

# Variational Image Analysis Using Wasserstein-Distance Based Priors

Christoph Schnörr, Paul Swoboda

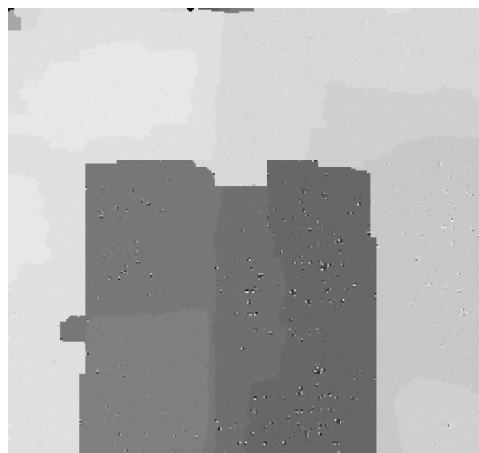
Image and Pattern Analysis Group  
Heidelberg University

*FGMIA*  
Jan 13-15, Paris

# S.C. Zhu, D. Mumford: *Prior Learning and Gibbs Reaction Diffusion*

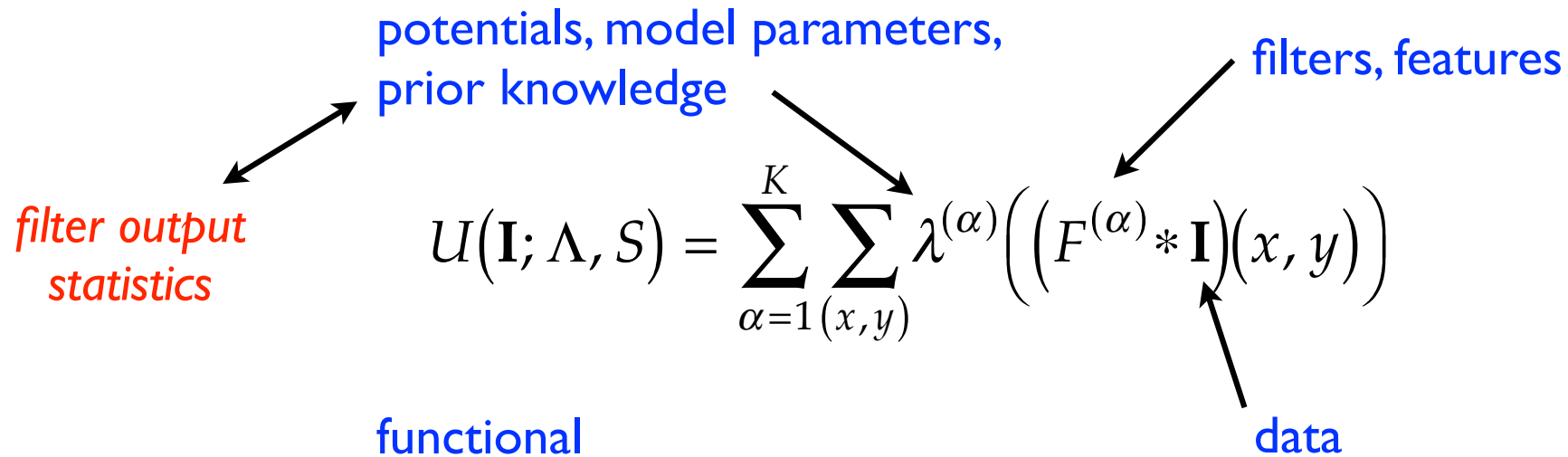
(PAMI 1997)

- generative probabilistic model
- *unsupervised* denoising by *pattern formation*

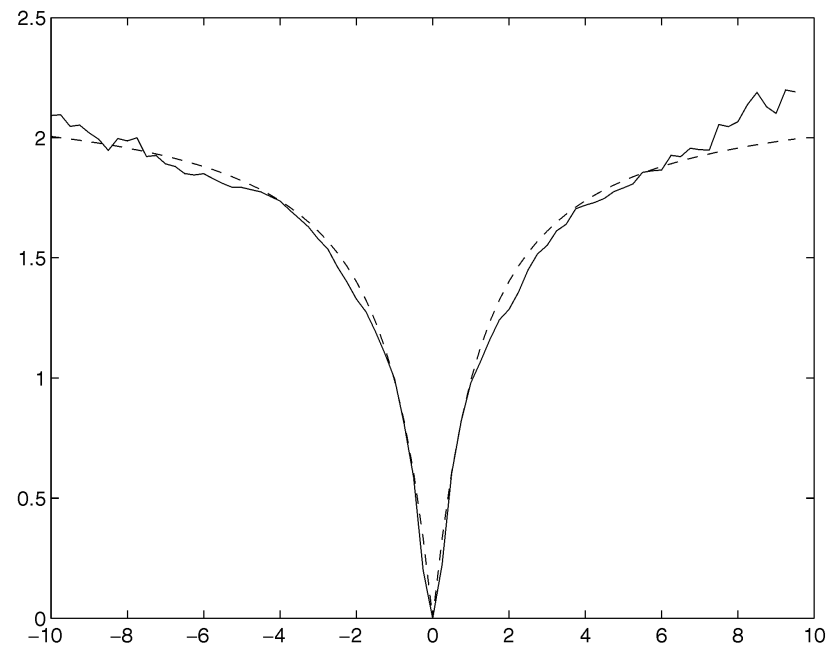


# S.C. Zhu, D. Mumford: *Prior Learning and Gibbs Reaction Diffusion*

(PAMI 1997)



potential learned  
for the Laplacian



# Model Classes

## Gibbs distributions

$U$  cont. *quadratic* (**Gaussian**)

inference: linear system

$$p(I; \theta) \propto e^{-U(I; \theta)}$$

$U$  discrete (e.g. **Potts**)

inference: LP relaxation, graph cuts

tractable

$U$  cont. *non-convex*  
(**reaction-diffusion**)

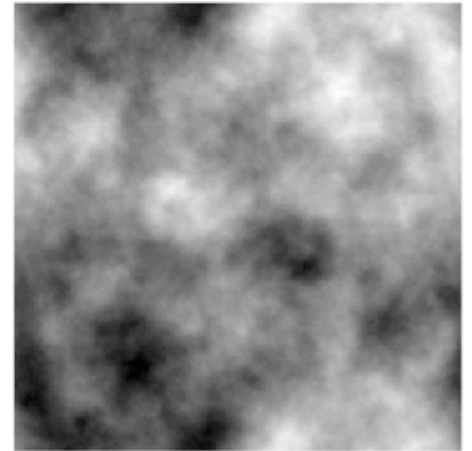
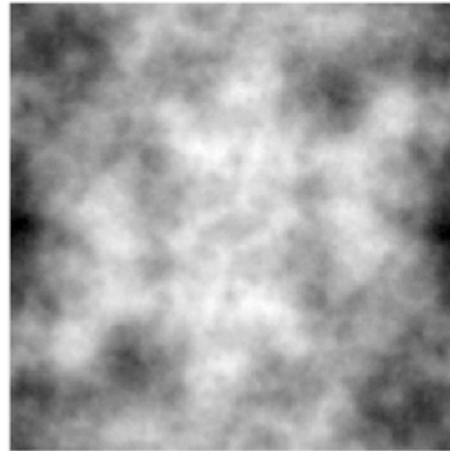
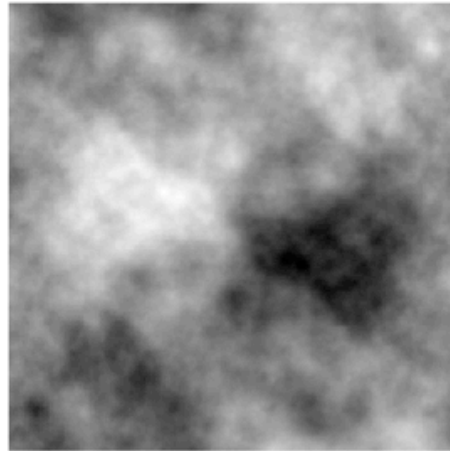
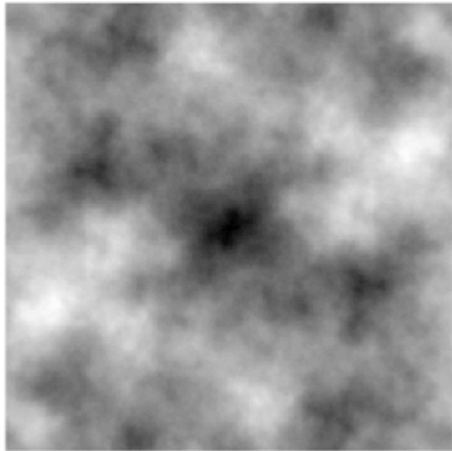
inference: Gibbs sampler, MCMC

