

# ELEG 867 - Compressive Sensing and Sparse Signal Representations

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Fall 2011



# Outline

- Introduction and Motivation
- Vector Spaces and the Nyquist-Shannon Sampling Theorem
- Sparsity and the  $\ell_1$  Norm
- Sparse Signal Representation



Compressed Sensing encompasses exciting and surprising developments in signal processing resulting from sparse representations.

It is about the interplay between sparsity and signal recovery. Roots trace back to <sup>†</sup>

- Mathematics and harmonic analysis
- Physical sciences and geophysics
- Vision
- Optimization and computational tools

This course describes this fascinating topic and the tools needed in its applications.

<sup>†</sup>D. Donoho, "Scanning the Technology," Proceedings of the IEEE. Vol. 98, No. 6, June 2010



# Shannon-Nyquist Sampling Theorem

The Shannon-Nyquist Theorem: sampling frequency of an analog signal must be greater than twice the highest frequency of the signal in order to perfectly reconstruct the original signal from the sampled version.

## Theorem

*If a function  $f(t)$  contains no frequencies higher than  $W$  cps, it is completely determined by giving its ordinates at a series of points spaced  $(\frac{W}{2})$  seconds apart.<sup>†</sup>*



Nyquist  
1928

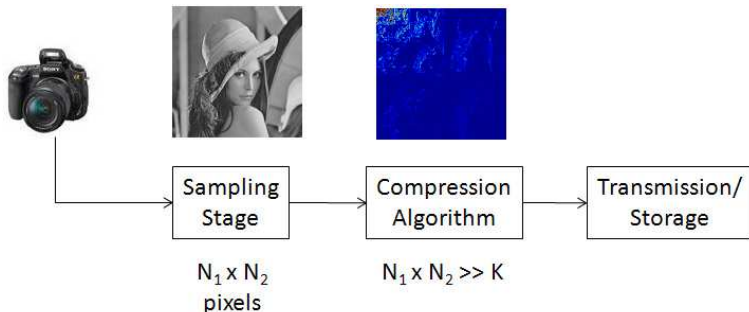


Shannon  
1949

<sup>†</sup> C. E. Shannon. "Communication in the presence of noise." Proceedings of the IRE, Vol. 37, no.1, pp.10-21, Jan.1949.  
H. Nyquist. "Certain topics in telegraph transmission theory." Trans. AIEE, vol.47, pp.617-644, Apr.1928.



- Traditional signal sampling and signal compression.



- Nyquist sampling rate gives exact reconstruction.

Pessimistic for some types of signals!

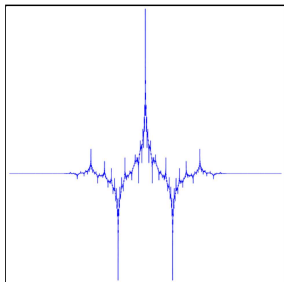


# Sampling and Compression

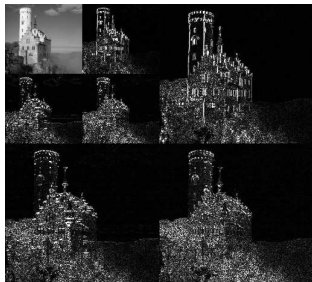
- Transform data and keep important coefficients.



Original Image



Biorthogonal Spline  
Wavelet



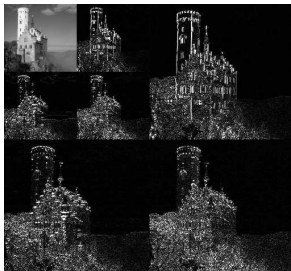
Wavelet Transform

# Sampling and Compression

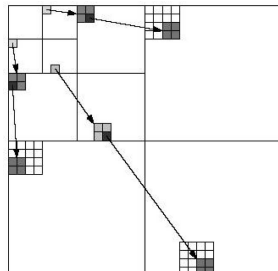
- Lots of work to then throw away majority of data!
  - e.g. JPEG 2000 Lossy Compression: A digital camera can take millions of pixels but the picture is encoded on a few hundred of kilobytes.



Original Image

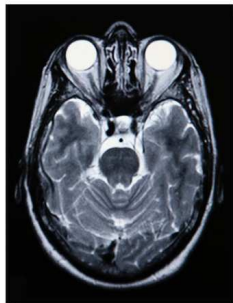


Wavelet Transform

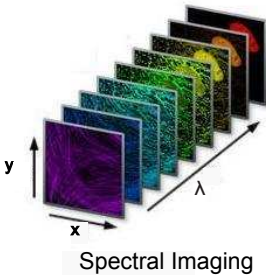


**Problem:** Recent applications require a very large number of samples:

- Higher resolution in medical imaging devices, cameras, etc.
- Spectral imaging, confocal microscopy, radar arrays, etc.



Medical Imaging





# Sampling and Compressive Sensing

- Donoho<sup>†</sup>, Candès<sup>‡</sup>, Romberg and Tao, discovered important results on the minimum number of data needed to reconstruct a signal
- Compressive Sensing (CS) unifies sensing and compression into a single task
- Minimum number of samples to reconstruct a signal depends on its *sparsity* rather than its *bandwidth*.

<sup>†</sup> D. Donoho. "Compressive Sensing". IEEE Trans. on Information Theory. Vol.52(2), pp.5406-5425, Dec.2006.

<sup>‡</sup> E. Candès, J. Romberg and T. Tao. "Robust Uncertainty Principles: Exact Signal Reconstruction from Highly Incomplete Frequency Information". IEEE Trans. on Information Theory. Vol.52(4), pp.1289-1306, Apr.2006.



# Vector Spaces and the Nyquist-Shannon Sampling Theorem

Vector space: set of vectors  $H$  satisfying the following axioms:

- Associativity property:  $v_1 + (v_2 + v_3) = (v_1 + v_2) + v_3$ .
- Commutativity property:  $v_1 + v_2 = v_2 + v_1$ .
- Identity element:  $\exists 0 \in H$ , such that  $v + 0 = v$ ,  $\forall v \in H$ .
- Inverse element:  $\forall v \in H$ , then  $\exists -v \in H$ , such that  $v + (-v) = 0$ .
- Distribut. of scalar:  $s$  is a scalar, such that  $s(v_1 + v_2) = sv_1 + sv_2$ .
- Distribut. of scalar:  $s_1, s_2$  are scalars, such that  $(s_1 + s_2)v = s_1v + s_2v$ .
- Associat. of scalars:  $s_1, s_2$  are scalars, such that  $s_1(s_2v) = (s_1s_2)v$ .
- Identity element of product:  $\exists$  a scalar  $1$ , such that  $1v = v$ .



