

# Computational Uncertainty Quantification for Inverse Problems: Part 1, Linear Problems

John Bardsley  
University of Montana

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# Outline

*Computational Uncertainty Quantifications for Inverse Problems*

MATLAB codes:

<https://github.com/bardsleyj/SIAMBookCodes>

to be published by SIAM in late-summer/early-fall 2018

- Characteristics of inverse problems.
- Prior Modeling Using Gaussian Markov random fields.
- Hierarchical Bayesian Inverse Problems and MCMC

## General Statistical Model

Consider the linear, Gaussian statistical model

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Ax} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon},$$

where

- $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the vector of observations;
- $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the vector of unknown parameters;
- $\mathbf{A} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ;
- $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda^{-1}\mathbf{I})$ , i.e.,  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$  is i.i.d. Gaussian with mean 0 and variance  $\lambda^{-1}$ .

## Numerical Discretization of a Physical Model

For us,  $\mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_m]^T$ , with

$$\begin{aligned} y_i &= y(s_i) \\ &= \int_{\Omega} a(s_i, s') x(s') ds' \quad \left( \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\mathcal{A}_m x]_i \right) \end{aligned}$$

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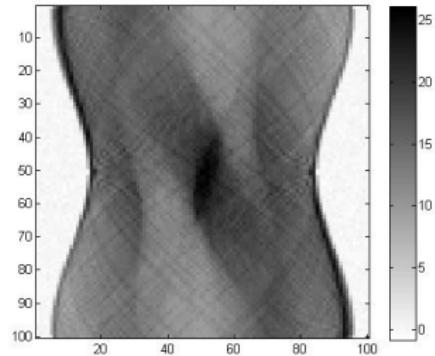
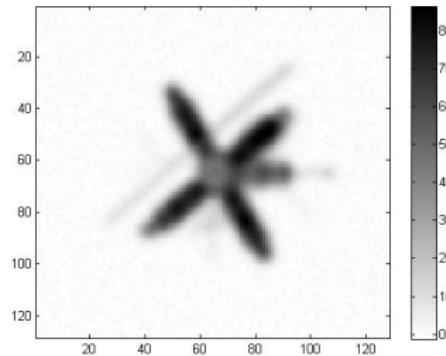
$$\begin{aligned} y_i &= y(s_i) \\ &= \int_{\Omega} a(s_i, s') x(s') ds' \quad \left( \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\mathcal{A}_m \mathbf{x}]_i \right) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\Delta s'} \sum_{j=1}^n a(s_i, s'_j) x(s'_j) \quad (\text{numerical quadrature}) \\ &= [\mathbf{Ax}]_i \quad \left( [\mathbf{A}]_{ij} = \frac{1}{\Delta s'} a(s_i, s'_j) \ \& \ \mathbf{x} = [x(s'_1), \dots, x(s'_n)]^T \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Omega = [0, 1]$  or  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ , defines the equation

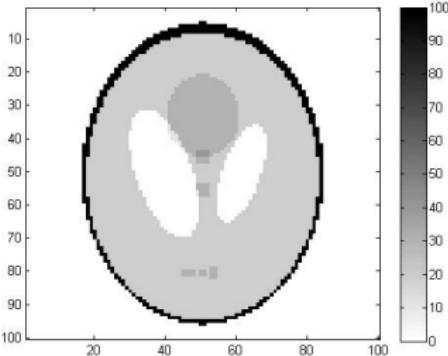
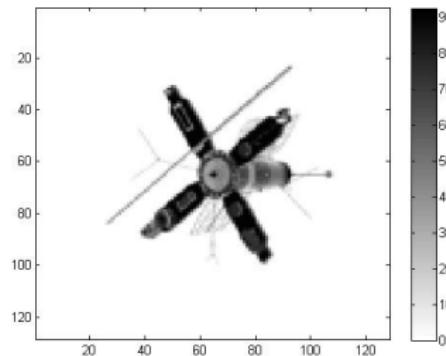
$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Ax}.$$

# Synthetic Examples

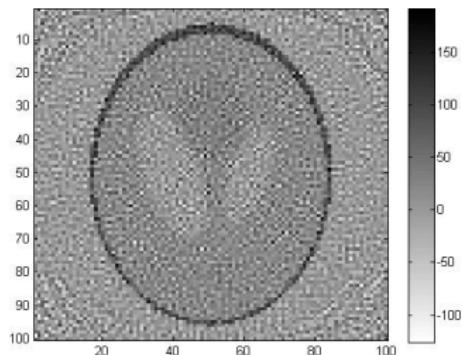
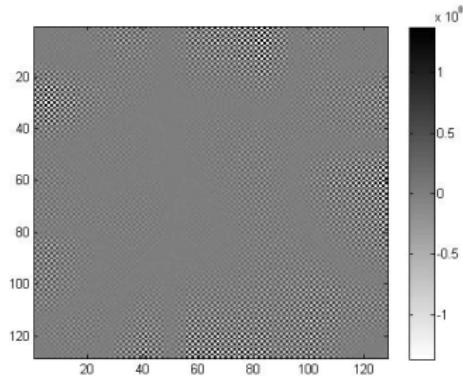
Data  $y$  examples:



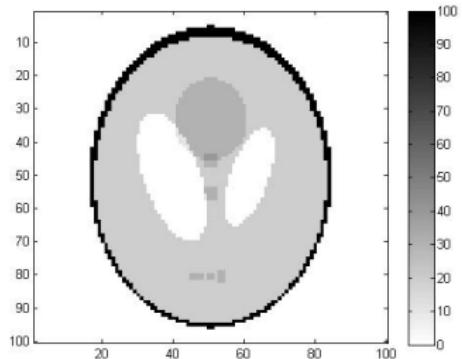
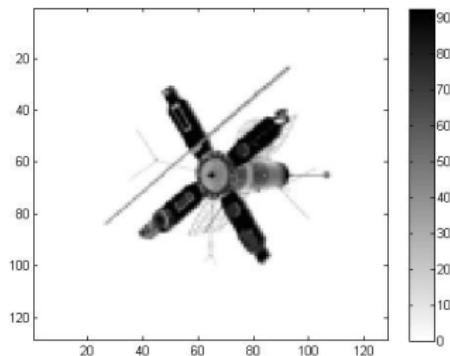
Corresponding true images  $x$ :



Naive Solutions:  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{LS}} = \mathbf{A}^\dagger \mathbf{y}$



Corresponding true images  $\mathbf{x}$ :



## Properties of the model matrix $\mathbf{A}$

It is typical in inverse problems that if the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  has SVD

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T, \quad \text{where } r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}).$$

*Characteristics of Inverse Problems:*

- the  $\sigma_i$ 's decay to 0 as  $i \rightarrow r$ ;
- the  $\{\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{v}_i\}$ 's become increasingly oscillatory as  $i \rightarrow n$ .

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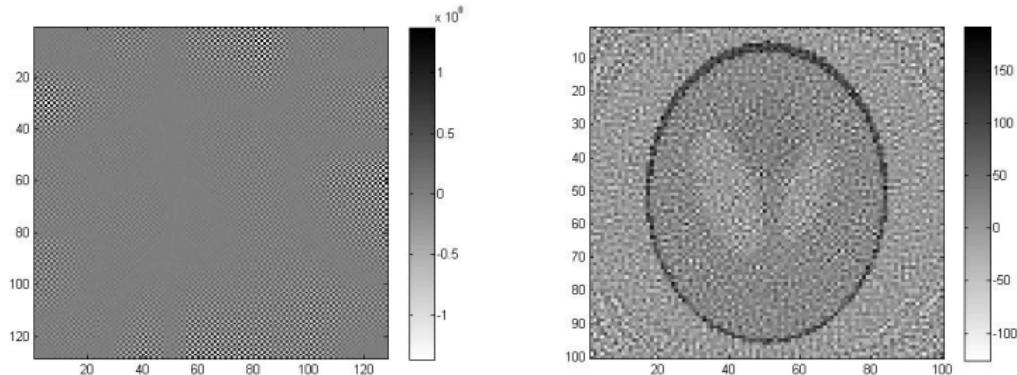
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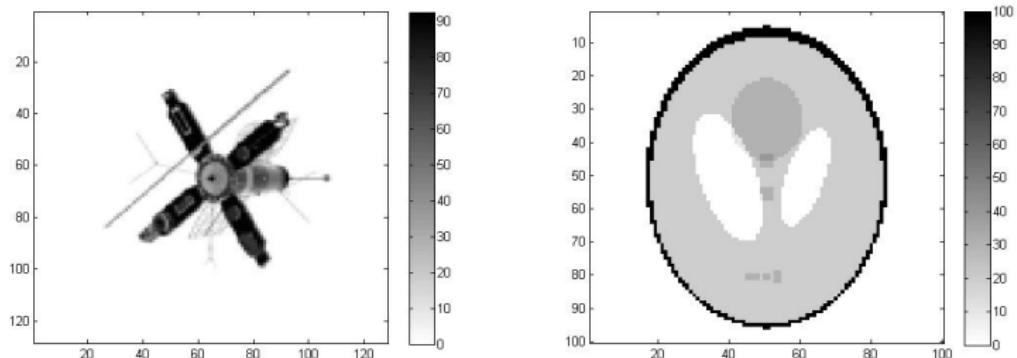
The least squares solution can then be written

