

# Learning to Mean-Shift in $O(1)$ for Bayesian Image Restoration



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Meiguang Jin, Paolo Favaro  
Matthias Zwicker

# Image restoration

- Restore degraded images by removing blur, noise, holes, etc.



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# Challenges

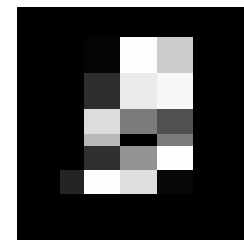
- Degradation leads to loss of information



Many possible  
sharp images



Degradation



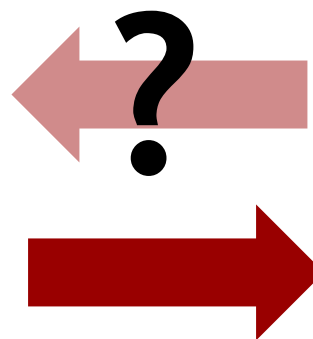
Observed  
image

# Challenges

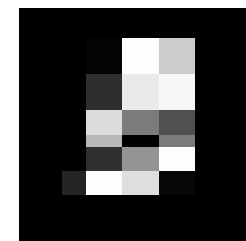
- Degradation leads to loss of information
- Restoration is ill-posed



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Degradation



Observed  
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# Maximum a-Posteriori

- Given  $y$ , maximize posterior probability

$$\operatorname{argmax}_x p(x|y)$$

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- $\log p(y|x)$ : data term (likelihood)
  - How well does the solution explain the observed data

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- $\log p(y|x)$ : data term (likelihood)
  - How well does the solution explain the observed data
- $\log p(x)$ : image prior
  - Probability of the solution

# Classical and novel priors

- Characteristics

Method	Domain	Feature	Prior	Parametrization	Application
TV	internal	gradient	Sparsity	$L_2$ -norm	generic
NLM	internal	patch	MRFs	Gaussian	generic
BM3D	internal	patch blocks	Sparsity	DCTs	generic
FoE	external	patch	MRFs	t-distribution	generic
KSVD	external	patch	Sparsity	Dictionaries	generic
EPLL	external	patch	True density	GMMs	generic
VDSR	external	image*	True density	CNNs	upsampling
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GradNet	external	image*	Kernel density	Gumbel, CNNs	deblurring
IRCNN	external	image*	True density	Cascade of CNNs	generic
Our method	external	image*	Kernel density	CNNs	generic

# Classical and novel priors

- External dataset vs. internal image

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# Classical and novel priors

- Large images regions vs. small patches

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# Classical and novel priors

- True density vs. sparse representations

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- Neural vs. GMM approximations

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# Classical and novel priors

- General vs. limited applications

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# Classical and novel priors

- Proposed

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# Classical and novel priors

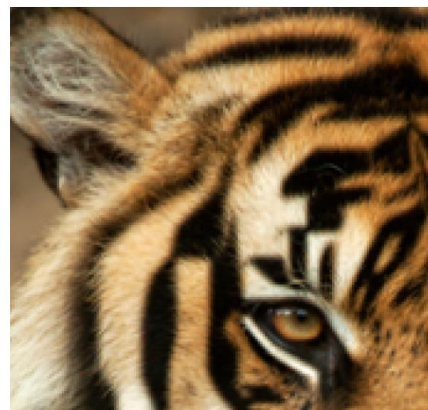
- Visualizing image priors, Shaham and Michaeli, ECCV 2016

Input

Our prior

BM3D

EPLL

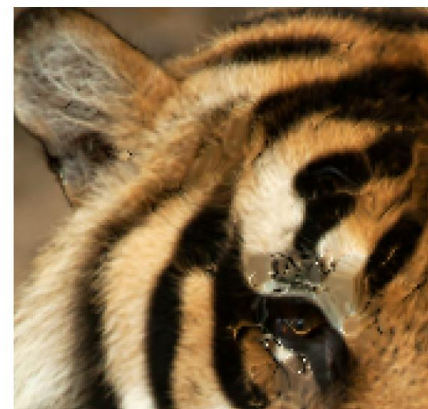
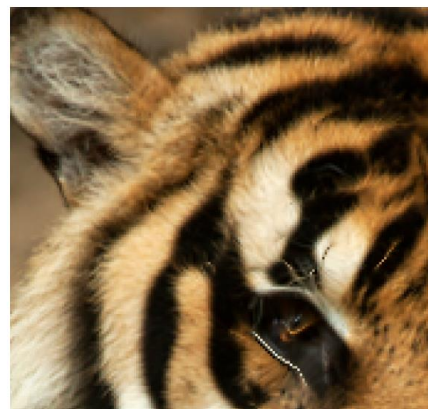
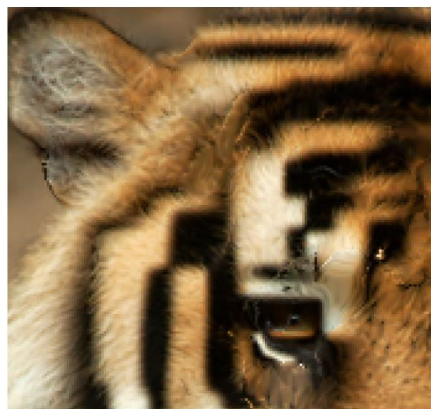


