## Keep the phase!

Signal recovery in phase-only compressive sensing


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October 31st, 2023

## Amplitude and Phase of Image Frequencies

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Image reconstructed with spectral phase

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1000 iterations (normalized SNR: 41 dB )

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SNR vs oversampling (1000 iter. per point)
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## Why could it be useful?

Numerous Fourier/spectral sensing applications:
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Questions: Which systems are compatible with phase-only signal estimation? $\triangleright$ (this talk) Is complex compressive sensing compatible?
Why asking?
> If compatible, insensitive to large amplitudes variations (by definition).
> If robust, easy to compress information: just quantize the spectral phase!

## (Complex) Compressive Sensing: a quick overview

Let's collect $m<n$ measurements about $x$ from this linear model:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{y}=\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \in \mathbb{C}^{m}, \tag{CS}
\end{equation*}
$$

with: > a low-complexity vector $x \in \mathcal{L} \subset \mathbb{C}^{n}$ (e.g., a vectorized image) with $\mathcal{L}$ the set of sparse signals, low-rank matrices, ...
> a complex sensing matrix $\boldsymbol{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$,
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Compressive sensing:
Despite $m<n$, if $m$ larger than $\mathcal{L}$ 's "dimension", and $\boldsymbol{A}$ is "random", the vector $x$ can be exactly recovered (or estimated if $\epsilon \neq 0$ ).
[Candès and Tao, 2005; Foucart and Rauhut, 2013]

Let's be more specific ... let's focus on the Gaussian case.

## Restricted isometry property

For some $0<\delta<1$ and $k<m<n$, if

$$
m \geqslant C \delta^{-2} k \log (n / k)
$$

and $\sqrt{m} A_{i j} \sim_{\text {i.i.d. }} \mathbb{C} \mathcal{N}(0,2) \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)+\mathrm{i} \mathcal{N}(0,1)$,
then, with high probability (w.h.p.),

$$
(1-\delta)\|\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2} \leqslant\|\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{v}\|^{2} \leqslant(1+\delta)\|\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2}, \quad \forall k \text {-sparse } \boldsymbol{v}
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So, why does CS work? Given $\boldsymbol{y}=\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x}$ with x a $k$-sparse signal, we have

$$
>\operatorname{RIP}(2 k, \delta) \Rightarrow\|\boldsymbol{y}-\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u}\|^{2}=\|\boldsymbol{A}(\boldsymbol{x}-\boldsymbol{u})\|^{2} \approx\|\boldsymbol{x}-\boldsymbol{u}\|^{2}, \text { for all } k \text {-sparse } \boldsymbol{u}
$$

$\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{A}$ is essentially invertible over the set of sparse vectors; just estimate $\boldsymbol{x}$ by finding a sparse $\boldsymbol{u}$ zeroing or minimizing $\|\boldsymbol{y}-\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u}\|^{2}$ !

The RIP supports (one of) the "fundamental theorem(s) of CS"

Theorem: If $\boldsymbol{A}$ is $\operatorname{RIP}(2 k, \delta)$ with $0<\delta<\delta_{0}\left(e . g\right.$., $\left.\delta_{0}=1 / \sqrt{2}\right)$, then the basis pursuit denoise estimate:

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\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}=\underset{\boldsymbol{u} \in \mathbb{C}^{n}}{\arg \min } \underbrace{\|\boldsymbol{u}\|_{1}}_{\text {sparsity promoting }} \text { s.t. } \underbrace{\|\boldsymbol{y}-\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u}\| \leqslant \varepsilon}_{\text {data fidelity }}, \tag{BPDN}
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See, e.g., Candès, 2008; Foucart and Rauhut, 2013.

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## Phase-Only Sensing Model for CS

Inspired by Oppenheim and Lim, 1981; Boufounos, 2013,
let's consider the phase-only (non-linear) compressive sensing model:

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\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{z}=\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x})+\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \in \mathbb{C}^{m} \tag{PO-CS}
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where: >A $\in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ is complex, but $x$ is a real ( $\mathbf{A}$ ), $k$-sparse vector;
$>\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}\left(r e^{\mathrm{i} \theta}\right):=e^{\mathrm{i} \theta}$ (and 0 if $r=0$ ), applied pointwise;
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Key observations:

1. If $x \rightarrow C x$ with $C>0, z$ is unchanged
(signal amplitude is lost)
2. If both $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{x}$ are real, then $\boldsymbol{z} \in\{ \pm 1\}^{m}$ (real PO-CS $\rightarrow$ 1-bit CS)

