

# Low Complexity Regularization of Inverse Problems

*Cours #1  
Inverse Problems*

Gabriel Peyré



[www.numerical-tours.com](http://www.numerical-tours.com)



# Overview of the Course

- Course #1: Inverse Problems
- Course #2: Recovery Guarantees
- Course #3: Proximal Splitting Methods

# Overview

- Inverse Problems
- Compressed Sensing
- Sparsity and L1 Regularization

# Inverse Problems

Recovering  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^N$  from noisy observations

$$y = \Phi x_0 + w \in \mathbb{R}^P$$

$\Phi : \mathbb{R}^N \mapsto \mathbb{R}^P$  with  $P \ll N$  (missing information)

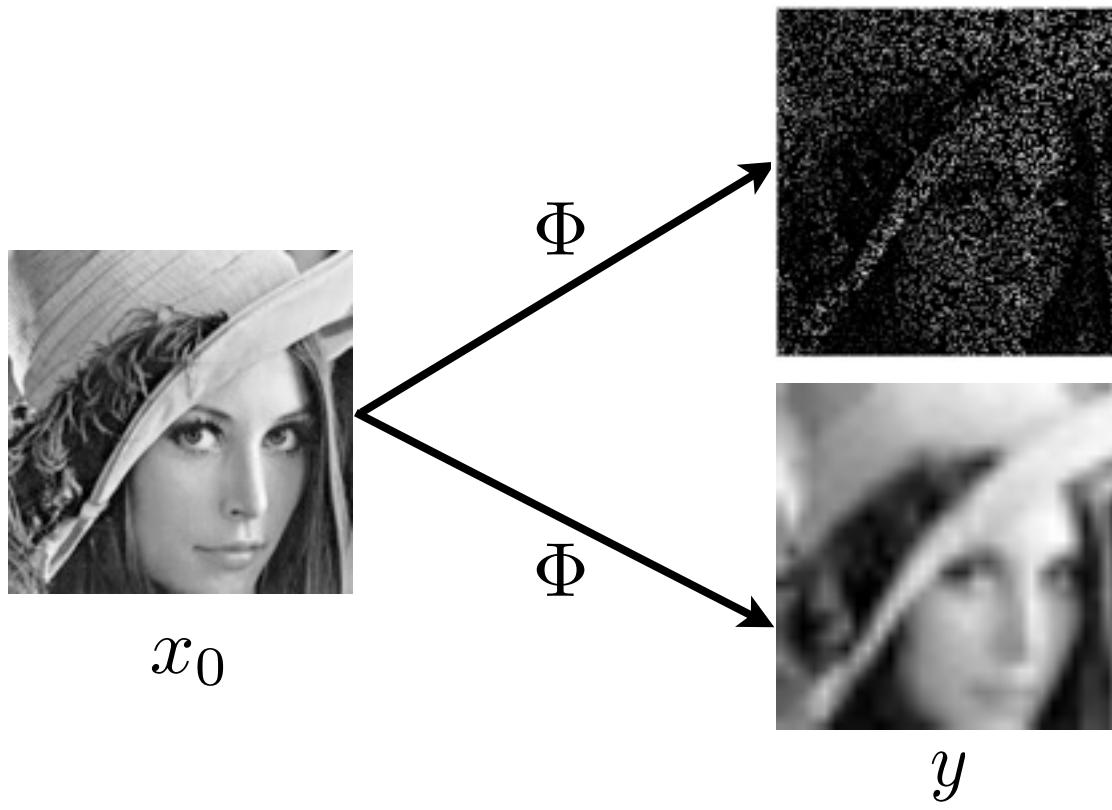
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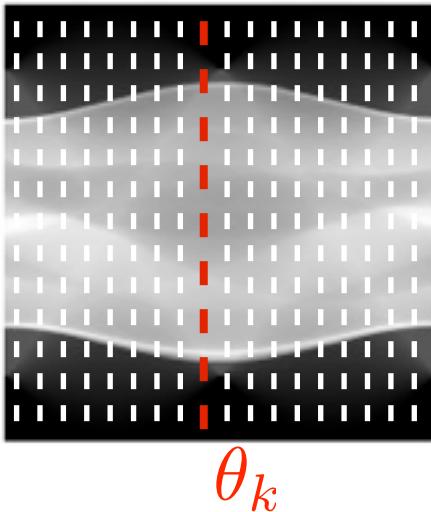
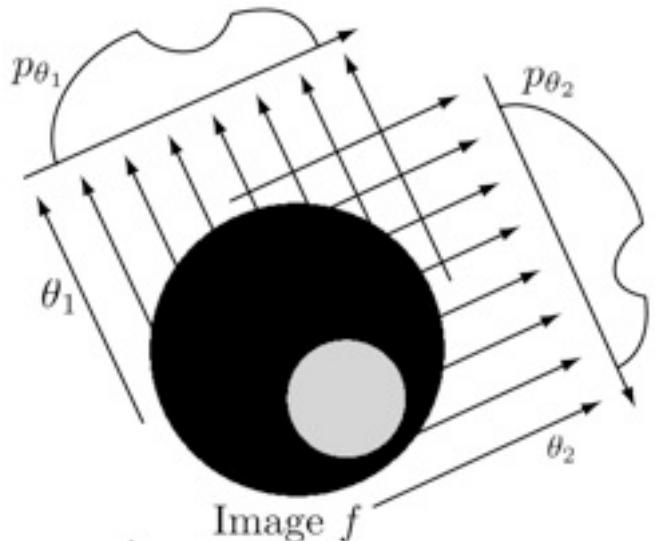
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*Examples:* Inpainting, super-resolution, . . .



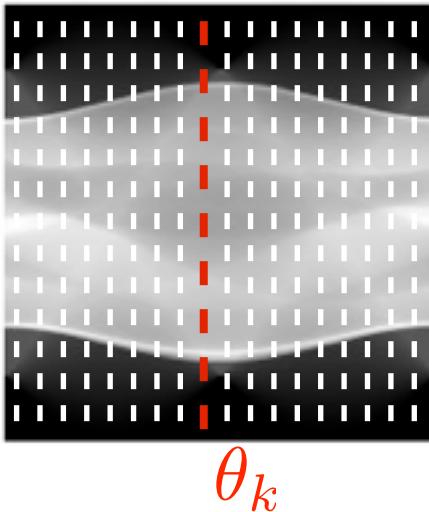
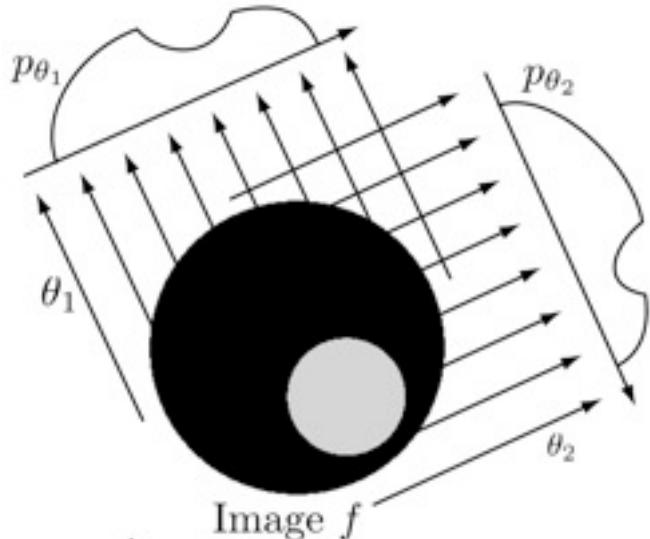
# Inverse Problems in Medical Imaging

Tomography projection:  $\Phi x = (p_{\theta_k})_{1 \leq k \leq K}$

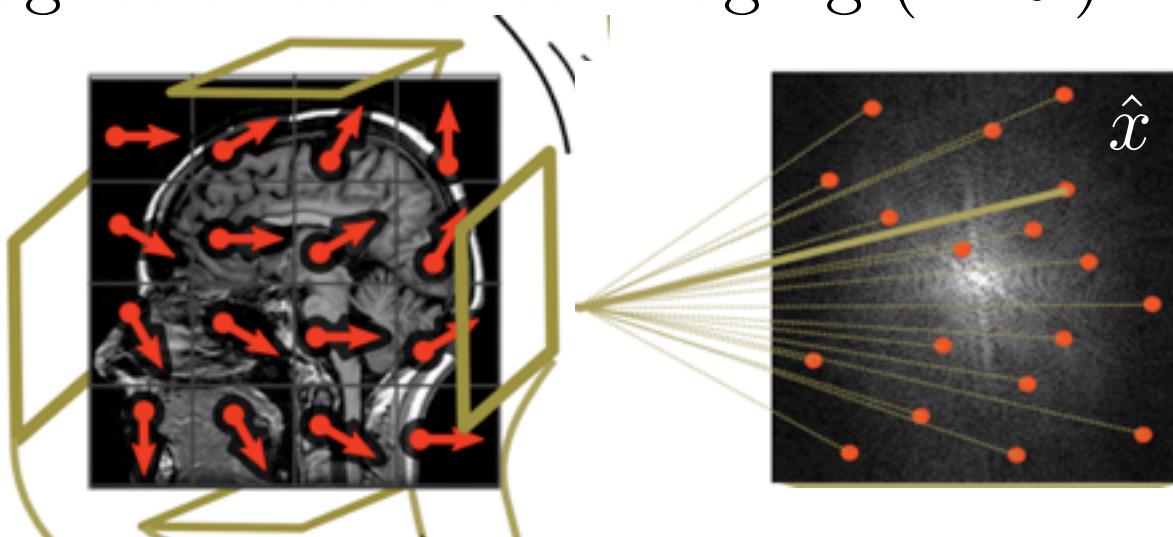


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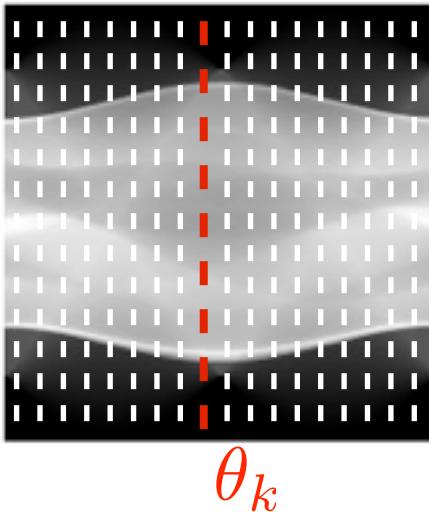
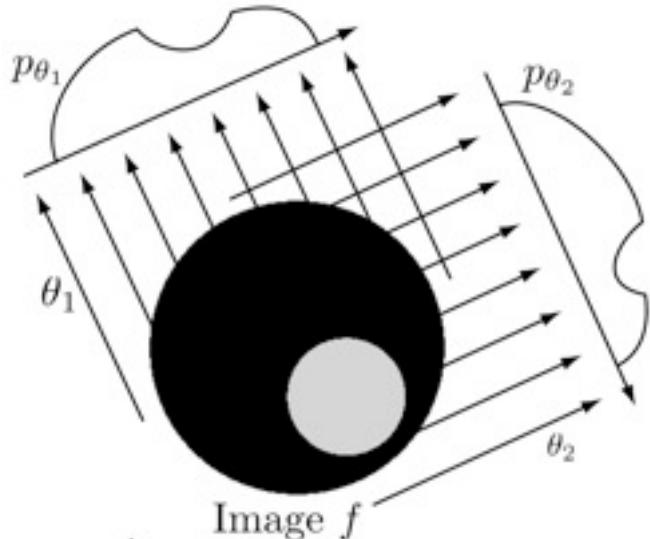


Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI):  $\Phi x = (\hat{f}(\omega))_{\omega \in \Omega}$

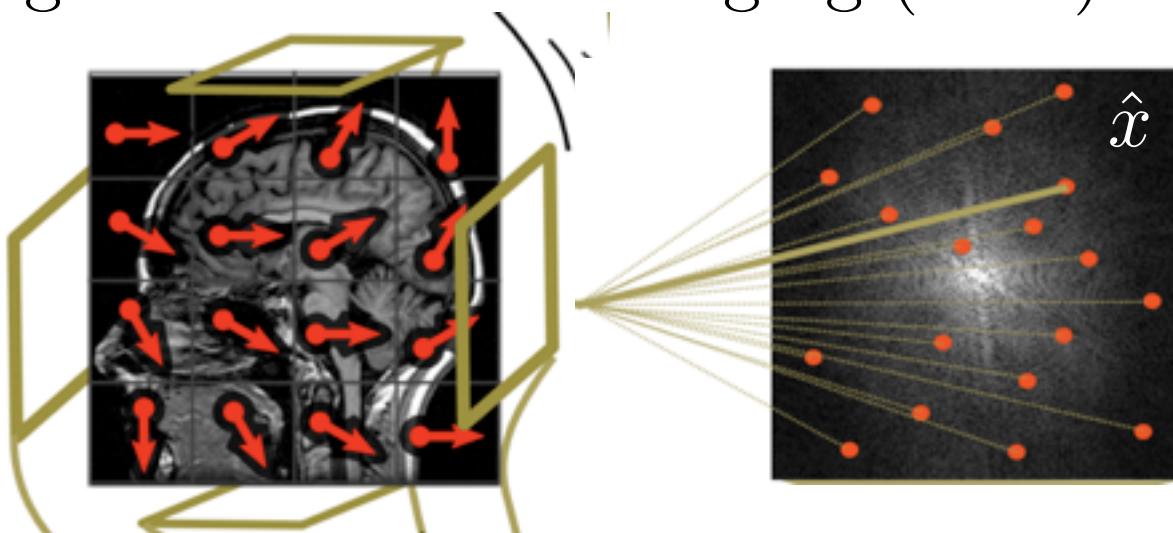


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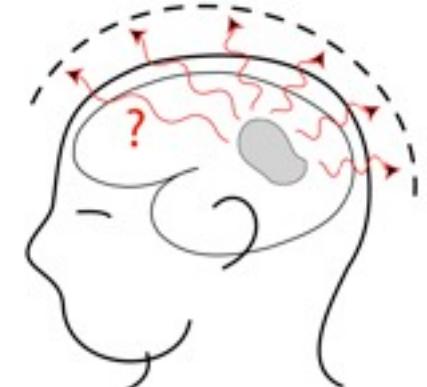
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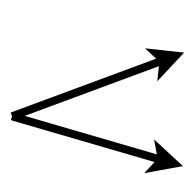
Other examples: MEG, EEG, ...



# Inverse Problem Regularization

*Observations:*  $y = \Phi x_0 + w \in \mathbb{R}^P.$

*Estimator:*  $x(y)$  depends only on



observations  $y$   
parameter  $\lambda$

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$$x(y) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \left( \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2 \right) + \lambda J(x)$$

Data fidelity      Regularity



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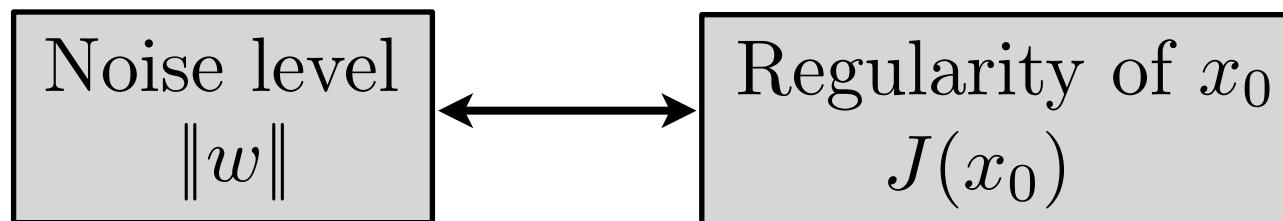


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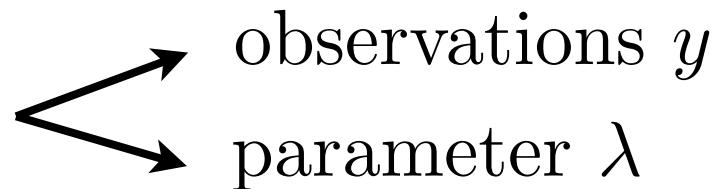
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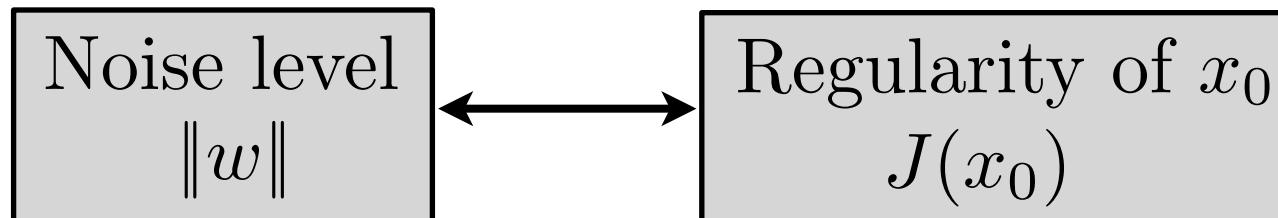


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No noise:  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ , minimize  $x^\star \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^Q, \Phi x = y} J(x)$

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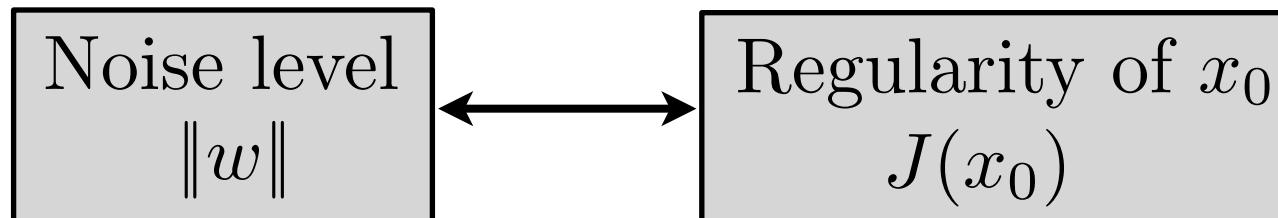
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This course:

Performance analysis.  
Fast computational scheme.

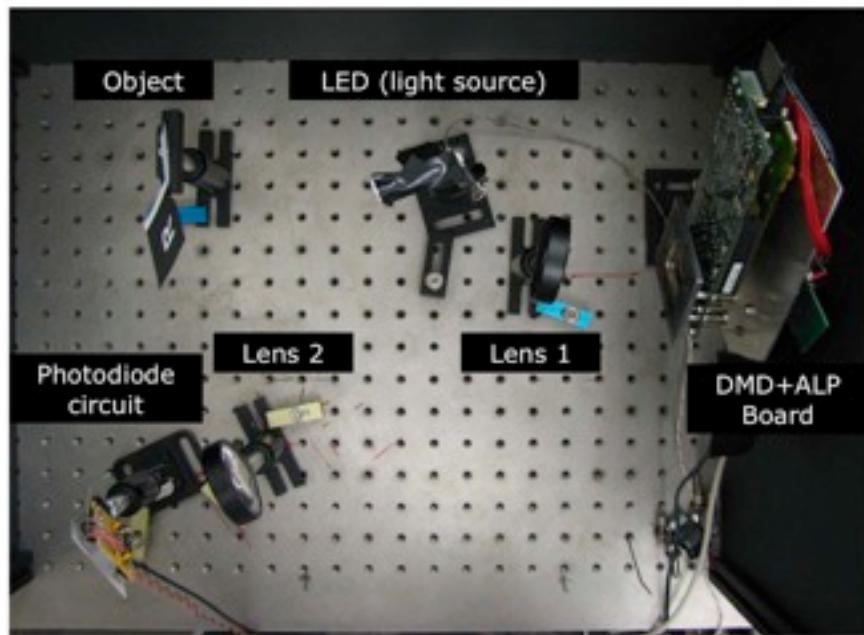
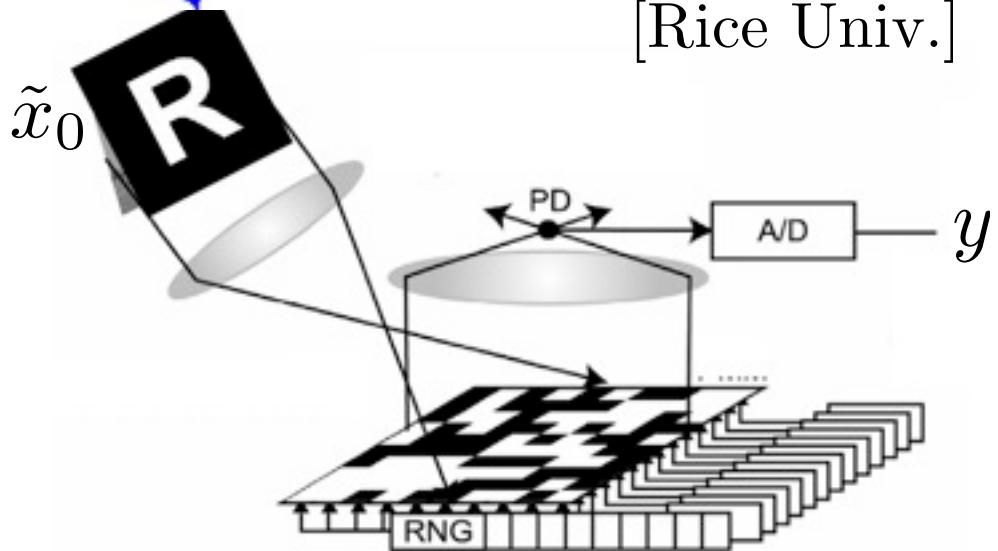


