

# Sparsity and Structure in Imaging

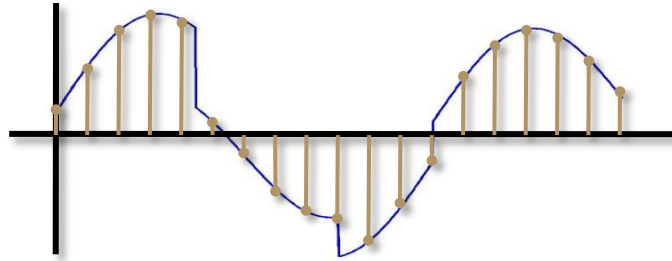
*Mark A. Davenport*

Georgia Institute of Technology

School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

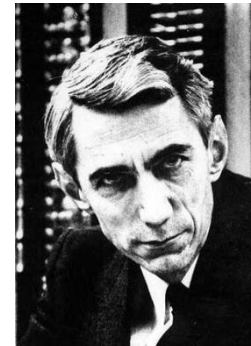


# Digital Revolution



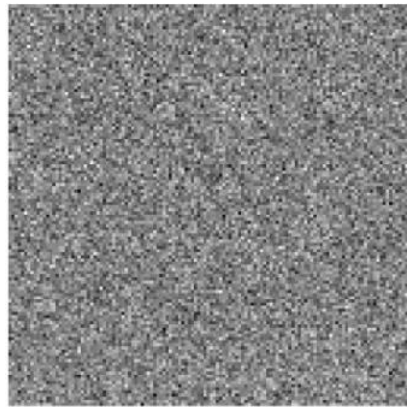
“If we sample a signal at twice its highest frequency, then we can recover it exactly.”

Whittaker-Nyquist-Kotelnikov-Shannon



# Dimensionality Reduction

Data with high-frequency content is often not intrinsically high-dimensional



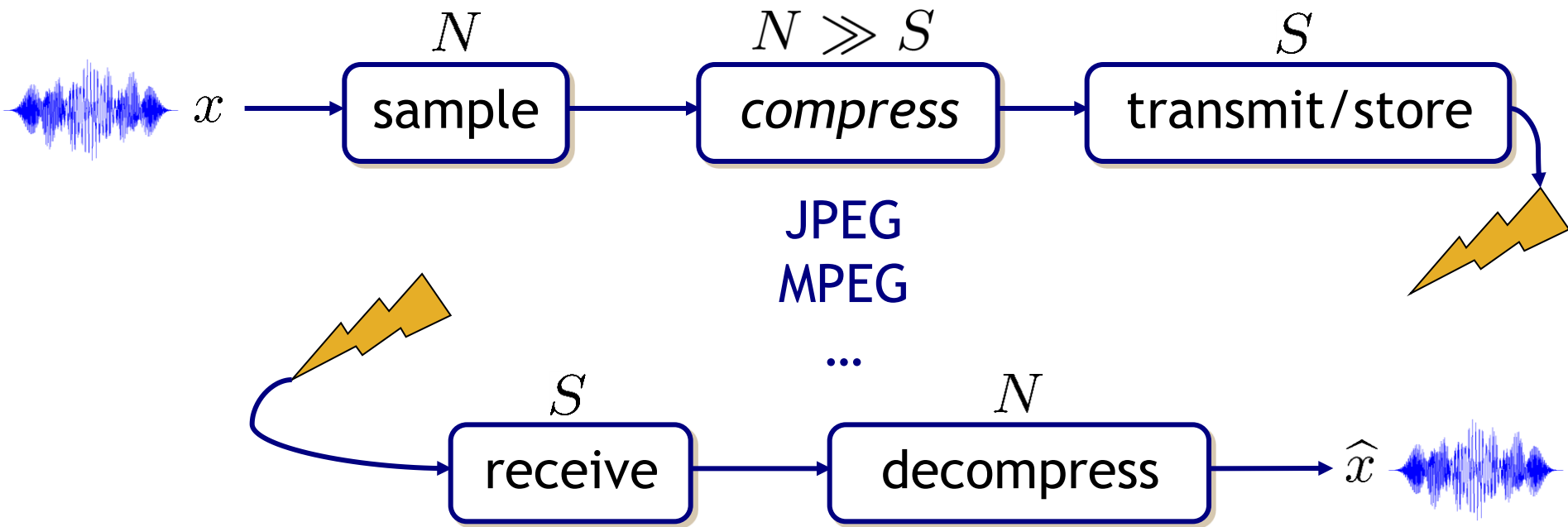
Signals often obey *low-dimensional models*

- sparsity
- manifolds
- low-rank matrices

The “intrinsic dimension”  $S$  can be much less than the “ambient dimension”  $N$

# Sample-Then-Compress Paradigm

- Standard paradigm for digital data acquisition
  - *sample* data (ADC, digital camera, ...)
  - *compress* data (signal-dependent, nonlinear)

