

# *Pursuit of Low-dimensional Structures in High-dimensional (Visual) Data*

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# CONTEXT – Data increasingly massive, high-dimensional...



## Images

↓> **1M pixels**

Compression  
De-noising  
Super-resolution  
Recognition...



## Videos

↓> **1B voxels**

Streaming  
Tracking  
Stabilization...

## User data

↓> **1B users**

Clustering  
Classification  
Collaborative filtering...

## Web data

↓> **100B webpages**

Indexing  
Ranking  
Search...

★	★★		★★★
★★★		??	
★★★		★	★

**U.S. COMMERCE'S ORTNER SAYS YEN UNDERVALUED**

Commerce Dept. undersecretary of economic affairs Robert Ortner said that he believed the dollar at current levels was fairly priced against most European currencies.

In a wide ranging address sponsored by the Export-Import Bank, Ortner, the bank's senior economist also said he believed that the yen was undervalued and could go up by 10 or 15 pct.

"I do not regard the dollar as undervalued at this point against the yen," he said.

On the other hand, Ortner said that he thought that "the yen is still a little bit undervalued," and "could go up another 10 or 15 pct."

In addition, Ortner, who said he was speaking personally, said he thought that the dollar against most European currencies was "fairly priced."

Ortner said his analysis of the various exchange rate values was based on such economic particulars as wage rate differentiations.

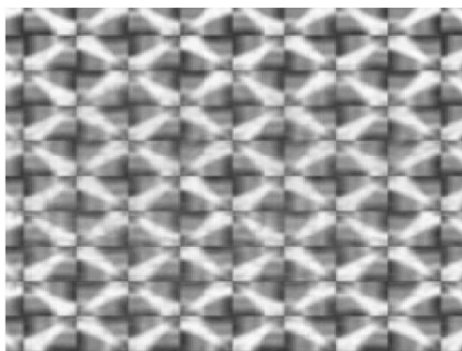
Ortner said there had been little impact on U.S. trade deficit by the decline of the dollar because at the time of the Plaza Accord, the dollar was extremely overvalued and that the "15 pct decline had little impact."

He said there were indications now that the trade deficit was beginning to level off.

Turning to Brazil and Mexico, Ortner made it clear that it would be almost impossible for those countries to earn enough foreign exchange to pay the service on their debts. He said the best way to deal with this was to use the policies outlined in Treasury Secretary James Baker's debt initiative.

**How to extract low-dim structures from such high-dim data?**

# CONTEXT – *Low dimensional structures in visual data*



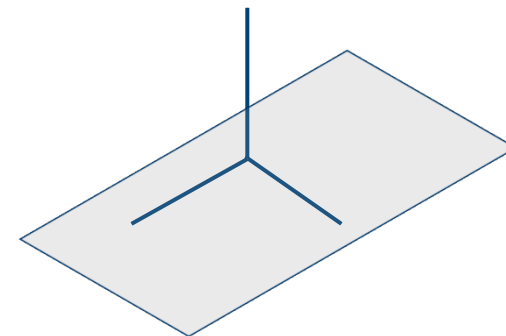
71)) which turns out in the end to be mathematically equivalent to maximum entropy. The problem is interesting also in that we can see a continuous gradation from decision problems so simple that common sense tells us the answer instantly, with no need for any mathematical theory, through problems more and more involved so that common sense becomes more and more difficult in making a decision, until finally we reach a point when only has yet claimed to be able to see the right decision intuitively, and we require the mathematics to tell us what to do.

Finally, the widget problem turns out to be very close to an important real problem faced by oil prospectors. The details of the real problem are shrouded in proprietary caution; but I am not giving away any secrets to report that, a few years ago, the writer spent a week in the research laboratories of one of our large oil companies, lecturing for over 20 hours on the widget problem. We went through every part of the calculation in excruciating detail in a room full of engineers armed with calculators, checking up on every stage of the mental work.

Here is the problem. Mr A is in charge of a widget factory, which proudly advertises that it can make delivery in 24 hours on any size order. This, of course, is not really true, and Mr A is obliged to protect, as best he can, the advertising manager's reputation for veracity. This means that each morning he must decide whether the day's run of 200 widgets will be painted red or green. (For complex technological reasons, not relevant to the present problem, only one color can be produced per day.) We follow his problem of decision through several



Visual data exhibit ***low-dimensional structures*** due to rich ***local*** regularities, ***global*** symmetries, ***repetitive*** patterns, or ***redundant*** sampling.



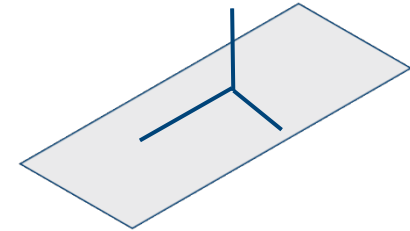
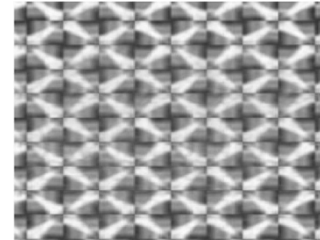
## CONTEXT – PCA: Fitting Data with a Low-dim. Subspace

If we view the data (image) as a matrix

$$A = [\mathbf{a}_1 \mid \cdots \mid \mathbf{a}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

then

$$r \doteq \text{rank}(A) \ll m.$$

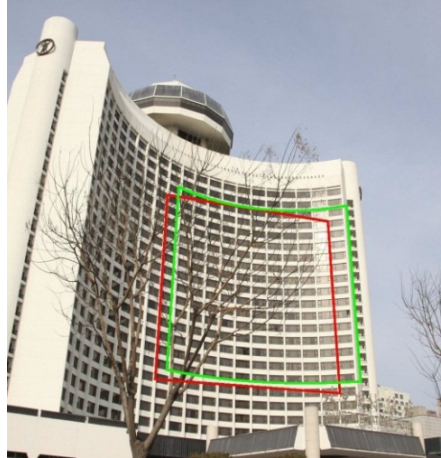


**Principal Component Analysis (PCA)** via singular value decomposition (SVD):

- Optimal estimate of  $A$  under iid Gaussian noise  $D = A + Z$
- Efficient and scalable computation
- Fundamental statistical tool, with huge impact in image processing, vision, web search, bioinformatics...

But... **PCA breaks down under even a single corrupted observation.**

## CONTEXT – *But life is not so easy...*



*Real application data often contain **missing observations**, **corruptions**, or subject to unknown **deformation** or **misalignment**.*

***Classical methods (e.g., PCA, least square regression) break down...***

# Everything old ...

**A long and rich history** of robust estimation with error correction and missing data imputation:



R. J. Boscovich. *De calculo probailitatum que respondent diversis valoribus summe errorum post plures observationes ...*, before 1756



A. Legendre. *Nouvelles methodes pour la determination des orbites des cometes*, 1806



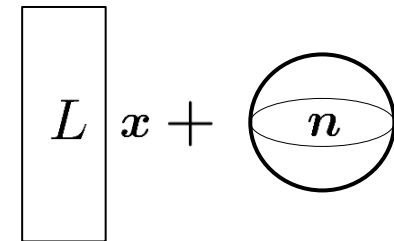
C. Gauss. *Theory of motion of heavenly bodies*, 1809



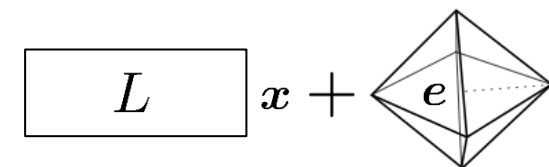
A. Beurling. *Sur les integrales de Fourier absolument convergentes et leur application a une transformation fonctionnelle*, 1938

B. Logan. *Properties of High-Pass Signals*, 1965

⋮



over-determined  
+ dense, Gaussian



underdetermined  
+ sparse, Laplacian

# ... is new again

Today, robust estimation in **high dimension** is more **urgent** and increasingly **better understood**.

**Theory** – **high-dimensional** geometry & statistics, measure concentration, combinatorics, coding theory...

**Algorithms** – **large scale** convex optimization, geometric convergence rate, parallel and distributed computing ...

**Applications** – **big data** driven methods, sensing and hashing, denoising, superresolution, MRI, bioinformatics, image classification, recognition ...

Tukey, Bickel, Huber, Hampel, Tibishirani, Donoho, ... Candes and Tao 2004 ...

and many more I will mention later...

$$Lx + e$$

underdetermined  
+ sparse, Laplacian

$$\min \|x\|_1 + \|e\|_1$$

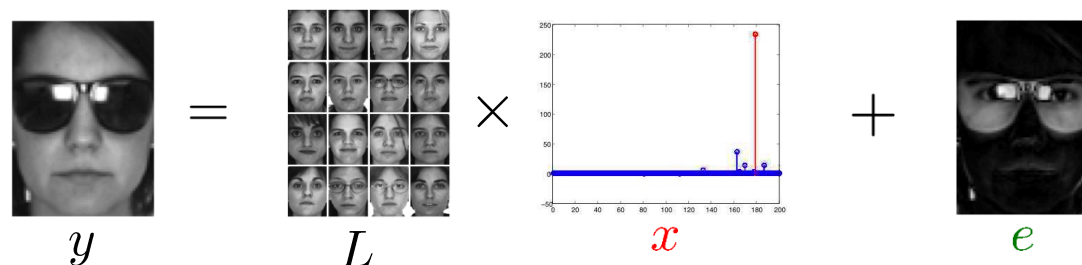






## CONTEXT – Recent related progress

**Robust recovery:** Given  $y = Lx_0 + e_0$ ,  $L \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m \ll n$ , recover  $x_0$  and  $e_0$ .



**Impossible** in general ( $m \ll n + m$ )

**Well-posed** if  $x_0$  is *sparse*, errors  $e_0$  not too dense, but still **NP-hard**

**Tractable:** via convex optimization:  $\min \|x\|_1 + \|e\|_1$  s.t.  $y = Lx + e$

... if  $L$  is “nice” (*cross and bouquet*)

**Hugely active area:** Candès+Tao '05, Wright+Ma '10, Nguyen+Tran '11, Li '11, also Zhang, Yang, Huang'11, etc...

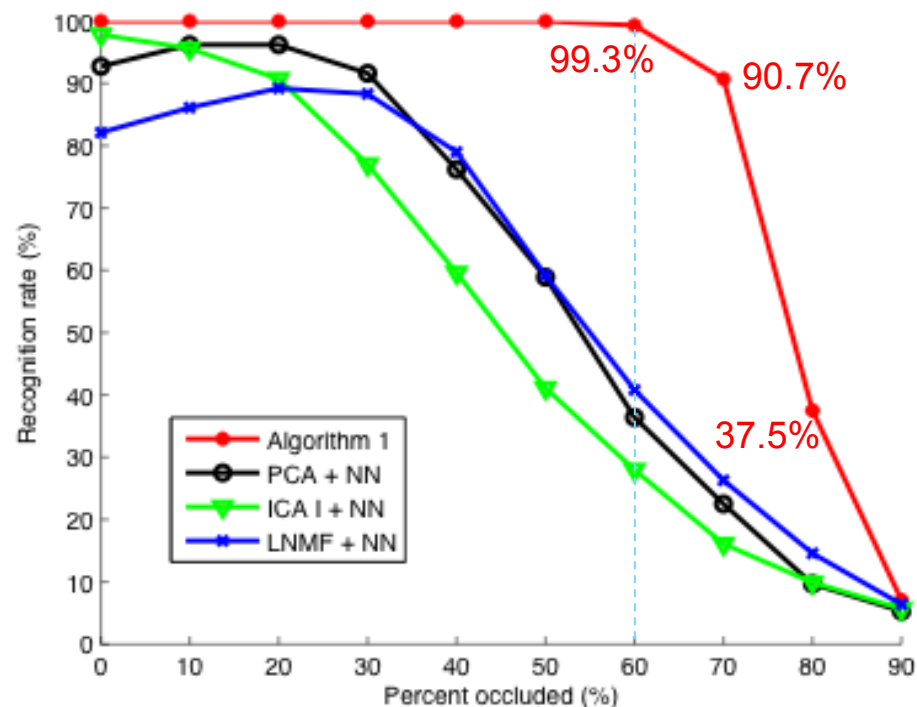
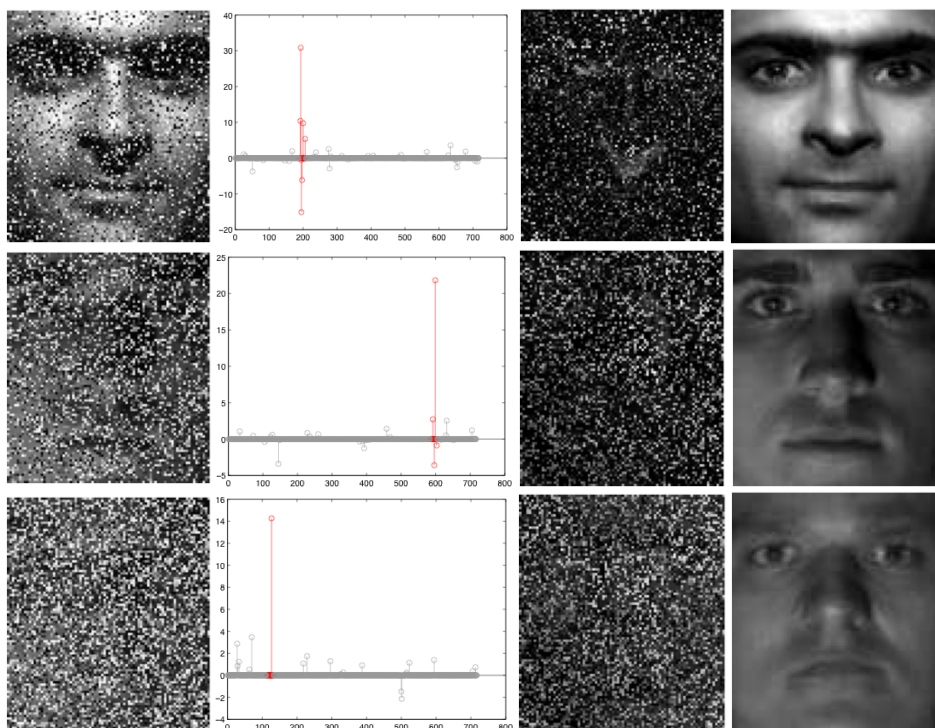
# EXPERIMENTS – Varying Level of Random Corruption

Extended Yale B Database  
(38 subjects)

**Training:** subsets 1 and 2 (717 images)

**Testing:** subset 3 (453 images)

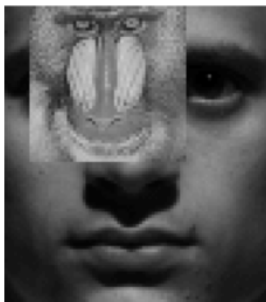
$$y \quad \hat{x}_1 \quad \hat{e}_1 \quad \hat{y}_0 = A\hat{x}_1$$



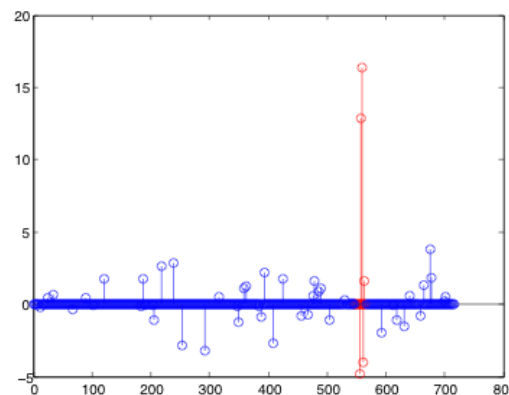
# ROBUST RECOGNITION - $L_1$ versus $L_2$ Solution

$$\hat{x}_1 = \arg \min \|x\|_1 + \|e\|_1.$$

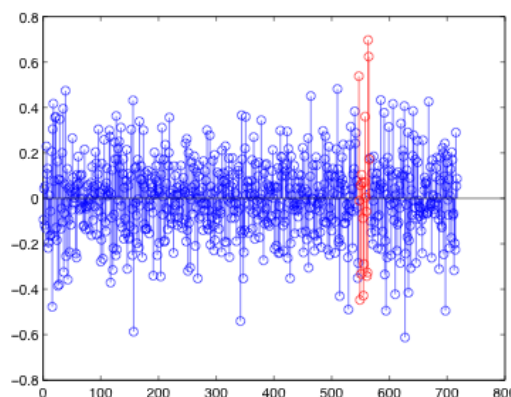
Input:  $y \in \mathbb{R}^D$



$$y = Ax + e$$



$$\hat{e}_1 \quad \hat{y}_0 = A\hat{x}_1$$



$$\hat{e}_2 \quad \hat{y}_0 = A\hat{x}_2$$



$$\hat{x}_2 = \arg \min_x \|y - Ax\|_2.$$

# EXPERIMENTS – *Extension to Single Gallery Image Case*

$$y = Lx + Ab + e$$

**A**: a common dictionary for intraclass variabilities: illumination, expression, and pose.

$x, b, e$  are sparse

## FERET Dataset

**General training**: 1,002 images of 429 people

**Gallery training**: 1,196 images of 1,196 people

**Probe sets**:

*fb* (1,195, expression), *fc* (194, lighting),

*dup1* (722, different time), *dup2* (234, a year)

TABLE 3  
Comparative Recognition Rates of SRC and ESRC on the FERET Database Using the FERET'96 Testing Protocol

	Feature	Dsampled Image	Pixel-Rfaces	Pixel	Gabor-Rfaces	Gabor	LBP-Rfaces	LBP
Probe set	Dim	24×24	540	16384	540	10240	540	15104
<b>fb</b>	SRC	86.4	82.4	85.3	89.5	92.8	91.5	96.7
	ESRC	94.8(+8.4)	91.5(+9.1)	92.8(+7.5)	94.1(+4.6)	<b>97.3(+4.5)</b>	95.2(+3.7)	<b>97.3(+0.6)</b>
<b>fc</b>	SRC	69.6	75.8	76.3	96.4	97.4	72.7	93.3
	ESRC	67.5(-2.1)	78.9(+3.1)	79.4(+3.1)	96.9(+0.5)	<b>99.0(+1.6)</b>	71.1(-1.6)	95.4(+2.1)
<b>dup1</b>	SRC	62.7	60.9	63.7	63.0	72.7	75.2	87.7
	ESRC	75.6(+12.9)	73.1(+12.2)	77.0(+13.3)	73.5(+10.5)	85.0(+12.3)	81.0(+5.8)	<b>93.8(+6.1)</b>
<b>dup2</b>	SRC	52.6	53.0	55.6	70.1	76.5	69.7	83.8
	ESRC	62.4(+9.8)	59.8(+6.8)	66.2(+10.6)	72.6(+2.5)	85.9(+9.4)	71.4(+1.7)	<b>92.3(+8.5)</b>

## CONTEXT – *Recent related progress*

**Low-rank recovery:** Given  $y = \mathcal{L}[A_0]$ ,  $\mathcal{L} : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ , recover  $A_0$ .

$$y \in \mathbb{R}^p \quad \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{blue} \\ \text{yellow} \\ \text{red} \\ \text{green} \\ \text{cyan} \\ \text{magenta} \end{array} \right] = \mathcal{L} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{colorful matrix} \\ \text{matrix } A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \end{array} \right\rangle_{i=1 \dots p}$$

**Impossible** in general ( $p \ll mn$ )

**Well-posed** if  $A_0$  is structured (*low-rank*), but still **NP-hard**

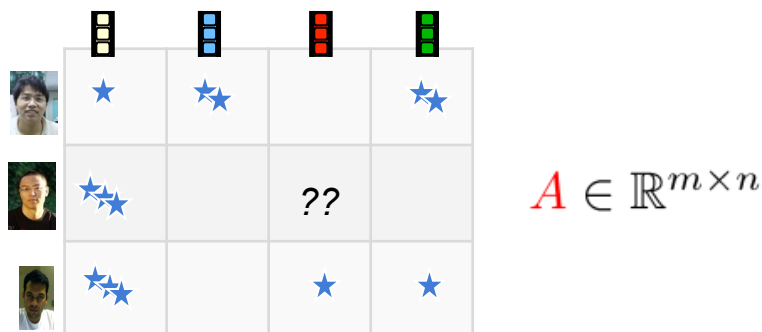
**Tractable** via convex optimization:  $\min \|A\|_*$  s.t.  $y = \mathcal{L}(A)$

... if  $\mathcal{L}$  is “nice” (*random, rank-RIP*)

**Hugely active area:** Recht+Fazel+Parillo '07, Candès+Plan '10, Mohan+Fazel '10, Recht+Xu+Hassibi '11, Chandrasekaran+Recht+Parillo+Willsky '11, Negahban+Wainwright '11 ...

# CONTEXT – Recent related progress

**Matrix completion:** Given  $y = \mathcal{P}_\Omega[A_0]$ ,  $\Omega \subset [m] \times [n]$ , recover  $A_0$ .



**Impossible** in general ( $|\Omega| \ll mn$ )

**Well-posed** if  $A_0$  is structured (*low-rank*), but still **NP-hard**

**Tractable** via convex optimization:  $\min \|A\|_*$  s.t.  $y = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(A)$

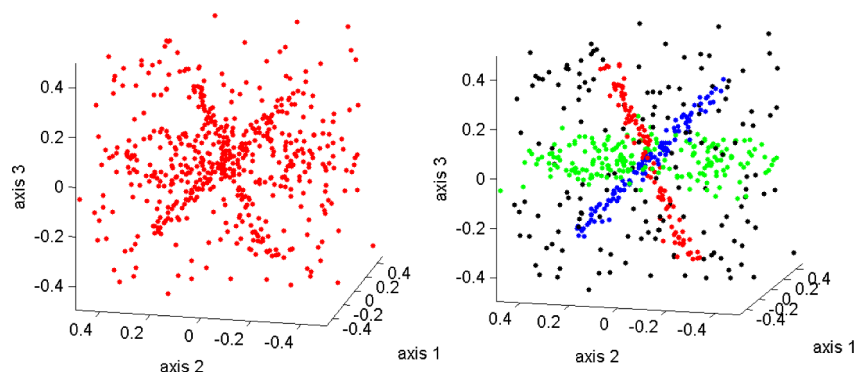
... if  $\Omega$  is “nice” (*random subset*) ...

... and  $A_0$  interacts “nicely” with  $\mathcal{P}_\Omega$  ( $A_0$  *incoherent* – not “spiky”).

**Hugely active area:** Candès+Recht ‘08, Keshavan+Oh+Montonari ‘09, Candès+Tao ‘09, Gross ‘10, Recht ‘10, Negahban+Wainwright ‘10

# CONTEXT – *Recent related progress*

**Subspace Clustering:** Given  $Y : [y_1, \dots, y_n] \subset S_1, \dots, S_k$ , recover the subspaces.



$Y$  (with outliers)

**Impossible** in general (solutions highly ambiguous)

**Well-posed** if  $\{S_i\}$  are few and structured (*low-dim*), but still **combinatorial**

**Tractable** via convex optimization:  $\min \|X\|_{\diamond} + \|E\|_1$  s.t.  $Y = YX + E$ .

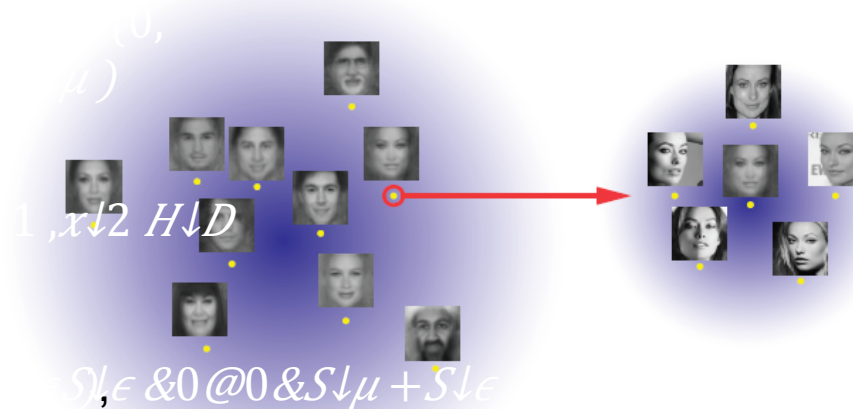
... for random samples  $Y$

...  $X$  and outliers  $E$  are sparse (or low-rank, column-wise sparse).