FoE

CSF

NLM

TV



# Image Restoration using Autoencoding Priors

VISAPP 2018

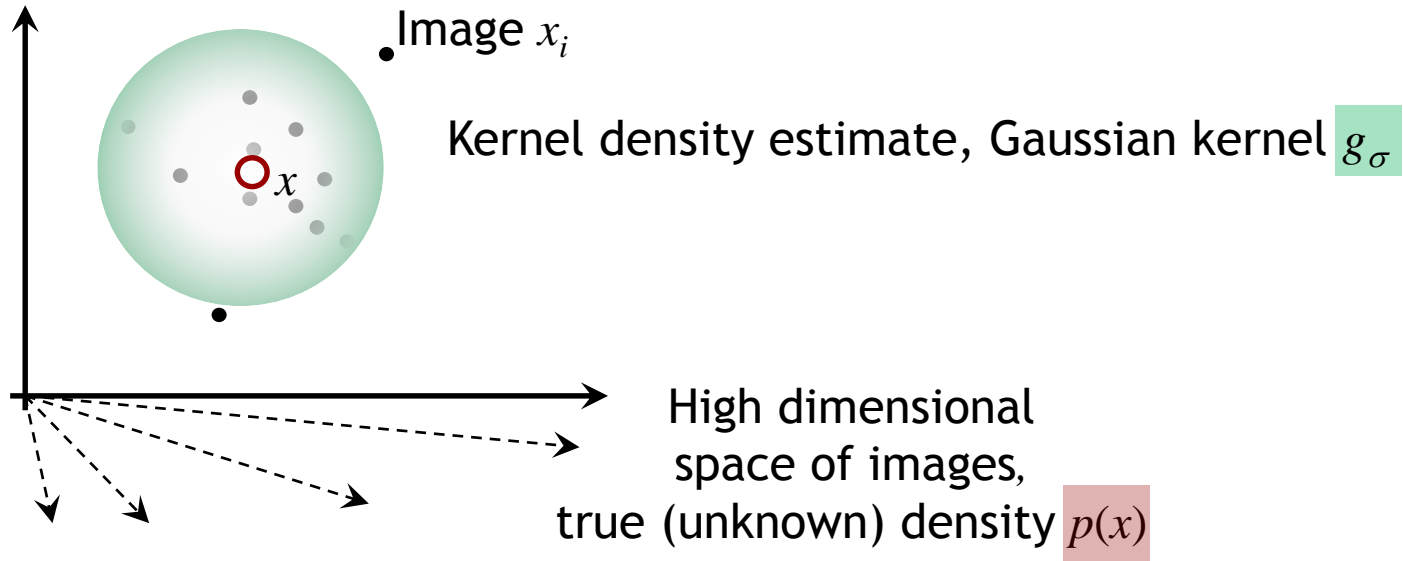
Siavash Arjomand Bigdeli

Matthias Zwicker



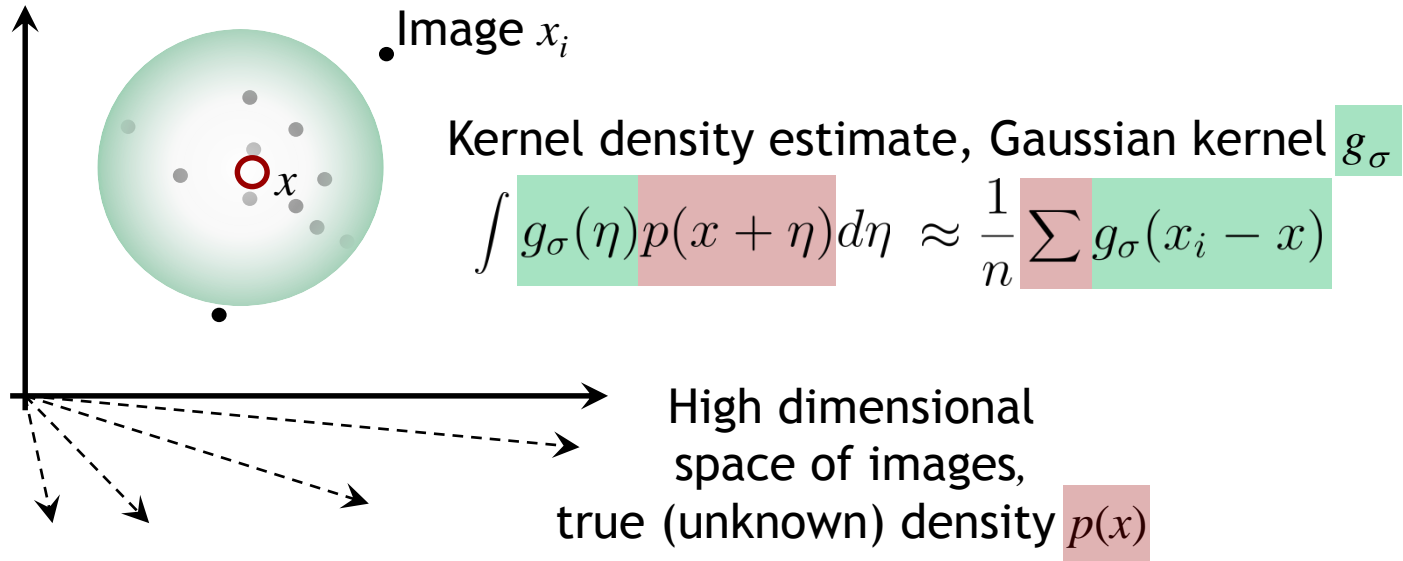
# Density estimation prior

- Given: large database of images (or image patches)
- Our prior: approx.  $p(x)$  using density estimate