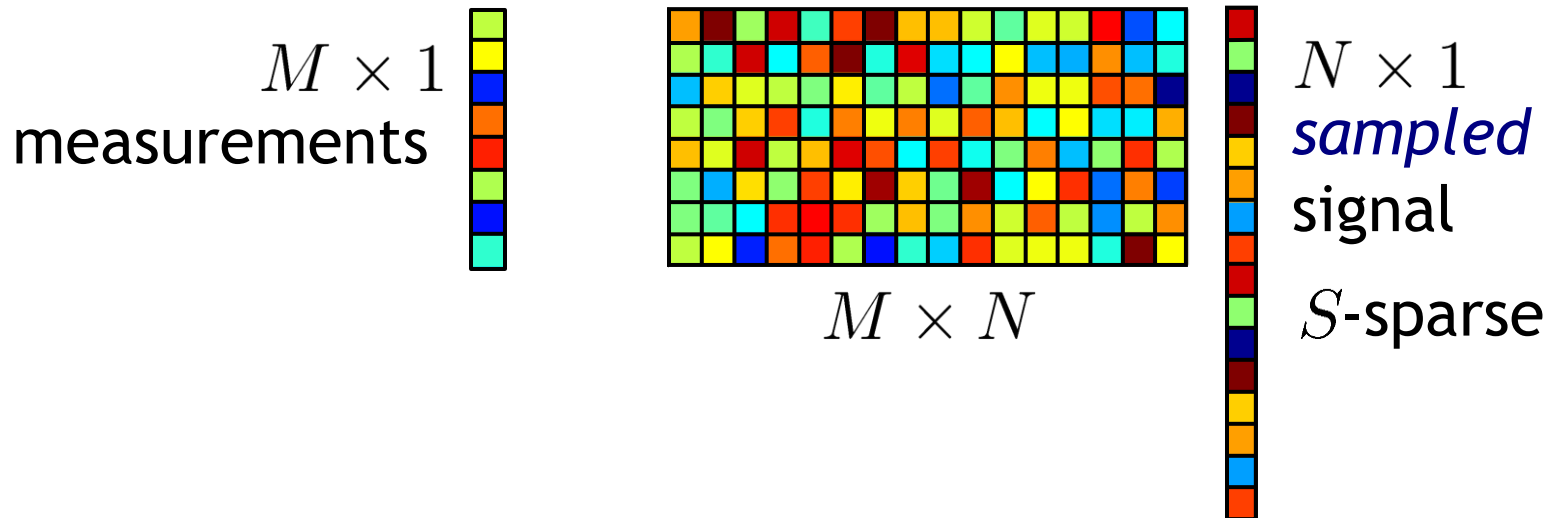


- Sample-and-compress paradigm is *wasteful*
  - samples cost \$\$\$ and/or time

# Compressive Sensing

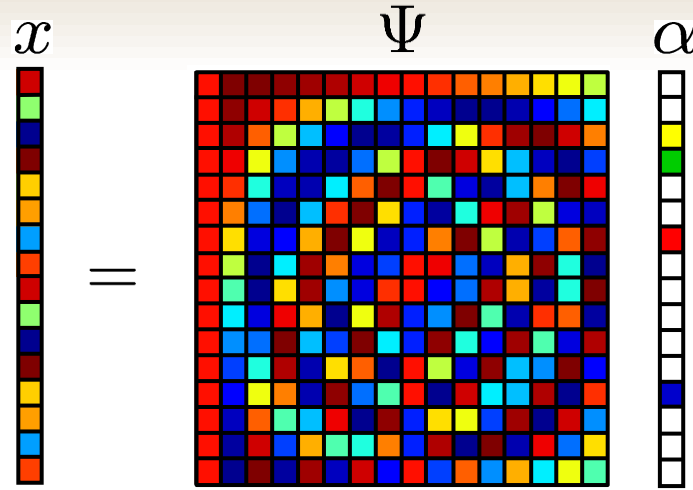
Replace samples with general *linear measurements*

$$y = \Phi x$$



# Sparsity

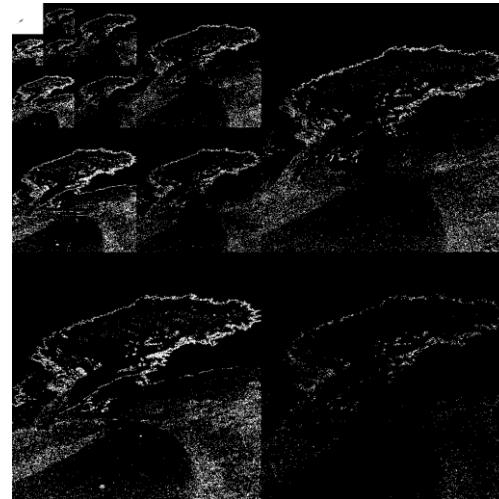
$$x = \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j \psi_j$$
$$= \Psi \alpha$$



$S$  nonzero entries

$$\|\alpha\|_0 = S$$

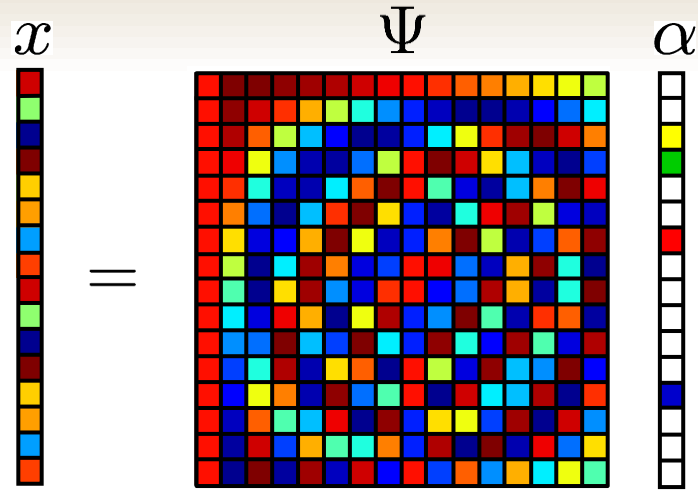
$N$   
pixels



$S \ll N$   
large  
wavelet  
coefficients

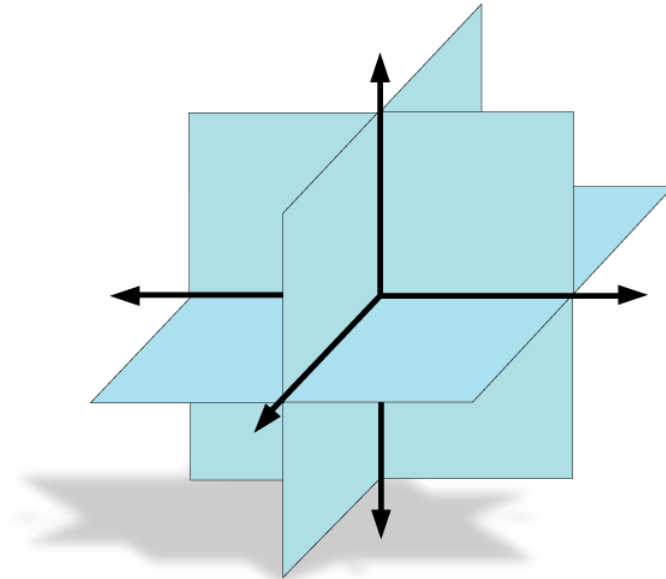
# Sparsity

$$x = \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j \psi_j$$
$$= \Psi \alpha$$