**Hugely active area:** Rao, Tron, Ma, Vidal'08, Elhamifar and Vidal'2010, Liu, Lin, Sun, Yan, Ma et. al.' 2011, Soltanolkotabi and Candes' 2011

# CONTEXT – Recent related progress

## Bayesian Face Verification:



**Impossible** to learn the covariance matrices in general case.

**Well-posed** if they are structured (*low-dim*), but still **high-dimensional**

**Tractable** via **rank-regularized** optimization:

**Hugely active area:** non-convex, Bayesian sparsity or low-rank regularization, Wipf '2004, 2011, 2012...



## CONTEXT – *Recent related progress*

- LFW dataset: 13,000 images, 2,000+ subjects
- Training and testing using the same LFW unconstraint protocol
- Using the same open source feature\*



Methods	Accuracy
<b>Bayesian (MSRA)</b>	<b>87.5%</b>
PLDA(2012)	86.2%
LDML(2009)	83.2%
DML-eig(2012)	81.3%

[\\*http://lear.inrialpes.fr/people/quillaumin/data.php](http://lear.inrialpes.fr/people/quillaumin/data.php)

Prince, S., Li, P., Fu, Y., Mohammed, U., Elder, J.: **Probabilistic models for inference about identity**. PAMI **34** (2012) 144–157

# CONTEXT – Recent related progress

## MSRA WDRRef

- 99,773 images
- 2,995 subjects
- Wide & Deep



Methods	Accuracy
Bayesian (MSRA)	92.4%
<a href="#">face.com</a> (2011)	91.3%
combined PLDA, funneled & aligned(2012)	90.07%
Associate-Predict(2011) <i>our previous work</i>	90.57%
Combined multishot, aligned(2010)	89.50%
LDML-MkNN, funneled(2009)	87.50%
Attribute and Simile classifiers(2009)	85.29%



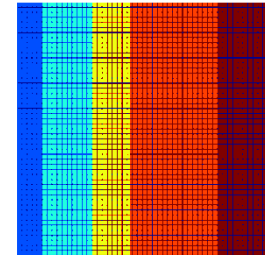
Billions of data

3D face model

## CONTEXT – *Low-dimensional Models*

The data should be **low-dimensional (low-rank)**:

$$A = [\mathbf{a}_1 \mid \cdots \mid \mathbf{a}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad \text{rank}(A) \ll m.$$



# CONTEXT – *Low-dimensional Models*

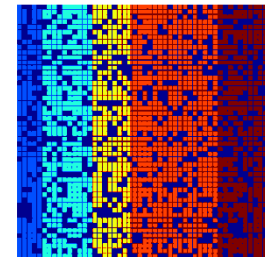
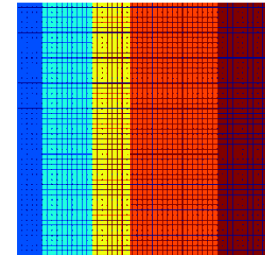
The data should be *low-dimensional*:

$$A = [\mathbf{a}_1 \mid \cdots \mid \mathbf{a}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad \text{rank}(A) \ll m.$$

... but some of the observations are **grossly corrupted**:

$$A + E, \quad |E_{ij}|$$

$E_{ij}$  arbitrarily large, but most are zero.



# CONTEXT – *Low-dimensional Models*

The data should be *low-dimensional*:

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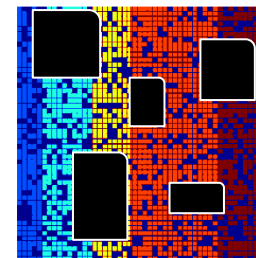
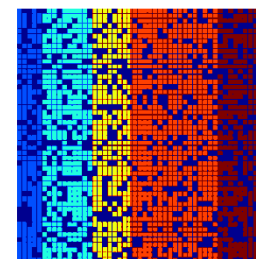
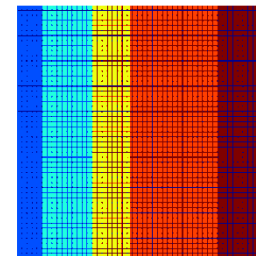
$$A + E, \quad |E_{ij}|$$

$E_{ij}$  arbitrarily large, but most are zero.

... and some of them can be **missing** too:

$$D = \mathcal{P}_\Omega[A + E],$$

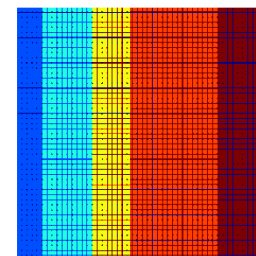
$\Omega \subset [m] \times [n]$  the set of observed entries.



# CONTEXT – *Low-dimensional Models*

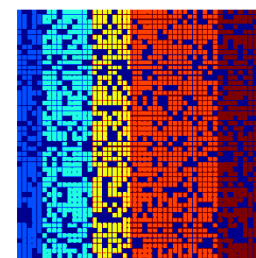
The data should be *low-dimensional*:

$$A = [\mathbf{a}_1 \mid \cdots \mid \mathbf{a}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad \text{rank}(A) \ll m.$$



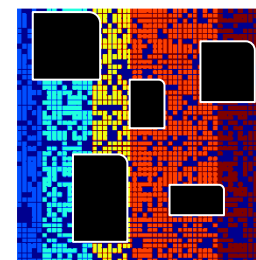
... but some of the observations are *grossly corrupted*:

$$A + E, \quad |E_{ij}| \\ E_{ij} \text{ arbitrarily large, but most are zero.}$$



... and some of them can be *missing* too:

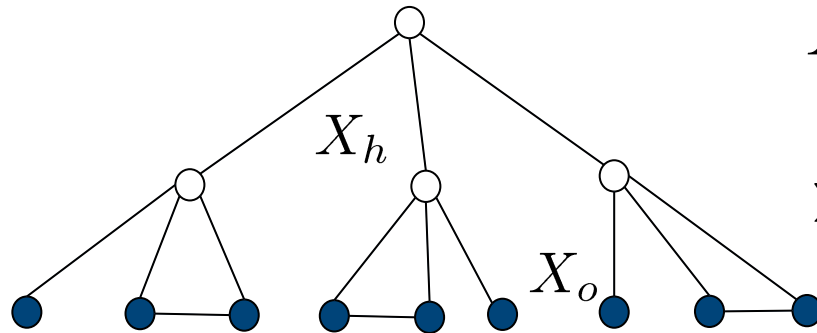
$$D = \mathcal{P}_\Omega[A + E], \\ \Omega \subset [m] \times [n] \text{ the set of observed entries.}$$



... special cases of a more general problem:

$$D = \mathcal{L}_1(\mathbf{A}) + \mathcal{L}_2(\mathbf{E}) + \mathbf{Z} \quad \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{E} \text{ either sparse or low-rank}$$

# CONTEXT: Learning Graphical Models



$$X = (X_o, X_h) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_o & \Sigma_{oh} \\ \Sigma_{ho} & \Sigma_h \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \Sigma^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} J_o & J_{oh} \\ J_{ho} & J_h \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X_i, X_j \text{ cond. indep. given other variables} \Leftrightarrow (\Sigma^{-1})_{ij} = 0$$

Separation Principle:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \Sigma_o^{-1} & = & J_o \\ \text{observed} & = & \text{sparse} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{rcl} - & & J_{oh} J_h^{-1} J_{ho} \\ + & & \text{low-rank} \end{array}$$

- sparse pattern  $\rightarrow$  conditional (in)dependence
- rank of second component  $\rightarrow$  number of hidden variables

# THIS TALK

Given observations  $D = \mathcal{P}_Q[A + E + Z]$ , with  
*A* low-rank,  
*E* sparse,  
*Z* small, dense noise,  
recover a good estimate of *A* and *E*.

## □ Theory and Algorithm

- Provably Correct and Tractable Solution
- Provably Optimal and Efficient Algorithms

## □ Potential Applications

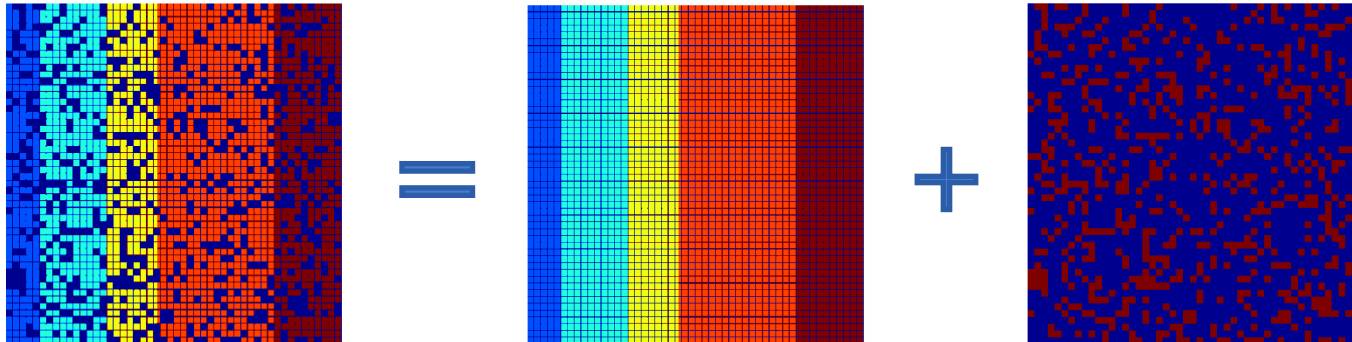
- Visual Data (Restoration, Reconstruction, Recognition)
- Other Data

## □ Conclusions



# ROBUST PCA – *Problem Formulation*

$D$  - observation       $A_0$  – low-rank       $E_0$  – sparse



The diagram illustrates the problem formulation for Robust PCA. It shows three heatmaps:  $D$  (observation),  $A_0$  (low-rank), and  $E_0$  (sparse). The observation matrix  $D$  is a noisy version of the low-rank matrix  $A_0$ . The low-rank matrix  $A_0$  has a smooth, structured appearance, while the sparse matrix  $E_0$  contains only a few non-zero entries (red pixels) on a dark blue background. The equation  $D = A_0 + E_0$  is represented by the heatmaps and their respective labels.

**Problem:** Given  $D = A_0 + E_0$ , recover  $A_0$  and  $E_0$ .

Low-rank component    Sparse component (gross errors)

Numerous approaches in the literature:

- Multivariate trimming [Gnanadesikan and Kettinger '72]
- Power Factorization [Wieber'70s]
- Random sampling [Fischler and Bolles '81]
- Alternating minimization [Shum & Ikeuchi'96, Ke and Kanade '03]
- Influence functions [de la Torre and Black '03]

Key question: ***can guarantee correctness with an efficient algorithm?***

# ROBUST PCA – Convex Surrogates for Sparsity and Rank

Seek the lowest-rank  $A$  that agrees with the data up to some sparse error  $E$ :

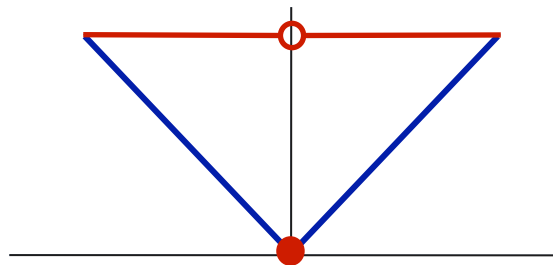
$$\min \text{rank}(A) + \gamma \|E\|_0 \quad \text{subj } A + E = D.$$

**But INTRACTABLE!** Relax with convex surrogates:

$$\|E\|_0 = \#\{E_{ij} \neq 0\} \quad \rightarrow \quad \|E\|_1 = \sum_{ij} |E_{ij}|. \quad \text{L}_1 \text{ norm}$$

$$\text{rank}(A) = \#\{\sigma_i(A) \neq 0\} \quad \rightarrow \quad \|A\|_* = \sum_i \sigma_i(A). \quad \text{Nuclear norm}$$

Convex envelope over  $B_{2,2} \times B_{1,\infty}$



# ROBUST PCA – *By Convex Optimization*

Seek the lowest-rank  $A$  that agrees with the data up to some sparse error  $E$ :

$$\min \text{rank}(A) + \gamma \|E\|_0 \quad \text{subj } A + E = D.$$

**But INTRACTABLE!** Relax with convex surrogates:

$$\|E\|_0 = \#\{E_{ij} \neq 0\} \quad \rightarrow \quad \|E\|_1 = \sum_{ij} |E_{ij}|. \quad \text{L}_1 \text{ norm}$$

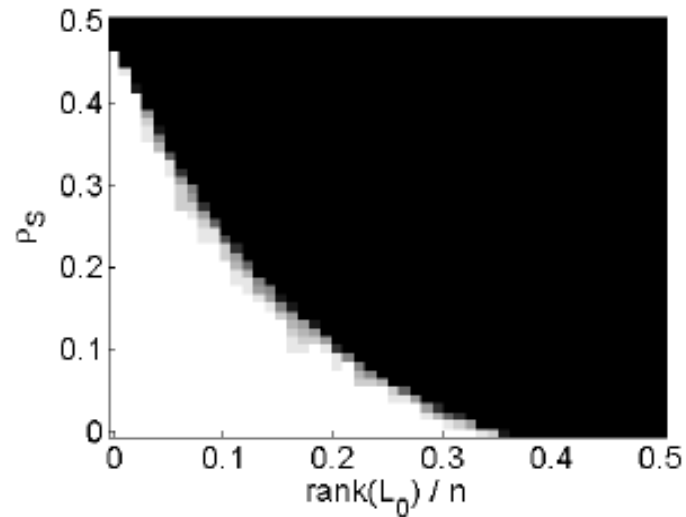
$$\text{rank}(A) = \#\{\sigma_i(A) \neq 0\} \quad \rightarrow \quad \|A\|_* = \sum_i \sigma_i(A). \quad \text{Nuclear norm}$$

$$\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj } A + E = D.$$

***Semidefinite program, solvable in polynomial time***

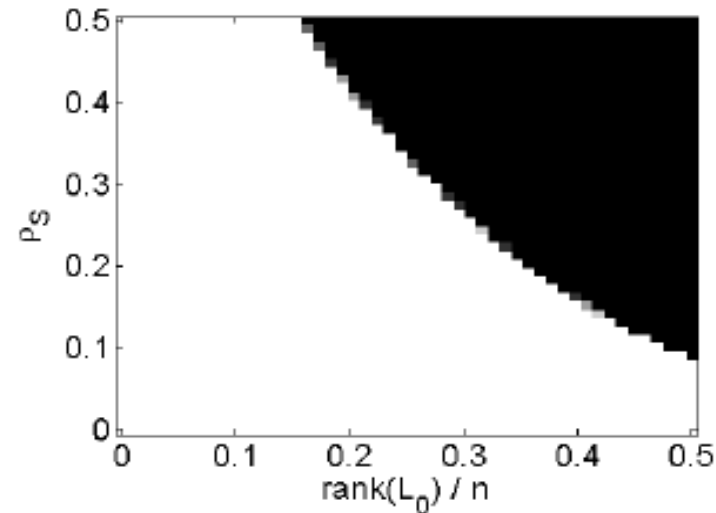
# ROBUST PCA – *When the Convex Program Works?*

$$D = A + E$$



Robust PCA, Random Signs

$$D = \mathcal{P}_\Omega[A]$$



Matrix Completion

White regions are instances with perfect recovery.

Correct recovery when  $A$  is indeed **low-rank** and  $E$  is indeed **sparse**?

# MAIN THEORY – *Exact Solution by Convex Optimization*

**Theorem 1 (Principal Component Pursuit).** If  $A_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m \geq n$  has rank

$m$   
**Non-adaptive weight factor**

and  $E_0$  has Bernoulli support with error probability  $\rho \leq \rho_s^*$ , then with very high probability

$$(A_0, E_0) = \arg \min \|A\|_* + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad A + E = A_0 + E_0,$$

and the minimizer is unique.

**GREAT NEWS:** “Convex optimization recovers almost any matrix of rank  $O\left(\frac{m}{\log^2 n}\right)$  from errors corrupting  $O(mn)$  of the observations!”

## MAIN THEORY – Corrupted, Incomplete Matrix

$$D = \mathcal{P}_\Omega[ A_0 + E_0 ], \quad \Omega \sim \text{uni}\left(\begin{smallmatrix} [m] \times [n] \\ mn \end{smallmatrix}\right)$$

**Theorem 2 (Matrix Completion and Recovery).** If  $A_0, E_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m \geq n$ , with

$$\text{rank}(A_0) \leq C \frac{n}{\mu \log^2(m)}, \quad \text{and} \quad \|E_0\|_0 \leq \rho^* mn,$$

and we observe only a random subset of size

$$|\Omega| = mn/10$$

entries, then with very high probability, solving the convex program

$$\min \|A\|_* + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad \mathcal{P}_\Omega[A + E] = D,$$

uniquely recovers  $(A_0, E_0)$ .

## MAIN THEORY – *With Dense Errors and Noise*

**Theorem 3 (Dense Error Correction).** If  $A_0$  has rank  $r \leq \rho_r \frac{m}{\mu^2 \log^2(n)}$  and  $E_0$  has *random signs* and Bernoulli support with error probability  $\rho < 1$ , then with very high probability

$$(A_0, E_0) = \arg \min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad A + E = A_0 + E_0,$$

and the minimizer is unique.

**Theorem 4 (Robust PCA with Noise).** Given  $D = A_0 + E_0 + Z$  for any  $\|Z\|_F \leq \eta$ , if  $A_0$  has rank  $r \leq \rho_r \frac{m}{\mu^2 \log^2(n)}$  and  $E_0$  has Bernoulli support with error probability  $\rho \leq \rho_s^*$ , then with very high probability

$$(\hat{A}, \hat{E}) = \arg \min \|A\|_* + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad \|D - A - E\| \leq \eta,$$

satisfies  $\|(\hat{A}, \hat{E}) - (A_0, E_0)\| \leq C\eta$  for some constant  $C > 0$ .

# FIRST RESULTS OF THIS TYPE

**Example:** for  $D = A_0 + E_0$ ,

**Previous Best Result** [Chandrasekharan, Parrilo, Willsky'11]:

Deterministic error models, success when  $\|E\|_0 \leq Cm^{1.5}/r^{.5} \log m$ .

Does not guarantee to correct nonzero fractions of errors, even with  $r = 1$ .



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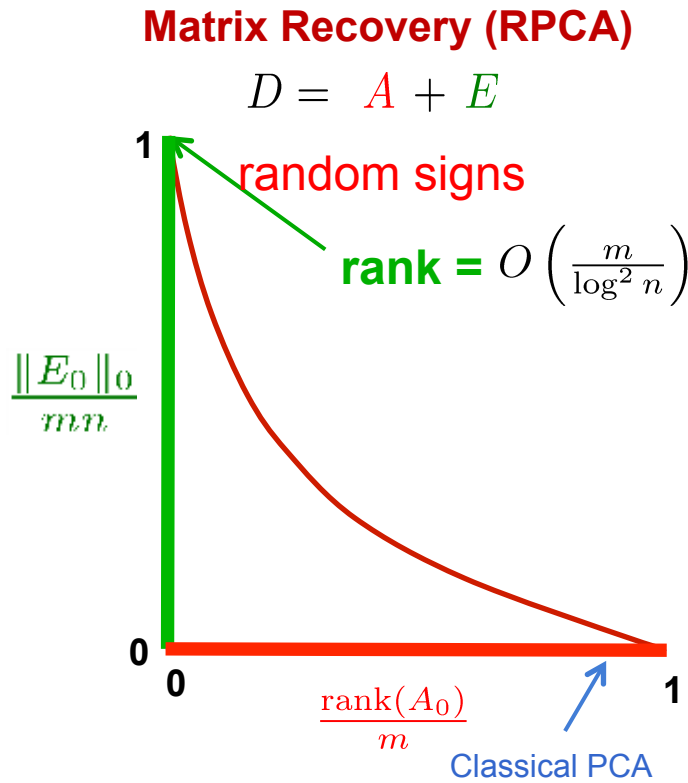
**Our results:**

Corrects nonzero fractions of errors, even with  $r = O(m/\log^2 n)$ ,

Considers **corruption, missing elements and noise**:  $\mathcal{P}_\Omega[ A_0 + E_0 + Z ]$

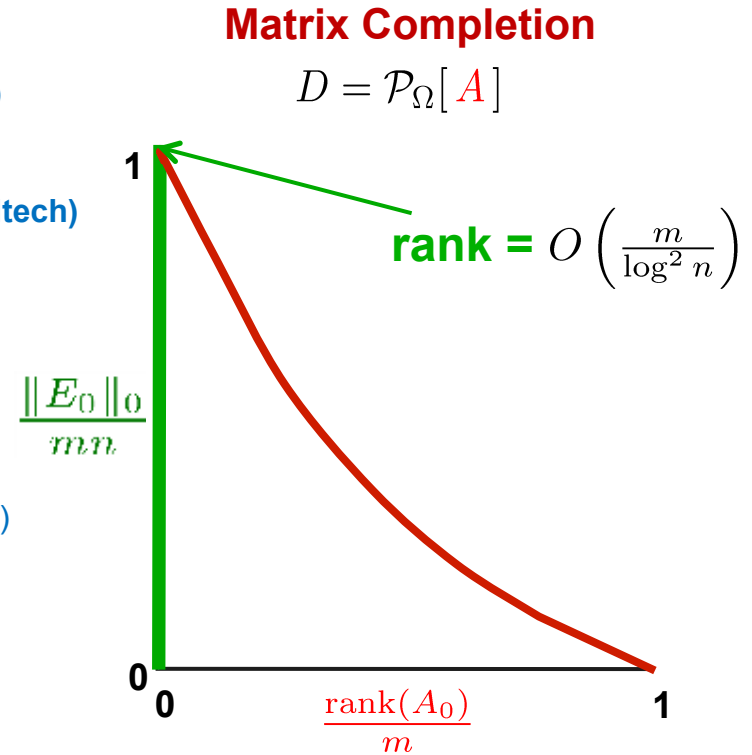
# BIG PICTURE – *Landscape of Theoretical Guarantees*

What people have known so far in the past 3-4 years:



D. Gross  
 E. Candes (Stanford)  
 B. Recht (UC Berkeley)  
 J. Wright (Columbia)  
 J. Tropp (Caltech)  
 Chandrasekharan (Caltech)

B. Hassibi (Caltech)  
 P. Parrilo (MIT)  
 A. Willsky (MIT)  
 B. Hastie (Stanford)  
 C. Montanari (Stanford)  
 M. Jordan (Berkeley)  
 M. Wainwright (Berkeley)  
 B. Yu (Berkeley)  
 A. Singer (Princeton)  
 T. Tao (UCLA)  
 S. Osher (UCLA)  
 O. Milenkovic (UIUC)  
 Y. Bresler (UIUC)  
 Y. Ma (UIUC)  
 M. Fazel (U Wash.)