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}^\dagger \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{A}^\dagger (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) \\ &= \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^r (\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{v}_i}_{\text{portion due to signal}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^r \left( \frac{\mathbf{u}_i^T \boldsymbol{\epsilon}}{\sigma_i} \right) \mathbf{v}_i}_{\text{portion due to noise}}\end{aligned}$$

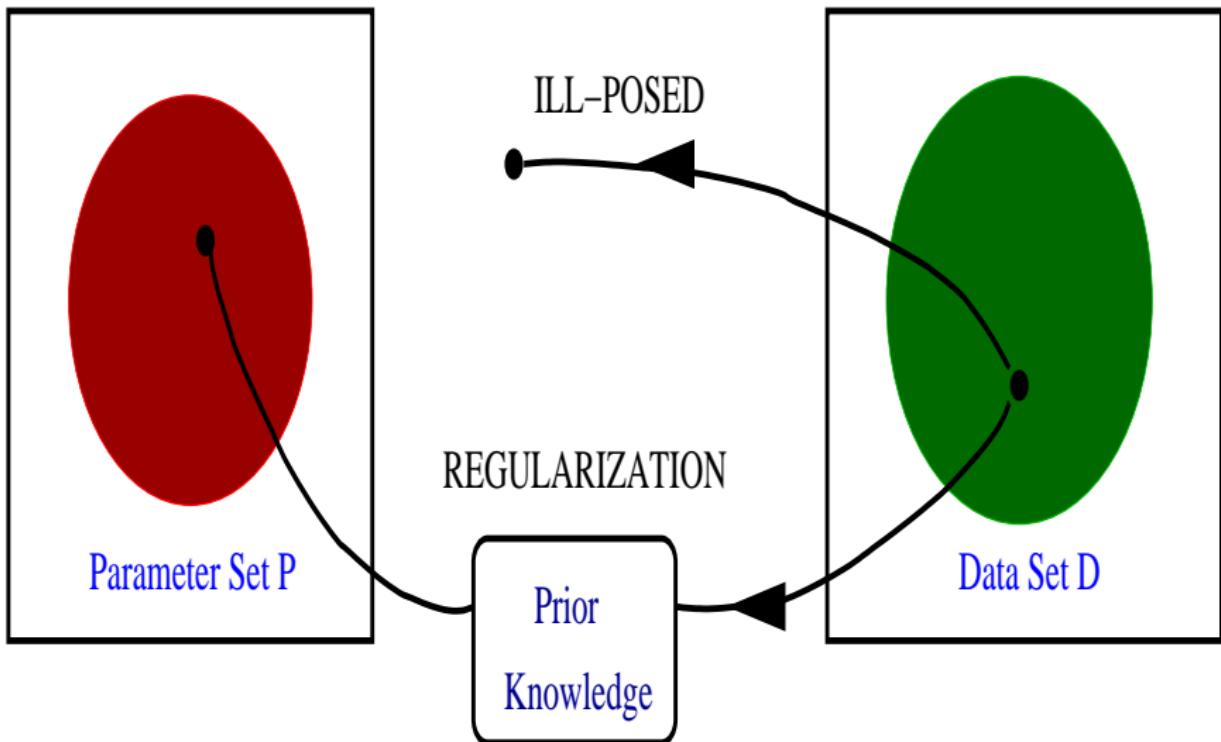
Least Squares Solutions:  $\mathbf{A}^\dagger \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^r (\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{v}_i + \sum_{i=1}^r \left( \frac{\mathbf{u}_i^T \boldsymbol{\epsilon}}{\sigma_i} \right) \mathbf{v}_i$



Corresponding true images  $\mathbf{x}$ :



## The Fix: Regularization



## Bayes Law:

$$\underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta)}_{\text{posterior}} \propto \underbrace{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, \lambda)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}|\delta)}_{\text{prior}}.$$

For our assumed statistical model,

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, \lambda) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2\right).$$

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In this talk, we will assume a Gaussian prior

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\delta) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx}\right),$$

so that

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 - \frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx}\right).$$

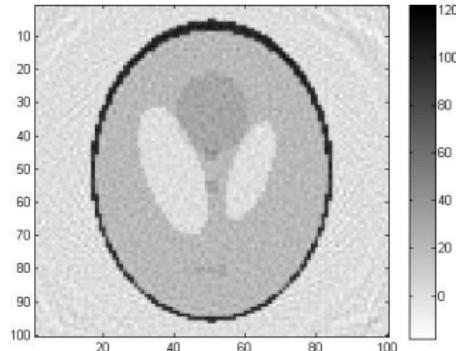
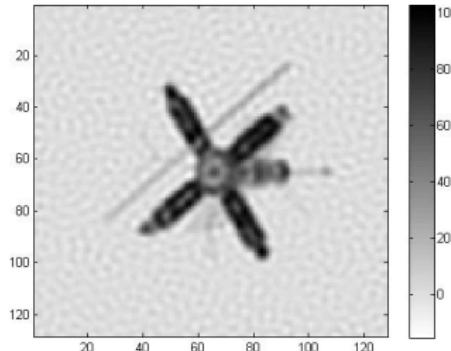
## Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) Estimation

The maximizer of the posterior density is

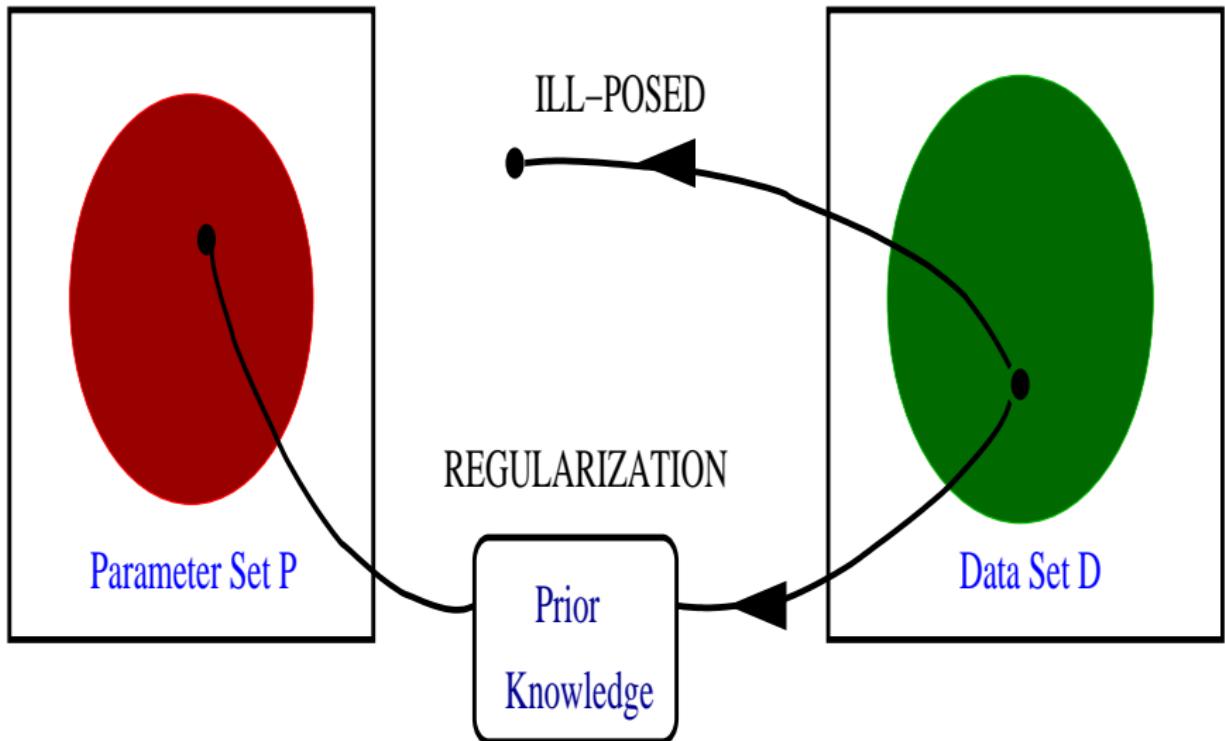
$$\mathbf{x}_{\text{MAP}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \frac{\delta}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx} \right\}$$

which is the regularized solution  $\mathbf{x}_\alpha$  with  $\alpha = \delta/\lambda$ .

$$\alpha = 2.5 \times 10^{-4} \quad \alpha = 1.05 \times 10^{-4}.$$



## Modeling the Prior $p(\mathbf{x}|\delta)$



## Gaussian Markov Random field (GMRF) priors

The neighbor values for  $x_{ij}$  are below (in black)

$$\mathbf{x}_{\partial_{ij}} = \{x_{i-1,j}, x_{i,j-1}, x_{i+1,j}, x_{i,j+1}\}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} & x_{i,j+1} \\ x_{i-1,j} & \textcolor{blue}{x_{ij}} & x_{i+1,j} \\ & x_{i,j-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Then we assume

$$\textcolor{blue}{x_{ij}} | \mathbf{x}_{\partial_{ij}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\bar{x}_{\partial_{ij}}, \delta^{-1}),$$

where  $\bar{x}_{\partial_{ij}} = \frac{1}{n_{ij}} \sum_{(r,s) \in \partial_{ij}} x_{rs}$  and  $n_{ij} = |\partial_{ij}|$ .

