

# Fast Angular Synchronization for Phase Retrieval via Incomplete Information

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**MICHIGAN STATE**  

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**U N I V E R S I T Y**

Wavelets and Sparsity XVI  
SPIE Optics + Photonics  
12<sup>th</sup> Aug 2015

Joint work with



Mark Iwen



Yang Wang

Research supported in part by National Science Foundation grant  
DMS 1043034.

# The Phase Retrieval Problem

$$\text{find } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^d \text{ given } |M\mathbf{x}|^2 = \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^D,$$

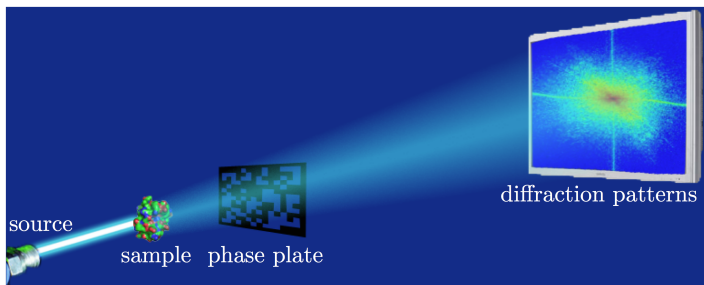
where

- $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^D$  are the magnitude or intensity measurements.
- $M \in \mathbb{C}^{D \times d}$  is a measurement matrix associated with these measurements.

Let  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^d$  denote the recovery method.

The phase retrieval problem involves designing measurement matrix and recovery method pairs,  $(M, \mathcal{A})$ .

# Motivating Applications



From "Phase Retrieval from Coded Diffraction Patterns" by E. J. Candes, X. Li, and M. Soltanolkotabi.

## Important applications of Phase Retrieval

- X-ray crystallography
- Diffraction imaging
- Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)

In many molecular imaging applications, the detectors only capture intensity measurements.

# Existing Computational Approaches

- Alternating projection methods  
[Fienup, 1978], [Fannjiang and Liao, 2012], ...
- Methods based on semidefinite programming  
PhaseLift [Candes et al., 2012], PhaseCut [Waldspurger et al., 2012], ...
- Others
  - Frame-theoretic, graph based algorithms [Alexeev et al., 2014]
  - (Stochastic) gradient descent [Candes et al., 2014]
  - [Philipp, 2014], ...

# Today...

- Summarize recently introduced **essentially linear-time** phase retrieval algorithm based on (**deterministic**<sup>1</sup>) **block-circulant measurement constructions**. This algorithm requires solving an *angular synchronization problem*.

## The Angular Synchronization Problem

Estimate  $d$  unknown angles  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_d \in [0, 2\pi)$  from noisy and possibly incomplete measurements of their differences,

$$\Delta\theta_{ij} := \theta_i - \theta_j \pmod{2\pi}.$$

- Discuss fast angular synchronization algorithms when we have **structured** but **highly incomplete** phase difference measurements.

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<sup>1</sup>for “flat” vectors

# Outline

- 1 The Phase Retrieval Problem
- 2 BlockPR: Fast Phase Retrieval from Block-Circulant Measurements**
- 3 Angular Synchronization
- 4 Numerical Simulations

# Block-Circulant Measurements

[Iwen, V. and Wang, 2015 (arXiv:1501.02377)]

Block-circulant measurement constructions arise when we acquire correlation (or convolution) type measurements with compactly supported masks.

- Let  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1 \ x_2 \ \dots \ x_d]^T \in \mathbb{C}^d$  be the unknown signal.
- Let  $(\mathbf{p}_i) = [(\mathbf{p}_i)_1 \ (\mathbf{p}_i)_2 \ \dots \ (\mathbf{p}_i)_\delta \ 0 \ \dots \ 0]^T$  be the  $i^{\text{th}}$  mask. Observe that only its first  $\delta$  entries are non-zero.
- Suppose we are given (squared) correlation measurements

$$\mathbf{b}_i = |\text{corr}(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{x})|^2, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

corresponding to  $N$  distinct masks.