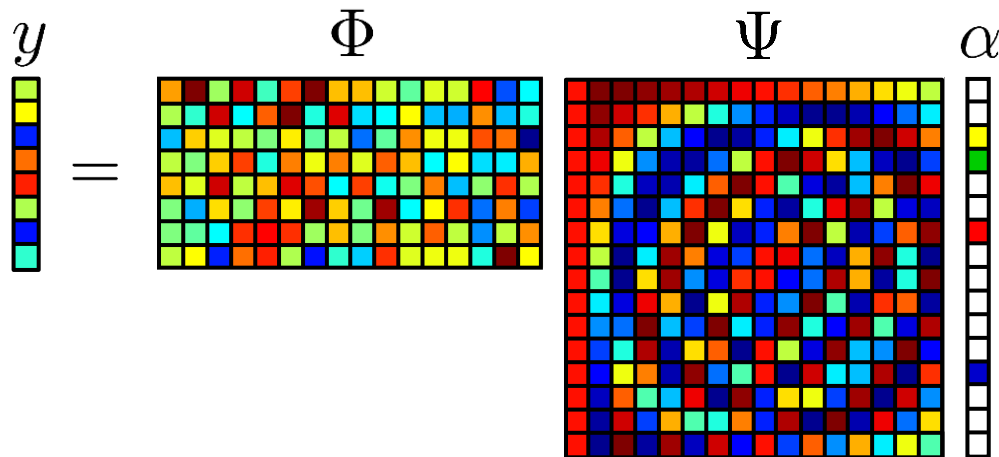
$S$  nonzero  
entries

$$\|\alpha\|_0 = S$$



# Core Theoretical Challenges

- How should we design the matrix  $\Phi$  so that  $M$  is as small as possible?

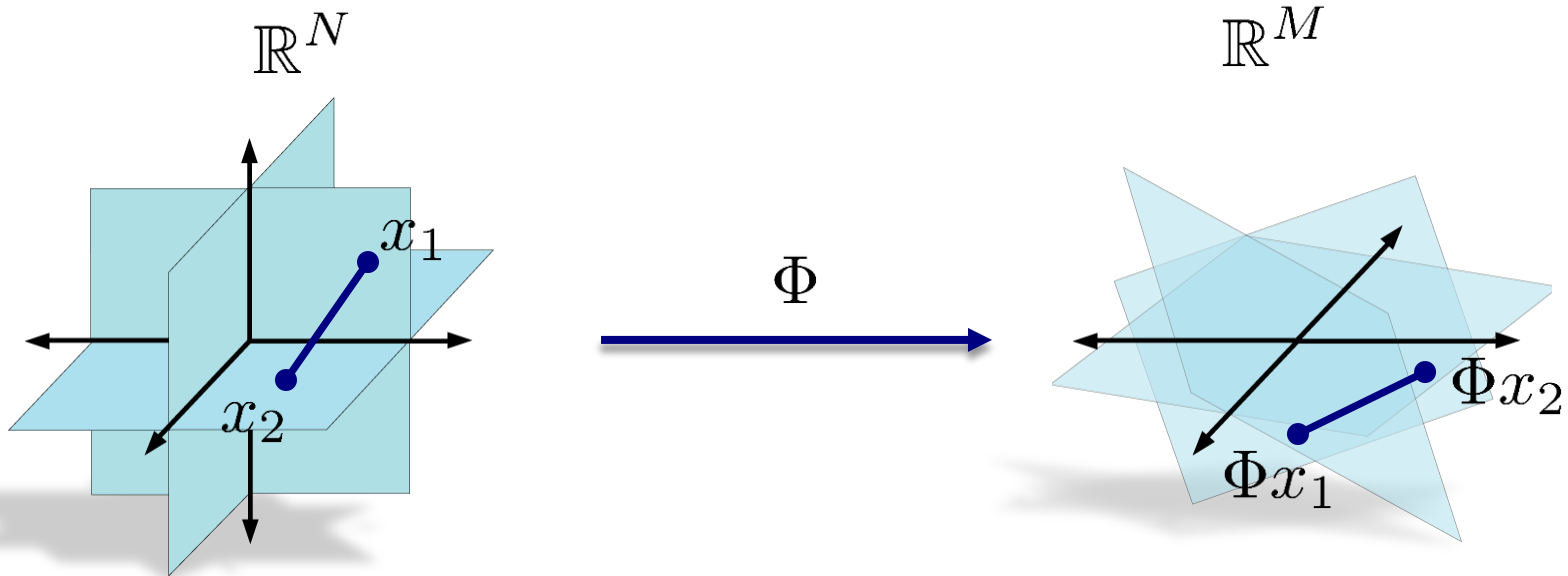


- How can we recover  $x$  from the measurements  $y$ ?



# Restricted Isometry Property (RIP)

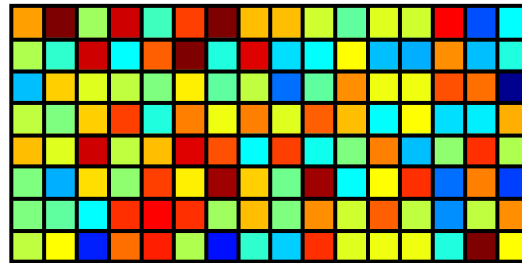
$$1 - \delta \leq \frac{\|\Phi x_1 - \Phi x_2\|_2^2}{\|x_1 - x_2\|_2^2} \leq 1 + \delta \quad \|x_1\|_0, \|x_2\|_0 \leq S$$



$$1 - \delta \leq \frac{\|\Phi x\|_2^2}{\|x\|_2^2} \leq 1 + \delta \quad \|x\|_0 \leq 2S$$

# RIP Matrix: Option 1

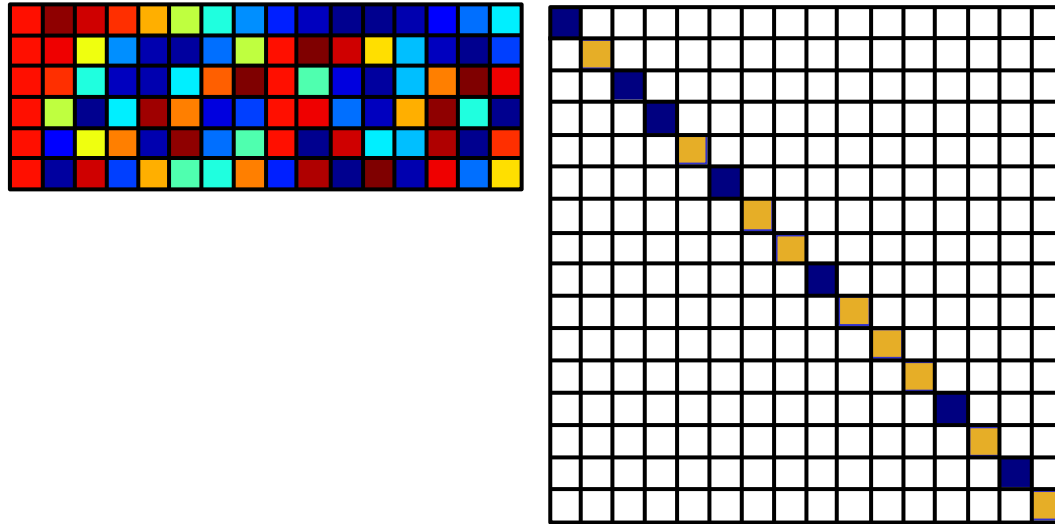
- Choose a *random matrix*
  - fill out the entries of  $\Phi$  with i.i.d. samples from a sub-Gaussian distribution
  - project onto a “random subspace”