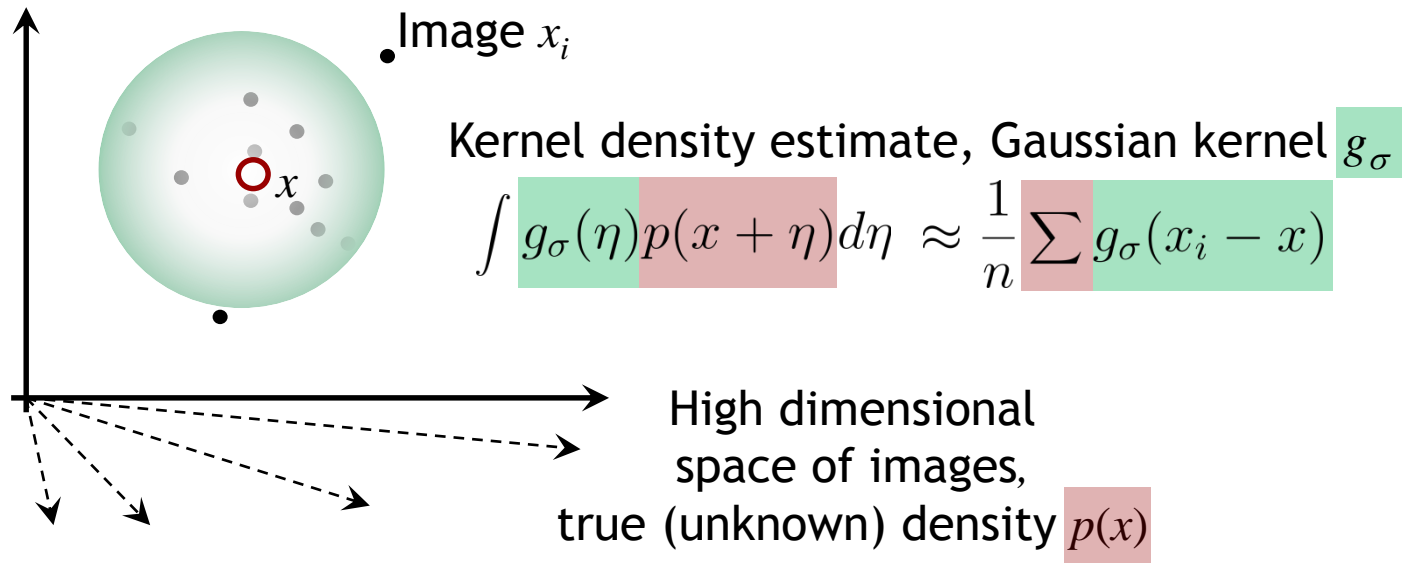
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- Contribution
  - Learn (gradient of) density estimate using denoising autoencoders
  - Prior is mean-shift magnitude

# Denoising autoencoder (DAE)

- DAE  $r_\sigma$  minimizes

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{DAE}} = \mathbb{E}_{\eta, x} [ |x - r_\sigma(x + \eta)|^2 ]$$

- Images  $x$
- Gaussian noise  $\eta$ , variance  $\sigma^2$



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- DAE  $r_\sigma(x)$  is local mean around image  $x$

[Alain and Bengio, JMLR 2014] [Levin and Nadler, CVPR 2011]

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- Our prior is the mean shift vector

[Miyasawa, BISS 1961] [Raphan and Simoncelli NC 2010]

[Bigdeli and Zwicker, arXiv 2017]

$$\nabla \log \int g_\sigma(\eta) p(x + \eta) d\eta = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left( r_\sigma(x) - x \right)$$

Prior

Mean shift vector  
Autoencoding error

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Kernel density estimate

$$\nabla \log \int g_\sigma(\eta) p(x + \eta) d\eta = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left( r_\sigma(x) - x \right)$$

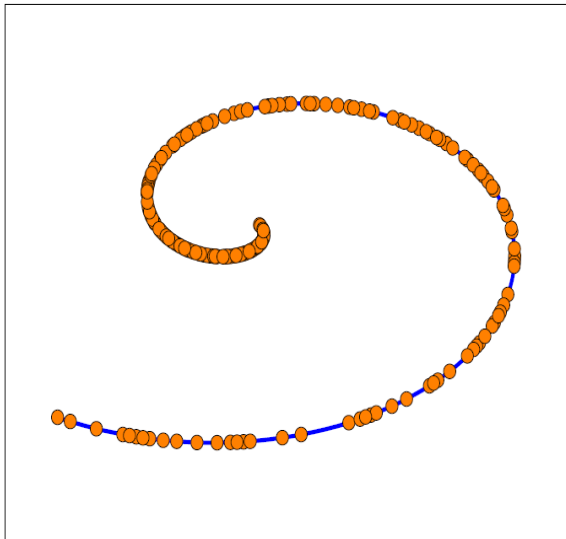
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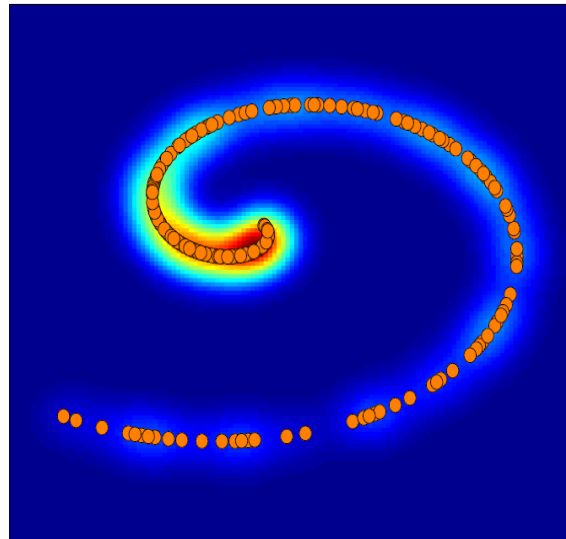
# Denoising autoencoder (DAE)