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- Sparsity and L1 Regularization

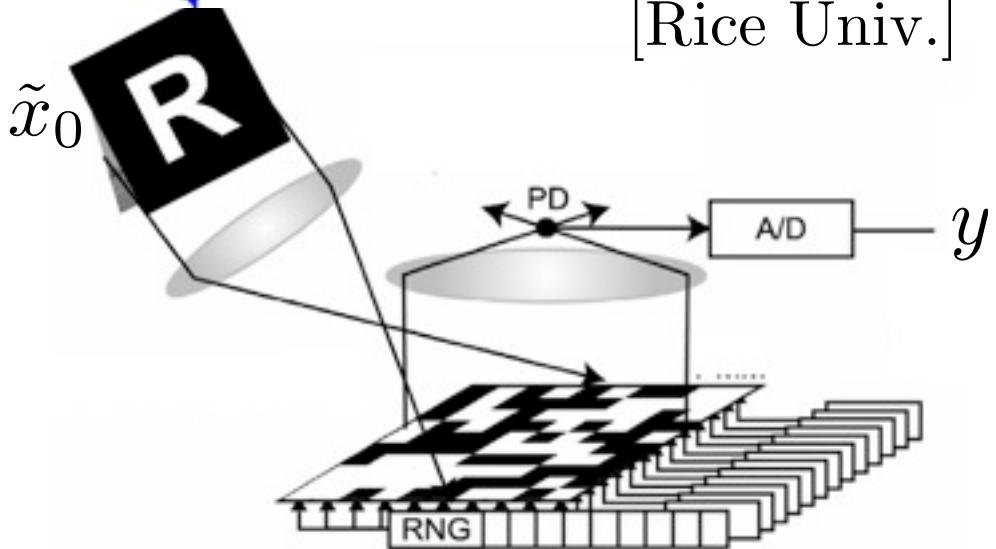
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[Rice Univ.]

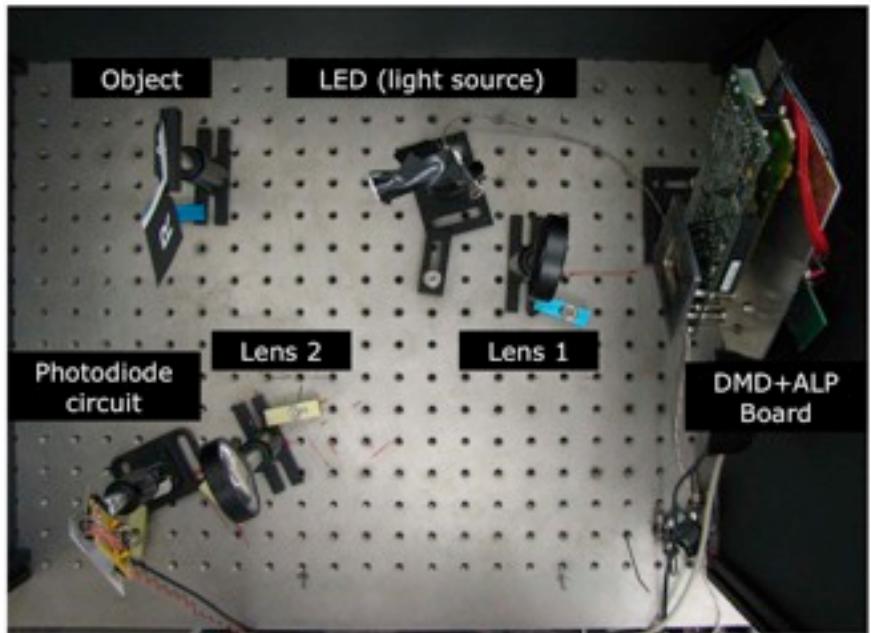
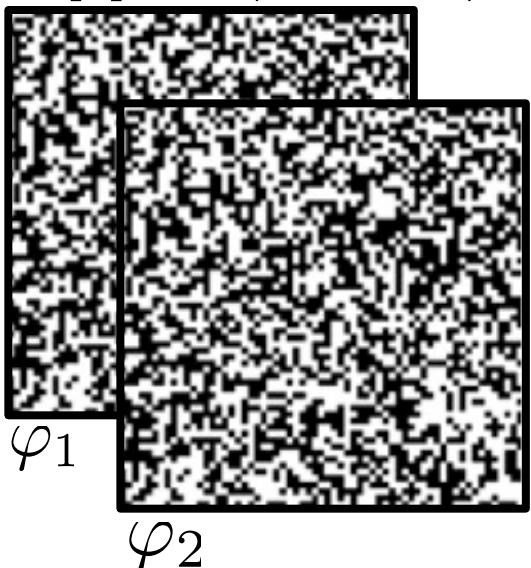


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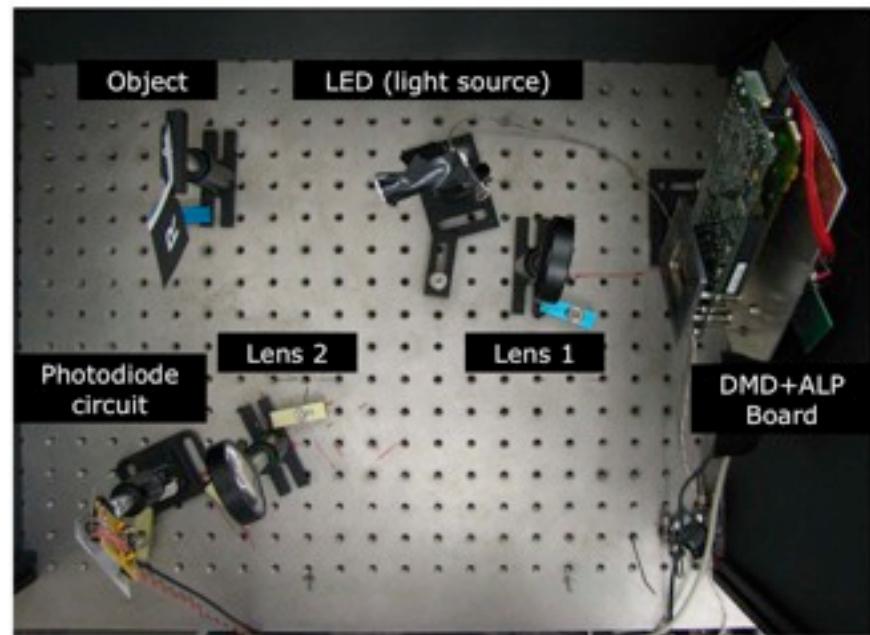
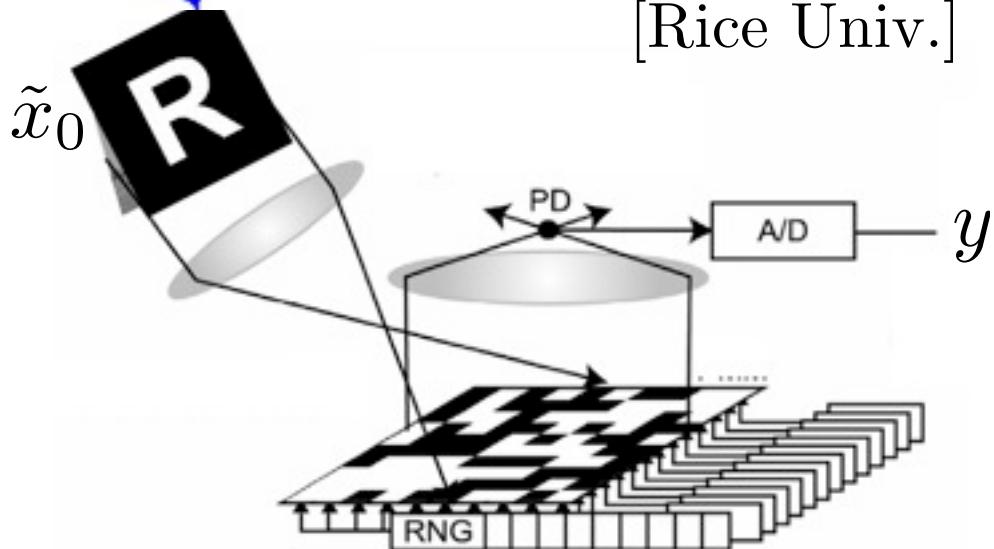


$P$  measures  $\ll N$  micro-mirrors



# Compressed Sensing

[Rice Univ.]



$$y[i] = \langle x_0, \varphi_i \rangle$$



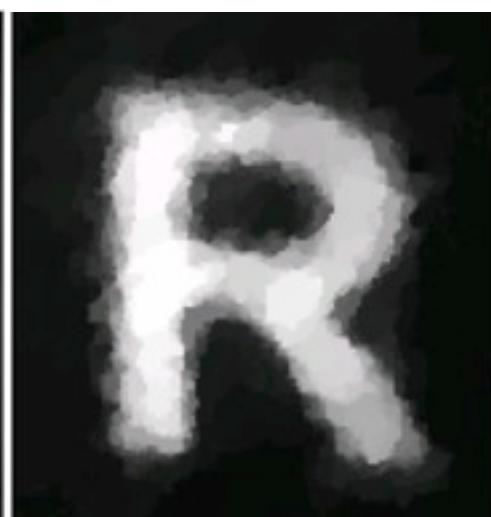
$P$  measures  $\ll N$  micro-mirrors



$P/N = 1$



$P/N = 0.16$

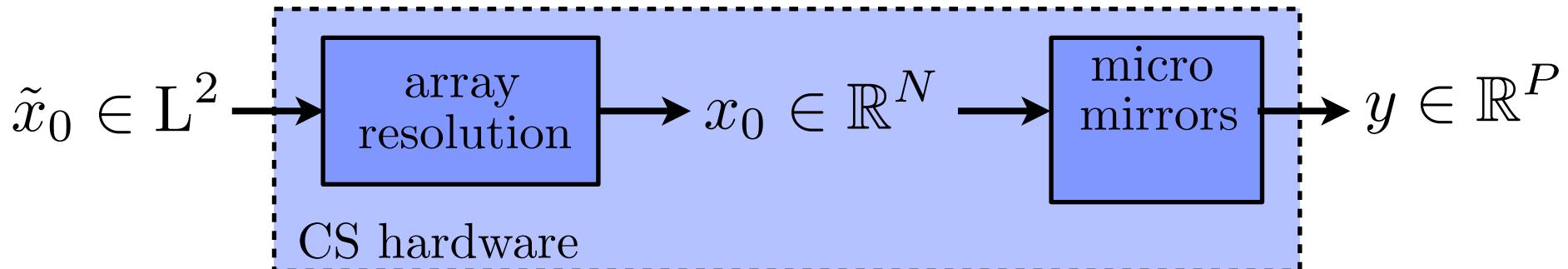


$P/N = 0.02$

# CS Acquisition Model

*CS is about designing hardware:* input signals  $\tilde{f} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$ .