$$U(\mathbf{I}; \Lambda, S) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^K \sum_{(x,y)} \lambda^{(\alpha)} \left( \left( F^{(\alpha)} * \mathbf{I} \right) (x, y) \right)$$

intractable

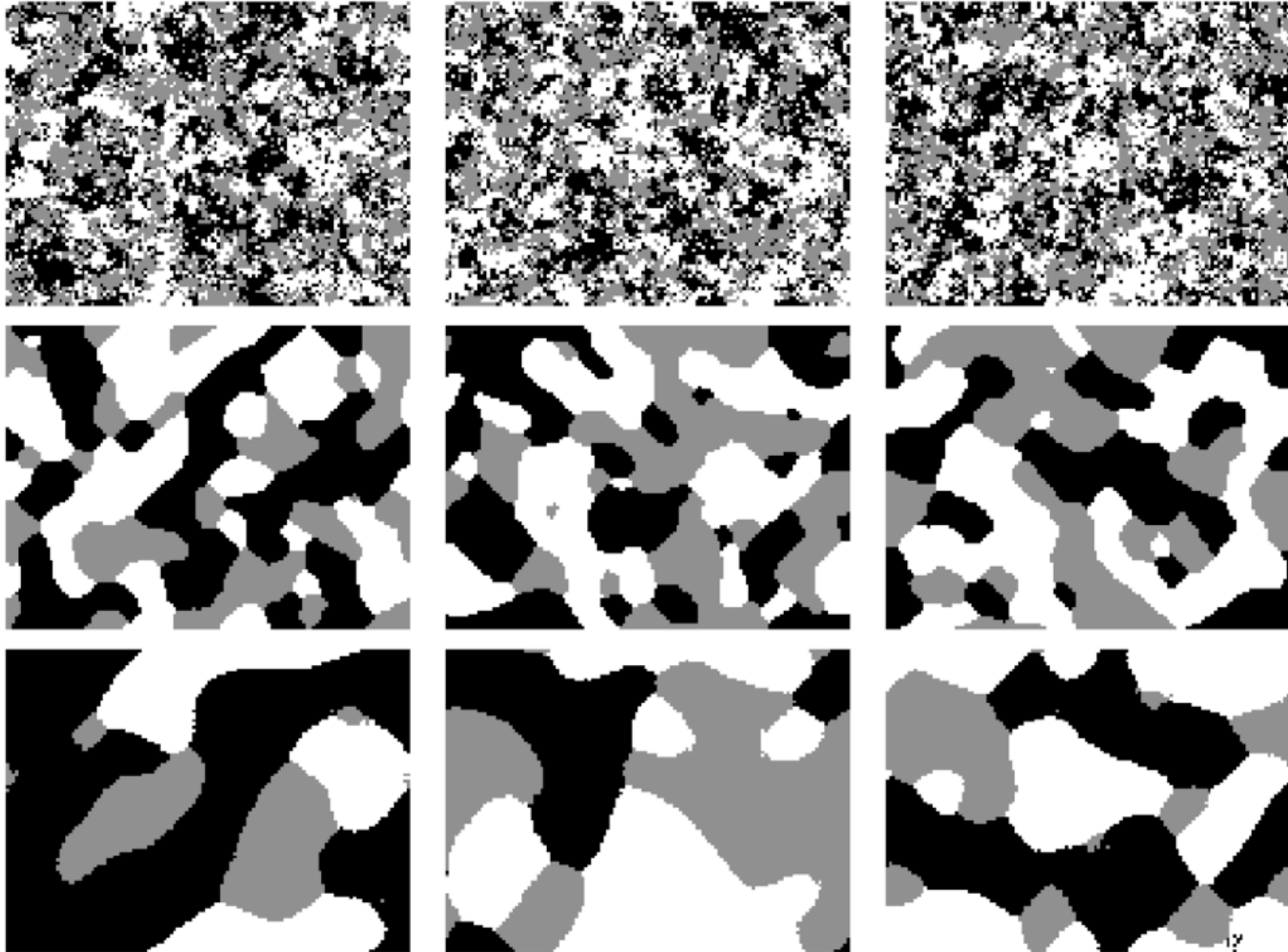
# Graphical Models

Sampling a biharmonic Gaussian prior



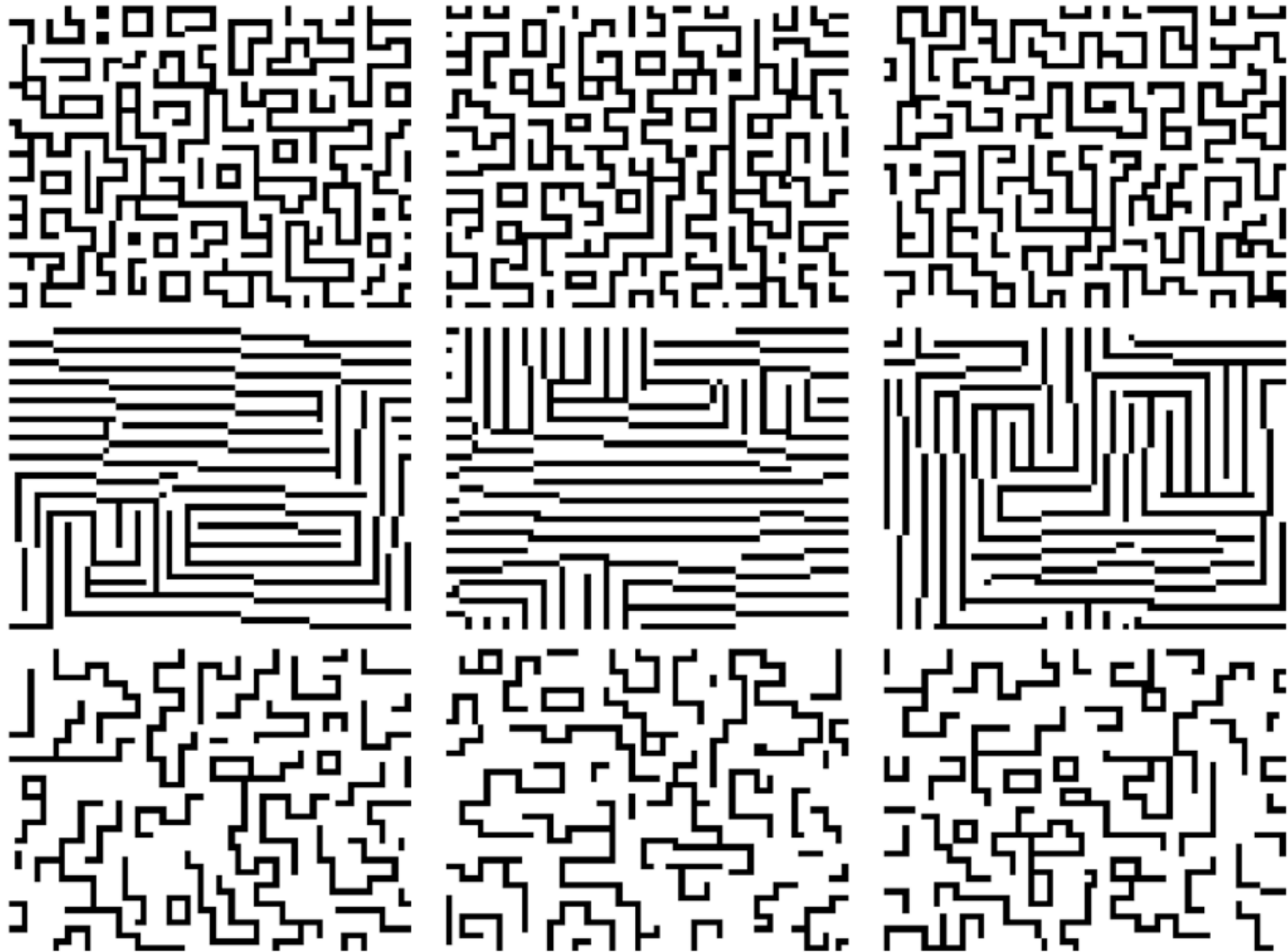
# Graphical Models

Sampling a Potts prior



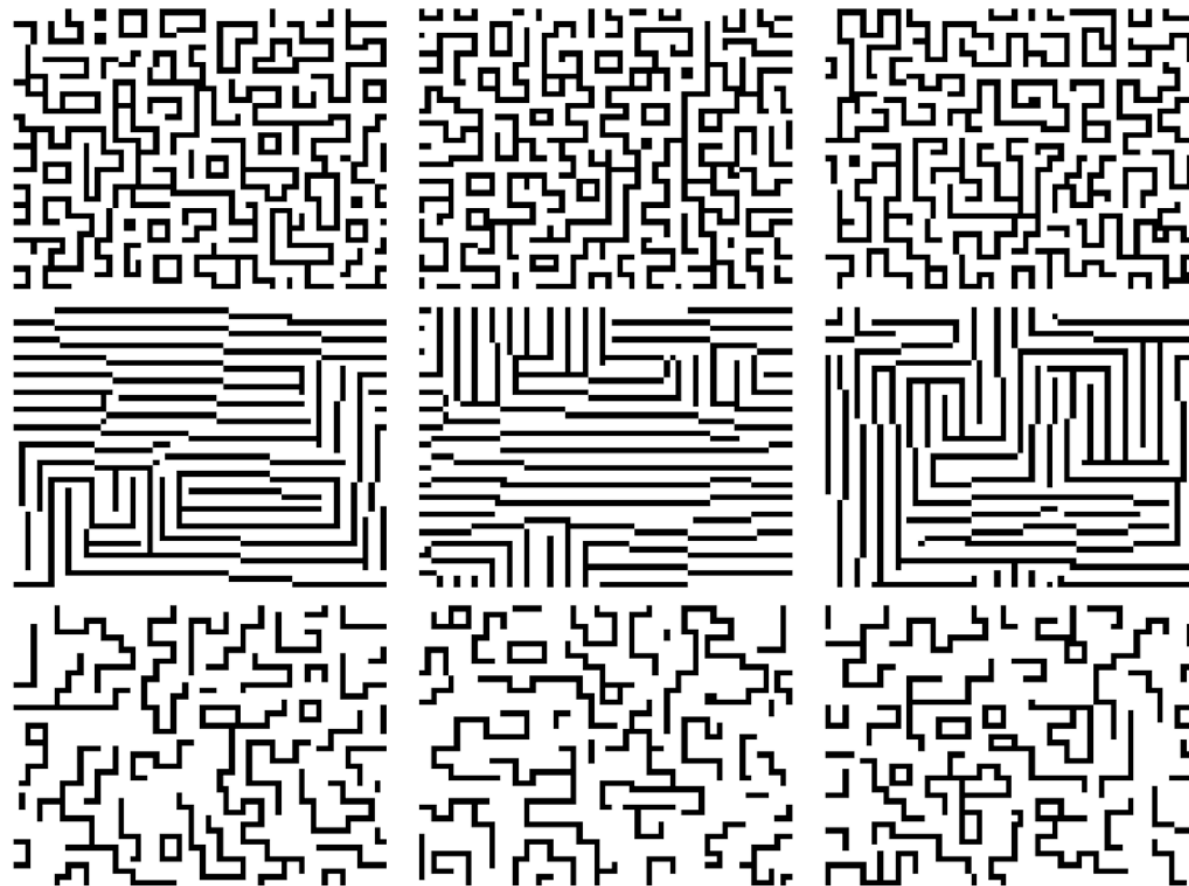
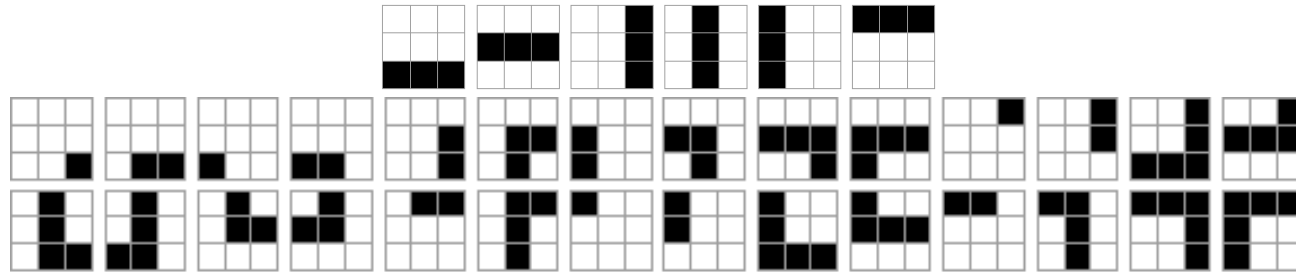
