

# Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers in Imaging: Overview of a Line of Work

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Joint work with **José Bioucas-Dias**, Manya Afonso, Mariana Almeida, Afonso Teodoro, Marina Ljubenic, ...



1960-2020



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**ADMM, Edinburgh, 2022**

# Outline

- 1 Introduction: ADMM et al. (2007-2011)
- 2 Image Restoration/Reconstruction (2011-2014)
- 3 Plug-and-Play and Class-Adaptation (2015-2020)
- 4 Blind Restoration: Non-Convex Optimization (2013-2019)
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- 6 Final Remarks

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## Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers (ADMM)

- Canonical problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m} \quad & f(\mathbf{x}) + g(\mathbf{z}) \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{Bz} = \mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$

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- Functions  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $g : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  are closed, proper, and convex
- Often used to re-write problems of the form

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) + g(\mathbf{Hx})$$

as

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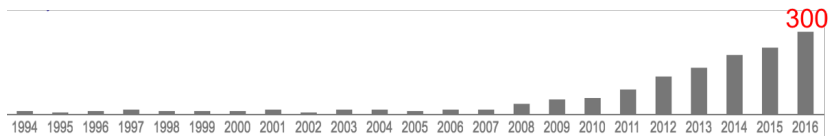
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- *Cornerstone* work in the 1990s by [Eckstein and Bertsekas \[1992\]](#)

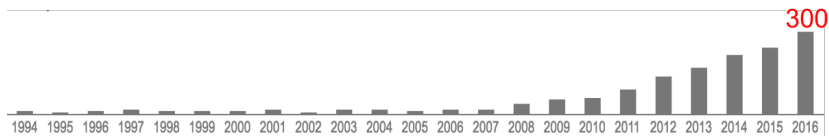
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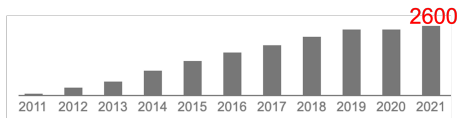


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- Citations to review paper by [Boyd et al. \[2011\]](#):



## Classical Convergence Result

- **Problem:**  $\min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) + g(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{x})$

- **ADMM:**

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|\mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v}^{(k)} - \mathbf{u}^{(k)}\|_2^2$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(k+1)} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}} g(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|\mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} - \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u}^{(k)}\|_2^2,$$

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### Theorem (Eckstein and Bertsekas [1992] (simplified version))

Let  $\mathbf{H}$  have full column rank, and  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $g : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}$  be closed, proper, convex functions; let  $\mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{u}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , and  $\rho > 0$  be given. Then  $(\mathbf{x}^{(k)})_{k=1,2,\dots}$  converges to a solution, if one exists. If no solution exists, then at least one of the sequences  $(\mathbf{v}^{(k)})_{k=1,2,\dots}$  or  $(\mathbf{u}^{(k)})_{k=1,2,\dots}$  diverges.

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- **Proximity operator:**  $\text{prox}_{\phi}(\mathbf{u}) := \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \phi(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2$

Moreau [1965]



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- SALSA, PIDAL, PIDSplit, SDMM

[Figueiredo and Bioucas-Dias, 2010], [Setzer et al., 2010],

[Combettes and Pesquet, 2011]

## A Closer Look

- A closer look at the algorithm

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \mathbf{H}_j^T \mathbf{H}_j \right)^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^J \mathbf{H}_j (\mathbf{z}_k^{(j)} - \mathbf{u}_k^{(j)})$$

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⋮        ⋮

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- Matrix inverse independent of  $\rho_k$  (good, if not kept constant)

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## Image Restoration/Reconstruction

- General formulation:  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Psi(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + \Phi(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x}) + \iota_C(\mathbf{x})$

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- $\Phi \circ \mathbf{P}$  is a **regularizer**; e.g., total variation (TV), or  $\Phi$  is a norm
- $\mathbf{A}$ : linear (observation) operator; e.g., blur, tomographic projections, partial Fourier observations (MRI),...