# Block-Circulant Measurements

[Iwen, V. and Wang, 2015 (arXiv:1501.02377)]

Explicitly writing out each measurement, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(b_i)_\ell &= \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\delta} (\mathbf{p}_i)_k^* \cdot x_{\ell+k-1} \right|^2, \quad \ell \in 1, 2, \dots, d, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N \\ &= \sum_{j,k=1}^{\delta} (\mathbf{p}_i)_j (\mathbf{p}_i)_k^* x_{\ell+j-1} x_{\ell+k-1}^*.\end{aligned}$$

This is a system of **linear equations** for the phase differences  $x_j x_k^*$ .

Example:  $d = 4$ ,  $\delta = 2$ .

Writing out the correlation sum, we obtain the linear system<sup>2</sup>

$$M' \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{b},$$

where

$$\mathbf{x}' = [|x_1|^2 \quad x_1 x_2^* \quad x_2 x_1^* \quad |x_2|^2 \quad x_2 x_3^* \quad x_3 x_2^* \quad |x_3|^2 \quad x_3 x_4^* \quad x_4 x_3^* \quad |x_4|^2 \quad x_4 x_1^* \quad x_1 x_4^*]^T,$$

$$\mathbf{b} = [(b_1)_1 \quad (b_2)_1 \quad (b_3)_1 \quad (b_1)_2 \quad (b_2)_2 \quad (b_3)_2 \quad (b_1)_3 \quad (b_2)_3 \quad (b_3)_3 \quad (b_1)_4 \quad (b_2)_4 \quad (b_3)_4]^T, \text{ and}$$

$$M' = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 \\ (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_1)_{2,1} \\ (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_2)_{2,1} \\ (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,1} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{1,2} & (\mathbf{p}_3)_{2,1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

For large  $d$ , we can solve for  $\mathbf{x}'$  using FFTs!

<sup>2</sup>we have used the notation  $(\mathbf{p}_i)_{j,k} := (\mathbf{p}_i)_j (\mathbf{p}_i)_k^*$ .

# Block-Circulant Matrix: Condition Number Bounds

Theorem (Iwen, V., Wang 2015)

Choose entries of the measurement mask  $(\mathbf{p}_i)$  as follows:

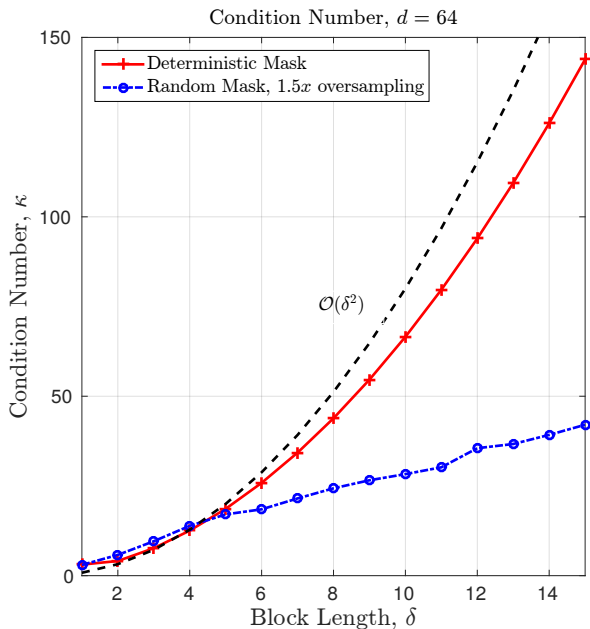
$$(\mathbf{p}_i)_\ell = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-\ell/a}}{\sqrt[4]{2\delta-1}} \cdot e^{\frac{2\pi i \cdot i \cdot \ell}{2\delta-1}}, & \ell \leq \delta \\ 0, & \ell > \delta \end{cases}, \quad \begin{matrix} a := \max \left\{ 4, \frac{\delta-1}{2} \right\}, \\ i = 1, 2, \dots, N. \end{matrix}$$

Then, the resulting system matrix for the phase differences,  $M'$ , has condition number

$$\kappa(M') < \max \left\{ 144e^2, \frac{9e^2}{4} \cdot (\delta - 1)^2 \right\}.$$

- **Deterministic** (windowed DFT-type) measurement masks!
- $\delta$  is typically chosen to be  $c \log_2 d$  with  $c$  small (2–3).
- Extensions: oversampling, random masks . . . .

