

# Accelerated Split Bregman Method for Image Compressive Sensing Recovery under Sparse Representation

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## **Abstract**

Compared with traditional patch-based sparse representation, recent studies have concluded that group-based sparse representation (GSR) can simultaneously enforce the intrinsic local sparsity and nonlocal self-similarity of images within a unified framework. This article investigates an accelerated split Bregman method (SBM) that is based on GSR which exploits image compressive sensing (CS). The computational efficiency of accelerated SBM for the measurement matrix of a partial Fourier matrix can be further improved by the introduction of a fast Fourier transform (FFT) to derive the enhanced algorithm. In addition, we provide convergence analysis for the proposed method. Experimental results demonstrate that accelerated SBM is potentially faster than some existing image CS reconstruction methods.

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**Keywords:** Compressive sensing, sparse representation, split Bregman method, accelerated split Bregman method, image restoration

## 1. Introduction

Image restoration is a fundamental problem in the field of image processing. The process can be formalized as an estimation of the original image  $x$  from a corrupted observation  $y$ :

$$y = \Phi x + n, \quad (1)$$

where  $\Phi$  is a degradation matrix and  $n$  is the additive noise vector.

For model (1), different values of  $\Phi$  represent different image restoration problems. In particular, when  $\Phi$  is a random projection operator, model (1) becomes the famous CS model, which has attracted extensive academic attention since several CS-based image systems were built in recent years, such as the high speed video camera [1] and compressive sensing Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) [2].

Image CS restoration is a classical linear inverse problem, i.e. the blurred image that is observed cannot uniquely and stably determine the sharp image, due to the ill-conditioned nature of the degradation operator  $\Phi$ . It is necessary to incorporate prior enforcing regularization on the solution in order to stabilize the restoration. Therefore, image restoration is often modeled as follows:

$$\min_x \|\Phi x - y\|_2^2 + \lambda R(x), \quad (2)$$

where  $\|\Phi x - y\|_2^2$  measures the data fidelity between  $\Phi x$  and  $y$ , while  $R(x)$  represents the regularizer.

### 1.1 Related work

This subsection presents a brief review of existing methods, from the viewpoint of regularization and optimization algorithms.

**Regularization:** In the existing literature, various regularized methods have been proposed to mitigate the ill-posedness of the primal model. First-order smooth optimization methods can be used to solve classic quadratic Tikhonov regularization [3] in a relatively inexpensive way, but these methods tend to overly smooth images and often erode strong edges and textural details. Total variance regularization [5,6] can effectively suppress noise artefacts and usually smears out image details, but it tends to be poor at handling fine structures due to its assumption of local smoothness. As an alternative, sparsity-promoting regularization [7,8] [24] has been used in the past several years and has achieved strong results for various image recovery problems. Researchers have been frequently investigating two class sparsity-promoting models: the  $l_0$  norm regularized model and the  $l_1$  norm regularized model.

**Optimization Algorithms:** The optimization problem based on  $l_0$  norm regularization is combinational NP-hard. Some researchers have addressed this by focusing only on the  $l_1$  norm regularized model, which under certain strict conditions, is almost equivalent to the  $l_0$  norm regularization model. The optimization problem can then be solved using some well-known alternating optimization methods such as the alternating direction method of multipliers (ADMM) [4][17] or SBM [14][16]. However, although convergence of these methods is guaranteed, the quality of the reconstructed images is often affected since it is hard to satisfy the strict conditions in most real scenarios. Meanwhile, some authors have focused on solving the  $l_0$  norm regularized model directly and sub-optimally by using greedy algorithms such as orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP) [22]. However, greedy algorithms are computationally

expensive when high fidelity image restorations are involved.

Specifically, the authors in [8] have produced encouraging results for image restoration using a combination of the alternating optimization method (i.e., SBM) and group sparse representation (i.e., GSR), which seems promising and is named GSR-SBM.

## 1.2 Motivation

From an algorithm performance perspective, the authors in [8] have ignored the following feature of GSR-SBM: while it can achieve high quality image restoration, it tends to require a high computation time. In order to apply it to more practical application scenarios which require much shorter computation times while maintaining image quality, such as X-ray computed tomography (CT) image reconstruction [10], it is necessary that some accelerating strategies for GSR-SBM are constructed.

From a convergence analysis perspective, since the  $l_0$  regularized model in [8] is a non-convex non-smooth optimization problem, it is difficult to provide theoretical proof of global convergence. Hence, the authors in [8] have only illustrated the convergence ability of the algorithm by providing experimental evidence. Although global convergence is true for its relaxed convex  $l_1$  norm optimization, it is neither simple nor trivial to prove for  $l_0$  norm optimization. However, it is extremely important that detailed proof can be obtained for GSR-SBM.

## 1.3 Contributions and Organization

In this article, we propose an accelerated split Bregman method based on GSR, which is called GSR-ASBM. Compared with GSR-SBM presented in [8], the contributions of this article can be summarized as follows:

1. We identify an accelerated strategy [25] based on GSR-SBM that will reduce the number of iterations while only requiring almost the same computational effort for each iteration.
2. We prove that GSR-SBM will converge under mild conditions.
3. We introduce FFT-based manipulation that can be used for MRI restoration to reduce the computational complexity of the leading cost of GSR-SBM from  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  to  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$  per iteration.<sup>1</sup>

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we present the  $l_0$  norm based CS model. In Section 3, we propose GSB-ASBM to reconstruct the sparse coefficients from the measurements. Section 4 provides convergence analysis of the proposed method. Section 5 presents extensive numerical results that can be used to evaluate the performance of the new proposed reconstruction algorithm in comparison with some state-of-the-art algorithms. Finally, concluding remarks are provided in Section 6.

## 2. $l_0$ norm based CS model

Based on a sparse representation, a CS image system is usually formularized as a constrained optimization:

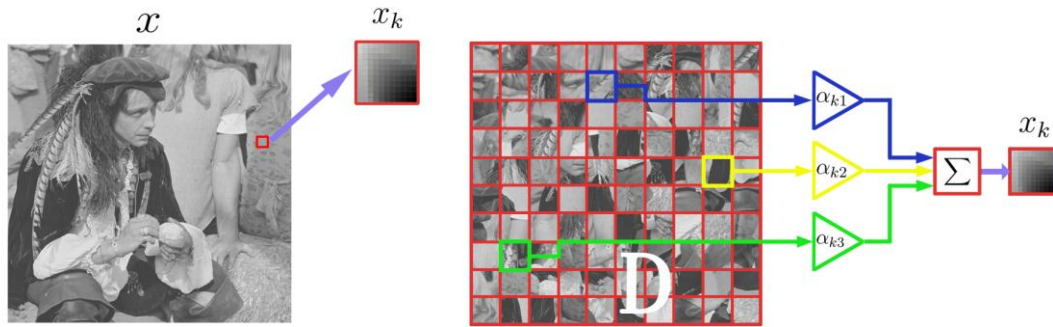
$$\arg \min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi D \alpha\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\alpha\|_0 < \epsilon. \quad (3a)$$

<sup>1</sup>  $n$  denotes the number of rows in measurement matrix  $\Phi$ .