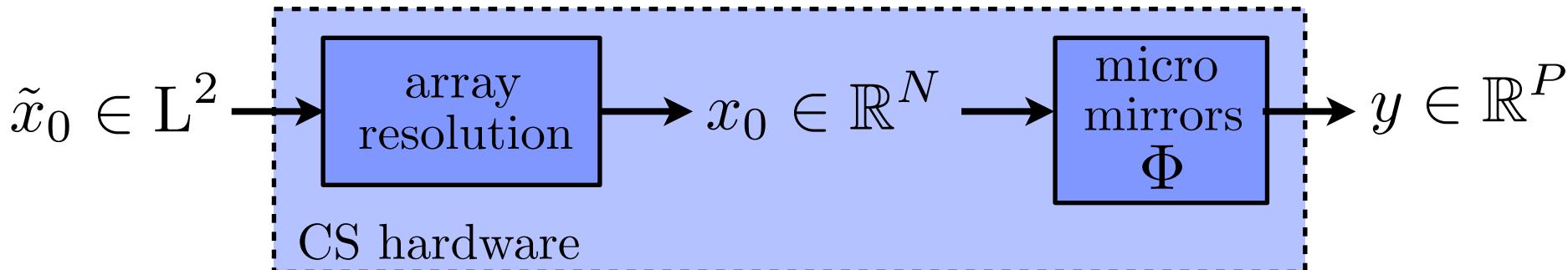
*Physical hardware resolution limit:* target resolution  $f \in \mathbb{R}^N$ .



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$$y[0] = \langle \begin{array}{c} \text{Image of a person} \\ \text{with a patterned cloth} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{Noisy image} \end{array} \rangle$$

$$y[1] = \langle \begin{array}{c} \text{Image of a person} \\ \text{with a patterned cloth} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{Noisy image} \end{array} \rangle$$

⋮

$$y[P-1] = \langle \begin{array}{c} \text{Image of a person} \\ \text{with a patterned cloth} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{Noisy image} \end{array} \rangle$$

$$\begin{matrix} P \\ \downarrow \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} y \\ \vdots \end{array} \right] \end{matrix} =$$

Operator  $\Phi$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Noisy image} \\ \vdots \\ \text{Noisy image} \end{array} \right] \times \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_0 \\ \vdots \\ x_0 \end{array} \right]$$

$\xleftarrow{\quad N \quad}$



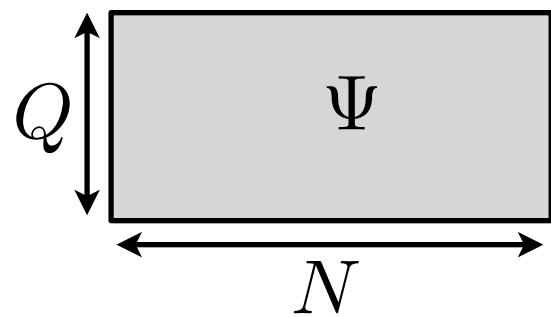
# Overview

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- Inverse Problems
- Compressed Sensing
- **Sparsity and L1 Regularization**

# Redundant Dictionaries

Dictionary  $\Psi = (\psi_m)_m \in \mathbb{R}^{Q \times N}$ ,  $N \geq Q$ .

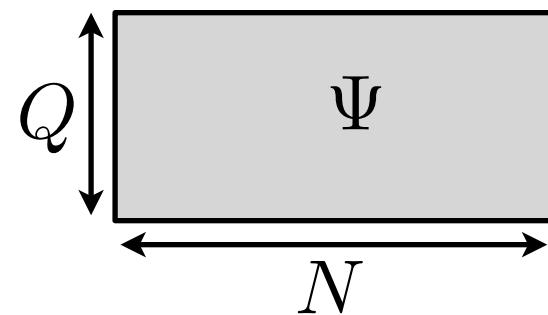


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Fourier:  $\psi_m = e^{i\langle \cdot, \textcolor{red}{m} \rangle}$

frequency



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Wavelets:

$$\psi_m = \psi(2^{-j} R_{\theta_\ell} x - \textcolor{green}{n})$$

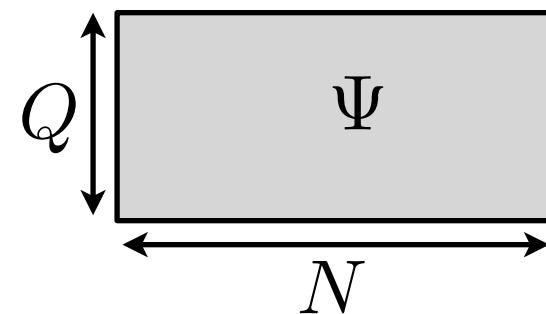
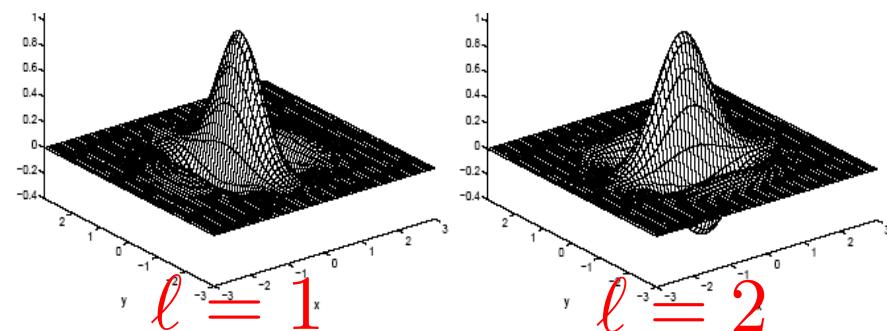
$m = (\textcolor{blue}{j}, \textcolor{red}{\ell}, \textcolor{green}{n})$

frequency

scale

position

orientation



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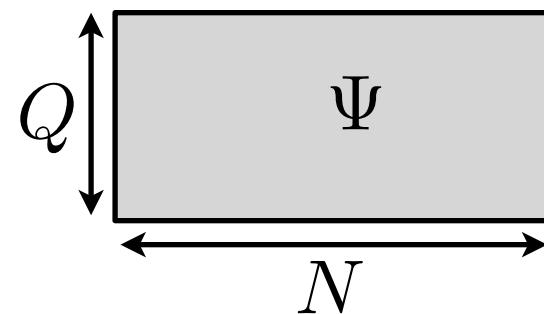
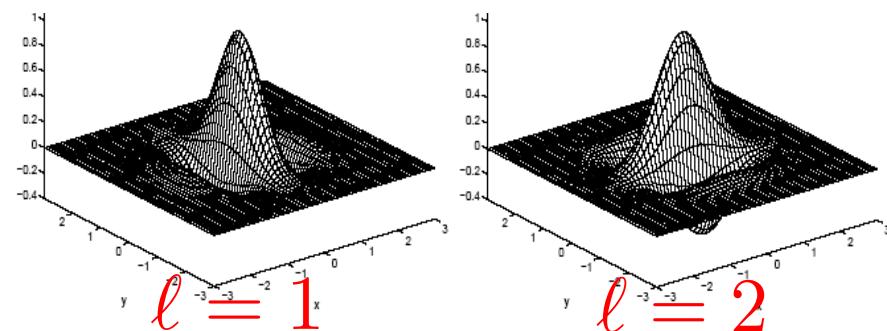
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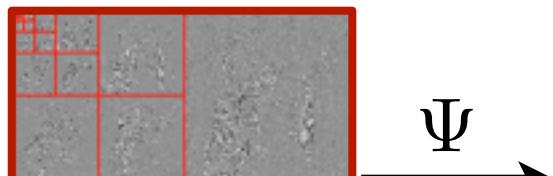
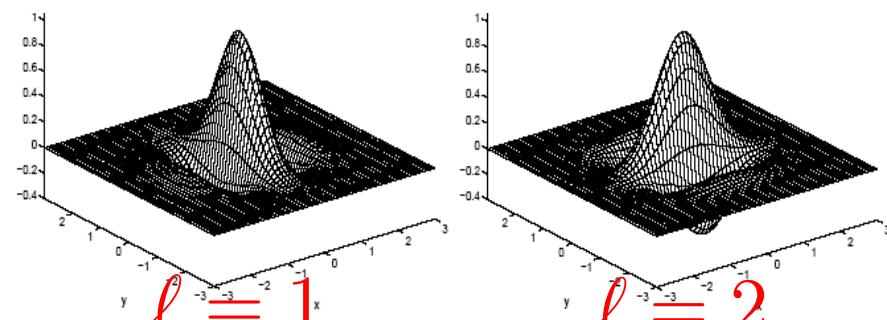
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Wavelets:  $\psi_m = \psi(2^{-j} R_{\theta_\ell} x - n)$

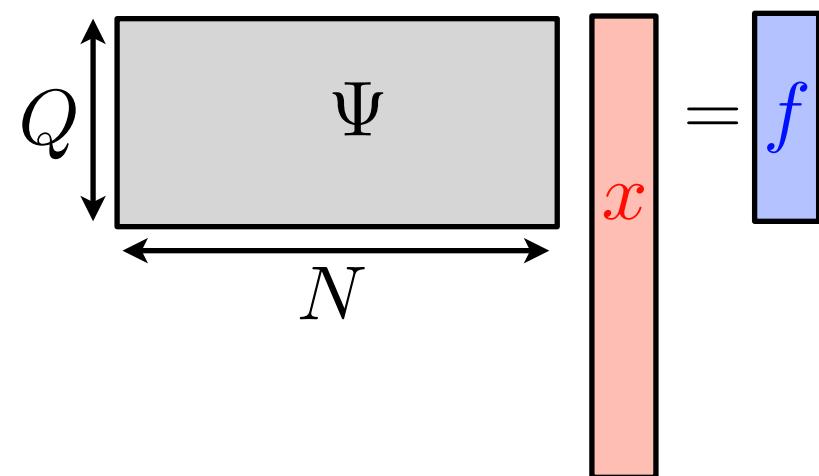
DCT, Curvelets, bandlets, ...

Synthesis:  $f = \sum_m x_m \psi_m = \Psi x$ .



