

# **System-Aware Compression**

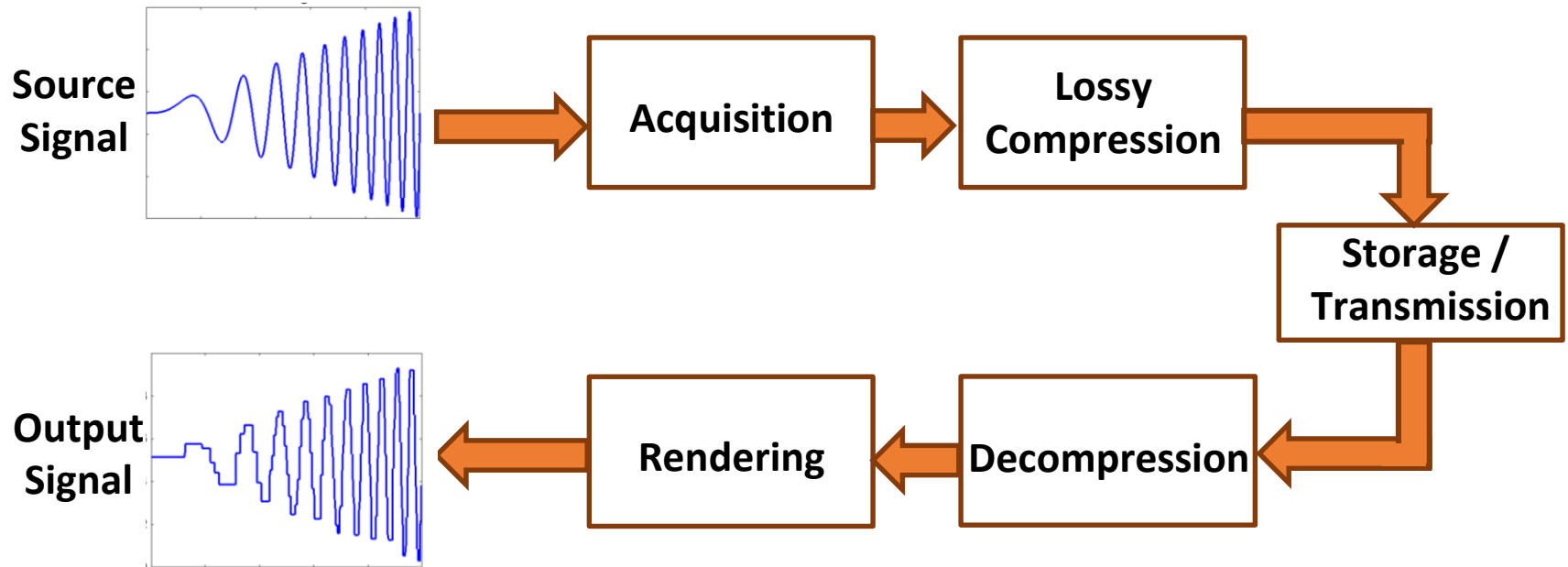
Optimizing Systems from the Compression Standpoint

**Yehuda Dar**

Joint work with **Alfred Bruckstein** and **Michael Elad**

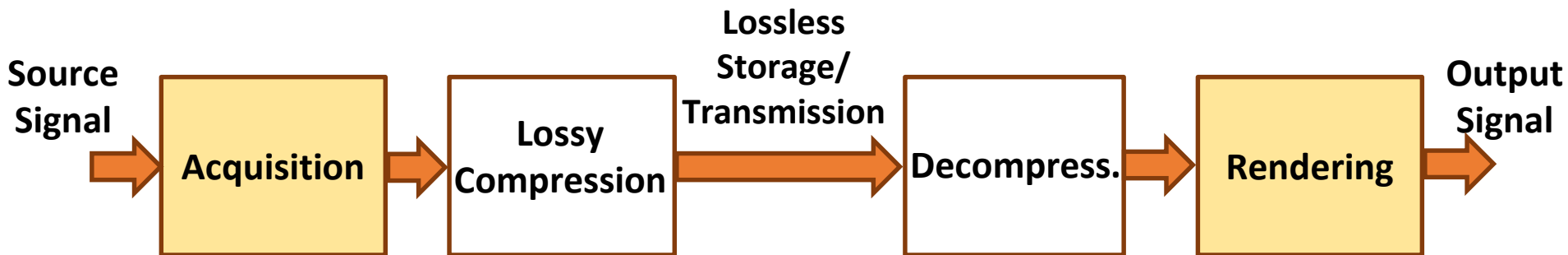
**CS Department, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology**

