



**Life Sciences Engineering MA-4
Lab Immersion I (Bio-501) 8 ECTS**

**Lipschitz-
constrained
neural networks
for plug-and-play
methods**

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Overview

Introduction

ReLu Networks

- Lipschitz-constrained ReLu CNNs
- Plug-and-play

B-spline Networks

- Lipschitz-constrained B-spline CNNs
- Plug-and-play

Denoiser Scaling

Introduction

Inverse problems

- **Goal** : Recover a signal through a set of measurements
- **Model** : $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$ with $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M$, forward operator $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, and noise $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- **Signal to recover** : $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$

Variational methods

- **Goal** : Find a well-defined optimal solution for inverse problems
- **Optimization problem** : $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} f(\mathbf{x}) + \gamma g(\mathbf{x})$, $\gamma \geq 0$ a constant
 - Data-fidelity term $f(x) : f(x) = ||y - Hx||_2^2$ (MSE example)
 - Regularization/Prior term $g(x) : g(x) = ||Lx||_1$ (L1-norm example)
- **Algorithms** : ADMM, forward-backward splitting (FBS), ...

Plug-and-Play ADMM/FBS

Proximal operator : $\text{Prox}_{\alpha h}(z) = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \alpha h(x) + (1/2) \|x - z\|_2^2 \}$ with $\alpha > 0$ a constant

ADMM

$$\begin{aligned} x^{k+1} &= \text{Prox}_{\sigma^2 g}(y^k - u^k) \\ y^{k+1} &= \text{Prox}_{\alpha f}(x^{k+1} + u^k) \\ u^{k+1} &= u^k + x^{k+1} - y^{k+1} \end{aligned} \longrightarrow$$

Plug-and-Play ADMM

$$\begin{aligned} x^{k+1} &= \mathbf{H}_{\sigma}(y^k - u^k) \\ y^{k+1} &= \text{Prox}_{\alpha f}(x^{k+1} + u^k) \\ u^{k+1} &= u^k + x^{k+1} - y^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

FBS

$$x^{k+1} = \text{Prox}_{\sigma^2 g}(I - \alpha \nabla f)(x^k) \longrightarrow$$

PnP-FBS

$$x^{k+1} = \mathbf{H}_{\sigma}(I - \alpha \nabla f)(x^k)$$

Idea : Replace a proximal step by a denoisers H_{σ} with strength parameter $\sigma > 0$

Denoisers : State-of-the-art denoising convolutional networks (CNN), BM3D, ...

Plug-and-Play fixed point convergence

Previous work

(Ryu et al. May 2019)¹

Residual mapping

$$H_\sigma = I - R_\sigma$$

Assumptions

$f(x)$ strongly convex

R_σ is a non-expansive CNN

Current work

(Terris et al. May 2020)²

Half-averaged mapping

$$H_\sigma = \frac{I + R_\sigma}{2}$$

Assumptions

None

R_σ is a non-expansive CNN

Non-expansive operator

Operator $R: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ is non-expansive such that $\forall (x, y) \in \mathcal{H}^2: \|Rx - Ry\| \leq \|x - y\|$

α -averaged operator

Operator $T = (1 - \alpha)I + \alpha R$ with $\alpha \in [0, 1]$

Half-averaged: $\alpha = 0,5$

1: Ernest K. Ryu et al., Plug-and-play methods provably converge with properly trained denoiser, 2019

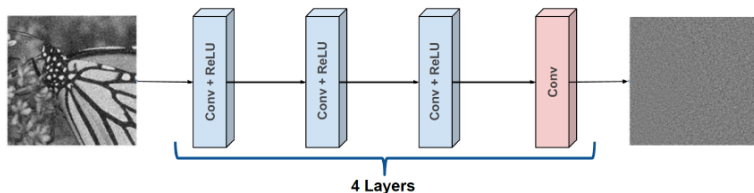
2: M. Terris, A. Repetti, J. -C. Pesquet and Y. Wiaux, "Building Firmly Nonexpansive Convolutional Neural Networks," *ICASSP 2020*