By careful selection of  $\lambda$ , (3a) can be alternatively expressed as an equivalent unconstrained optimization:

$$\arg \min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi D \alpha\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\alpha\|_0, \quad (3b)$$

where  $\lambda$  is the regularized parameter,  $D$  is an over-complete dictionary,  $\alpha$  is the sparse coding matrix (i.e., most elements in each column of  $\alpha$  are zero or close to zero), and  $D\alpha$  approximates  $x$ , which is depicted in **Fig. 1**.



**Fig. 1.** Sparse representation

### 3. Compressive Image Reconstruction under Accelerated SBM

#### 3.1 Optimization for proposed $l_0$ -based minimization

In this section, we first introduce GSR-SBM, which is verified to be more effective than iterative shrinkage/thresholding (IST) [21] and is given below as Algorithm 1.

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#### Algorithm 1. GSR-SBM for $l_0$ -based model

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1 **Initialization:** set  $k = 0$ , choose  $\mu > 0$ ,  $\alpha^0$  and  $b^0$ .

2 **Repeat**

3  $x^{k+1} \leftarrow \arg \min_x \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|_2^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x - D\alpha^k - b^k\|_2^2;$

4  $\alpha^{k+1} \leftarrow \arg \min_{\alpha} \lambda \|\alpha\|_0 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^{k+1} - D\alpha - b^k\|_2^2;$

5  $b^{k+1} \leftarrow b^k + (D\alpha^{k+1} - x^{k+1})$

6  $k \leftarrow k + 1$

7 **Until** stopping criterion is satisfied

---

GSR-SBM can solve problem (3b) using a much easier form, i.e., by iteratively solving two easier sub-problems  $x^{k+1}$  and  $\alpha^{k+1}$ . The first sub-problem (step 3) to solve  $x^{k+1}$  is the classical least square problem while the second sub-problem (step 4) to solve sparse coding  $\alpha^{k+1}$  is a difficult combinatorial problem, which can be approximately solved using a heuristic algorithm such as OMP or a method with a closed-form solution, such as that illustrated in the next subsection. After such manipulation, GSR-SBM can produce a dimensionality reduction

of the problem (3b), i.e., from  $2n$  to  $n$ .

Although GSR-SBM uses variable splitting (i.e., divide and conquer) to simplify the original model, the following distinct points are rarely considered: 1) the least square problem in step 3 and the group-based sparse coding in step 4 are particularly expensive computationally, which is due to both the iterative nature of most least square gradient algorithms and the large memory cost required by sparse coding, 2) the multiplier updating in step 5 is simple and has a negligible computational cost. Therefore, we should reinvestigate GSR-SBM taking the above considerations into account.

It should be noted that a well-suited preconditioning matrix can be constructed to modify the convergence property of the least square gradient algorithms. However, this option will introduce a new computational burden for the matrix products. An alternative option is to reduce step 4 to  $\arg \min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi u\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\alpha\|_1 : u = D\alpha$ , which can be solved efficiently by some well-known  $l_1$  algorithms. Unfortunately, this manipulation of relaxation will reduce the PSNR of the resulting CS restoration image.

Since step 5 of Algorithm 1 is simple and requires negligible computational cost, it can be used as a breakthrough point to look for acceleration techniques. There are two reasons that such choices can be made: 1) the accelerated strategies do not introduce an additional computational burden because they only involve simple operations, such as vector addition/subtraction and the matrix-vector product, and 2) a faster convergence rate results in less iterations for a given stop criterion. Therefore, the number of function calls for the computationally expensive step 3 and step 4 will be decreased, which greatly reduces the overall computational cost of Algorithm 1. In this work, the proposed GSR-ASBM can be implemented in such a manner as follows:

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**Algorithm 2.** GSR-ASBM for  $l_0$ -based model

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1 **Initialization:** set  $k = 0$ , choose  $\mu > 0$ ,  $\theta_0$ ,  $\alpha^0$ ,  $\tilde{\alpha}^0$ , and  $b^0, \tilde{b}^0$ .

2 **Repeat**

- 3  $\theta_{k+1} \leftarrow \frac{2}{k+2}, \beta_k \leftarrow \theta_{k+1}(\theta_k^{-1} - 1)$
- 4  $x^{k+1} \leftarrow \arg \min_x \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|_2^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x - D\tilde{\alpha}^k - \tilde{b}^k\|_2^2$
- 5  $\alpha^{k+1} \leftarrow \arg \min_{\alpha} \lambda \|\alpha\|_0 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x^{k+1} - D\alpha - \tilde{b}^k\|_2^2$
- 6  $b^{k+1} \leftarrow \tilde{b}^k + (D\alpha^{k+1} - x^{k+1})$
- 7  $\tilde{\alpha}^{k+1} \leftarrow \beta_k \alpha^{k+1} + (1 - \beta_k) \alpha^k$
- 8  $\tilde{b}^{k+1} \leftarrow \beta_k b^{k+1} + (1 - \beta_k) b^k$
- 9  $k \leftarrow k + 1$

10 **Until** stopping criterion is satisfied

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**Remark 1:** Compared with Algorithm 1, there are only two additional computations in Algorithm 2: step 7 and step 8, both of which have a common feature, i.e., a negligible computation cost. In Algorithm 2, once the accelerated strategy reduces the number of iteration number, the number of function calls for step 4 and step 5 will be decreased. Since step 4 and step 5 contribute the main computational cost to the whole algorithm, this will improve the algorithm significantly. The experimental results in Section 5 support these conclusions.

### 3.2 Sub-problem for $x$

In Step 4 of Algorithm 2, the key components for solving (3b) have the form

$$(\Phi^T \Phi + \mu I)x = (\Phi^T y + \mu(D\alpha + b)), \quad (4)$$

where  $I$  is the identity matrix. For CS recovery,  $\Phi$  is a random projection matrix that does not have a special structure. Thus, it is too expensive to compute the inverse of a square matrix  $\Phi^T \Phi + \mu I$ .

