Compressive Sensing in Microscopy: a Tutorial

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Currently many types of microscopy are limited, in terms of spatial and temporal resolution, by hardware (*e.g.*, camera framerate, data transfer rate, data storage capacity). The obvious approach to solve the resolution problem is to develop better hardware. An alternative solution, which additionally benefits from improved hardware, is to apply *compressive sensing* (CS) [1]. CS approaches have been shown to reduce dose by as much as 90% in electron microscopy [2, 3, 4]. Optical imaging and microscopy have also seen substantial benefits [5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13].

This tutorial will briefly introduce the principles of CS. Primarily, we will focus on the setup and modifications necessary for applying CS to a few different types of microscopy and spectroscopy (*e.g.*, STEM [2], EELS, TEM-video [3], optical-video [7]). We will show results from these compressive microscopy approaches. Moreover, an approach for detecting CS reconstruction errors (*i.e.*, errors introduced by the image processing algorithm) will be discussed.

Two examples are shown in Figure 1. The first example shows a 10:1 compression of video transmission electron (TEM) microscopy data. The second example shows the reconstruction of a scanning TEM (STEM) image using only 20% of the pixels [14].

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Figure 1: *Left*: An illustration of CS-TEM with 10 video frames compressed into 1 (simulated). The top left image shows the compressed frame, the middle column of images shows the reconstructed frames, and the right column shows the original frames. *Right*: An example of CS-STEM with 80% of the pixels missing at random (experimental). The top image is the acquired data, and the bottom image is the CS reconstruction.