Simple CNN

4 convolutional layers

ReLU or B-splines

No Batch norm

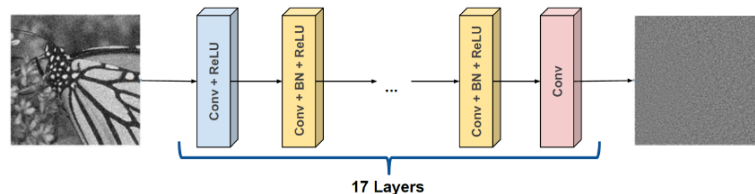


DnCNN

17 convolutional layers

ReLU or B-splines

Batch norm

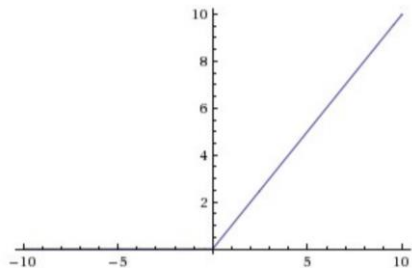


Train to remove additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) with variance σ

Lipschitz-constrained ReLu CNNs

Lipschitz-constant with ℓ_2 -norm

- **Definition** : The smallest L satisfying $\|f(x) - f(y)\|_2 \leq L\|x - y\|_2 \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$
- **Composition** : $L \leq \prod_{i=1}^n L_i$ for $g = f_n \circ \dots \circ f_1$
- **Affine transformation** : $W(x) = Wx + b$, $L \leq \sigma_1$ (highest singular value) of $W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$
- **CNNs** : Control layer-wise the L_i of the different layers and activations



ReLU



L is the maximum slope
 $L = 1$

Lipschitz-constrained CNN methods

Fully-connected layer weight matrix : $W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$

Convolutional Kernel : $K \in \mathbb{R}^{c_{out} \times c_{in} \times h \times w}$

Spectral Normalization¹ (SN)

$W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$
 Compute σ_1 of W
 Power iteration

Fully-connected layer
 Constrain W with σ_1
 1 iteration

Convolutional layer
 Reshape K to W
 $W \in \mathbb{R}^{c_{out} \times (c_{in} \cdot h \cdot w)}$
 Constrain W with σ_1
 1 iteration

Real Spectral Normalization¹
 (RealSN)

$K \in \mathbb{R}^{c_{out} \times c_{in} \times h \times w}$
 Compute σ_1 of K
 Kernel power iteration

Fully-connected layer

-

Convolutional layer
 Constrain K with σ_1
 1 iteration

Parseval Normalization²

$W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$
 Keep rows of W orthonormal
 $W \leftarrow (1 + \beta)W - \beta W W^T W$

Fully-connected layer

Constrain W

Convolutional layer
 Reshape K to W
 $W \in \mathbb{R}^{c_{out} \times (c_{in} \cdot h \cdot w)}$
 Divide output by $\sqrt{h} \cdot \sqrt{w}$
 Constrain W

1: Ernest K. Ryu et al., Plug-and-play methods provably converge with properly trained denoiser, 2019

2: Moustapha Cisse et al., Parseval Networks: Improving Robustness to Adversarial Examples, 2017

Experimental set-up

- Architecture: Simple CNN
- NYU fastMRI¹ dataset : Knee MRI images
- Mappings : Residual (R) and Half-averaged (H)
- Noise variance : $\sigma = 0,05$



Comparison of the methods

No normalization (None)

Parseval experiment

β : strength parameter
Residual mapping

$\beta=0,5$

		None		SN		RealSN		Parseval	
		R	H	R	H	R	H	R	H
Singular values	Layer 1	4.81	5.9	5.00	5.2	1.03	1.04	3.0	3.0
	Layer 2	19.42	27.14	14.05	12.17	1.01	1.0	2.94	2.98
	Layer 3	19.68	11.91	11.92	9.69	1.04	1.05	2.56	2.98
	Layer 4	1.2	0.63	3.19	3.51	1.01	1.01	1.06	2.96