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e.g., if  $C = \mathbb{R}_+^n$ , then  $(\text{proj}_C(\mathbf{u}))_i = \max\{0, u_i\}$

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- Total variation can be written as  $\Phi \circ \mathbf{P}$ , where

$$\mathbf{P} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^2)^n, \text{ with } (\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x})_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_i - x_{h(i)} \\ x_i - x_{v(i)} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \Phi(\mathbf{v}) = \sum_i \|\mathbf{v}_i\|_2$$

with  $h(i)$  and  $v(i)$  the horizontal and vertical neighbours of pixel  $i$

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- Via the **Sherman-Morrison-Woodbury formula**

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- Classical example:  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x})$  s.t.  $\xi \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2 \leq 1$

Thus,  $D(\mathbf{y})$  is a unit Euclidean ball around  $\mathbf{y}$ ; projection is trivial.

## Image Restoration: Constrained (Morozov) Formulations

- General formulation:  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Psi(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + \Phi(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x})$

- **Constrained** (or Morozov) formulation:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} \in \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x}) \text{ subject to } \Lambda(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \leq 1$$

- Can be written in the general formulation, with

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- Cost is at most  $O(n \log n)$

# Non-periodic Deconvolution

Periodic BC



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Periodic BC



Neumann BC

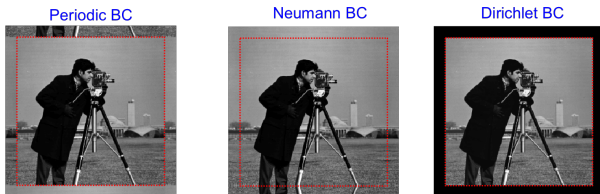


Dirichlet BC

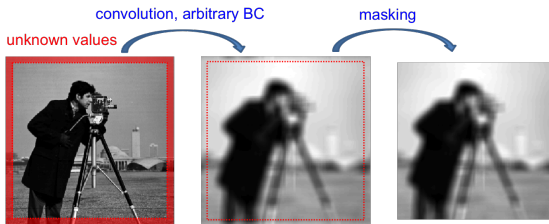


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# Non-periodic Deconvolution



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- ...as are other standard BC: Neumann, Dirichlet.
- A more natural choice: unknown boundaries [Reeves, 2005], [Chan et al., 2005], [Almeida and Figueiredo, 2013a], [Ramani and Fessler, 2013]



## Non-periodic Deconvolution (2)

- Gaussian noise model:  $\Psi(\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left\| \overbrace{\mathbf{M}}^{\text{mask}} \underbrace{\mathbf{U}^H \mathbf{F} \mathbf{U}}_{\text{period. conv.}} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \right\|_2^2$

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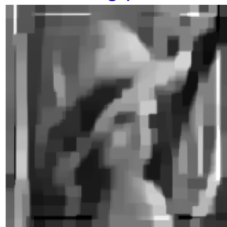
- Similar formulations:
  - ✓ deconvolution + inpainting ( $\mathbf{M}$  masks the boundary and missing pixels)
  - ✓ super-resolution (filtering + downsampling mask)

## Deconvolution with Unknown Boundaries: Example

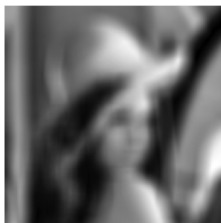


original ( $256 \times 256$ )

Assuming periodic BC



FA-BC (ISNR =  $-2.52\text{dB}$ )



observed ( $238 \times 238$ )

Edge tapering



FA-ET (ISNR =  $3.06\text{dB}$ )

Unknown BC by ADMM

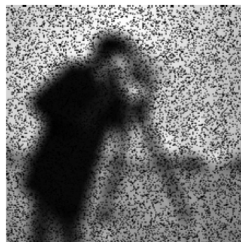


FA-MD (ISNR =  $10.63\text{dB}$ )

## Deconvolution + Inpainting with Unknown BC: Example



original ( $256 \times 256$ )



observed ( $238 \times 238$ )