- Simple 2D Spiral distribution

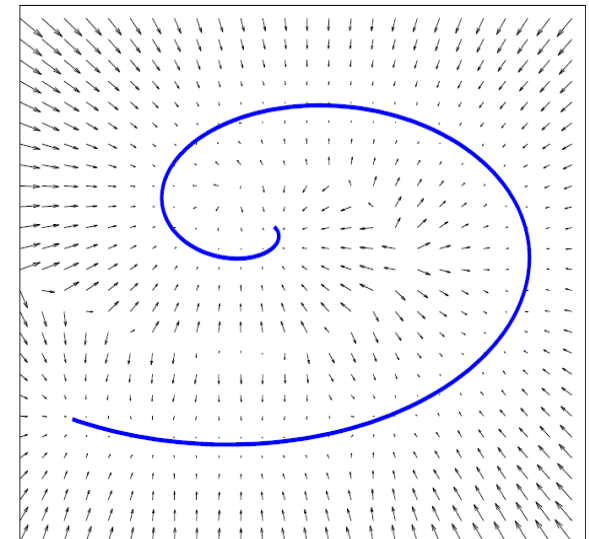
Spiral manifold and  
observed samples



Smoothed density from  
observed samples



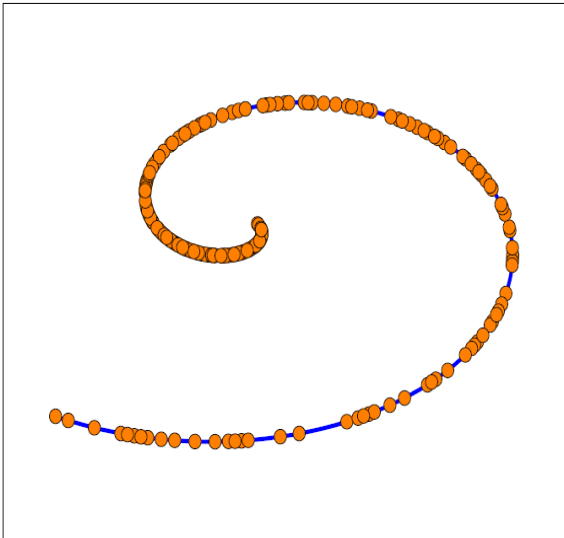
Mean-shift vectors  
Learned by DAE



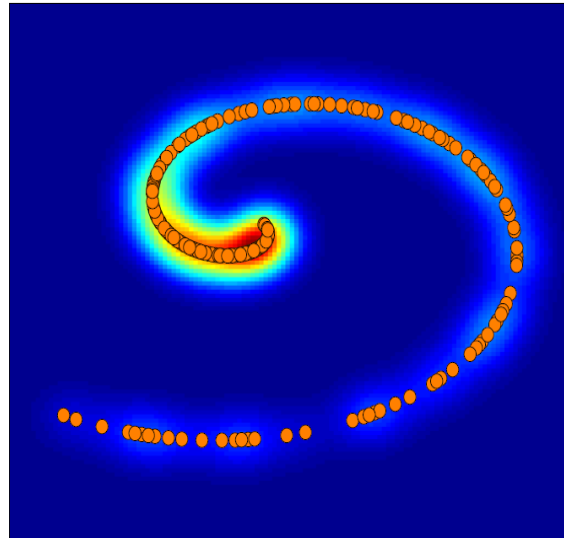
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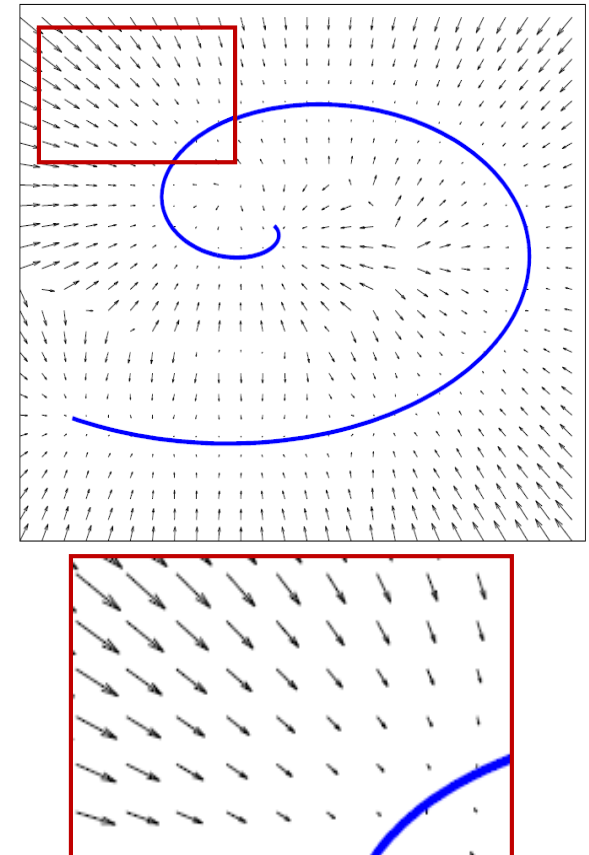
Spiral manifold and observed samples



Smoothed density from observed samples



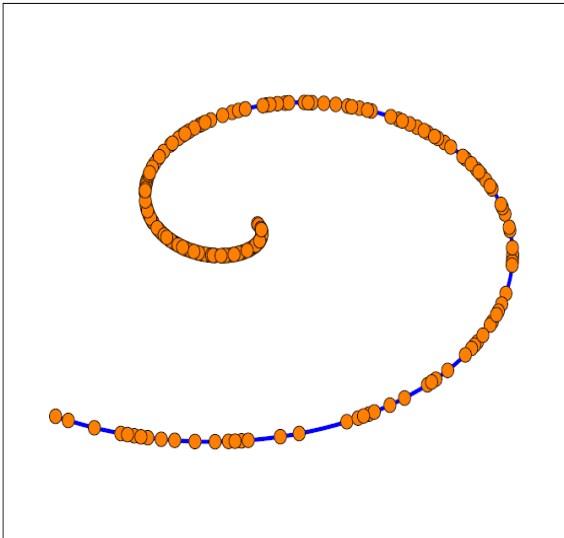
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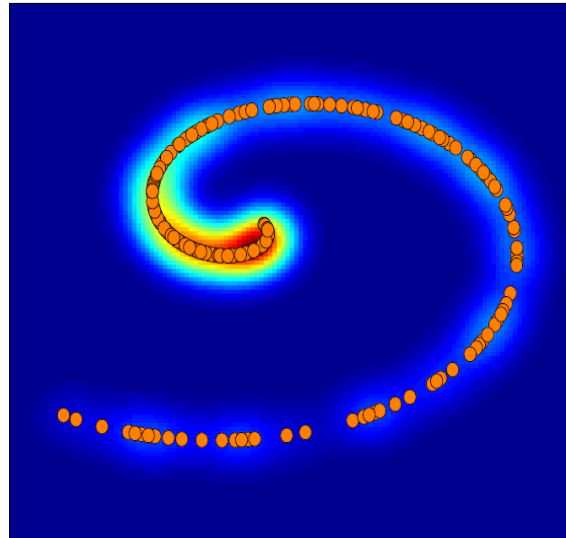
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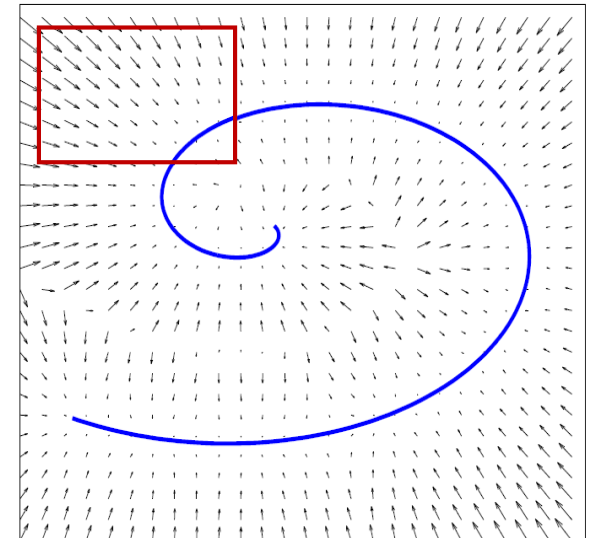
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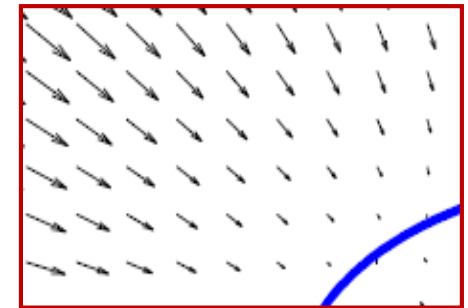
Smoothed density from observed samples