Beta		0.0001	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0
Singular values	Layer 1	6.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	NAN	NAN
	Layer 2	4.82	2.0	2.94	2.98	NAN	NAN
	Layer 3	4.24	1.65	2.56	2.96	1.88	1.34
	Layer 4	2.58	1.05	1.06	2.88	1.14	0.99

Singular values estimated by Kernel power iterations (100) on trained networks

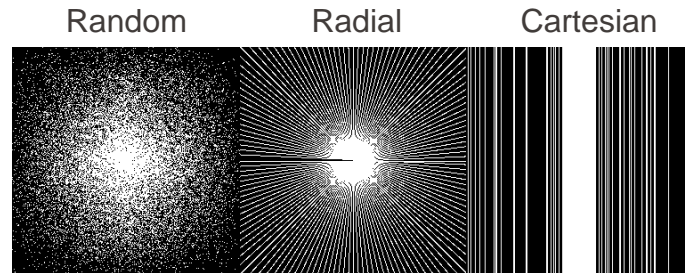
1: <https://fastmri.med.nyu.edu/>

Model

- **Measurements :** $y = \mathcal{F}_p x_{\text{true}} + \varepsilon_e$
 - **Noise :** $\varepsilon_e \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_e I_m)$, $\sigma_e = 15/255$
 - **Forward operator :** $\mathcal{F}_p : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m$ Fourier K-space subsampling
- **Data-fidelity term :** $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \mathcal{F}_p x\|_2^2$ not strongly convex
- **Regularization term :** CNN based denoisers H_σ

Sampling patterns

- Sampling rate : 30%



Images



CNNs

- Architectures : SimpleCNN (4 layers) or DnCNN (17 layers with batch norm)
- Mappings : Residual (R) or Half-averaged (H)
- Spectral Normalization : RealSN and None
- Activations : ReLu
- Noise Level σ : 15/255 or 5/255
- Convolutional layers : With or without bias



Train 32 network combinations on **natural images** (BSD500¹)

PnP

- **ADMM** : Networks with $\sigma = 15/255$ were plugged-in (20) with $\alpha = 2.0$
- **FBS** : Networks with $\sigma = 5/255$ were plugged-in (20) with $\alpha = 0.4$
- All combinations (6) of images and sampling tested for 100 iterations

Baseline

- Inverse 2-D Fourier Transform (zero-filling)

1: <https://www2.eecs.berkeley.edu/Research/Projects/CS/vision/bsds/>

Sampling approach		Random				Radial			
Image		Brain		Bust		Brain		Bust	
CNN architecture		R	H	R	H	R	H	R	H
Zero-filling		9.60		7.02		9.29		6.21	
Networks with bias	DnCNN	19.84	18.87	16.82	15.60	19.21	18.30	16.33	15.07
	Real-SN DnCNN	19.60	18.15	16.49	15.10	18.73	17.41	15.98	14.26
	SimpleCNN	19.21	18.81	16.61	15.89	18.42	18.08	16.09	15.45
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	18.57	16.91	16.23	13.83	17.74	16.42	15.75	13.37
	DnCNN	19.80	19.83	16.99	17.09	18.85	18.91	16.61	16.61
	Real-SN DnCNN	19.75	19.10	17.10	16.47	18.75	17.98	16.55	15.94
	SimpleCNN	19.49	19.44	16.96	16.95	18.54	18.45	16.44	16.43
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	18.79	16.87	16.48	14.69	17.79	15.96	15.93	13.92

Drop in performance using Half-averaged instead of Residual (0,5 - 2 dB)
Only PnP-ADMM DnCNN is slightly higher