For simplicity, gradient-type methods (such as the gradient descent method and the preconditioned conjugate gradient method) are the most popular tools [8] for approximating a solution of (4). However, gradient-type methods, which belong to the class of approximation algorithms, need significantly more iterations to satisfy so-called accuracy conditions. In this work, taking into consideration that the measurement matrix  $\Phi$  is a partial Fourier transform matrix which has important applications for high speed MRI, we adopt the FFT<sup>2</sup> (Fast Fourier Transform) algorithm to solve (4), which has a reasonable computational complexity  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ .

The partial Fourier transform matrix can be represented as  $\Phi = DF$ , where  $D$  and  $F$  represent the down-sampling matrix and the Fourier transform matrix, respectively. By applying  $\Phi = DF$  and the FFT to each side of (4), it can be seen to be mathematically equivalent to

$$F((DF)^T DF + \mu I)F^H Fx = D^T y + F(\mu D\alpha + \mu b), \quad (5)$$

where  $F^H$  and  $D^T$  represent the inverse FFT and the transpose of the down-sampled matrix, respectively. After a simple manipulation, (5) becomes

$$Fx = (D^T D + \mu I)^{-1}(D^T y + F(\mu D\alpha + \mu b)). \quad (6)$$

By invoking the inverse FFT, (6) can be formulated as

$$x = F^H(D^T D + \mu I)^{-1}(D^T y + F(\mu D\alpha + \mu b)), \quad (7)$$

where  $(D^T D + \mu I)^{-1}$  has a cost of only  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  since  $D^T D$  involves a diagonal matrix, while products of  $F$  or  $F^H$  have a cost of  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$  (including one FFT and one inverse FFT). Thus when computing (7), the principal cost is  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ , which significantly improves the efficiency of solving the sub-problem for  $x$ .<sup>3</sup>

### 3.3 Sub-problem for $\alpha$

Based on Step 5 of Algorithm 2, the  $\alpha$  sub-problem can be mathematically transformed as

$$\alpha \leftarrow \arg \min_{\alpha} \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \|\alpha\|_0 + \frac{1}{2} \|e - D\alpha\|_2^2, \quad (8)$$

where  $e = x - b$ . By invoking theorem 1 in [8], (8) can be reduced to  $N$  sub-problems:

$$\arg \min_{\alpha_i} \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \|\alpha_i\|_0 + \frac{1}{2} \|e_i - D\alpha_i\|_2^2 \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \quad (9)$$

which can be independently solved by the orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP) algorithm [22].

<sup>2</sup> Generally, FFT can be adopted for image restoration in two practical application scenarios: one is image deblurring with a periodic boundary condition, whose matrix representation is circulant (refer to [11][18]); the other is high speed MRI with a partial Fourier transform matrix (refer to [9][19]).

<sup>3</sup> Fig. 7 and Fig. 8 compare the FFT based algorithm and the preconditioned conjugate gradient method.

Specifically, batch OMP [23] is a better choice when large numbers of signals are involved. As shown in [8], another alternative is hard thresholding pursuit. The closed-form solution of (9) is expressed as:

$$\alpha_i^* = H \sqrt{\frac{2\lambda}{\mu}}(\bar{e}_i), \quad (10)$$

where  $\bar{e}_i$  satisfies  $e_i = D\bar{e}_i$  and the element-wise hard thresholding operator is used, given by:

$$H \sqrt{\frac{2\lambda}{\mu}}(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < \sqrt{\frac{2\lambda}{\mu}}; \\ 1 & \text{if } t \geq \sqrt{\frac{2\lambda}{\mu}}. \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

### 3.4 Summary of proposed algorithm

At this point, all the sub-problems have been solved. The details of the proposed method can be summarized as follows:

**Table 1.** Pseudo-algorithm of the proposed method

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<b>Input:</b> the CS measurements $y$ , the projection matrix $\Phi$
<b>Output:</b> Final restored image $x$
<b>Initialization:</b> Set a training set of $p$ signals $Y = [y_1, y_2, \dots, y_p]$ and initiate $k = 0$ , define the <i>stopping_rule</i> as the stopping criterion, let <i>fourier_sensing</i> classify the measurement matrix $\Phi$ .
<b>While</b> <i>stopping_rule</i> = 0
<b>Update approximate restored image:</b>
<b>if</b> <i>fourier_sensing</i> = 1 <b>then</b>
update $x^{k+1}$ by (7)
<b>else</b>
update $x^{k+1}$ by (4) using preconditioned conjugate gradient method [20]
<b>Sparse coding stage:</b>
<b>for</b> $i \in 1, \dots, N$ <b>do</b>
$\alpha_i^{k+1} = \arg \min_{\alpha_i} \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \ \alpha_i\ _0 + \frac{1}{2} \ e_i - D\alpha_i\ _2^2$ using (10)
<b>end for</b>
<b>Update multiplier:</b>
$b^{k+1} \leftarrow \tilde{b}^k + \mu(D\alpha^{k+1} - x^{k+1})$
<b>Acceleration step:</b>
$\tilde{\alpha}^{k+1} \leftarrow \beta_k \alpha^{k+1} + (1 - \beta_k) \alpha^k$
$\tilde{b}^{k+1} \leftarrow \beta_k b^{k+1} + (1 - \beta_k) b^k$
Set $k = k + 1$
<b>end while</b>

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## 4. Convergence analysis

Unlike convex optimization, when non-convex and non-smooth problems are involved, convergence of SBM is still generally an issue. From an experimental perspective, empirical

evidence shows that GSR-SBM seems to converge from any initial point. Although the following theorem does not provide substantial proof of global convergence, it shows that GSR-SBM can be used to find a stationary point of the primary problem under mild conditions. Although far from satisfactory, this result provides some assurance on the reliability of the proposed algorithm.

Before proceeding to the proof of convergence theorem, we provide a lemma.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $J$  be an index set such that the  $j$ th element of  $\alpha$  is 0 for all  $j \in \bar{J}$ , where  $\bar{J} = \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus J$ ,  $I_{\bar{J}}$  is a vector where the elements with an index in  $\bar{J}$  are 1 and the others are 0. Assume that  $(\hat{x}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{b})$  is a local minimizer of the problem

$$\min_{\alpha} \lambda \|\alpha\|_0 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|x - D\alpha - b\|_2^2, \tag{12a}$$

and define the following problem:

$$\min_{\alpha} \left\{ \frac{\mu}{2} \|x - D\alpha - b\|_2^2, I_{\bar{J}}\alpha = 0 \right\}, \tag{12b}$$

then  $(\hat{x}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{b})$  is a local minimizer of problem (12a) if and only if  $(\hat{x}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{b})$  is a local minimizer of problem (12b).