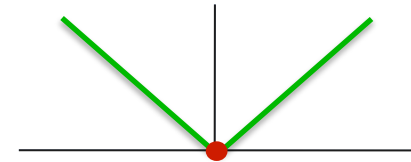


***This phase transition landscape has been precisely understood! (Tropp et. al.)***

# ALGORITHMS – *Are scalable solutions possible?*

Seemingly **BAD NEWS**: Our optimization problem

$$\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj } A + E = D.$$


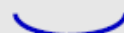




is **high-dimensional** and **non-smooth**.

Convergence rate of solving a generic convex program:  $\min_x f(x)$

Second-order Newton method, # of iterations:  $O(\log(1/\varepsilon))$ , but not scalable!

First-order methods depend strongly on the smoothness of  $f$ :

Function class $\mathcal{F}$	Suboptimality $f(\mathbf{x}_k) - f(\mathbf{x}^*)$
<i>smooth</i> $f$ convex, differentiable  $\ \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{x}')\  \leq L\ \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\ $	$\frac{CL\ \mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}^*\ ^2}{k^2} = \Theta\left(\frac{1}{k^2}\right)$
<i>smooth + structured nonsmooth:</i> $F = f + g$  +  $f, g$ convex, $\ \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla f(\mathbf{x}')\  \leq L\ \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\ $	$\frac{CL\ \mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}^*\ ^2}{k^2} = \Theta\left(\frac{1}{k^2}\right)$
<i>nonsmooth</i> $f$ convex  $ f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}')  \leq M\ \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\ $	$\frac{CM\ \mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}^*\ }{\sqrt{k}} = \Theta\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}\right)$

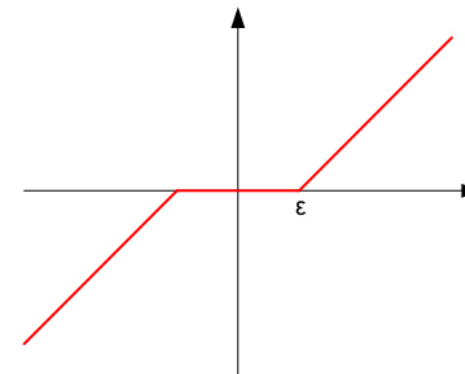
## ALGORITHMS – *Why are scalable solutions possible?*

**GOOD NEWS:** The objective function has **special structures**

$$\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad A + E = D.$$

**KEY OBSERVATION:** **Simple solutions** for the proximal operations, given by **soft-thresholding** the entries or singular values of the matrix, respectively.

$$\mathcal{S}_\varepsilon(Q) = \operatorname{argmin}_X \varepsilon \|X\|_1 + \frac{1}{2} \|X - Q\|_F^2$$
$$\mathcal{D}_\varepsilon(Q) = \operatorname{argmin}_X \varepsilon \|X\|_* + \frac{1}{2} \|X - Q\|_F^2$$



*For composite functions  $F = f + g$ , with  $f$  smooth, if  $g$  has an efficient proximal operator, we achieve the same (optimal) rate as if  $F$  was smooth.*

## ALGORITHMS – *Evolution of scalable algorithms*

**GOOD NEWS:** Scalable first-order gradient-descent algorithms:

- Proximal Gradient [Osher, Mao, Dong, Yin '09, Wright et. al.'09, Cai et. al.'09].
- Accelerated Proximal Gradient [Nesterov '83, Beck and Teboulle '09]:
- Augmented Lagrange Multiplier [Hestenes '69, Powell '69]:
- Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers [Gabay and Mercier '76].

**A scalable algorithm:** alternating direction method (ADMoM) for ALM:

$$l(A, E, Y) = \|A\|_* + \lambda\|E\|_1 + \langle Y, D - A - E \rangle + \frac{\mu}{2}\|D - A - E\|_F^2$$

$$\text{repeat} \begin{cases} A_{k+1} & = \mathcal{D}_{\mu_k}^{-1}(D - E_k + Y_k/\mu_k), & \textit{Shrink singular values} \\ E_{k+1} & = \mathcal{S}_{\lambda\mu_k}^{-1}(D - A_{k+1} + Y_k/\mu_k), & \textit{Shrink absolute values} \\ Y_{k+1} & = Y_k + \mu_k(D - A_{k+1} - E_{k+1}). \end{cases}$$

**Cost of each iteration is a classical PCA, i.e. a (partial) SVD.**

## ALGORITHMS – Evolution of fast algorithms (around 2009)

For a 1000x1000 matrix of rank 50, with 10% (100,000) entries randomly corrupted:  $\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \text{ subj } A + E = D.$

Algorithms	Accuracy	Rank	$\ E\ _0$	# iterations	time (sec)
IT	5.99e-006	50	101,268	8,550	119,370.3
DUAL	8.65e-006	50	100,024	822	1,855.4
APG	5.85e-006	50	100,347	134	1,468.9
APG <sub>p</sub>	5.91e-006	50	100,347	134	82.7
EALM <sub>p</sub>	2.07e-007	50	100,014	34	37.5
IALM <sub>p</sub>	3.83e-007	50	99,996	23	11.8

10,000  
times  
speedup!



***Provably Robust PCA at only a constant factor ( $\approx 20$ ) more computation than conventional PCA!***

# ALGORITHMS – *Convergence rate with strong convexity*

**GREAT NEWS:** Geometric convergence for gradient algorithms!

$f$  restricted strong convex:  $O(\log(1/\varepsilon))$  [Agarwal, Negahban, Wainwright, NIPS 2010]

$f$  smooth,  $\nabla f$  Lipschitz:  $O(\varepsilon^{-1/2})$

$f$  differentiable:  $O(\varepsilon^{-1})$

$f$  non-smooth:  $O(\varepsilon^{-2})$

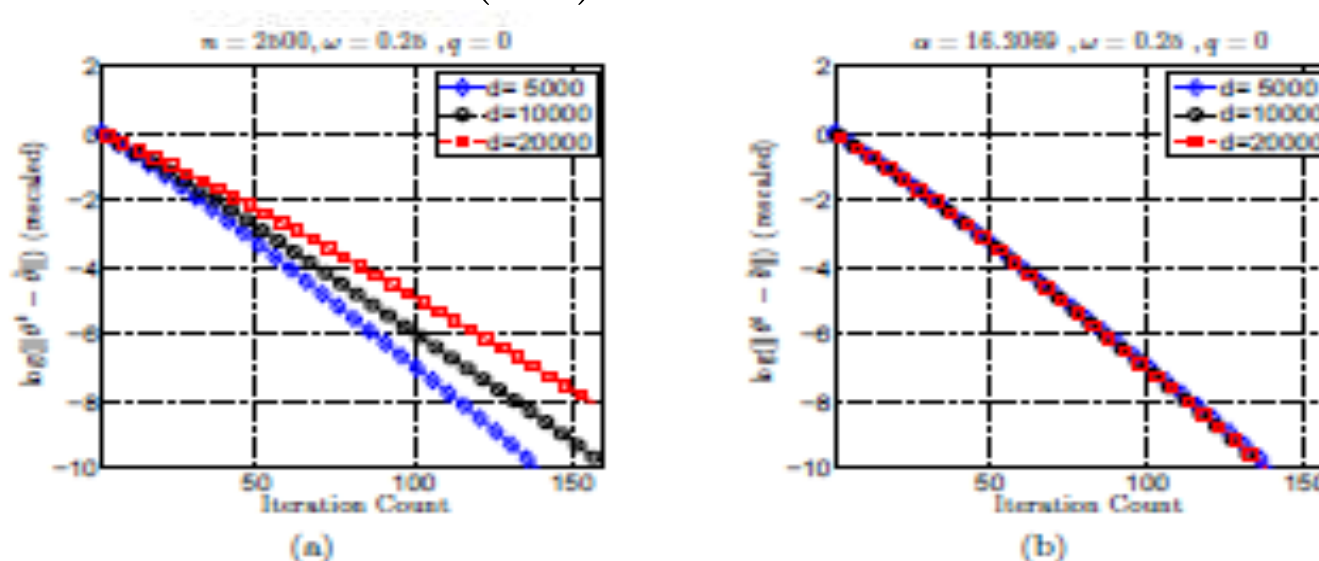


Figure 1. Convergence rates of projected gradient descent in application to Lasso programs ( $\ell_1$ -constrained least-squares). Each panel shows the log optimization error  $\log \|\theta^t - \hat{\theta}\|$  versus the iteration number  $t$ . Panel (a) shows three curves, corresponding to dimensions  $d \in \{5000, 10000, 20000\}$ , sparsity  $s = \lceil \sqrt{d} \rceil$ , and all with the same sample size  $n = 2500$ . All cases show geometric convergence, but the rate for larger problems becomes progressively slower. (b) For an appropriately rescaled sample size ( $\alpha = \frac{n}{s \log d}$ ), all three convergence rates should be roughly the same, as predicted by the theory.

## ALGORITHMS – *Recap and Conclusions*

Key challenges of **nonsmoothness** and **scale** can be mitigated by using **special structure** in sparse and low-rank optimization problems:

*Efficient proximity operators  $\Rightarrow$  proximal gradient methods*

*Separable objectives  $\Rightarrow$  alternating directions methods*

Efficient **moderate-accuracy solutions** for **very large problems**.

*Special tricks can further improve specific cases (factorization for low-rank)*

Techniques in this literature apply quite broadly.

*Extremely useful tools for creative problem formulation / solution.*

Fundamental **theory** guiding engineering **practice**:

*What are the basic principles and limitations?*

*What specific structure in my problem can allow me to do better?*



# APPLICATIONS

## ❑ **Repairing Images and Videos**

- Image Repairing, Background Extraction, Street Panorama

## ❑ **Reconstructing 3D Geometry**

- Shape from Texture, Featureless 3D Reconstruction

## ❑ **Registering Multiple Images**

- Multiple Image Alignment, Video Stabilization

## ❑ **Recognizing Objects**

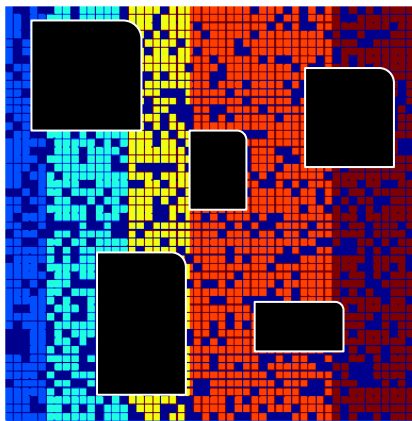
- Faces, Texts, etc

## ❑ **Other Data and Applications**

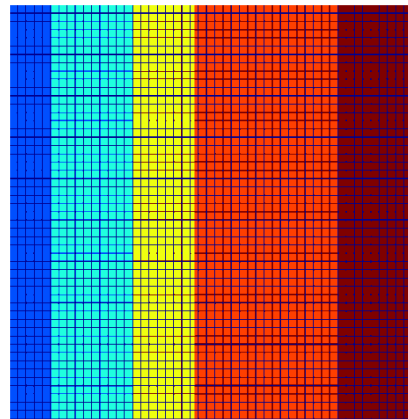
# Implications: Highly Compressive Sensing of Structured Information!

*Recover low-dimensional structures from a fraction of missing measurements with structured support.*

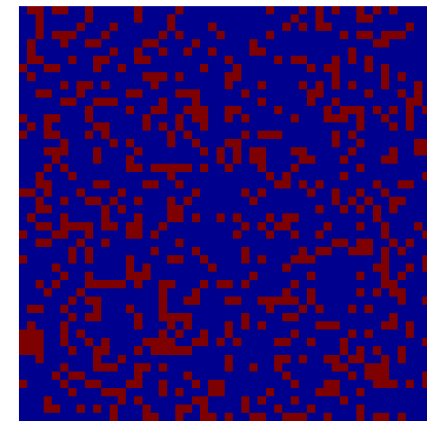
*compressive samples*



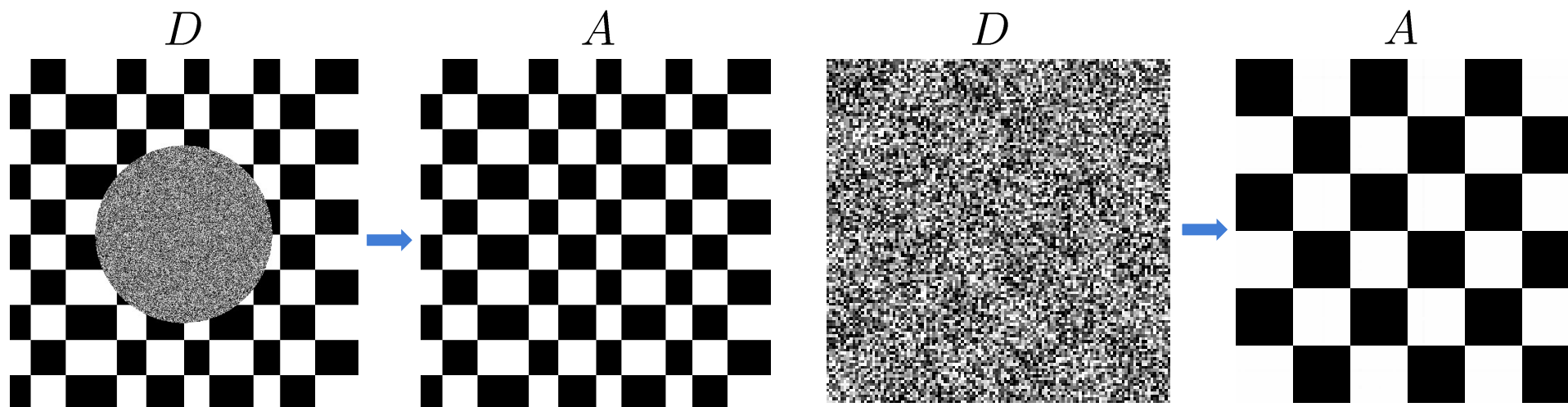
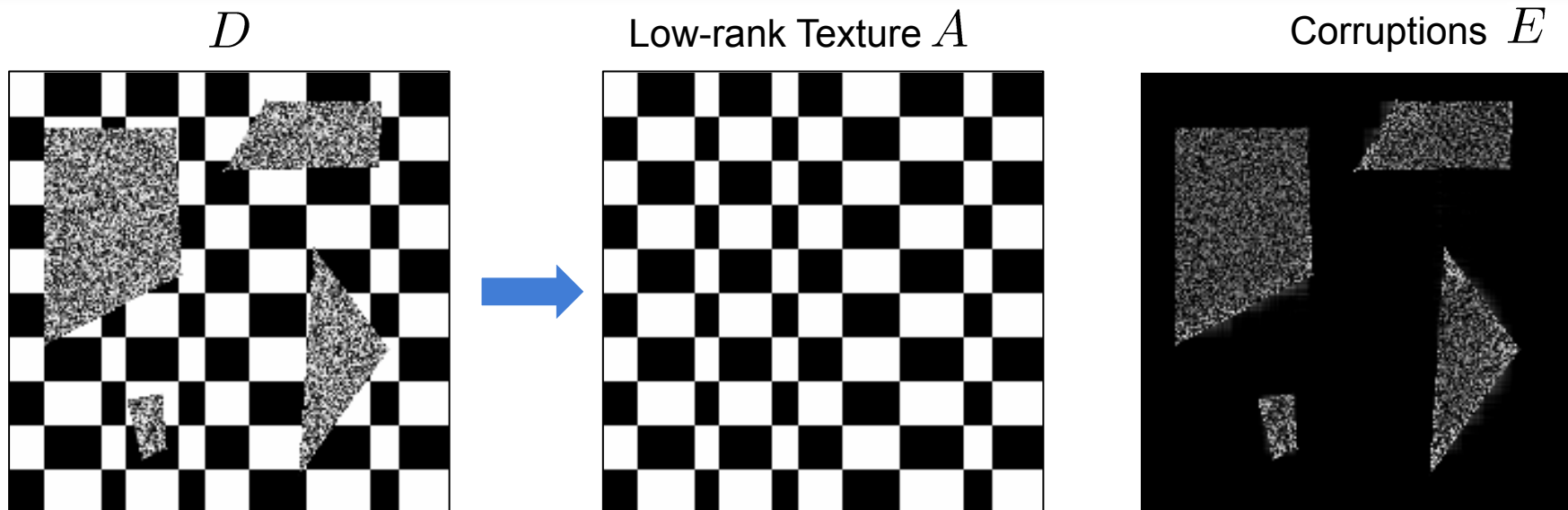
Low-rank Structures



Sparse Structures



# Repairing Images: Highly Robust Repairing of Low-rank Textures!



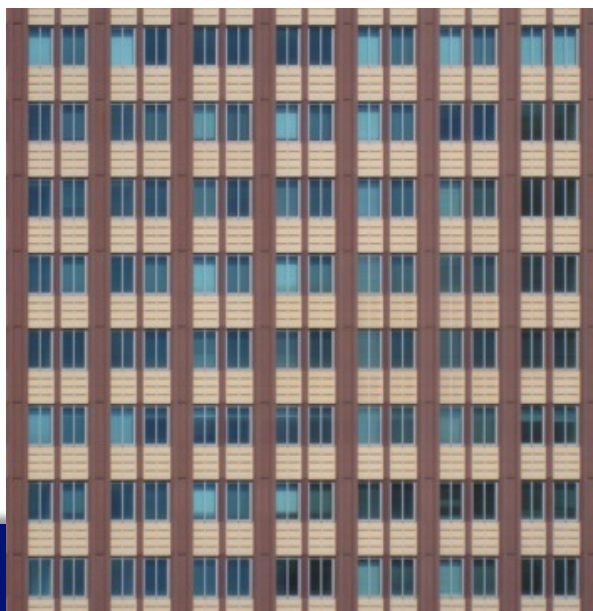
# Repairing Low-rank Textures

## Low-rank Method

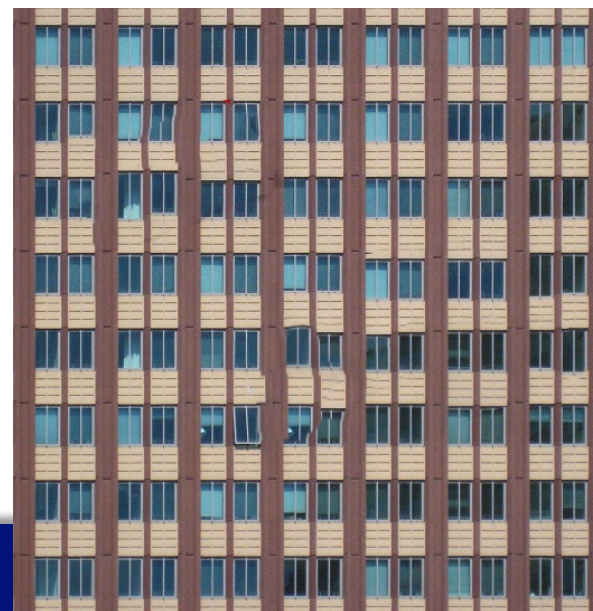
Input



Output



## Photoshop

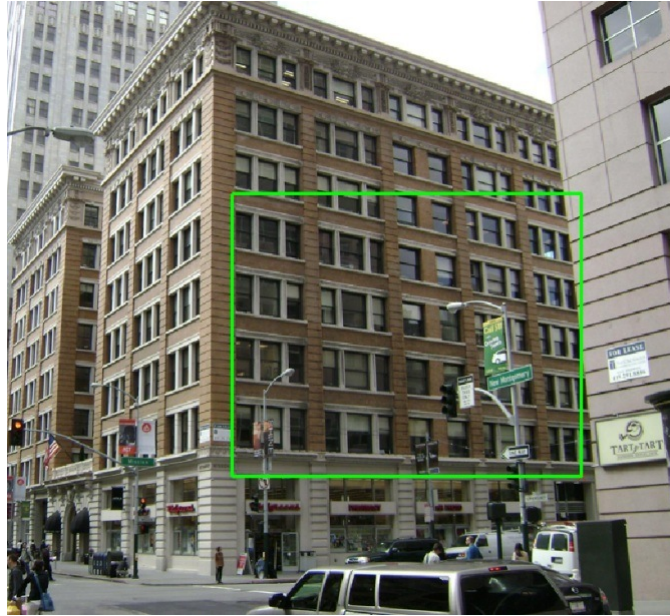


# Repairing (Distorted) Low-rank Textures

Low-rank Method

Photoshop

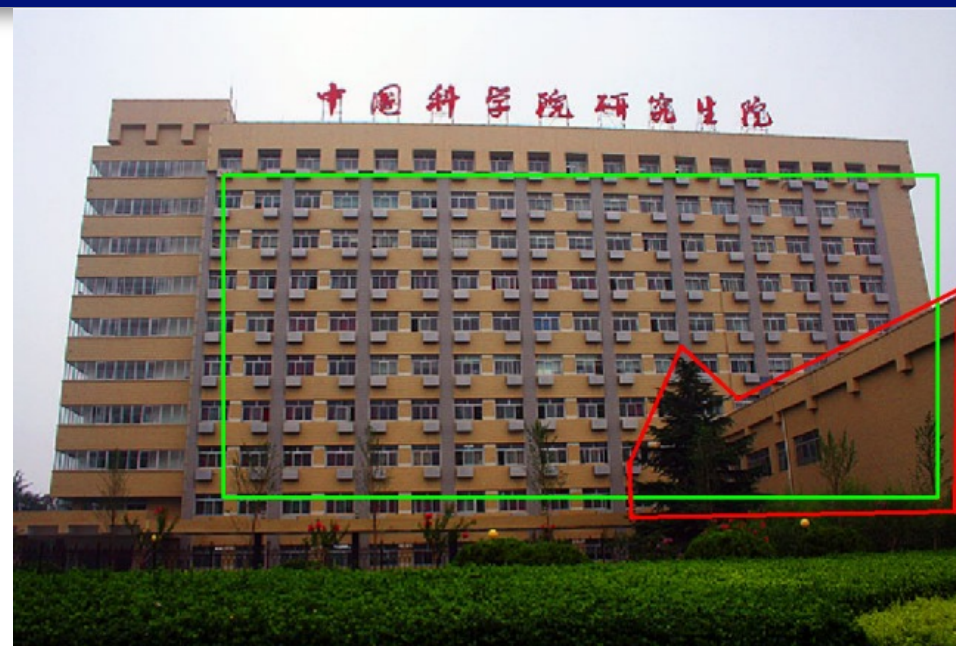
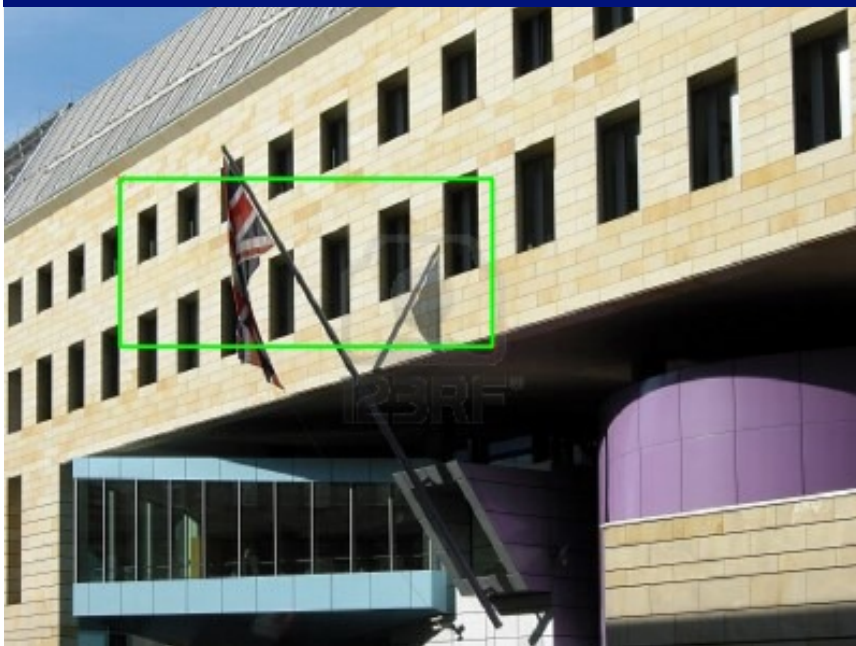
Input