## Gaussian Markov Random field (GMRF) priors

This leads to the prior

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\delta) \propto \delta^n \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}\right),$$

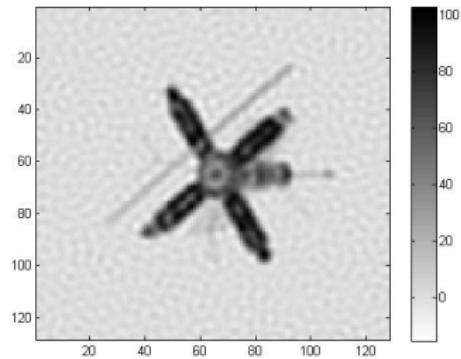
where if  $r = (i, j)$  after column-stacking 2D arrays

$$[\mathbf{L}]_{rs} = \begin{cases} 4 & s = r, \\ -1 & s \in \partial_r, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

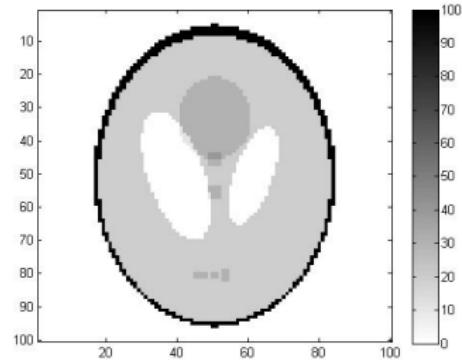
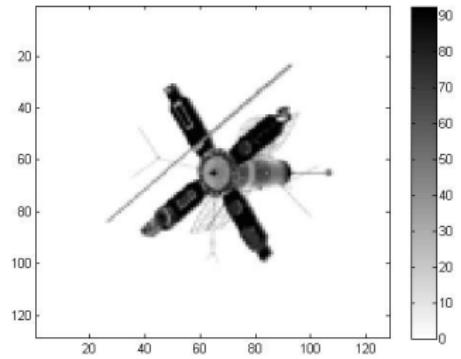
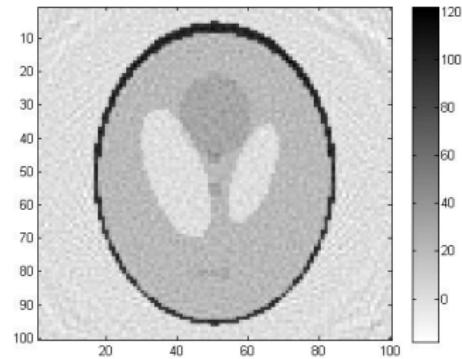
**NOTE:**  $\mathbf{L}$  = 2D discrete **unscaled** (by  $1/h^2$ ) negative-Laplacian.  
Recall the MAP estimator

$$\mathbf{x}_\alpha = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} \right\}$$

$$\alpha = 2.5 \times 10^{-4}$$



$$\alpha = 1.05 \times 10^{-4}$$



## 2D GMRF Increment Models

For a 2D signal, suppose

$$\begin{aligned}x_{i+1,j} - x_{ij} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, (w_{ij}\delta)^{-1}), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, \sqrt{n} \\x_{i,j+1} - x_{ij} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, (w_{ij}\delta)^{-1}), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, \sqrt{n}.\end{aligned}$$

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Assuming independence the density function for  $\mathbf{x}$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned}p(\mathbf{x}|\delta) &\propto \delta^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{\sqrt{n}} w_{ij} (x_{i+1,j} - x_{ij})^2\right) \times \\&\quad \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{\sqrt{n}} w_{ij} (x_{i,j+1} - x_{ij})^2\right) \\&= \delta^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2} \mathbf{x}^T (\mathbf{D}_h^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{D}_h + \mathbf{D}_v^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{D}_v) \mathbf{x}\right),\end{aligned}$$

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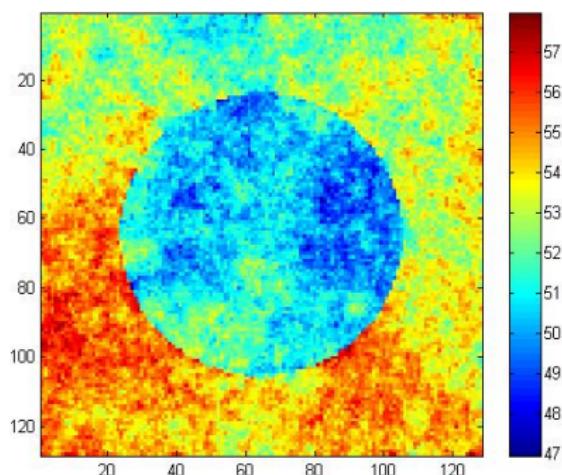
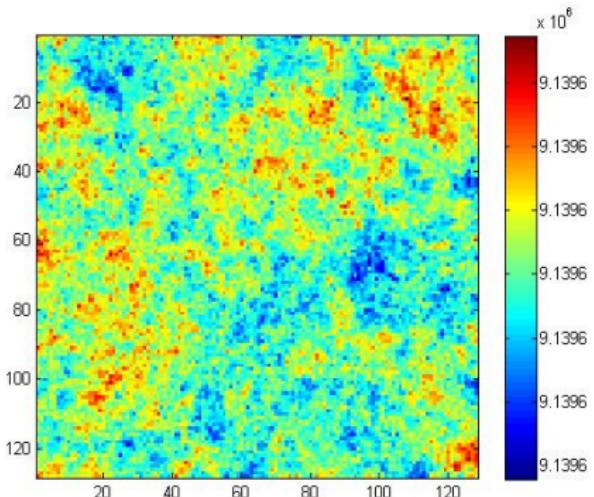
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- $\mathbf{D}_h = \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{D}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}_v = \mathbf{D} \otimes \mathbf{I}$ , where  $\mathbf{D}$  = 1D difference matrix;
- $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} = \text{diag}(\text{vec}(\{w_{ij}\}_{ij=1}^{\sqrt{n}}))$

## 2D GMRF Increment Models

The matrix  $\frac{1}{\Delta s^2} \mathbf{D}_h^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{D}_h + \frac{1}{\Delta t^2} \mathbf{D}_v^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \mathbf{D}_v$  is a discretization of

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( w(s, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( w(s, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right)$$



Left:  $w_{ij} = 1$  for all  $ij$ .

Right:  $w_{ij} = 0.01$  for  $ij$  on the circle boundary.

## GMRF Edge-Preserving Reconstruction

0. Set  $\mathbf{\Lambda} = \mathbf{I}$ .
1. Define  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{D}_h^T \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{D}_h + \mathbf{D}_v^T \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{D}_v$ , where
2. Compute

$$\mathbf{x}_\alpha = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \alpha \mathbf{L})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$$

using PCG with  $\alpha$  obtained via L-curve, GCV, etc.

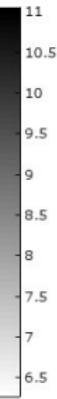
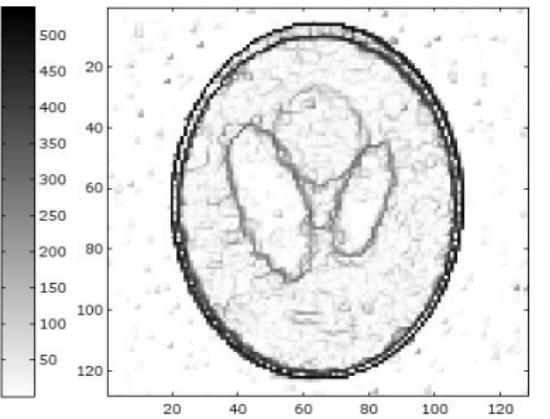
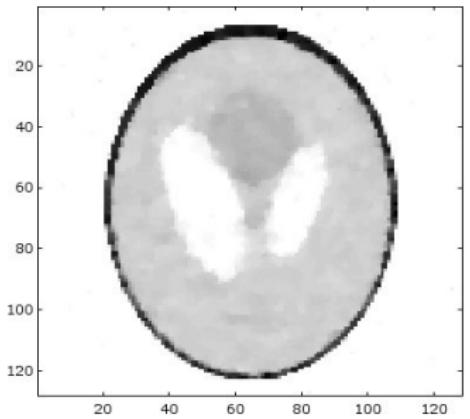
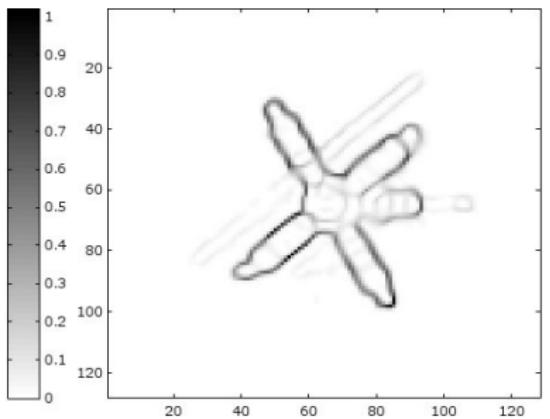
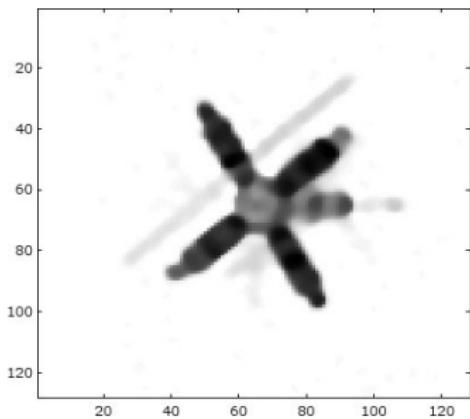
3. Set

