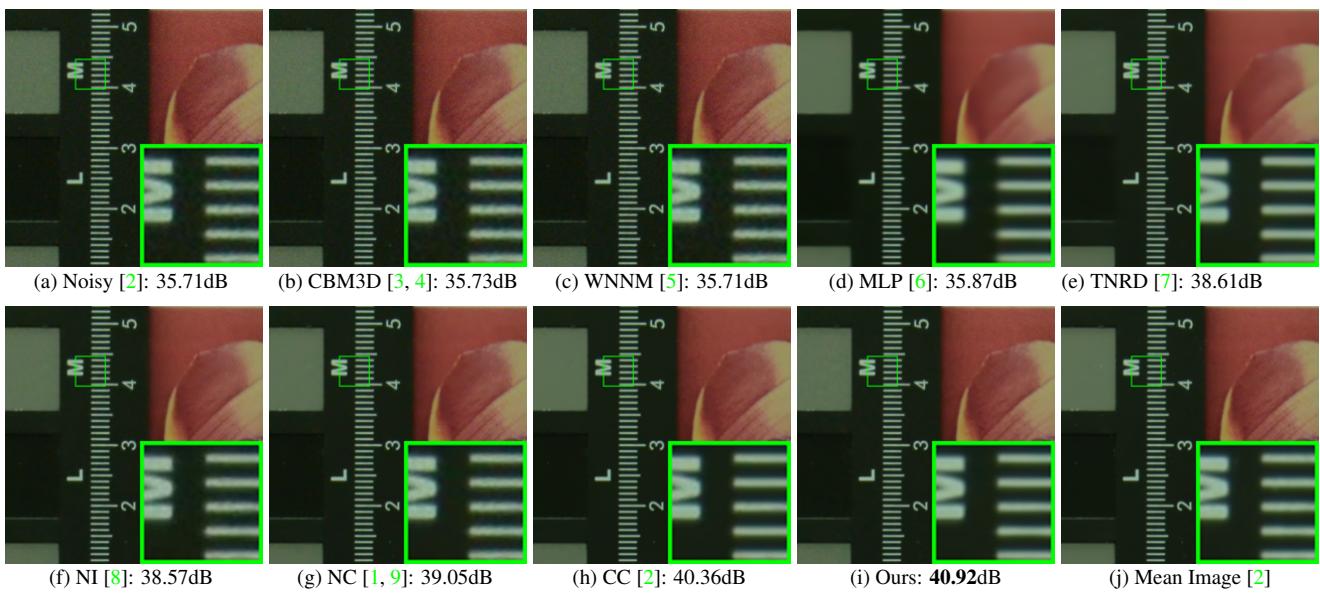


Figure 7. Denoised images of a region cropped from the real noisy image “Nikon D800 ISO 1600 2” [2] by different methods. The images are better to be zoomed in on screen.