Output

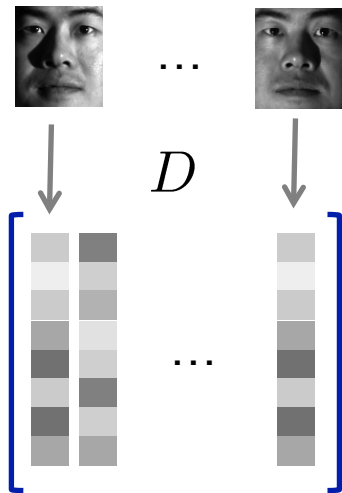


# Structured Texture Completion and Repairing

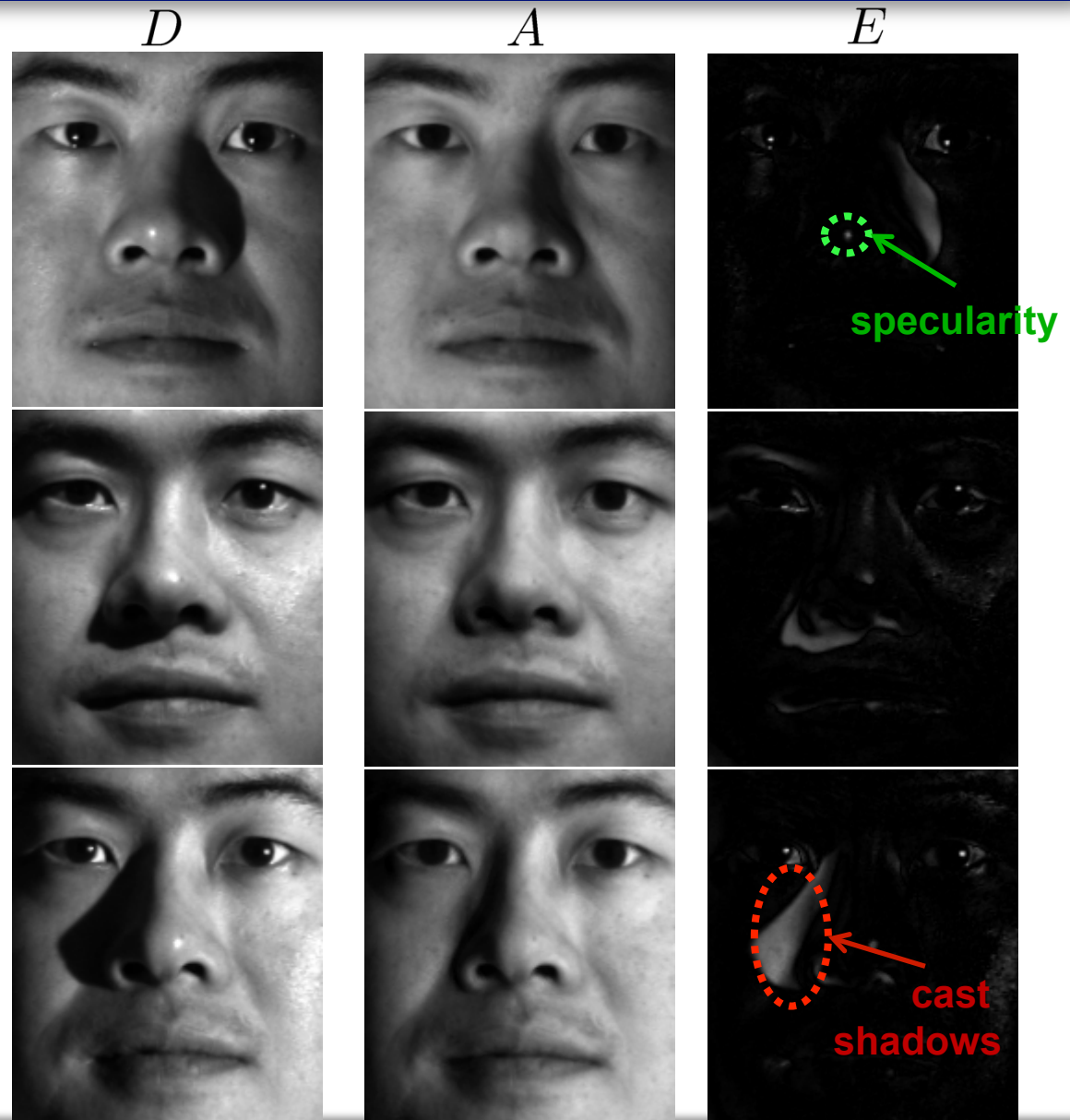


# Repairing Multiple Correlated Images

58 images of one person under varying lighting:

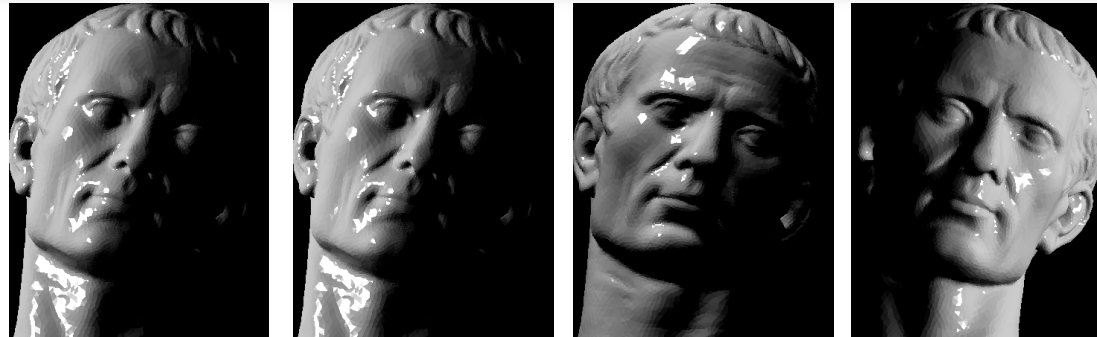


**RPCA** →

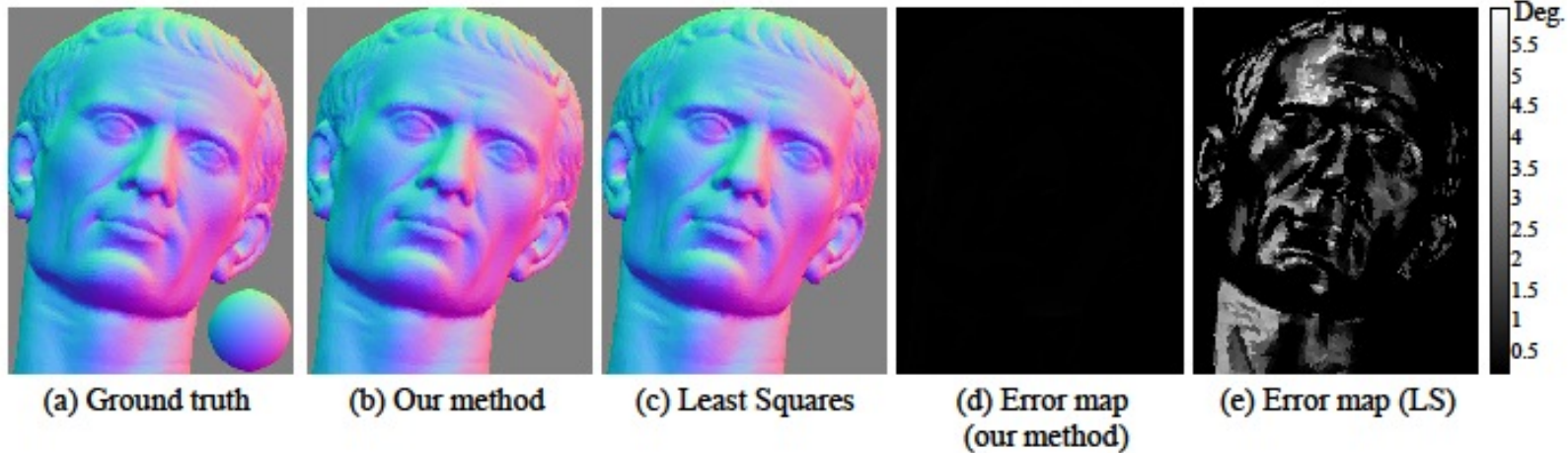


# Repairing Images: robust photometric stereo

Input images



$$\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad D = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(A + E). \quad \begin{array}{l} \Omega^c \sim \text{shadow} (20.7\%) \\ E \sim \text{specularities} (13.6\%) \end{array}$$



Mean error	<b>0.014°</b>	0.96°
Max error	<b>0.20°</b>	8.0°

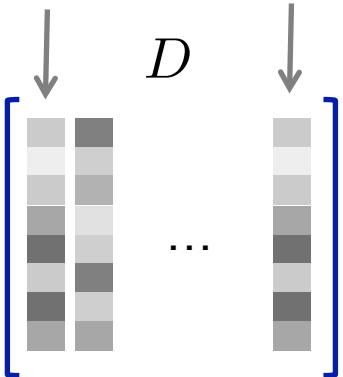


# Repairing Video Frames: *background modeling from video*

Surveillance video

200 frames,  
144 x 172 pixels,

Significant foreground  
motion



**RPCA**

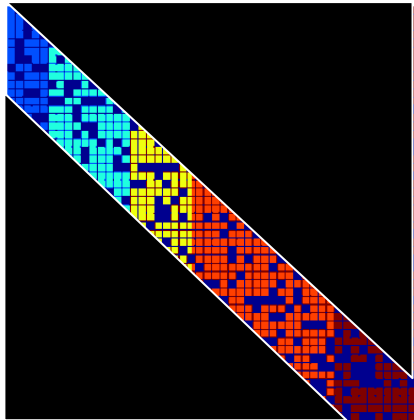
$$\text{Video } D = \text{Low-rank appx. } A + \text{Sparse error } E$$



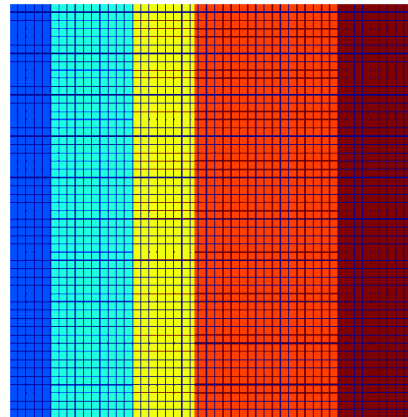
# Implications: Highly Compressive Sensing of Structured Information!

*Recover low-dimensional structures from diminishing fraction of corrupted measurements.*

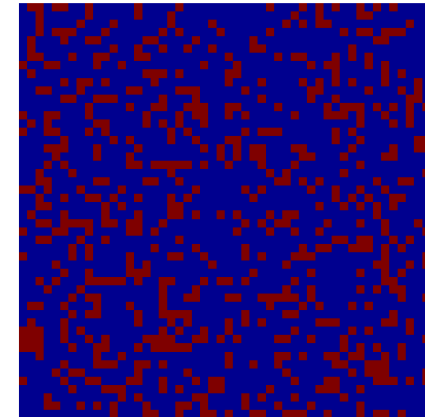
*compressive samples*



Low-rank Structures

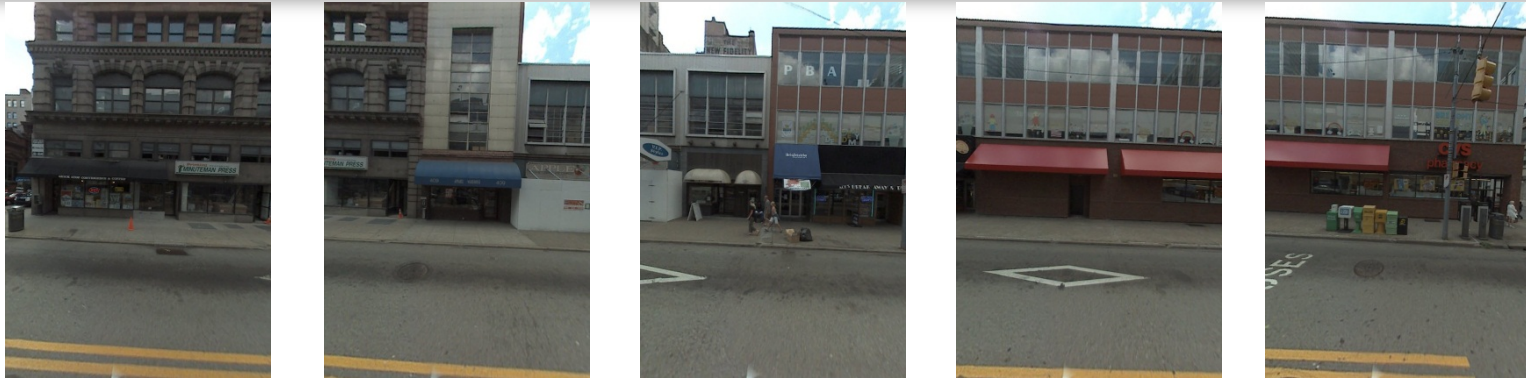


Sparse Structures



# Repairing Video Frames: *Street Panorama*

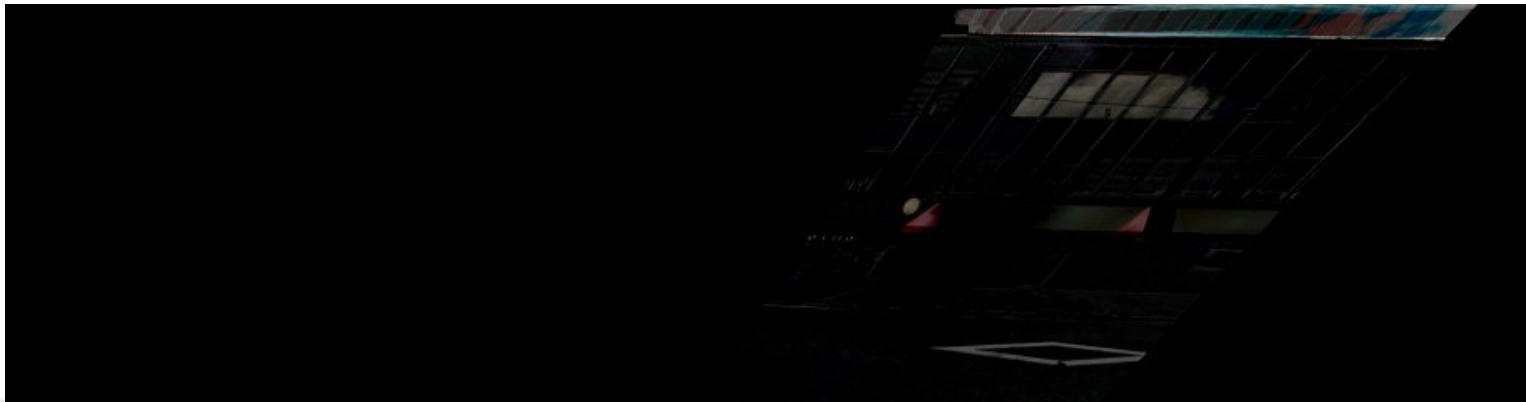
*D*



*A*



*E*



# Repairing Video Frames: Street Panorama

Low-rank



AutoStitch



Photoshop



# Repairing Video Frames: Street Panorama

Low-rank



AutoStitch



Photoshop



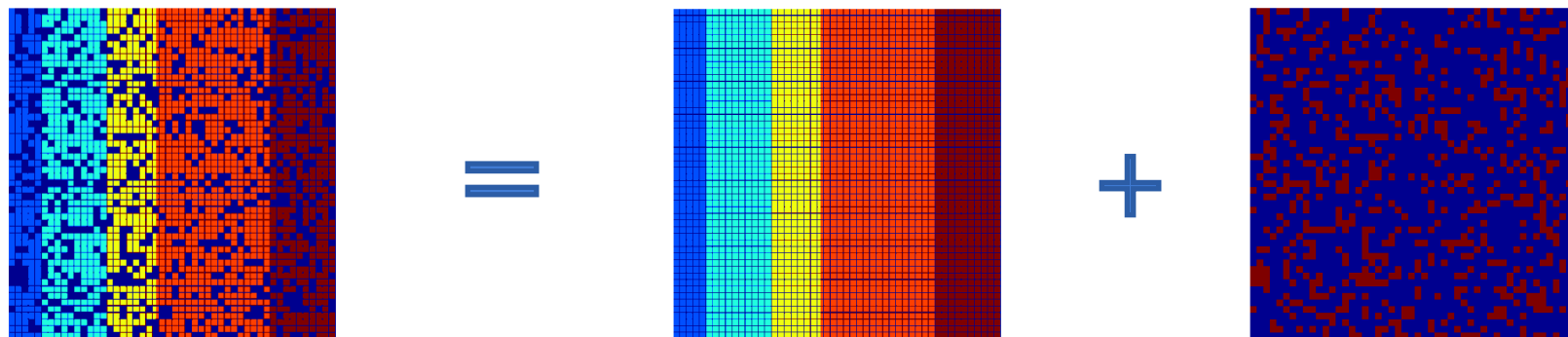
# Street Panorama: Highly Compressive Sensing of Low-dim Structures!



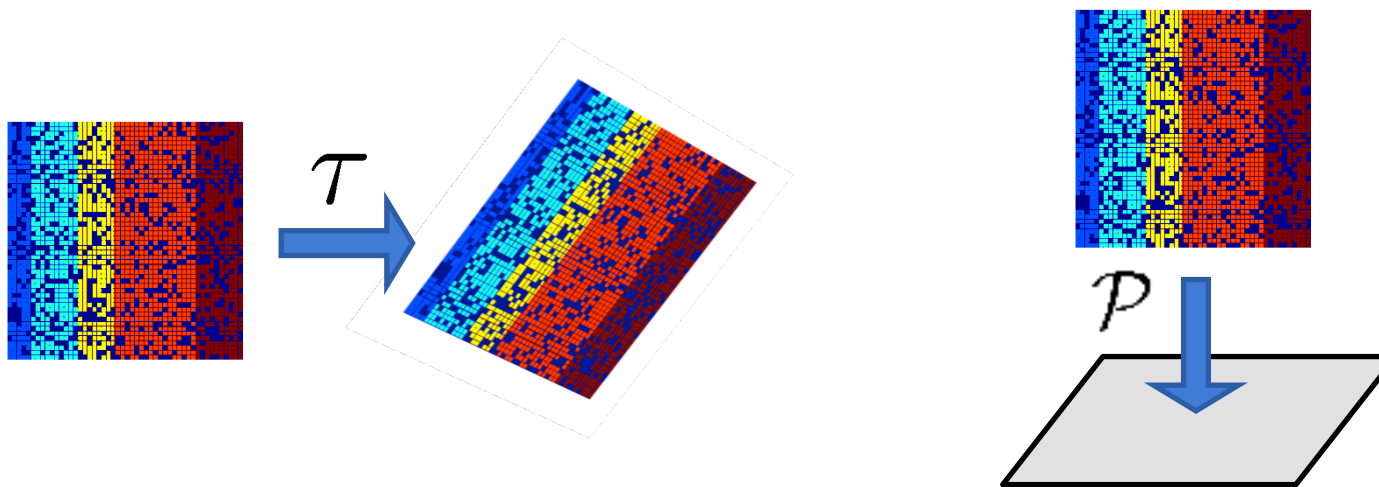
nips12\_video.mp4

# Sensing or Imaging of Low-rank and Sparse Structures

**Fundamental Problem:** *How to recover low-rank and sparse structures from corrupted data*

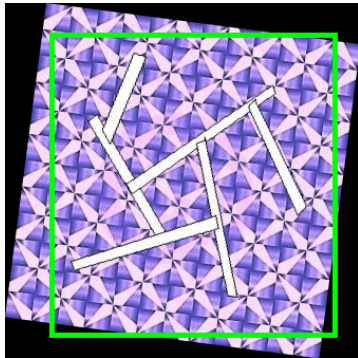


*subject to either nonlinear deformation  $\tau$  or linear compressive sampling  $\mathcal{P}$ ?*



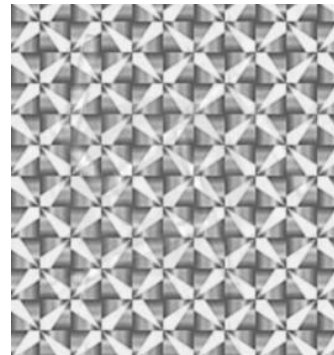
# Reconstructing 3D Geometry and Structures

$D$  – deformed observation



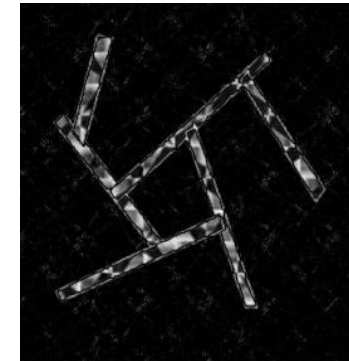
$$D \circ \tau =$$

$A$  – low-rank structures



$$+$$

$E$  – sparse errors



**Problem:** Given  $D \circ \tau = A_0 + E_0$ , recover  $\tau$ ,  $A_0$  and  $E_0$  simultaneously.

Low-rank component  
(regular patterns...)

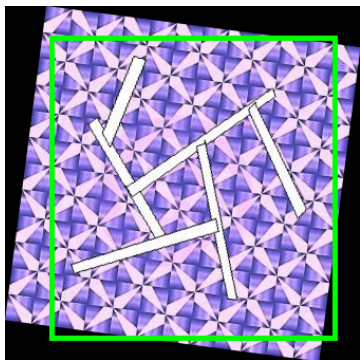
Sparse component  
(occlusion, corruption, foreground...)

Parametric deformations  
(affine, projective, radial distortion, 3D shape...)



