



# Fast Compressive Phase Retrieval

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## The Compressive Phase Retrieval Problem

Let  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  be a  $k$ -sparse signal, with  $k \ll n$ . Given squared magnitude measurements

$$\mathbf{y} = |\mathcal{M}\mathbf{x}|^2 + \mathbf{n},$$

where  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  denotes a measurement matrix and  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  denotes measurement noise, the compressive phase retrieval problem seeks to recover the unknown signal  $\mathbf{x}$  (upto some global phase offset) using only  $m \ll n$  phaseless measurements,  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

We are interested in measurement constructions  $\mathcal{M}$  and associated recovery algorithms  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{M}} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  which are efficient, use a minimal number of measurements, and are robust to measurement errors.

The phase retrieval problem occurs in several fields of science such as X-ray crystallography, optics, astronomy and quantum mechanics, where, either due to the underlying physics or instrumentation limitations, we are unable to acquire phase information.

### Main Result

There exists a deterministic algorithm  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{M}} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  for which the following holds: Let  $\epsilon \in (0, 1]$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  with  $n$  sufficiently large, and  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \subset \mathbb{N}$ . Then, one can select a random measurement matrix  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  such that

$$\min_{\theta \in [0, 2\pi)} \|e^{i\theta} \mathbf{x} - \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{M}}(|\mathcal{M}\mathbf{x}|^2)\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k^{\text{opt}}\|_2 + \frac{22\epsilon \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k^{\text{opt}}\|_1}{\sqrt{k}}$$

is true with probability at least  $1 - \frac{1}{C \cdot \log^2(n) \cdot \log^3(\log n)}$ . Here,  $m$  can be chosen to be  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon} \cdot \log^3\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right) \cdot \log^3(\log \frac{k}{\epsilon}) \cdot \log n\right)$ . Furthermore, the algorithm will run in  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon} \cdot \log^4\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right) \cdot \log^3(\log \frac{k}{\epsilon}) \cdot \log n\right)$ -time.

This is the *first sub-linear time* compressive phase retrieval algorithm.

Both the sampling and runtime complexities are *sub-linear* in the problem size and *(poly)log-linear* in the sparsity.

### Proposed Algorithm

Let  $\mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times d}$  denote an admissible phase retrieval matrix associated with the phase retrieval method  $\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}$ , and let  $\mathcal{C} \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times n}$  denote a compressive sensing matrix associated with the sub-linear time compressive sensing algorithm  $\Delta_{\mathcal{C}}$ .

Construct the measurement matrix  $\mathcal{M}$  for the compressive phase retrieval problem as  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{P}\mathcal{C}$ . Now, consider the following simple two stage formulation:

- Apply a fast phase retrieval method,  $\Delta_{\mathcal{P}} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^d$ , to the phaseless measurements  $\mathbf{y}$  and recover an intermediate compressed signal  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{C}^d$ , where  $d = \mathcal{O}(k \log k \cdot \log n)$ .
- Next, use a *sub-linear time* compressive sensing algorithm,  $\Delta_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathbb{C}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ , to recover the unknown signal  $\mathbf{x}$ .

We can show that  $\Delta_{\mathcal{C}} \circ \Delta_{\mathcal{P}} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  recovers the unknown signal  $\mathbf{x}$  upto a global phase factor accurately and stably.

## Ingredients: (I) Fast (Non-Sparse) Phase Retrieval

Use measurement constructions  $\mathcal{P}$  arising from local correlation-based measurements. For example, with noiseless measurements  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{12}$ ,  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{C}^4$ , and  $\mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{C}^{12 \times 4}$ , we have

$$\mathcal{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{P}_1 \\ \mathcal{P}_2 \\ \mathcal{P}_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{P}_i \in \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, 3\}, \quad \mathcal{P}_i = \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{p}_i)_1^* & (\mathbf{p}_i)_2^* & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & (\mathbf{p}_i)_1^* & (\mathbf{p}_i)_2^* & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_i)_3^* & (\mathbf{p}_i)_4^* \\ (\mathbf{p}_i)_2^* & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_i)_1^* \end{pmatrix}.$$

