

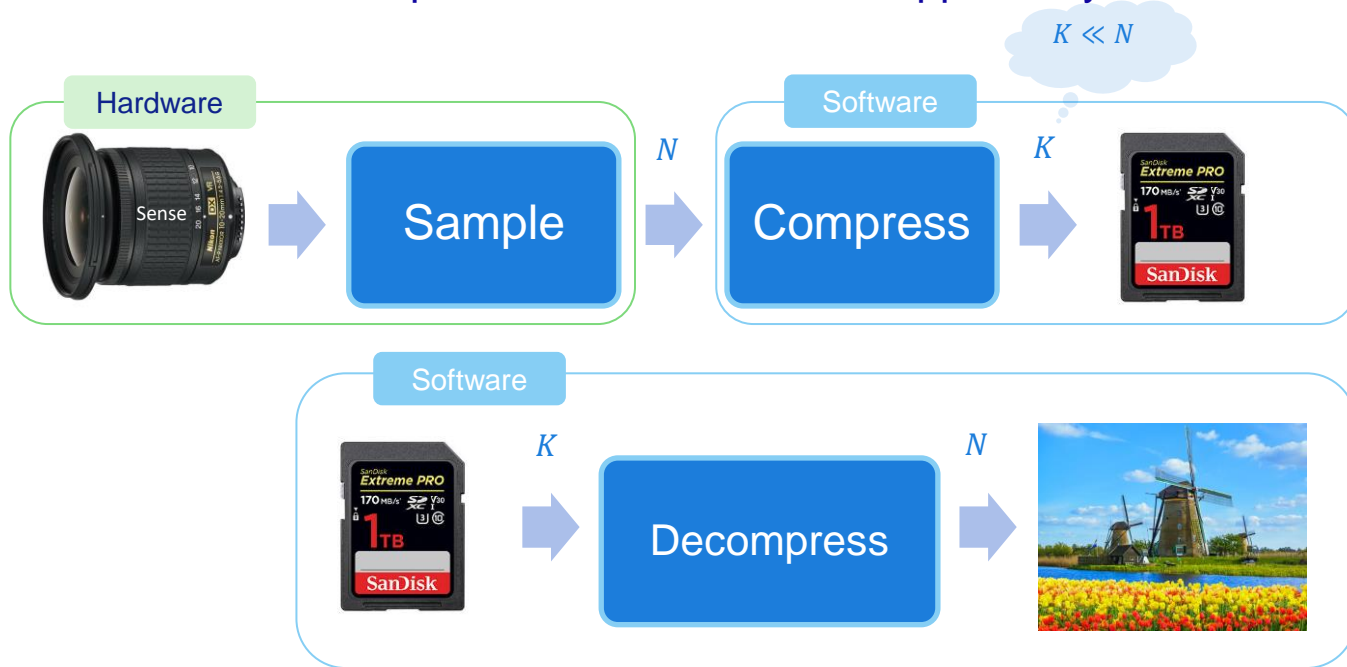
# Compressive Sensing

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PyData Global 2021

# Traditional Workflow of Sensing, Storage and Usage

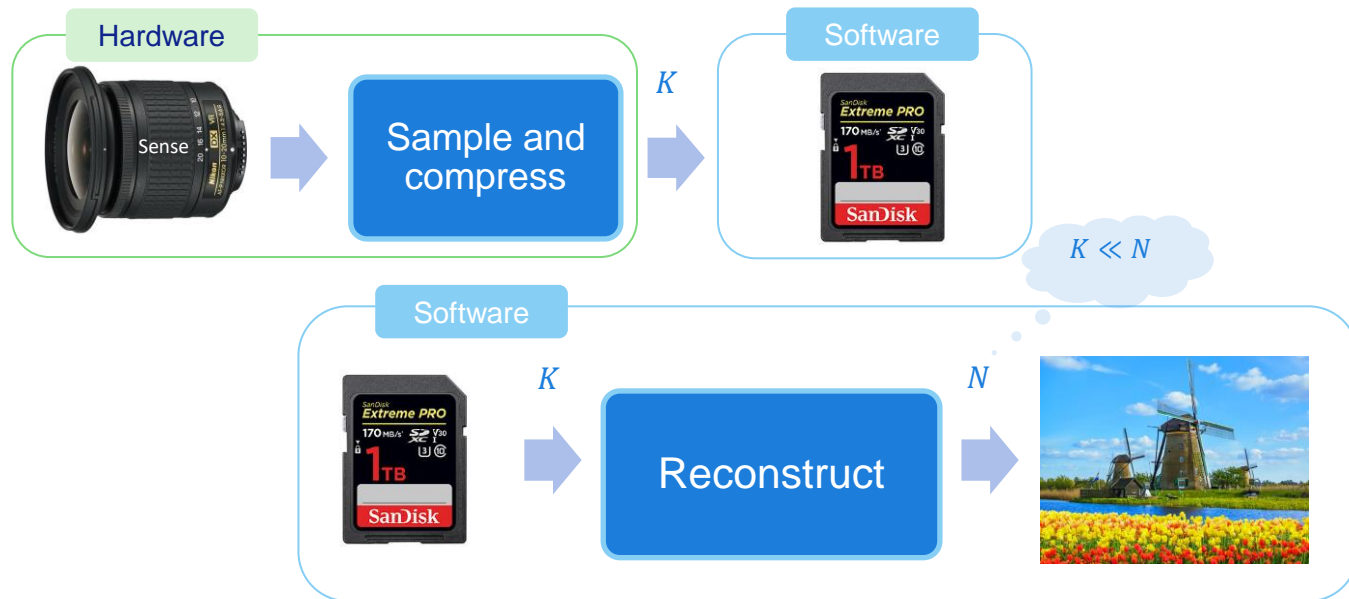
It is the success of data compression that is the ~~issue~~ opportunity.