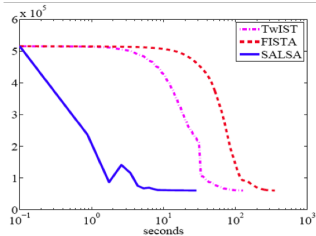
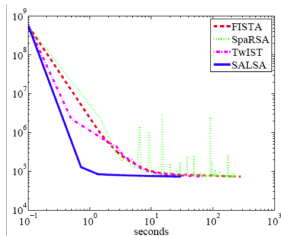
FA-CG (SNR = 20.58dB)



FA-MD (SNR = 20.57dB)

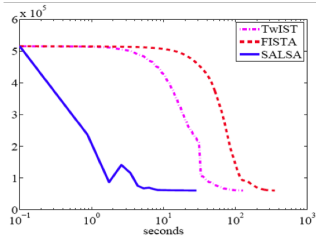
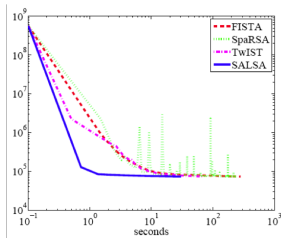
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- Benchmark deblurring problem ( $9 \times 9$  blur, 40dB SNR, Haar frame,  $\ell_1$ ) and inpainting problem (50% missing data) [Afonso et al., 2011]

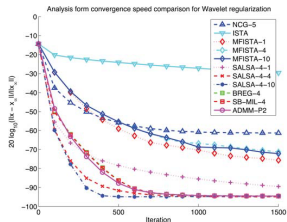
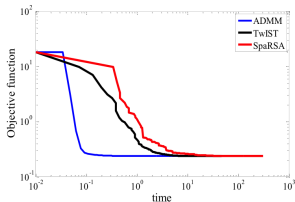


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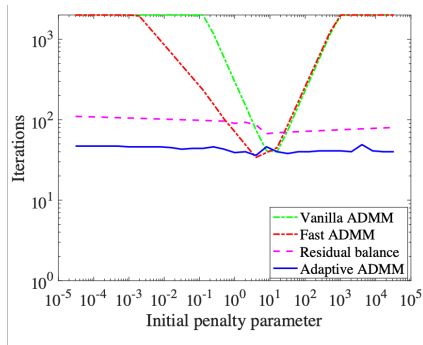


- Deconvolution with unknown BC [Almeida and Figueiredo, 2013a], [Ramani and Fessler, 2013]



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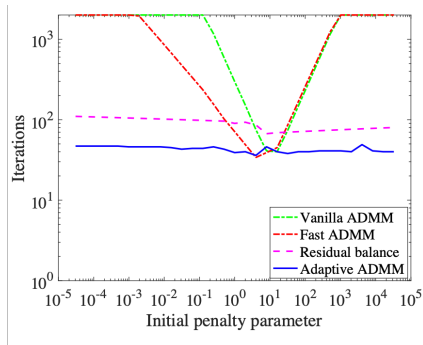
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- Extension to over-relaxed and distributed ADMM [Xu et al., 2017a,b]

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  - ✓ Blind deconvolution (later)
- Convergence guaranteed by classical results [[Eckstein and Bertsekas, 1992](#)]  
...functions are closed, proper, convex; matrices have full column rank (except blind deconvolution)

# Outline

- 1 Introduction: ADMM et al. (2007-2011)
- 2 Image Restoration/Reconstruction (2011-2014)
- 3 Plug-and-Play and Class-Adaptation (2015-2020)**
- 4 Blind Restoration: Non-Convex Optimization (2013-2019)
- 5 Hyperspectral Imaging (2017-2020)
- 6 Final Remarks

## Denoising Step in ADMM

- Restoration (w/ Gauss noise):  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \Phi(\mathbf{x})$

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- Can we use one of these denoisers instead of a proximity operator?

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- If **denoiser** =  $\text{prox}_\phi$ , for convex  $\phi$ , convergence is well-known [Eckstein and Bertsekas, 1992, Boyd et al., 2011, ..., ...].

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- If **denoiser** =  $\text{prox}_\phi$ , for convex  $\phi$ , convergence is well-known [Eckstein and Bertsekas, 1992, Boyd et al., 2011, ..., ...].
- ...what about convergence of PnP-ADMM? [Sreehari et al., 2016, Teodoro et al., 2017b, 2019, Chan et al., 2017, Xu et al., 2020, ..., ...]