Coefficients  $x$

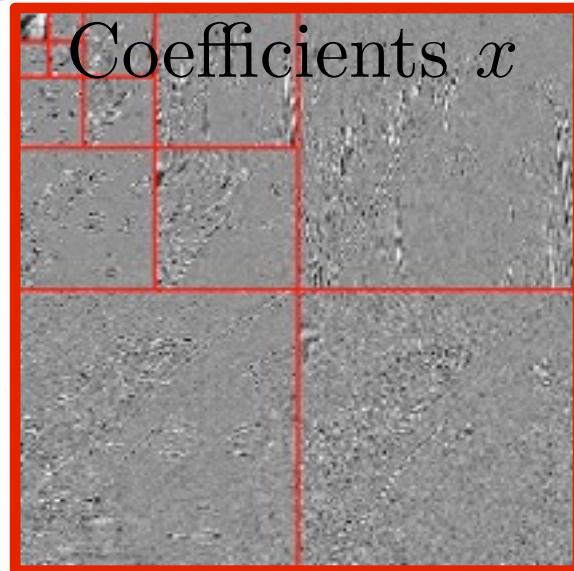
Image  $f = \Psi x$



# Sparse Priors

*Ideal sparsity:* for most  $m$ ,  $x_m = 0$ .

$$J_0(x) = \# \{m \setminus x_m \neq 0\}$$



$\Psi$



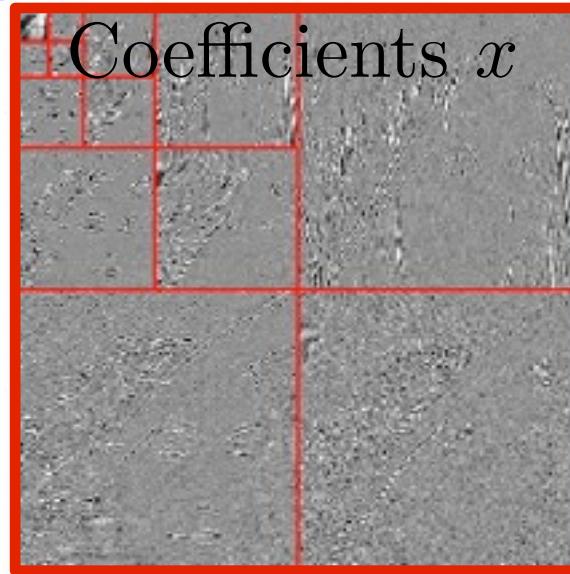
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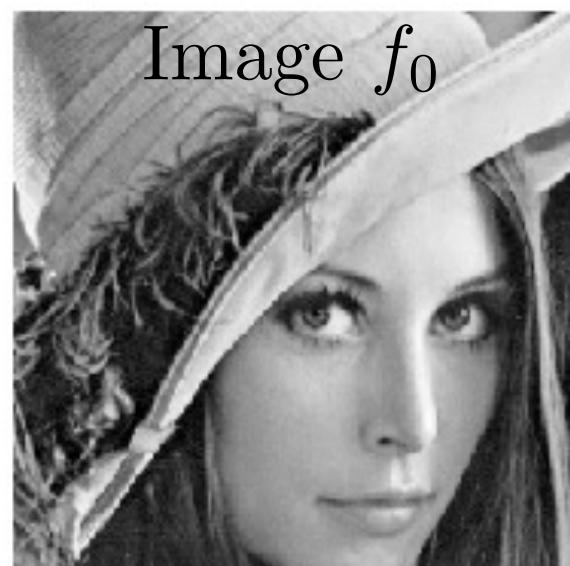
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*Sparse approximation:*  $f = \Psi x$  where

$$\underset{x \in \mathbb{R}^N}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|f_0 - \Psi x\|^2 + T^2 J_0(x)$$



$$\Psi \downarrow$$



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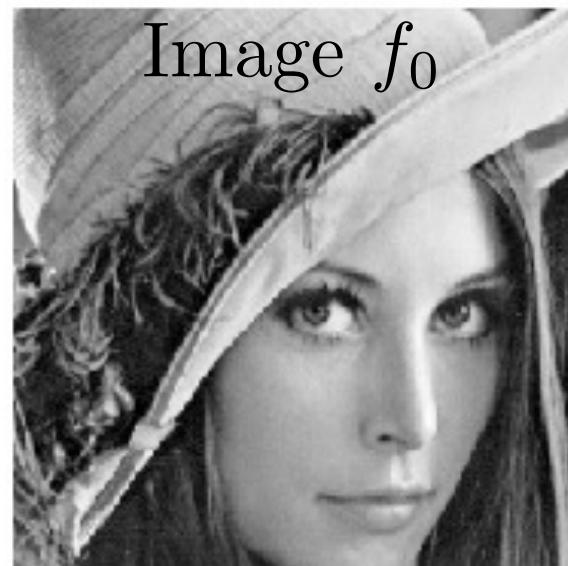
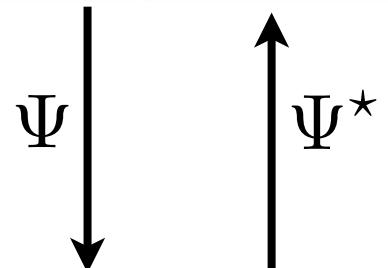
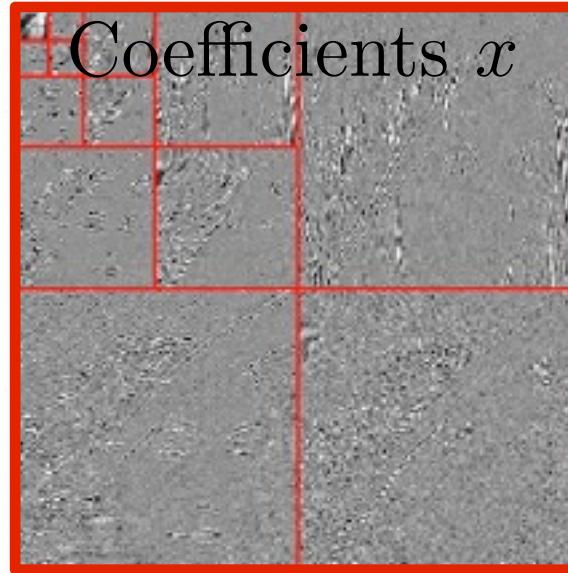
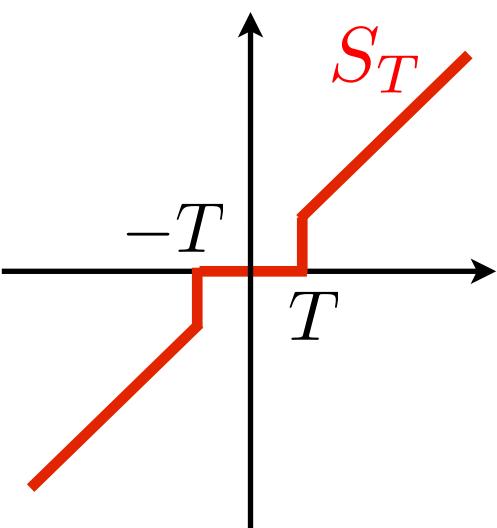
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*Orthogonal  $\Psi$ :*  $\Psi^* \Psi = \Psi \Psi^* = \text{Id}_N$

$$x_m = \begin{cases} \langle f_0, \psi_m \rangle & \text{if } |\langle f_0, \psi_m \rangle| > T, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$f = \Psi \circ S_T \circ \Psi^*(f_0)$$



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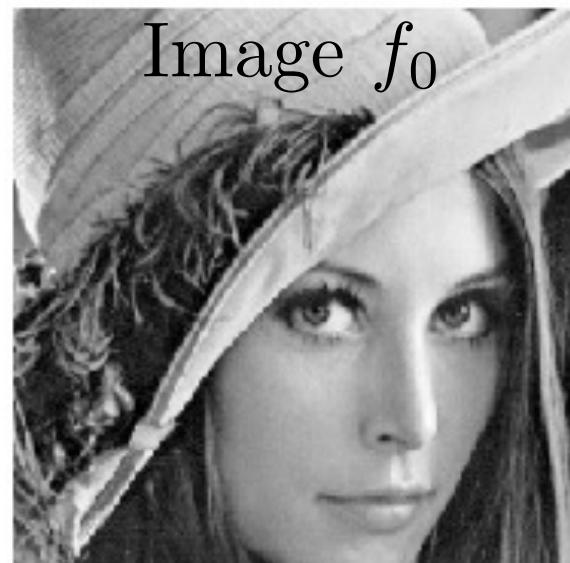
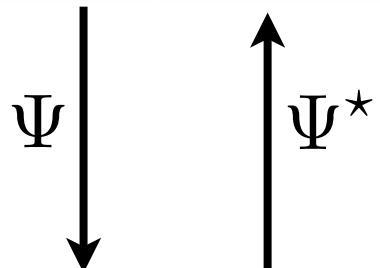
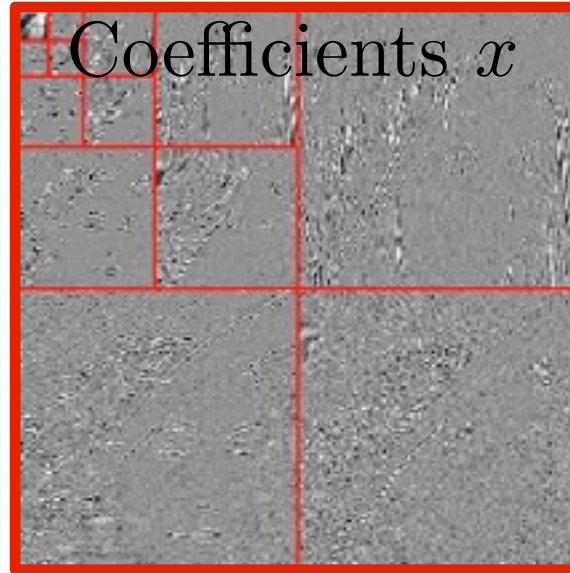
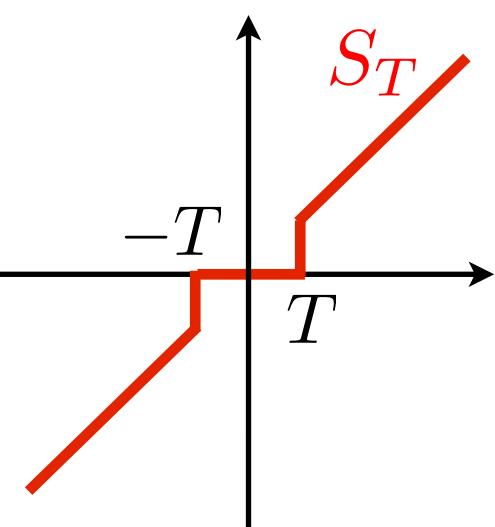
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*Non-orthogonal  $\Psi$ :*

→ NP-hard.