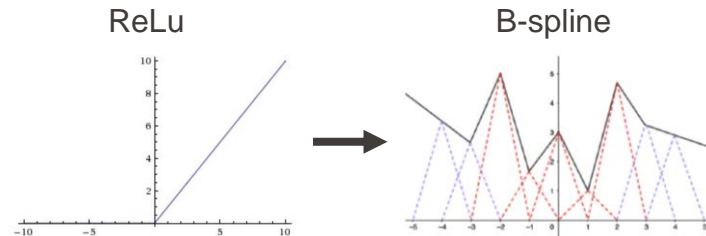


Replace ReLu by B-splines to try to reduce the gap

Lipschitz-constrained B-spline CNNs

B-spline activations

- Increase capacity
- Uniform grid with step size T (k coefficients)
- Linear extrapolation outside the grid (2 coefficients)
- Convolutions
 - Shared within channel , size : (number channels, $(K+2)$)



Lipschitz-constrained B-spline activations

- One dimensional function
- Continuous piecewise linear
- L is the maximum slope

Quadratic constrained minimization problem

1. For m in B-spline modules **do**
2. For $n = \{1, 2, \dots, \text{number of channels}\}$ **do**
 3. $\tilde{c} = c$ where $c \in \mathbb{R}^{K+2}$
 4. Solve $\|\tilde{c} - \tilde{c}\|_2^2$, subject to $D\tilde{c} \geq 1$ with D the first order finite difference
 5. $c = \tilde{c}$

Python libraries : cvxpy/cvxpylayers and qpth

Maximum Projection

1. For m in B-spline modules **do**
2. For $n = \{1, 2, \dots, \text{number of channels}\}$ **do**
3. **Initialize** S list of slopes
4. For $c = \{1, 2, \dots, C-1\}$ **do**
 5. Compute absolute slope $\{c, c+1\}$ $\text{abs}(s)$
 6. Append s to S
7. $s^* = \max(S)$
8. **If** $s^* \leq 1$:
 do nothing
9. **else** $s^* \geq 1$:
 For $c = \{1, 2, \dots, C-1\}$ **do** :
 $c = c / s^*$

Computational Cost

- Architectures: RealSN Simple CNN and RealSN DnCNN
- Mapping: Half-averaged
- $K = 51$ (coefficients) with $T = 0.1$ (step size)
- Dataset: BSD500
- Noise: $\sigma = 15/255$

Model	SimpleCNN	DnCNN
ReLU	4min40s	7min44s
B-spline	5min49s	12min53s
B-spline maxproj	5min53s	13min7s
B-spline orthoprojection	25min19s	1h55min



Prohibitive

Time per epoch

CNNs

- Architectures : SimpleCNN (4 layers) or DnCNN (17 layers with batch norm)
- Mappings : **Half-averaged (H)**
- Spectral Normalization : RealSN
- Activations : **B-splines** or ReLu
- Noise Level σ : 15/255 or 5/255
- Convolutional layers : With or without bias



Train 16 network combinations on **natural images** (BSD500)

PnP

- **ADMM** : Networks with $\sigma = 15/255$ were plugged-in (20) with $\alpha = 2.0$
- **FBS** : Networks with $\sigma = 5/255$ were plugged-in (20) with $\alpha = 0.4$
- All combinations (6) of images and sampling tested for 100 iterations

Baseline

- Inverse 2-D Fourier Transform (zero-filling)

Sampling approach		Random		Radial	
Image		Brain	Bust	Brain	Bust
CNN architecture		H	H	H	H
Zero-filling		9.60	7.02	9.29	6.21
Networks with bias	Real-SN DnCNN	18.15	15.10	17.41	14.26
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline ⁺	14.24	12.98	12.74	11.99
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	16.91	13.83	16.42	13.37
	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	17.55	14.81	16.91	14.34
	Real-SN DnCNN	19.10	16.47	17.98	15.94
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline	19.21	16.83	18.39	16.27
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	16.87	14.69	15.96	13.92
	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	17.11	14.97	16.28	14.28