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where  $\beta_j(\mathbf{y}) \propto \alpha_j \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \mathbf{C}_j + \sigma^2\mathbf{I})$ , with  $\sum_{j=1}^K \beta_j(\mathbf{y}) = 1$

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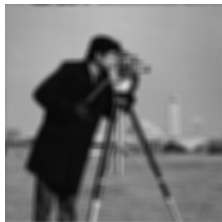
# Plug-and-Play ADMM: Deblurring of Generic Images

- Generic GMM prior

Image: Experiment:	Cameraman						House					
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
IDD-BM3D [Danielyan et al., 2012]	<b>8.85</b>	<b>7.12</b>	<b>10.45</b>	<b>3.98</b>	<b>4.31</b>	<b>4.89</b>	<b>9.95</b>	<b>8.55</b>	<b>12.89</b>	<b>5.79</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>7.13</b>
ADMM-GMM [Teodoro et al., 2016]	8.39	6.36	9.80	3.47	4.16	4.88	9.66	8.22	12.43	5.50	5.42	6.82



(a) Original



(b) Blurred



(c) IDD-BM3D



(d) ADMM-GMM

- For generic natural images: competitive, but does not beat state-of-the-art

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- Learn a GMM for a class of images, plug the corresponding denoiser into ADMM [[Teodoro et al., 2017b](#)]

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means algorit	means algorit	means algorit	means algorit
erimental rest	erimental rest	erimental rest	erimental rest



Image class:	Text						Face					
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
Experiment:												
BSNR	26.07	20.05	40.00	15.95	24.78	18.11	28.28	22.26	40.00	15.89	26.22	15.37
Input PSNR	14.14	14.13	12.13	16.83	14.48	28.73	25.61	22.54	20.71	26.49	24.79	30.03
IDD-BM3D	11.97	8.91	16.29	5.88	6.81	4.87	13.66	11.16	14.96	7.31	10.33	6.18
ADMM-GMM	<b>16.24</b>	<b>11.55</b>	<b>23.11</b>	<b>8.88</b>	<b>10.77</b>	<b>8.34</b>	<b>15.05</b>	<b>12.59</b>	<b>17.28</b>	<b>8.84</b>	<b>11.69</b>	<b>7.32</b>

## Convergence

- PnP-ADMM with a patch-based GMM-MMSE denoiser

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \rho \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \rho(\mathbf{z}_k + \mathbf{u}_k))$$

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 $\exists \phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : p(\mathbf{x}) \in \partial\phi(\mathbf{x}), \forall \mathbf{x}$
- Does the patch-based GMM-MMSE denoiser satisfy these conditions?

## Convergence (2)

- Is the patch-based GMM-MMSE denoiser non-expansive?

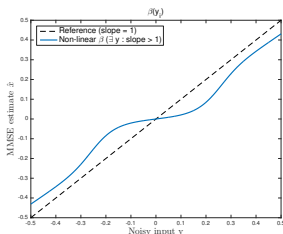
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  - ✓ MMSE estimate under Gaussian noise of unit variance:

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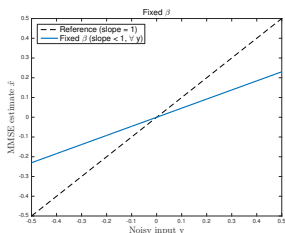
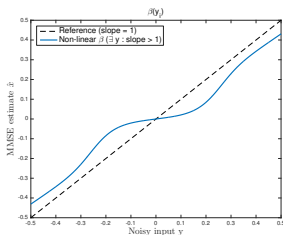


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- With  $\beta_i$  fixed:  $\hat{x} = y(\beta_1 \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1+1} + \beta_2 \frac{\tau_2}{\tau_2+1}) / (\beta_1 + \beta_2)$