# Graphical Models

Sampling a more involved discrete prior



# Graphical Models

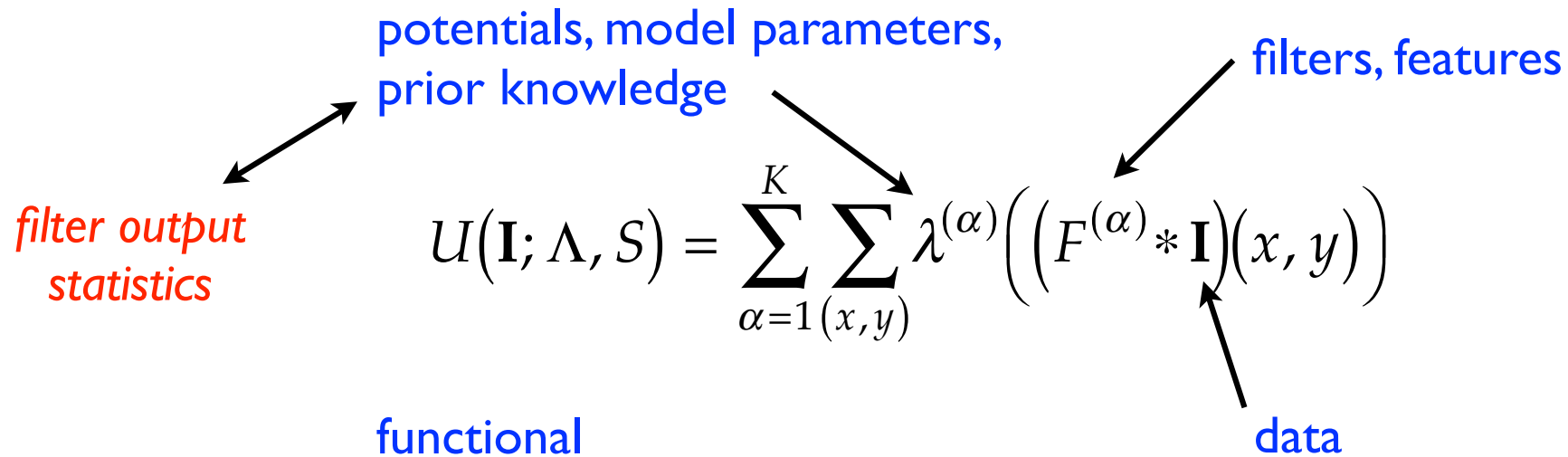
Interaction of patches - *implicit* knowledge representation



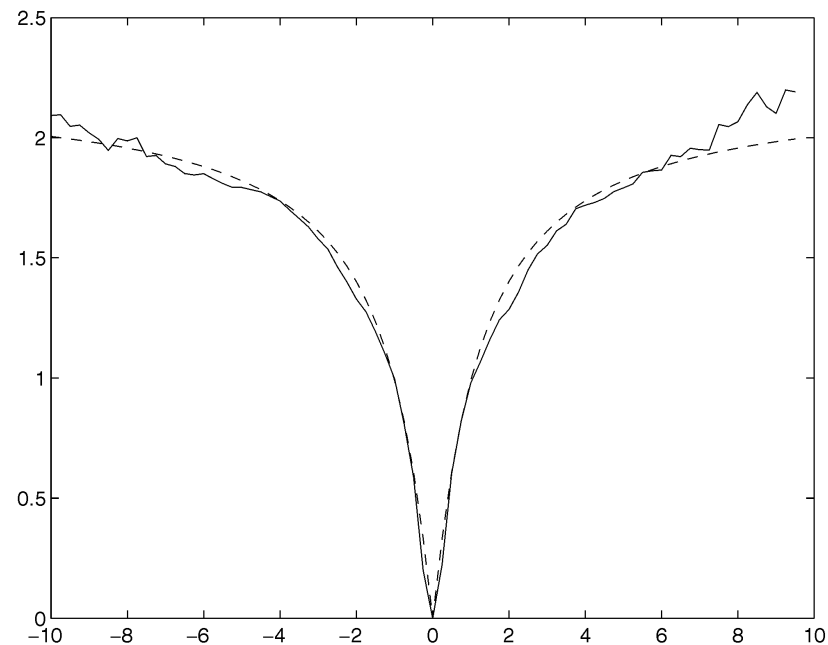


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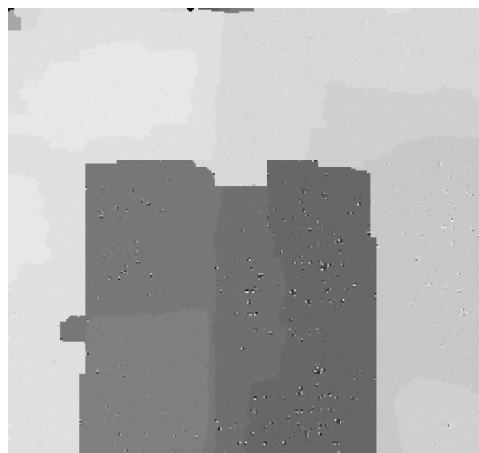
potential learned  
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# S.C. Zhu, D. Mumford: *Prior Learning and Gibbs Reaction Diffusion*