One can regard the possibility of digital compression as a failure of sensor design. If it is possible to compress measured data, one might argue that too many measurements were taken.

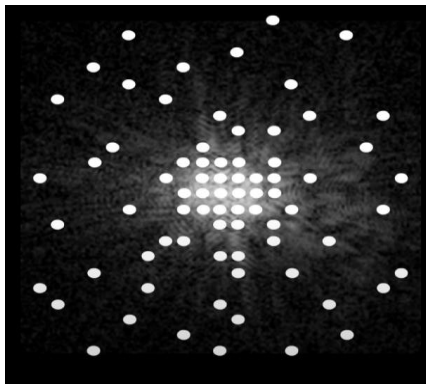
David Brady, professor of photonics at Duke university

# Compressive sensing workflow



Most of the heavy lifting is done by the SW in the reconstruction phase.  
The compression is often a very simple mechanism as you will see in the next slides.

# Compressive Sensing in Magnetic Resonance Imaging



MRI measures the Fourier transform of the image.



- To avoid blur the patient need not move (hold breath) during the measurement for **2 minutes**.
- Pediatric MRI investigations were children move frequently depend on CS in order to measure in only **10 to 20 seconds**.



# In-painting: filling in missing measurements

Input with missing pixels



In-painted Image



# Summary and Outlook

## Generic

Compressive sensing (**CS**) shifts the complexity from sensors (Hardware) to algorithms (Software) and computing infrastructure.

1. CS trades the reduction of the *number of measurements* with higher SW complexity and more extensive calculations.
2. Risk of potential competition: simpler sensors get the possibility to compete with more complex ones over throughput and cost of goods
3. Depending on the application, gains in terms of the number of measurements can vary from 2x to 10x.

## Applications

**MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging ):** CS achieves ~10x reduction in measurement time *enabling entirely new MRI applications*.

**IoT (Internet-of-Things):** CS enables the use of sensors with limited bandwidth and battery power and offers a form of data encryption.

**Super-resolution:** Endo-microscopy beyond the Abbe and Nyquist limits (spatial resolution more than 2 times better than the diffraction limit), ARCNL

# The pillars of compressive sensing



## Prior knowledge

- What kind of signals are we reconstructing:
  - Sparsity
  - Generative Models (data driven)



## Incoherent (\*) Measurements



# Sparsity

In the right representation, only a few elements carry most of the information.

Signal  $f$  is represented in basis  $\Psi$  as

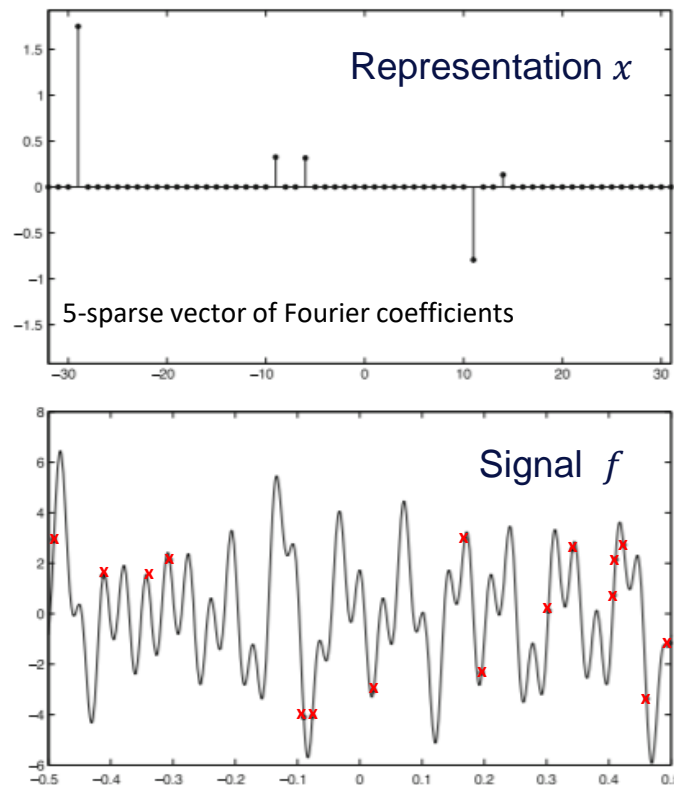
$$f = \Psi x$$

The signal  $f$  is "k" - sparse in basis  $\Psi$  if only  $k$  elements of the representation  $x$  are non-zero."