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- Key properties of  $\mathbf{W}$  [Teodoro et al., 2019]: for any  $\sigma^2 > 0$ ,

$$\mathbf{W}(\sigma^2) = \mathbf{W}(\sigma^2)^T, \quad \mathbf{W}(\sigma^2) \succeq 0, \quad \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{W}(\sigma^2)) < 1$$

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$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \iota_{S(\mathbf{W})}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^T\bar{\mathbf{Q}}(\bar{\Lambda}^{-1} - \mathbf{I})\bar{\mathbf{Q}}^T\mathbf{x}$$

where  $S(\mathbf{W})$  is the column span of  $\mathbf{W}$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  has the positive eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{W}$ , and  $\bar{\mathbf{Q}}$  the corresponding eigenvectors.

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$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \iota_{S(\mathbf{W})}(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^T\bar{\mathbf{Q}}(\bar{\Lambda}^{-1} - \mathbf{I})\bar{\mathbf{Q}}^T\mathbf{x}$$

where  $S(\mathbf{W})$  is the column span of  $\mathbf{W}$ ,  $\bar{\Lambda}$  has the positive eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{W}$ , and  $\bar{\mathbf{Q}}$  the corresponding eigenvectors.

- Conclusion: the problem has a solution and PnP-ADMM converges

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## Blind Deblurring

- Blind image deblurring/deconvolution

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{h} * \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$$

where both  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{h}$  are unknown

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- Joint criterion (under Gaussian noise) [Almeida and Figueiredo, 2013b]

$$(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \hat{\mathbf{h}}) \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{h} * \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \Phi(\mathbf{x}) + \Psi(\mathbf{h})}_{O(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h})}$$

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- Even if  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  are convex, this is a **non-convex** problem



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- Image regularizer: class-adapted plug-and-play priors
- Filter regularizer: positivity and support, or sparsity

- Plug-and-play image priors:

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  - ✓ Sparsity (adequate for motion blur)

## Results: GMM-based prior for text images

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procedure  
determine the  
means algorit  
rimental res

original

blurred

procedure  
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[Pan et al., 2014]

BM3D: 9.97 dB    GMM: 11.16 dB

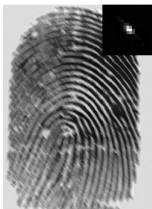
## Experiments



original



blurred



[Almeida and Figueiredo, 2013b]

0.36 dB

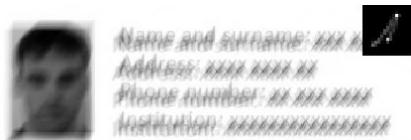


BM3D: 0.66 dB

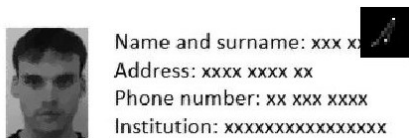


GMM: 1.19 dB

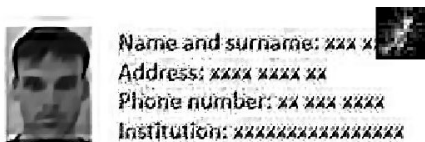
# Experiments



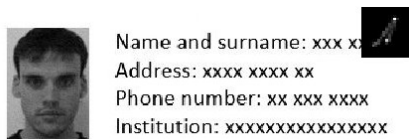
(a) Blurred image



(b) [Almeida and Figueiredo, 2013b]

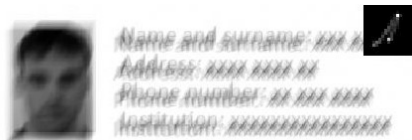


(c) [Pan et al., 2014]

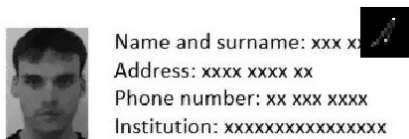


(d) Proposed

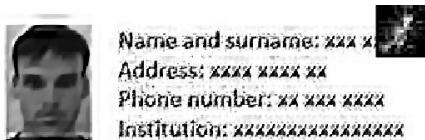
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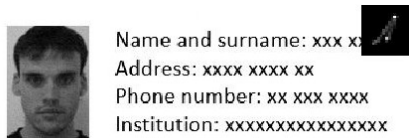
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(b) [Almeida and Figueiredo, 2013b]