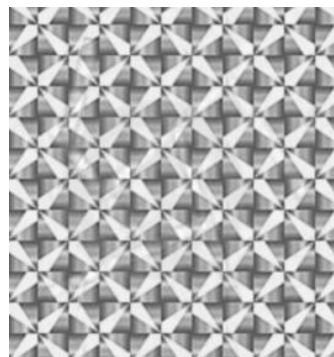
# Transform Invariant Low-rank Textures (TILT)

$D$  – deformed observation



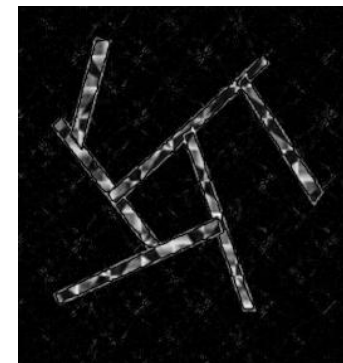
$\circ \tau =$

$A$  – low-rank structures



+

$E$  – sparse errors



**Objective:** *Transformed Principal Component Pursuit:*

$$\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad A + E = D \circ \tau$$

**Solution:** *Iteratively solving the linearized convex program:*



$$\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad A + E = D \circ \tau_k + J \cdot \Delta \tau$$



Or reduced version:  $\text{subj} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q[A + E] = \mathcal{P}_Q[D \circ \tau_k], \mathcal{P}_Q[J] = 0$

## THEORY – Compressive Robust PCA

**Theorem 5 (Compressive Principal Component Pursuit).** Let  $A_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m \geq n$  have rank  $r \leq \rho_r \frac{m}{\mu^2 \log^2(n)}$ , and  $E_0$  have a Bernoulli support with error probability  $\rho < \rho^*$ . Let  $Q^\perp$  be a random subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  of dimension

$$\dim(Q) \geq C_Q(\rho mn + mr) \cdot \log^2 m,$$

distributed according to the Haar measure, independent of the support of  $E_0$ . Then with very high probability

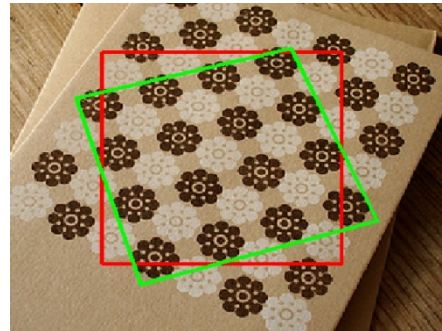
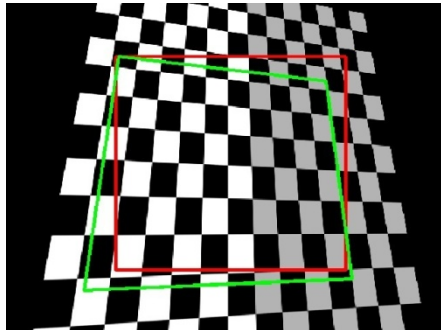
$$(A_0, E_0) = \arg \min \|A\|_* + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q[A + E] = \mathcal{P}_Q[A_0 + E_0],$$

for some numerical constant  $\rho_r$ ,  $C_p$  and  $\rho^*$ , and the minimizer is unique.

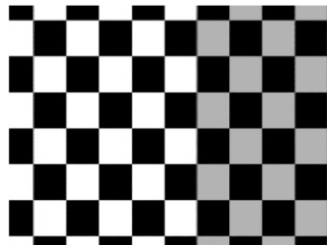
**A nearly optimal lower bound on minimum # of measurements!**

# TILT: *Shape from texture*

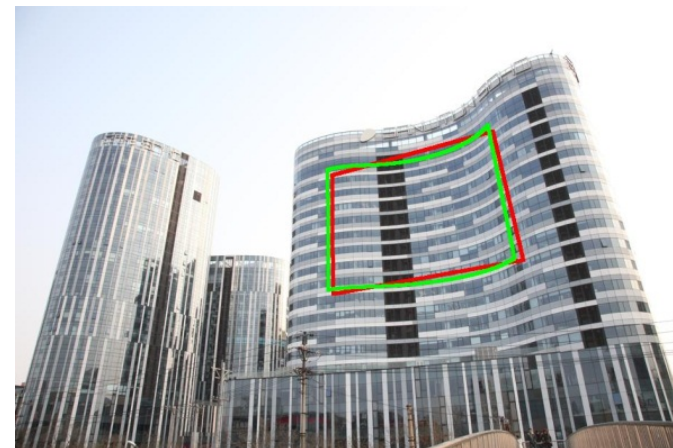
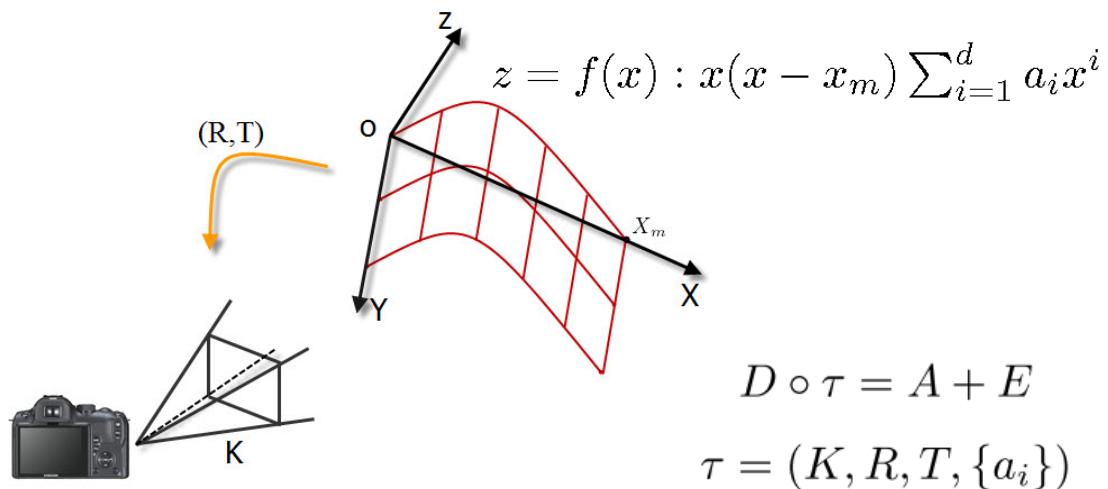
Input (red window  $D$ )



Output (rectified green window  $A$ )



# TILT: Shape and geometry from textures



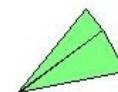
*D*



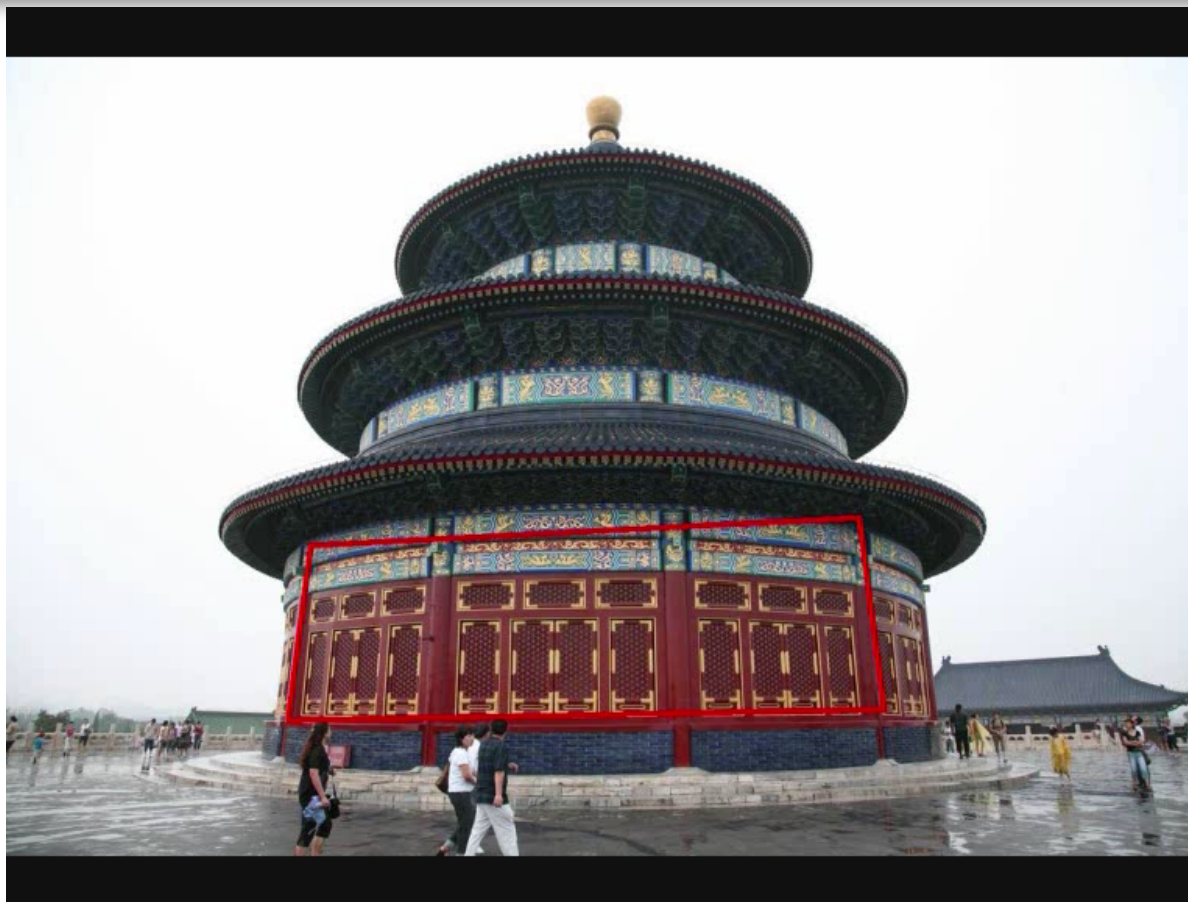
*A*



*E*



# TILT: *Shape and geometry from textures*

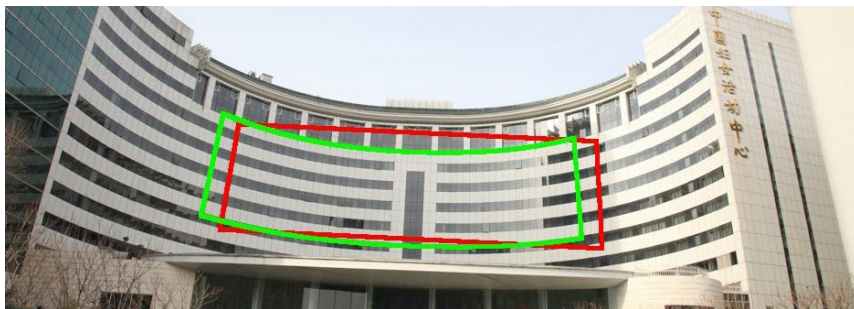


360° panorama



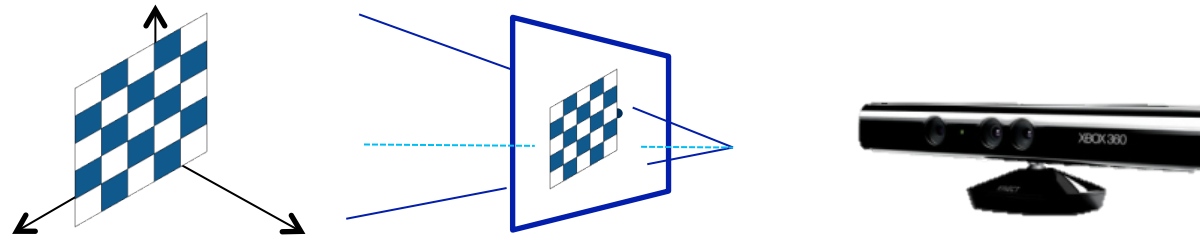
Zhang, Liang, and Ma, in ICCV 2011

# TILT: *Virtual reality*



Zhang, Liang, and Ma, in ICCV 2011

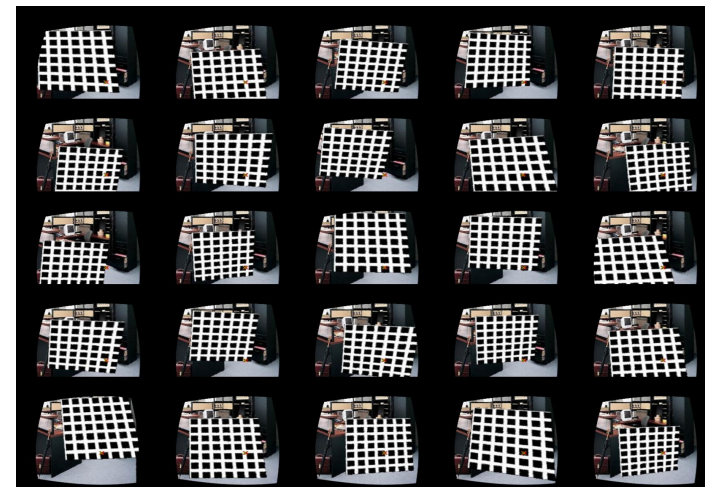
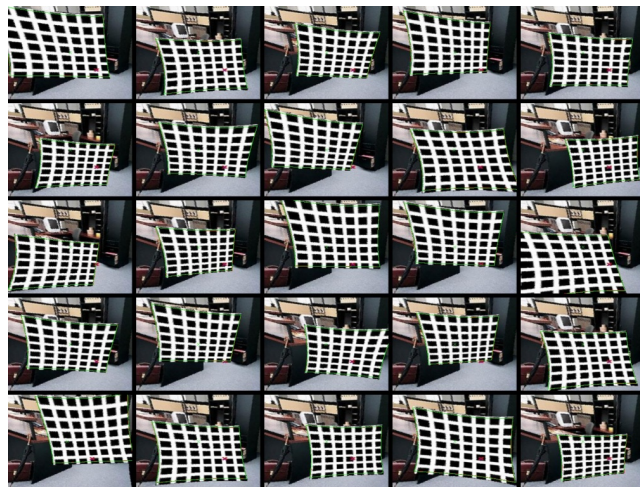
# TILT: Camera Calibration with Radial Distortion



$$r = \sqrt{x_0^2 + y_0^2}, f(r) = 1 + kc(1)r^2 + kc(2)r^4 + kc(5)r^6$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f(r)x_0 + 2kc(3)x_0y_0 + kc(4)(r^2 + 2x_0^2) \\ f(r)y_0 + 2kc(4)x_0y_0 + kc(3)(r^2 + 2y_0^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} f_x & \theta & o_x \\ 0 & f_y & o_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



## TILT: Camera Calibration with Radial Distortion

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^N \|A_i\|_* + \lambda \|E_i\|_1 \quad \text{subj } A_i + E_i = D \circ (\tau_0, \tau_i)$$
$$\tau_0 = (K, K_c), \quad \tau_i = (R_i, T_i).$$

Previous approach

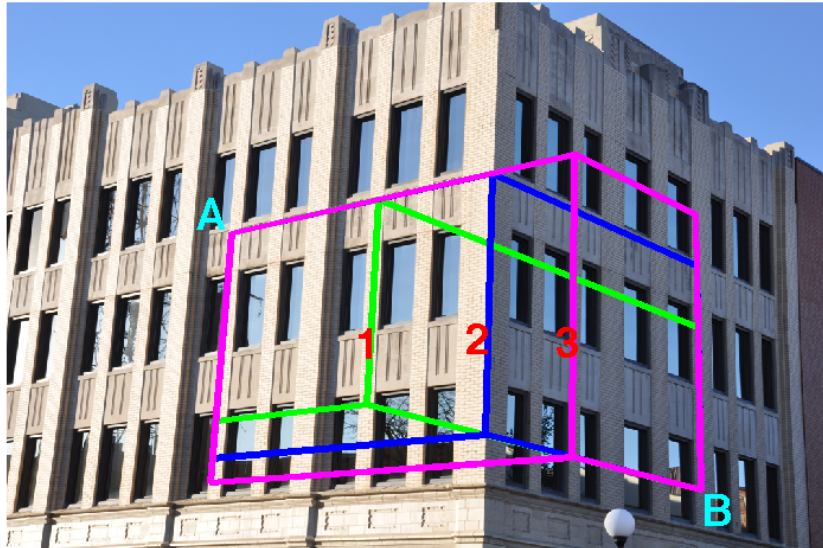


Low-rank method



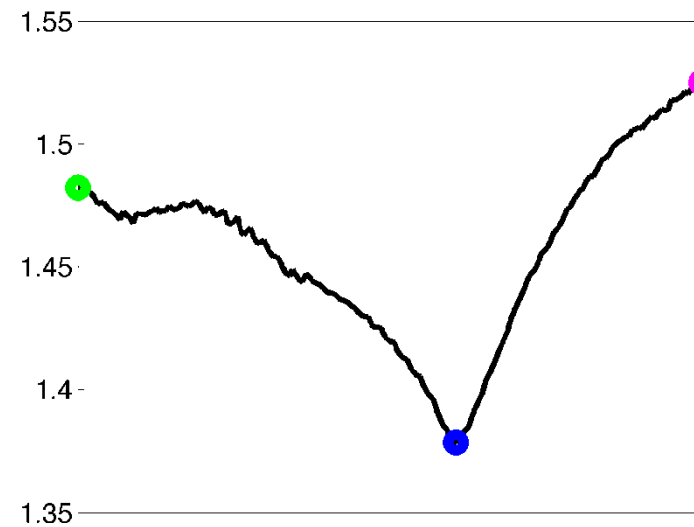


# TILT: Holistic 3D Reconstruction of Urban Scenes



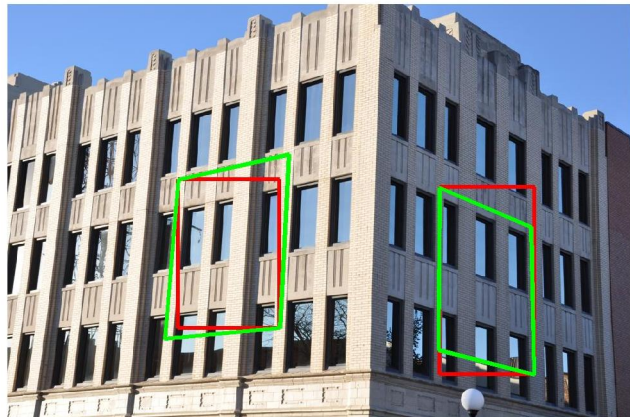
$$\min \|A\|_* + \|E\|_1 \quad \text{s.t.}$$

$$A + E = [D_1 \circ \tau_1, D_2 \circ \tau_2]$$

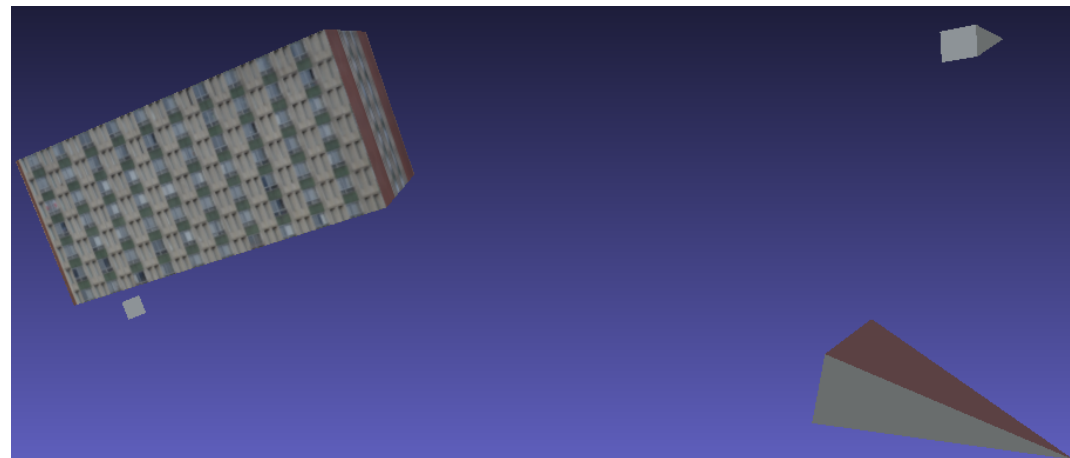
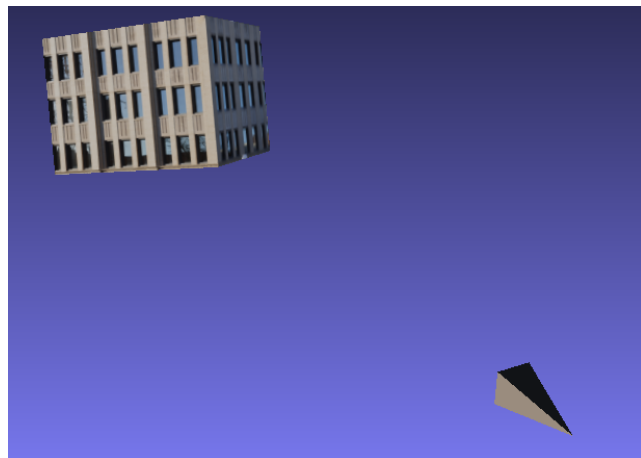


# TILT: *Holistic 3D Reconstruction of Urban Scenes*

From one input image

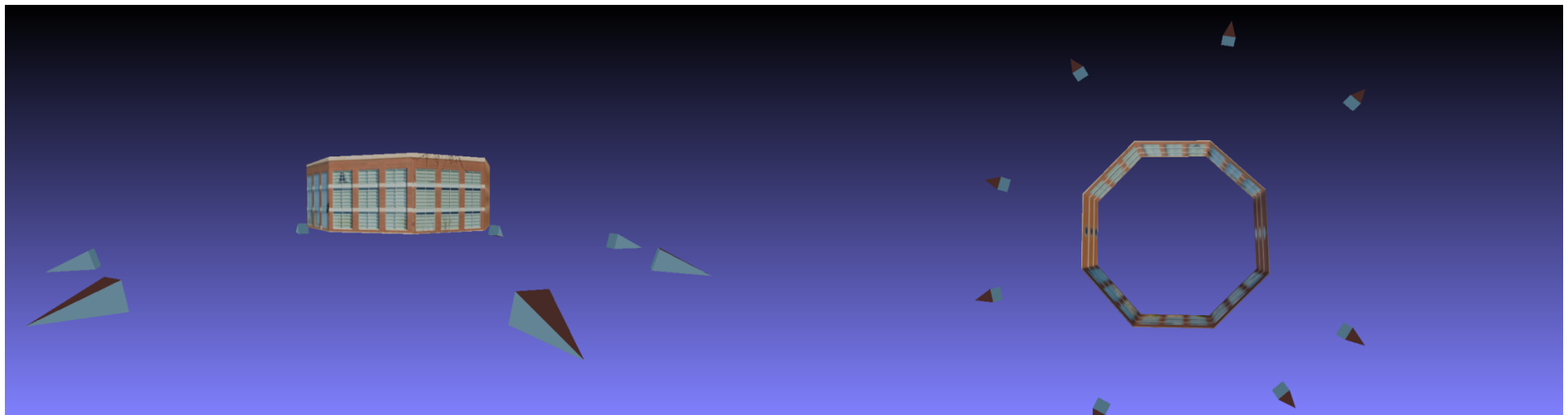
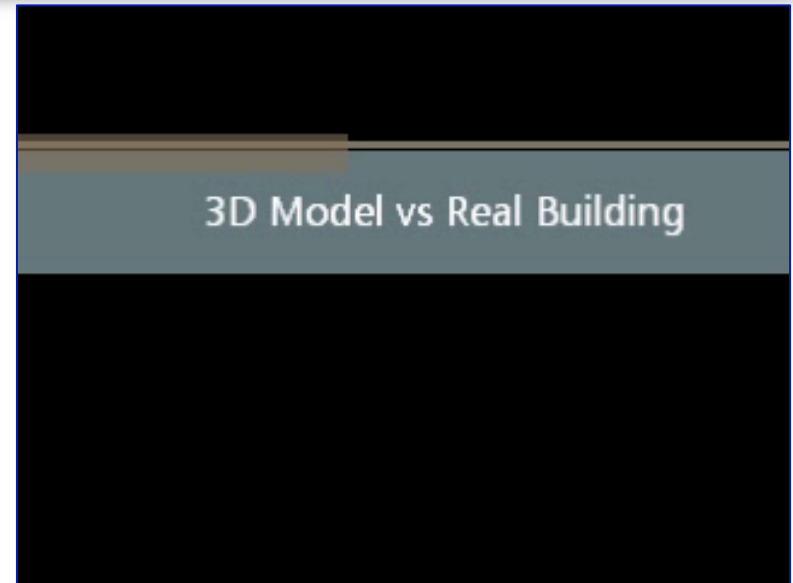


From four input images



# TILT: *Holistic 3D Reconstruction of Urban Scenes*

From eight input images



## *Virtual reality in urban scenes*



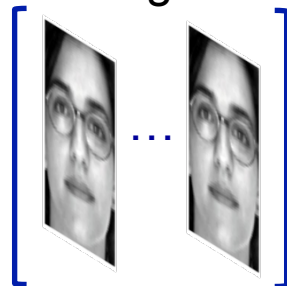
# Registering Multiple Images: Robust Alignment

$D$  – corrupted & misaligned observation



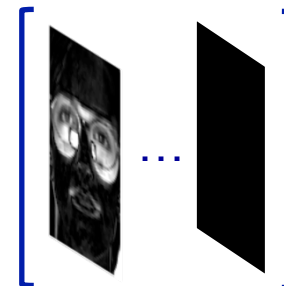
$\circ \tau =$

$A$  – aligned low-rank signals



+

$E$  – sparse errors



**Problem:** Given  $D \circ \tau = A_0 + E_0$ , recover  $\tau$ ,  $A_0$  and  $E_0$ .

Parametric deformations  
(rigid, affine, projective...)