# Block-Circulant Matrix: Condition Number Bounds



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# Back to our Example ...

$$[|x_1|^2 \quad x_1x_2^* \quad x_2x_1^* \quad |x_2|^2 \quad x_2x_3^* \quad x_3x_2^* \quad |x_3|^2 \quad x_3x_4^* \quad x_4x_3^* \quad |x_4|^2 \quad x_4x_1^* \quad x_1x_4^*]^T$$

↓ (re-arrange)

$$\begin{bmatrix} |x_1|^2 & x_1x_2^* & 0 & x_1x_4^* \\ x_2x_1^* & |x_2|^2 & x_2x_3^* & 0 \\ 0 & x_3x_2^* & |x_3|^2 & x_3x_4^* \\ x_4x_1^* & 0 & x_4x_3^* & |x_4|^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2\delta - 1 \text{ entries in band})$$

↓ (normalize)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & e^{i(\phi_1 - \phi_2)} & 0 & e^{i(\phi_1 - \phi_4)} \\ e^{i(\phi_2 - \phi_1)} & 1 & e^{i(\phi_2 - \phi_3)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i(\phi_3 - \phi_2)} & 1 & e^{i(\phi_3 - \phi_4)} \\ e^{i(\phi_4 - \phi_1)} & 0 & e^{i(\phi_4 - \phi_3)} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

↓ (angular synchronization)

$$\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4$$

(Signal Reconstruction)  $[|x_1|e^{i\phi_1} \quad |x_2|e^{i\phi_2} \quad |x_3|e^{i\phi_3} \quad |x_4|e^{i\phi_4}]^T$

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# The Angular Synchronization Problem

After solving the block-circulant system, we recover the diagonal entries of the rank one matrix  $\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^* \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ ;

$$\text{i.e.,} \quad (X')_{j,k} = \begin{cases} (\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^*)_{j,k} & \text{if } |j - k \bmod d| < \delta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} .$$

Normalizing each entry of  $X'$ , we obtain the matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$  with

$$(A)_{j,k} = \begin{cases} e^{i(\phi_j - \phi_k)} & \text{if } |j - k \bmod d| < \delta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} ,$$

where  $x_j = C_j e^{i\phi_j}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$ .

The Angular Synchronization problem: Given  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$ , find (upto a global phase offset)  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_d \in [0, 2\pi)$ , or equivalently, the vector  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathbb{C}^d$  with

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})_j := e^{i\phi_j} = x_j / |x_j|.$$

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## Previous Work

- Eigenvector and Semidefinite Programming based methods (Singer 2011, Bandeira et al. 2013, Bandeira et al. 2014)  
Analysis under the assumption that phase difference measurements are missing at random.
- Others: Greedy methods (Iwen et al. 2015), Alternating projection algorithms ...

What's different with our realization of the problem?

$$(A)_{j,k} = \begin{cases} e^{i(\phi_j - \phi_k)} & \text{if } |j - k \bmod d| < \delta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases},$$

Structured, highly incomplete phase difference data

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Structured, highly incomplete phase difference data

# Spectral Properties of $A$

## Lemma

*The largest eigenvalue of  $A$  is  $\lambda_1 = 2\delta - 1$ , and  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  with this maximal eigenvalue.*

The leading eigenvector is indeed the desired solution of this angular synchronization problem.

Note:

$$(\tilde{x})_j := e^{i\phi_j} = x_j/|x_j|.$$

# Spectral Properties of $A$

## Lemma

*The smallest eigenvalue of  $A$  has magnitude  $|\lambda_d| \leq 2\delta - 3 = \lambda_1 - 2$  for all  $\delta \geq 3$ .*

## Lemma

*The largest two eigenvalues of  $A$  are not equal,  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ , for all  $\delta \geq 2$ .*

- The top eigenvector solution is unique.
- $\lambda_1 > |\lambda_d|$ .