Norms: A norm  $\| \cdot \|$  on the vector space  $H$  satisfies:

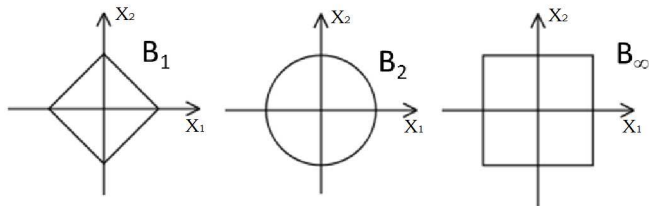
- $\forall x \in H, \|x\| \geq 0$ , and  $\|x\| = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$ .
- $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{C}, \|\alpha x\| = |\alpha| \|x\|$ . (Homogeneity).
- $\forall x, y \in H, \|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$ . (Triangle inequality).



## Examples of norms:

- $H$  is the space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with norm  $\|x\|_{\ell_p} = (\sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^p)^{1/p}$ , for  $p \geq 1$ .

In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , set the unit ball  $B_p = \{x : \|x\|_{\ell_p} = 1; p \geq 1\}$ :



The unit ball is the set of all points  $(x_1, x_2)$  which satisfy the equations:

- $|x_1| + |x_2| = 1$ , for  $B_1$ .
- $x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1$ , for  $B_2$ .
- $\max\{|x_1|, |x_2|\} = 1$ , for  $B_\infty$ .

In  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\|x\|_{\ell_1} = \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|$  is a norm since it satisfies:

- $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\|x\|_{\ell_1} = \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k| \geq 0$ . Also,  $\sum_{k=1}^n |x_k| = 0$ , if and only if  $x_k = 0$ ,  $\forall k$ .
- $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , then  $\|\alpha x\|_{\ell_1} = \sum_{k=1}^n |\alpha x_k| = |\alpha| \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k| = |\alpha| \|x\|_{\ell_1}$ .
- $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\|x + y\|_{\ell_1} &= \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k + y_k| \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n (|x_k| + |y_k|); \text{ Convex Function} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k| + \sum_{k=1}^n |y_k| \\ &= \|x\|_{\ell_1} + \|y\|_{\ell_1}.\end{aligned}$$



In  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\|x\|_{\ell_p} = (\sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^p)^{1/p}$ , with  $p = 0.5$ , is *not* a norm:

- $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\|x\|_{\ell_{0.5}} = (\sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^{1/2})^2 \geq 0$ . Also,  $(\sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^{0.5})^2 = 0$ , if and only if  $x_k = 0, \forall k$ .
- $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , then  $\|\alpha x\|_{\ell_{0.5}} = (\sum_{k=1}^n |\alpha x_k|^{1/2})^2 = (\sum_{k=1}^n |\alpha|^{1/2} |x_k|^{1/2})^2 = (|\alpha|^{1/2} \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^{1/2})^2 = |\alpha| \|x\|_{\ell_{0.5}}$ .
- $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\|x + y\|_{\ell_{0.5}} &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k + y_k|^{1/2} \right)^2 \\ &\geq \left( \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^{1/2} + \sum_{k=1}^n |y_k|^{1/2} \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^{1/2} \sum_{k=1}^n |y_k|^{1/2}; \\ &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^n |x_k|^{1/2} \right)^2 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^n |y_k|^{1/2} \right)^2 = \|x\|_{\ell_{0.5}} + \|y\|_{\ell_{0.5}}\end{aligned}$$

(Triangle inequality is not satisfied)



## Other Examples of Norms:

- Operator norm:  $H$  is the space of  $m \times n$  matrices  $A$   
 $\|A\| = \sigma_{\max}(A) = \text{maximum singular value of } A.$
- Frobenius norm:  $H$  is the space of  $m \times n$  matrices  $A$   
 $\|A\|_F = (\sum_{i,j} A_{i,j}^2)^{1/2} = (\sum_k \sigma_k^2)^{1/2}$

Normed vector spaces: vector spaces  $H$  satisfying the norm properties.

Examples of normed vector spaces:

- $\ell_2(\mathbb{R})$  (also known as  $\ell^2$  or Euclidean space): the vector space  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfying the properties of the  $\ell_2$ -norm.
- $\ell_\infty(\mathbb{R})$ : the vector space  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfying the properties of the  $\ell_\infty$ -norm.



# Inner Products

An inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  on  $H$  satisfies  $\forall x, y, z \in H$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ :

- $\langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle^*$
- $\langle \alpha x, y \rangle = \alpha \langle x, y \rangle$
- $\langle x + y, z \rangle = \langle x, z \rangle + \langle y, z \rangle$
- $\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0, \langle x, x \rangle = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$

A inner product operator induces a norm on  $H$ :  $\sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle} = \|x\|$ .

In  $\ell_2(\mathbb{R})$ , for instance, the inner product is given by:

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)y^*(t)dt. \quad (1)$$

$$\langle x, x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)x^*(t)dt = \|x\|_{\ell_2}^2. \quad (2)$$





# Hilbert Spaces

A vector space  $H$  that satisfies the inner product properties is known as Hilbert space.

Examples of Hilbert spaces:

- The Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the dot product as inner product:  
 $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i$ .
- The space of real-valued, finite variance, zero-mean random variables:  $\langle x, y \rangle = E[xy]$ .
- The space of  $m \times n$  matrices with:  $\langle A, B \rangle_{tr} = \text{trace}(AB)$ .



# Definitions

- Orthogonality: two signals  $x, y$  are orthogonal if  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ .
- Orthonormal basis: a basis of a vector space is orthonormal if their vectors are orthonormal.
- Orthonormal sequence:  $\{\beta_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is an orthonormal sequence if:  
 $\|\beta_n\| = 1, \forall n$ , and  $\langle \beta_n, \beta_m \rangle = 0, \forall n \neq m$

Example:

- Fourier series:  $\{\beta_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} = \{e^{j2\pi nt}\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is an orthobasis for  $\ell_2([0,1])$ , since:
  - $\|\beta_n\|_{\ell_2} = 1$
  - $\langle \beta_n, \beta_m \rangle = 0$



# Definitions

- Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality:  $|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$ .
- For the Euclidean space  $H = \mathbb{R}^n$  :
$$|\langle x, y \rangle| = \sum_i x_i y_i \leq \sqrt{(\sum_i x_i^2)} \sqrt{(\sum_i y_i^2)} = \|x\|_{\ell_2} \|y\|_{\ell_2}.$$
- For the space of real-valued, finite variance, zero-mean random variables:  $|\langle x, y \rangle| = E[xy] \leq (E[x])(E[y]) = \|x\| \|y\|$ .



# Shannon-Nyquist Sampling Theorem

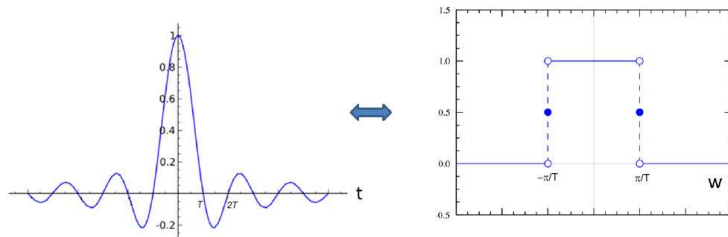
Sampling of a bandlimited signal.