## Example .1:

Real part of time-domain signal with 16 samples (marked by red x)

Can we get to reconstruct? (1/2)



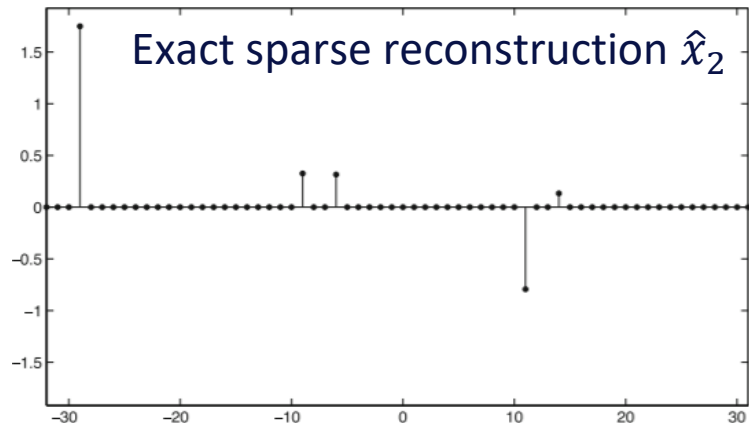
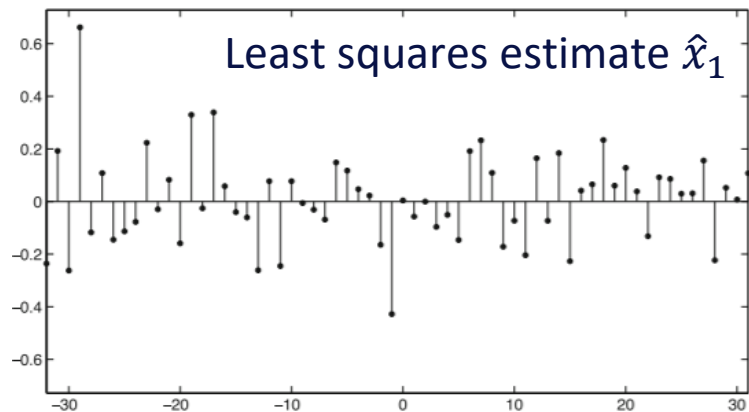
# Sparsity

In the right representation, only a few elements carry most of the information.

## Example .1 Cont. (2/2) :

Signal is reconstructed based on the 16 measurements (x) with the standard least squares (*Top panel*) and sparse reconstruction algorithm (*Bottom panel*).

From *A Mathematical Introduction to Compressive Sensing*  
Simon Foucart Holger Rauhut



# Signals are not really sparse! More advanced priors are needed

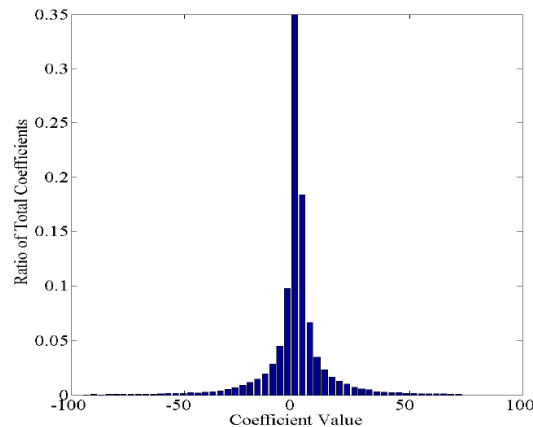
More advanced algorithm successfully deal with non-sparse signals

In practice natural signals are not sparse (they are not spiked at zero) but they are **heavy-tail** following a **power-law** (lots of energy in few elements)

$$g(x) \propto x^{-k}$$

Histogram of the Daubechies 4 wavelet coefficients of the Barbara test image. Notice the non-sparse distribution of the coefficients. Sparsity-based compressed sensing algorithms fail because of this distribution.