# Spectral Properties of $A$

## Lemma

Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . We will have  $c \sqrt{\sum_{j=2}^d \lambda_j^2} \leq \lambda_1$  whenever  $\delta \geq \frac{1+(d+1)c^2}{2(1+c^2)}$ .

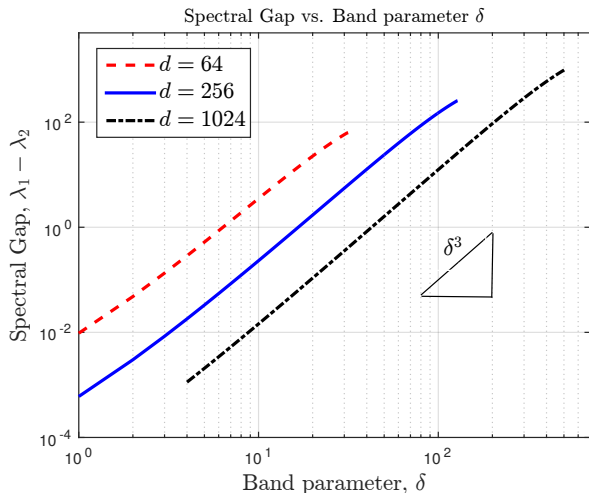
The largest eigenvalue will contain a substantial fraction of the spectral energy of  $A$  if  $\delta$  is taken to be sufficiently large.

Approximate  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  by the leading eigenvector of  $A$ . This can be computed efficiently using the power method.

# Outline

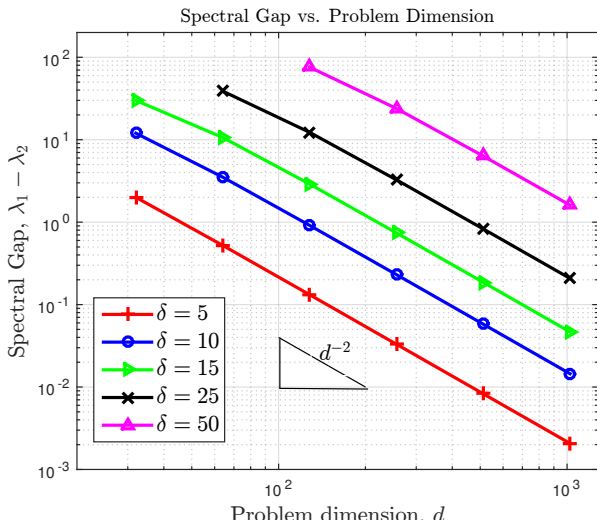
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# Spectral Properties of $A$ : Spectral Gap vs $\delta$



- $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  is iid standard Complex Gaussian.
- Averaged over 100 trials.
- Computed using Matlab's eigs.

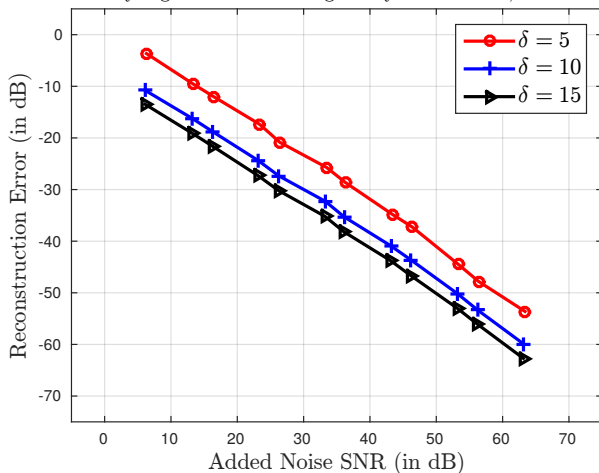
# Spectral Properties of $A$ : Spectral Gap vs $\delta$



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# Noisy Angular Synchronization