Let  $\hat{f}(w)$  be the Fourier transform of  $f(t)$ . Let the space of bandlimited signals be

$$B_{\pi/T} = \{f(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ s.t. } \hat{f}(w) = 0, \forall |w| > \pi/T\}.$$

Define

$$h_T(t) = \frac{\sqrt{T} \sin(\pi t/T)}{\pi t} \leftrightarrow \hat{h}(w) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{T} & \text{if } |w| \leq \pi/T \\ 0 & \text{if } |w| > \pi/T. \end{cases}$$



By the linear shift property of the Fourier series

$$h_T(t - nT) \leftrightarrow \sqrt{T}e^{jwnT}.$$

Using the Parseval theorem definition

- Parseval theorem:  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)g^*(t)dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(w)\hat{g}^*(w)dw,$

note that  $h_T(t - nT)$  is an orthobasis for the bandlimited signals  $f(t)$  in  $B_{\pi/T}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_T(t)h(t - nT)dt &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/T}^{\pi/T} T e^{jwnT} dw \\ &= \frac{1}{2j\pi n} e^{jwnT} \Big|_{-\pi/T}^{\pi/T} \\ &= \frac{1}{2j\pi n} (e^{j\pi n} - e^{-j\pi n}) \\ &= 0, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}.\end{aligned}$$



The signals  $f(t)$  in  $B_{\pi/T}$  can be expressed in terms of its orthobasis

$$f(t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \langle f(t), h(t - nT) \rangle h(t - nT). \quad (3)$$

Using the inner product definition in (2) and the parseval theorem, the coefficients for the signal expansion in terms of its orthobasis are

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f(t), h(t - nT) \rangle &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/T}^{\pi/T} \hat{f}(w) \sqrt{T} e^{jwnT} dw \\ &= \sqrt{T} f(nT) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$



Replacing (4) in (3), the signals  $f(t)$  in  $B_{\pi/T}$  can then be expressed in terms of a sequence

$$f(t) = \sqrt{T} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f(nT) h(t - nT). \quad (5)$$

where, the coefficients  $f(nT)$  of the sequence are samples of  $f(t)$ .

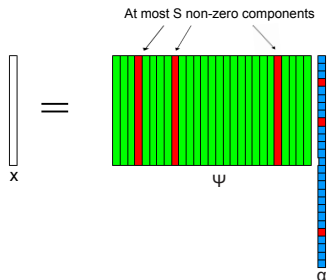
### Nyquist-Shannon-Kotelnikov Theorem

If a signal  $f(t)$  contains frequencies satisfying  $|w| < \pi/T$ , the signal is completely determined by series of points spaced  $T$  seconds apart.



# Sparsity

- Signal sparsity critical to CS
- Plays roughly the same role in CS that bandwidth plays in Shannon-Nyquist theory
- A signal  $x \in R^N$  is  $S$ -sparse on the basis  $\Psi$  if  $x$  can be represented by a linear combination of  $S$  vectors of  $\Psi$  as  $x = \Psi\alpha$  with  $S \ll N$





# The $\ell_1$ Norm and Sparsity

- The  $\ell_0$  norm is defined by:  $\|x\|_0 = \#\{i : x(i) \neq 0\}$   
*Sparsity* of  $x$  is measured by its number of non-zero elements.
- The  $\ell_1$  norm is defined by:  $\|x\|_1 = \sum_i |x(i)|$   
 $\ell_1$  norm has two key properties:
  - Robust data fitting
  - Sparsity inducing norm
- The  $\ell_2$  norm is defined by:  $\|x\|_2 = (\sum_i |x(i)|^2)^{1/2}$   
 $\ell_2$  norm is not effective in measuring *sparsity* of  $x$

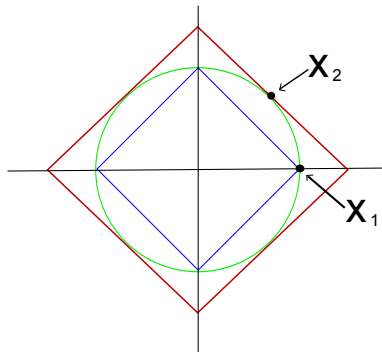


# Why $\ell_1$ Norm Promotes Sparsity?

Given two  $N$ -dimensional signals:

- $x_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0) \rightarrow$  "Spike" signal
- $x_2 = (1/\sqrt{N}, 1/\sqrt{N}, \dots, 1/\sqrt{N}) \rightarrow$  "Comb" signal

- $x_1$  and  $x_2$  have the same  $\ell_2$  norm:  
 $\|x_1\|_2 = 1$  and  $\|x_2\|_2 = 1$ .
- However,  $\|x_1\|_1 = 1$  and  
 $\|x_2\|_1 = \sqrt{N}$ .

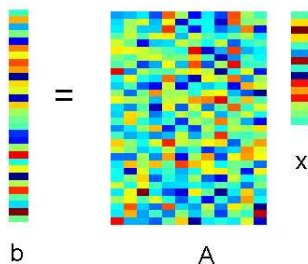


# $\ell_1$ Norm in Regression

- Linear regression is widely used in science and engineering.

Given  $A \in R^{m \times n}$  and  $b \in R^m$ ;  $m > n$

Find  $x$  s.t.  $b = Ax$  (overdetermined)



The diagram illustrates the matrix equation  $b = Ax$ . It shows a vertical column vector  $b$  on the left, followed by an equals sign, then a square matrix  $A$  in the center, and finally a vertical column vector  $x$  on the right. All three components ( $b$ ,  $A$ , and  $x$ ) are represented as heatmaps with a color scale ranging from dark blue to yellow.



# $\ell_1$ Norm Regression

Two approaches:

- Minimize the  $\ell_2$  norm of the residuals

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|b - Ax\|_2$$

The  $\ell_2$  norm penalizes large residuals

- Minimizes the  $\ell_1$  norm of the residuals

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|b - Ax\|_1$$

The  $\ell_1$  norm puts much more weight on small residuals



## Matlab Code

- $\min_{x \in R^n} \|Ax - b\|_2$

*A=randn(500,150);*

*b=randn(500,1);*

*x = (A' \* A)<sup>(-1)</sup> \* A' \* b;* Least Squares Solution

- $\min_{x \in R^n} \|Ax - b\|_1$

*A=randn(500,150);*

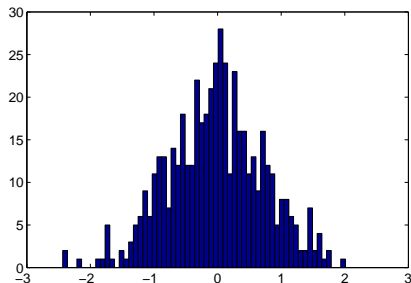
*b=randn(500,1);*

*X = medrec(b,A,max(A'\*b),0,100,1e-5);*

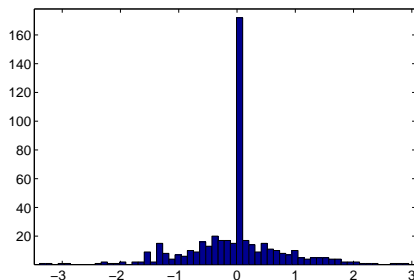


# $\ell_1$ Norm Regression

$m = 500, n = 150$ .  $A = \text{randn}(m, n)$  and  $b = \text{randn}(m, 1)$



$\ell_2$  Residuals



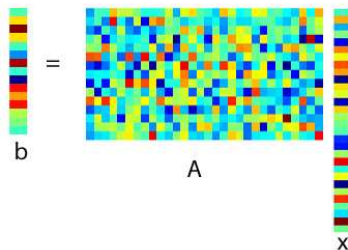
$\ell_1$  Residuals



# $\ell_1$ Norm in Regression

Given  $A \in R^{m \times n}$  and  $b \in R^m$ ;  $m < n$

Find  $x$  s.t.  $b = Ax$  (underdetermined)