$$M = O(S \log(N/S)) \ll N$$

# RIP Matrix: Option 2

## “Fast Johnson-Lindenstrauss Transform”



- By first multiplying by random signs, a random Fourier/Hadamard submatrix can be used for efficient Johnson-Lindenstrauss (good) embeddings
- If you multiply the columns of *any* RIP matrix by random signs, you get a JL embedding!

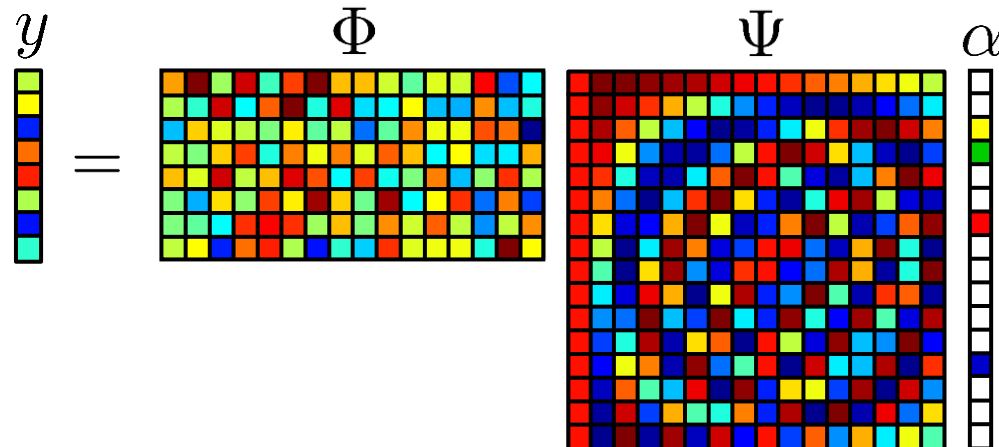
# Hallmarks of Random Measurements

## *Stable*

With high probability,  $\Phi$  will preserve information, be robust to noise

## *Universal*

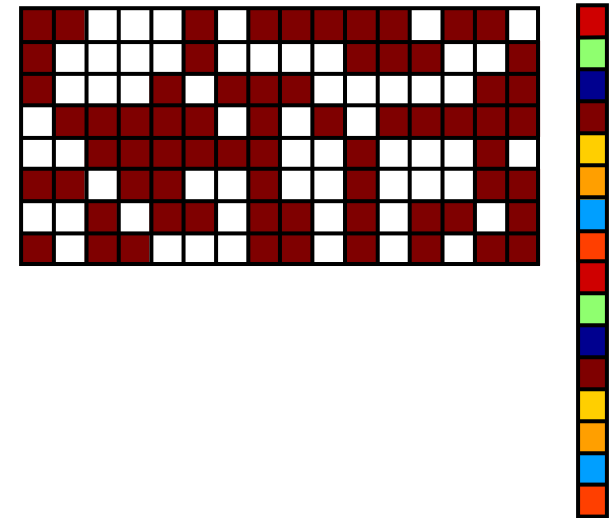
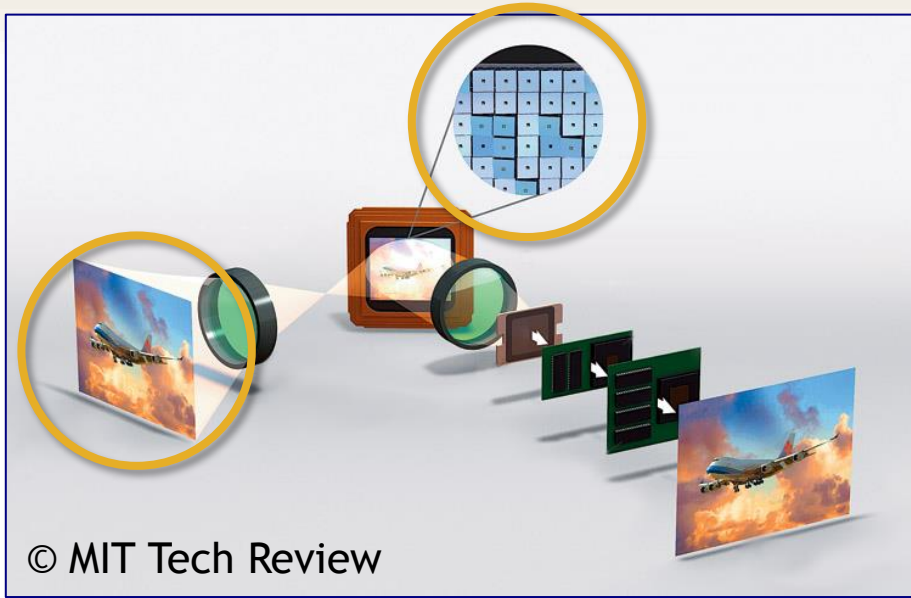
$\Phi$  will work with *any* fixed orthonormal basis (w.h.p.)