# Motivation: Acquisition-Rendering Systems



**Standard compression techniques ignore the system structure!**

# The Perspective of Remote Source Coding



An instance of the **remote source coding** problem [ Dobrushin & Tsybakov '62, Wolf & Ziv '70]

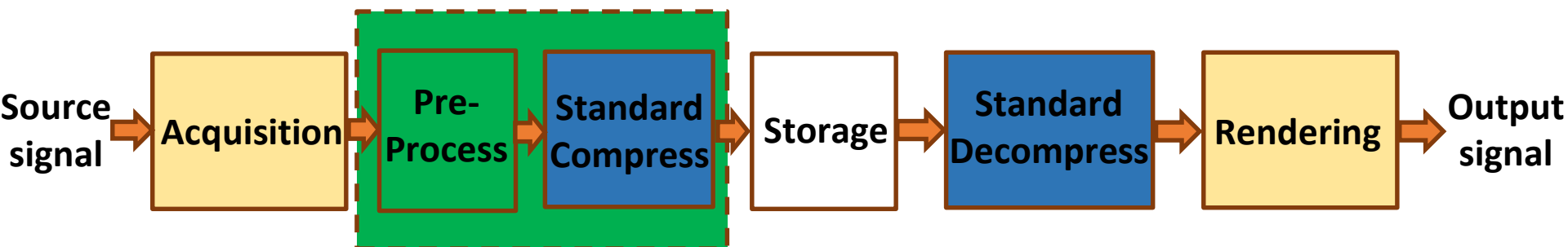
- **Previous works** studied the **statistical perspective** using an **explicit source model**.
- **Here** we focus on a **deterministic setting**.

# The Proposed Compression Method

Our method  
implements this



This is equivalent to  
adjusting the  
compression input signal !



# The Proposed Compression Method: The Challenge

---

## Requirement #1:

Using **standard** compression techniques.

Problem

**Ignore** the system structure  
→ **suboptimal !**

## Requirement #2:

Having **system-optimized** compression.

Problem

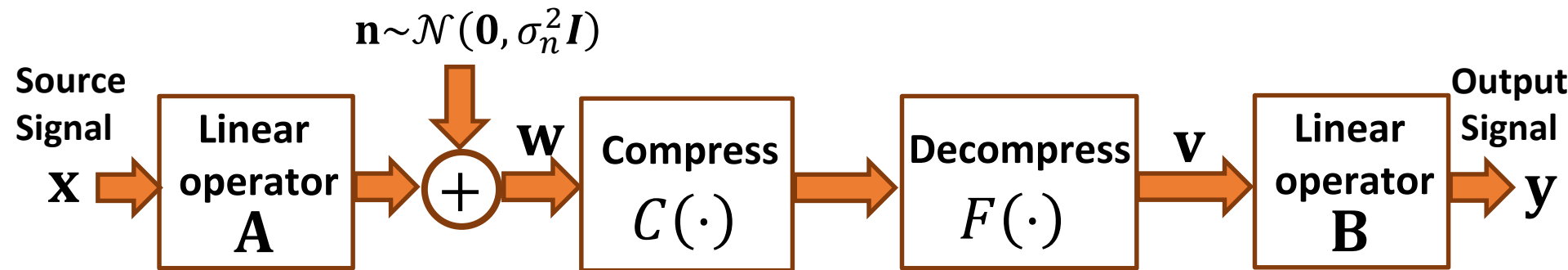
Needs a **system-specific** design.

## The proposed framework:

Extends **standard compression** techniques to **system-optimized** compression procedures.