$$\mathbf{\Lambda}(\mathbf{x}_\alpha) = \text{diag} \left( \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\sqrt{(\mathbf{D}_h \mathbf{x}_\alpha)^2 + (\mathbf{D}_v \mathbf{x}_\alpha)^2 + \beta \mathbf{1}}} \right),$$

$0 < \beta \ll 1$ , and return to Step 1.

**NOTE:** This is just the lagged-diffusivity iteration.

# Numerical Results



# Infinite Dimensional Limit

**Question:** When is

$$p(x|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta)$$

well defined?

## Infinite Dimensional Limit

**Question:** When is

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well defined? First

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 = \|\mathcal{A}_m x - \mathbf{y}\|^2,$$

where

$$[\mathcal{A}_m x]_i = \int_{\Omega} a(s_i, s') x(s') ds', \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

**Note:**  $\mathcal{A}_m : C^\infty(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , where  $\Omega = [0, 1]$  or  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ , and  $C^\infty(\Omega)$  is the space of smooth functions on  $\Omega$ .

# The Infinite Dimensional Limit

Next,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c(n) \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} = \langle x, \mathcal{L}x \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_{\Omega} x(s') \mathcal{L}x(s') ds',$$

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where  $c(n) = n$  in one-dimension and

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{d}{ds} \left( w(s) \frac{d}{ds} \right), \quad 0 < s < 1;$$

whereas  $c(n) = 1$  in two-dimensions and

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( w(s, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( w(s, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right), \quad 0 < s, t < 1.$$

## The Infinite Dimensional Limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \frac{\delta c(n)}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} \right\} = \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathcal{A}_m x - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \frac{\delta}{2} \langle x, \mathcal{L}x \rangle,$$

and hence

$$p(x|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) \propto \exp \left( -\frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathcal{A}_m x - \mathbf{y}\|^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \langle x, \mathcal{L}x \rangle \right).$$

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**Question:** When is the resulting probability measure well-defined:

$$\mu^{\text{post}}(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_A p(x|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) dx, \quad A \subset L^2(\Omega)?$$

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**Answer [Stuart]:** When  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}$  is a trace-class operator on  $L^2(\Omega)$ , i.e., when  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle \phi_i, \mathcal{L}^{-1} \phi_i \rangle < \infty$  for any o.n. basis  $\{\phi_i\}$  of  $L^2(\Omega)$ .

## The Infinite Dimensional Limit

In one-dimension, if

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{d}{ds} \left( w(s) \frac{d}{ds} \right), \quad 0 < s < 1,$$

then  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}$  is trace class.

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In two-dimensions, if

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then  $\underline{\mathcal{L}^{-1}}$  is *not* trace-class.

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**FIX:** in two-dimensions, use  $\mathcal{L} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{L}^2$ , which is trace class; note that if  $w = w = 1$  above, this is called the *biharmonic operator*.

## An Alternative: Second-Order GMRFs

For a 2D signal, suppose

$$\begin{aligned}x_{i-1,j} - 2x_{ij} + x_{i+1,j} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, (w_{ij}\delta)^{-1}), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, \sqrt{n} \\x_{i,j-1} - 2x_{ij} + x_{i,j+1} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, (w_{ij}\delta)^{-1}), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, \sqrt{n}.\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}x_{i-1,j} - 2x_{ij} + x_{i+1,j} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, (w_{ij}\delta)^{-1}), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, \sqrt{n} \\x_{i,j-1} - 2x_{ij} + x_{i,j+1} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, (w_{ij}\delta)^{-1}), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, \sqrt{n}.\end{aligned}$$

Assuming independence, the density function for  $\mathbf{x}$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned}p(\mathbf{x}|\delta) &\propto \delta^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n w_{ij}(x_{i-1,j} - 2x_{ij} + x_{i+1,j})^2\right) \times \\&\quad \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n w_{ij}(x_{i,j-1} - 2x_{ij} + x_{i,j+1})^2\right)\end{aligned}$$

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- $\mathbf{L}_v = \mathbf{L} \otimes \mathbf{I}$ ,  $\mathbf{L}_h = \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{L}$ ,  $\mathbf{L}$  = 1D discrete neg-Laplacian;
- $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} = \text{diag}(\text{vec}(\{w_{ij}\}_{ij=1}^{\sqrt{n}}))$

## The Infinite Dimensional Limit

Let  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{L}_h^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_h \mathbf{L}_h + \mathbf{L}_v^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_v \mathbf{L}_v$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c(n) \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} = \langle x, \mathcal{L}x \rangle,$$

where

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial s^2} \left( w(s, t) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial s^2} \right) - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \left( w(s, t) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right), \quad 0 < s, t < 1,$$

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**NOTE:**  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}$  is trace-class, and hence if

$$p(x|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) \propto \exp \left( -\frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathcal{A}_M x - \mathbf{y}\|^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \langle x, \mathcal{L}x \rangle \right)$$

then  $\mu^{\text{post}}(A) = \int_A p(x|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) dx$ , for  $L^2(\Omega)$ , is well-defined.

# Higher-Order GMRF, Edge-Preserving Reconstruction

0. Set  $\Lambda = \mathbf{I}$ .
1. Define  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{L}_h^T \Lambda \mathbf{L}_h + \mathbf{L}_v^T \Lambda \mathbf{L}_v$ , where
2. Compute

$$\mathbf{x}_\alpha = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \alpha \mathbf{L})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$$

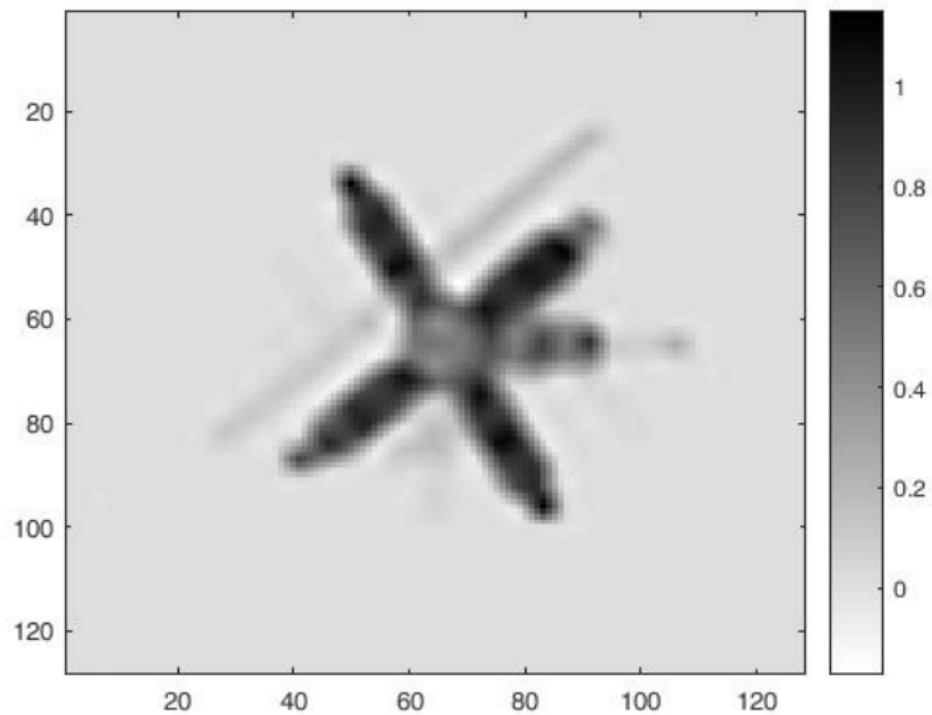
using PCG with  $\alpha$  obtained using GCV.