**Proof:** See the proof of Theorem 2.2 in [13]. □

The following theorem is based on the standard conditions that are often assumed in convergence analysis of augmented Lagrangian methods for non-convex optimization problems (see [12]).

**Theorem 1.** Let  $(\hat{x}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{b})$  be any accumulation point of  $(x^k, \alpha^k, b^k)$  generated by GSR-SBM, assume

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} [(x^{k+1}, \alpha^{k+1}, b^{k+1}) - (x^k, \alpha^k, b^k)] = 0. \tag{13}$$

Then, any accumulation point of  $\{(x^k, \alpha^k, b^k)\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is a KKT point of the problem.

**Proof:** Initially, the update of the multiplier (Step 5 in Algorithm 1) and (13) is used to give

$$D\hat{\alpha} - \hat{x} = 0. \tag{14}$$

The solution of  $x$  sub-problem (step 3 of Algorithm 1) satisfies the first order stationary condition

$$\Phi^T \Phi \hat{x} - y^T \Phi + \mu(\hat{x} - D\hat{\alpha}) - \mu\hat{b} = 0. \tag{15}$$

Using (14), (15) becomes

$$\Phi^T \Phi \hat{x} - y^T \Phi - \mu\hat{b} = 0 \tag{16}$$

We then introduce the Lagrange function of problem (12b)

$$L(\alpha) = \frac{\mu}{2} \|x - D\alpha - b\|_2^2 + \varepsilon^T (I_{\bar{J}}^T \alpha). \tag{17}$$

Thus, the KKT condition of (12b) is

$$-\mu D^T(x - b) + D^T D\alpha + I_{\bar{J}}\varepsilon = 0. \tag{18}$$

For the  $\alpha$  sub-problem (step 4 of Algorithm 1), from Lemma 1,  $\hat{\alpha}$  is at least a local minimal of (12b), so  $\hat{\alpha}$  is the KKT point of (12b), and satisfies

$$-\mu D^T(\hat{x} - \hat{b}) + D^T D\hat{\alpha} + I_{\bar{J}}\varepsilon = 0, \tag{19}$$

According to (14), (19) becomes

$$\mu D^T \hat{b} + I_{\bar{J}}\varepsilon = 0 \tag{20}$$

Combining (14) (16) and (20), we obtain the system of equations as follows

$$D\hat{\alpha} - \hat{x} = 0, \tag{21a}$$

$$\mu D^T \hat{b} + I_{\bar{J}}\varepsilon = 0, \tag{21b}$$

$$\Phi^T \Phi \hat{x} - y^T \Phi - \mu\hat{b} = 0. \tag{21c}$$



Recalling the original problem (3a):

$$\arg \min_{\alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi D \alpha\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\alpha\|_0 < \epsilon.$$

The constraint  $\|\alpha\|_0 \leq \epsilon$  can be written as  $I_{\bar{J}}^T \alpha = 0$ , where  $\bar{J}$  is an index set with  $|\bar{J}| = \epsilon$  such that the  $j$ th element of  $\alpha$  is 0 for all  $j \in \bar{J}$  with  $\bar{J} = \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus J$  and  $I_{\bar{J}}$  is a vector where the elements with an index in  $\bar{J}$  are 1 and the others are 0. Then, the original problem can be reformulated into

$$\arg \min_{x, \alpha} \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|_2^2 : x = D \alpha, I_{\bar{J}}^T \alpha = 0. \quad (22)$$

It can be easily seen that the Lagrange function of the constrained problem (22) is

$$L(x, \alpha, b, \varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \Phi x\|_2^2 + \mu b^T (D \alpha - x) + \varepsilon^T (I_{\bar{J}}^T \alpha). \quad (23)$$

The above equations (21a) (21b) and (21c) are just the KKT conditions of (22). This completes the proof.  $\square$

The only difference with GSR-ASBM is that it adopts some accelerated strategies, which do not really affect the convergence of GSR-SBM. Therefore, GSR-ASBM is also convergent once GSR-SBM is convergent.

## 5 Experimental Results

In this section, the proposed GSR-ASBM based CS recovery method was implemented using the MATLAB framework. The OMP algorithm [22] was also included in our experimental setup. All evaluations were performed using a PC with an Intel(R) Pentium(R) CPU G3250 3.20GHz processor, 4 GB RAM with MATLAB R2009b. For the experiments, eleven well-known images including Barbara, Boat, Cameraman, Head, House, Leaves, Lena, Monarch, Parrot and Peppers were used with a size of  $256 \times 256$  pixels, as well as image Vessels with a size of  $96 \times 96$  pixels. So that a fair comparison between the competing methods could be performed.

Our proposed method was compared with several competitive CS recovery methods to verify the performance of our method, including the total variation (TV) method, the BCS-SPL, mutli-hypothesis (MH) method, the split Bregman method (SBM), the group based split Bregman method (denoted as GSR-SBM) and the proposed GSR-ASBM. It is worth highlighting that GSR-SBM is a well-known image CS method that gives state-of-the-art CS results. We have carefully tuned the parameters of each algorithm for optimal performance in order to provide a fair and unified framework for comparison. All methods are assigned the same convergence criterion, i.e.,  $\|u^k - u^{k-1}\| / \|u^{k-1}\| < 10^{-3}$ , where  $k$  is the iteration number and  $u^k$  are the PSNR values at iteration  $k$ .<sup>4</sup>

The PSNR and FSIM comparison results of recovered images using competing CS recovery methods are shown in **Table 2** and **Table 3**, respectively. It can be easily seen that the proposed GSR-ASBM method performs much better than TV, BSC-SPL, MH, and SBM for all test images and sensing rates and the average PSNR gains of the proposed method relative to TV, BSC-SPL, MH, and SBM can be as high as 11 dB, 5.2 dB, 3.7 dB and 1.6 dB respectively. Moreover, the average PSNR gain and CPU time of proposed method compared with state-of-the-art GSR-SBM are about 0.07 dB and 79.16 seconds (saving about 21% CPU

<sup>4</sup> The authors in [8] and [15] have used the iteration number i.e. IterNum = 30 as the stop criterion, while we have adopted  $\|u^k - u^{k-1}\| / \|u^{k-1}\| < 10^{-3}$  as this choice is popular to achieve an effective comparison between the fast algorithm and the classical algorithm (refer to [29][30]).

cost) respectively. It is apparent that the proposed method achieves the best visual quality in most cases.<sup>5</sup>

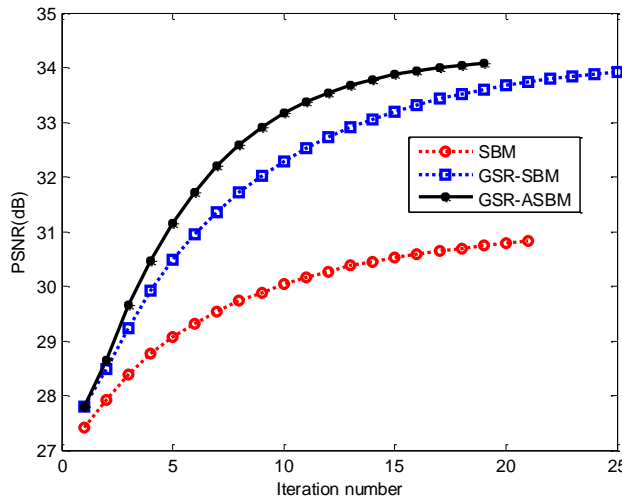
**Table 2.** PSNR comparison with various CS recovery methods(Units: dB) .The **best** and **second best** for each algorithm are indicated by **red** and **blue** respectively.