PnP-FBS

DnCNN : B-spline performance much worse

Simple CNN : B-spline performance better

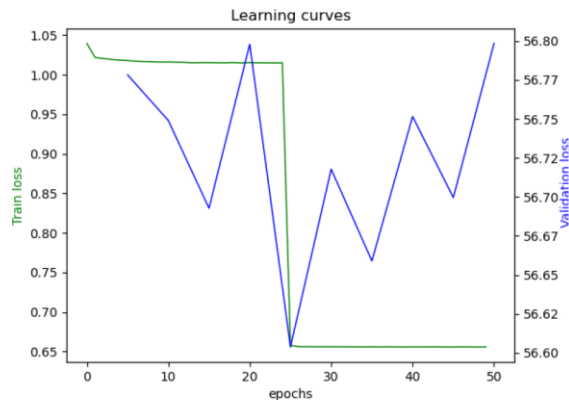
PnP-ADMM

Slight improvement with B-spline

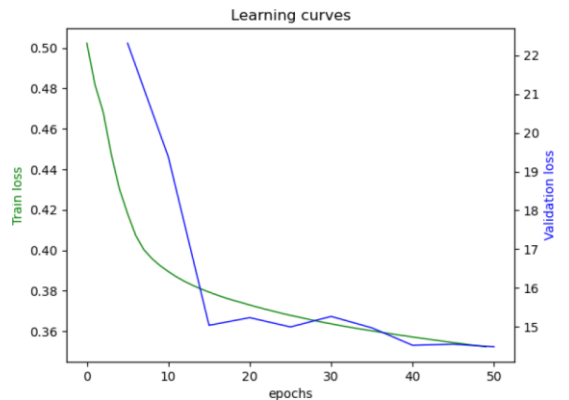
B-spline activations

- Difficult learning process
 - Adam
 - Validation curve oscillates
 - Dependent on the initialization
 - Lower learning rate does not solve the issue
 - SGD
 - Validation curve decreases
 - No momentum
 - Lower learning rate solve the issue
- Default settings
 - No hyperparameter tuning

PnP-FBS RealSN DnCNN B-spline



Adam



SGD

Denoiser Scaling

Motivation

- Noise measurements might not be available
- Optimal σ tuning

Direct approach

σ : noise added to the images

Changing σ involves retraining a network

Scaling¹ approach

σ : noise added to the images

μ : scaling parameter



$$D_{\mu}(z) = \frac{1}{\mu} D(\mu z), z \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

D : trained denoiser where σ is dropped

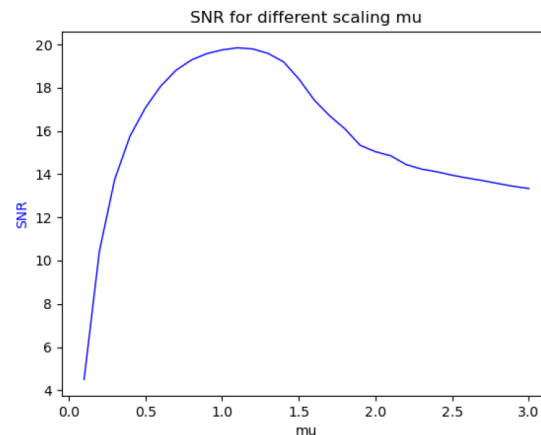
z : noisy input

Values of noises

- Measurement's noise : $\sigma_e = 15/255$
- PnP-ADMM denoisers : $\sigma = 15/255$
- PnP-FBS denoisers : $\sigma = 5/255$

Scaling

- Prior knowledge of σ_e
- Scale denoisers train on a “guessed” σ
- Scaling parameter μ
 - Uniform grid [0.1-3.0]
 - Step size $T = 0.1$



$$\mu^* = 1.1$$

PnP-ADMM : Residual RealSN DnCNN with
Random sampling

- Test the PnP framework on other modalities
 - Case of interest : Residual mapping does not converge
- Investigate B-spline activations
 - Careful investigation of the learning process
 - Tuning hyperparameters
- Testing the scaling method
 - No prior knowledge of measurement's noise σ_e