Noisy Eigenvector-based Angular Synchronization,  $d = 256$

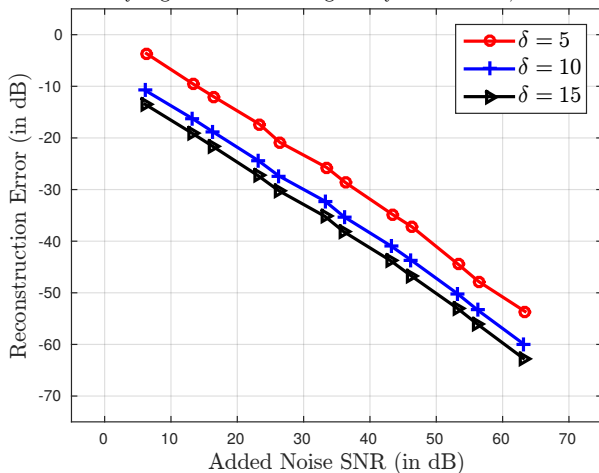


Noise Model:

$$(Y')_{j,k} = (X')_{j,k} + \underbrace{\eta_{j,k}}_{\mathcal{CN}(0, \mathbb{I}_d)} = \begin{cases} (\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^*)_{j,k} + \eta_{j,k} & \text{if } |j - k \bmod d| < \delta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

# Noisy Angular Synchronization

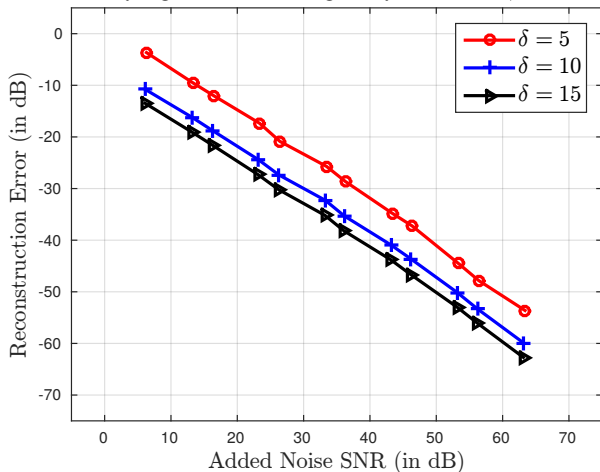
Noisy Eigenvector-based Angular Synchronization,  $d = 256$



$$\text{Added Noise SNR (dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\|X'\|_F^2}{\|Y' - X'\|_F^2} \right)$$

# Noisy Angular Synchronization

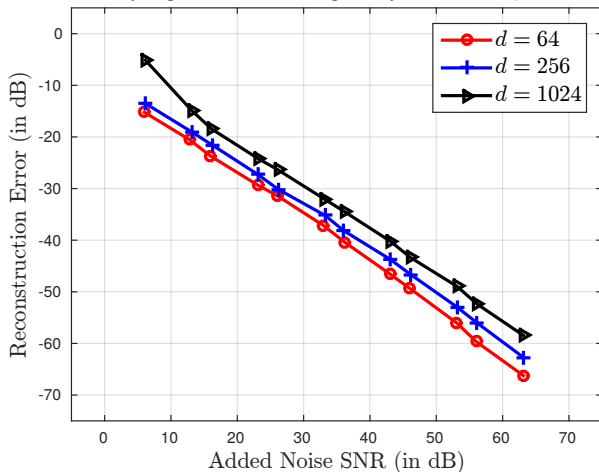
Noisy Eigenvector-based Angular Synchronization,  $d = 256$



$$\text{Reconstruction Error (dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\min_{\theta \in [0, 2\pi)} \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - e^{i\theta} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2} \right)$$

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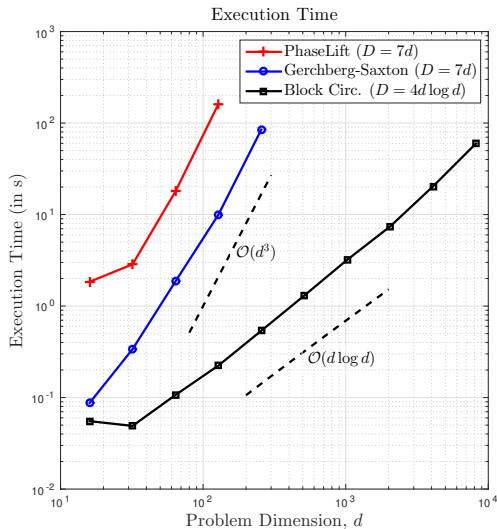
Noisy Eigenvector-based Angular Synchronization,  $\delta = 15$



$$\text{Reconstruction Error (dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\min_{\theta \in [0, 2\pi)} \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - e^{i\theta} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2} \right)$$