Moreover, we do **not rely on any post filtering!**

# Model and Problem Formulation: System's End-to-End Distortion Metric



The distortion metric should

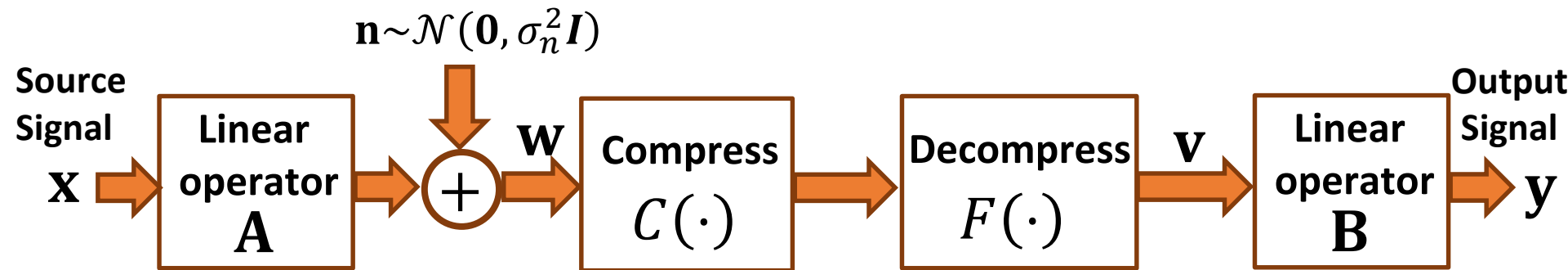
- Reflect the **distance** of  $\mathbf{y}$  from the **unknown source  $\mathbf{x}$** .
- Rely on the **degraded observation  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$** .

**Motivating metric:**

$$d_s(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}\|_2^2$$

The **ideal result** of  $\mathbf{y}_{ideal} = \mathbf{x}$  corresponds to  $d_s(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{y}_{ideal}) = \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{n}\|_2^2 \approx \sigma_n^2$

# Model and Problem Formulation: System's End-to-End Distortion Metric



The distortion metric should also

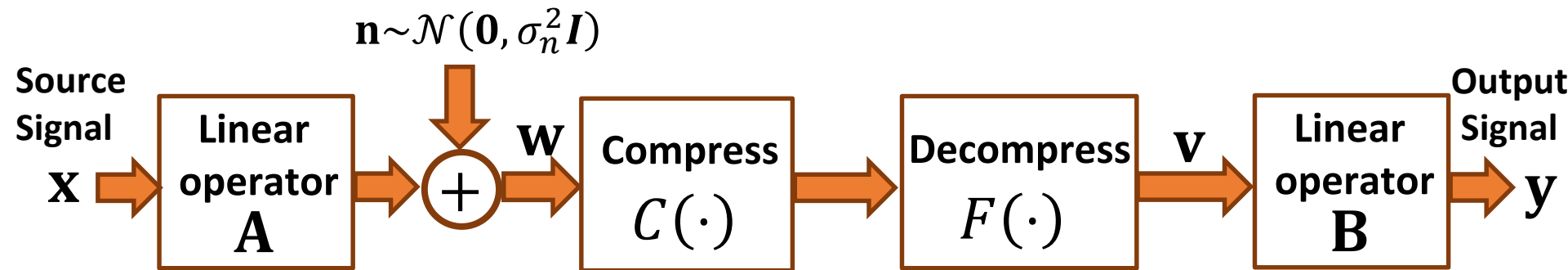
- Consider the **post-decompression** operator  $\mathbf{B}$ .
- Be evaluated for the **decompressed signal**  $\mathbf{v}$ .

**Proposed metric:**

$$d_c(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v}) \triangleq d_s(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{B}\mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{v}\|_2^2$$

The **ideal result** of  $\mathbf{y}_{ideal} = \mathbf{P}_B \mathbf{x}$  corresponds to  $D_0 \triangleq \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}_B) \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}\|_2^2$ .

# Model and Problem Formulation: System-Aware Compression Optimization



Our compression goal:

Minimize the **bit-cost** under a **system distortion constraint**

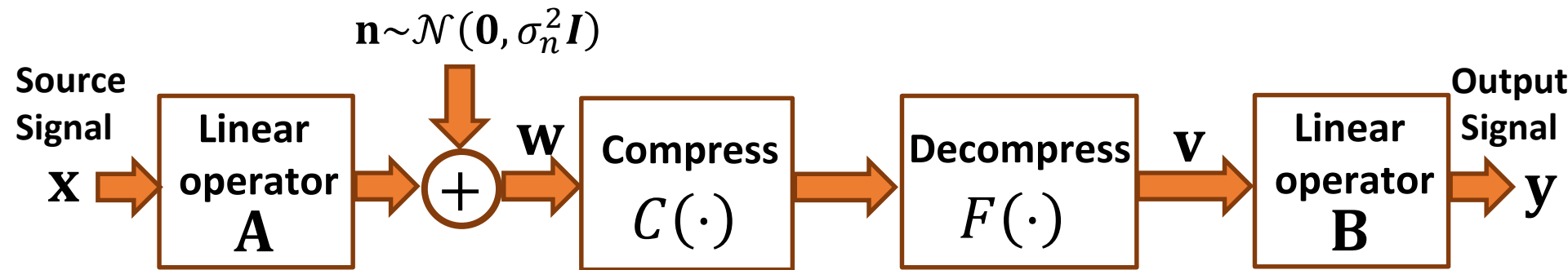
$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \underset{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}}{\operatorname{argmin}} R(\mathbf{v})$$

$$\text{s. t. } D_0 \leq \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{v}\|_2^2 \leq D_0 + D$$

An operational rate-distortion optimization for the input signal  $\mathbf{w}$  with respect to the compression architecture  $\{\mathcal{S}, R\}$ .