3. Set

$$\Lambda(\mathbf{x}_\alpha) = \text{diag} \left( \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\sqrt{(\mathbf{L}_h \mathbf{x}_\alpha)^2 + (\mathbf{L}_v \mathbf{x}_\alpha)^2 + \beta \mathbf{1}}} \right)$$

where  $0 < \beta \ll 1$ , and return to Step 1.

# Plot after 10 iterations



## Hierarchical Bayes: Assume Hyper-Priors on $\lambda$ and $\delta$

Uncertainty in  $\lambda$  and  $\delta$ :  $\lambda \sim p(\lambda)$  and  $\delta \sim p(\delta)$ . Then

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) \propto p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}, \lambda) p(\lambda) p(\mathbf{x} | \delta) p(\delta),$$

is the Bayesian posterior

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is the Bayesian posterior, where

$$p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}, \lambda) \propto \lambda^{m/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2\right),$$

and we choose a GMRF prior and Gamma hyper-priors:

$$p(\mathbf{x} | \delta) \propto \delta^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx}\right),$$

$$p(\lambda) \propto \lambda^{\alpha_\lambda - 1} \exp(-\beta_\lambda \lambda),$$

$$p(\delta) \propto \delta^{\alpha_\delta - 1} \exp(-\beta_\delta \delta),$$

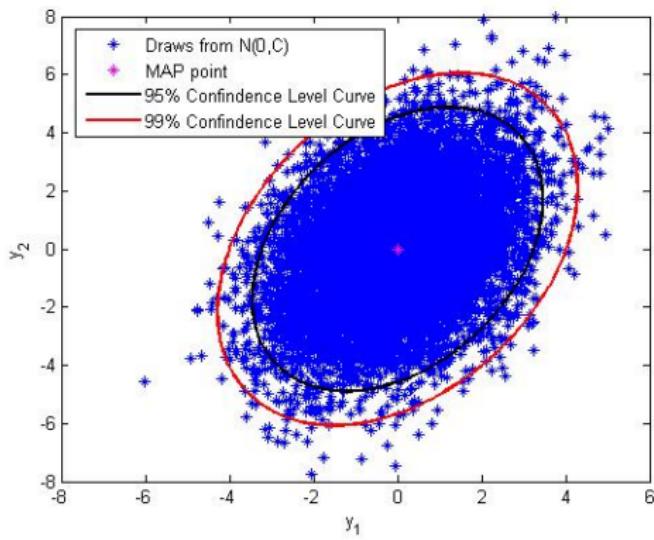
where  $\alpha_\lambda = \alpha_\delta = 1$  and  $\beta_\lambda = \beta_\delta = 10^{-4}$ .

# The Full Posterior Distribution: Linear Case

$p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) \propto$  the posterior

$$\lambda^{m/2+\alpha_\lambda-1} \delta^{n/2+\alpha_\delta-1} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 - \frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx} - \beta_\lambda \lambda - \beta_\delta \delta\right).$$

Sampling versus Computing the MAP Estimator



# The Full Posterior Distribution

The full conditionals have the form

$$p(\lambda|\mathbf{x}, \delta, \mathbf{y}) \propto \lambda^{m/2+\alpha_\lambda-1} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \beta_\lambda\right)\lambda\right);$$

$$p(\delta|\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \mathbf{y}) \propto \delta^{n/2+\alpha_\delta-1} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx} + \beta_\delta\right)\delta\right);$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 - \frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx}\right).$$

## OBSERVATIONS:

1.  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta)$  is a Gaussian random vector;
2.  $p(\lambda, \delta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = p(\lambda|\mathbf{x}, \delta, \mathbf{y})p(\delta|\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \mathbf{y});$
3. and we have the natural blocking:  $(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta) = (\mathbf{x}; (\lambda, \delta)).$

## Hierarchical Gibbs for sampling from $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y})$

0. Choose  $\mathbf{x}^0$ , and set  $k = 0$ ;
1. Sample from  $p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_k)$  via:
  - a.  $\lambda_{k+1} \sim \Gamma\left(m/2 + \alpha_\lambda, \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \beta_\lambda\right)$ ;
  - b.  $\delta_{k+1} \sim \Gamma\left(n/2 + \alpha_\delta, \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}^k + \beta_\delta\right)$ ;
2. Sample from the Gaussian  $p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}, \lambda_{k+1}, \delta_{k+1})$  via:

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})^{-1} (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}),$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})$ .

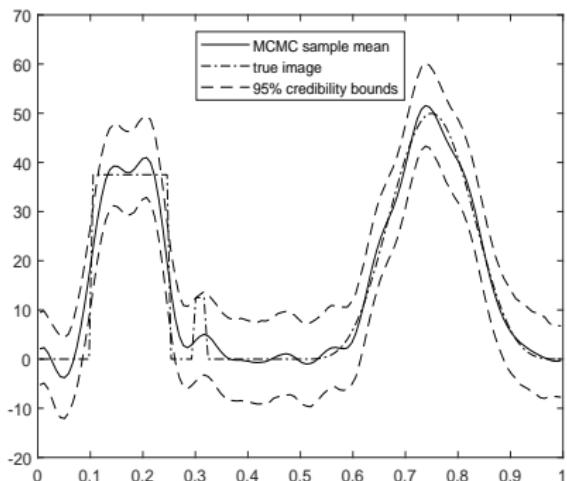
3. Set  $k = k + 1$  and return to Step 1.

**NOTE:** Two-stage Gibbs samplers have nice properties, including

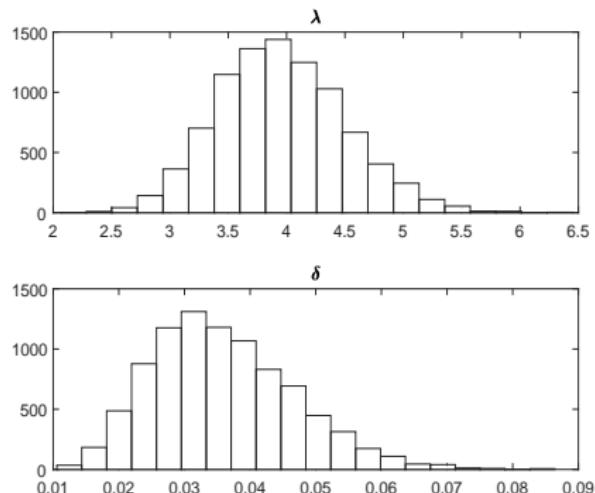
$$\{(\mathbf{x}^k, \lambda_k, \delta_k)\}_{k=1}^{\infty} \xrightarrow{'dist'} p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}).$$

# A One-Dimensional Example

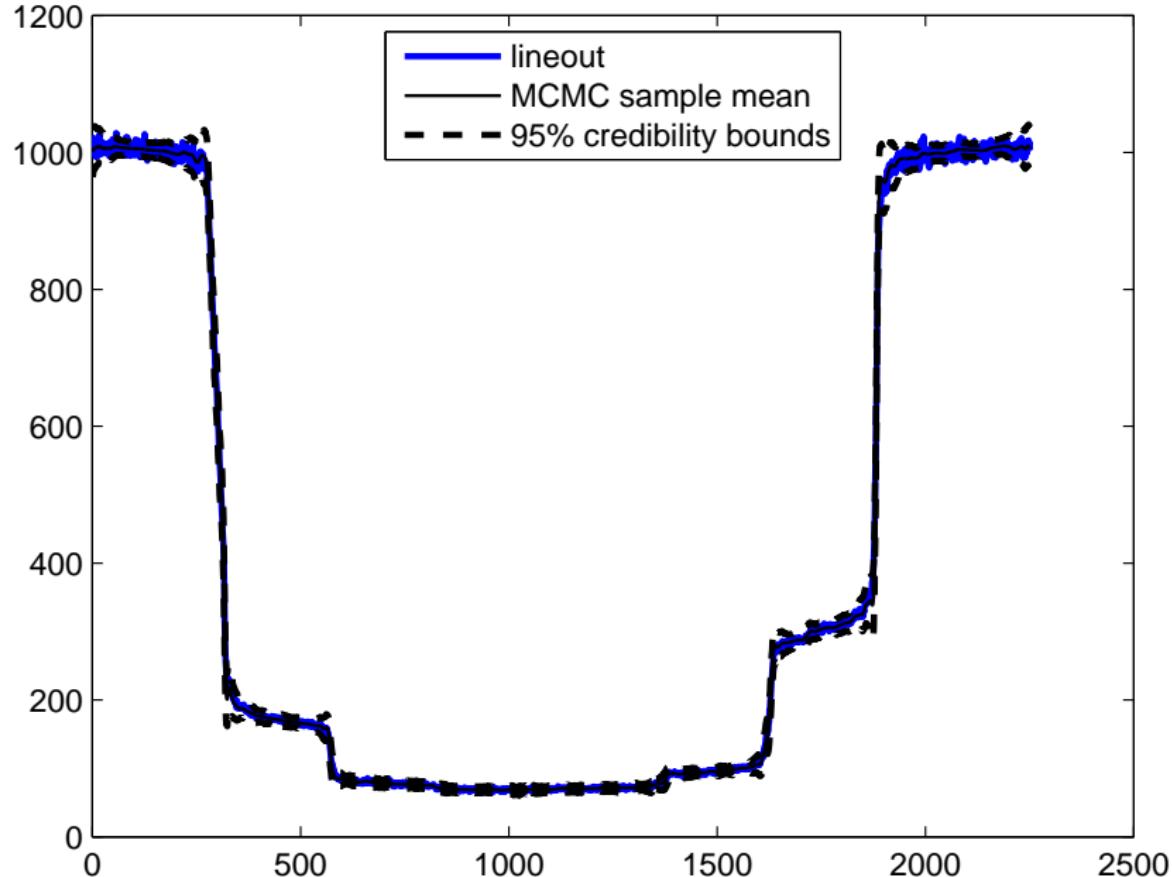
True Image, Mean, and 95% c.i.