Mean-shift vectors Learned by DAE



- Our Prior:  $|r_\sigma(x) - x|^2$   
length of the Mean Shift vector

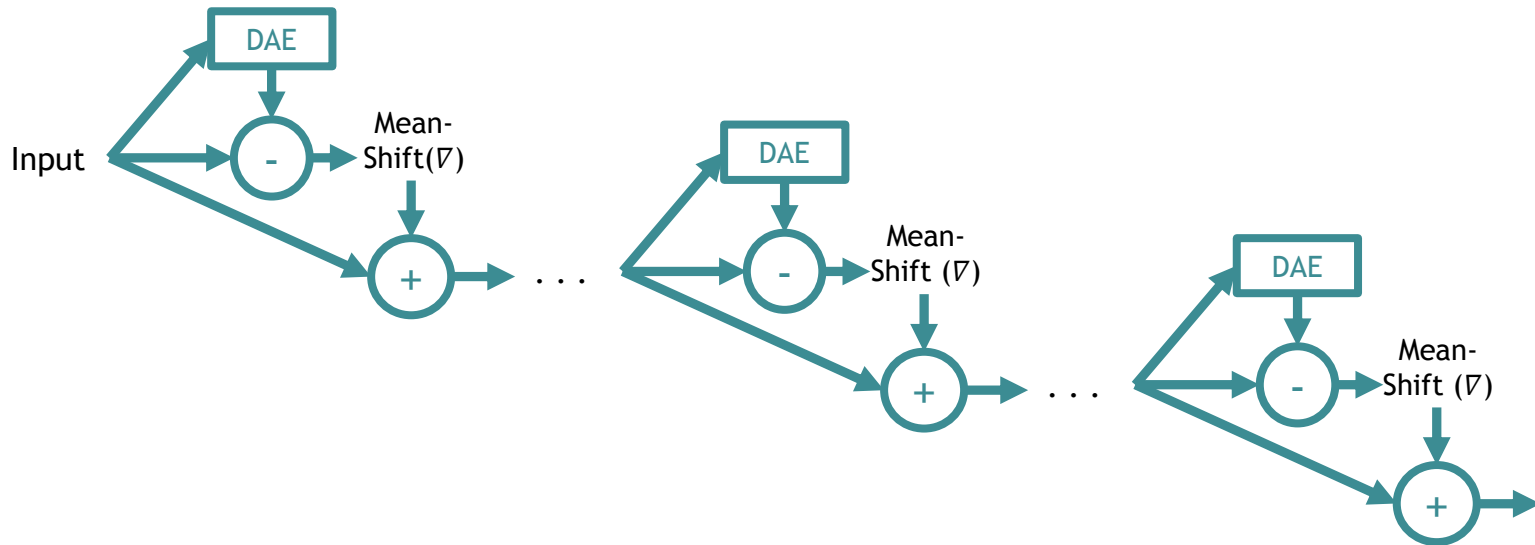


# Denoising autoencoder (DAE)

- Parametrized using Neural Networks
  - Learn to mean-shift in  $O(1)$ !!

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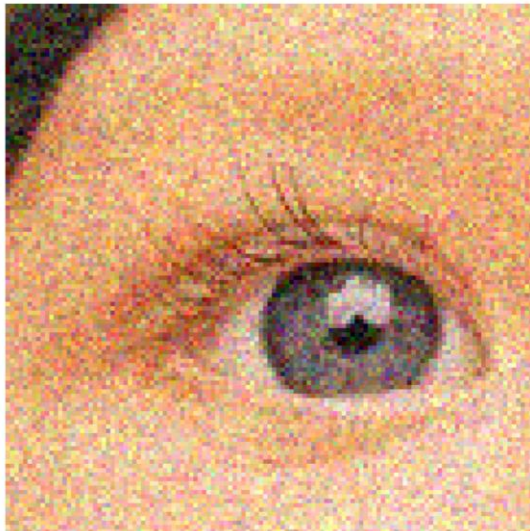