Low-rank component

Sparse component

**Solution:** Robust Alignment via Low-rank and Sparse (**RASL**) Decomposition

*Iteratively solving the linearized convex program:*



$$\min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1 \quad \text{subj} \quad A + E = D \circ \tau_k + J \Delta \tau$$

$$(\text{or } Q(A + E) = QD \circ \tau_k, QJ = 0)$$

# RASL: Aligning Face Images from the Internet



\*48 images collected from internet

Peng, Ganesh, Wright, Ma, CVPR'10, TPAMI'11

# RASL: *Faces Detected*

Input: faces detected by a face detector ( $D$ )



Average



# RASL: *Faces Aligned*

Output: aligned faces ( $D \circ \tau$ )



Average





# RASL: *Faces Repaired and Cleaned*

Output: clean low-rank faces ( $A$ )

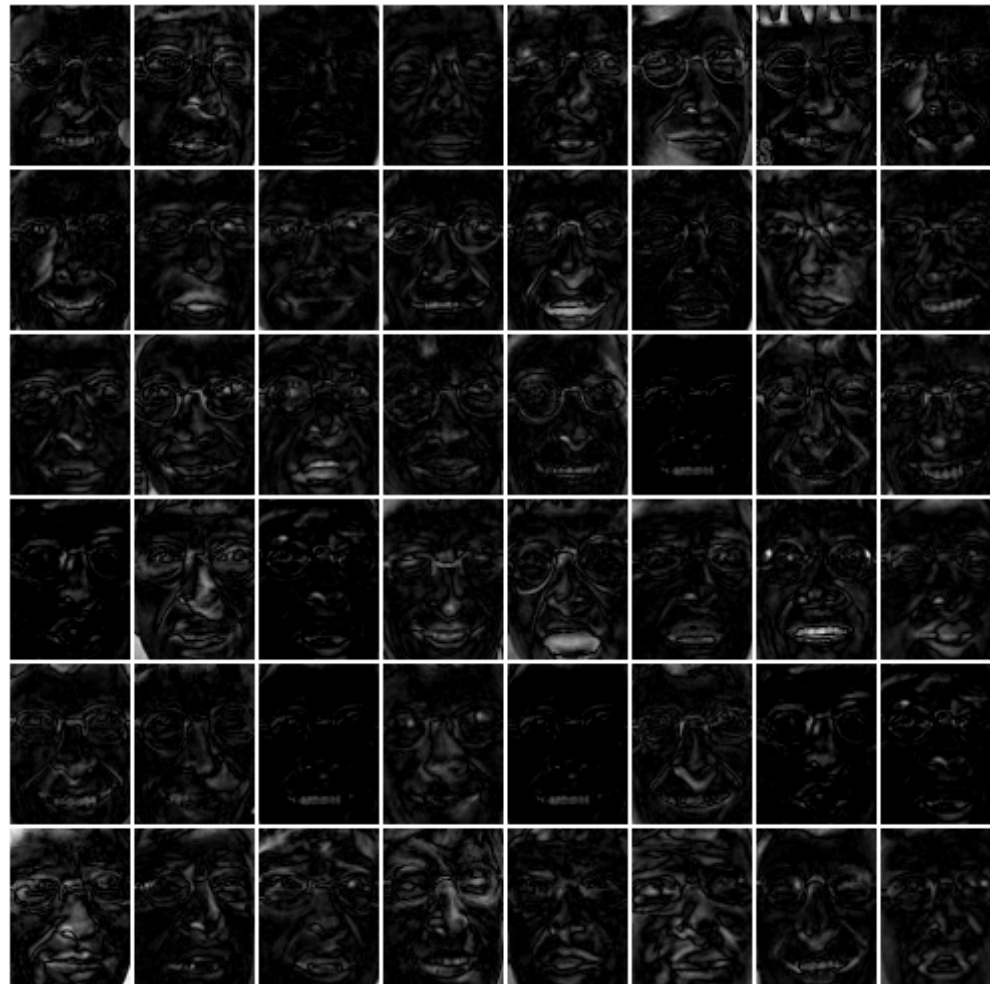


Average



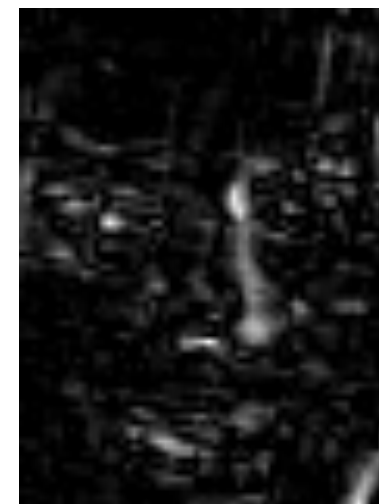
# RASL: *Sparse Errors of the Face Images*

Output: sparse error images ( $E$ )



# RASL: Video Stabilization and Enhancement

Original video ( $D$ )    Aligned video ( $D \circ \tau$ )    Low-rank part ( $A$ )    Sparse part ( $E$ )



# RASL: Aligning Handwritten Digits

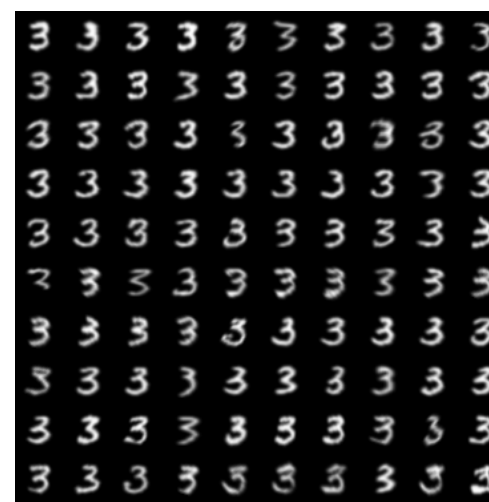
$D$



Learned-Miller PAMI'06



Vedaldi CVPR'08



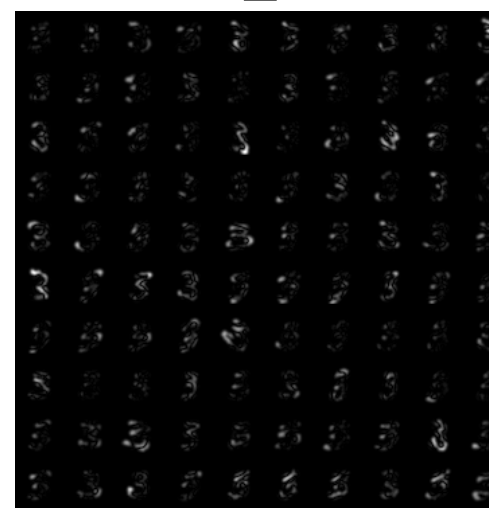
$D \circ \tau$



$A$

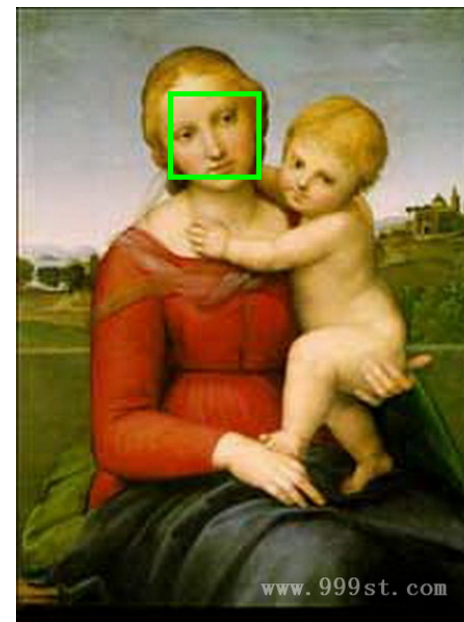
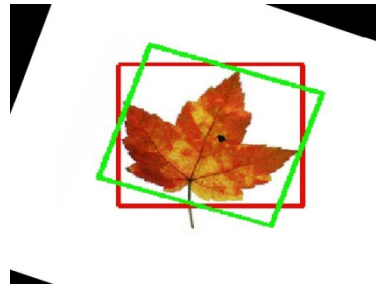
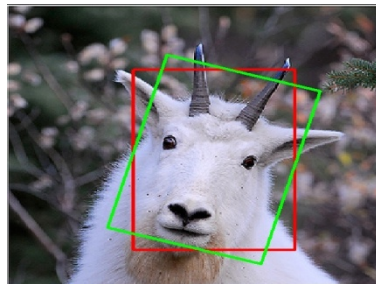
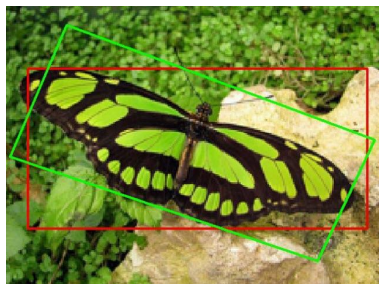


$E$



# Object Recognition: *Rectifying Pose of Objects*

Input (red window  $D$ )

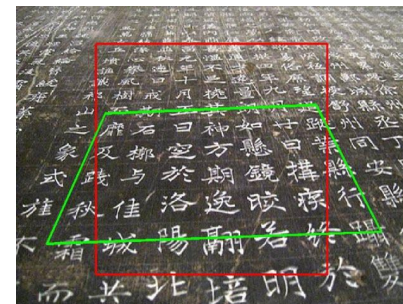
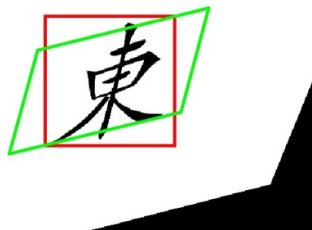


Output (rectified green window  $A$ )

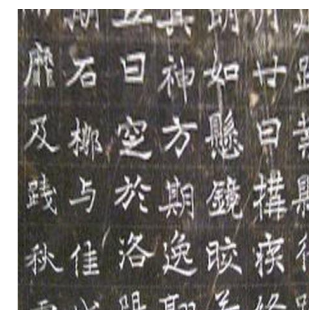


# Object Recognition: *Regularity of Texts at All Scales!*

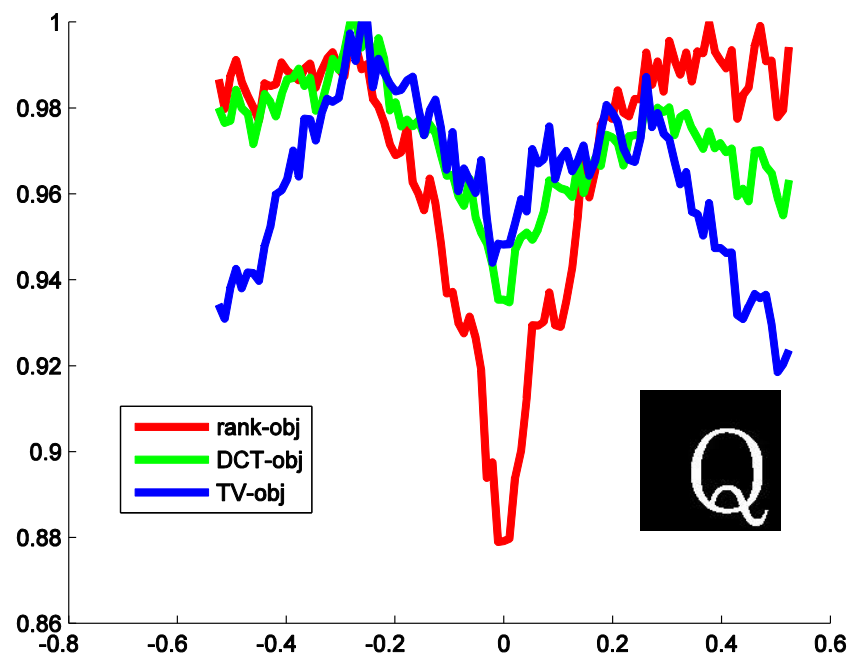
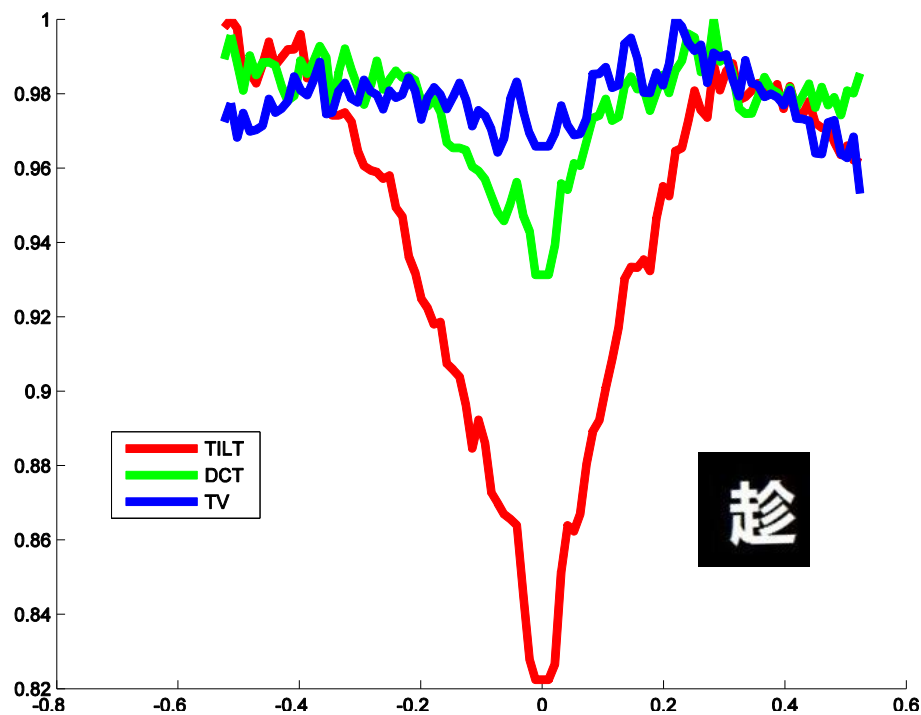
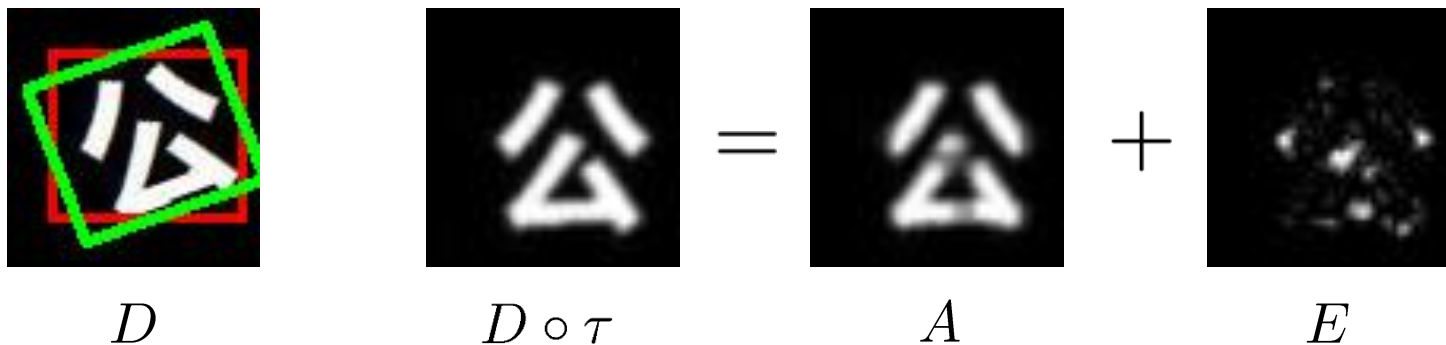
Input (red window  $D$  )



Output (rectified green window  $A$  )



# Recognition: Character/Text Rectification

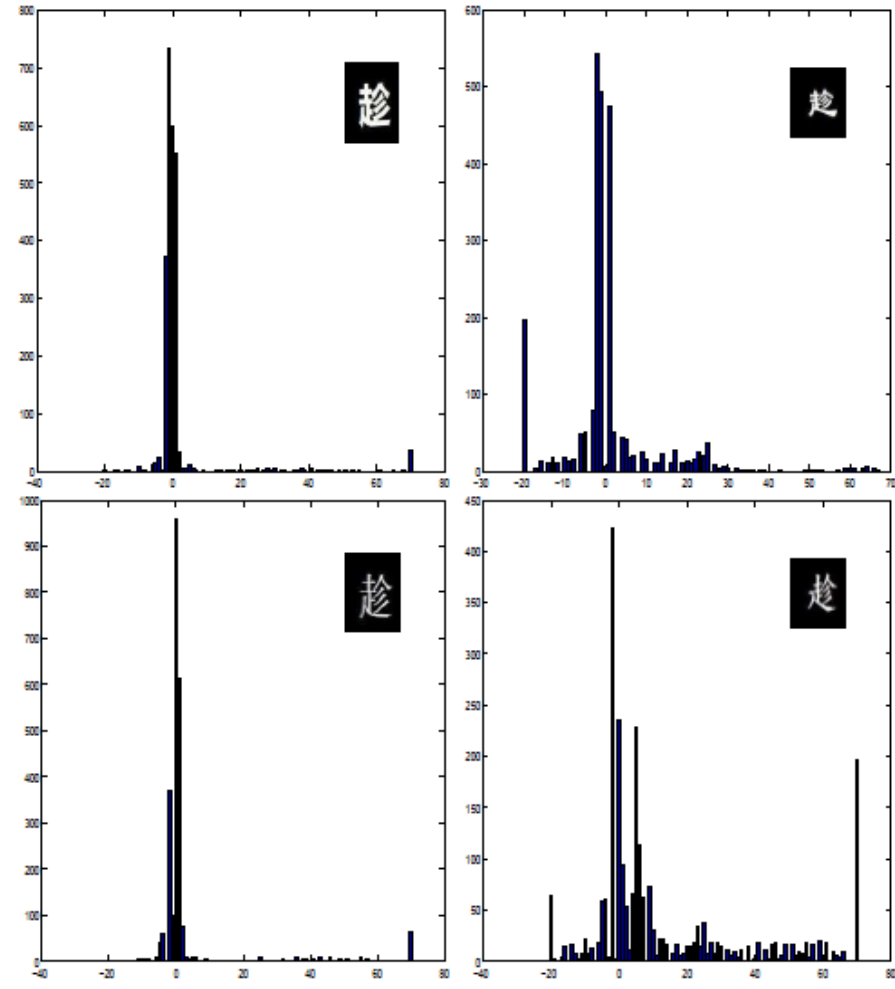
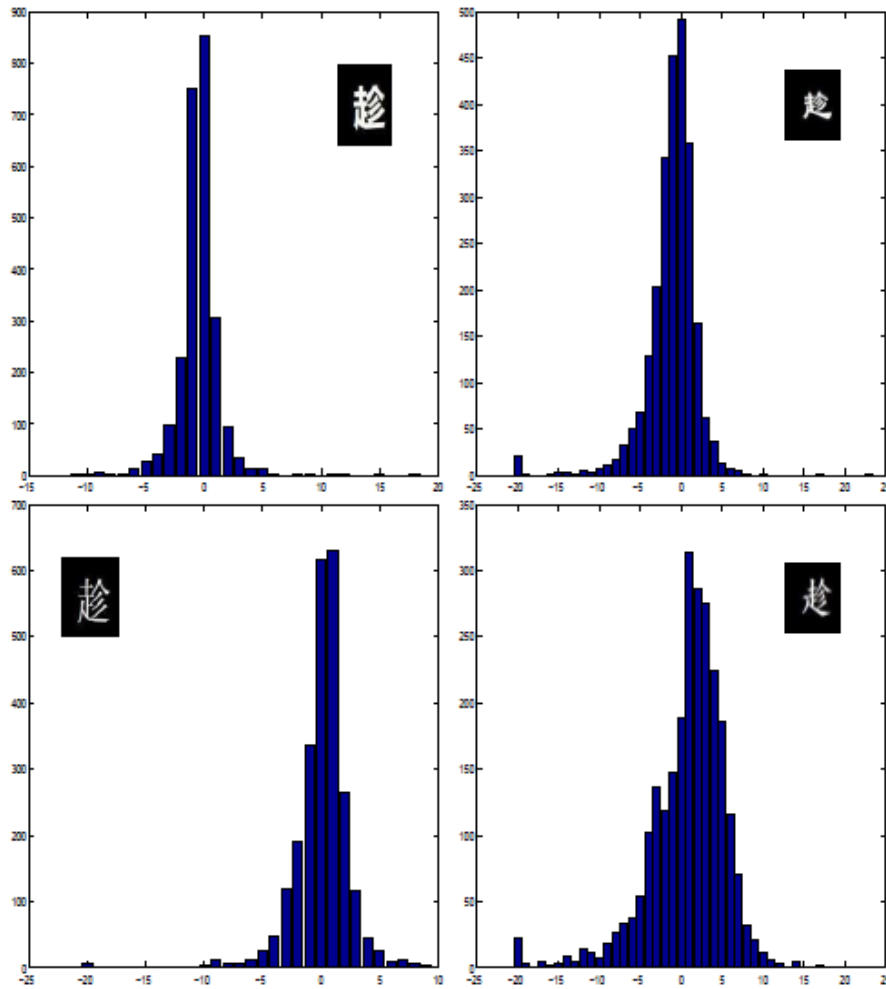