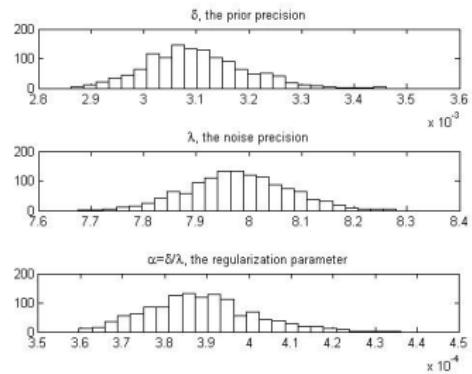
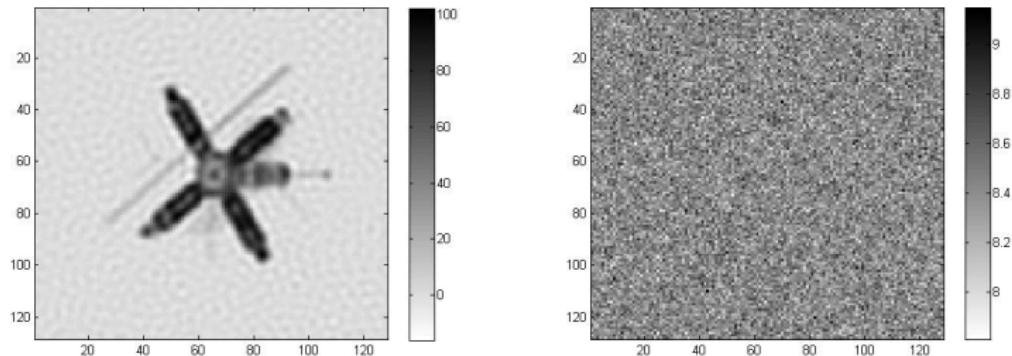
Histograms for  $\lambda$  and  $\delta$



## An example from X-ray Radiography (w/ Luttman)



# A Two-Dimensional Example



## Step 2: sample from the Gaussian $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta)$

The conditional density for  $\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta$  is

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 - \frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Lx}\right) \\ &= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left\|\begin{bmatrix} \lambda^{1/2}\mathbf{A} \\ (\delta\mathbf{L})^{1/2} \end{bmatrix}\mathbf{x} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda^{1/2}\mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}\right\|^2\right). \end{aligned}$$

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From here on out, we define:

$$\mathbf{A}_{\lambda, \delta} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda^{1/2}\mathbf{A} \\ (\delta\mathbf{L})^{1/2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{y}_{\lambda, \delta} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda^{1/2}\mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}.$$

so that

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{A}_{\lambda, \delta}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}_{\lambda, \delta}\|^2\right).$$

## Step 2: sample from the Gaussian $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta)$

For large-scale problems, you can use optimization:

$$\mathbf{x} = \arg \min_{\psi} \|\mathbf{A}_{\lambda, \delta} \psi - (\mathbf{y}_{\lambda, \delta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon})\|^2, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}).$$

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**QR-rewrite:** if  $\mathbf{A}_{\lambda, \delta} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}$ , with  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , then

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where  $\mathbf{F}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$ .

Proof that  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{F}^{-1}(\mathbf{v})$  has the right distribution:

What we know:

- $\mathbf{v} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{y}_{\lambda, \delta}, \mathbf{I}) \implies p_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{v}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{y}_{\lambda, \delta}\|^2\right);$
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- $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{x}.$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}) &= \overbrace{(2\pi)^{-n/2} |\det(\mathbf{R})| \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{Rx} - \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{y}_{\lambda, \delta}\|^2\right)}^{\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{F}^{-1}(\mathbf{v}) \Rightarrow p(\mathbf{x}) = \left|\det\left(\frac{d}{d\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})\right)\right| p_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}))} \\ &= (2\pi)^{-n/2} |\det(\mathbf{A}_{\lambda, \delta}^T \mathbf{A}_{\lambda, \delta})|^{1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{A}_{\lambda, \delta} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}_{\lambda, \delta}\|^2\right) \\ &\stackrel{\text{'dist'}}{=} p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}, \lambda, \delta). \end{aligned}$$

## MCMC Chain Diagnostics

**Question:** when has the  $(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta)$ -chain generated by hierarchical Gibbs converged in distribution to  $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y})$ ?

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**Answer:**  $(\lambda, \delta)$ -chain convergence  $\Rightarrow (\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta)$ -chain convergence.

## Chain Correlation: How correlated is $\{\delta_i\}_{k=1}^K$ ?

The *autocorrelation function* is defined

$$\hat{\rho}(k) = C(k)/C(0),$$

where

$$C(k) = \frac{1}{K - |k|} \sum_{i=1}^{K-|k|} (\delta_i - \bar{\delta})(\delta_{i+|k|} - \bar{\delta}), \quad \text{where} \quad \bar{\delta} = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i=1}^k \delta_i.$$

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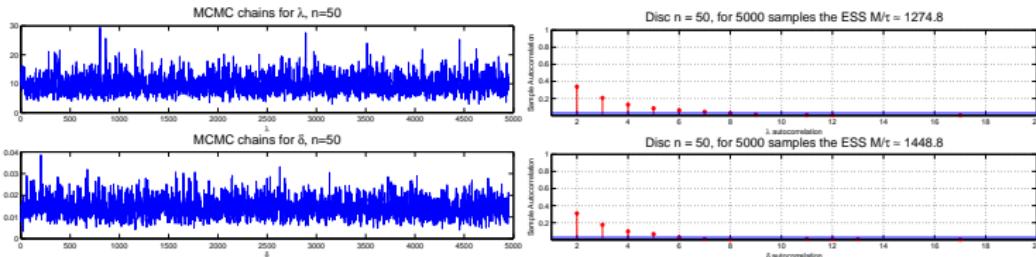
where  $\bar{K}$  is the smallest integer such that  $\bar{K} \geq 3\hat{\tau}_{\text{int}}$ , and

$$\# \text{ independent samples in } \{\delta_i\}_{k=1}^K \approx K/\hat{\tau}_{\text{int}}.$$

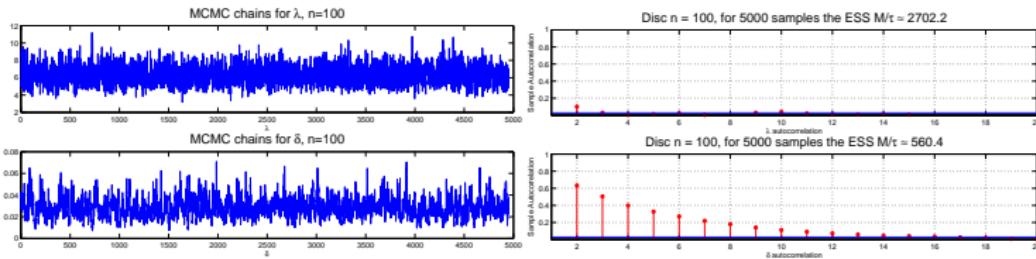
As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , correlation in  $\lambda/\delta$ -chains disappears/increases

(Work with S. Agapiou, O. Papaspiliopoulos, & Andrew Stuart)

$$n = 50$$



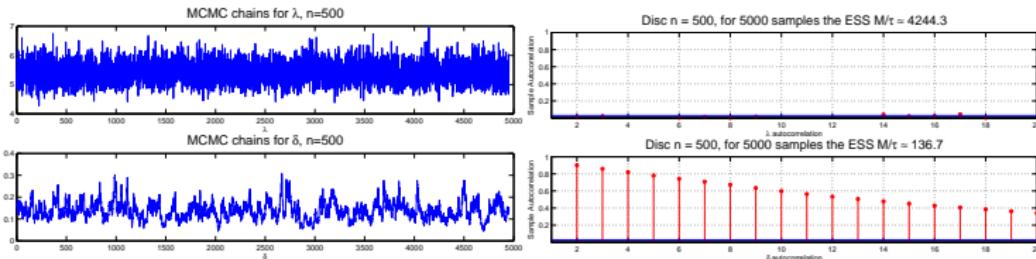
$$n = 100$$



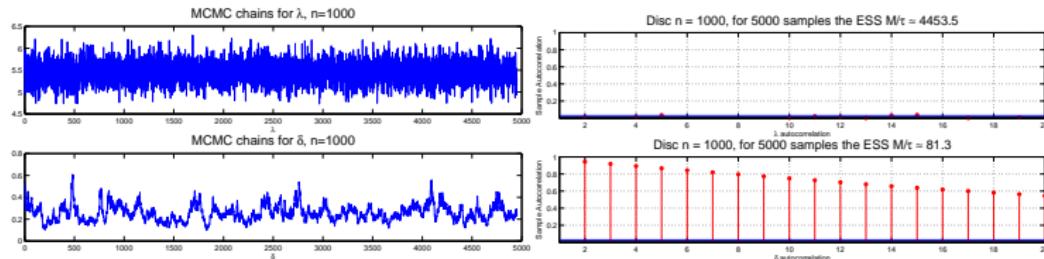
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$$n = 1000$$



To overcome this issue, we use marginalization

First note that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \frac{\delta}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} &= \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{(\lambda \|\mathbf{y}\|^2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}^T (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L}) \boldsymbol{\mu})}_{U(\lambda, \delta)} + \\ &\quad \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L}) (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}),\end{aligned}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1} \lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$ .