(c) [Pan et al., 2014]



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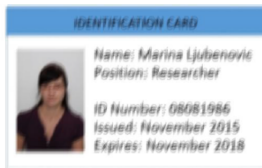
- Uses a concatenation of two dictionaries: face and text



# Experiments



original



blurred



[Krishnan et al, 2011]



[Xu and Jia, 2011]

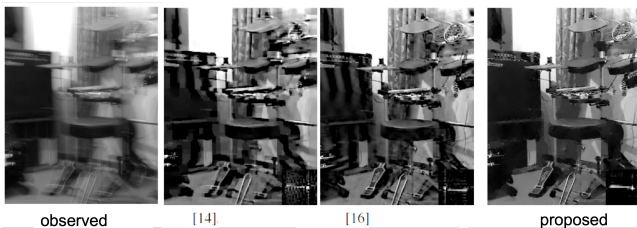


[Pan et al, 2014]



proposed

## Blind Deconvolution: Real Examples



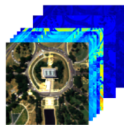
Results from [Almeida and Figueiredo, 2013b]

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## An Extreme Case of Adaptation: Hyperspectral Fusion

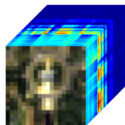
- Spectral-spatial resolution trade-off:



Multi-spectral:

high spatial resolution

low spectral resolution



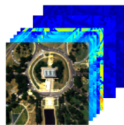
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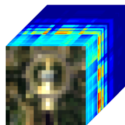
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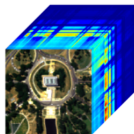
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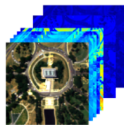
- Fuse MS and HS data:

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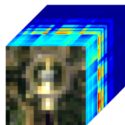
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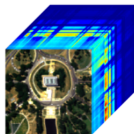
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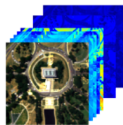


- Extreme case: pansharpening (panchromatic rather than MS image).



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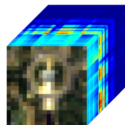
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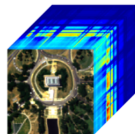
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## Hyperspectral Fusion: Formulation

- Observation model [Simões et al., 2015]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Y}_h &= \overbrace{\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X}}^{\mathbf{Z}}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{N}_h && \text{hyperspectral data} \in \mathbb{R}^{L_h \times n_h} \\ \mathbf{Y}_m &= \mathbf{R}\underbrace{\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X}}_{\mathbf{Z}} + \mathbf{N}_m && \text{multispectral data} \in \mathbb{R}^{L_m \times n_m} \end{aligned}$$

$L_h > L_m$  and  $n_h < n_m$



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## Hyperspectral Fusion via PnP-ADMM

- Assuming Gaussian noise:

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  - ✓ The one involving **BM**: solved by FFT, decoupled across bands
  - ✓ The prox of  $\phi$  is replaced by an **adapted** GMM-based denoiser

## Hyperspectral Fusion via PnP-ADMM

- Assuming Gaussian noise:

$$\hat{\mathbf{X}} \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_h}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{M} - \mathbf{Y}_h\|_F^2 + \frac{\lambda_m}{2} \|\mathbf{R}\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}_m\|_F^2 + \phi(\mathbf{X})$$

- ...which fits nicely the SALSA template ( $J = 3$ ):  $\min_{\mathbf{x}} \sum_{j=1}^J g_j(\mathbf{H}_j \mathbf{x})$
- Matrix inversion computable via FFT (with periodic or unknown BC)
- Proximity operators:
  - ✓ The one involving **RE**: a single  $p \times p$  inversion; decoupled across pixels
  - ✓ The one involving **BM**: solved by FFT, decoupled across bands
  - ✓ The prox of  $\phi$  is replaced by an **adapted** GMM-based denoiser
- The GMM is learned from patches of  $\mathbf{Y}_m$  (high spatial resolution)  
[Teodoro et al., 2019]