(PAMI 1997)

- generative probabilistic model
- *unsupervised* denoising by *pattern formation*



# This Talk: Focus

- *Continuous* image models
  - *Explicit* knowledge: histograms
- 

- *Tractable* Inference
  - *Large-Scale* Convex Programming
- 

- *Applications*  
Variational Restoration, Co- / Segmentation  
Unsupervised Inpainting

# Outline

1. Convex Variational **Restoration** with *Histogram Priors*  
(Swoboda & Schnörr, *SIAM J. Imag. Sci.* 2013)
2. Convex Variational **Co- / Segmentation** with  
*Histogram Priors* (Swoboda & Schnörr, *EMMCVPR 2013*)
3. **Outlook**: Patch-Based Restoration and  
Unsupervised Inpainting (*in preparation*)

# Outline

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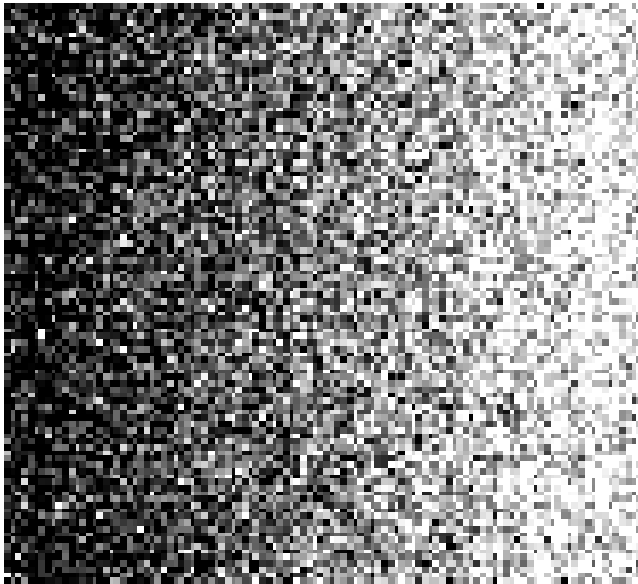
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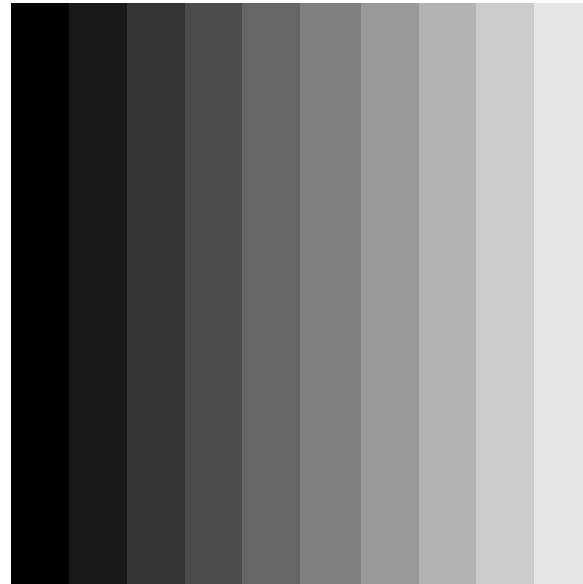
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# Problem, Variational Approach

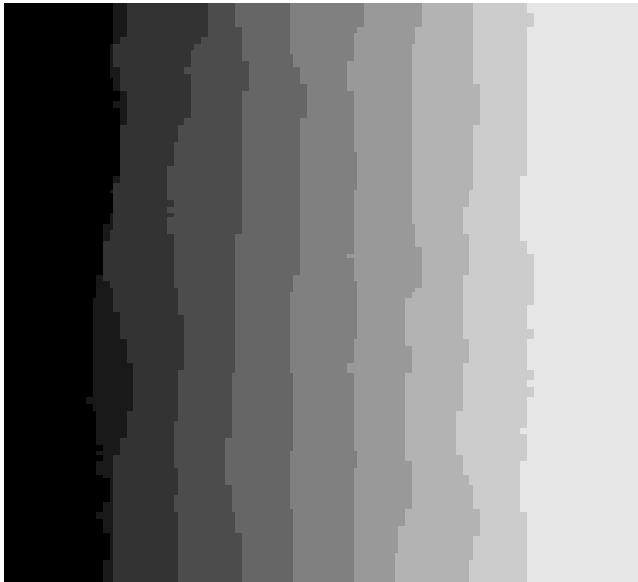
input image



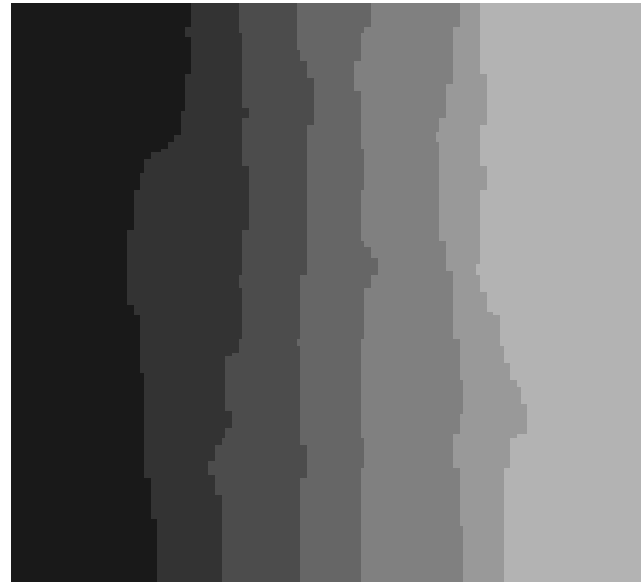
clean image



TV + Wasserstein



TV only



# Problem, Variational Approach

$$\inf_u F(u) + \lambda R(u) + \nu W(\mu^u, \mu^0)$$

data term  
(arbitrary)

convex spatial  
regularization

histogram  
prior

# Problem, Variational Approach

$$\inf_u F(u) + \lambda R(u) + \nu W(\mu^u, \mu^0)$$

data term      convex *spatial*      *non-spatial*  
(arbitrary)    regularization    histogram prior

$$\min_{u \in \text{BV}(\Omega, [0,1])} E(u) = \int_{\Omega} f(u(x), x) dx + \lambda \text{TV}(u) + \nu W(\mu^u, \mu^0)$$

$\swarrow$  domain of  $u$

$$W(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \tilde{\mu})} \int_{[0,1] \times [0,1]} c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) d\pi(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$$

$\swarrow \searrow$   
range of  $u$



# Contribution

- variational approach
- two convex relaxations, proof of equivalence
- convex programming approach
- numerical validation

# Related Work

J. RABIN AND G. PEYRÉ, *Wasserstein regularization of imaging problem*, in Proceedings of ICIP, IEEE, Washington, DC, 2011, pp. 1541–1544.

contrast and color modification

*non-convex* approximation of the original energy

# Convex Relaxation

based on

- duality (Wasserstein distance)
- functional lifting

alternatively

- Hoeffding-Fréchet bounds
- functional lifting

# Convex Relaxation

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# Duality

## Wasserstein distance

$$W(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \tilde{\mu})} \int_{[0,1] \times [0,1]} c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) d\pi(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$$

## dual Kantorovich formulation

$$W(\mu^u, \mu^0) = \sup_{\substack{(\psi, \psi') \in L_1([0,1])^2 \\ \psi(\gamma_1) - \psi'(\gamma_2) \leq c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)}} \int_0^1 \psi d\mu^u - \int_0^1 \psi' d\mu^0$$

# Duality

## Wasserstein distance

$$W(\mu, \tilde{\mu}) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \tilde{\mu})} \int_{[0,1] \times [0,1]} c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) d\pi(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$$