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where  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1} \lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) &\propto p(\lambda) p(\delta) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} U(\lambda, \delta)\right) \times \\ &\quad \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L}) (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)\end{aligned}$$

To overcome this issue, we use marginalization

$$\begin{aligned} p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) &\propto \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{x} \\ &\propto p(\lambda)p(\delta) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}U(\lambda, \delta)\right) \times \\ &\quad \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right) d\mathbf{x}}_{(2\pi)^{n/2} \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1/2}} \end{aligned}$$

To overcome this issue, we use marginalization

$$\begin{aligned} p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) &\propto \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{x} \\ &\propto p(\lambda)p(\delta) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}U(\lambda, \delta)\right) \times \\ &\quad \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right) d\mathbf{x}}_{(2\pi)^{n/2} \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1/2}} \\ &\propto p(\lambda)p(\delta) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}U(\lambda, \delta) - \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\ln \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})}_{c(\lambda, \delta)}\right). \end{aligned}$$

To overcome this issue, we use marginalization

Thus we have the *marginal density*

$$p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) \propto p(\lambda)p(\delta) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \textcolor{red}{U}(\lambda, \delta) - \frac{1}{2} \textcolor{brown}{c}(\lambda, \delta)\right),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\textcolor{red}{U}(\lambda, \delta) &= \mathbf{y}^T (\lambda \mathbf{I} - \lambda^2 \mathbf{A} (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T) \mathbf{y} \\ \textcolor{brown}{c}(\lambda, \delta) &= \ln \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L}).\end{aligned}$$

# Partially Collapsed Gibbs: Step 1, Reduce Conditioning

## Reduce Conditioning in step 2 of the Gibbs Sampler

0. Choose  $\mathbf{x}^0$ , and set  $k = 0$ ;
1. Sample from  $p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_k)$  via:
  - a.  $\lambda_{k+1} \sim \Gamma(m/2 + \alpha_\lambda, \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \beta_\lambda)$ ;
  - b. Old:  $\delta_{k+1} \sim p(\delta | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}^k, \lambda_{k+1})$ .  
New:  $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^{k+1}, \delta_{k+1}) \sim p(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \delta | \mathbf{y}, \lambda_{k+1})$ ;
2. Sample from the Gaussian  $p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}, \lambda_{k+1}, \delta_{k+1})$  via:

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})^{-1} (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}),$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})$ .

3. Set  $k = k + 1$  and return to Step 1.

**NOTE:**  $p(\lambda | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}, \delta)$  and  $p(\mathbf{x}, \delta | \mathbf{y}, \lambda)$  are not conditionally independent, so the result is not a two-stage Gibbs sampler.

## Partially Collapsed Gibbs: Step 2, Collapse/Marginalize

In step 2,  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^{k+1}$  is redundant, so we can integrate it out, to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{k+1} &\sim p(\delta|\mathbf{y}, \lambda_{k+1}) \\ &\stackrel{'d'}{=} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} p(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \delta|\mathbf{y}, \lambda_{k+1}) d\hat{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\propto p(\delta) \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} U(\lambda_{k+1}, \delta) - \frac{1}{2} c(\lambda_{k+1}, \delta) \right).\end{aligned}$$

## Partially Collapsed Gibbs: Step 2, Collapse/Marginalize

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## The Partially Collapsed Hierarchical Gibbs Sampler

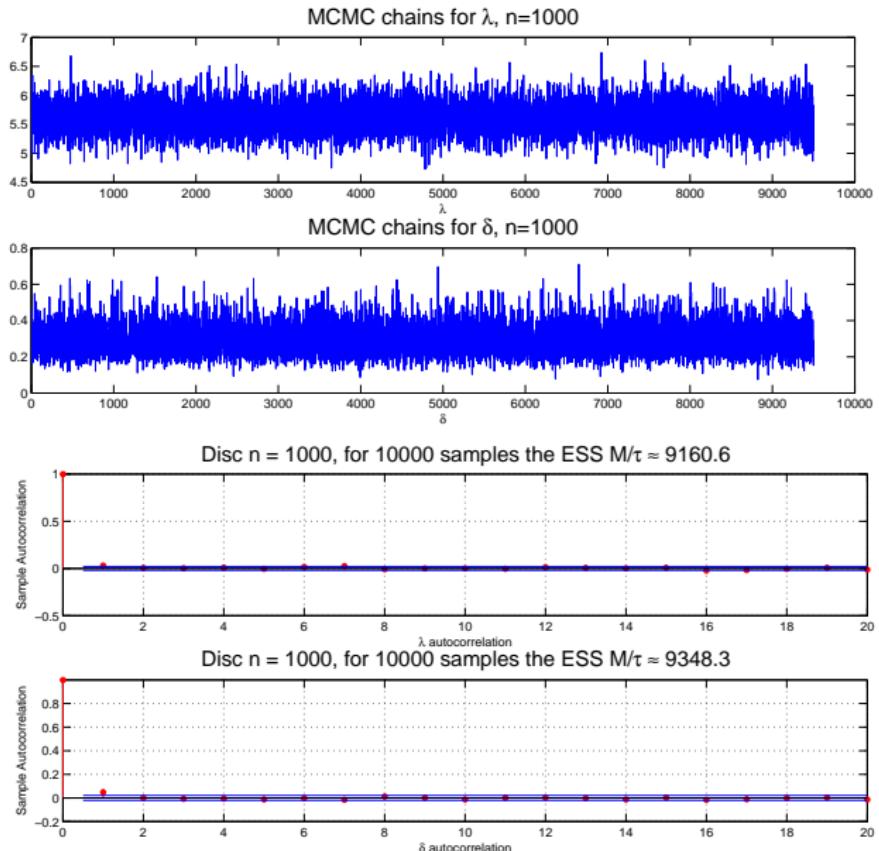
0. Choose  $\mathbf{x}^0$ , and set  $k = 0$ ;
1. Sample  $\lambda_{k+1} \sim \Gamma(m/2 + \alpha_\lambda, \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \beta_\lambda)$ ;
2. Sample  $\delta_{k+1} \sim p(\delta|\mathbf{y}, \lambda_{k+1})$ ;
3. Sample from the Gaussian  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}, \lambda_{k+1}, \delta_{k+1})$  via:

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})^{-1} (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}),$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})$ .

4. Set  $k = k + 1$  and return to Step 1.

# Chain auto-correlation plots for Partially Collapsed Gibbs



## Another option: sample directly from $p(\lambda, \delta|\mathbf{y})$

0. Initialize  $\lambda_0$ ,  $\delta_0$ , and  $\mathbf{C}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ . Set  $k = 1$ . Define  $k_{\text{total}}$ .
1. Compute

$$\begin{bmatrix} \ln(\lambda^*) \\ \ln(\delta^*) \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \ln(\lambda_{k-1}) \\ \ln(\delta_{k-1}) \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{C}_{k-1} \right).$$

Set  $[\lambda_k, \delta_k]^T = [\lambda^*, \delta^*]^T$  with probability

$$\alpha = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{p(\lambda^*, \delta^* | \mathbf{y})}{p(\lambda_{k-1}, \delta_{k-1} | \mathbf{y})} \right\},$$