# $\ell_1$ Norm Regression

Two approaches:

- Minimize the  $\ell_2$  norm of  $x$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|x\|_2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad Ax = b$$

- Minimize the  $\ell_1$  norm of  $x$

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|x\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad Ax = b$$





## Matlab Code

- $\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|x\|_2$  subject to  $Ax = b$

```
A=randn(150,500);
```

```
b=randn(150,1);
```

```
C=eye(150,500);
```

```
d=zeros(150,1);
```

```
X=lsqlin(C,d,[],[],A,b);
```

- In general:

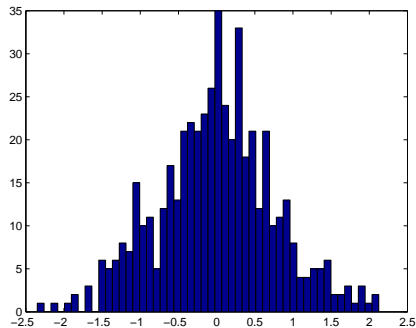
$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \quad \text{subject to} \quad Ax = b$$

```
X=fmincon(@(x)f(x),zeros(500,1),[],[],A,b,[],[],options);
```

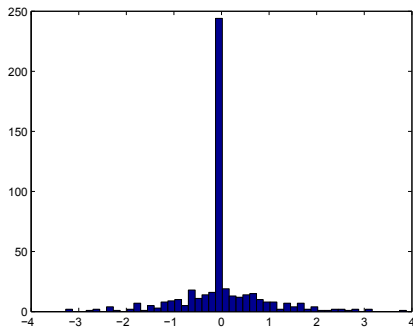
where  $f(x)$  is a convex function.



# $\ell_1$ Norm Regression



$\ell_2$  Solution



$\ell_1$  Solution



# $\ell_1$ Norm Regression

Consider  $N$  observation pairs  $(x_i, b_i)$  modeled in a linear fashion

$$b_i = Ax_i + c + U_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (6)$$

$A$ : Unknown slope of the fitting line.

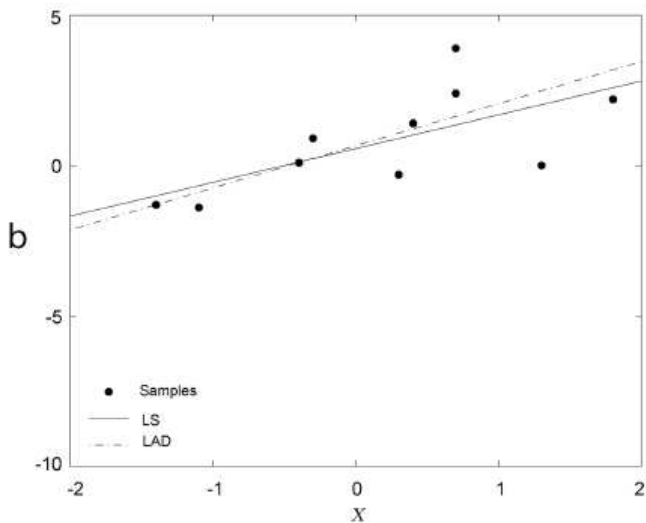
$c$ : Intercept.

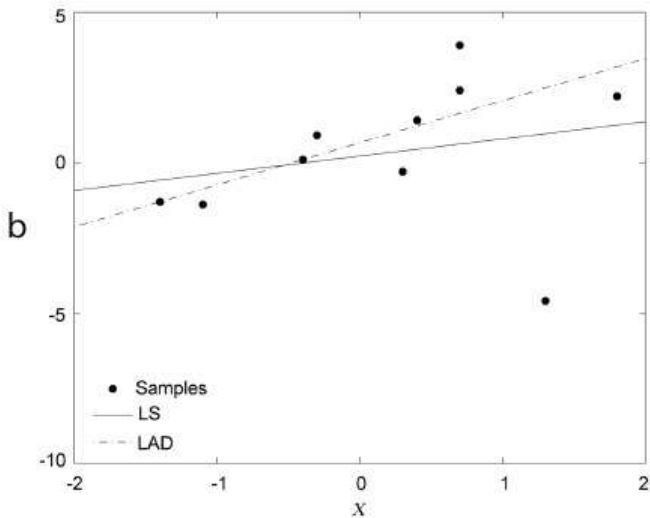
$U_i$ : Unobservable errors

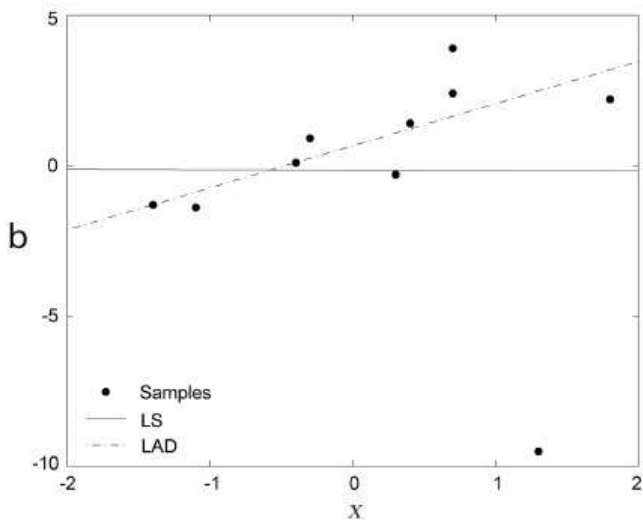
The Least Absolute Deviation regression is

$$F_1(A, c) = \sum_{i=1}^N |b_i - Ax_i - c|, \quad (7)$$



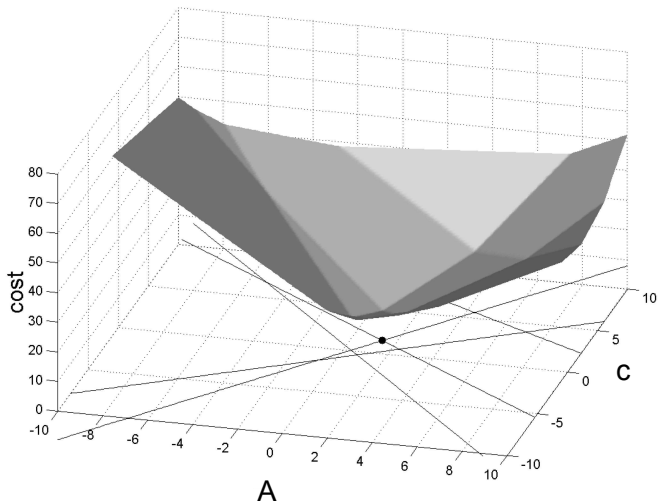






$$\sum_{i=1}^N |b_i - Ax_i - c|$$

$$c = -x_i A + b_i$$



# $\ell_1$ Norm in Estimation

## Location Estimate in Gaussian Noise

Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$ , i.i.d. Gaussian with a constant but unknown mean  $\beta$ . The Maximum Likelihood estimate of location is the value  $\hat{\beta}$  which maximizes the likelihood function