# Model and Problem Formulation: System-Aware Compression Optimization

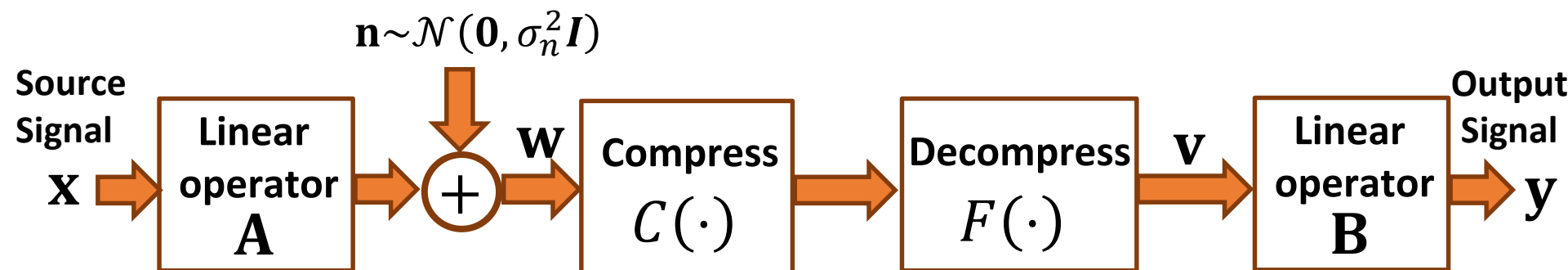


The unconstrained **Lagrangian** optimization:

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}} R(\mathbf{v}) + \lambda \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{ABv}\|_2^2$$

where  $\lambda$  is a Lagrange multiplier corresponding to some distortion level  $D_\lambda$

# The Practical Challenge



The unconstrained **Lagrangian** optimization:

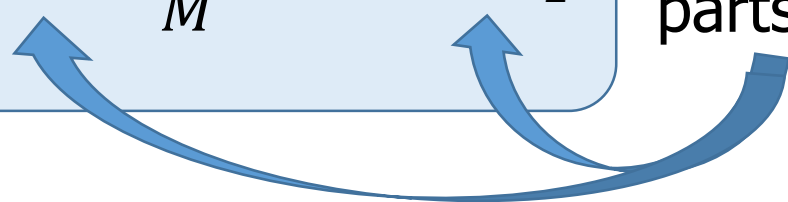
$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}} R(\mathbf{v}) + \lambda \frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{ABv}\|_2^2$$

**Computationally hard due to  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  !**

## Design Overview

# The Variable Splitting Trick

The hard optimization:

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}} R(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{v}\|_2^2$$


Two complicated parts considering  $\mathbf{v}$

**Variable splitting:**

$$(\hat{\mathbf{v}}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}) = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^M} R(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}\|_2^2$$

subject to  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{z}$

where  $\mathbf{z}$  is an additional vector due to the split.

# Design Overview

## The ADMM Optimization Form

**Augmented Lagrangian**  
(scaled version)  
and the  
**Method of Multipliers:**

$$\begin{aligned}(\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}) &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^M} R(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}\|_2^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{u}^{(t)}\|_2^2 \\ \mathbf{u}^{(t+1)} &= \mathbf{u}^{(t)} + (\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)})\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{u}^{(t)} \in \mathbb{R}^M$  is the scaled dual-variable and  $\beta$  is a parameter introduced in the augmented Lagrangian.