## *Democratic*

Each measurement has “equal weight”

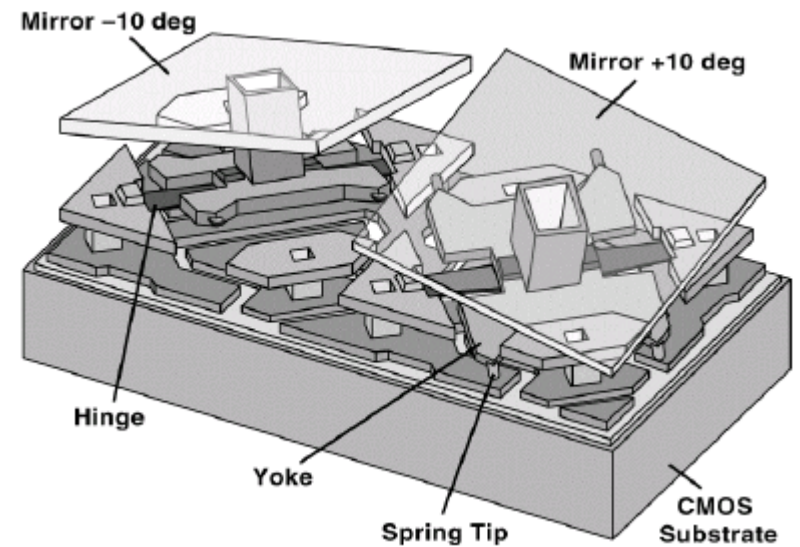
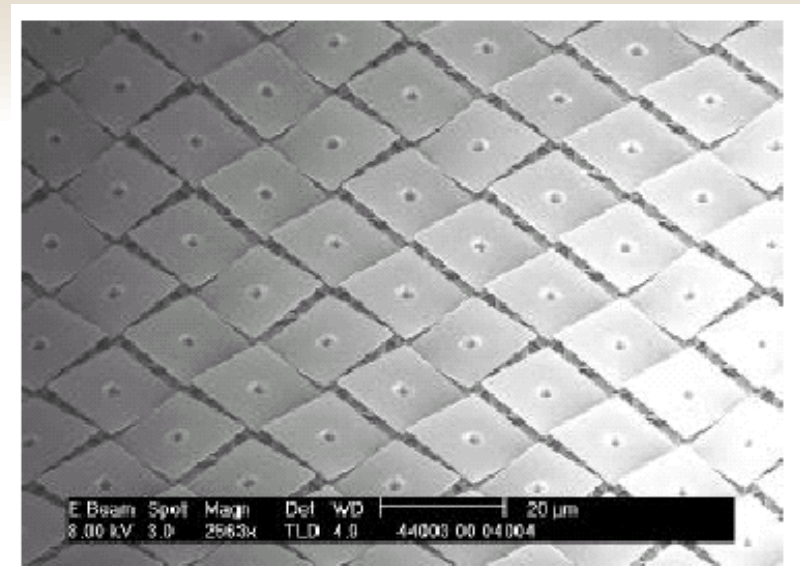
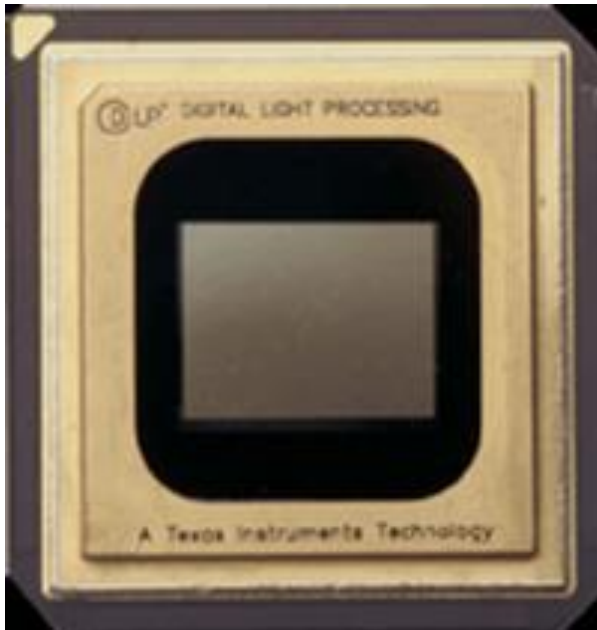
# “Single-Pixel Camera”