This corresponds to (squared magnitude) *correlation* measurements of the intermediate compressed signal  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{C}^4$  with three *local* masks  $\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3 \in \mathbb{C}^4$ , where  $(p_i)_\ell = 0$  for  $\ell > 2, i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Writing out the correlation sum explicitly and setting  $\delta = 2$ , we obtain

$$(y_i)_\ell = \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\delta} (\mathbf{p}_i)_k^* \cdot z_{\ell+k-1} \right|^2 = \sum_{j,k=1}^{\delta} (\mathbf{p}_i)_j (\mathbf{p}_i)_k^* z_{\ell+j-1} z_{\ell+k-1}^* := \sum_{j,k=1}^{\delta} (\mathbf{p}_i)_{j,k} z_{\ell+j-1} z_{\ell+k-1}^*,$$

where we have used the notation  $(\mathbf{p}_i)_{j,k} := (\mathbf{p}_i)_j (\mathbf{p}_i)_k^*$ . The resulting *linear* system of equations for the (scaled) phase differences  $\{z_i z_j^*\}$  may be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} (y_1)_1 \\ (y_2)_1 \\ (y_3)_1 \\ (y_1)_2 \\ (y_2)_2 \\ (y_3)_2 \\ (y_1)_3 \\ (y_2)_3 \\ (y_3)_3 \\ (y_1)_4 \\ (y_2)_4 \\ (y_3)_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 \\ (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} \\ (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} \\ (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} |z_1|^2 \\ z_1 z_2^* \\ z_2 z_1^* \\ |z_2|^2 \\ z_2 z_3^* \\ z_3 z_2^* \\ |z_3|^2 \\ z_3 z_4^* \\ z_4 z_3^* \\ |z_4|^2 \\ z_4 z_1^* \\ z_1 z_4^* \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is a *block-circulant* system which can be inverted efficiently using FFTs. Moreover, both random and *deterministic* prescriptions for the measurement masks  $\mathbf{p}_i$  are available, and we can show that the resulting system is well-conditioned (see [1] for details). Note that by solving this linear system, we automatically obtain  $|\mathbf{z}|$ . Moreover, we can solve an *angular synchronization* problem using an eigenvector method to recover  $\arg \mathbf{z}$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} |z_1|^2 & z_1 z_2^* & 0 & z_1 z_4^* \\ z_2 z_1^* & |z_2|^2 & z_2 z_3^* & 0 \\ 0 & z_3 z_2^* & |z_3|^2 & z_3 z_4^* \\ z_4 z_1^* & 0 & z_4 z_3^* & |z_4|^2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{normalize}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & e^{i(\phi_1 - \phi_2)} & 0 & e^{i(\phi_1 - \phi_4)} \\ e^{i(\phi_2 - \phi_1)} & 1 & e^{i(\phi_2 - \phi_3)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i(\phi_3 - \phi_2)} & 1 & e^{i(\phi_3 - \phi_4)} \\ e^{i(\phi_4 - \phi_1)} & 0 & e^{i(\phi_4 - \phi_3)} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{eigenvector}]{\text{leading}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\phi_1} \\ e^{i\phi_2} \\ e^{i\phi_3} \\ e^{i\phi_4} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note that the leading eigenvector may be computed using the power method in essentially linear-time (see [3] for details). The above framework recovers “flat” (i.e., non-sparse)  $\mathbf{z}$ . To recover arbitrary vectors, we multiply  $\mathcal{P}$  with a random unitary matrix (a fast Johnson-Lindenstrauss transform) to “flatten”  $\mathbf{z}$ .

The sampling and runtime complexities for this method are  $\mathcal{O}(d \cdot \log^2 d \cdot \log^3(\log d))$  and  $\mathcal{O}(d \cdot \log^3 d \cdot \log^3(\log d))$  respectively.

## Ingredients: (II) Sub-Linear Time Compressive Sensing

Choose the measurement matrix  $\mathcal{C}$  to be a random sparse binary matrix obtained by randomly sub-sampling rows of a well-chosen incoherent matrix (for example, the adjacency matrix of certain unbalanced expander graphs). In [2], it is shown that these matrices satisfy certain combinatorial properties which permit the use of fast compressed sensing recovery algorithms.

The recovery algorithm then proceeds in two phases:

- Identify the  $k$  largest magnitude entries of  $\mathbf{x}$  using standard bit-testing techniques.
- Estimate these  $k$  largest entries using median estimates and techniques from computer science streaming literature.