**Alternating minimization**  
provides the  
**ADMM form:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}} R(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{v} - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}\|_2^2 \\ \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)} &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^M} \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}\|_2^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{z} - \tilde{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)}\|_2^2 \\ \mathbf{u}^{(t+1)} &= \mathbf{u}^{(t)} + (\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)})\end{aligned}$$

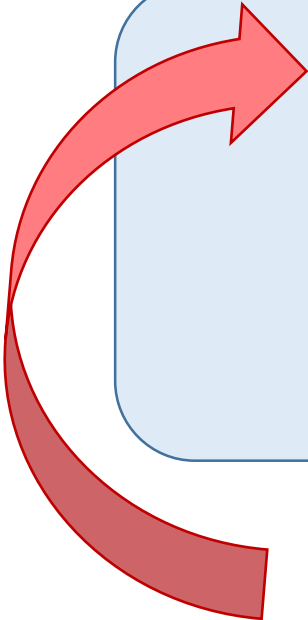
where

$$\tilde{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{u}^{(t)}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} = \hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} + \mathbf{u}^{(t)}$$

## Design Overview

# Leveraging a Standard Compression


$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}} R(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{v} - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}\|_2^2$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^M} \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}\|_2^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{z} - \tilde{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)}\|_2^2$$

$$\mathbf{u}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{u}^{(t)} + (\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}).$$

**Compression** optimization considering  
**regular squared error**

We suggest to

**replace** this step with an application of  
a **standard compression method**

## Design Overview

# Leveraging a Standard Compression


$$b^{(t)} = \text{StandardCompress}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}, \rho)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} = \text{StandardDecompress}(b^{(t)})$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)} = \underset{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^M}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}\|_2^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{z} - \tilde{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)}\|_2^2$$

$$\mathbf{u}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{u}^{(t)} + (\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}).$$

**Compression** optimization considering  
**regular squared error**

We suggest to

**replace** this step with an application of  
a **standard compression method**

# Design Overview

## $\ell_2$ -Constrained Deconvolution

$$b^{(t)} = \text{StandardCompress}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}, \theta)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} = \text{StandardDecompress}(b^{(t)})$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)} = \underset{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^M}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{z}\|_2^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{z} - \tilde{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)}\|_2^2$$

$$\mathbf{u}^{(t+1)} = \mathbf{u}^{(t)} + (\hat{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)}).$$



$\ell_2$ -Constrained Deconvolution  
Optimization of simple quadratic terms

**This can be easily solved!**

# Design Overview

## The Proposed Approach: Concept

The complicated optimization:  $\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}} R(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{ABv}\|_2^2$

is addressed via **repeated** application of **3 simple procedures**:

associated with

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{S}} R(\mathbf{v}) + \frac{\lambda}{M} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{v}\|_2^2$$

conceptually employed in modern compression techniques

Standard  
Compression

Standard  
Decompression

Simple  
Deconvolution

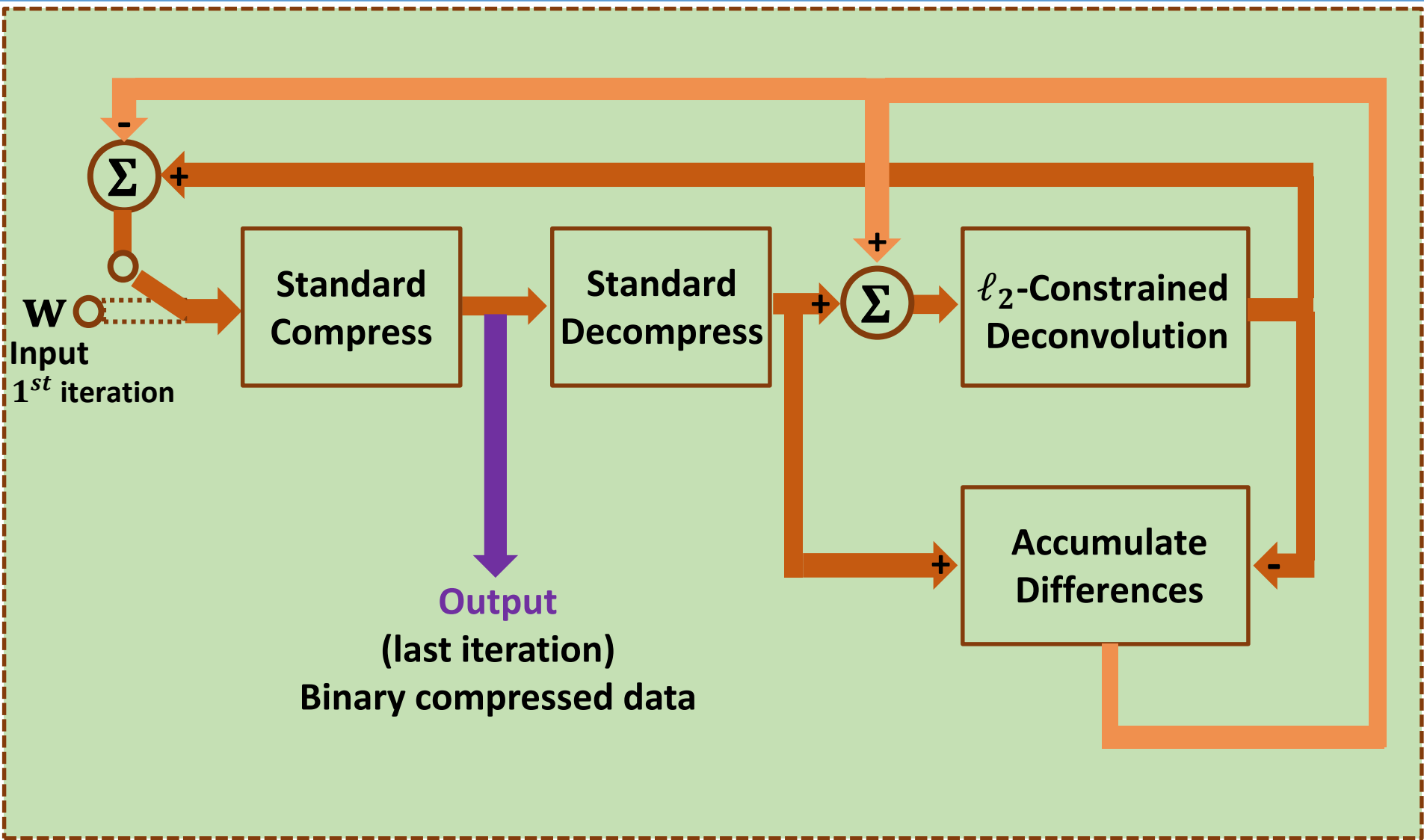
Examples:  
HEVC/H.265,  
JPEG2000, ...