Fact: In noiseless 1-bit CS, best estimate s.t. $\|\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}-\boldsymbol{x}\|=\Omega(1 / m)$ if $m \uparrow$. [Boufounos and Baraniuk, 2008; Jacques et al., 2013; Plan and Vershynin, 2012]

## Noiseless Signal Recovery for PO-CS $(\epsilon=0)$

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A. Let's normalize $x$ : Any renormalized signal $c x(c>0)$, and in particular

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\boldsymbol{x}^{\star}:=\frac{\kappa \sqrt{m}}{\|\boldsymbol{A}\|_{1}} \boldsymbol{x}, \quad \text { with } \kappa:=\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}},
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preserves PO measurements, i.e., $\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}(\boldsymbol{A x})=\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}\left(\boldsymbol{A} x^{\star}\right)$.
Therefore, we focus on the recovery of $x^{\star}(\rightarrow$ encodes signal direction)

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Rationale:
> Well, it's useful for our proofs ()
> For complex Gaussian $\sqrt{m} \boldsymbol{A} \sim \mathbb{C} \mathcal{N}^{m \times n}(0,2)$ and $g \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$,

$$
\mathbb{E}|g|=\kappa \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbb{E}\|\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x}\|_{1}=\kappa \sqrt{m}\|\boldsymbol{x}\| \quad \Rightarrow \quad\left\|x^{\star}\right\| \approx 1
$$

$\Rightarrow x^{\star}$ is (almost) a unit length vector, i.e., a direction.

## Noiseless Signal Recovery for PO-CS $(\epsilon=0)$

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z=\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}\left(A x^{\star}\right)
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we see that the vector $\boldsymbol{u}=\boldsymbol{x}^{\star} \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$ respects both:

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& \operatorname{diag}(\boldsymbol{z})^{*} \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u}=(\underbrace{z_{1}^{*} \cdot(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u})_{1}}_{=\left|\left(\boldsymbol{A} x^{\star}\right)_{1}\right| \text { if } u=x^{\star}}, \cdots, \underbrace{z_{m}^{*} \cdot(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u})_{m}}_{=\left|\left(\boldsymbol{A} x^{\star}\right)_{m}\right| \text { if } u=x^{\star}})^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{m} \quad \text { (phase consistency) }
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Let's relax "phase consistency": we only impose $\operatorname{diag}(z)^{*} \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$, that is

$$
0=\Im\left(\operatorname{diag}(\boldsymbol{z})^{*} \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u}\right)=\left(\operatorname{diag}(z)^{\Re} \boldsymbol{A}^{\Im}-\operatorname{diag}(z)^{\Im} \boldsymbol{A}^{\Re}\right) \boldsymbol{u}=: \boldsymbol{H}_{\boldsymbol{z}} \boldsymbol{u} .
$$

Moreover, "normalization" means

$$
\left\langle\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{z}, \boldsymbol{u}\right\rangle=1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad\left\langle\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{z}^{\Re}, \boldsymbol{u}\right\rangle=1,\left\langle\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{z}^{\Im}, \boldsymbol{u}\right\rangle=0 .
$$

## Noiseless Signal Recovery for PO-CS $(\epsilon=0)$

In summary, $\boldsymbol{u}=\boldsymbol{x}^{\star}$ respects the relaxed, real $m+2$ constraints $\ldots$

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\boldsymbol{A}_{z} \boldsymbol{u}=\boldsymbol{e}_{1}:=(1,0, \cdots, 0)^{\top} \quad \Rightarrow \begin{aligned}
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& \text { sensing model! } \\
& \text { Like "Ax=y"}
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\boldsymbol{A}_{z}:=\left(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{z}^{\Re}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{z}^{\Im}, \boldsymbol{H}_{z}^{\top}\right)^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{(m+2) \times n}
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In other words,
$>$ A good estimate $\hat{x}$ of $\boldsymbol{x}^{\star}$ should respect the linear model $\boldsymbol{A}_{z} \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}=\boldsymbol{e}_{1}$ since $\boldsymbol{x}^{\star} \in\left\{\boldsymbol{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{n}: \boldsymbol{A}_{\boldsymbol{z}} \hat{\boldsymbol{u}}=\boldsymbol{e}_{1}\right\}$.
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> We know this estimate should be sparse (as for $\boldsymbol{x}^{\star}$ )
$\Rightarrow$ As in linear CS, we can compute $\hat{x}$ from a basis pursuit program (BP)

$$
\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}=\underset{\boldsymbol{u} \in \mathbb{C} n}{\arg \min }\|\boldsymbol{u}\|_{1} \text { s.t. } \quad \boldsymbol{A}_{z} \boldsymbol{u}=\boldsymbol{e}_{1}, \quad\left(\operatorname{BP}\left(\boldsymbol{A}_{z}, \boldsymbol{e}_{1}\right)\right)
$$

Question: How far is $\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ from $\boldsymbol{x}^{\star}$ ? Well, let's see if $\boldsymbol{A}_{\boldsymbol{z}}$ respects the RIP!