Substrate	Algorithms	Barbara	Boat	Cameraman	Head	House	Leaves	Lena	Monarch	Parrot	Peppers	Vessels	Avg.
20%	TV[26]	24.396	26.378	19.479	19.480	19.944	19.658	22.625	26.770	23.582	18.487	14.416	21.383
	BCS-SPL[27]	24.481	28.335	31.084	25.608	32.986	22.566	29.191	26.836	28.153	29.635	24.876	27.614
	MH [28]	30.987	30.032	30.803	25.960	33.701	24.927	29.512	27.257	28.686	29.845	26.631	28.940
	SBM [15]	32.035	32.847	31.794	26.625	35.852	27.014	30.603	28.423	28.664	31.509	29.924	30.481
	GSR-SBM[8]	<b>34.600</b>	<b>33.460</b>	<b>32.494</b>	<b>27.142</b>	<b>37.216</b>	<b>29.923</b>	<b>31.330</b>	<b>30.597</b>	<b>30.471</b>	<b>32.539</b>	<b>32.013</b>	<b>31.981</b>
30%	proposed	<b>34.703</b>	<b>33.548</b>	<b>32.538</b>	<b>27.309</b>	<b>37.189</b>	<b>30.163</b>	<b>31.396</b>	<b>30.866</b>	<b>30.691</b>	<b>32.595</b>	<b>32.224</b>	<b>32.111</b>
	TV[26]	26.432	26.800	23.564	22.553	24.266	25.736	21.539	24.994	26.542	21.772	24.069	24.388
	BCS-SPL[27]	26.370	30.182	33.389	28.112	35.249	24.559	31.452	28.928	31.101	31.474	27.170	29.817
	MH [28]	32.894	32.367	33.551	28.412	35.837	27.028	31.751	29.457	31.701	31.474	30.279	31.341
	SBM [15]	34.629	36.263	34.383	29.235	38.257	30.858	33.122	31.491	32.438	31.502	34.794	33.361
40%	GSR-SBM[8]	<b>37.055</b>	<b>36.687</b>	<b>35.076</b>	<b>29.824</b>	<b>39.368</b>	<b>33.953</b>	<b>33.949</b>	<b>34.187</b>	<b>33.629</b>	<b>35.120</b>	<b>36.717</b>	<b>35.051</b>
	proposed	<b>37.065</b>	<b>36.643</b>	<b>35.117</b>	<b>29.927</b>	<b>39.262</b>	<b>34.104</b>	<b>33.957</b>	<b>34.366</b>	<b>33.766</b>	<b>35.166</b>	<b>36.810</b>	<b>35.108</b>
	TV[26]	24.715	32.909	25.772	29.325	27.365	27.550	22.252	22.474	24.728	22.548	24.417	25.823
	BCS-SPL[27]	28.002	31.748	35.076	29.689	36.574	26.156	33.521	30.630	33.362	32.994	29.700	31.587
	MH [28]	35.154	34.219	35.221	29.415	37.180	29.770	33.926	31.210	33.362	33.315	32.795	33.233
40%	SBM [15]	37.051	38.920	36.723	30.844	40.100	34.315	35.777	34.103	34.746	36.553	38.124	36.114
	GSR-SBM[8]	<b>39.022</b>	<b>39.130</b>	<b>37.325</b>	<b>31.420</b>	<b>40.842</b>	<b>37.104</b>	<b>36.601</b>	<b>36.794</b>	<b>36.169</b>	<b>37.068</b>	<b>40.461</b>	<b>37.449</b>
	proposed	<b>38.984</b>	<b>39.053</b>	<b>37.388</b>	<b>31.470</b>	<b>40.728</b>	<b>37.208</b>	<b>36.660</b>	<b>36.810</b>	<b>36.189</b>	<b>37.060</b>	<b>40.558</b>	<b>37.464</b>