If **AB** blurs,  
this stage  
sharpens

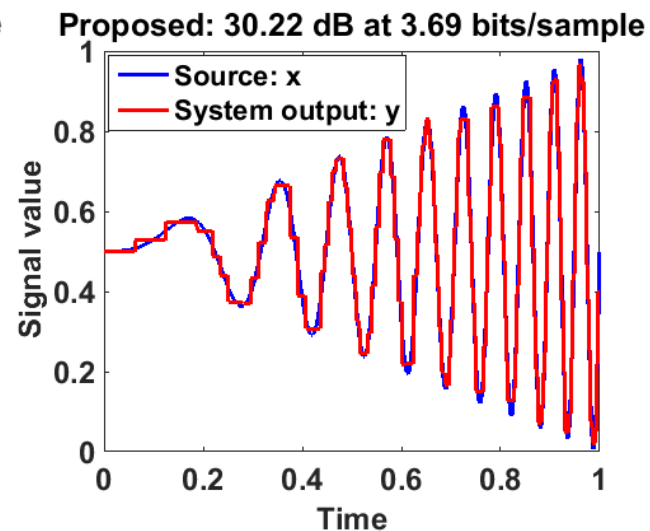
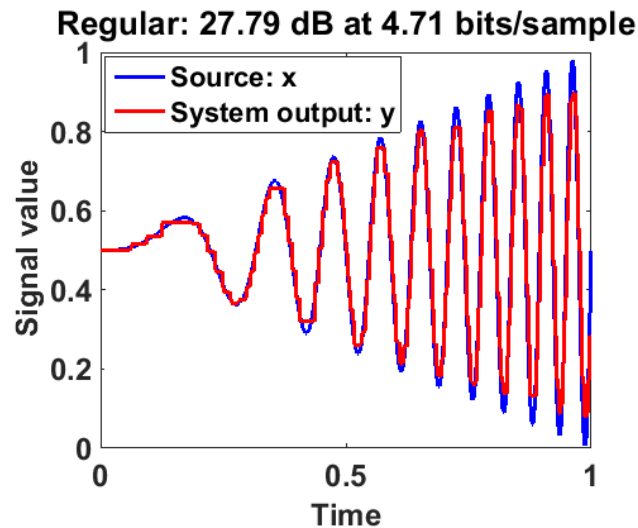
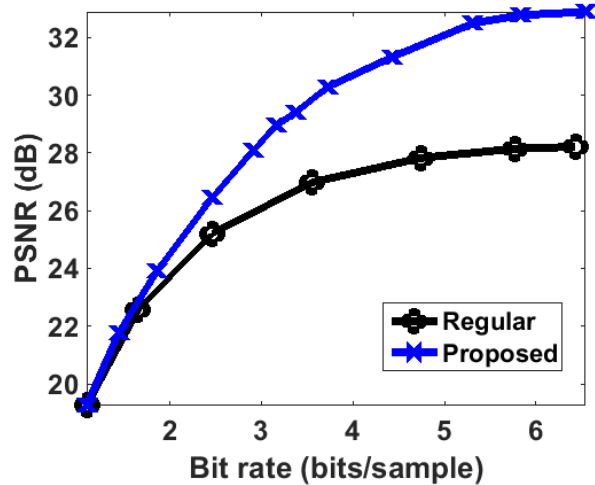
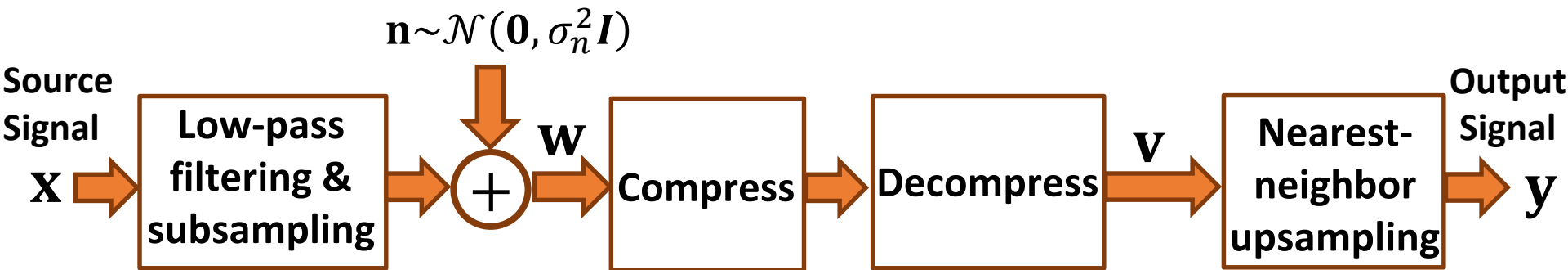