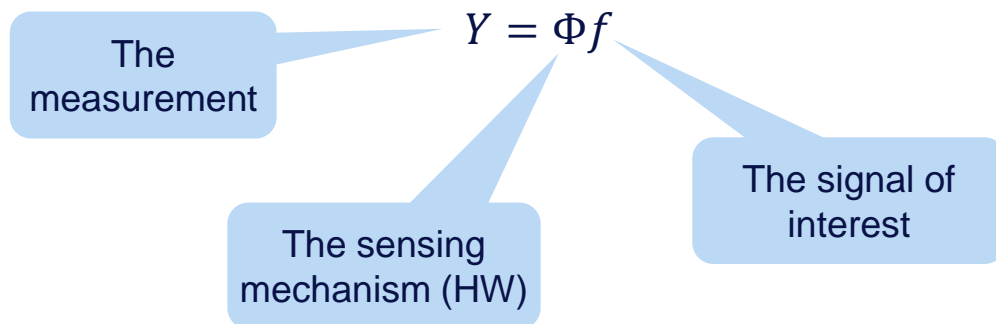
From Denoising to Compressed Sensing, Mezler et al





# The sensing problem

The signal  $f$  is measured via the waveforms  $\phi$  the measured values  $Y$  are linear projections:



## Examples:

1. If  $\phi$  is sinusoids then we are sensing the *Fourier coefficients* such as in MRI
2. If  $\phi$  is integrating the signal over the area of pixels, then we get *pixelated* signals as in CCD
  - Super-pixels are another example

# The Full System

The signal  $f$  is measured via the waveforms  $\phi$  the measured values  $Y$  are linear projections:

$$Y = \Phi f$$



We represent the signal  $f$  in some basis  $\Psi$  where it is  $k$ -sparse

$$f = \Psi x$$

Overall we get:

$$Y = Ax$$

where

$$A = \Phi \Psi$$



# Compressive sensing in a nutshell

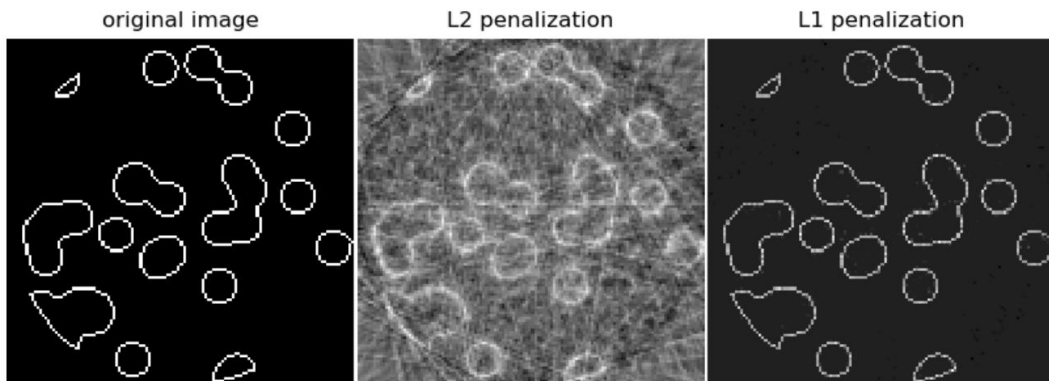
**Compressive sensing involves solving a system of Equations :**

$$Y_{M \times 1} = A_{M \times N} x_{N \times 1}$$

- 1. The system of equations has more unknowns than equations:  $N > M$ .**
  - $M$  is number of measurements and  $N$  number of unknowns
  - To solve we need extra assumptions on  $x$ , for example  $x$  having only  $K$  non-zero elements where  $M \geq K$
- 2. Linear system  $A$  is constrained by the hardware  $A = \Phi\Psi$ , where  $\Phi$  is hardware dependent,  $\Psi$  is a transformation that ensures the sparsity of  $x$ .**
- 3. Not every  $A$  is a candidate:  $A$  should keep  $K$ -sparse signals separate from each other so that we can recover them: restricted isometry property (RIP)**
  - For full i.i.d. random matrices  $A$ , RIP requires  $M \geq CK \log \frac{N}{K}$  for some constant  $C$ .

# Python Example

## Basic L1 reconstruction in Scikit-Learn



Compressive sensing: tomography reconstruction with L1 prior (Lasso)

[https://scikit-learn.org/stable/auto\\_examples/applications/plot\\_tomography\\_l1\\_reconstruction.html](https://scikit-learn.org/stable/auto_examples/applications/plot_tomography_l1_reconstruction.html)



## A more formal description of the cost function

Originally the compressive sensing problem amounts to the following constrained optimization problem

$$\arg_x \min |x|_0$$

such that

$$Y = Ax$$



$|x|_0$  is called the  $\ell_0$  norm, which denoted the number of non-zero elements.

This is a **nightmare** to solve when the length of  $x$  increases (NP-hard). Run-time grow exponentially with length of  $x$  (you need to figure out which subset of  $x$  elements are non-zero.)