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N; \beta) &= \prod_{i=1}^N f(x_i - \beta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-(x_i - \beta)^2 / 2\sigma^2} \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \right)^N e^{-\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \beta)^2 / 2\sigma^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$





# $\ell_1$ Norm in Estimation

The ML estimate  $\hat{\beta}$  minimizes the least squares sum

$$\hat{\beta}_{ML} = \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \beta)^2. \quad (9)$$

Results in the sample mean

$$\hat{\beta}_{ML} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i. \quad (10)$$



# $\ell_1$ Norm in Estimation

## Location Estimate in Generalized Gaussian Noise

If the  $x$ 's obey a generalized Gaussian distribution, the ML estimate of location is

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N; \beta) &= \prod_{i=1}^N f_{\gamma}(x_i - \beta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^N C e^{-|x_i - \beta|^{\gamma} / \sigma} \\ &= C^N e^{-\sum_{i=1}^N |x_i - \beta|^{\gamma} / \sigma}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where  $C$  is a normalizing constant, and  $\gamma$  is the dispersion parameter.



# $\ell_1$ Norm in Estimation

Maximizing the likelihood function is equivalent to

$$\tilde{\beta}_{ML} = \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N |x_i - \beta|^\gamma.$$

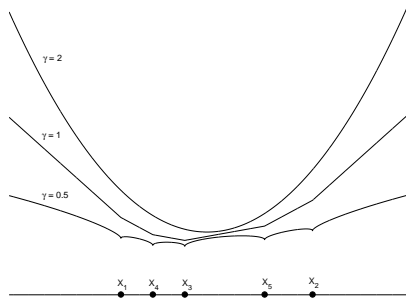


Figure: Cost function for  $\gamma = 0.5, 1$ , and  $2$ .



# $\ell_1$ Norm in Estimation

For  $N$  odd there is an integer  $k$ , such that the slopes over the intervals  $(x_{(k-1)}, x_{(k)}]$  and  $(x_{(k)}, x_{(k+1)}]$ , are negative and positive, respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta}_{ML} &= \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N |x_i - \beta| \\ &= \begin{cases} x_{(\frac{N+1}{2})} & N \text{ odd} \\ \left( x_{(\frac{N}{2})}, x_{(\frac{N}{2})} \right] & N \text{ even} \end{cases} \\ &= \text{MEDIAN}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N). \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$



# $\ell_1$ Norm Regression

## ML Estimate of Location for Generalized Gaussian

Here the samples have a common location parameter  $\beta$ , but different scale parameter  $\sigma_i$ . The ML estimate of location is

$$G_p(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma_i^p} |x_i - \beta|^p. \quad (13)$$

For the Gaussian distribution ( $p = 2$ ), the ML estimate reduces to

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} (x_i - \beta)^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N W_i \cdot x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N W_i} \quad (14)$$

where  $W_i = 1/\sigma_i^2 > 0$ .



For the Laplacian distribution ( $p = 1$ ), the ML estimate minimizes

$$G_1(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma_i} |x_i - \beta|. \quad (15)$$

where  $W_i \triangleq 1/\sigma_i > 0$ .  $G_1(\beta)$  is piecewise linear and convex. The weighted median output is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} Y(n) &= \arg \min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N W_i |x_i - \beta| \\ &= \text{MEDIAN}[W_1 \diamond x_1(n), W_2 \diamond x_2(n), \dots, W_N \diamond x_N(n)] \end{aligned}$$

where  $W_i > 0$  and  $\diamond$  is the replication operator defined as

$$W_i \diamond x_i = \overbrace{x_i, x_i, \dots, x_i}^{w_i \text{ times}}.$$



# $\ell_1$ Norm Regression

Next, consider  $N$  observation pairs  $(x_i, b_i)$

$$b_i = Ax_i + c + U_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (16)$$

$A$ : Unknown slope of the fitting line.

$c$ : Intercept.

$U_i$ : Unobservable errors

The  $L_1$  or Least Absolute Deviation (LAD) regression is

$$F_1(A, c) = \sum_{i=1}^N |b_i - Ax_i - c|, \quad (17)$$



Sample space:  $b_i = Ax_i + c$

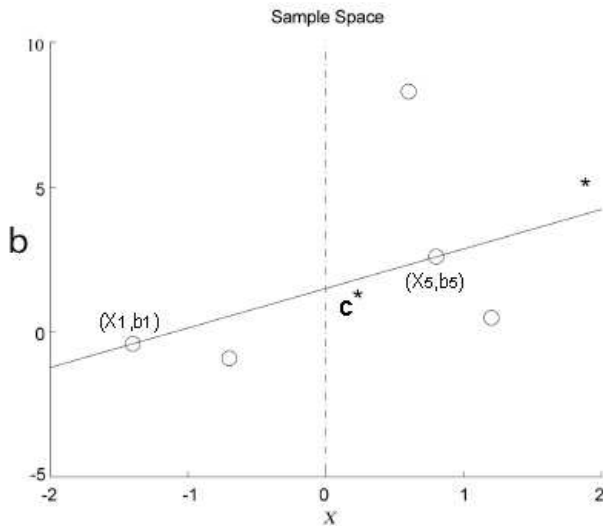
1. Each sample pair  $(x_i, b_i)$  represents a point on the plane
2. The solution is a line with slope  $A^*$  and intercept  $c^*$ .
3. If this line goes through some sample pair  $(x_i, b_i)$ , then the equation  $b_i = A^*x_i + c^*$  is satisfied