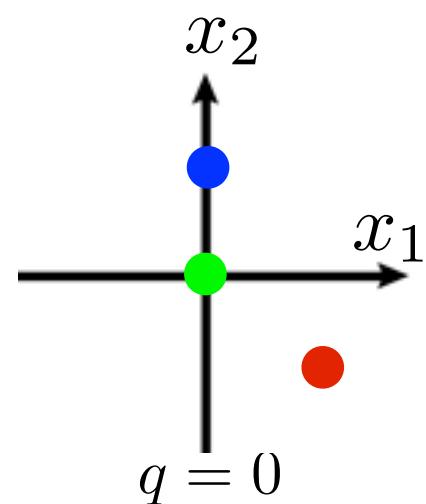


# Convex Relaxation: L1 Prior

“Ideal” sparsity prior:  $J_0(x) = \# \{m \setminus x_m \neq 0\}$

Image with 2 pixels:

- $J_0(x) = 0 \longrightarrow$  null image.
- $J_0(x) = 1 \longrightarrow$  sparse image.
- $J_0(x) = 2 \longrightarrow$  non-sparse image.

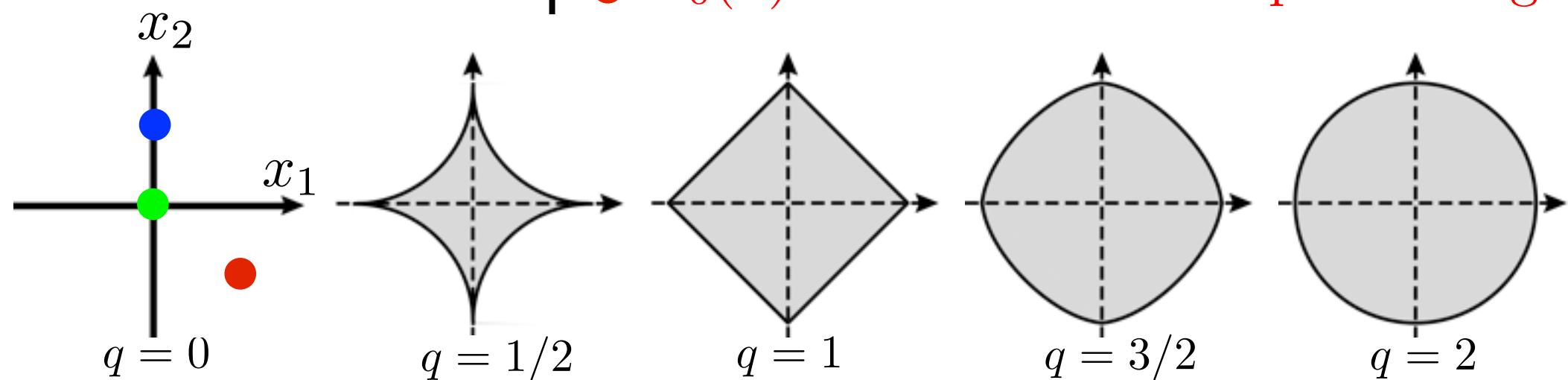


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$\ell^q$  priors:

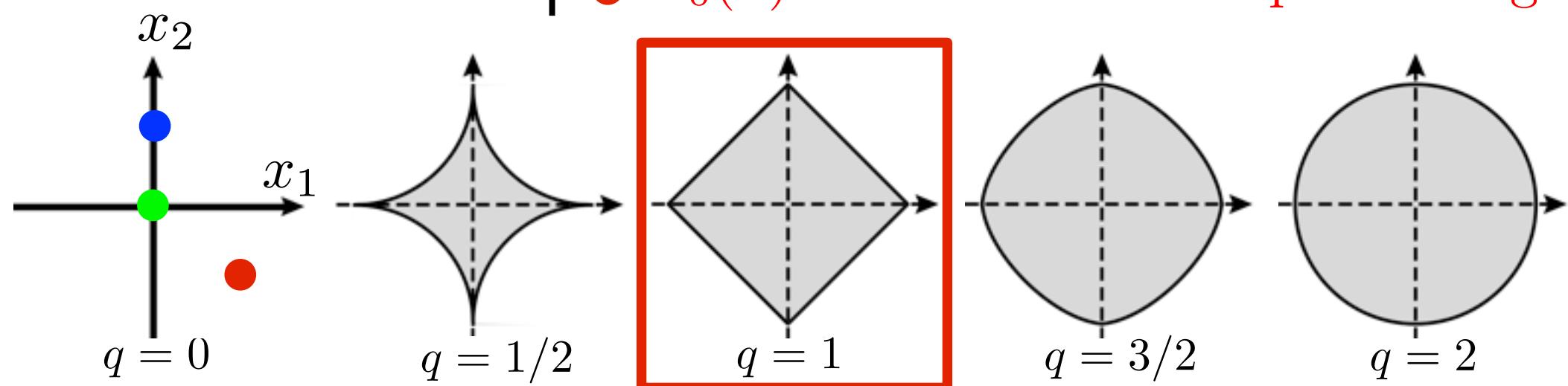
$$J_q(x) = \sum_m |x_m|^q \quad (\text{convex for } q \geq 1)$$

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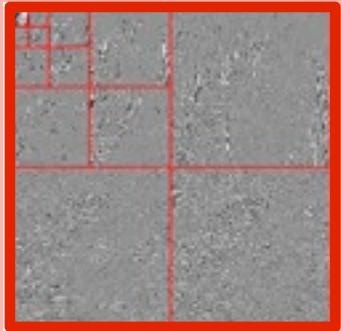
$\ell^1$  norm:  $\ell^q$  norm the “closest” to the  $\ell^0$  ideal sparsity.