# Design Overview

## The Proposed Compression Method

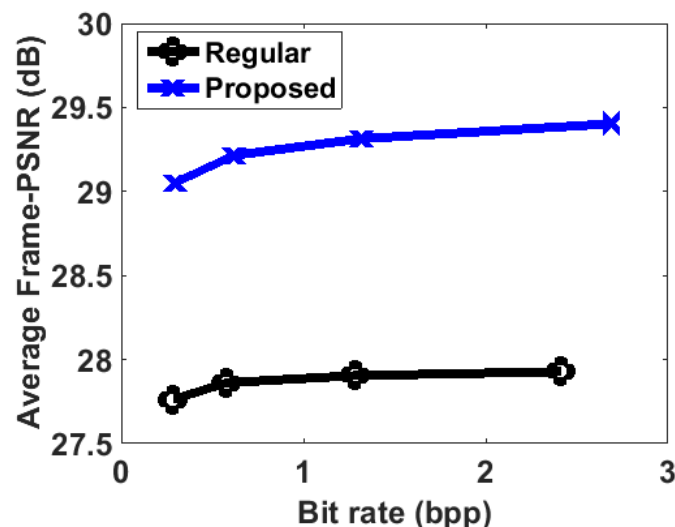
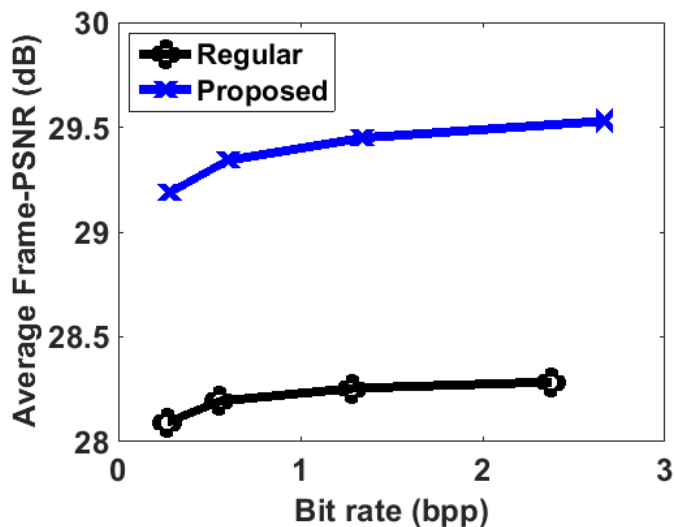
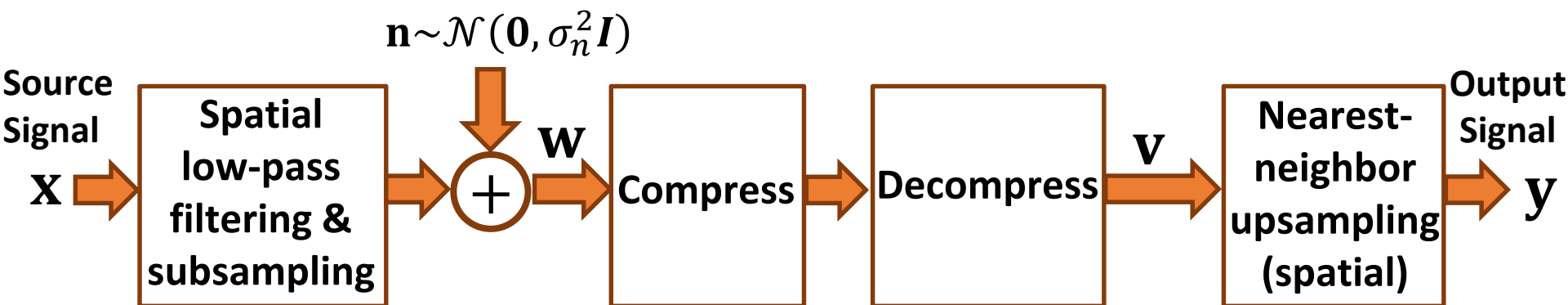