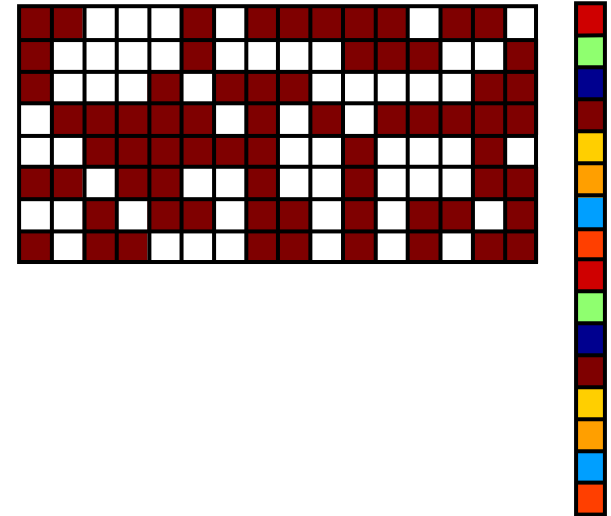
$$y[m] = \sum_{n \in I_m} x[n]$$

$$x[n] = \int \int_{\text{pixel } n} x(t_1, t_2) dt_1 dt_2$$

# TI Digital Micromirror Device



# “Single-Pixel Camera”

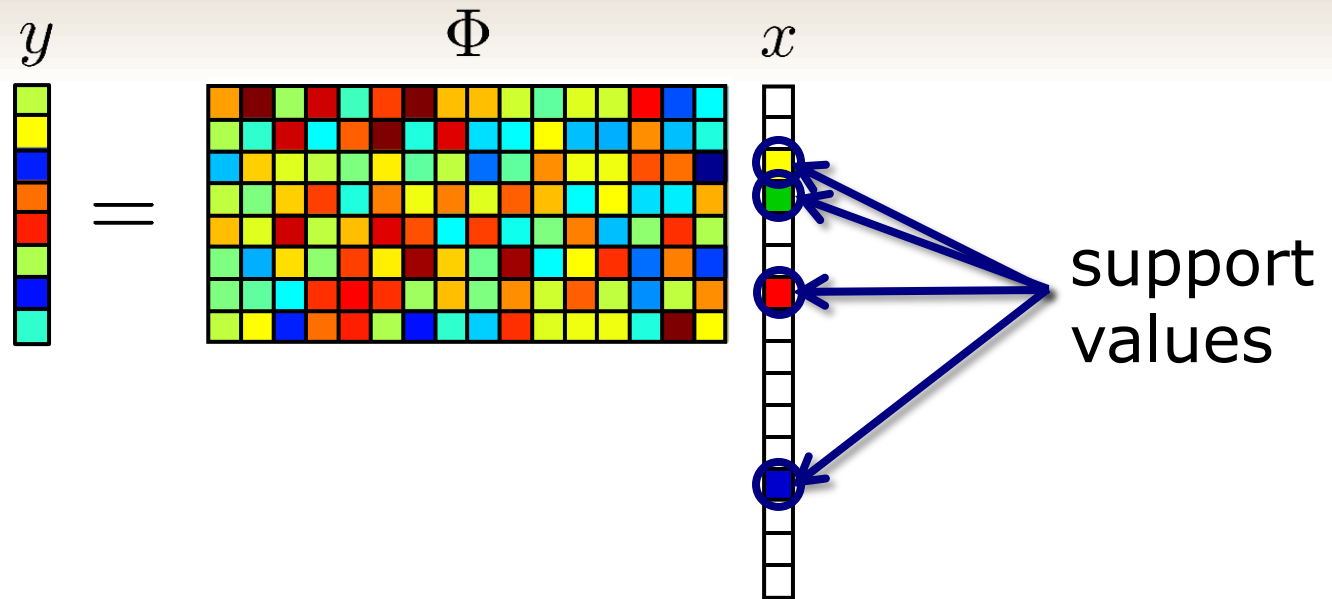


$$y[m] = \sum_{n \in I_m} x[n]$$

$$x[n] = \int \int_{\text{pixel } n} x(t_1, t_2) dt_1 dt_2$$

[Duarte, Davenport, Takhar, Laska, Sun, Kelly, Baraniuk - 2008]

# Sparse Signal Recovery



- Optimization /  $\ell_1$  -minimization
- Greedy algorithms
  - matching pursuit
  - orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP)
  - Stagewise OMP (StOMP), regularized OMP (ROMP)
  - CoSaMP, Subspace Pursuit, IHT, ...



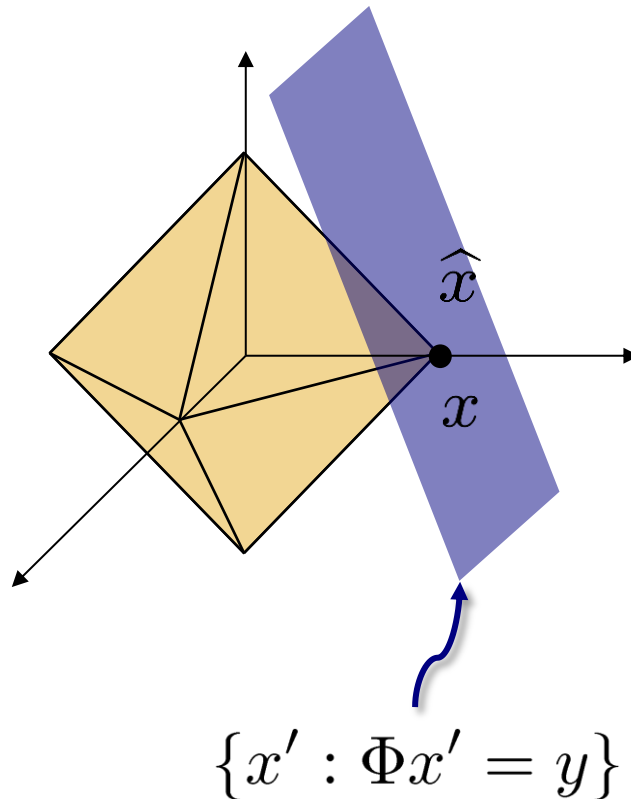
# Sparse Recovery: Noiseless Case

given  $y = \Phi x$   
find  $x$

- $\ell_0$ -minimization:  $\hat{x} = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|x\|_0$  ← *nonconvex*  
s.t.  $y = \Phi x$  *NP-Hard*
- $\ell_1$ -minimization:  $\hat{x} = \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|x\|_1$  ← *convex*  
s.t.  $y = \Phi x$  *linear program*
- If  $\Phi$  satisfies the RIP, then  $\ell_0$  and  $\ell_1$  are equivalent!

# Why $\ell_1$ -Minimization Works

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x} &= \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|x\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & y = \Phi x \end{aligned}$$



# Sparse Recovery: Noisy Case

Suppose we observe  $y = \Phi x + e$ , where  $\|e\|_2 \leq \epsilon$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x} &= \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|x\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \|y - \Phi x\|_2 \leq \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\|\hat{x} - x\|_2 \leq C_0 \epsilon$$

Similar approaches can handle Gaussian noise added to either the signal or the measurements

# Sparse Recovery: Non-sparse Signals

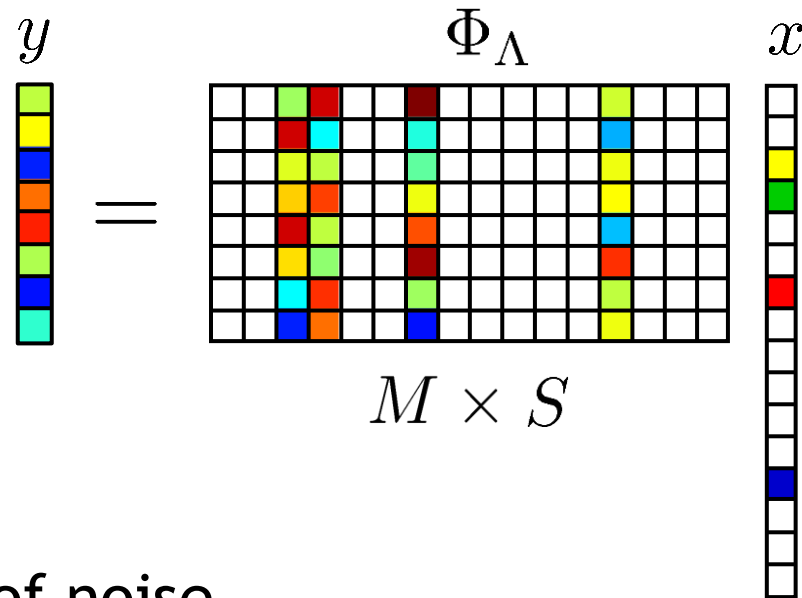
In practice,  $x$  may not be exactly  $S$ -sparse

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} &= \arg \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|x\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \|y - \Phi x\|_2 \leq \epsilon\end{aligned}$$

$$\|\hat{x} - x\|_2 \leq C_0 \epsilon + C_1 \frac{\|x - x_S\|_1}{\sqrt{S}}$$

# Greedy Algorithms: Key Idea

If we can determine  $\Lambda = \text{supp}(x)$ , then the problem becomes *over-determined*.



