

I. INTRODUCTION

Convolutional Dictionary Learning:

- Find optimal and data-driven basis for sparse representation
- Convolutional structured dictionary

$$\min_{\{d^j\}, Z_i} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} \|y_i - \sum_{j=1}^M d^j * z_i^j\|_2^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^M \|z_i^j\|_1$$

- Solution via iterating between:**
 - $d^j \rightarrow$ dictionary filter
 - Sparse Coding
 - Dictionary Update
 - $z_i^j \rightarrow$ sparse code
- Slow!**
 - $y_i \rightarrow$ noisy image
 - Sparse Code every signal in dataset
 - Dictionary changes every step

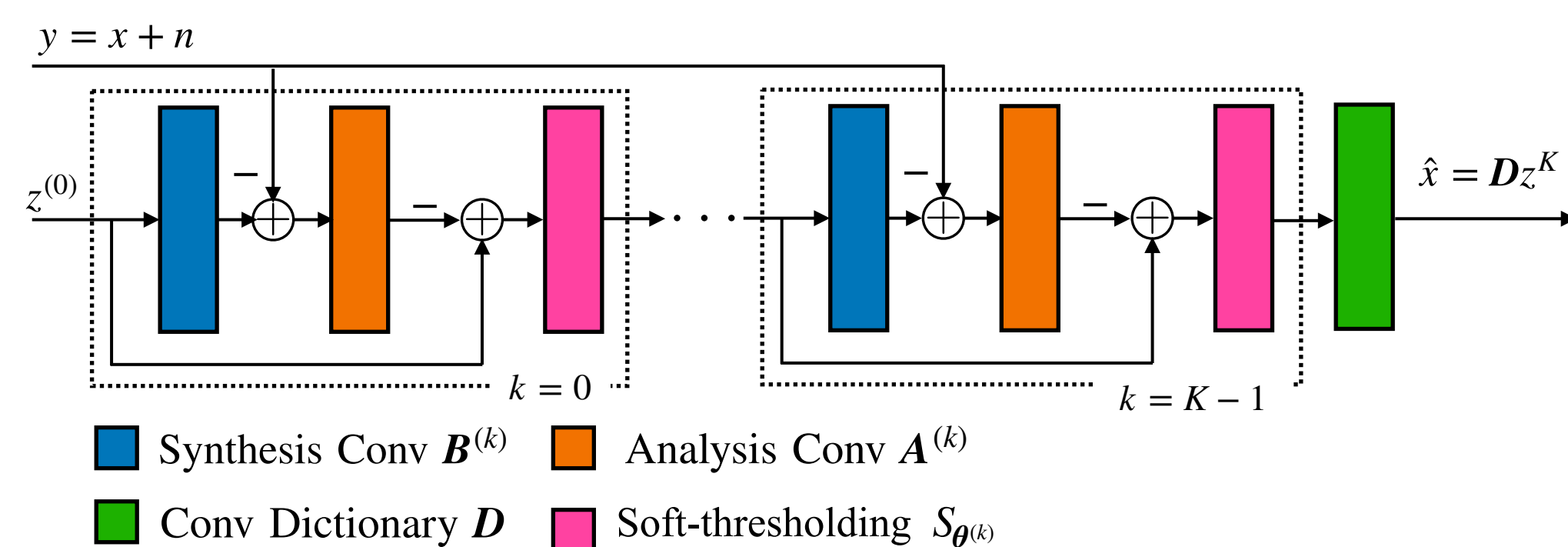
Use learnt convolutional sparse coding + dictionary learning to speed-up!

II. Convolutional Dictionary Learning Network (CDLNet)

- Approximate sparse coding: unrolled ISTA for K steps.

$$z^{(0)} = 0, z^{(k+1)} = S_{\theta^{(k)}} \left(z^{(k)} - A^{(k)} (B^{(k)} z^{(k)} - y) \right)$$

- Linear convolutional dictionary (decoder):
 - Use small-strided convolution.



- Training loss function:

$$\min_{\Theta} \|x - \hat{x}(y; \Theta)\|_2^2 \text{ s.t.: } \theta^{(k)} \geq 0, \|d^j\|_2^2 \leq 1.$$

- Network parameters: $\Theta = \{\{A^{(k)}, B^{(k)}, \theta^{(k)}\}_{k=0}^{K-1}, \{d^j\}_{j=1}^M\}$