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## reformulation

$$E(u, \psi, \psi') = \int_{\Omega} f(u(x), x) dx + \lambda \text{TV}(u) + \nu \left( \int_0^1 \psi d\mu^u - \int_0^1 \psi' d\mu^0 \right)$$

$$\inf_{u \in C} E(u) = \inf_{u \in C} \sup_{(\psi, \psi') \in D} E(u, \psi, \psi')$$

# Reformulation

non-convexity

$$E(u, \psi, \psi') = \int_{\Omega} f(u(x), x) dx + \lambda \text{TV}(u) + \nu \left( \int_0^1 \psi d\mu^u - \int_0^1 \psi' d\mu^0 \right)$$

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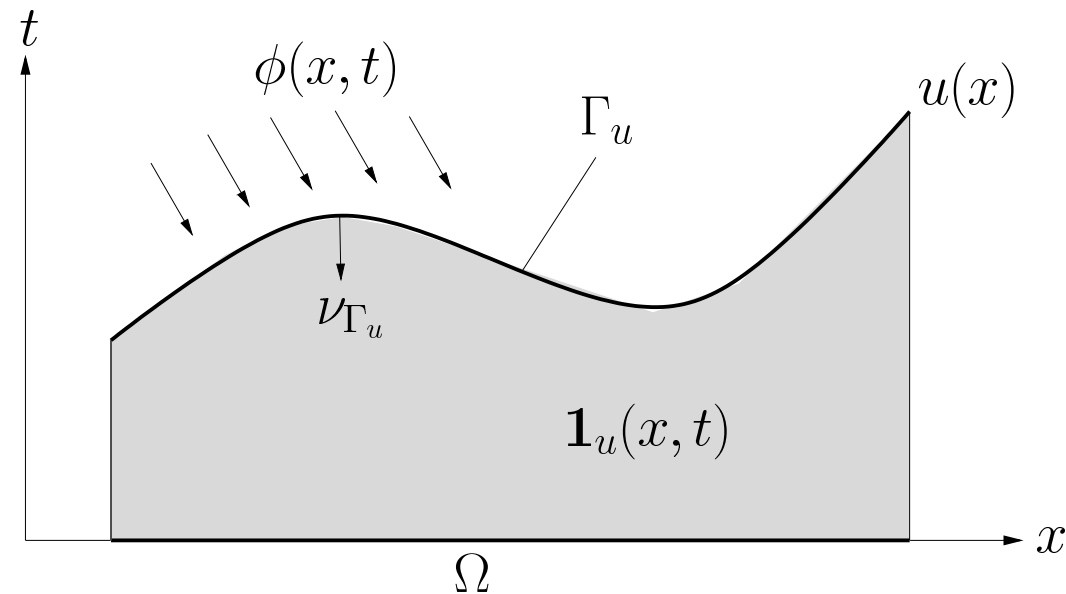
⇒ convex relaxation

- duality (Wasserstein distance)
  - functional lifting
- 
- Hoeffding-Fréchet bounds
  - functional lifting

# Functional lifting

G. ALBERTI, G. BOUCHITTE, AND G. DAL MASO, *The calibration method for the Mumford-Shah functional and free-discontinuity problems*, Calc. Var. Partial Differential Equations, 16 (2003), pp. 299–

T. POCK, D. CREMERS, H. BISCHOF, AND A. CHAMBOLLE, *Global solutions of variational models with convex regularization*, SIAM J. Imaging Sci., 3 (2010), pp. 1122–1145.



$$C' = \left\{ \phi \in \text{BV}(\Omega \times \mathbb{R}, \{0, 1\}) : \begin{array}{l} \phi(\cdot, (-\infty, 0]) \equiv 1, \quad \phi(\cdot, [1, \infty)) \equiv 0, \\ D_\gamma \phi(\cdot, \gamma) \leq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$-D_\gamma \phi = \mathcal{H}^2 \llcorner \text{graph}(u)$$

# Functional lifting

$$\mu^u(A) = \mu^\phi(A) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} |D_\gamma \phi(x, A)| dx = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} -D_\gamma \phi(x, A) dx$$

$\phi \mapsto \mu^\phi$  is linear



# Functional lifting

$$\mu^u(A) = \mu^\phi(A) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} |D_\gamma \phi(x, A)| dx = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} -D_\gamma \phi(x, A) dx$$

$\phi \mapsto \mu^\phi$  is linear

$$E(u, \psi, \psi') = \int_{\Omega} f(u(x), x) dx + \lambda \text{TV}(u) + \nu \left( \int_0^1 \psi d\mu^u - \int_0^1 \psi' d\mu^0 \right)$$



$$E'(\phi, \psi, \psi') = - \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 f(\gamma, x) D_\gamma \phi(x, \gamma) dx + \lambda \int_0^1 \text{TV}(\phi(\cdot, \gamma)) d\gamma + \nu \left( \int_0^1 \psi d\mu^\phi - \int_0^1 \psi' d\mu^0 \right).$$

(coarea formula)

# Functional lifting & Convex Relaxation

$$\mu^u(A) = \mu^\phi(A) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} |D_\gamma \phi(x, A)| dx = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} -D_\gamma \phi(x, A) dx$$

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Thm.: existence

$$\inf_{u \in C} \sup_{(\psi, \psi') \in D} E(u, \psi, \psi') = \inf_{\phi \in C'} \sup_{(\psi, \psi') \in D} E'(\phi, \psi, \psi')$$

relax  $\uparrow$

# Reformulation

non-convexity

$$E(u, \psi, \psi') = \int_{\Omega} f(u(x), x) dx + \lambda \text{TV}(u) + \nu \left( \int_0^1 \psi d\mu^u - \int_0^1 \psi' d\mu^0 \right)$$

$$\inf_{u \in C} E(u) = \inf_{u \in C} \sup_{(\psi, \psi') \in D} E(u, \psi, \psi')$$