In the absence of noise,

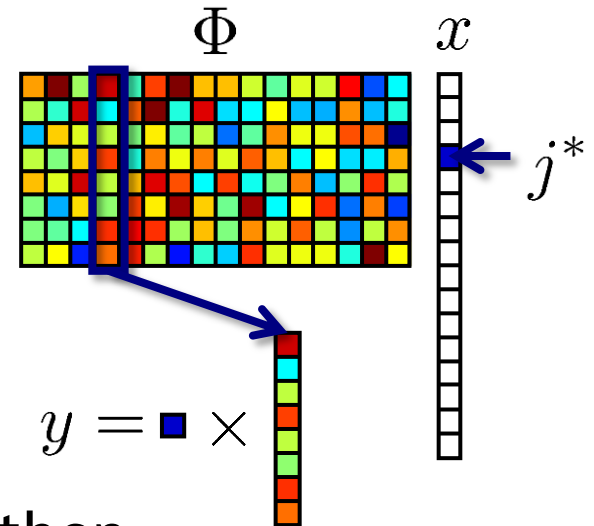
$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_\Lambda^\dagger y &= (\Phi_\Lambda^T \Phi_\Lambda)^{-1} \Phi_\Lambda^T y \\ &= (\Phi_\Lambda^T \Phi_\Lambda)^{-1} \Phi_\Lambda^T \Phi_\Lambda x \\ &= x\end{aligned}$$

# Matching Pursuit

Select one index at a time using a simple *proxy* for  $x$

$$p = \Phi^T y$$

$$j^* = \arg \max_j |p_j|$$



If  $\Phi$  satisfies the RIP of order  $\|u \pm v\|_0$ , then

$$|\langle \Phi u, \Phi v \rangle - \langle u, v \rangle| \leq \delta \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2$$

Set  $u = x$  and  $v = e_j$

$$|p_j - x_j| \leq \delta \|x\|_2$$

# Matching Pursuit

Obtain initial estimate of  $x$

$$x^{(1)} = p_{j^*} e_{j^*}$$

Update proxy and iterate

$$p = \Phi^T (y - \Phi x^{(j-1)})$$

$$j^* = \arg \max_j |p_j|$$

$$x^{(j)} = x^{(j-1)} + p_{j^*} e_{j^*}$$

# Iterative Hard Thresholding (IHT)

$$x^{(j)} = H_S \left( x^{(j-1)} + \underbrace{\mu \Phi^T (y - \Phi x^{(j-1)})}_{\text{proxy vector}} \right)$$

*step size* (pointing to  $\mu$ )

*hard thresholding* (pointing to  $H_S$ )

*proxy vector* (pointing to  $\mu \Phi^T (y - \Phi x^{(j-1)})$ )

RIP guarantees convergence and accurate/stable recovery

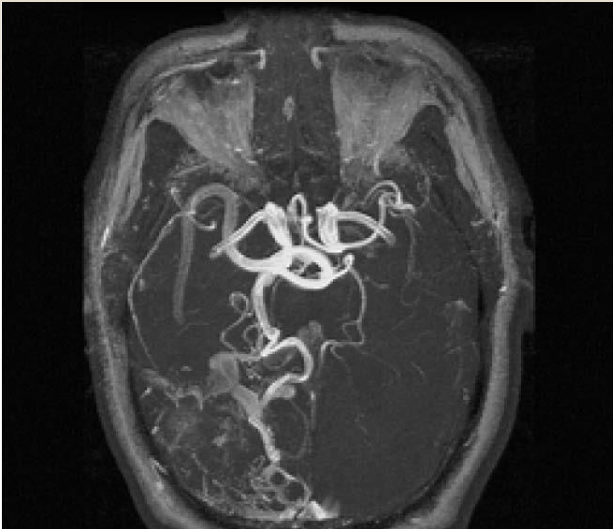


# Extensions of Matching Pursuit

- Orthogonal matching pursuit
  - change update rule to ensure that the residual  $y - \Phi x^{(j)}$  is always orthogonal to previously selected columns
  - ensures that we never pick a column twice
- StOMP, ROMP
  - select many indices in each iteration
  - picking indices for which  $p_j$  is “comparable” leads to increased stability and robustness
- CoSaMP, Subspace Pursuit, ...
  - allow indices to be discarded
  - strongest guarantees, comparable to  $\ell_1$ -minimization

# Applications of CS to Imaging

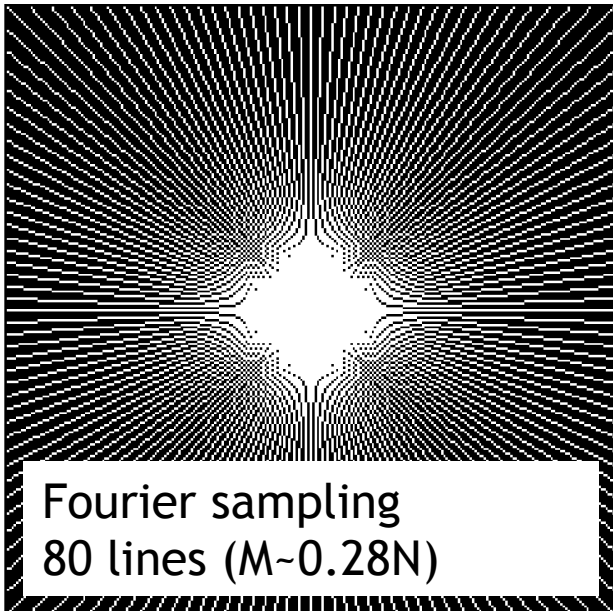
- MRI
  - Observe randomly selected Fourier coefficients
  - Exploit sparsity in wavelet basis



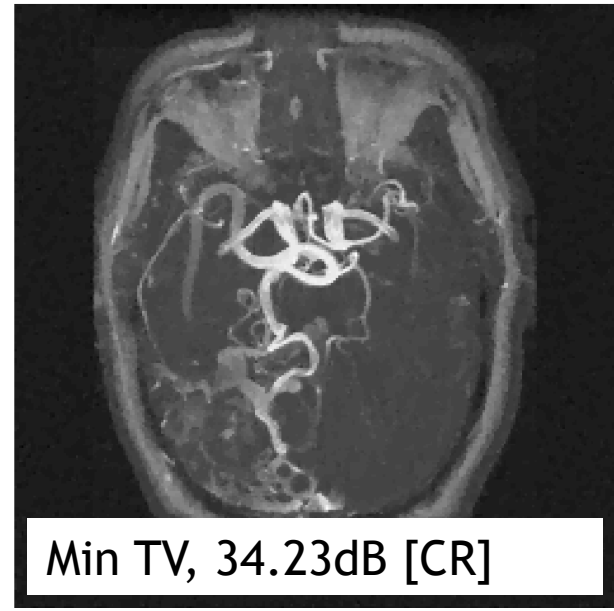
256x256 MRA



Backproj., 29.00dB



Fourier sampling  
80 lines ( $M \sim 0.28N$ )



Min TV, 34.23dB [CR]



Traditional MRI



CS MRI

*4-8 x faster!*

# Applications of CS to Imaging

- MRI
  - Observe randomly selected Fourier coefficients
  - Exploit sparsity in wavelet basis
- Single pixel camera
  - Replace light sensor with something more sophisticated
    - SWIR sensor
    - Spectrometer
    - ...