# The $\ell_1$ magic

Given sufficient number of measurements,  $M \geq C\mu^2 K \log N$  one can replace the challenging  $\ell_0$  norm problem with a much simpler problem that can be solved very quickly with no loss of accuracy!

$$\arg_x \min |x|_1$$

such that

$$Y = Ax$$



$|x|_1$  is called the  $\ell_1$  norm, the sum of the absolute values of elements. This is a convex function and we have powerful tools for it.

<https://statweb.stanford.edu/~candes/software/l1magic/>

# Problem gets easier with increasing number of measurements ( $M$ )

$$M \leq K$$



Find the black cat in  
the dark room

Insufficient Information  
(Impossible in information sense)

Only  $\ell_0$  norm works



Find the needle in the  
haystack

Computationally infeasible  
(Information is there but no  
polynomial time algorithm exists)

$\ell_1$  norm works



Find the big! needle in the  
haystack

Easy! Information is there and can be  
retrieved in polynomial time.

Axis:

$M/N$ : Measurement rate

$K/N$ : Probability of non-zero value

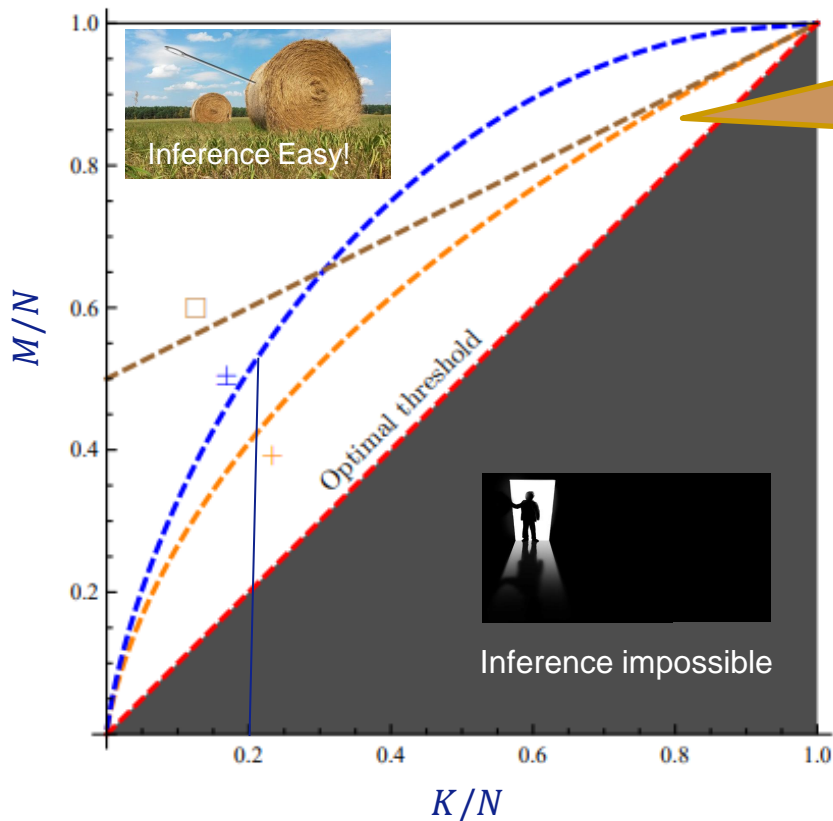
Signal Type:

$\pm$ : Sparse signals

$+$ : Sparse non-negative signals

$\square$ : Simple signals

Note that these curves capture asymptotic behavior as image dimensions  $N \rightarrow \infty$



# Statistical Physics of Inference



**liquid**

**impossible**



**supercooled liquid**

**hard**



**solid**

**easy**

Decreasing Temperature

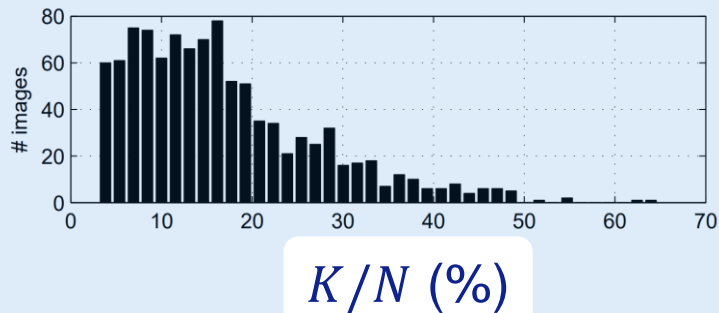
Increasing number of  
measurements

Free Energy= Energy – Entropy

There is a deep correspondence between physical phases such as liquid, super-cooled liquid or glass, and solid, and regions of parameters for which a given data analysis task is algorithmically impossible, hard or easy.