Given $\boldsymbol{z}=\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x})$, how could $\boldsymbol{A}_{\boldsymbol{z}}:=\left(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\boldsymbol{z}}^{\Re}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\boldsymbol{z}}^{\Im}, \boldsymbol{H}_{z}^{\top}\right)^{\top}$ respect the RIP?
For a sparse $\boldsymbol{v}$,

$$
\left\|\boldsymbol{A}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}\right\|^{2}:=\left|\left\langle\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{z}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle\right|^{2}+\left\|\boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}\right\|^{2}
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you can show that, for complex Gaussian $\boldsymbol{A}$ :
$\rangle\left\langle\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\boldsymbol{z}}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle=\left\langle\frac{1}{\kappa \sqrt{m}} \boldsymbol{A}^{*} \boldsymbol{z}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle \approx\left\langle\frac{\boldsymbol{x}}{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle \approx$ projection of $\boldsymbol{v}$ onto $\mathcal{X}:=\mathbb{R} \boldsymbol{x}$
Proof: $\frac{1}{m} \mathbb{E}\left\langle\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}} \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u}, \sqrt{m} \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle=\kappa\left\langle\frac{\boldsymbol{u}}{\|\boldsymbol{u}\|}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle$ if $\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$
$\rightarrow$ sign product embedding (SPE) $\equiv$ extension $\forall k$-sparse $\boldsymbol{v}(w h p)$.
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$\rightarrow$ pick $\boldsymbol{u}=\boldsymbol{x}$
> $\boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{x}=0$ (by construction)
$\rightarrow \boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}=\boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}^{\perp}$, with $\boldsymbol{v}^{\perp}:=\boldsymbol{v}-\left\langle\boldsymbol{v}, \frac{x}{\|x\|}\right\rangle \frac{x}{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|} \in \mathcal{X}^{\perp}$

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$\rangle\left\langle\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\boldsymbol{z}}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle=\left\langle\frac{1}{\kappa \sqrt{m}} \boldsymbol{A}^{*} \boldsymbol{z}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle \approx\left\langle\frac{\boldsymbol{x}}{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle \approx$ projection of $\boldsymbol{v}$ onto $\mathcal{X}:=\mathbb{R} \boldsymbol{x}$
Proof: $\frac{1}{m} \mathbb{E}\left\langle\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}} \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{u}, \sqrt{m} \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle=\kappa\left\langle\frac{\boldsymbol{u}}{\|\boldsymbol{u}\|}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle$ if $\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$
$\rightarrow$ sign product embedding (SPE) $\equiv$ extension $\forall k$-sparse $\boldsymbol{v}(w h p)$.
$\rightarrow$ pick $\boldsymbol{u}=\boldsymbol{x}$
> $\boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{x}=0$ (by construction)
$\rightarrow \boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}=\boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}^{\perp}$, with $\boldsymbol{v}^{\perp}:=\boldsymbol{v}-\left\langle\boldsymbol{v}, \frac{x}{\|x\|}\right\rangle \frac{x}{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|} \in \mathcal{X}^{\perp}$
$>$ and $H_{z}$ RIP on $2 k$-sparse signals $\cap \mathcal{X}^{\perp}$ :

$$
\left\|\boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}^{\perp}\right\|^{2} \approx\left\|\boldsymbol{v}^{\perp}\right\|^{2}
$$

Given $\boldsymbol{z}=\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x})$, how could $\boldsymbol{A}_{\boldsymbol{z}}:=\left(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\boldsymbol{z}}^{\Re}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\boldsymbol{z}}^{\Im}, \boldsymbol{H}_{z}^{\top}\right)^{\top}$ respect the RIP?
For a sparse $\boldsymbol{v}$,

$$
\left\|\boldsymbol{A}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}\right\|^{2}:=\left|\left\langle\alpha_{z}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle\right|^{2}+\left\|\boldsymbol{H}_{z} \boldsymbol{v}\right\|^{2} \approx\left\langle\frac{x}{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|}, \boldsymbol{v}\right\rangle^{2}+\left\|\boldsymbol{v}^{\perp}\right\|^{2}=\|\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2}
$$

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Final statement:
Theorem: Given $x$ and $0<\delta<1, \sqrt{m} \boldsymbol{A} \sim \mathbb{C N}^{m \times n}(0,2)$, if

$$
m \geqslant C \delta^{-2} k \log (n / k)
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then, w.h.p., $\boldsymbol{A}_{z}$ satisfies the RIP $(k, \delta)$.