# SWIR Single Pixel Camera

256 × 384 pixels



10%



20%



30%



40%

# Applications of CS to Imaging

- MRI
  - Observe randomly selected Fourier coefficients
  - Exploit sparsity in wavelet basis
- Single pixel camera
  - Replace light sensor with something more sophisticated
    - SWIR sensor
    - Spectrometer
    - ...
- Many more

# Challenges

Imaging challenges some of the key assumptions in much of the CS theory

- In the context of imaging,  $\Phi$  tells us how light propagates through our system
  - nonnegative
  - non-standard normalization
- Gaussian noise is often not a safe assumption
  - poisson noise models are generally more difficult to exploit and analyze



# Why is This a Problem?

- Standard CS theory suggests setting the entries of  $\Phi$  to be  $\pm 1/\sqrt{M}$
- In imaging we must shift and rescale  $\Phi$

$$\tilde{\Phi} = \frac{\Phi + 1/\sqrt{M}}{2\sqrt{M}}$$

- Entries now are either 0 or  $1/M$
- Observations given by

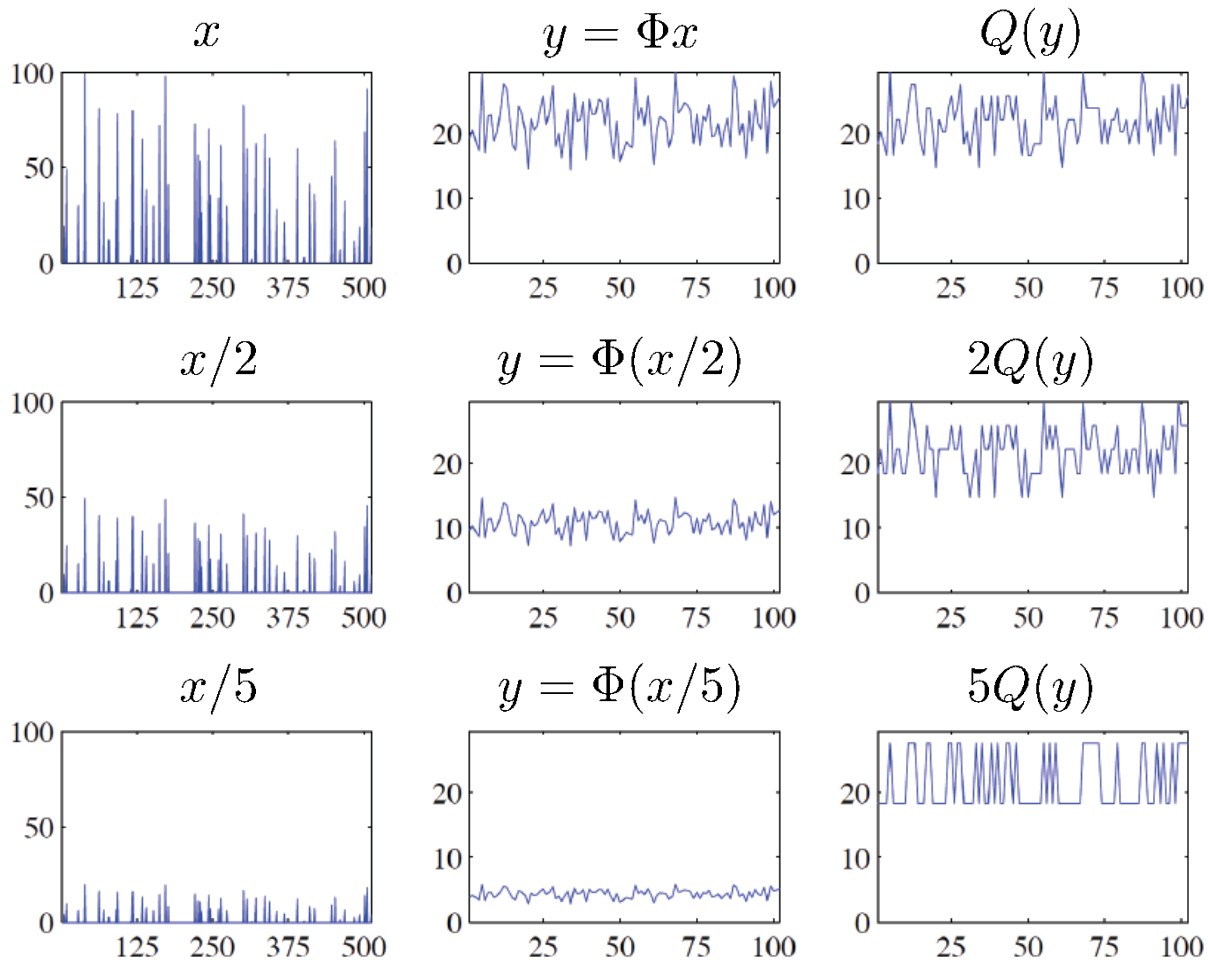
$$y = \tilde{\Phi}x + e = \frac{\Phi x}{2\sqrt{M}} + \frac{\|x\|_1}{2M} + e$$

signal

DC offset  
(photon noise)

# Dynamic Range

What about the impact of quantization?



# Conclusions

- The theory of compressive sensing allows for new sensor designs, but requires new techniques for signal recovery
- Compressive sensing can be applied in the context of imaging, but doing so successfully requires an awareness of the gaps between CS theory and imaging practice
- Many open questions remain
  - CS may seem more sensitive to noise, but enables the use of higher quality sensors. What is the real impact of noise?
  - How sensitive is CS to imperfect system models?
  - How does CS impact the dynamic range of our system?