Sparse  $\ell^1$  prior: 
$$J_1(x) = \sum_m |x_m|$$

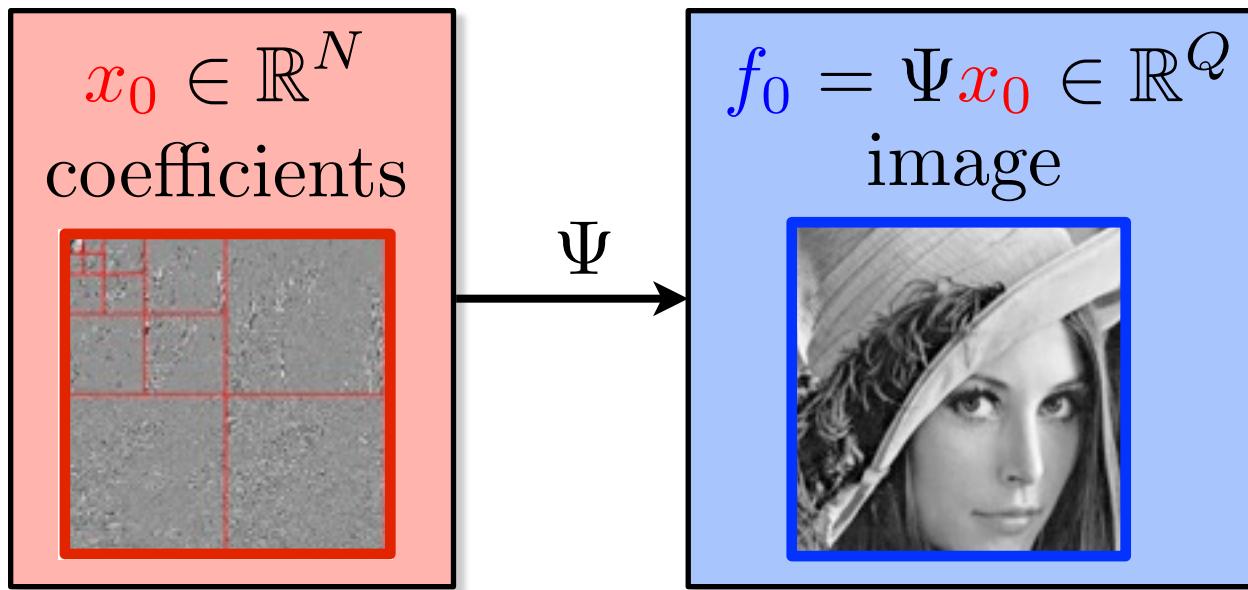
# L1 Regularization

$$x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

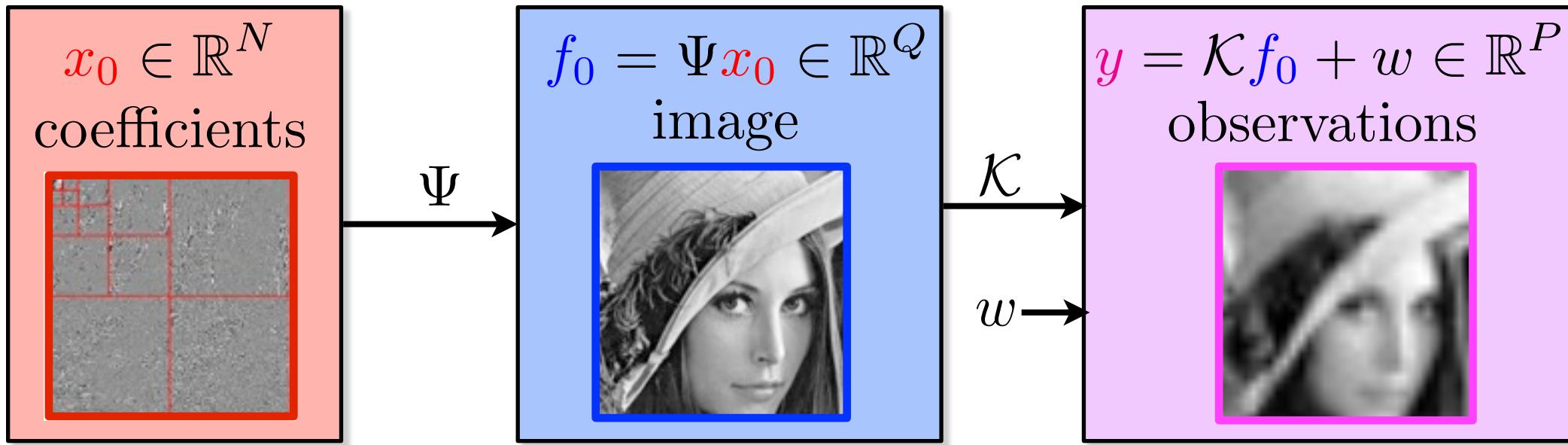
coefficients



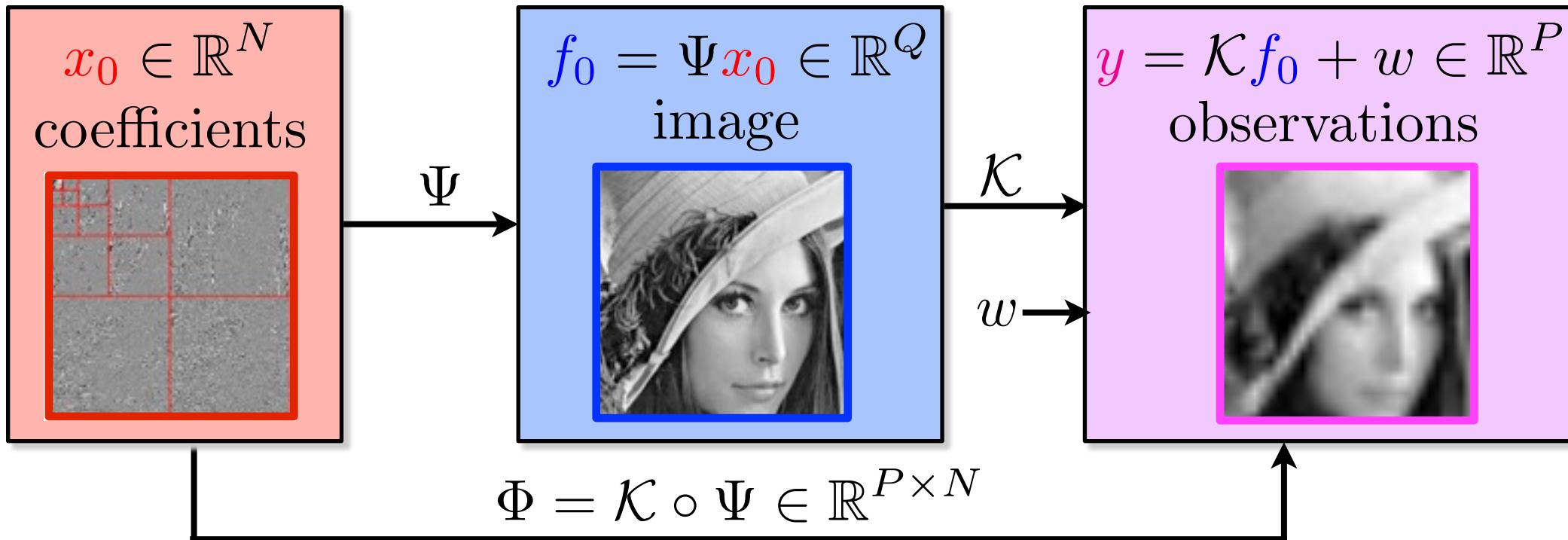
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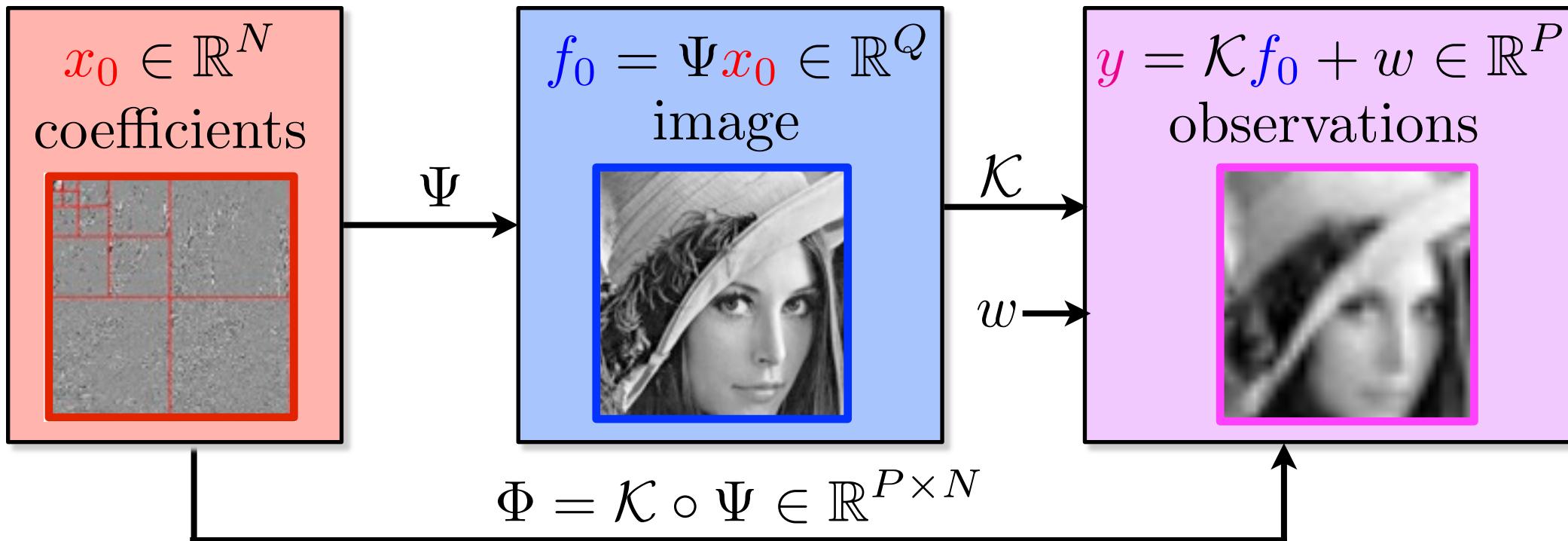
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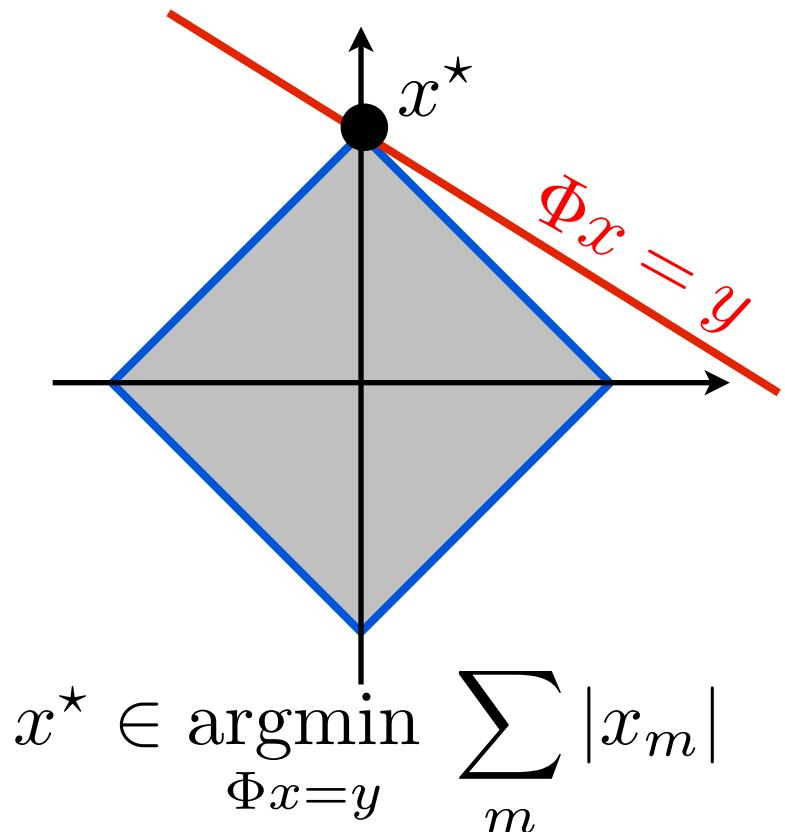
*Sparse recovery:*  $f^\star = \Psi x^\star$  where  $x^\star$  solves