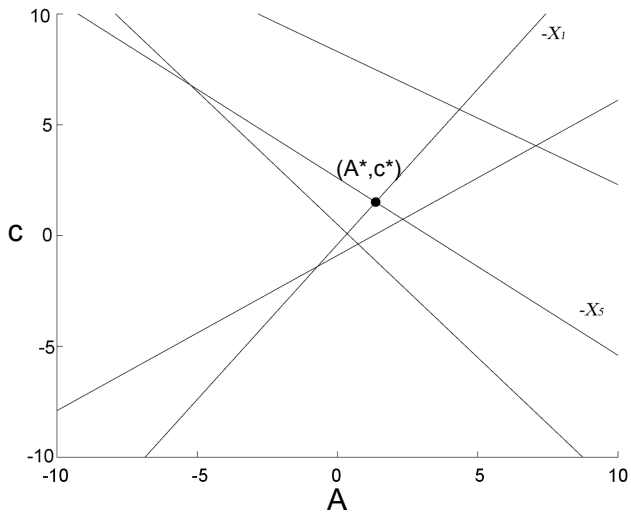
Parameter space:  $c = -x_iA + b_i$

1. The solution  $(A^*, b^*)$  is a point.
2. The sample pair  $(x_i, b_i)$  defines a line with slope  $-x_i$  and intercept  $b_i$ .
3. When  $c^* = -x_iA^* + b_i$  holds, it can be inferred that the point  $(A^*, c^*)$  is on the line defined by  $(-x_i, b_i)$









Set  $A = A_0$ , the objective function now becomes a one-parameter function of  $c$

$$F(c) = \sum_{i=1}^N | \underbrace{b_i - A_0 x_i}_{\text{Observations}} - c |. \quad (18)$$

The parameter  $c^*$  is the Maximum Likelihood estimator of location for  $c$ . It can be obtained by

$$c^* = \text{MED}(b_i - A_0 x_i) \mid_{i=1}^N. \quad (19)$$



Set  $c = c_0$ , the objective function reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} F(a) &= \sum_{i=1}^N |b_i - c_0 - Ax_i| \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N |x_i| \left| \frac{b_i - c_0}{x_i} - A \right|. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

The parameter  $A^*$  can be seen as the ML estimator of location for  $A$ , and can be calculated as the *weighted median*,

$$A^* = \text{MED} \left( |x_i| \diamond \frac{b_i - c_0}{x_i} \right) \Bigg|_{i=1}^N, \quad (21)$$



A simple and intuitive way of solving the LAD regression problem is:

1. Set  $k = 0$ . Find an initial value  $A_0$  for  $A$ , such as the Least Squares (LS) solution.
2. Set  $k = k + 1$  and obtain a new estimate of  $c$  for a fixed  $A_{k-1}$  using

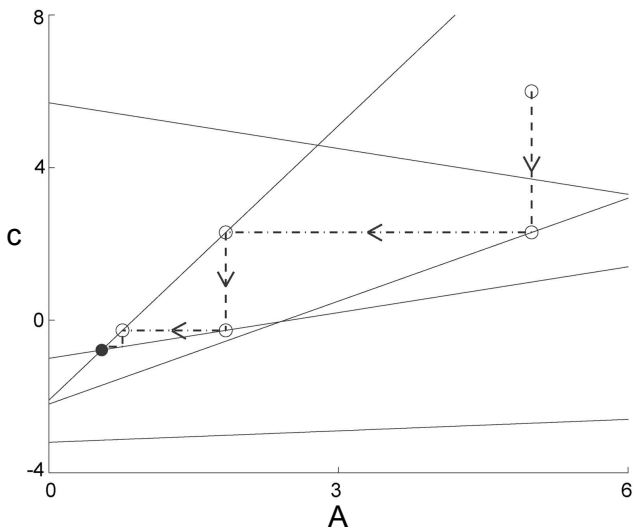
$$c_k = \text{MED}(b_i - A_{k-1}x_i) \Big|_{i=1}^N.$$

3. Obtain a new estimate of  $A$  for a fixed  $c_k$  using

$$A_k = \text{MED} \left( |x_i| \diamond \frac{b_i - c_k}{x_i} \right) \Big|_{i=1}^N.$$

4. Once  $A_k$  and  $c_k$  do not deviate from  $A_{k-1}$  and  $c_{k-1}$  within a tolerance range, end the iteration. Otherwise, go back to step 2).

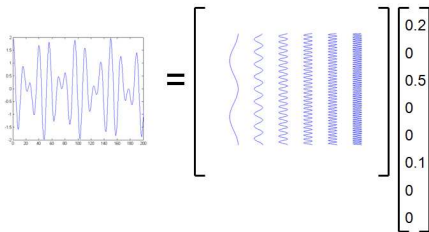




# Signal Representation

- A sparse signal  $x \in R^N$  can be represented by a linear combination of basis of an orthogonal representation matrix  $\Psi$

$$x(t) = \sum_i \alpha_i \psi_i(t)$$



# Sparse Signal Representation

Active development for effective signal representation in the 90's

- Fourier
- Wavelet
- Curvelet

There is no universal best representation

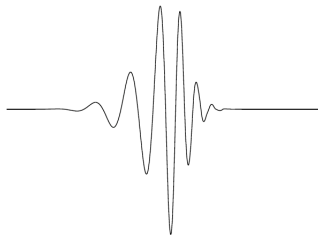
- Best representation = sparsest





# Wavelets

A wavelet is a "small wave" with finite energy that allows the analysis of transient, or time-varying phenomena.



**Figure:** Daubechies (D20) Wavelet example



A signal  $x(t)$  can be represented in terms of its wavelet coefficients as

$$x(t) = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \langle x, \Psi_{j,n} \rangle \Psi_{j,n}(t)$$

where:

- $\Psi_{j,n}$  are the wavelets that form an orthogonal basis.
- $\langle x, \Psi_{j,n} \rangle$  are the wavelet coefficients.

Wavelets are vectors of a orthogonal basis formed by shifting and dilating a *mother wavelet*,  $\Psi(t)$ :

$$\Psi_{j,n}(t) = 2^{-j/2} \Psi(2^{-j}t - n), \quad \forall j, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

where  $j$  is the scale parameter and  $n$  is the location parameter.



Examples of wavelet expansion functions are:

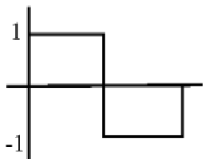


Figure: Haar wavelet

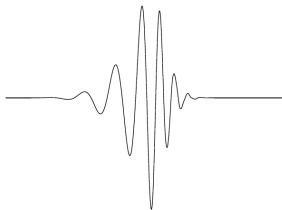


Figure: Daubechies wavelet

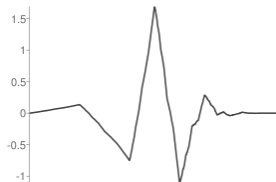


Figure: Symlet wavelet

# Daubechies Wavelet

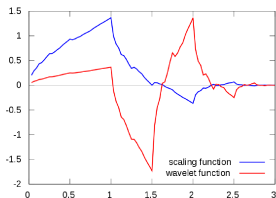
- Daubechies Wavelets are continuous and smooth wavelets.
- The *mother wavelet* is defined by means of a *scaling function*.
- A daubechies wavelet  $\Psi(t)$  has  $p - 1$  vanishing moments if:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t^k \Psi(t) dt = 0; \quad \text{for } 0 \leq k < p.$$

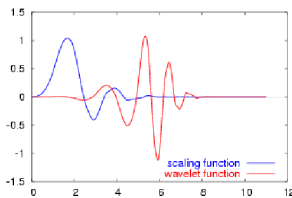
- The smoothness of the scaling and wavelet functions increase as the number of vanishing moments increases.