<https://theconversation.com/cracking-big-data-with-statistical-physics-79864>

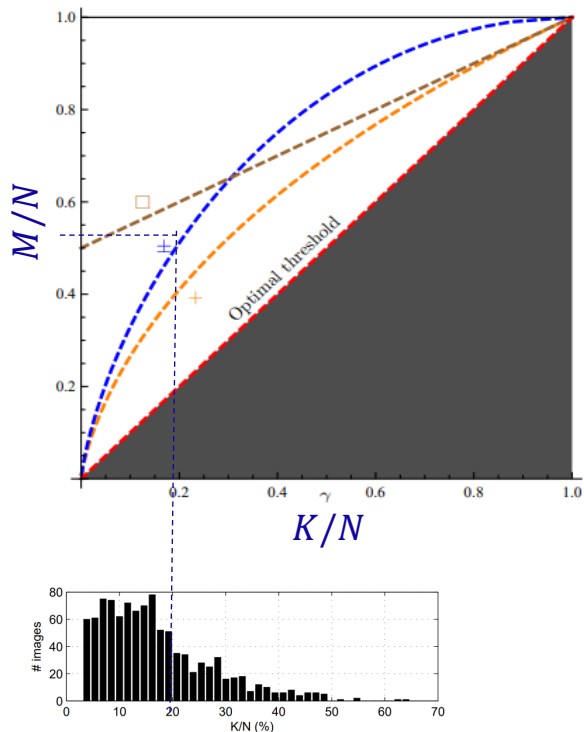
## Reminder: Signals are not really sparse!



- The average sparsity is 17%, with half of all images less than 15% sparse, and three-quarters less than 20% sparse.
- Sparsity is measured by counting the number of block-DCT coefficients  $K$  that account for at least 99.75% of the image energy.

Sparse imaging for fast electron microscopy, Anderson et al 2012

# Signals are not really sparse!



Axis:

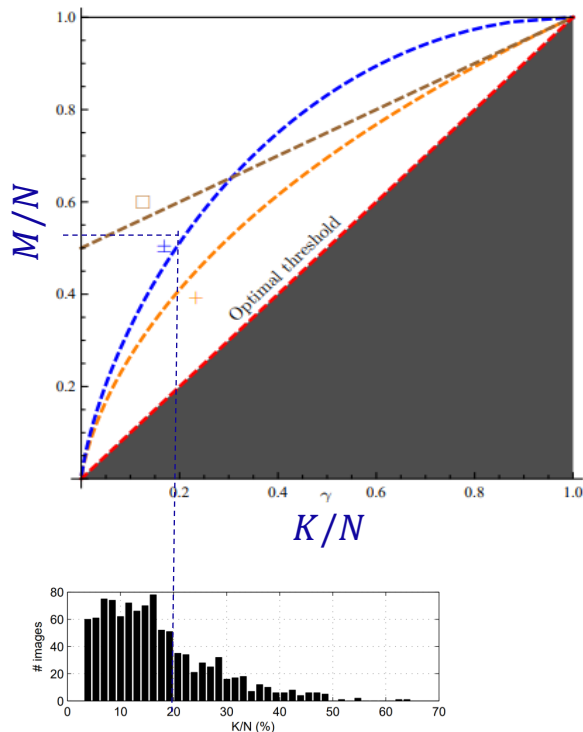
$M/N$ : Measurement rate

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[Optimal phase transitions in compressed sensing, Wu, Verdu](#)

[Sparse imaging for fast electron microscopy, Anderson et al 2012](#)

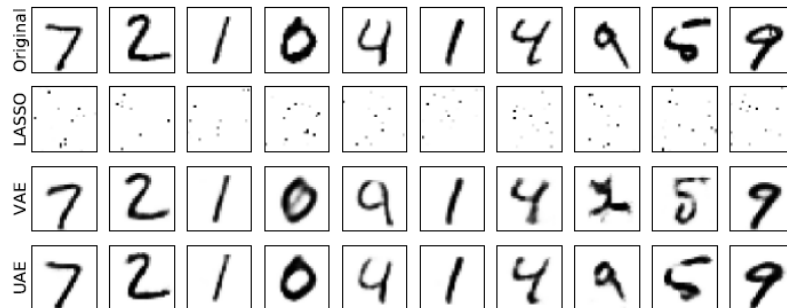
# Deep learning priors are key to reduce the number of measurements.



$\ell_1$

NN

NN



With only 25 measurements the NN based solutions can work.