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$$

Fidelity      Regularization

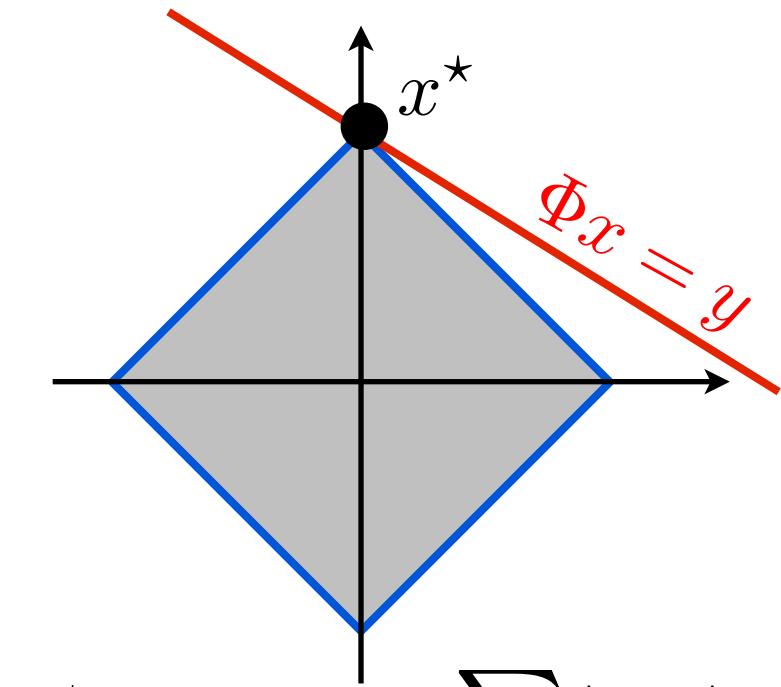
# Noiseless Sparse Regularization

Noiseless measurements:  $y = \Phi x_0$

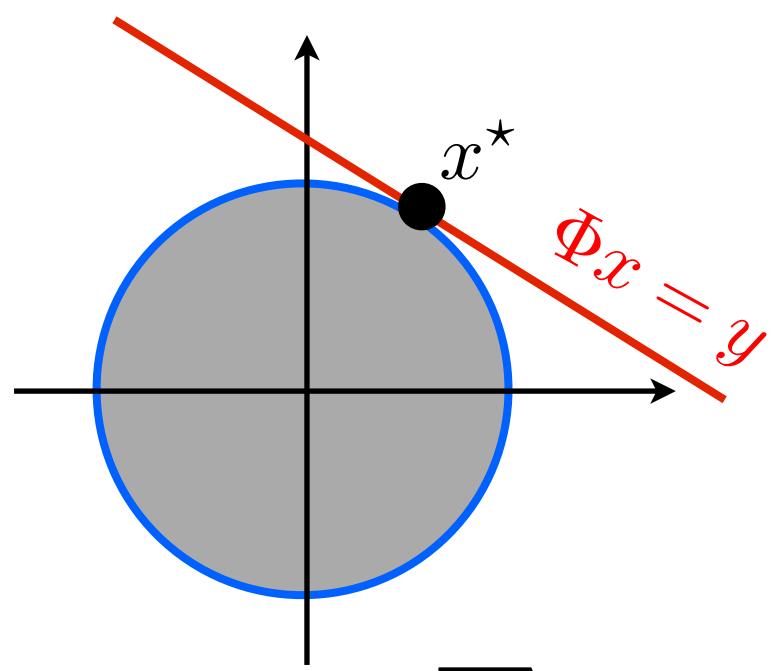


# Noiseless Sparse Regularization

Noiseless measurements:  $y = \Phi x_0$



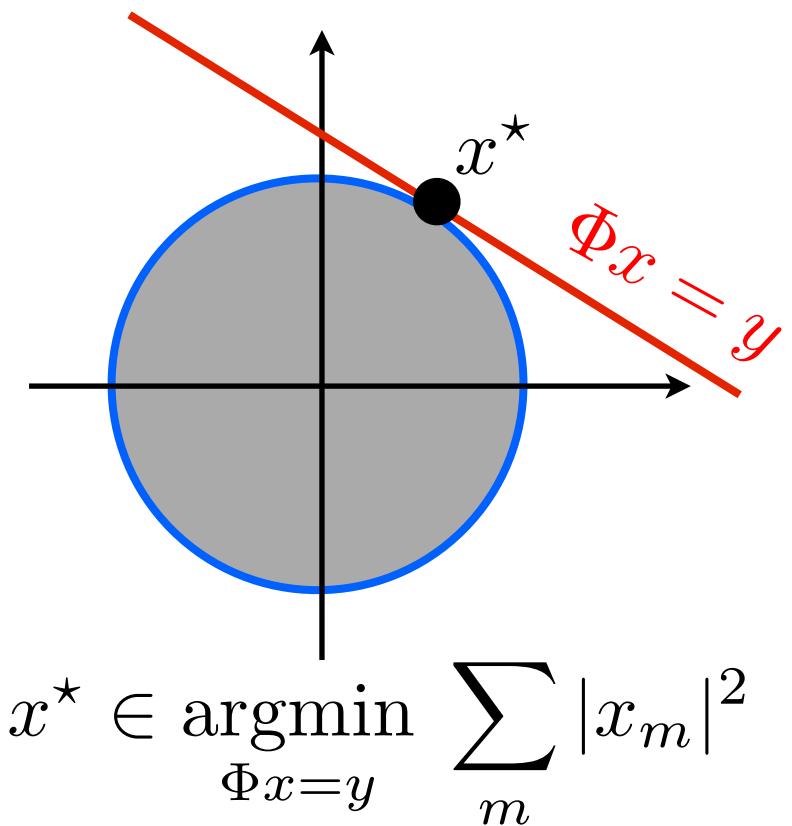
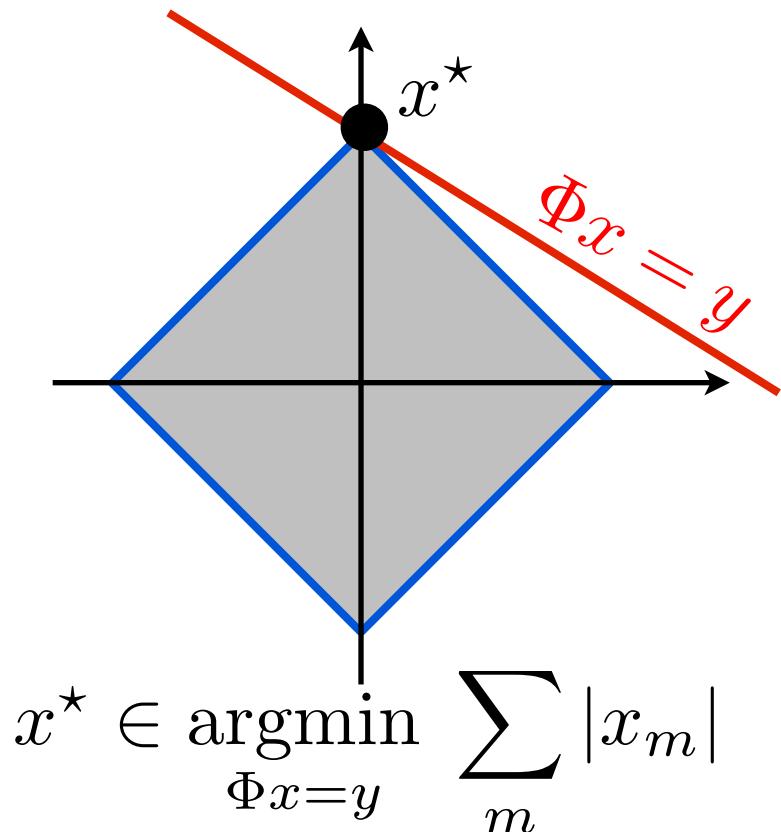
$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\Phi x=y} \sum_m |x_m|$$



$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\Phi x=y} \sum_m |x_m|^2$$

# Noiseless Sparse Regularization

Noiseless measurements:  $y = \Phi x_0$



Convex linear program.

- Interior points, cf. [Chen, Donoho, Saunders] “basis pursuit”.
- Douglas-Rachford splitting, see [Combettes, Pesquet].

# Noisy Sparse Regularization

Noisy measurements:

$$y = \Phi x_0 + w$$

$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^Q} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$$

Data fidelity      Regularization

# Noisy Sparse Regularization

Noisy measurements:

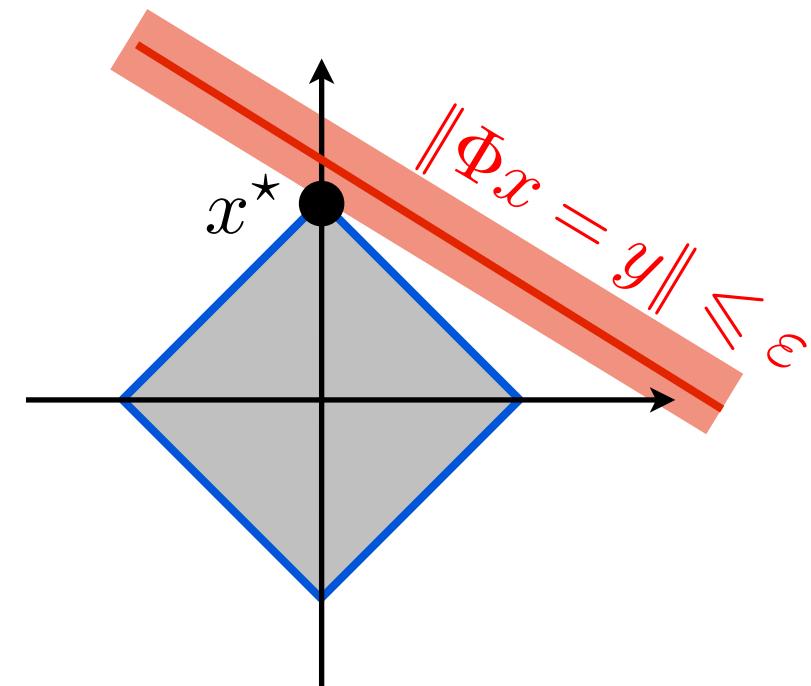
$$y = \Phi x_0 + w$$

$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^Q} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$$

Data fidelity      Regularization

Equivalence  
 $\varepsilon \leftrightarrow \lambda$

$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\|\Phi x - y\| \leq \varepsilon} \|x\|_1$$



# Noisy Sparse Regularization

Noisy measurements:

$$y = \Phi x_0 + w$$

$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^Q} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$$

Data fidelity      Regularization

Equivalence  
 $\varepsilon \leftrightarrow \lambda$

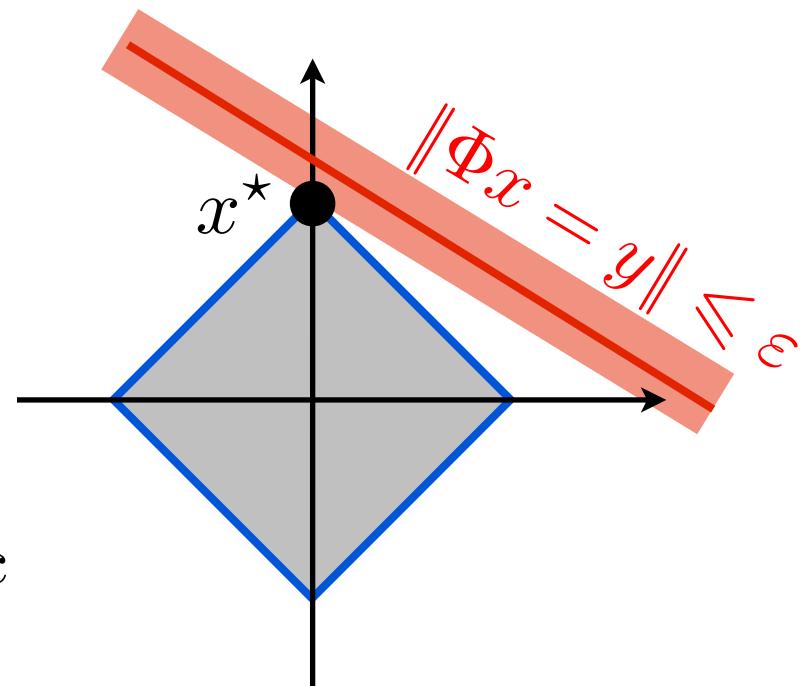
$$x^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\|\Phi x - y\| \leq \varepsilon} \|x\|_1$$

Algorithms:

- Iterative soft thresholding  
↔ Forward-backward splitting

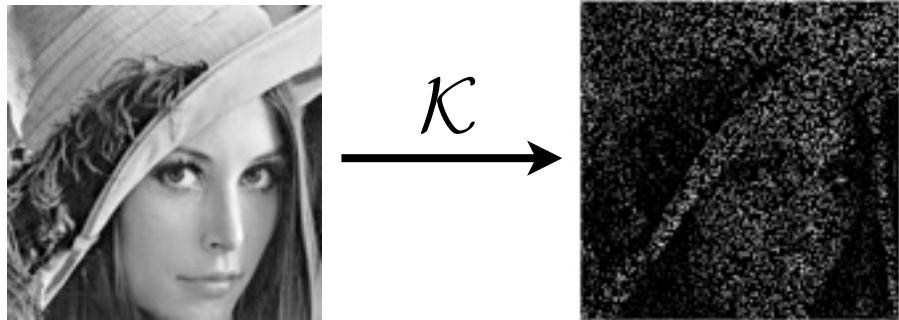
see [Daubechies et al], [Pesquet et al], etc

- Nesterov multi-steps schemes.



# Inpainting Problem

*Inpainting:* set  $\Omega \subset \{0, \dots, N - 1\}$  of missing pixels,  $P = N - |\Omega|$ .



$$(\mathcal{K}f)_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \in \Omega, \\ f_i & \text{if } i \notin \Omega. \end{cases}$$

*Measures:*  $y = \mathcal{K}f_0 + w$

Sobolev, 20.8dB



Wavelets orth, 16.6dB



Wavelets TI, 23.6dB