III. Frequency Regularization of CDLNet

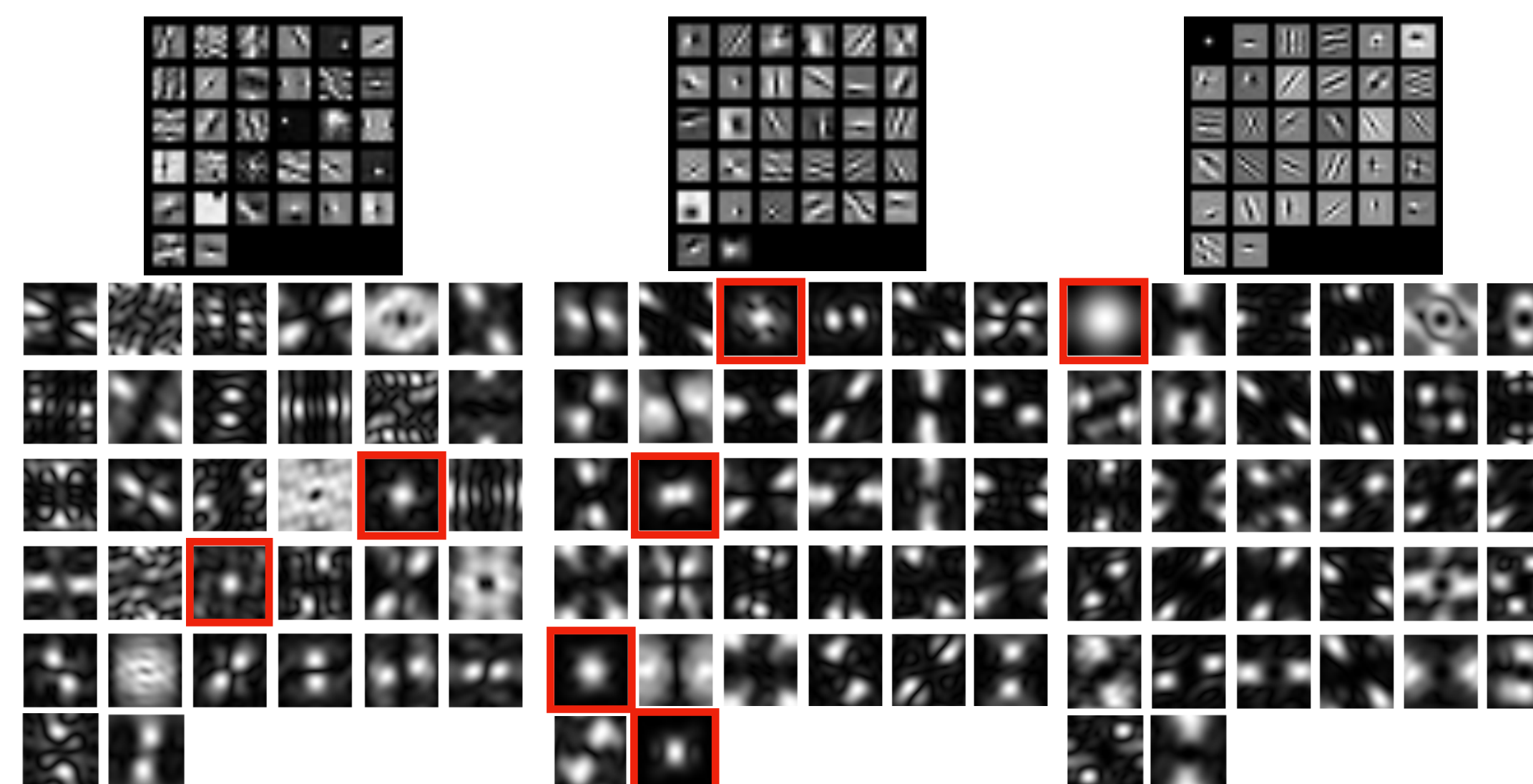
- Mutual coherence of the dictionary:
 - Decreased mutual coherence \rightarrow better representation.
 - Low-pass atoms increase the mutual coherence.
 - Natural images: piecewise smooth \rightarrow require smooth filters.

- FCDLNet

- Fix the low-pass channel.
- Small stride: decrease mutual coherence while no need for shift processing.

$$d^1 = h, d^j = g * \tilde{d}^j, \|\tilde{d}^j\|_2 \leq 1, \forall j \in \{2, \dots, M\}$$

• $h \rightarrow$ lowpass filter • $g = \delta - h$



(a) Stride=1, No Freq. reg. $\mu(D) = 0.87$ (b) Stride=2, No Freq. reg. $\mu(D) = 0.77$ (c) Stride=2, with Freq. reg. $\mu(D) = 0.59$

Table 1: Denoising performance (PSNR) on BSD68 testset ($\sigma = \sigma_n^{\text{train}} = \sigma_n^{\text{test}}$).

σ	BM3D	FFDNet	DnCNN	CSCNet	FCDLNet	Big FCDLNet
15	31.07	31.63	31.72	31.40	31.45	31.66
25	28.57	29.19	29.22	28.93	28.99	29.22
50	25.62	26.29	26.23	26.04	26.11	26.30
Params	-	486k	556k	64k	66k	510k
CPU time (sec)	17.06	-	-	14.76	0.76	9.93
GPU time (sec)	-	-	-	0.34	0.03	0.14