**Table 3.** FSIM comparison with various CS recovery methods

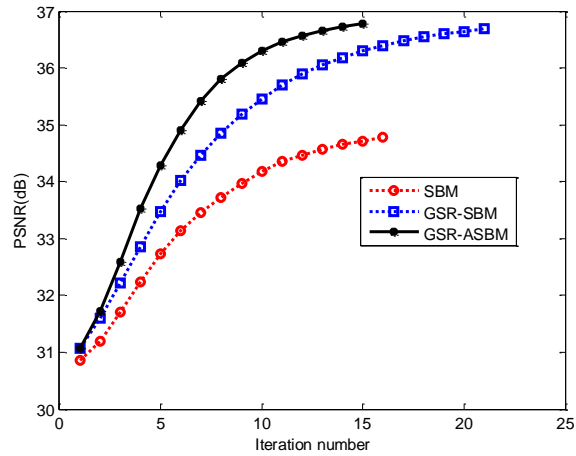
Substrate	Algorithms	Barbara	Boat	Cameraman	Head	House	Leaves	Lena	Monarch	Parrot	Peppers	Vessels	Avg.
20%	TV[26]	0.820	0.886	0.854	0.884	0.915	0.830	0.894	0.898	0.904	0.904	0.824	0.874
	BCS-SPL[27]	0.856	0.886	0.851	0.919	0.926	0.779	0.924	0.867	0.940	0.917	0.872	0.885
	MH [28]	0.942	0.917	0.853	0.916	0.936	0.851	0.931	0.874	0.940	0.920	0.905	0.908
	SBM [15]	0.951	0.950	0.874	0.925	0.954	0.907	0.943	0.894	0.932	0.941	0.950	0.929
	GSR-SBM[8]	0.969	0.955	0.890	0.932	0.965	0.952	0.953	0.936	0.953	0.952	0.965	0.948
30%	proposed	0.969	0.956	0.893	0.933	0.964	0.954	0.954	0.940	0.953	0.952	0.966	0.949
	TV[26]	0.872	0.925	0.903	0.927	0.947	0.892	0.935	0.935	0.942	0.940	0.882	0.918
	BCS-SPL[27]	0.889	0.915	0.893	0.943	0.952	0.823	0.948	0.898	0.956	0.936	0.906	0.914
	MH [28]	0.958	0.943	0.897	0.945	0.957	0.887	0.952	0.905	0.956	0.936	0.946	0.935
	SBM [15]	0.972	0.973	0.917	0.953	0.973	0.949	0.964	0.932	0.961	0.938	0.978	0.955
40%	GSR-SBM[8]	0.981	0.976	0.930	0.956	0.978	0.975	0.971	0.963	0.966	0.967	0.985	0.968
	proposed	0.981	0.975	0.932	0.956	0.978	0.976	0.971	0.964	0.966	0.967	0.986	0.968
	TV[26]	0.913	0.952	0.938	0.954	0.964	0.932	0.953	0.959	0.960	0.961	0.924	0.946
	BCS-SPL[27]	0.917	0.936	0.916	0.959	0.963	0.859	0.964	0.920	0.967	0.949	0.939	0.935
	MH [28]	0.972	0.961	0.913	0.960	0.967	0.924	0.967	0.927	0.967	0.953	0.965	0.952
40%	SBM [15]	0.982	0.984	0.940	0.970	0.982	0.972	0.978	0.955	0.974	0.974	0.988	0.973
	GSR-SBM[8]	0.987	0.985	0.951	0.972	0.985	0.985	0.981	0.976	0.977	0.976	0.993	0.979
	proposed	0.987	0.985	0.952	0.972	0.984	0.986	0.981	0.976	0.977	0.977	0.993	0.979

**Fig. 2** and **Fig. 3** are plotted based on the *Leaves* and *Vessels* images with a substrate of 30% for a visible comparison between SBM, GSR-SBM and GSR-ASBM. These graphs show that GSR-ASBM is more efficient and effective than SBM and GSR-SBM.



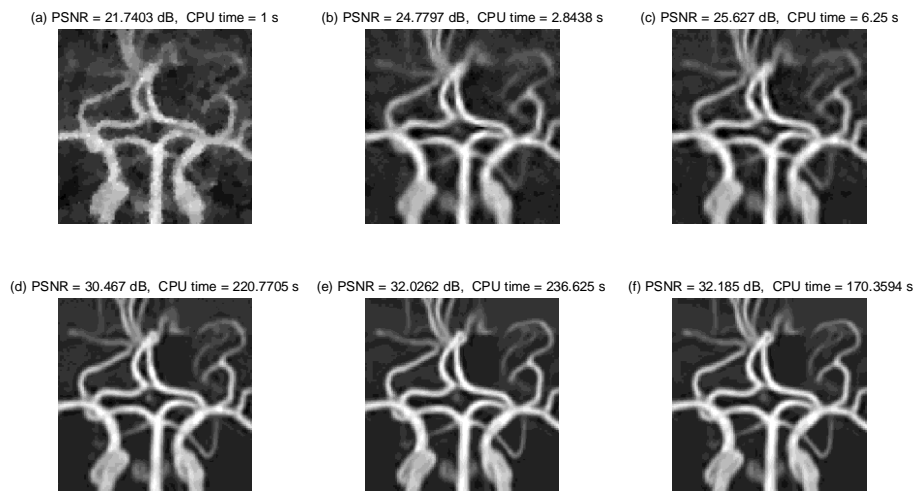
**Fig. 2.** Comparison of key competing methods for gray image *Leaves* with substrate 30%.

<sup>5</sup> For Boat and House images, GSR-SBM achieves the best PSNR but our proposed algorithm obtains a comparable PSNR and saves a lot of computing time.

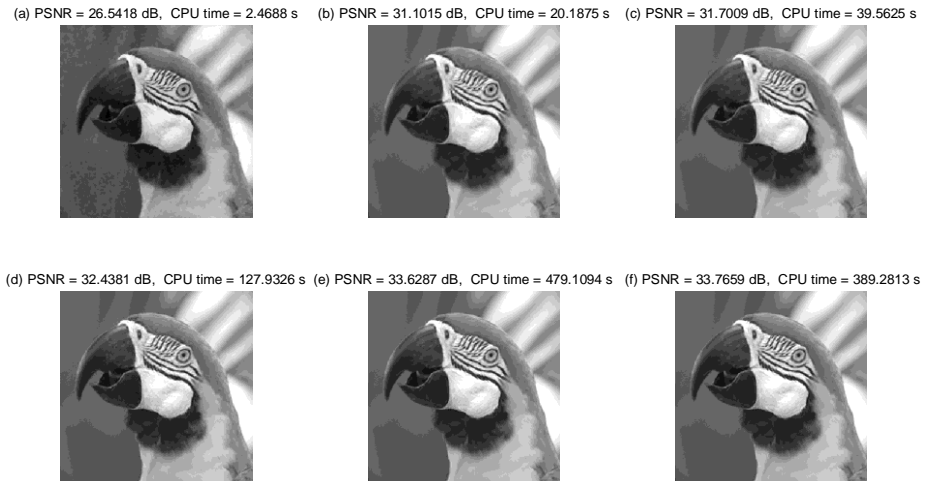


**Fig. 3.** Comparison of key competing methods for gray image *Vessels* with subrate 30%.

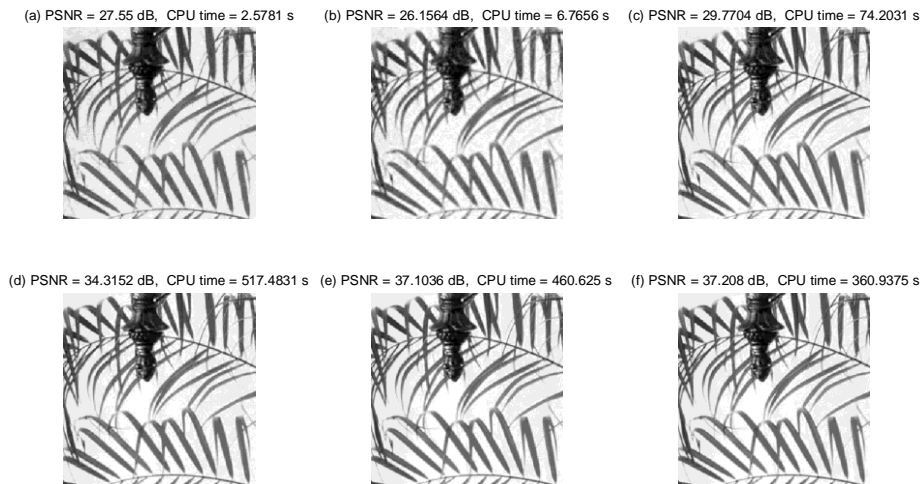
The visual quality of competing algorithms and some visual results for the recovered images using different methods will now be illustrated in **Fig. 4-Fig. 7**. From these figures, it can be observed that GSR-ASBM shows better visual results than other competing methods.