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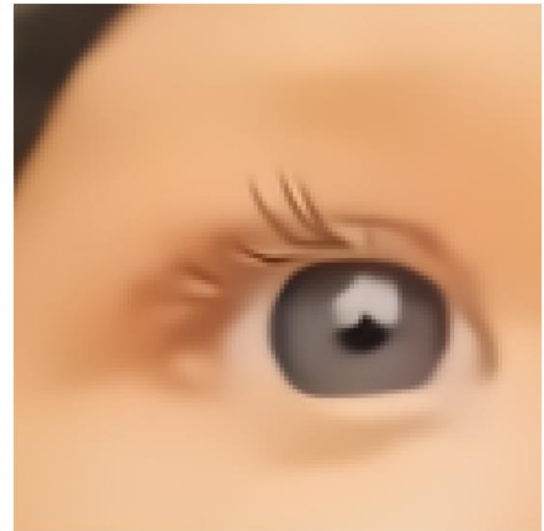
Input



Intermediate image



Local minimum



# Image restoration algorithm

- Gradient descent to find MAP
  - DAE to compute gradient of prior
  - Gradient of data term depending on degradation model, can be computed directly

# Image restoration algorithm

- Gradient descent to find MAP

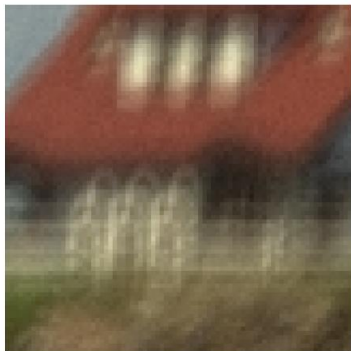
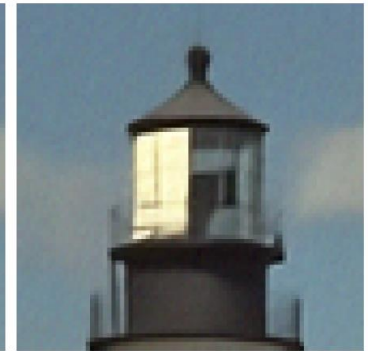
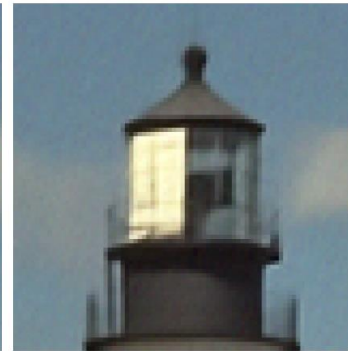
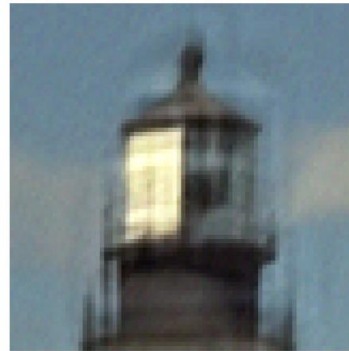
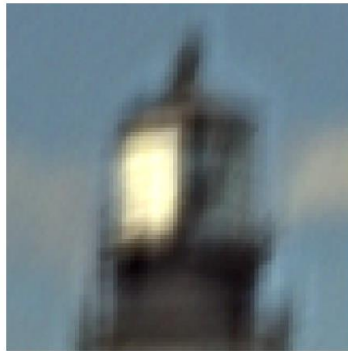
Blurry  
 $23.12dB$

Iterations 10, 30, 100 and 250  
 $24.17dB$

$26.43dB$

$29.1dB$

$29.9dB$



# Results: non-blind deblurring

- Blurred



# Results: non-blind deblurring

- Our restoration



# Results: deblurring (PSNR)

Method	2.55	7.65	12.75	time(s)
Levin	31.09	27.40	25.36	3.09
EPLL	32.51	28.42	26.13	16.49
RTF-6	32.51	21.44	16.03	9.82
IRCNN	30.78	28.77	<b>27.41</b>	2.47
DAEP (Ours)	<b>32.69</b>	<b>28.95</b>	26.87	11.19