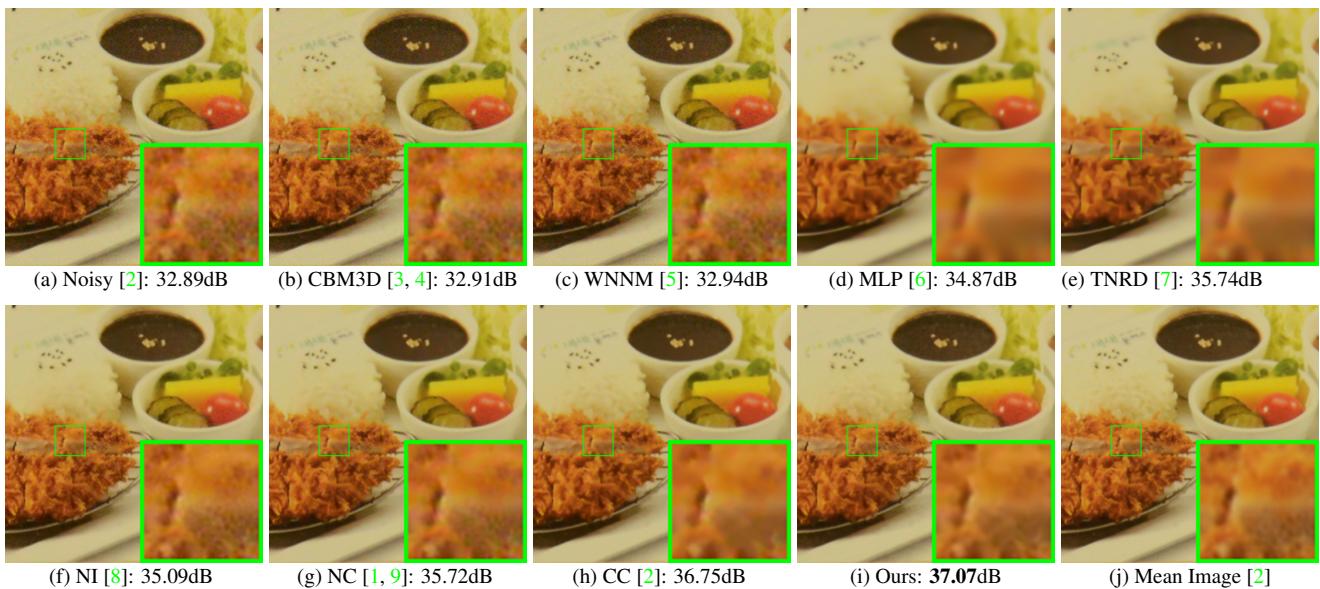


Figure 8. Denoised images of a region cropped from the real noisy image “Nikon D800 ISO 3200 2” [2] by different methods. The images are better to be zoomed in on screen.

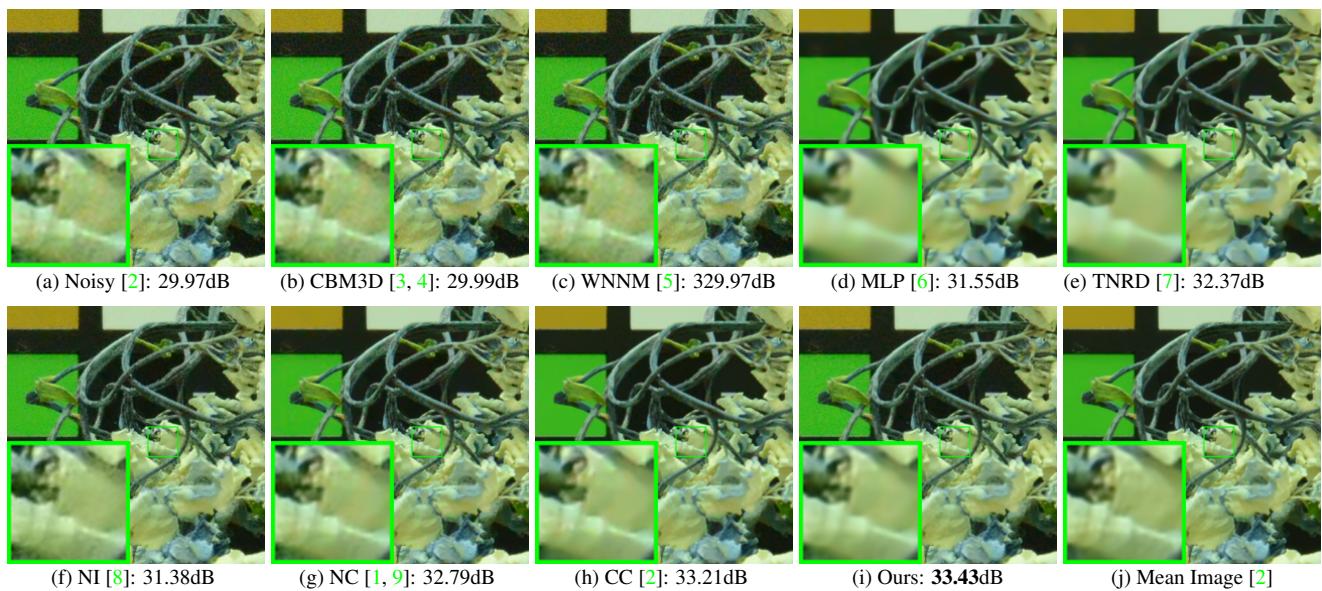


Figure 9. Denoised images of a region cropped from the real noisy image “Nikon D800 ISO 6400 2” [2] by different methods. The images are better to be zoomed in on screen.

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