**Thank
you**

Emery Sébastien

Implementation in Python

<https://github.com/sebemery/Lipschitz-constrained-neural-networks>

Complete PnP result table for network with bias

Sampling approach		Random				Radial				Cartesian			
Image		Brain		Bust		Brain		Bust		Brain		Bust	
CNN architecture		R	H	R	H	R	H	R	H	R	H	R	H
Zero-filling		9.60		7.02		9.29		6.21		8.67		6.03	
PnP-FBS	DnCNN	19.84	18.87	16.82	15.60	19.21	18.30	16.33	15.07	15.00	14.27	14.22	13.43
	Real-SN DnCNN	19.60	18.15	16.49	15.10	18.73	17.41	15.98	14.26	14.19	13.70	13.54	12.87
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline ⁺	17.35	14.24	15.48	12.98	16.81	12.74	14.60	11.99	13.55	9.51	12.22	9.20
	SimpleCNN	19.21	18.81	16.61	15.89	18.42	18.08	16.09	15.45	14.82	14.55	14.30	13.72
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	18.57	16.91	16.23	13.83	17.74	16.42	15.75	13.37	14.38	12.99	13.82	11.46
	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	19.05	17.55	16.57	14.81	18.13	16.91	16.09	14.34	14.80	13.15	13.80	11.92
PnP-ADMM	DnCNN	19.80	19.83	16.99	17.09	18.85	18.91	16.61	16.61	15.07	14.70	13.99	13.61
	Real-SN DnCNN	19.75	19.10	17.10	16.47	18.75	17.98	16.55	15.94	14.74	14.32	13.75	13.63
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline	19.14	19.21	16.34	16.83	18.26	18.39	16.18	16.27	14.21	14.49	12.82	13.39
	SimpleCNN	19.49	19.44	16.96	16.95	18.54	18.45	16.44	16.43	14.65	14.67	13.82	13.82
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	18.79	16.87	16.48	14.69	17.79	15.96	15.93	13.92	13.83	12.57	12.73	10.63
	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	18.74	17.11	16.52	14.97	17.69	16.28	15.97	14.28	13.80	12.71	12.85	11.0 0