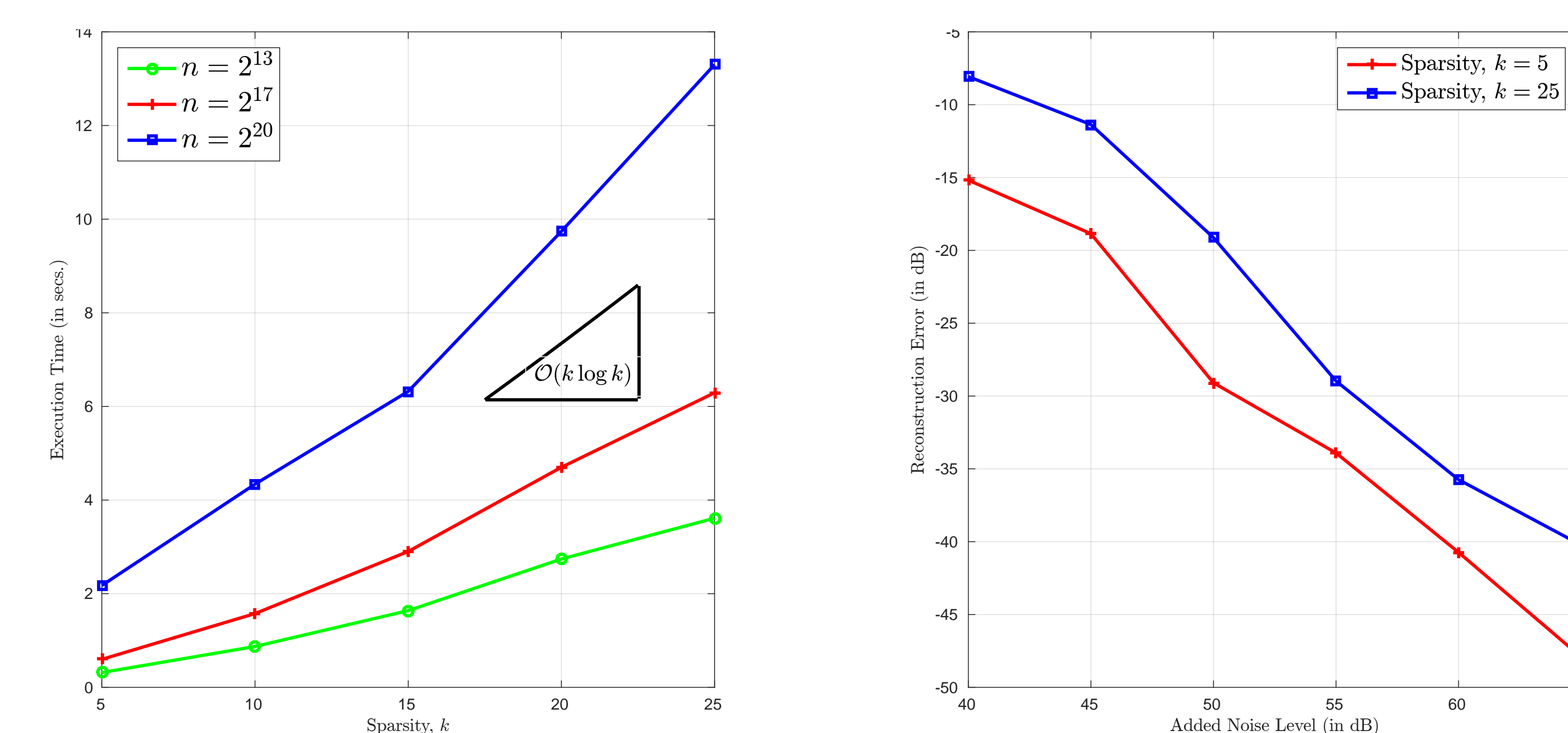
The sampling and runtime complexities of this method are both  $\mathcal{O}(k \cdot \log k \cdot \log n)$ .

## Numerical Results

Left panel figure shows execution time as a function of sparsity for various problem dimensions. We observe that the overall execution time is sub-linear in the problem size  $n$  and (poly) log-linear in the sparsity  $k$ .

The right panel figure illustrates robustness of the method to (i.i.d. Gaussian) measurement noise. It plots the reconstruction error in dB as a function of the added noise level (in dB) for a length  $n = 2^{20}$  signal using less than 10% of measurements.

In both cases, complex sparse test signals with i.i.d complex Gaussian non-zero entries were used, with non-zero index locations chosen by  $k$ -permutations.



## References and Acknowledgement

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