Learning Deep CNN Denoiser Prior for Image Restoration  
Zhang et al., CVPR 2017

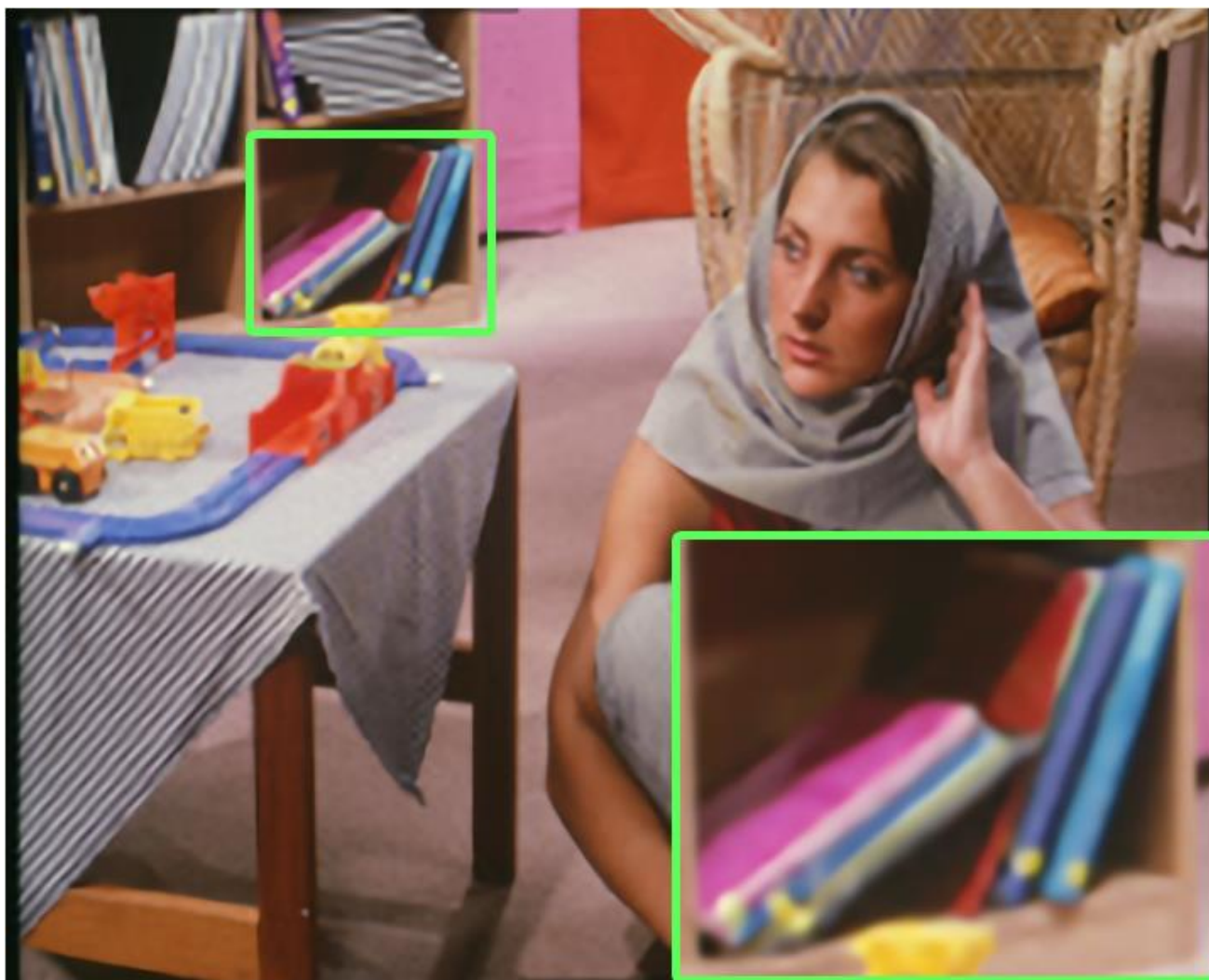
# Results: super-resolution

- 4x down-sampled



# Results: super-resolution

- Our restoration





# Results: super-resolution (PSNR)

Method	$\times 2$	$\times 3$	$\times 4$	$\times 5$
Bicubic	28.53	25.92	24.44	23.46
SRCNN	30.52	27.48	25.76	24.05
TNRD	30.53	27.60	25.92	24.61
VDSR	30.72	27.81	26.16	24.01
DnCNN-3	30.99	27.93	<b>26.25</b>	24.26
IRCNN	30.79	27.68	25.96	24.73
DAEP (Ours)	<b>31.07</b>	<b>27.93</b>	26.13	<b>24.88</b>

Beyond a gaussian denoiser:  
Residual learning of deep CNN for image denoising  
Zhang et al., IEEE TIP 2017

# Summary

- Natural image prior based on density estimate

- Generic

- Deblurring
- Super-resolution
- Hole-filling

- State of the art results

- Code:

<https://github.com/siavashbigdeli/DAEP>

Masked 70% of Pixels  
 $6.13dB$



Our Reconstruction  
 $30.68dB$



# Discussion

- Many recent approaches use denoising to solve generic image restoration problems
- Usually motivated by specific underlying algorithm (ADMM)

## Our approach

- First one to make connection between denoising and mean shift
- Insight: optimal Gaussian denoising under  $L_2$  loss equivalent to computing gradient on smoothed data distribution

# What's next

- Generic image prior
  - Degradation parameters unknown during training
  - Deblurring, demosaicing, super-resolution, etc.
- Generic restoration
  - Degradation parameters unknown during restoration!
  - Noise-blind, Kernel-blind

# Deep Mean-Shift Priors for Image Restoration

NIPS 2017

Siavash Arjoman Bigdeli

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Matthias Zwicker



# Bayes formulation

- Expected utility of solution  $x$

$$E_{\tilde{x}}[G(\tilde{x}, x)] = \int \underbrace{G(\tilde{x}, x)}_{\text{Utility}} \underbrace{p(y|\tilde{x})}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{p(\tilde{x})}_{\text{Prior}} d\tilde{x}$$

Suitable utility, Jensen's inequality

$$\geq \underbrace{\int g_{\sigma}(\epsilon) \log p(y|x + \epsilon) d\epsilon}_{\text{Data term } \text{data}(x)} + \underbrace{\log \int g_{\sigma}(\eta) p(x + \eta) d\eta}_{\text{Image likelihood } \text{prior}(x)}$$