Variational Compressive Sensing using Uncertainty Autoencoders, Grover, Ermon

[Optimal phase transitions in compressed sensing, Wu, Verdu](#)

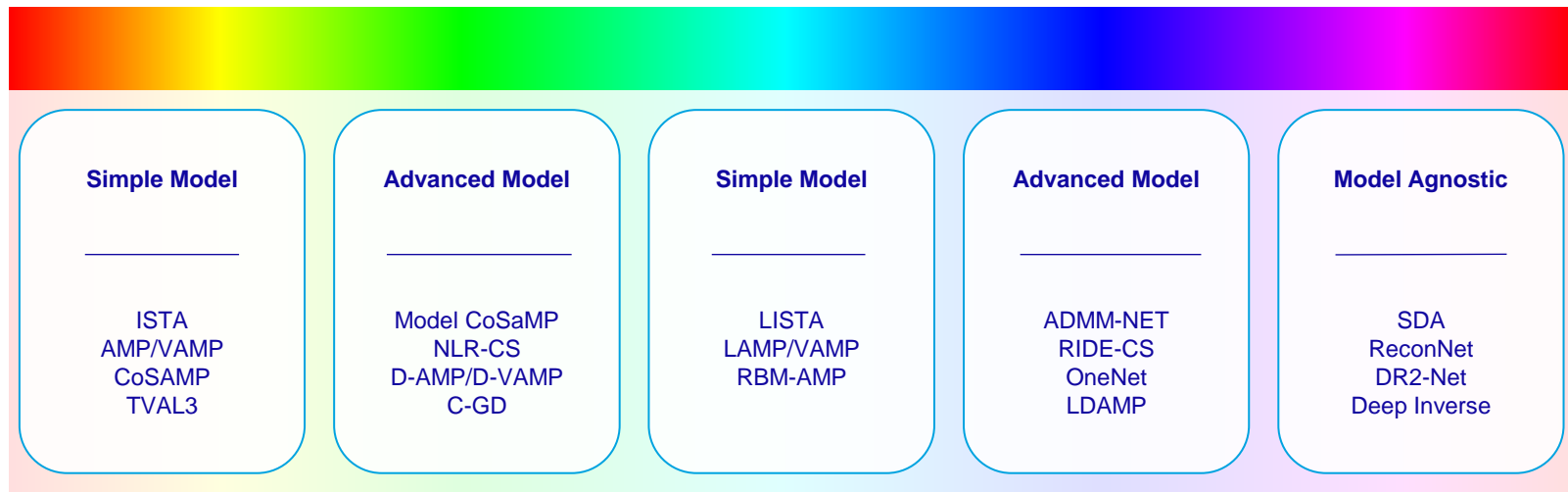
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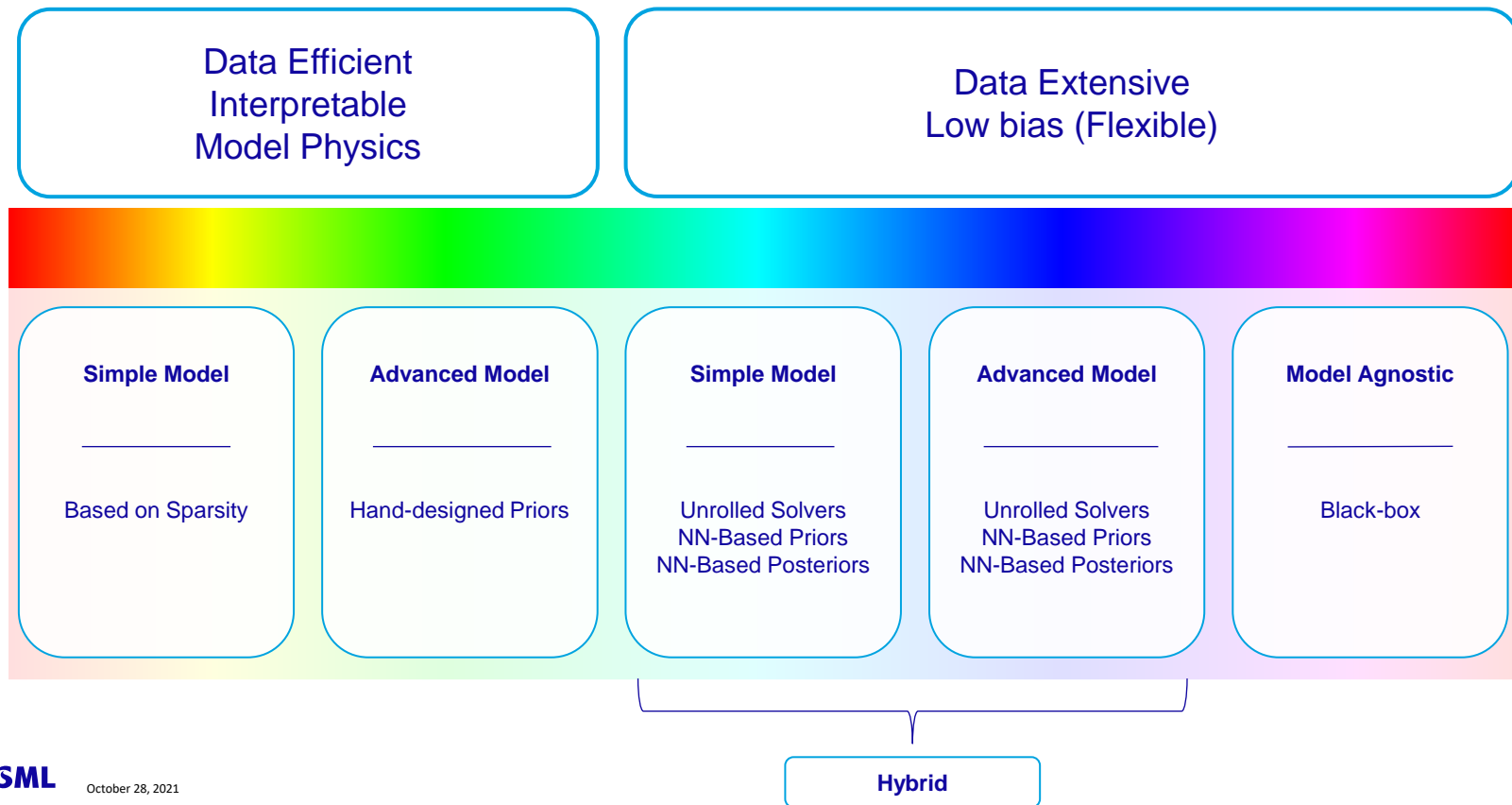
# Spectrum Of Methods (2017)