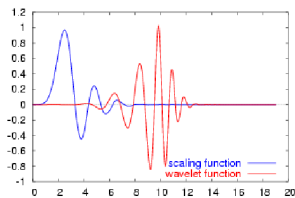
## Examples of Daubechies wavelets:



(a)



(b)

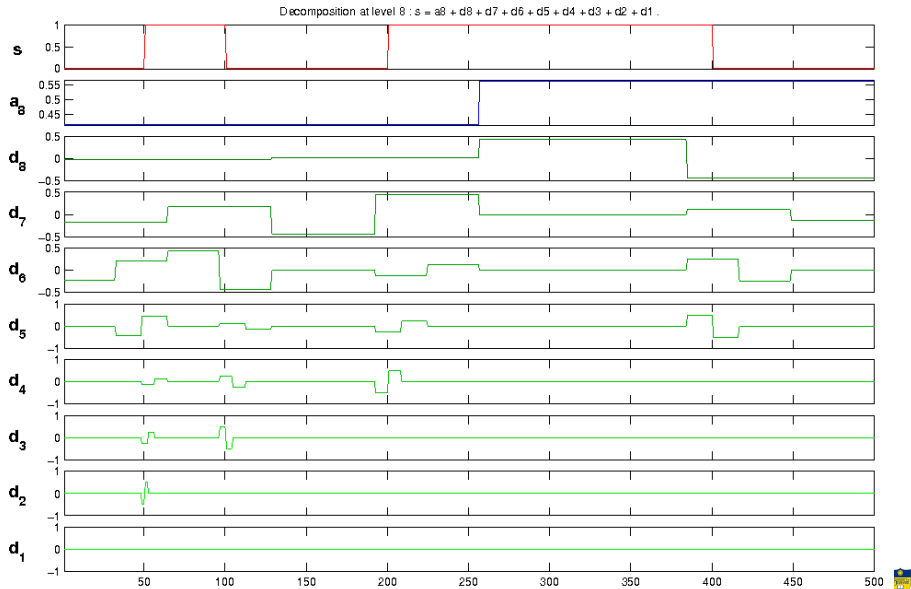


(c)

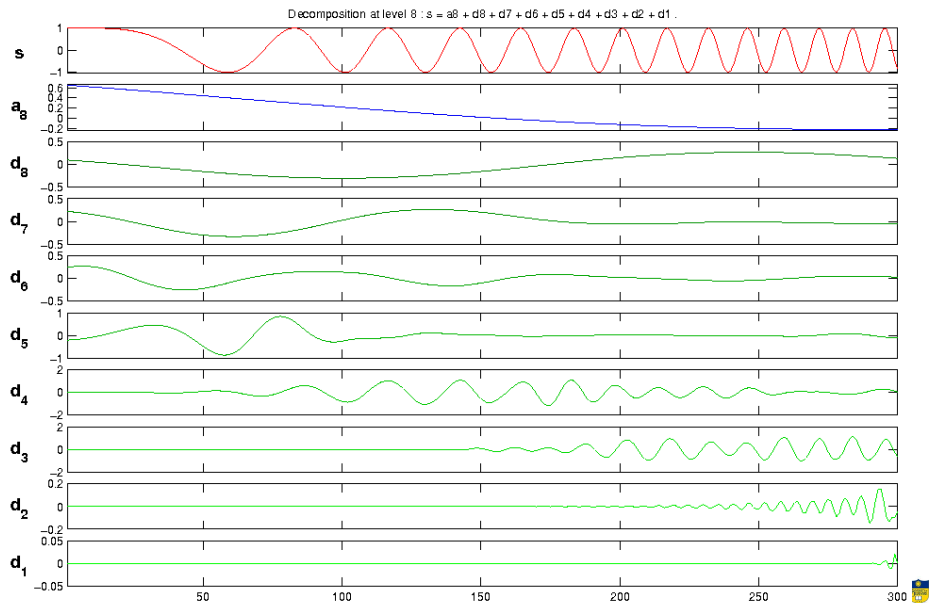
- (a) Daubechies scaling and wavelet functions with 2 vanishing moments.
- (b) Daubechies scaling and wavelet functions with 6 vanishing moments.
- (c) Daubechies scaling and wavelet functions with 10 vanishing moments.



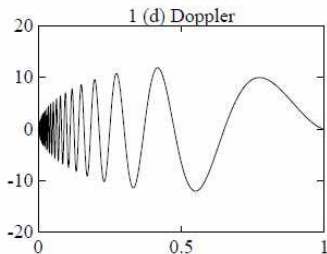
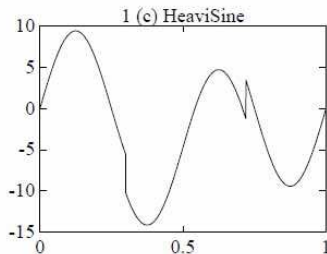
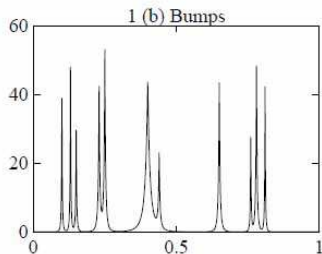
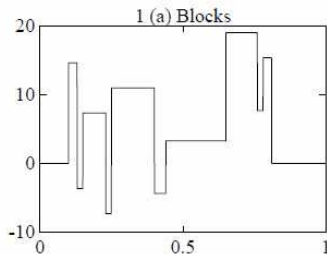
# Examples of Wavelet decompositions



# Examples of Wavelet decompositions

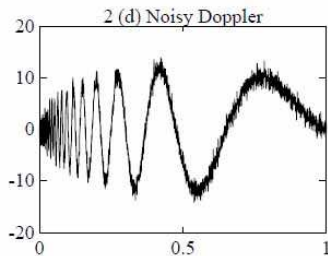
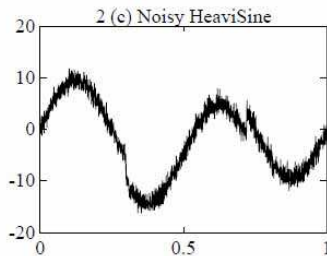
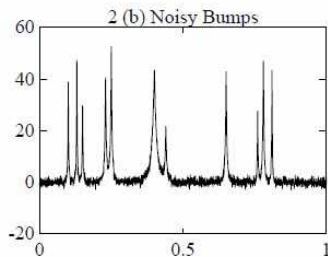
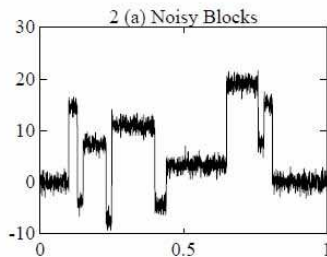