# Image restoration algorithm

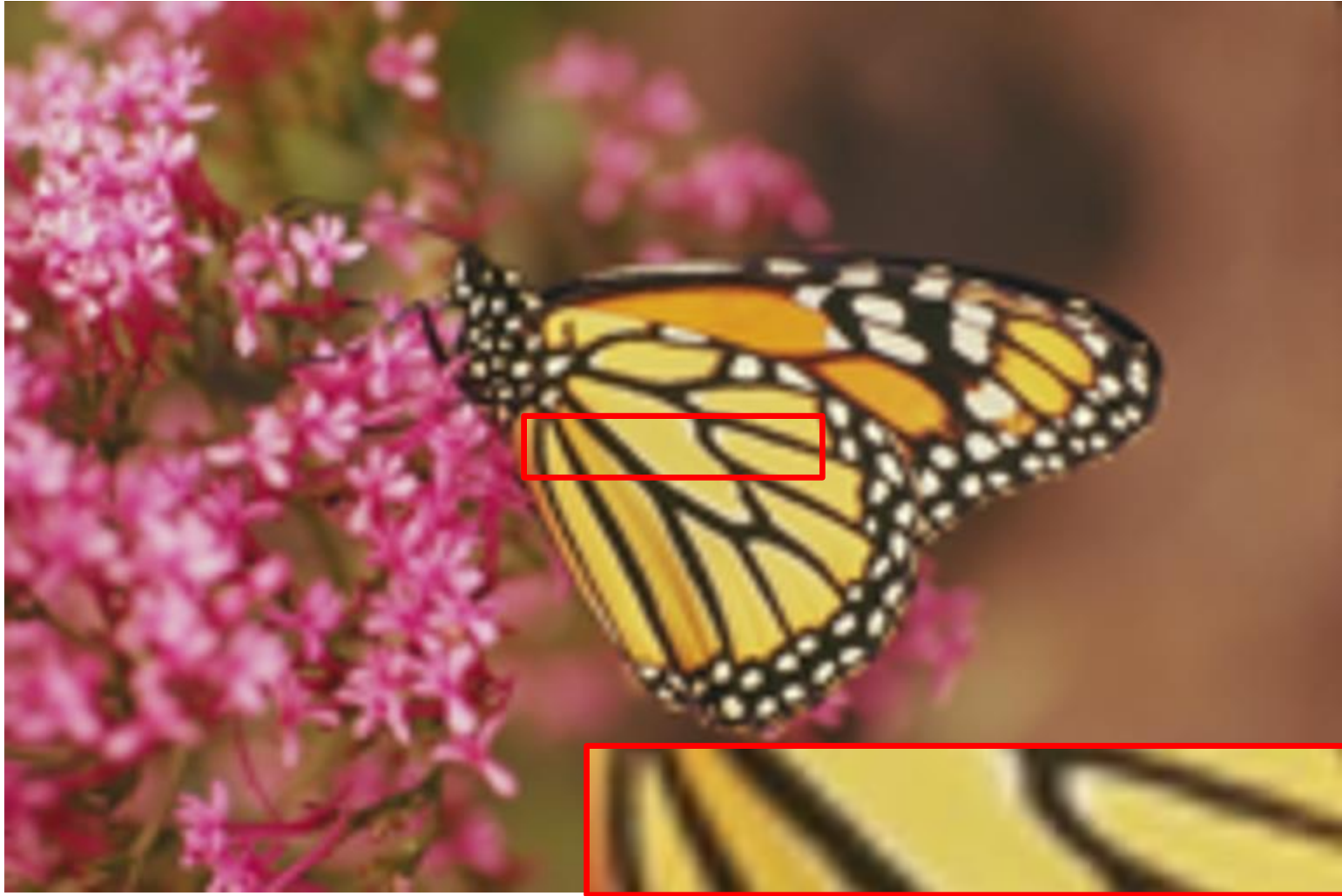
- Gradient descent to minimize (negative) utility
- Denoising autoencoder (DAE) gives gradient of prior

$$\nabla_x \text{prior}(x) = \nabla \log \int g_\sigma(\eta) p(x + \eta) d\eta = \left( \text{DAE}_\sigma(x) - x \right) / \sigma^2$$

- Gradient of data term can be computed
  - known parameters  $\nabla_x \text{data}(x)$
  - noise-blind  $\nabla_x \text{data}_{\sigma_n^*}(x)$
  - noise- and kernel-blind  $\nabla_{x,k} \text{data}_{\sigma_n^*}(x)$

# Results: super-resolution

- 4x down-sampled





# Results: super-resolution

- Our restoration



# Results: non-blind deblurring

- Blurred



# Results: non-blind deblurring

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# Results: deblurring (PSNR)

- Non-blind

Method	$\sigma_n$ :	2.55	5.10	7.65	10.2
EPLL		25.38	23.53	22.54	21.91
DAEP		25.42	23.67	22.78	22.21
IRCNN		25.60	24.24	23.42	22.91
GradNet 7S		25.57	24.23	23.46	22.94
Ours		<u>25.69</u>	<u>24.45</u>	<u>23.60</u>	<b>22.99</b>
Ours + NA		<b>26.00</b>	<b>24.47</b>	<b>23.61</b>	<u>22.97</u>

# Results: deblurring (PSNR)

- Noise-blind

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GradNet 7S		25.57	24.23	23.46	22.94
Ours		<u>25.69</u>	<u>24.45</u>	<u>23.60</u>	<b>22.99</b>
Ours + NA		<b>26.00</b>	<b>24.47</b>	<b>23.61</b>	<u>22.97</u>

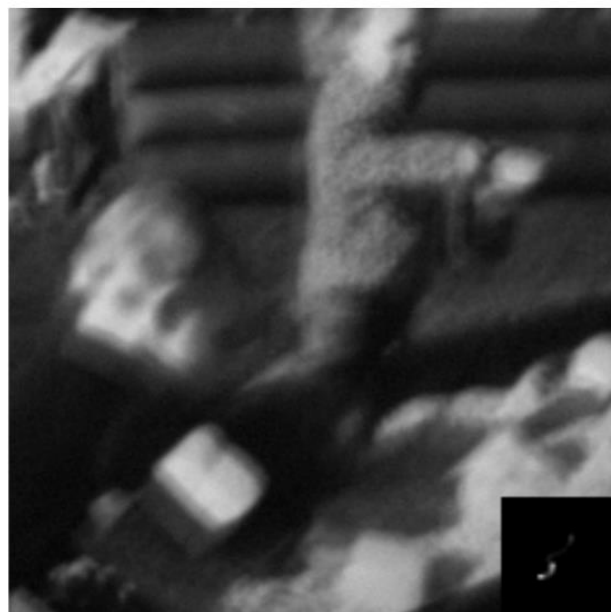
Noise-blind image deblurring  
Jin et al., CVPR 2017

# Results: blind deblurring

Ground Truth



Blurred with 1% noise



Ours (blind)



# Summary

- Generic image prior based on (gradient of) density estimate of natural image distribution
  - Deblurring, demosaicing, super-resolution, etc.
- Generic framework
  - Noise- and kernel-blind
- Learned using DAE
- State of the art results
- Code:  
<https://github.com/siavashbigdeli/DMSP>

# Limitations

- Prior seems to capture mostly low-level image properties (sharp edges)
  - Receptive field 41x41 pixels
  - Cannot “invent” semantically meaningful image structure (textures)
- Speed far from real-time applications
- Practical issues with DAE overfitting to noisy images
- Degradation *model* still given



# Conclusions

- Generic image prior
  - Deblurring, demosaicing, super-resolution, etc.
- Bayes formulation
  - Noise- and Kernel-blind

## Future work

- Generative models to “invent” texture  
[Globally and Locally Consistent Image Completion, Iizuka et al, SIGGRAPH 2017]
- Multiresolution  
[Koltun ICCV 2017, Keras ICLR 2018]
- DAEs for depth, NIR, 3D models, etc.