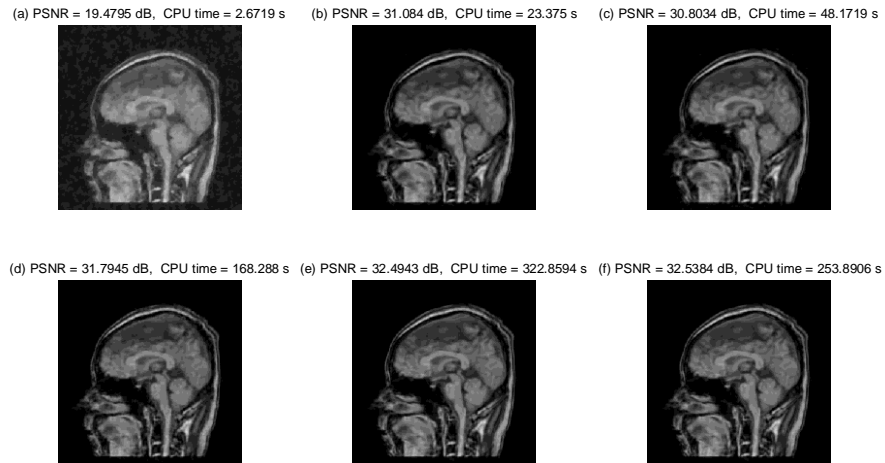
**Fig. 4.** Restruction of *Vessels* image with subrate 20%, (a)-(f) are TV, BCS-SPL, MH, SBM, GSR-SBM and the proposed GSR-ASBM repectively.



**Fig. 5.** Reconstruction of *Parrots* image with subrate 30%, (a)-(f) are TV, BCS-SPL, MH, SBM, GSR-SBM and the proposed GSR-ASBM respectively.



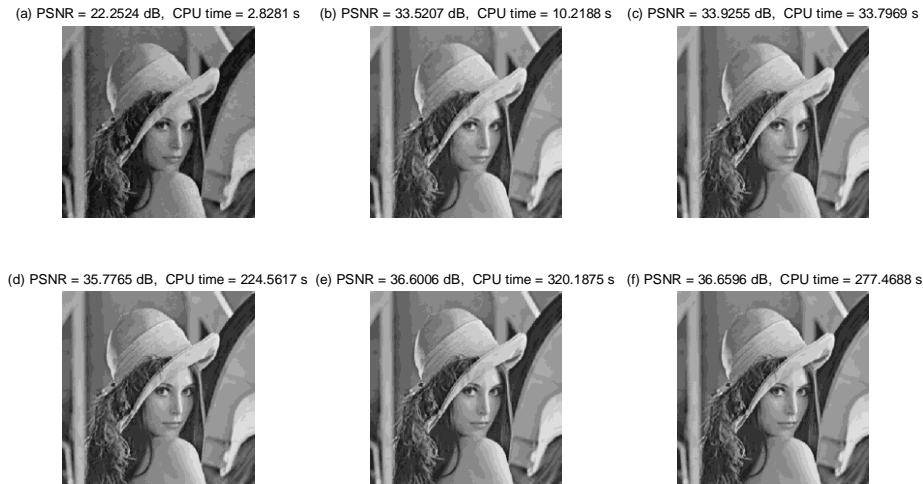
**Fig. 6.** Reconstruction of *Leaves* image with subrate 40%, (a)-(f) are TV, BCS-SPL, MH, SBM, GSR-SBM and the proposed GSR-ASBM respectively.



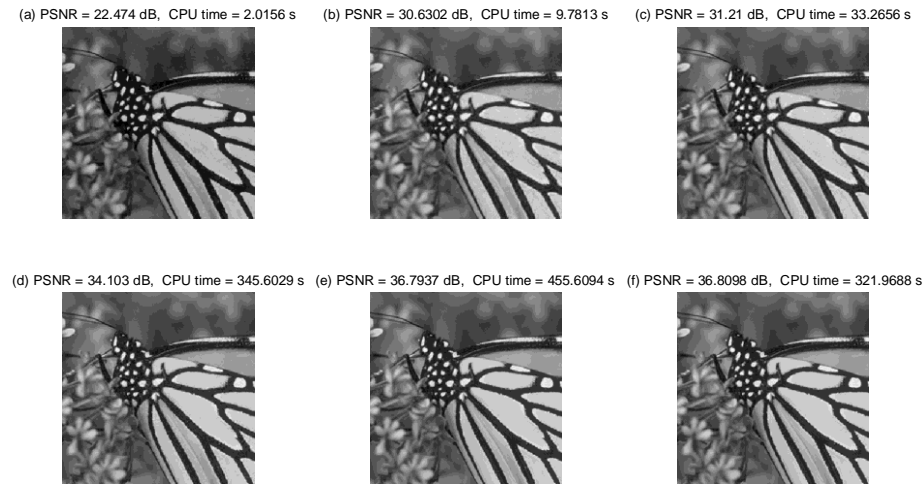
**Fig. 7.** Reconstruction of *Head* image with subrate 20%, (a)-(f) are TV, BCS-SPL, MH, SBM, GSR-SBM and the proposed GSR-ASBM respectively.



**Fig. 8.** Reconstruction of *Cameraman* image with subrate 20%, (a)-(f) are TV, BCS-SPL, MH, SBM, GSR-SBM and the proposed GSR-ASBM respectively.

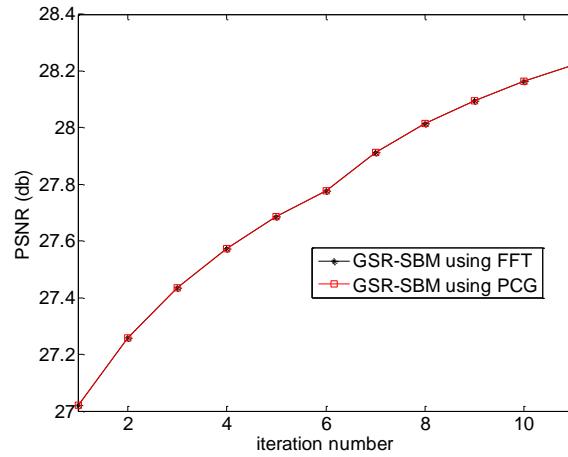


**Fig. 9.** Restruction of *Lena* image with subrate 40%, (a)-(f) are TV, BCS-SPL, MH, SBM, GSR-SBM and the proposed GSR-ASBM repectively.