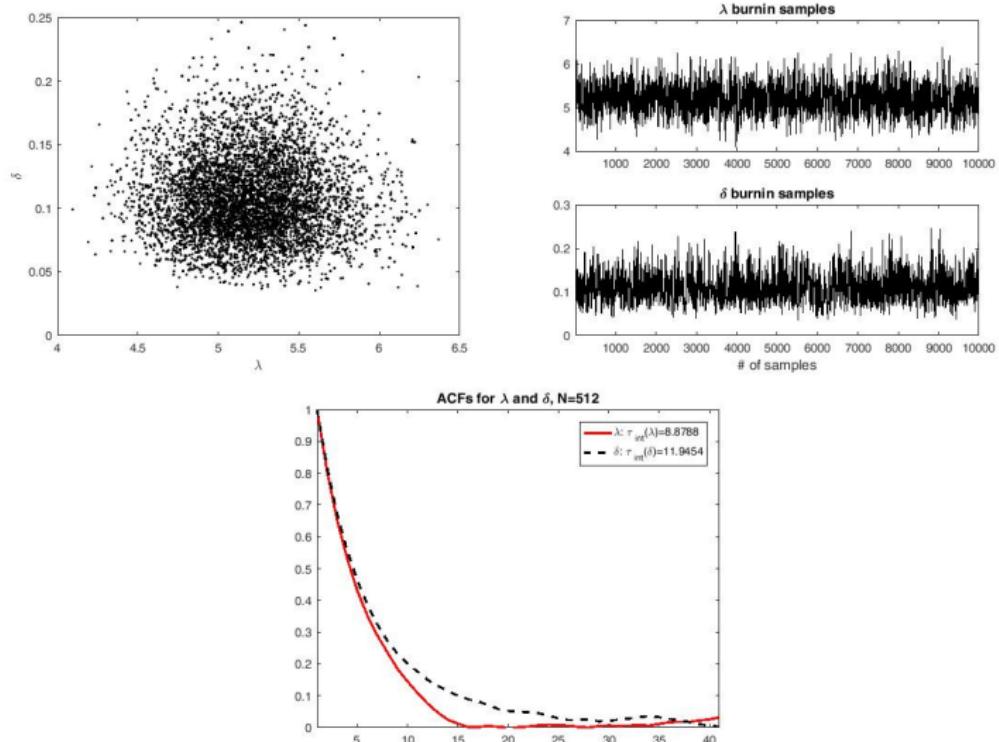
else set  $[\lambda_k, \delta_k]^T = [\lambda_{k-1}, \delta_{k-1}]^T$ .

2. Update the proposal covariance:

$$\mathbf{C}_k = \text{cov} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \ln(\lambda_0) & \ln(\delta_0) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \ln(\lambda_k) & \ln(\delta_k) \end{bmatrix} \right) + \epsilon \mathbf{I}, \quad 0 < \epsilon \ll 1.$$

3. If  $k = k_{\text{total}}$  stop, else set  $k = k + 1$  and return to Step 1.

# Chain diagnostics for AM applied to $p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y})$



# Computational Bottleneck

Evaluating

$$p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) \propto p(\lambda)p(\delta) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}U(\lambda, \delta) - \frac{1}{2}c(\lambda, \delta)\right),$$

requires

$$\begin{aligned} U(\lambda, \delta) &= \mathbf{y}^T (\lambda \mathbf{I} - \lambda^2 \mathbf{A} (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T) \mathbf{y} \\ c(\lambda, \delta) &= \ln \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L}), \end{aligned}$$

which in turn requires

- computing  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{MAP}} = (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1} \lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$ ;
- computing  $\ln \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})$ .

# Computational Bottleneck

Evaluating

$$p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y}) \propto p(\lambda)p(\delta) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \textcolor{red}{U}(\lambda, \delta) - \frac{1}{2} \textcolor{brown}{c}(\lambda, \delta)\right),$$

requires

$$\begin{aligned}\textcolor{red}{U}(\lambda, \delta) &= \mathbf{y}^T (\lambda \mathbf{I} - \lambda^2 \mathbf{A} (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T) \mathbf{y} \\ \textcolor{brown}{c}(\lambda, \delta) &= \ln \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L}),\end{aligned}$$

which in turn requires

- computing  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{MAP}} = (\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})^{-1} \lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$ ;
- computing  $\ln \det(\lambda \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta \mathbf{L})$ .

**NOTE:** For the CT test case, these can only be computed approximately.

## Hierarchical Gibbs for sampling from $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y})$

0. Choose  $\mathbf{x}^0$ , and set  $k = 0$ ;
1. Sample from  $p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{y})$ :
  - 0.1 Compute  $\lambda_{k+1} \sim \Gamma(m/2 + \alpha_\lambda, \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \beta_\lambda)$ ;
  - 0.2 Compute  $\delta_{k+1} \sim \Gamma(n/2 + \alpha_\delta, \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}^k + \beta_\delta)$ ;
2. Sample from  $p(\mathbf{x} | \lambda_{k+1}, \delta_{k+1}, \mathbf{y})$ : Compute
$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})^{-1} (\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}),$$
where  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})$ .
3. Set  $k = k + 1$  and return to Step 1.

**NOTE:** step 3 can be computationally intractible.

## Gradient Scan Gibbs Sampler

Replace step 2 with  $j_{k+1}$  CG iterations applied to

$$(\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})(\mathbf{x}^k + \mathbf{p}) = \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta},$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})$ . Then define

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \mathbf{p}^{j_{k+1}},$$

where  $\mathbf{p}^{j_{k+1}}$  is the final CG iterate.

**NOTE:** if  $j_k = n$ , this reduces to hierarchical Gibbs.

## Gradient Scan Gibbs Sampler

0. Choose  $\mathbf{x}^0$ , and set  $k = 0$ .
1. Sample from  $p(\lambda, \delta | \mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{y})$ :
  - 0.1 Compute  $\lambda_{k+1} \sim \Gamma(m/2 + \alpha_\lambda, \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{Ax}^k - \mathbf{y}\|^2 + \beta_\lambda)$ ;
  - 0.2 Compute  $\delta_{k+1} \sim \Gamma(n/2 + \alpha_\delta, \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}^k + \beta_\delta)$ .
2. Approximately sample from  $p(\mathbf{x} | \lambda_{k+1}, \delta_{k+1}, \mathbf{y})$ : apply CG to

$$(\lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})(\mathbf{x}^k + \mathbf{p}) = \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta},$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_{k+1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_{k+1} \mathbf{L})$ . Define

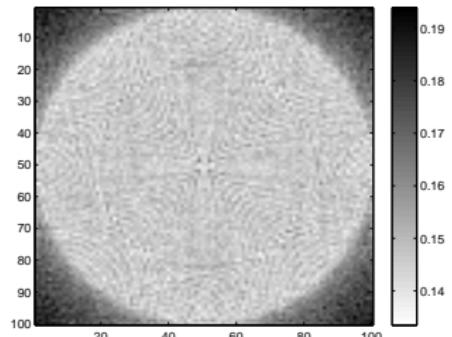
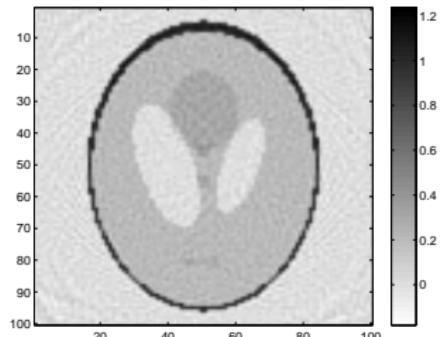
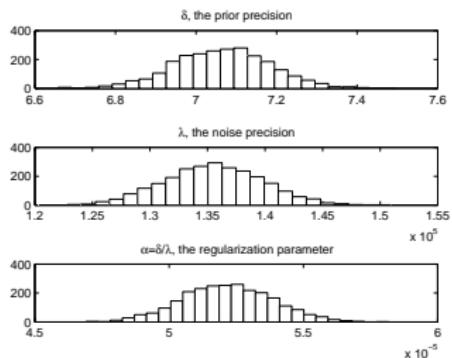
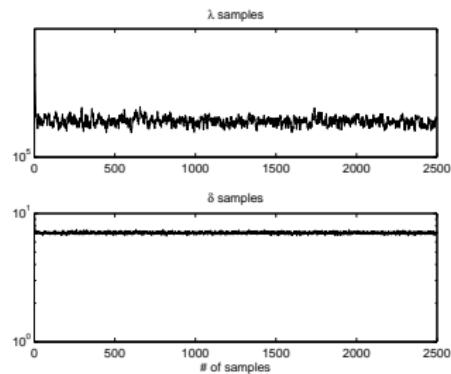
$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \mathbf{p}^{j_{k+1}},$$

where  $\mathbf{p}^{j_{k+1}}$  is the  $j_{k+1}^{\text{th}}$  CG iterate.

3. If  $k = k_{\text{total}}$  stop, otherwise, set  $k = k + 1$  and return to Step 1.

**NOTE:** the smaller is  $j_k$ , the more correlated will be the  $\mathbf{x}$ -chain.

# Grad Scan Gibbs Numerical Test: $j_k = 20$ , $n = 128^2$ .



## Conclusions/Takeaways

- Inverse problems have unique characteristics, making the use of Bayesian methods for their solution practical, challenging, and interesting.
- GMRFs provide a way of modelling the prior from pixel-level assumptions. However, not all GMRFs yield a well-defined posterior density in the infinite dimensional limit.
- Placing probability densities on  $\lambda$  and  $\delta$  yields a hierarchical posterior density  $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y})$ .
- We provided MCMC methods, derived from the Gibbs sampler, for sampling from the posterior  $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{y})$ .