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then, w.h.p., $\boldsymbol{A}_{z}$ satisfies the $\operatorname{RIP}(k, \delta)$.

## Consequences:

$>$ For $\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}=\operatorname{BP}\left(\boldsymbol{A}_{z}, \boldsymbol{e}_{1}\right)$, if $\boldsymbol{A}_{\boldsymbol{z}}$ is $\operatorname{RIP}\left(\delta<\delta_{0}, 2 k\right)$, we get exact reconstruction of signal direction, i.e., $\hat{x}=x^{\star}$ !
$>+$ Stability \& robustness (aka instance optimality) with BPDN (see paper)

## Simulations

Let's plot a phase-transition curve: we generate $\sqrt{m} \boldsymbol{A} \sim \mathbb{C N}^{m \times 256}(0,2)$ \&
> 20 -sparse vectors in $\mathbb{R}^{256}$;
> $m \in[1,256]$ and average over 100 trials;
> Reconstruction successful if $S N R \geqslant 60 \mathrm{~dB}$.

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Interestingly:
> These results are not covered by theory.
> Bernoulli random matrices do not work for 1-bit CS.
> Fourier sensing has PO-CS counter-examples (that cannot be recovered)! e.g., for $\boldsymbol{x}^{\prime}:=\boldsymbol{h} * \boldsymbol{x}$ with $\hat{h}_{k}>0, \forall k, \quad \operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}\left(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x}^{\prime}\right)=\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x})$.

## Take-Away Messages

1. In Gauss' world, despite:
> the non-linearity of its sensing model,
> and the bad example of 1-bit CS (the "real" PO-CS),
phase-only compressive sensing works "as well as" (linear) CS.
2. What is recovered/estimated is the signal direction (via $x^{\star}$ ).
3. Applications: phase-quantization procedures with bounded distortion e.g., in radar, MRI, ...
4. Open/Closed questions:
> (minor) Extension to complex signals \& uniform result
$\rightarrow$ Chen and Ng, 2023
> (major) Theoretical extension to other random sensing matrices.

## Thank you!

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## - Extra slides -

## Extra simulations: noisy case

We generate $\sqrt{m} \boldsymbol{A} \sim \mathbb{C N}^{m \times 256}(0,2)$ \&
> 20-sparse vectors in $\mathbb{R}^{256}$;
$>m \in[1,256]$ and average over 100 trials;
$>\boldsymbol{z}=\operatorname{sign}_{\mathbb{C}}(\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x})+\boldsymbol{\xi}$, with $\boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbb{C}^{m}$ and $\|\boldsymbol{\xi}\|_{\infty} \leqslant \tau$.


## Simplifying hypothesis

## Phase-only observation in Compressive Sensing?

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Let's first simplify the context ...

1. We consider the sensing of real vectors $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$.

Note: If complex signal $x$, we can always rewrite

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\boldsymbol{A} x=\left(\boldsymbol{A}^{\Re}+\mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{A}^{\Im}\right)\left(\boldsymbol{x}^{\Re}+\mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{x}^{\Im}\right)=(\boldsymbol{A}, \mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{A})\binom{\boldsymbol{x}^{\Re}}{\boldsymbol{x}^{\Im}}=\overline{\boldsymbol{A}} \overline{\boldsymbol{x}}
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with $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 n}$ and $\overline{\boldsymbol{A}} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times 2 n}$.

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Caveat: This can impact the signal model e.g., sparse in $\mathbb{C}^{n} \equiv$ group sparse in $\mathbb{R}^{2 n}$.

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Caveat: This can impact the signal model e.g., sparse in $\mathbb{C}^{n} \equiv$ group sparse in $\mathbb{R}^{2 n}$.
2. We focus here on the case of sparse vectors in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$.

However, extension to any low-complexity signals is possible (with small "dimension", that is Gaussian mean width)