# Recognition: *Character/Text Rectification*

TILT

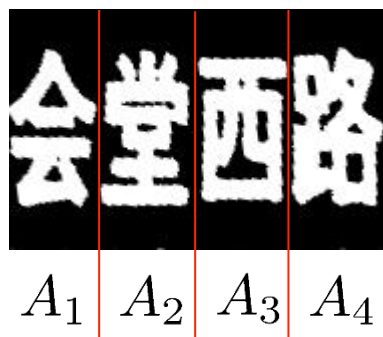
versus

Hough Transform





# Recognition: Street Sign Rectification

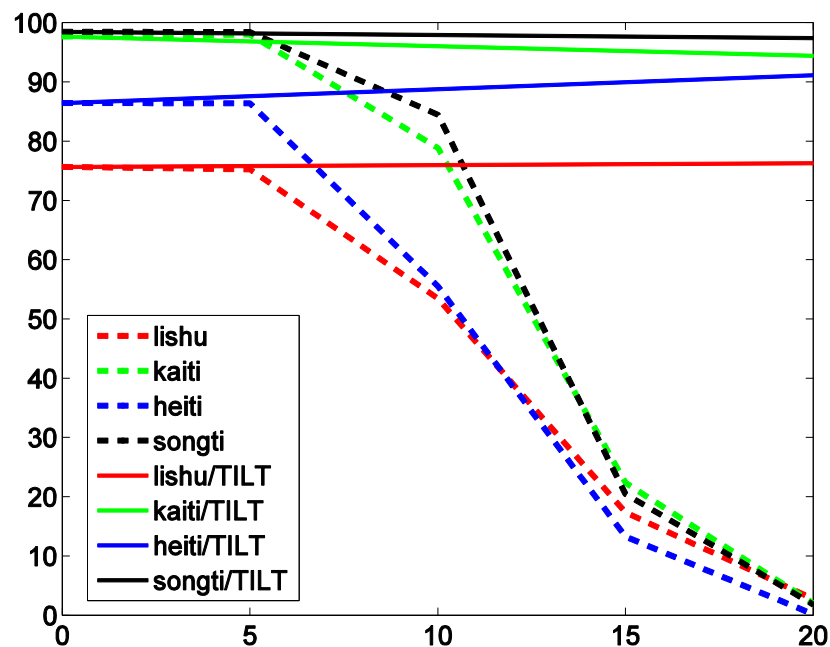


$$\min \sum_{i=1}^4 \|A_i\|_* + \lambda \|E_i\|_1$$

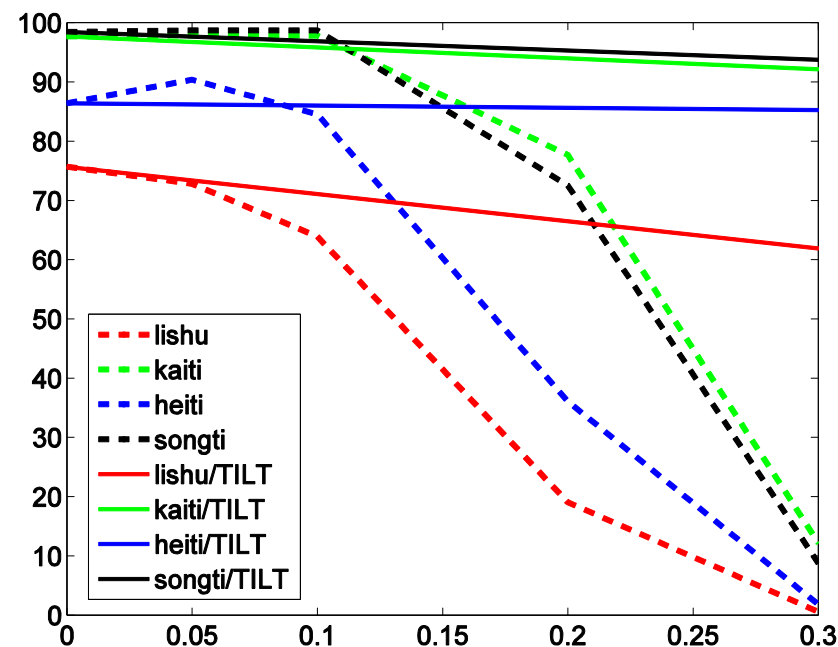
$$\text{subj } D \circ \tau = [A_1 \cdots A_4] + [E_1 \cdots E_4].$$

# Recognition: Character Rectification and Recognition

Microsoft OCR for rotated characters  
(2,500 common Chinese characters)



Microsoft OCR for skewed characters  
(2,500 common Chinese characters)



# Take-home Messages for Visual Data Processing:

1. (Transformed) **low-rank and sparse** structures are central to visual data modeling, processing, and analyzing;
2. Such structures can now be extracted **correctly, robustly, and efficiently**, from raw image pixels (or high-dim features);
3. These new algorithms **unleash tremendous local or global information** from single or multiple images, emulating or surpassing human capability;
4. These algorithms start to exert significant impact on **image/video processing, 3D reconstruction, and object recognition**.

... ..

***But try not to abuse or misuse them...***

# Other Applications: *Upright orientation of man-made objects*

TILT for 3D: Unsupervised upright orientation of man-made 3D objects

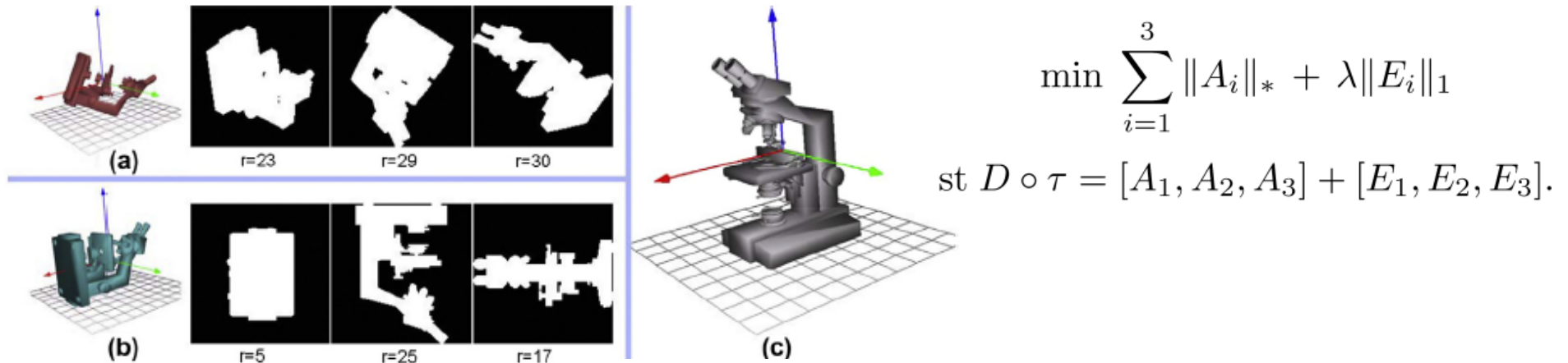


Fig. 10. More models which have been successfully tested through our algorithm.

# Other Data/Applications: Web Image/Tag Refinement

Input: images with user-provided tags



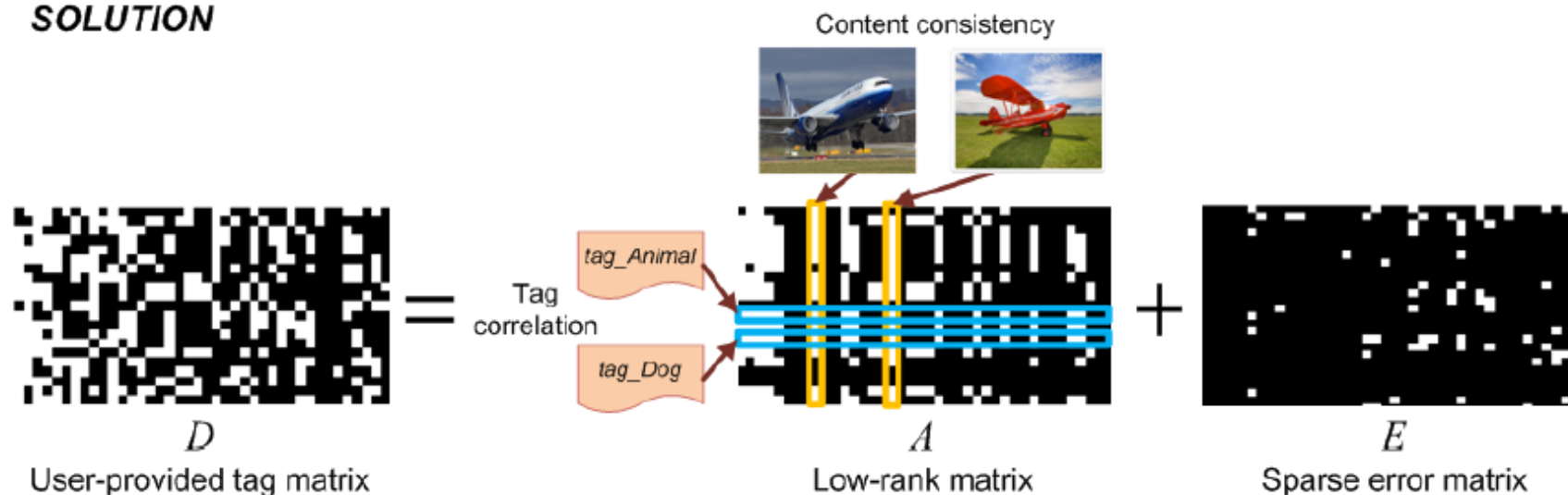
Tag Refinement

Output: images with refined tags



**PROBLEM**

**SOLUTION**



# Other Data/Applications: Web Document Corpus Analysis

## Latent Semantic Indexing: the classical solution (PCA)

Documents

CHRYSLER SETS STOCK SPLIT, HIGHER DIVIDEND

Chrysler Corp said its board declared a three-for-two stock split in the form of a 50 pct stock dividend and raised the quarterly dividend by seven pct.

The company said the dividend was raised to 37.5 cts a share from 35 cts on a pre-split basis, equal to a 25 ct dividend on a post-split basis.

Chrysler said the stock dividend is payable April 13 to holders of record March 23 while the cash dividend is payable April 15 to holders of record March 23. It said cash will be paid in lieu of fractional shares.

With the split, Chrysler said 13.2 mln shares remain to be purchased in its stock repurchase program that began in late 1984. That program now has a target of 56.3 mln shares with the latest stock split.

Chrysler said in a statement the actions "reflect not only our outstanding performance over the past few years but also our optimism about the company's future."

Words

$$D = A + Z$$
$$= U_1 \Sigma_1 V_1^T + \underline{U_2 \Sigma_2 V_2^T}$$

Dense, difficult to interpret

a better model/solution?

$d_{ij}$  word frequency (or TF/IDF)

$$D = A + \underline{E}$$

Low-rank  
"background"  
topic model

Informative,  
discriminative  
"keywords"

## Other Data/Applications: Sparse Keywords Extracted

Reuters-21578 dataset: 1,000 longest documents; 3,000 most frequent words

### CHRYSLER SETS STOCK SPLIT, HIGHER DIVIDEND

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# Other Data/Applications: Protein-Gene Correlation

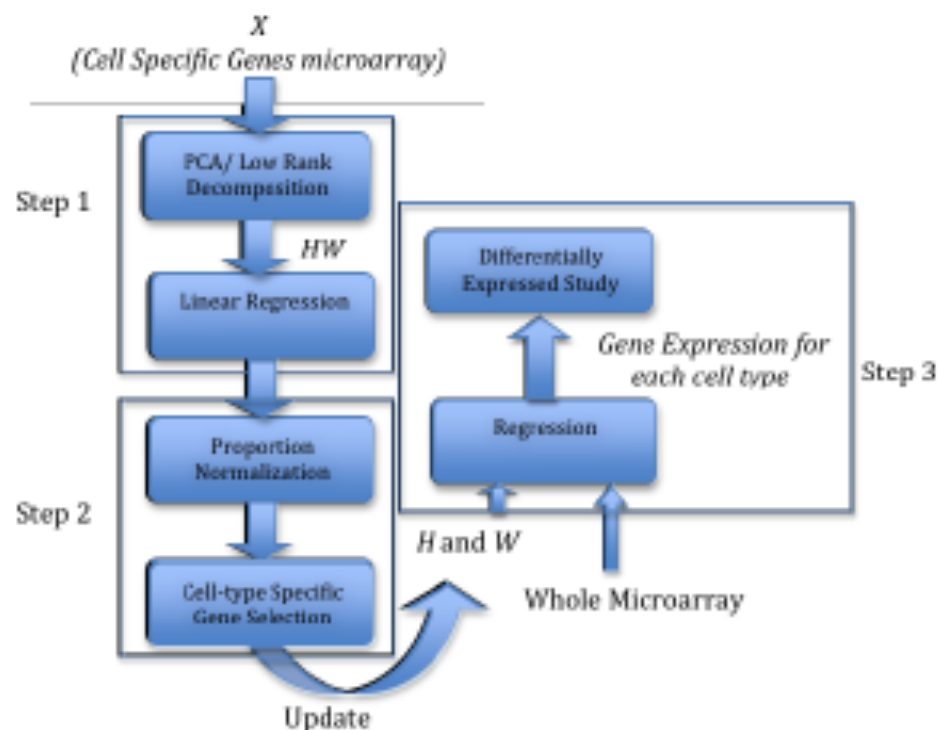


Fig. 1. The diagram of the workflow of the method presented in this paper.

Microarray data

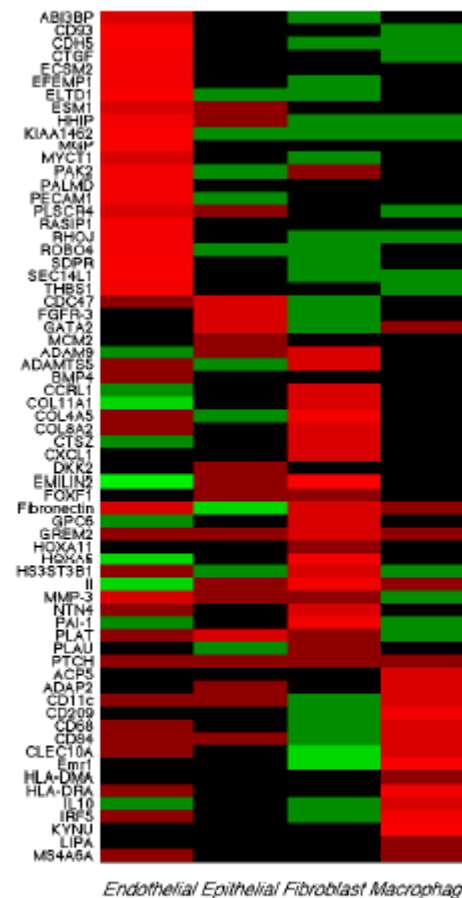


Fig. 6. HeatMap of estimated gene signatures for the sorted cell specific genes after adjustments based on fold changes. RPCA is used in the first step. It is clear that this matrix is close to a block diagonal structure.



# Other Data: Time Series Gene Expressions

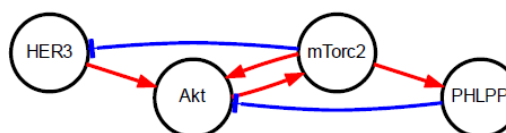


Figure S3. Abstract HER2 overexpressed breast cancer model by Dr. Moasser.

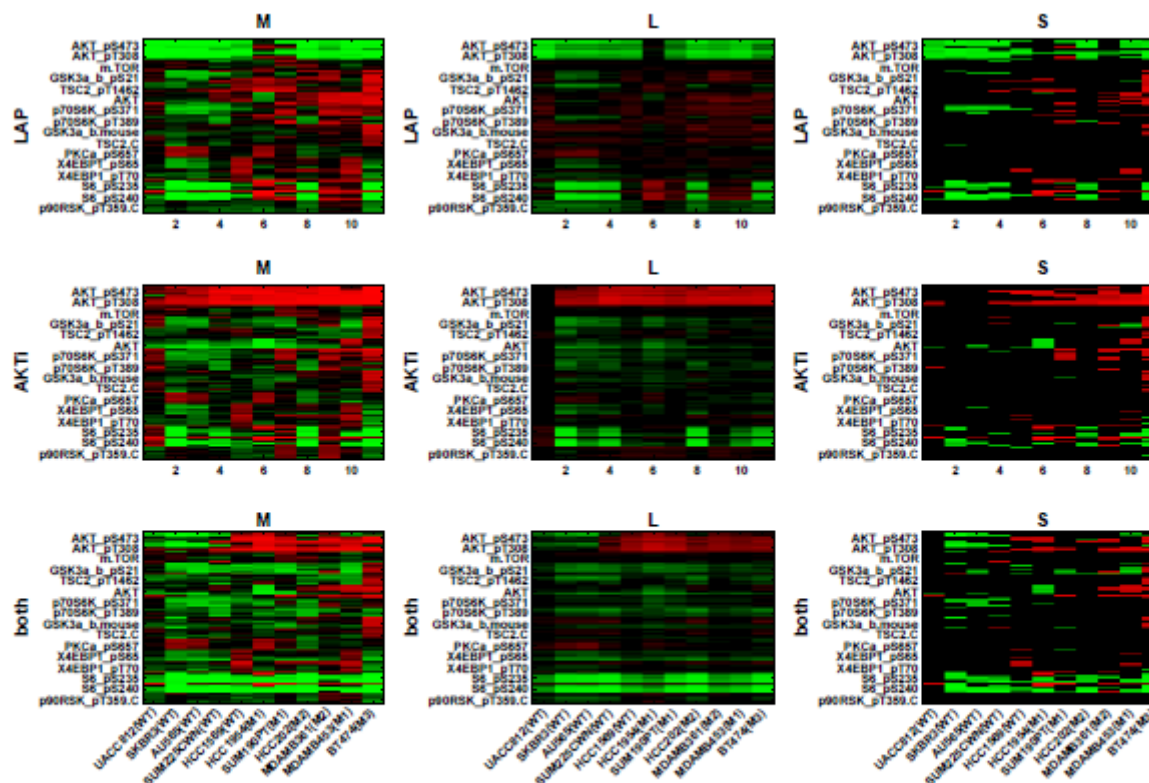
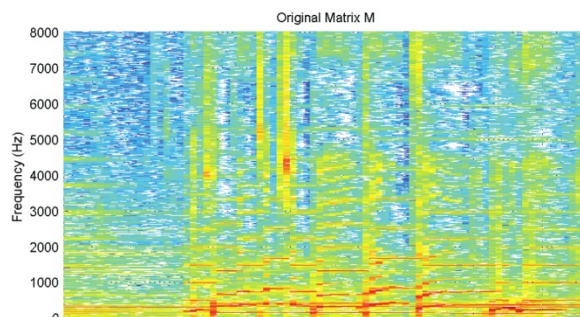


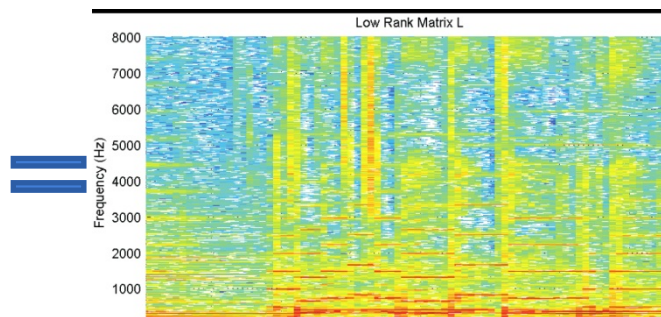
Figure S4. Separation result: (1<sup>st</sup> column) raw data (2<sup>nd</sup> column) low-rank component and (3<sup>rd</sup> column) highly corrupted sparse component using threshold (M1: H1047R (kinase domain mutation) M2: E545K (helical domain mutation), and M3: K111N mutation in PIK3CA).

# Other Data/Applications: Lyrics and Music Separation

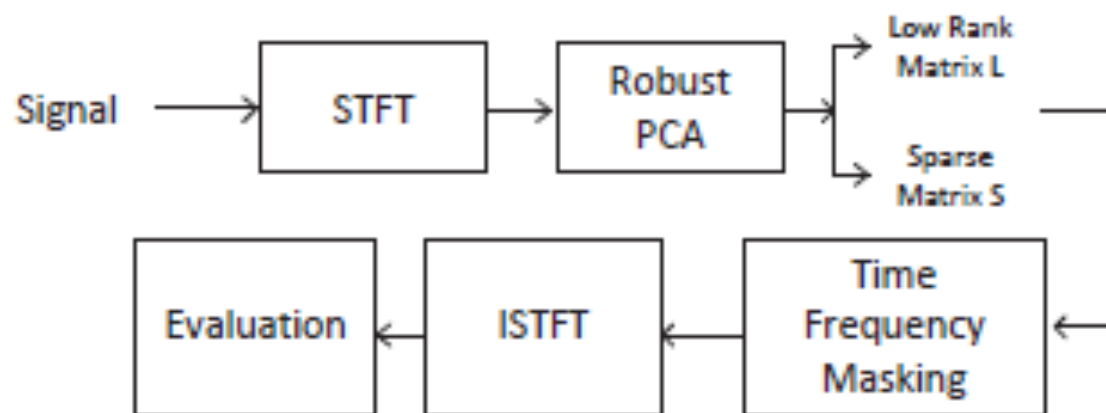
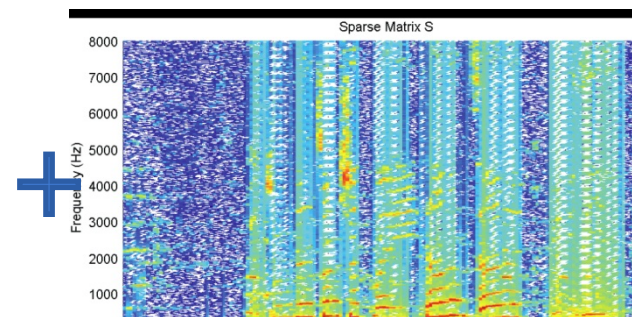
Songs (STFT)



Low-rank (music)



Sparse (voices)



# Other Data/Applications: Internet Traffic Anomalies

Network Traffic = Normal Traffic + Sparse Anomalies + Noise

$$D = L + RS + N$$

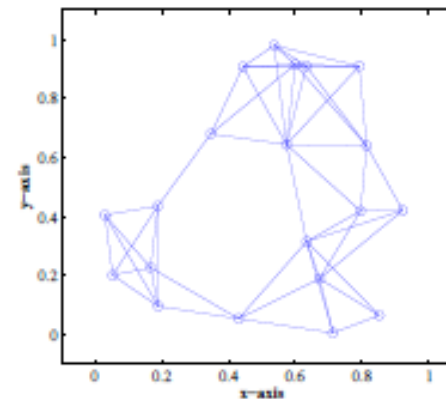
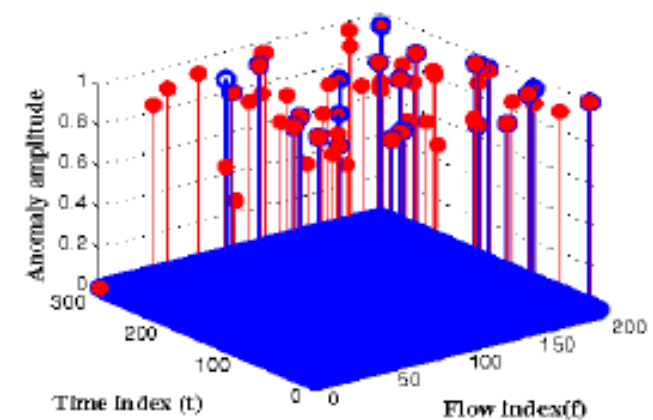
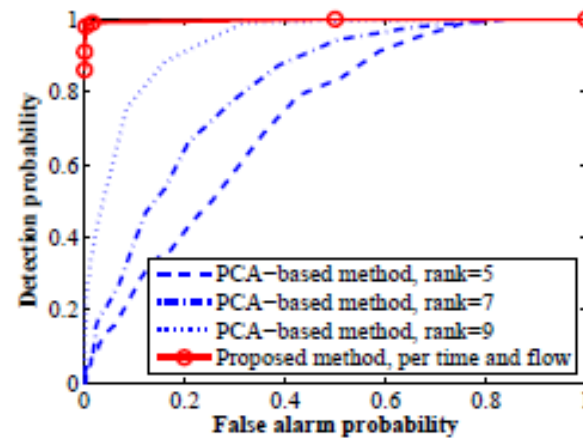
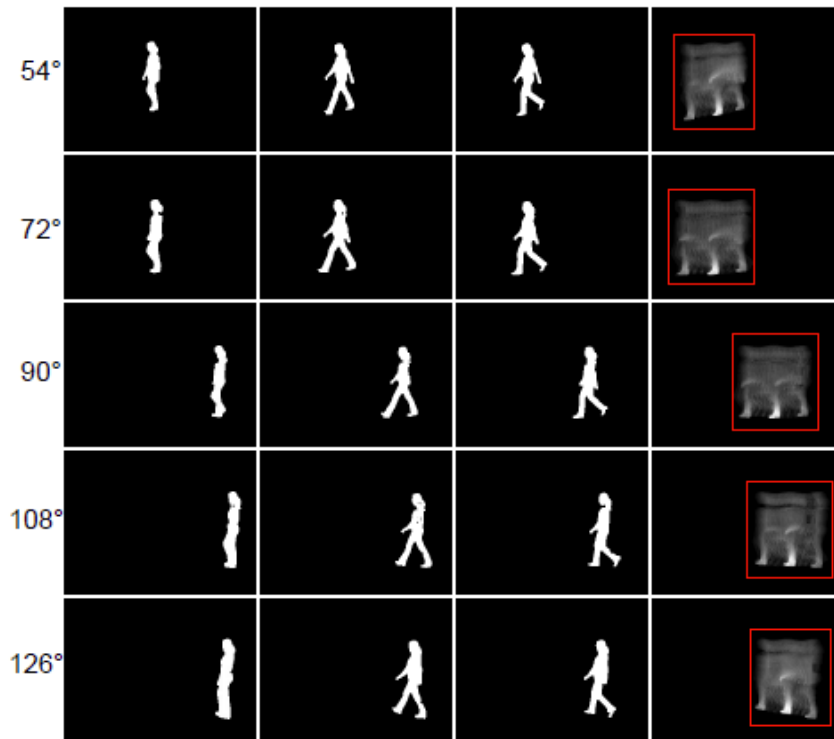


Fig. 2. Network topology graph.