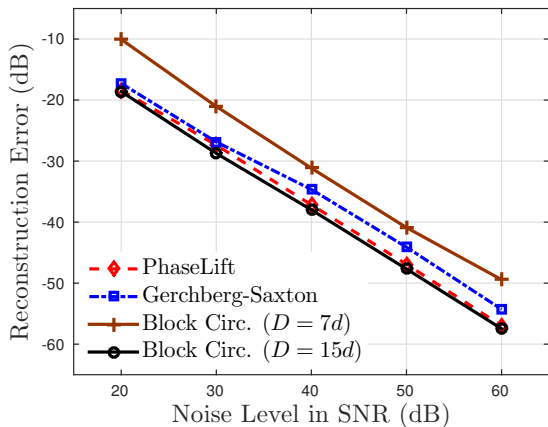
# Application to Phase Retrieval: Efficiency



- iid Complex Gaussian test signal
- Block-Circulant Solve + Eigenvector-based angular synchronization
- $4d \log d$  measurements

# Application to Phase Retrieval: Robustness

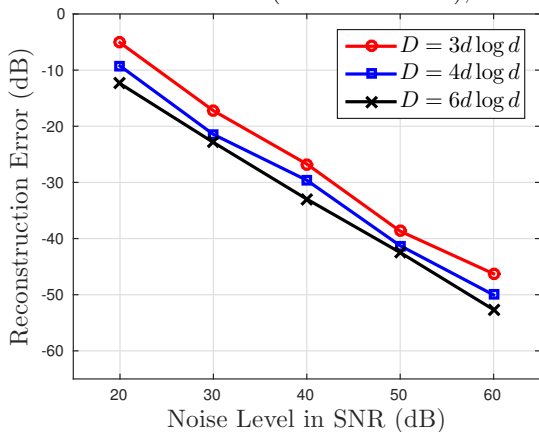
Robustness to Additive Noise,  $d = 64, D = 7d$



- iid complex Gaussian signal
- $d = 64$
- $7d$  measurements
- Deterministic (windowed Fourier-like) measurements

# Application to Phase Retrieval: Robustness

Robustness to Noise (Random Masks),  $d = 2048$



- iid complex Gaussian signal
- $d = 2048$
- Not feasible with SDP-based methods such as PhaseLift on a laptop in Matlab
- Random measurements

# Concluding Remarks

- BlockPR allows for **essentially linear-time** robust phase retrieval from **block-circulant measurement constructions**.
- **Deterministic** measurements for flat vectors.
- Eigenvector-based angular synchronization works when we have **structured** and **highly incomplete** phase difference measurements.

## Coming Soon. . .

- Sublinear-time compressive phase retrieval
- Extensions to 2D and Ptychography

# Publications/Preprints/Code

## Block-Circulant Measurements + Greedy Angular Synchronization

Mark Iwen, A. Viswanathan and Yang Wang. “Fast Phase Retrieval for High-Dimensions.” arXiv:1501.02377, 2015.

## This talk (Eigenvector-based Angular Synchronization)

A. Viswanathan and Mark Iwen. “Fast Angular Synchronization for Phase Retrieval via Incomplete Information.” Proc. SPIE 9597.

Code: <https://bitbucket.org/charms/blockpr>

## Extensions to Compressive Phase Retrieval:

M. Iwen, A. Viswanathan, and Y. Wang. “Robust Sparse Phase Retrieval Made Easy.” (in press) ACHA, 2015. arXiv:1410.5295

Code: <https://bitbucket.org/charms/sparsepr>

Coming soon: Sublinear-time compressive phase retrieval

# Questions?