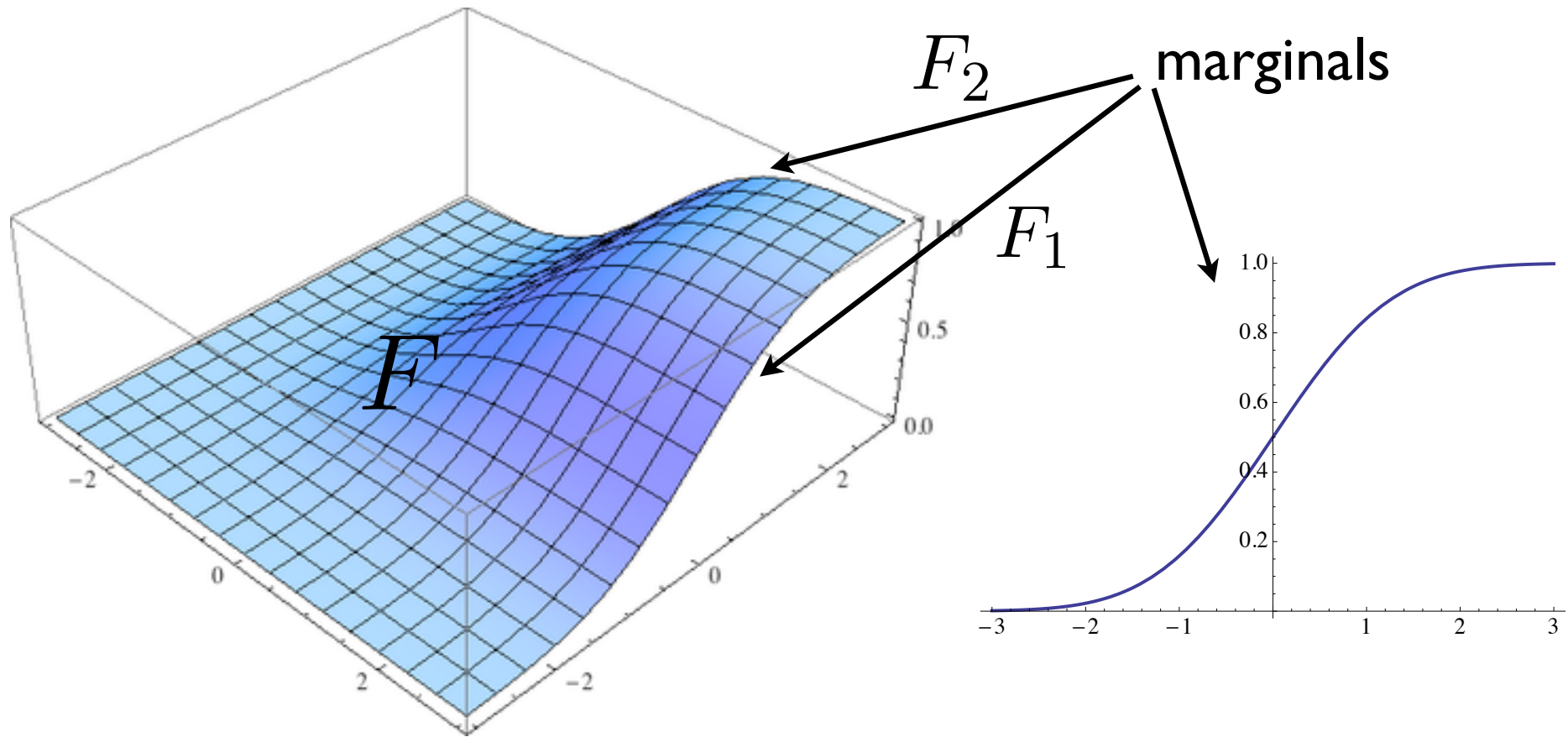
⇒ convex relaxation

- duality (Wasserstein distance)
- functional lifting

- Hoeffding-Fréchet bounds
- functional lifting

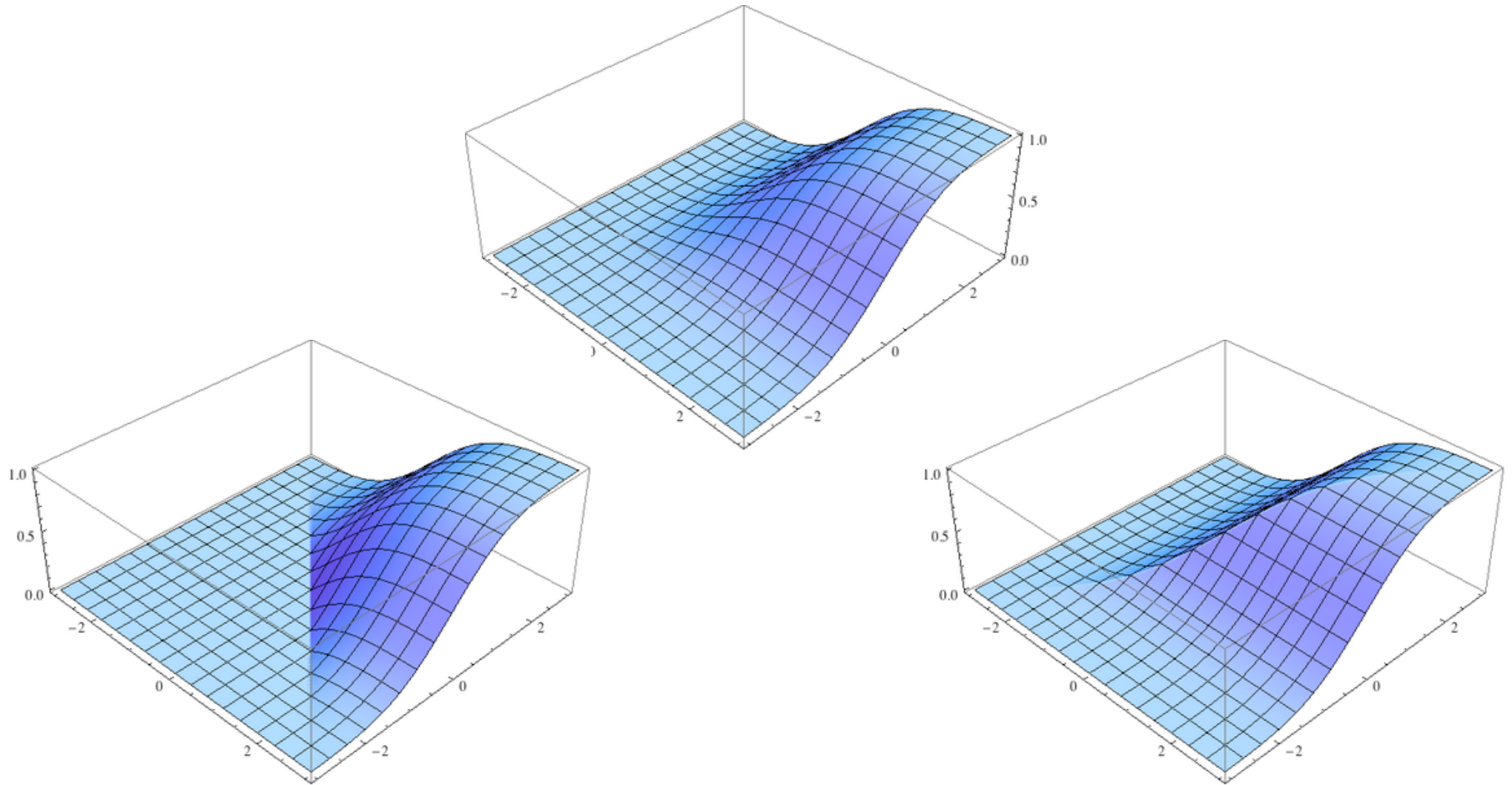


# Hoeffding-Fréchet Bounds



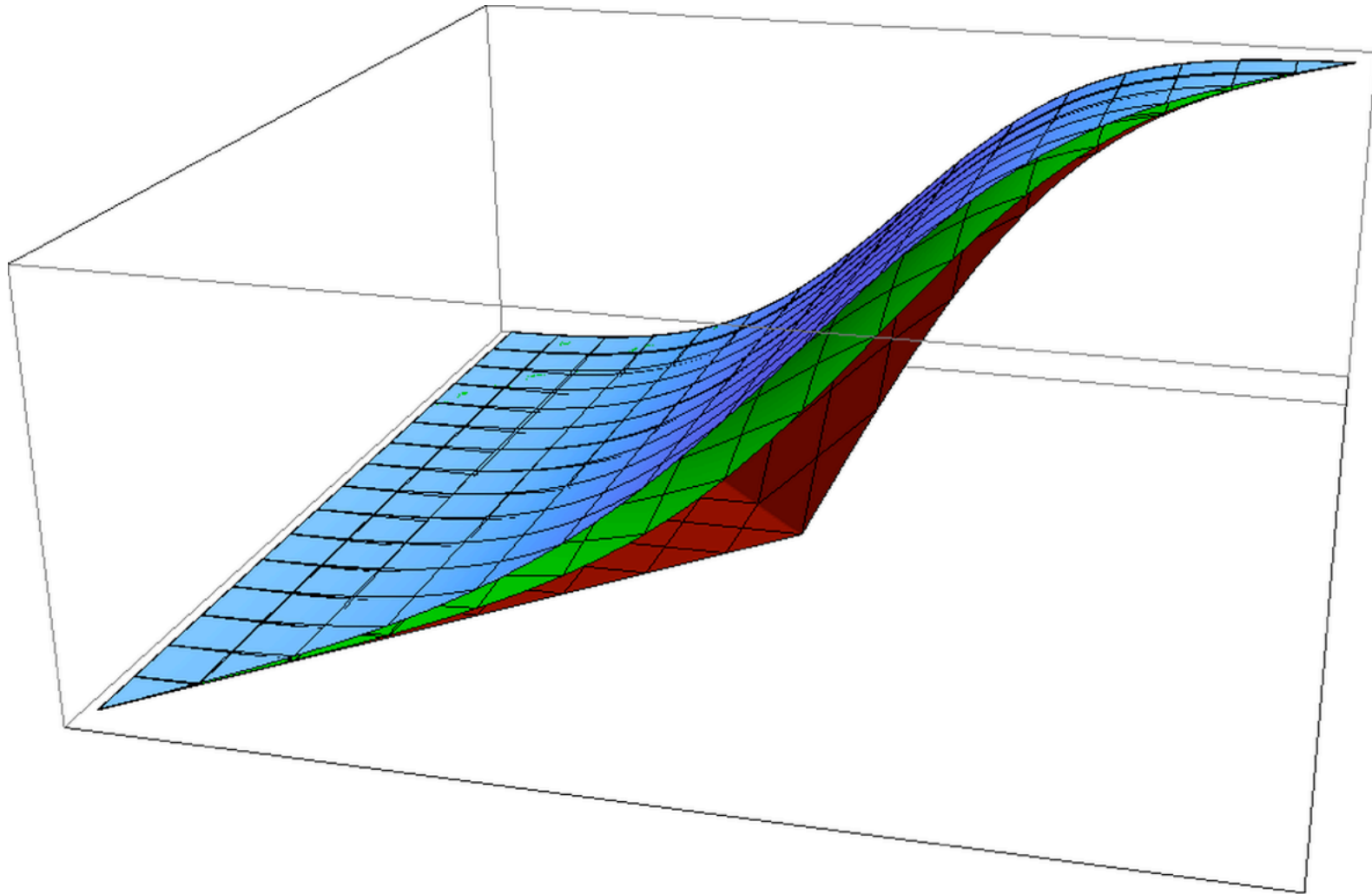
$$(F_1(\gamma_1) + F_2(\gamma_2) - 1)_+ \leq F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) \leq \min\{F_1(\gamma_1), F_2(\gamma_2)\}$$