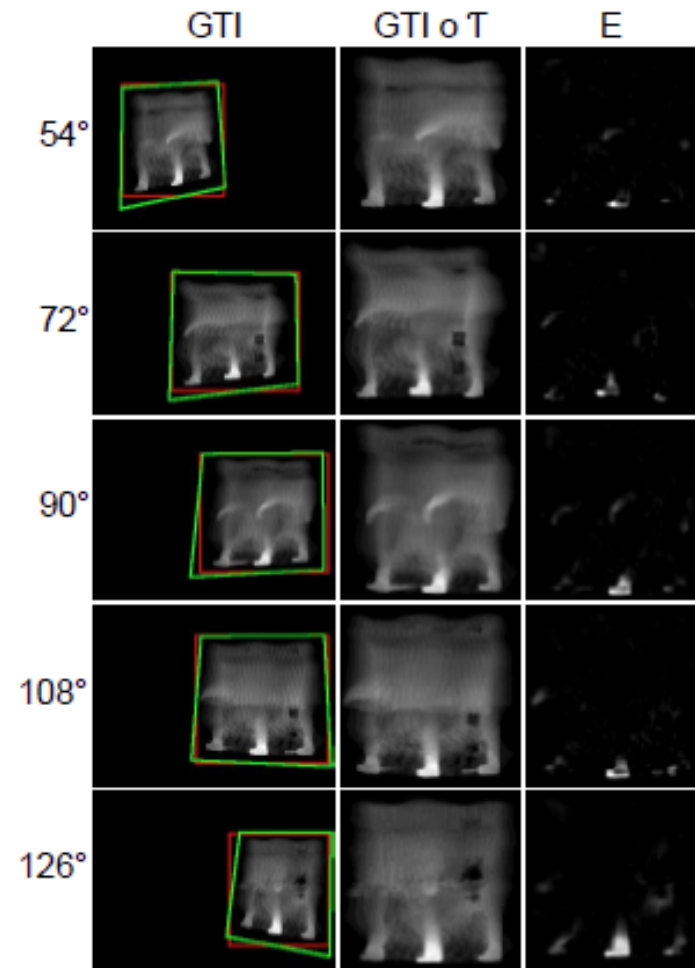


# Other Data/applications: View-Invariant Gait Recognition

Same gait from different views



Perspective distortion rectified



# Other Data/Applications: Robust Filtering and System ID



## GPS on a Car:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = Ax + Bu, & A \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r} \\ y = Cx + z + e \end{cases}$$

gross sparse errors  
(due to buildings, trees...)

Robust Kalman Filter:  $\hat{x}_{t+1} = Ax_t + K(y_t - C\hat{x}_t)$

Robust System ID:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_n & y_{n-1} & y_{n-2} & \cdots & y_0 \\ y_{n-1} & y_{n-2} & \cdots & \ddots & y_{-1} \\ y_{n-2} & \cdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & y_{-n+2} \\ y_0 & y_{-1} & \cdots & y_{-n+2} & y_{-n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{O}_{n \times r} X_{r \times n} + S$$

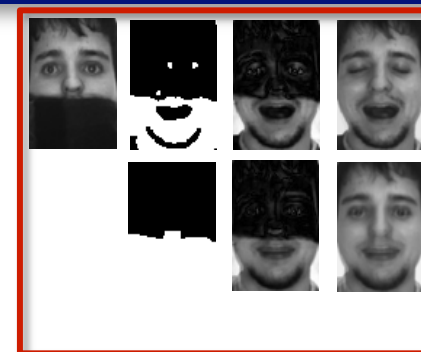
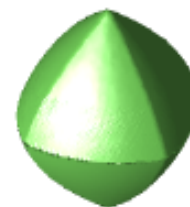
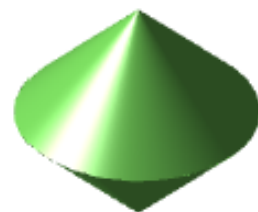
$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\text{Hankel matrix}}$

# CONCLUSIONS – *A Unified Theory for Sparsity and Low-Rank*

	<i>Sparse Vector</i>	<i>Low-Rank Matrix</i>
Low-dimensionality of	individual signal	correlated signals
Measure	$L_0$ norm $\ x\ _0$	$\text{rank}(X)$
Convex Surrogate	$L_1$ norm $\ x\ _1$	Nuclear norm $\ X\ _*$
Compressed Sensing	$y = Ax$	$Y = A(X)$
Error Correction	$y = Ax + e$	$Y = A(X) + E$
Domain Transform	$y \circ \tau = Ax + e$	$Y \circ \tau = A(X) + E$
Mixed Structures	$Y = A(X) + B(E) + Z$	

# Compressive Sensing of Low-Dimensional Structures

$$L \quad x + \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{diamond} \\ \mathbf{e} \end{array}$$



A norm  $\|\cdot\|$  is said to be **decomposable** at  $\mathbf{X}$  if there exists a subspace  $T$  and a matrix  $\mathbf{S}$  such that

$$\partial\|\cdot\|(\mathbf{X}) = \{\Lambda \mid \mathcal{P}_T(\Lambda) = \mathbf{S}, \|P_{T^\perp}(\Lambda)\|^* \leq 1\},$$

where  $\|\cdot\|^*$  is the dual norm of  $\|\cdot\|$ , and  $\mathcal{P}_{T^\perp}$  is nonexpansive w.r.t.  $\|\cdot\|^*$ .

**Theorem** [Candes, Recht'11] Any low-complexity signal  $\mathbf{X}^0$  can be exactly recovered from high compressive measurements via convex optimization:

$$\|\mathbf{X}\|_\diamond \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q(\mathbf{X}) = \mathcal{P}_Q(\mathbf{X}^0),$$

for a decomposable norm  $\|\cdot\|_\diamond$ .

# Compressive Sensing and Separation of Low-dim Structures

Suppose  $(\mathbf{X}_1^0, \dots, \mathbf{X}_k^0) = \arg \min \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \|\mathbf{X}_i\|_{(i)} \quad \text{subj} \quad \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{X}_i = \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{X}_i^0$ ,  
for decomposable norms  $\|\cdot\|_{(i)}$  that majorize the Frobenius norm.

**Theorem 6 (Compressive Sensing of Mixed Low-Comp. Structures).**

Let  $Q^\perp$  be a random subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  of dimension

$$\dim(Q) \geq O(\log^2 m) \times \text{intrinsic degrees of freedom of } (\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_k),$$

*distributed according to the Haar measure, independent of  $\mathbf{X}_i$ . Then with very high probability*

$$(\mathbf{X}_1^0, \dots, \mathbf{X}_k^0) = \arg \min \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \|\mathbf{X}_i\|_{(i)} \quad \text{subj} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{X}_i \right] = \mathcal{P}_Q \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{X}_i^0 \right],$$

*and the minimizer is unique.*



# Extension to General Low-Dimensional Structures

**Compressive Sensing:**

$$\min \|\mathbf{X}\|_{\diamond} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q(\mathbf{X}) = \mathcal{P}_Q(\mathbf{D})$$

**Multiple-Structure Decomposition:**

$$\min \sum_i \lambda_i \|\mathbf{X}_i\|_{\diamond_i} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_i \mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{D}$$

**Compressive Multiple-Structure Decomposition:**

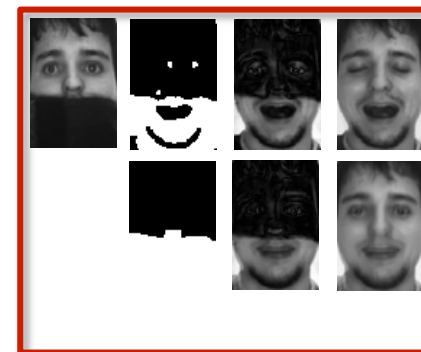
$$\min \sum_i \lambda_i \|\mathbf{X}_i\|_{\diamond_i} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q[\sum_i \mathbf{X}_i] = \mathcal{P}_Q[\mathbf{D}]$$

Examples: **PCP** [CLMW'11], **outlier pursuit** [Xu+Caramanis+Sanghavi], **morphological component analysis** [Bobin et. al.], many more ...

# A Unified THEORY – A Suite of Powerful Regularizers

For compressive robust recovery of a family of low-dimensional structures:

- [Zhou et. al. '09] Spatially contiguous sparse errors via MRF
- [Bach '10] – relaxations from submodular functions
- [Negahban+Yu+Wainwright '10] – geometric analysis of recovery
- [Becker+Candès+Grant '10] – algorithmic templates
- [Xu+Caramanis+Sanghavi '11] column sparse errors  $L_{2,1}$  norm
- [Recht+Parillo+Chandrasekaran+Wilsky '11'12] – compressive sensing of various structures
- [Candes+Recht '11] – **compressive sensing of decomposable structures**



$$X^0 = \arg \min \|X\|_{\diamond} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q(X) = \mathcal{P}_Q(X^0)$$

- [McCoy+Tropp'11, Amenlunxen+McCoy+Tropp'13] – **phase transition for recovery and decomposition of structures**

$$(X_1^0, X_2^0) = \arg \min \|X_1\|_{(1)} + \lambda \|X_2\|_{(2)} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad X_1 + X_2 = X_1^0 + X_2^0$$

- [Wright+Ganesh+Min+Ma, ISIT'12, I&I'13] – **compressive superposition of decomposable structures**

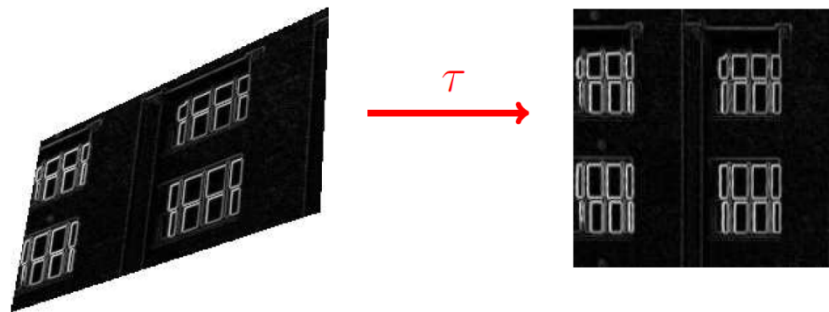
$$(X_1^0, \dots, X_k^0) = \arg \min \sum \lambda_i \|X_i\|_{(i)} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathcal{P}_Q(\sum_i X_i) = \mathcal{P}_Q(\sum_i X_i^0)$$

Take home message: **Let the data and application tell you the structure...**

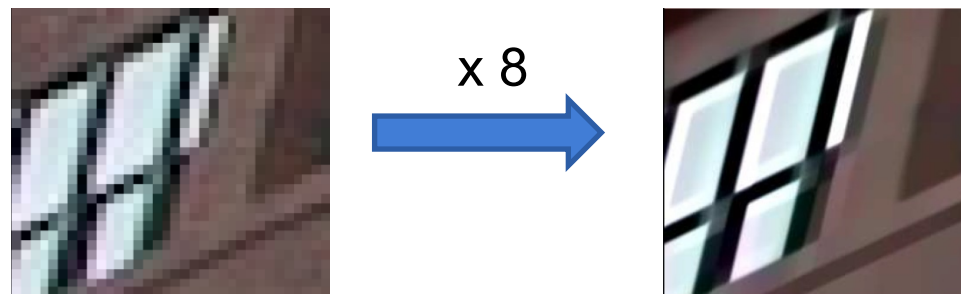
# Super Resolution via Transform Invariant Group Sparsity

**Aim:** Exploiting non-local structures to perform super-resolution at large upsampling factors by

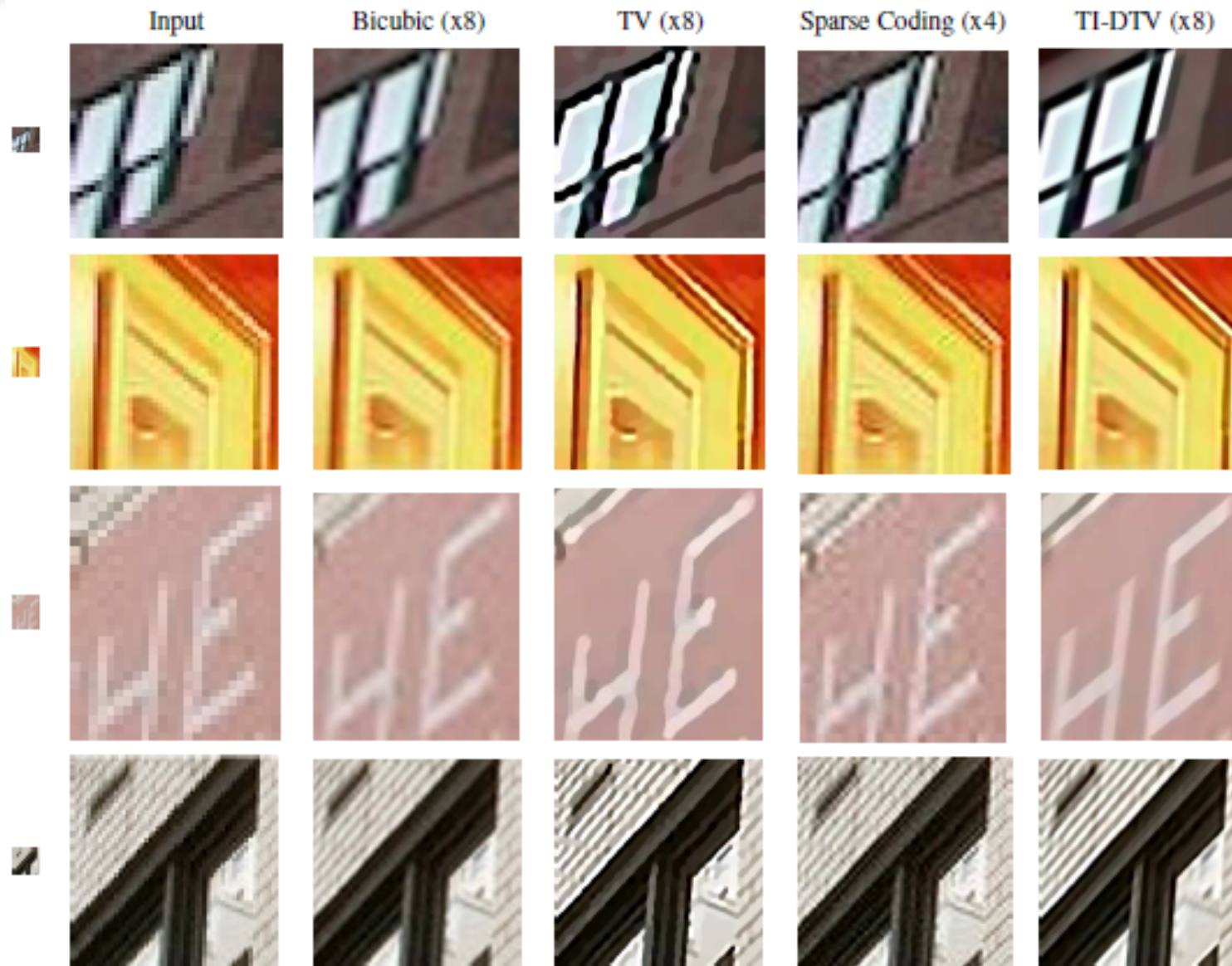
1. Learning the transformation that reveals the group-sparse structure of the image gradient (via TILT)



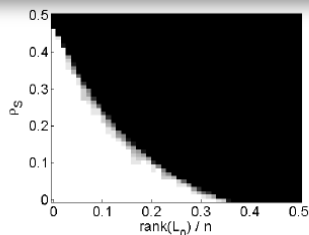
2. Enforcing this structure through group-sparse regularizers (DTV) that incorporates the transform and is consequently invariant to the transform



# Super Resolution via Transform Invariant Group Sparsity



# A Perfect Storm...



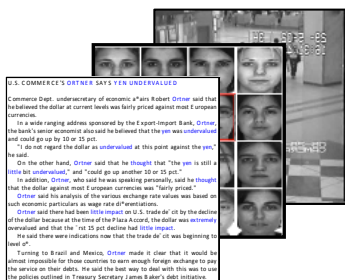
(a) Robust PCA, Random Signs

## Mathematical Theory

(high-dimensional statistics, convex geometry  
measure concentration, combinatorics...)

## BIG DATA

(images, videos,  
voices, texts,  
biomedical, geospatial,  
consumer data...)



## Cloud Computing (parallel, distributed, scalable platforms)

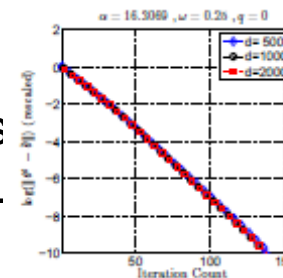


## Applications & Services

(data processing,  
analysis, compression,  
knowledge discovery,  
search, recognition...)

## Computational Methods

(convex optimization, first-order algorithms  
random sampling, approximate solutions...)



# A Perfect Storm...



**Dr. Arvind Ganesh, vision architect of Baarzo.com  
web video analysis  
purchased by Google in June, 2014**



**Kerui Min, CTO of Bosonnlp.com  
web document analysis,  
found in Shanghai, 2013**

**CHRYSLER SETS STOCK SPLIT, HIGHER DIVIDEND**

Chrysler Corp said its board declared a three-for-two stock split in the form of a 50 pct stock dividend and raised the quarterly dividend by seven pct.

The company said the dividend was raised to 37.5 cts a share from 35 cts on a pre-split basis, equal to a 25 ct dividend on a post-split basis.

Chrysler said the stock dividend is payable April 13 to holders of record March 23 while the cash dividend is payable April 15 to holders of record March 23. It said cash will be paid in lieu of fractional shares.

With the split, Chrysler said 13.2 mln shares remain to be purchased in its stock repurchase program that began in late 1984. That program now has a target of 56.3 mln shares with the latest stock split.

Chrysler said in a statement the actions "reflect not only our outstanding performance over the past few years but also our optimism about the company's future."



**Dr. Allen Yang, CTO of Atheerlabs.com  
stereo goggle, object & gesture recognition,  
found on Google campus, 2012**



# REFERENCES + ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## Core References:

- *Robust Principal Component Analysis?* Candes, Li, Ma, Wright, Journal of the ACM, 2011.
- *TILT: Transform Invariant Low-rank Textures*, Zhang, Liang, Ganesh, and Ma, IJCV 2012.
- *Compressive Principal Component Pursuit*, Wright, Ganesh, Min, and Ma, IMA I&I 2013.

## More references, codes, and applications on the website:

<http://perception.csl.illinois.edu/matrix-rank/home.html>

## Colleagues:

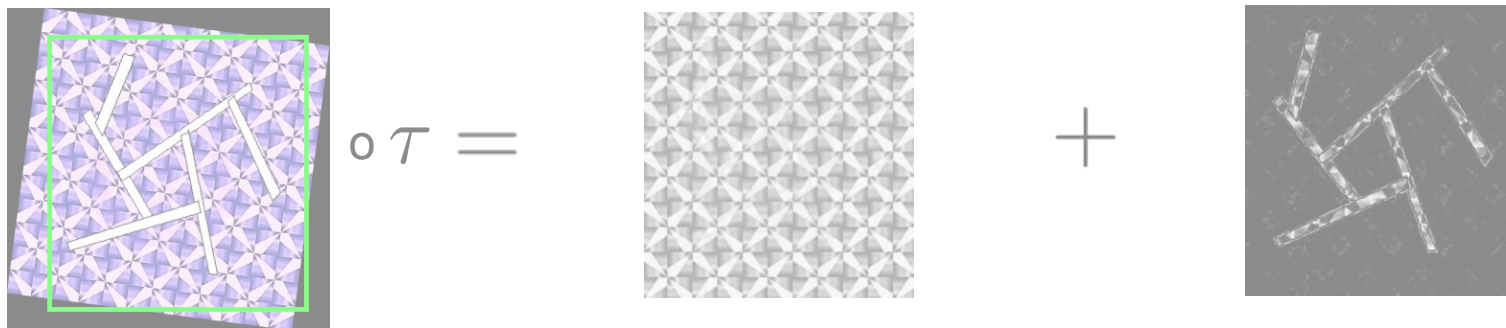
- Prof. Emmanuel Candes (Stanford)
- Prof. John Wright (Columbia)
- Prof. Zhouchen Lin (Peking University)
- Dr. Yasuyuki Matsushita (MSRA)
- Dr. Arvind Ganesh (IBM Research, India)
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- Hossein Mobahi (UIUC, now MIT)
- Guangcan Liu (UIUC, now UPenn)
- Xiaodong Li (Stanford)
- Carlos Fernandez (Stanford, MSRA)

THANK YOU!

Questions, please?



$$D \circ \tau = A + E \quad \min \|A\|_* + \lambda \|E\|_1$$