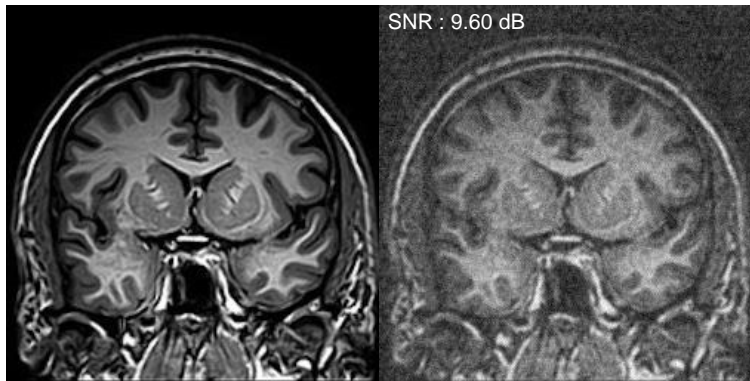
PnP-ADMM

Random
sampling

Ground Truth

Zero-Filling

SNR : 9.60 dB

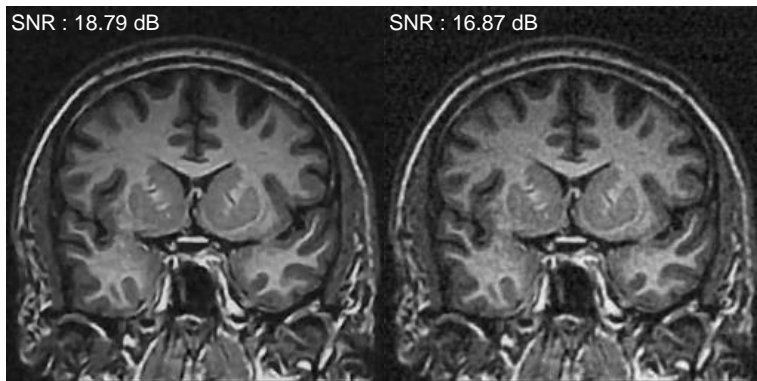


Residual

Half-averaged

SNR : 18.79 dB

SNR : 16.87 dB

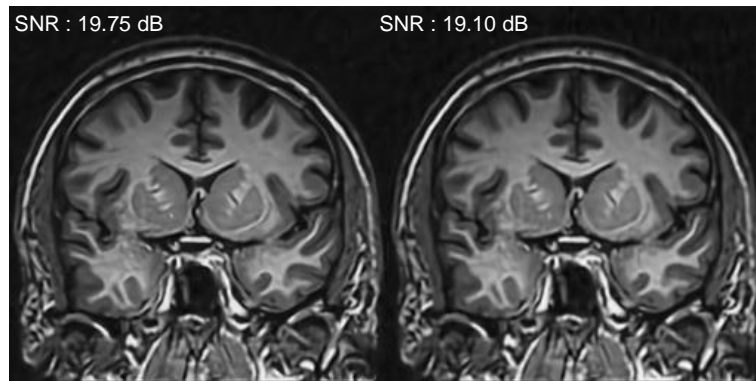


Residual

Half-averaged

SNR : 19.75 dB

SNR : 19.10 dB

RealSN
Simple CNN

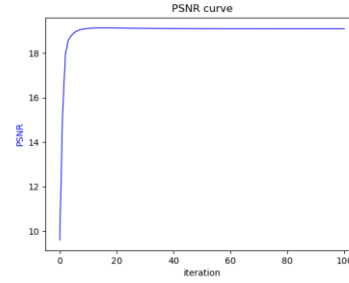
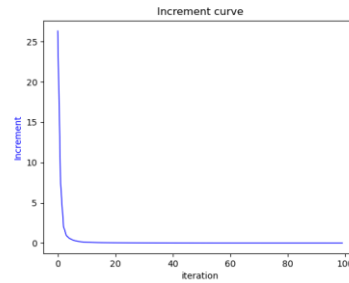
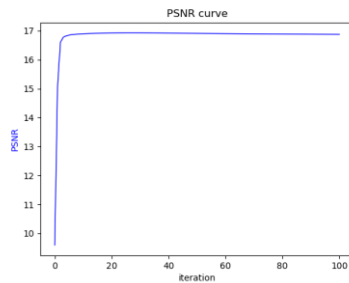
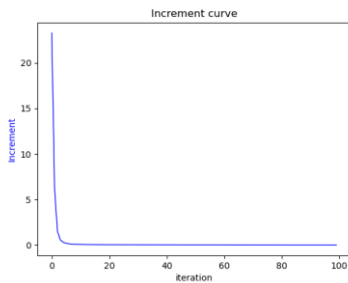
RealSN DnCNN

PnP-ADMM Random sampling

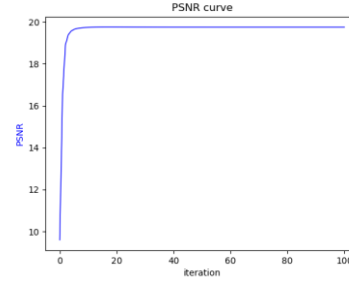
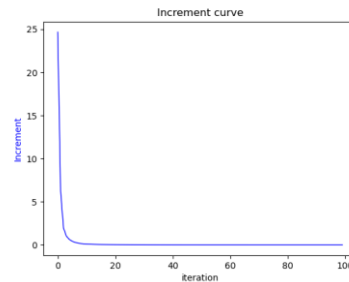
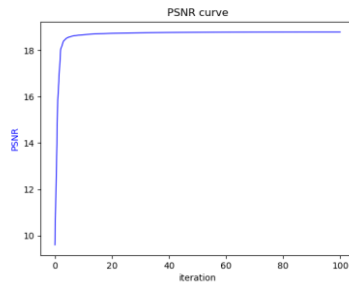
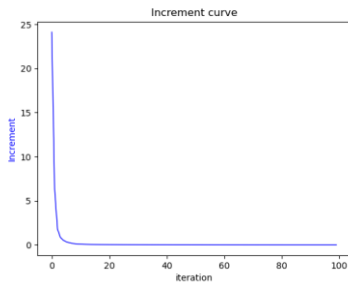
RealSN Simple CNN