# Hoeffding-Fréchet Bounds



$$(F_1(\gamma_1) + F_2(\gamma_2) - 1)_+ \leq F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) \leq \min\{F_1(\gamma_1), F_2(\gamma_2)\}$$

# Hoeffding-Fréchet Bounds



$$(F_1(\gamma_1) + F_2(\gamma_2) - 1)_+ \leq F(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) \leq \min\{F_1(\gamma_1), F_2(\gamma_2)\}$$

# Functional Lifting & Convex Relaxation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\phi, F} \quad & \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 -f(\gamma, x) D_{\gamma} \phi(x, \gamma) dx + \lambda \int_0^1 \text{TV}(\phi(\cdot, \gamma)) d\gamma + \nu \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} c dF, \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & F_{\phi}(\gamma) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} -D_{\gamma} \phi(x, [0, \gamma]) dx, \\ & F_{\mu^0}(\gamma) = \mu^0([0, \gamma]), \\ & F_{\phi}(x_1) + F_{\mu^0}(x_2) - 1 \leq F(x_1, x_2) \leq \min\{F_{\phi}(x_1), F_{\mu^0}(x_2)\}, \\ & \phi \in C''. \end{aligned}$$

# Convex Relaxations

- duality (Wasserstein distance)
- functional lifting



(proof: paper)

- Hoeffding-Fréchet bounds
- functional lifting



# Convex Programming

## Discretized problem

$$\min_{\phi \in C_d''} \max_{(\psi, \psi') \in D_d} E'_d(\phi, \psi, \psi')$$

based on

$$E'(\phi, \psi, \psi') = - \int_{\Omega} \int_0^1 f(\gamma, x) D_{\gamma} \phi(x, \gamma) dx + \lambda \int_0^1 \text{TV}(\phi(\cdot, \gamma)) d\gamma + \nu \left( \int_0^1 \psi d\mu^{\phi} - \int_0^1 \psi' d\mu^0 \right).$$

→ generalized FB-splitting wrt. ...

H. RAGUET, J. FADILI, AND G. PEYRÉ, *A generalized forward-backward splitting*, SIAM J. Imaging Sci., 6 (2013), pp. 1199–1226.

⇒ single *non-standard* proximal mapping only wrt. ...

# Convex Programming

Proximal mapping with  $c(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = |\gamma_1 - \gamma_2|$

$$\bar{\phi} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\phi} \frac{1}{2} \|\phi - \tilde{\phi}\|^2 + \lambda W(\mu^{\phi}, \mu^0)$$

$$\bar{\phi}(x, \gamma) = \tilde{\phi}(x, \gamma) + c_{\gamma}$$

$$c_{\gamma} = \operatorname{shrink} \left( -\frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} \tilde{\phi}(x, \gamma) dx - F_{\mu^0}(\gamma) + 1, \frac{\lambda}{|\Omega|} \right) \\ + \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} \tilde{\phi}(x, \gamma) dx + F_{\mu^0}(\gamma) - 1$$

# Numerical Validation

biased inpainting



# Numerical Validation

example:  
non-tight relaxation



# Numerical Validation

## Histogram constrained denoising



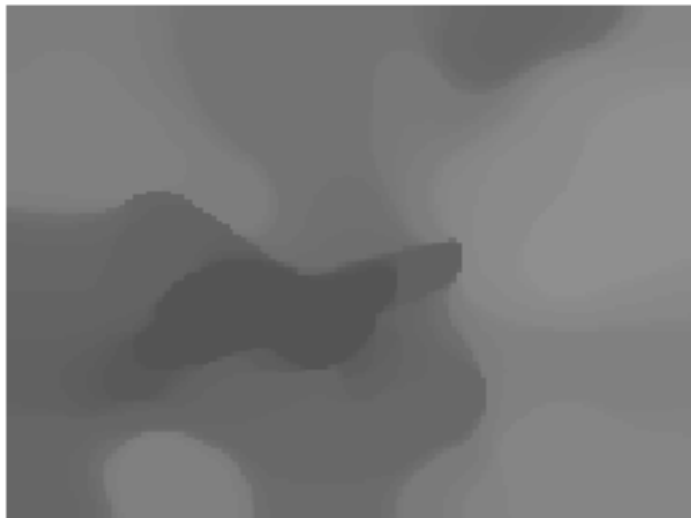
contrast  
better preserved



TV only

# Numerical Validation

## Unsupervised inpainting



TV only

# Outline

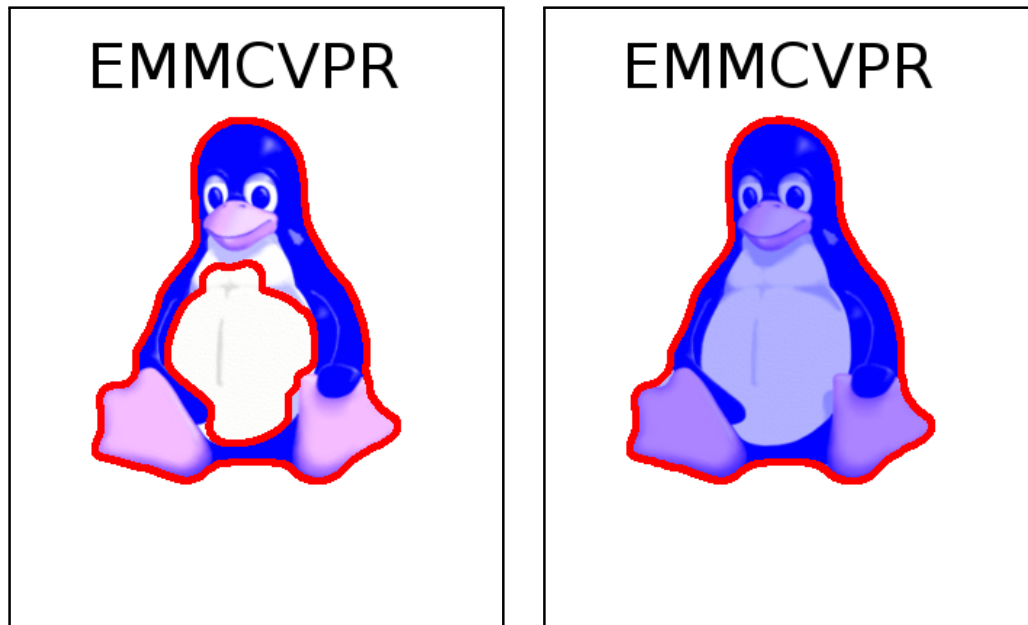
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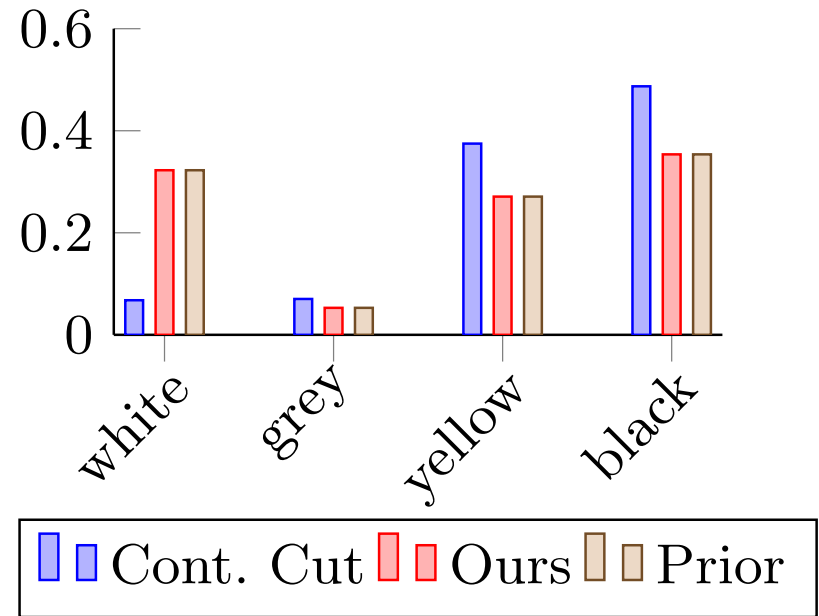
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# Problem, Variational Approaches



(a) Cont. Cut

(b) Ours



(c) Foreground histograms

Local potentials  $d^i(x) = -\log(p^i(I(x)))$

+ spatial regularization may not suffice

⇒ Histogram prior *globally depending* on the segmentation



# Problem, Variational Approaches



Co-segmenting similar objects in *different* scenes *without* prior knowledge (appearance)

⇒ Wasserstein distance between foreground histograms that *globally depend* on and are inferred with the segmentation

# Related Prior Work

## includes

T. F. Chan, S. Esedoglu, and K. Ni. Histogram Based Segmentation Using Wasserstein Distances. In Fiorella Sgallari, Almerico Murli, and Nikos Paragios, editors, *SSVM*, volume 4485 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, pages 697–708. Springer, 2007.