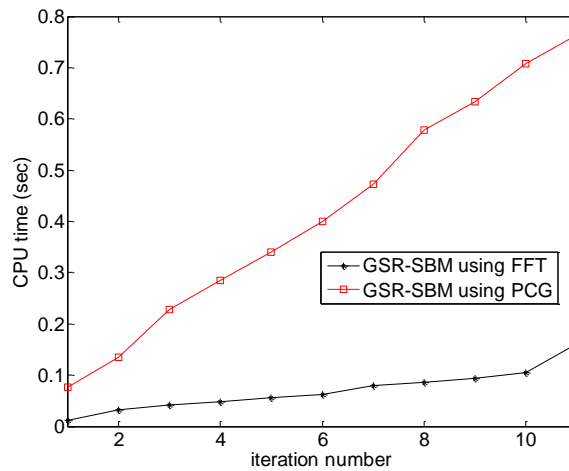


**Fig. 10.** Restruction of *Monarch* image with subrate 40%, (a)-(f) are TV, BCS-SPL, MH, SBM, GSR-SBM and the proposed GSR-ASBM repectively.

For all the above figures, it has been considered that GSR-SBM is using the preconditioned conjugate method (PCG) to calculate equation (4). In the following simulations, we will consider a more realistic image restoration environment where  $\Phi$  is a partial Fourier transform matrix. The difference between GSR-SBM using FFT and GSR-SBM using PCG is shown in **Fig. 11** and **Fig. 12**.



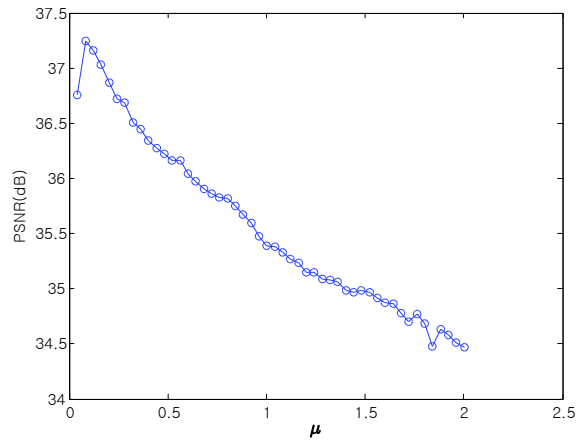
**Fig. 11.** The comparisons of FFT based algorithm and PCG based algorithm used in GSR-SBM for gray image Head with substrate 20% under PSNR vs iteration number.



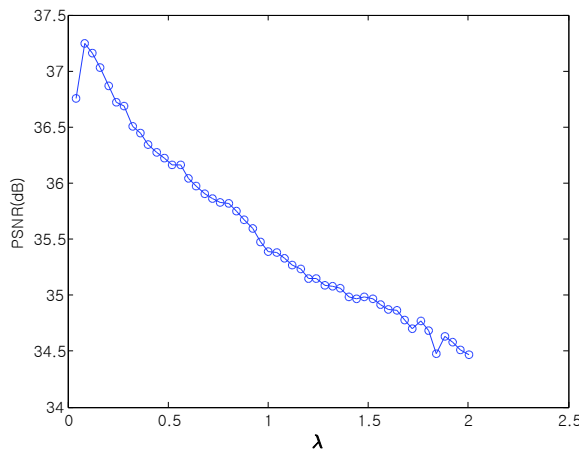
**Fig. 12.** The comparisons of FFT based algorithm and PCG based algorithm used in GSR-SBM for gray image Head with substrate 20% under CPU time vs iteration number.

As indicated in **Fig.11**, the FFT-based algorithm and the PCG-based algorithm both achieve the same performance in terms of PSNR, while **Fig.12** depicts that PCG requires a much higher computational time than FFT for each iteration. This is the main reason why FFT has been adopted for our proposed GSR-ASBM method.

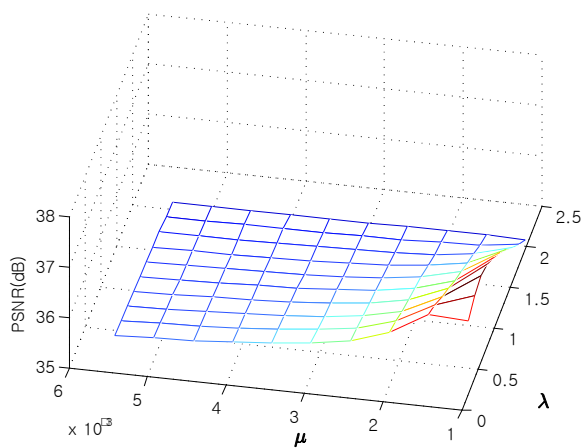
The final test is on the sensitivity of parameters  $\mu$  and  $\lambda$ . Different values of  $\mu$  were chosen in the interval  $[0.0005, 0.02]$  and different values of  $\lambda$  were chosen in the interval  $[0.002, 2]$ . More specifically,  $\lambda$  was firstly fixed and the sensitivity results on  $\mu$  were obtained, and then  $\mu$  was fixed and the sensitivity results on  $\lambda$  were obtained, which are depicted by **Fig. 13** and **Fig. 14** respectively. **Fig. 15** depicts the sensitivity test on both parameters  $\mu$  and  $\lambda$ .



**Fig. 13.** Sensitivity test on the parameter on  $\mu$ .



**Fig. 14.** Sensitivity test on the parameter on  $\lambda$ .



**Fig. 15.** Sensitivity test on the parameter both on  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ .

By combining the results shown in **Fig. 13-15**, it is apparent that our proposed algorithm will have the best performance when  $\mu$  is around 0.002 and  $\lambda$  is around 0.08.



## 6. Conclusion

In this paper, we have proposed a new approach for compressive sensing based on an accelerated split Bregman method and a  $l_0$  model. Compared with the classical split Bregman method, the proposed accelerated split Bregman method can significantly improve the convergence rate. We prove the convergence of the proposed method. Alternatively, when the measurement matrix of the partial Fourier transform is involved and is applied in high speed MRI, FFT and the inverse FFT can be used to derive a faster algorithm. Simulation results validate that the proposed approach is favorable in terms of both subjective and objective qualities.

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