Data Efficient  
Interpretable  
Model Physics

Data Extensive  
Low bias (Flexible)

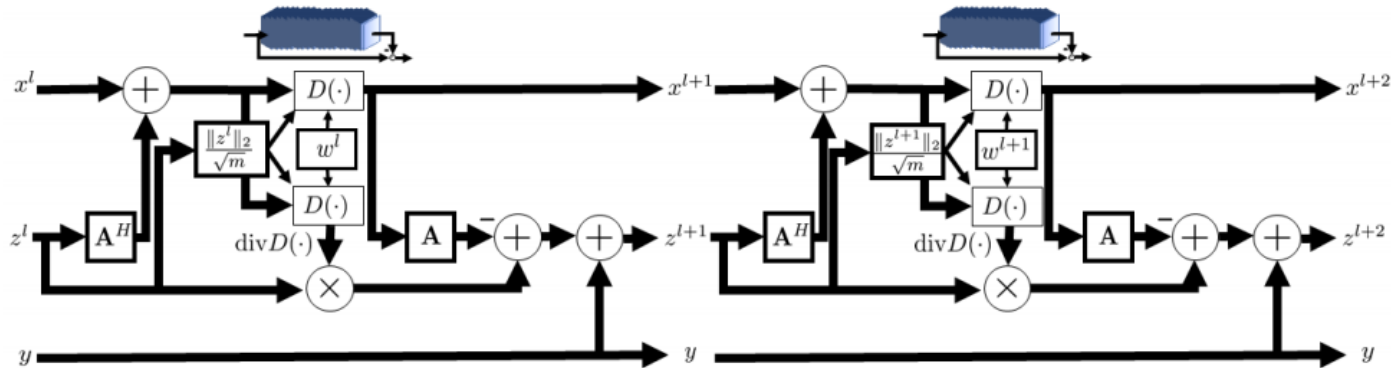


# Spectrum Of Methods (2017)



# Learned-Denoising-AMP

AMP: Approximate Message Passing



LDAMP Neural Network

$$\begin{aligned}
 b^l &= \frac{z^{l-1} \text{div} D_{w^{l-1}(\hat{\sigma}^{l-1})}^l (x^{l-1} + \mathbf{A}^H z^{l-1})}{m}, \\
 z^l &= y - \mathbf{A} x^l + b^l, \\
 \hat{\sigma}^l &= \frac{\|z^l\|_2}{\sqrt{m}}, \\
 x^{l+1} &= D_{w^l(\hat{\sigma}^l)}^l (x^l + \mathbf{A}^H z^l).
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

# Deep Learning is much faster and more accurate

But no guarantees!

Table 1: PSNRs and run times (sec) of  $128 \times 128$  reconstructions with i.i.d. Gaussian measurements and no measurement noise at various sampling rates.

Method	$\frac{m}{n} = 0.10$		$\frac{m}{n} = 0.15$		$\frac{m}{n} = 0.20$		$\frac{m}{n} = 0.25$	
	PSNR	Time	PSNR	Time	PSNR	Time	PSNR	Time
TVAL3	21.5	2.2	22.8	2.9	24.0	3.6	25.0	4.3
BM3D-AMP	23.1	4.8	25.1	4.4	26.6	4.2	27.9	4.1
LDIT	20.1	<b>0.3</b>	20.7	<b>0.4</b>	21.1	<b>0.4</b>	21.7	<b>0.5</b>
LDAMP	<b>23.7</b>	0.4	<b>25.7</b>	0.5	<b>27.2</b>	0.5	<b>28.5</b>	0.6
NLR-CS	23.2	85.9	25.2	104.0	26.8	124.4	28.2	146.3

DL