## potentials based on *local* Wasserstein-distances

C. Rother, T. Minka, A. Blake, and V. Kolmogorov. Cosegmentation of image pairs by histogram matching - incorporating a global constraint into mrfs. In *CVPR*, pages 993–1000, Washington, DC, USA, 2006. IEEE.

S. Vicente, V. Kolmogorov, and C. Rother. Cosegmentation revisited: models and optimization. In *Proceedings of the 11th European conference on Computer vision: Part II, ECCV'10*, pages 465–479, Berlin, Heidelberg, 2010. Springer-Verlag.

## less general histogram mtaching, EM-like alternating schemes, local minima issues

---

**Our contribution:** *single convex* variational approaches  
for both co-/segmentation with global histogram priors

# Problem, Variational Approaches

## Segmentation

$$E_{seg}(\Omega_1, \dots, \Omega_k) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k \text{Per}(\Omega_i, \Omega) + \sum_{i=1}^k W\left(\mu_{\Omega_i}^I, |\Omega_i| \cdot \mu^i\right)$$

global data term

histogram priors

dependency on the segmentation

# Problem, Variational Approaches

## Segmentation

$$E_{seg}(\Omega_1, \dots, \Omega_k) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k \text{Per}(\Omega_i, \Omega) + \sum_{i=1}^k W\left(\mu_{\Omega_i}^I, |\Omega_i| \cdot \mu^i\right)$$

global data term

histogram priors

dependency on the segmentation

## Co-segmentation

$$E_{coseg}(\Omega_1, \Omega_2) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \text{Per}(\Omega_i, \Omega) + W\left(\mu_{\Omega_1}^{I_1}, \mu_{\Omega_2}^{I_2}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^2 P \cdot |\Omega \setminus \Omega_i|$$

compare foreground statistics

enforce decision

dependency on the segmentation

# Problem, Variational Approaches

## Segmentation

$$E_{seg}(\Omega_1, \dots, \Omega_k) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k \text{Per}(\Omega_i, \Omega) + \sum_{i=1}^k W \left( \mu_{\Omega_i}^I, |\Omega_i| \cdot \mu^i \right)$$

## Co-segmentation

$$E_{coseg}(\Omega_1, \Omega_2) = \sum_{i=1}^2 \text{Per}(\Omega_i, \Omega) + W \left( \mu_{\Omega_1}^{I_1}, \mu_{\Omega_2}^{I_2} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^2 P \cdot |\Omega \setminus \Omega_i|$$

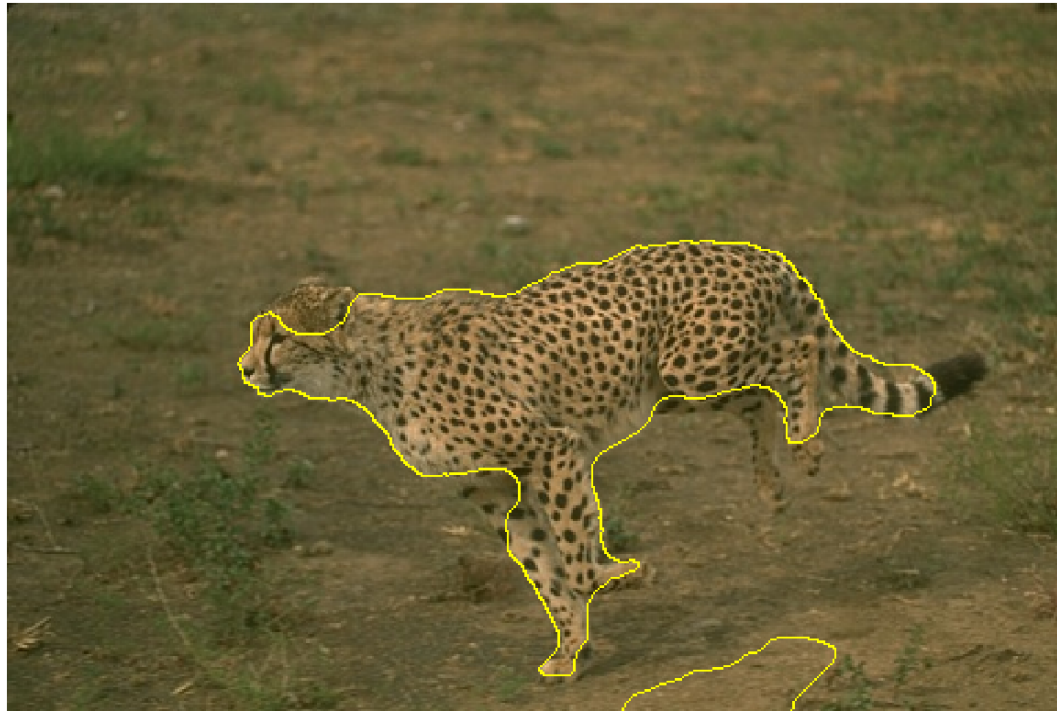
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## Contribution

- representation via indicator functions
- convex relaxation
- problem decomposition, efficient prox-map (W-distance)
- numerical validation

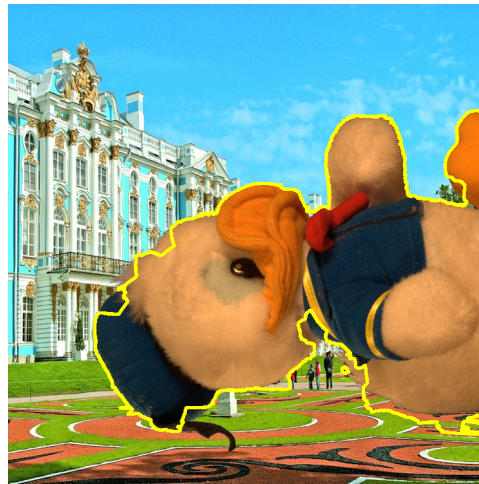
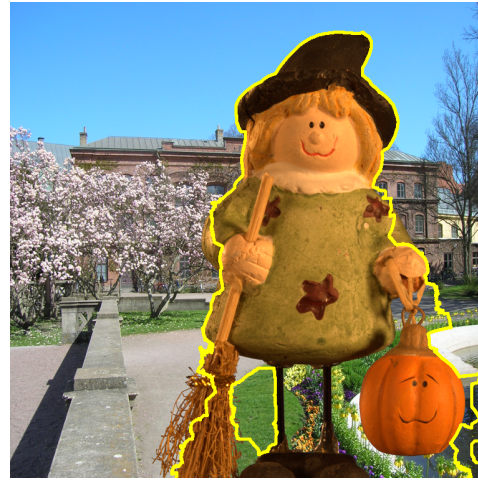
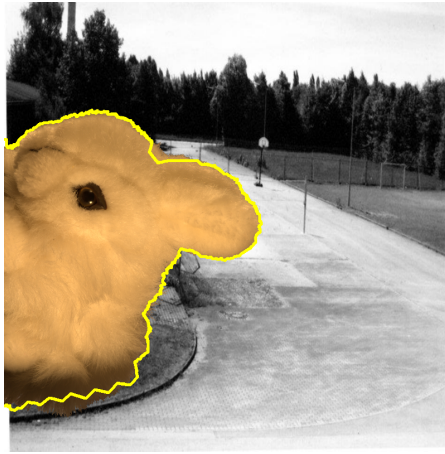
# Numerical Validation

Prior: extrapolating simple color histograms



**Note:** this is a *global* optimum (inference).  
Undesired partitions are due to features.

# Numerical Validation



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