## Hyperspectral Fusion: Synthetic Example

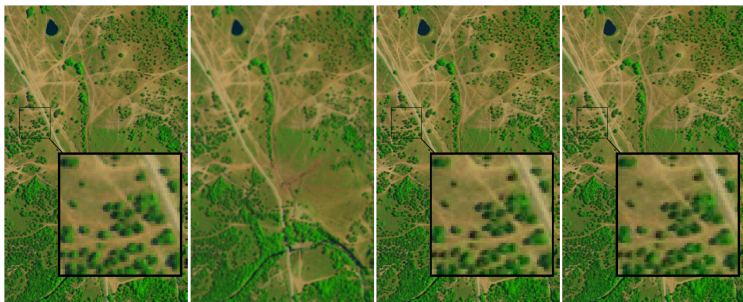
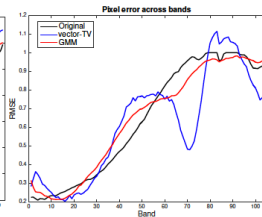
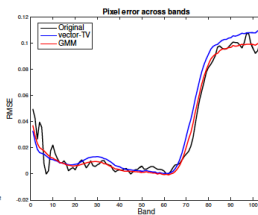
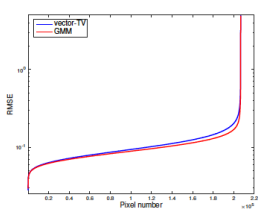
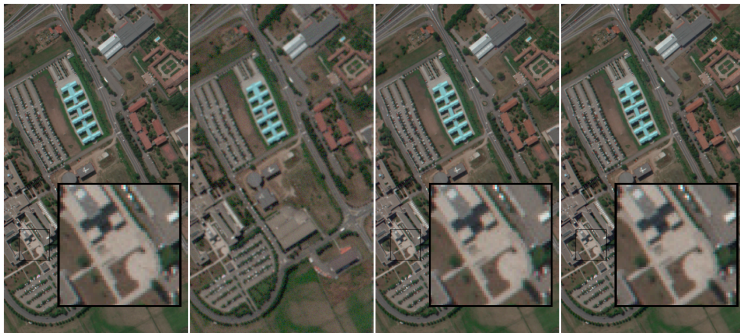


Table 3: HS and MS fusion on RTerrain dataset.

	Exp. 1 (PAN)			Exp. 2 (PAN)			Exp. 3 (R,G,B,N-IR)			Exp. 4 (R,G,B,N-IR)		
SNR ( $Y_m$ )	50dB			30dB			50dB			30dB		
SNR ( $Y_h$ )	50dB			20dB			50dB			20dB		
Metric	ERGAS	SAM	SRE	ERGAS	SAM	SRE	ERGAS	SAM	SRE	ERGAS	SAM	SRE
HySure	2.62	5.34	21.46	2.77	5.35	20.86	1.08	2.68	28.71	1.53	3.42	26.07
<b>Proposed</b>	2.58	<b>5.15</b>	<b>21.69</b>	<b>2.75</b>	<b>5.33</b>	<b>21.12</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>2.20</b>	<b>30.86</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>2.85</b>	<b>27.85</b>
ADMM-BM3D	<b>2.57</b>	5.17	21.65	2.76	5.36	21.08	0.93	2.22	30.80	1.31	2.91	27.72

[Teodoro et al., 2017a]

# Hyperspectral Fusion: Synthetic Example



# Outline

- 1 Introduction: ADMM et al. (2007-2011)
- 2 Image Restoration/Reconstruction (2011-2014)
- 3 Plug-and-Play and Class-Adaptation (2015-2020)
- 4 Blind Restoration: Non-Convex Optimization (2013-2019)
- 5 Hyperspectral Imaging (2017-2020)
- 6 Final Remarks**

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- Its speed hinges on the inversion of  $(\mathbf{B}^T\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{I})$  (à la quasi-Newton)
- Plug-and-play (PnP) denoisers “can” be used with ADMM
- Convergence properties of PnP-ADMM with fixed linear denoiser
- Extension to blind deblurring (non-convex)
- Ideally suited for hyperspectral imaging

Thank you.

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..., ...

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