## Other examples: original signals

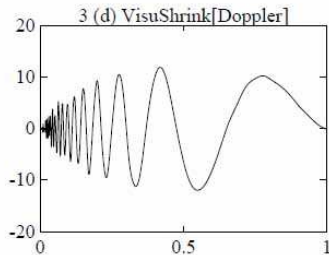
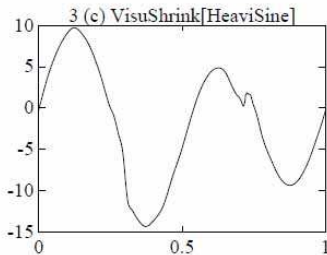
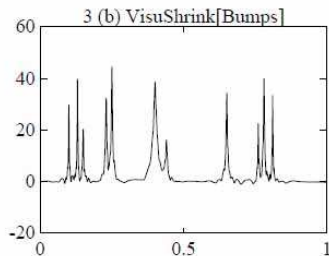
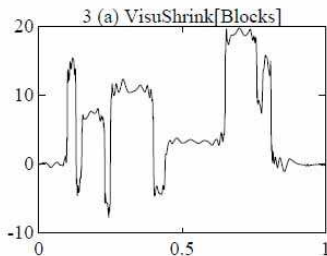




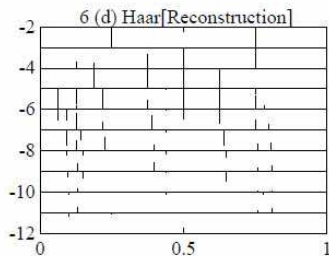
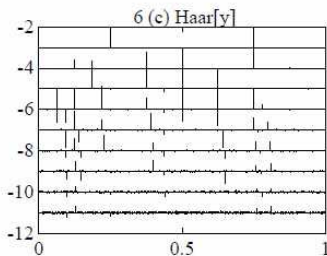
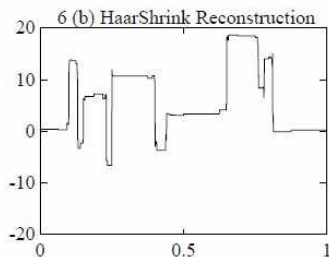
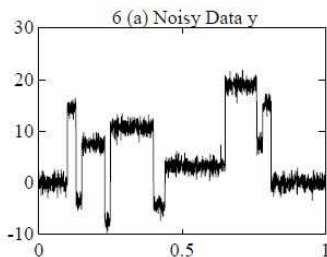
# Noisy signals



# Denoising using wavelet approximation



# Denoising using wavelet approximation



# Sampling and Compression



JPEG



JPEG2000



JPEG



JPEG2000



# Sparse Signal Representation

- Different representations are best for different applications.
  - Fourier Dictionary  $\rightarrow$  For oscillatory phenomena
  - Wavelet Dictionary  $\rightarrow$  For images with isolated singularities
  - Curvelet Dictionary  $\rightarrow$  For images with contours and edges

This motivates overcomplete signal representation  $^{\ddagger}$

$^{\ddagger}$  S. Mallat and Z. Zhang. "Matching Pursuit in a Time-Frequency Dictionary". IEEE Trans. on Signal Proc. Vol.41, pp.3397-3415, 1993.



# Sparse Signal Representation

## Overcomplete dictionary representation

- Different bases merged into a combined dictionary

$$\Psi = [\Psi_1, \Psi_2, \dots, \Psi_N]$$

- Representation of  $x$  in an overcomplete dictionary

$$x = \sum_i \alpha_i \psi_i, \quad \text{with the sparsest } \alpha$$



# Basis Pursuit (BP)

Basis Pursuit  $\rightarrow$  find the sparsest approximation of  $x$

$$\min_{\alpha} \|\alpha\|_1 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x = \Psi\alpha$$

where  $\|\alpha\|_1 = \sum_i |\alpha_i|$ .

- BP decomposes a signal into a superposition of dictionary elements having the smallest  $\ell_1$ -norm among all such decompositions.

<sup>†</sup> D. L. Donoho and X. Huo. Uncertainty principles and ideal atomic decomposition. IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory, 47:2845-2862, 2001.



# Compressible Signals

In most applications

- Signals are not perfectly sparse, but only a few coefficients concentrate most of the energy.
- Most of the transform coefficients are negligible.
- Compressible signals can be approximated by a  $S$ -sparse signal:
  - There is a transform vector  $\alpha_S$  with only  $S$  terms such that  $\|\alpha_S - \alpha\|_2$  is small.



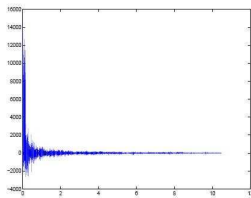


# Compressible Signals

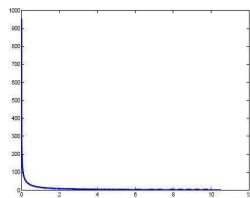
- Wavelet coefficients of natural scenes exhibit the  $(1/n)$ -decay<sup>†</sup>.



1 Megapixel Image



Wavelet Coefficients



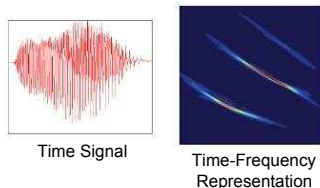
Sorted Wavelet Coeff.

<sup>†</sup> E. J. Candès and J. Romberg "Sparsity and Incoherence in Compressive Sampling." Inverse Problems. vol.23, pp.969-985. 2006.

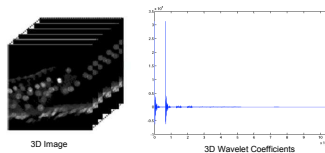


# Examples of Compressible Signals

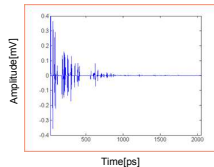
- Bat echolocation

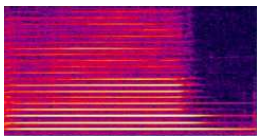


- Confocal microscopy

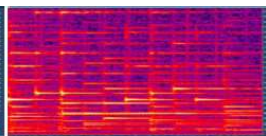


- Ultra wideband signaling

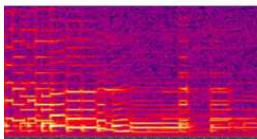




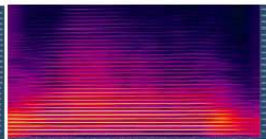
Violin



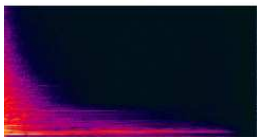
Piano



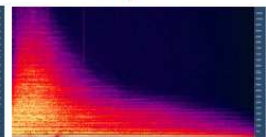
Guitar



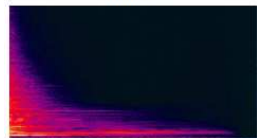
Trumpet



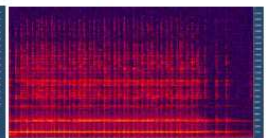
Timpani



Gong



Marimba



Cowbell