RealSN DnCNN

Half-averaged



Residual



Sampling approach		Random								Radial							
Image		Brain				Bust				Brain				Bust			
CNN architecture		R	R*	H	H*	R	R*	H	H*	R	R*	H	H*	R	R*	H	H*
Zero-filling		9.60				7.02				9.29				6.21			
PnP-FBS	DnCNN	19.84	19.84	18.87	18.87	16.82	16.82	15.60	15.79	19.21	19.21	18.30	18.35	16.33	16.33	15.07	15.34
	Real-SN DnCNN	19.60	19.60	18.15	18.15	16.49	16.49	15.10	15.10	18.73	18.73	17.41	17.41	15.98	15.98	14.26	14.28
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline+	17.35	17.94	14.24	14.52	15.48	15.76	12.98	13.40	16.81	17.15	12.74	12.88	14.60	15.06	11.99	12.40
	SimpleCNN	19.21	19.25	18.81	18.81	16.61	16.68	15.89	15.89	18.42	18.46	18.08	18.08	16.09	16.09	15.45	15.45
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	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	19.05	19.05	17.55	17.55	16.57	16.57	14.81	14.81	18.13	18.21	16.91	16.91	16.09	16.10	14.34	14.34
PnP-ADMM	DnCNN	19.80	19.91	19.83	19.90	16.99	17.03	17.09	17.11	18.85	19.10	18.91	19.09	16.61	16.72	16.61	16.67
	Real-SN DnCNN	19.75	19.85	19.10	19.56	17.10	17.10	16.47	16.76	18.75	18.92	17.98	18.56	16.55	16.55	15.94	16.38
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline	19.14	19.48	19.21	19.21	16.34	16.42	16.83	16.85	18.26	18.52	18.39	18.51	16.18	16.26	16.27	16.34
	SimpleCNN	19.49	19.49	19.44	19.45	16.96	16.96	16.95	16.95	18.54	18.64	18.45	18.57	16.44	16.46	16.43	16.46
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	18.79	18.86	16.87	17.00	16.48	16.48	14.69	14.77	17.79	17.90	15.96	16.09	15.93	16.00	13.92	13.99
	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	18.74	18.77	17.11	17.21	16.52	16.52	14.97	15.04	17.69	17.75	16.28	16.37	15.97	16.02	14.28	14.32

Sampling approach		Cartesian							
Image		Brain				Bust			
CNN architecture		R	R*	H	H*	R	R*	H	H*
Zero-filling		8.67				6.03			
PnP-FBS	DnCNN	15.00	15.00	14.27	14.27	14.22	14.22	13.43	13.52
	Real-SN DnCNN	14.19	14.43	13.70	13.70	13.54	13.58	12.87	12.87
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline+	13.55	13.67	9.51	10.64	12.22	12.73	9.20	9.38
	SimpleCNN	14.82	14.85	14.55	14.55	14.30	14.30	13.72	13.72
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	14.38	14.46	12.99	13.13	13.82	13.84	11.46	11.75
	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	14.80	14.80	13.15	13.15	13.80	13.94	11.92	11.92
PnP-ADMM	DnCNN	15.07	15.19	14.70	15.13	13.99	14.19	13.61	13.74
	Real-SN DnCNN	14.74	14.99	14.32	15.03	13.75	13.93	13.63	13.80
	Real-SN DnCNN Bspline	14.21	14.59	14.49	14.49	12.82	13.33	13.39	13.41
	SimpleCNN	14.65	14.97	14.67	14.92	13.82	14.06	13.82	14.08
	Real-SN SimpleCNN	13.83	13.96	12.57	12.67	12.73	13.00	10.63	10.79
	Real-SN SimpleCNN Bspline	13.80	13.83	12.71	12.79	12.85	13.14	11.00	11.16

PnP results for network
with bias and scaling (*)