- FCDLNet: $M = 64, K = 10$

- Big FCDLNet: $M = 169, K = 30$

IV. Blind Denoising: Noise-adaptive Thresholds

ISTA

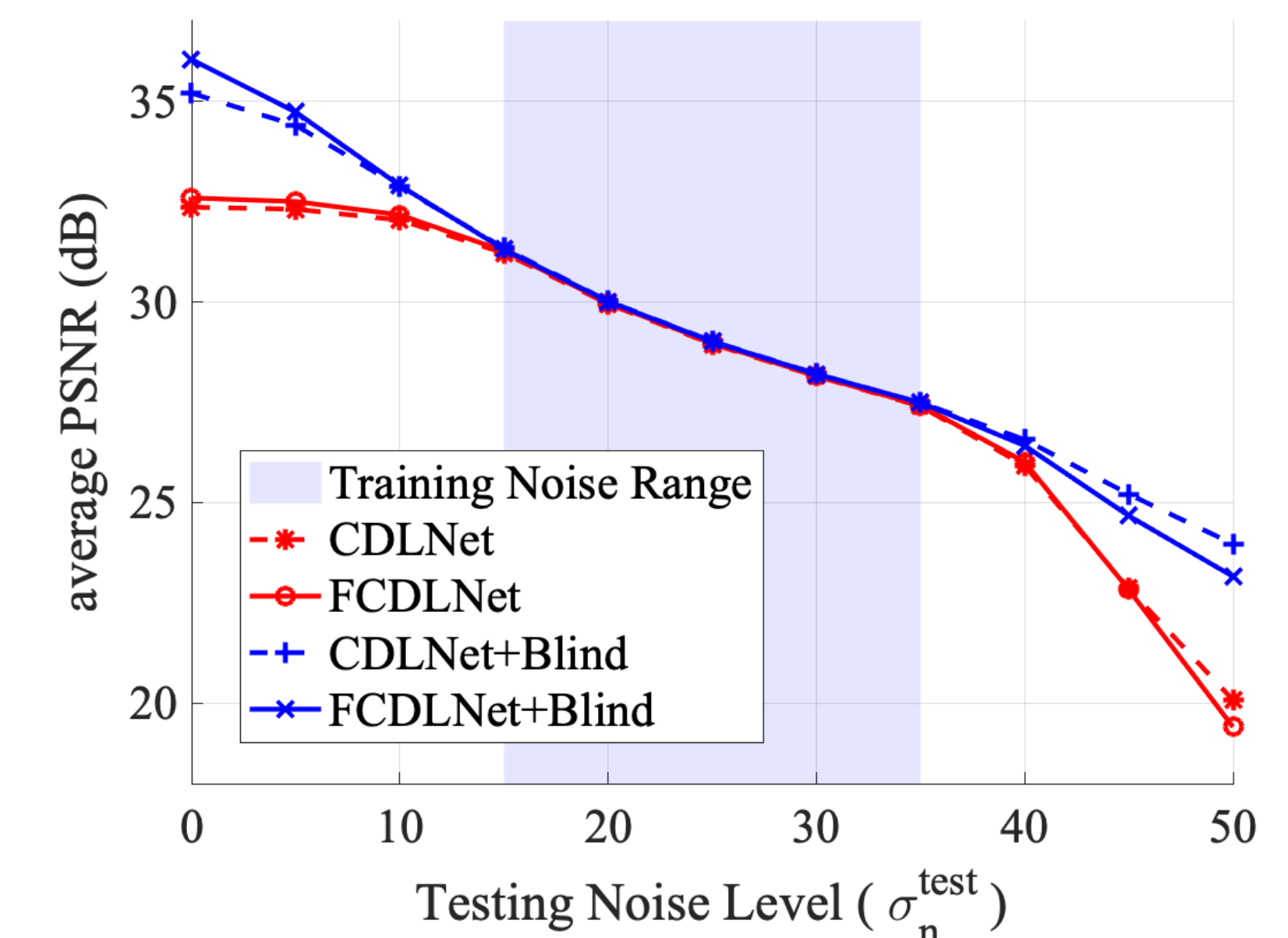
- Soft-thresholding:
 - $\theta \propto$ Expected Sparsity
 - $\theta \propto$ Noise Level

LISTA

- To get generalization across a noise range:

$$\theta^{(K)} = \nu^{(K)} \hat{\sigma}_n^2 \quad \hat{\sigma}_n \approx \frac{\text{Median}(|c|)}{0.6745}$$

- $c \rightarrow$ the diagonal-detail Wavelet subband of an input image



(b) $\sigma_n^{\text{train}} \in [15, 35], \sigma_n^{\text{test}} \in [0, 50]$

Table 2: Generalization of the network

σ_n^{test}	$\sigma_n^{\text{train}} = 20$			$\sigma_n^{\text{train}} = [18, 22]$	
	ACSC	ConFirmNet	FCDLNet	FCDLNet	FCDLNet + Blind
5	32.02 (0.02)	32.23 (0.01)	32.17 (0.01)	32.81 (0.01)	34.25 (0.02)
15	31.88 (0.03)	32.04 (0.03)	32.06 (0.03)	32.30 (0.04)	32.45 (0.03)
30	22.89 (0.03)	23.13 (0.04)	23.70 (0.05)	24.51 (0.05)	25.31 (0.06)

VI. CONCLUSION

- Investigated unrolled convolutional sparse coding and dictionary learning frameworks.
- Proposed small-strided convolutional dictionary with a fixed low-pass channel, and a set of learned frequency regularized filters.
- Showed improved Denoising performance compared to other CDL methods.
- Showed better generalization using the parameterization of thresholds.