# Experiments: Acquisition-Rendering Systems



Results for 1D signals based on an adaptive tree-based coding technique.

# Experiments: Acquisition-Rendering Systems



Results for video coding based on the HEVC standard.

# Experiments: Acquisition-Rendering Systems

Source frame

Rendered frame: HEVC  
28.29 dB at 2.37 bpp

Rendered frame: Proposed  
29.45 dB at 1.34 bpp



# Experiments: Acquisition-Rendering Systems

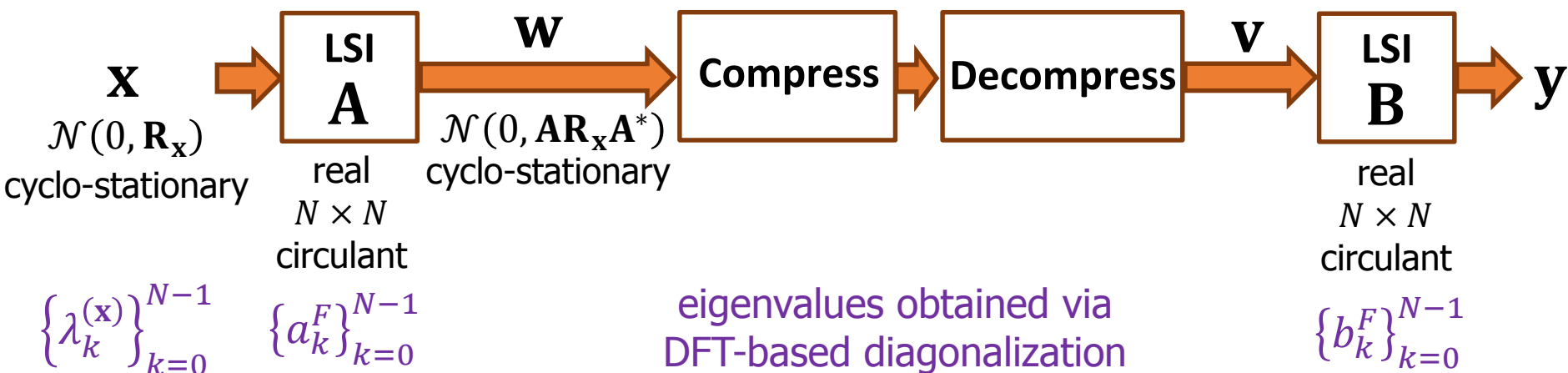
Source frame

Rendered frame: HEVC  
27.93 dB at 2.41 bpp

Rendered frame: Proposed  
29.31 dB at 1.31 bpp



# Rate-Distortion Theoretic Analysis



## Rate-Distortion Problem #1: **Basic Form**

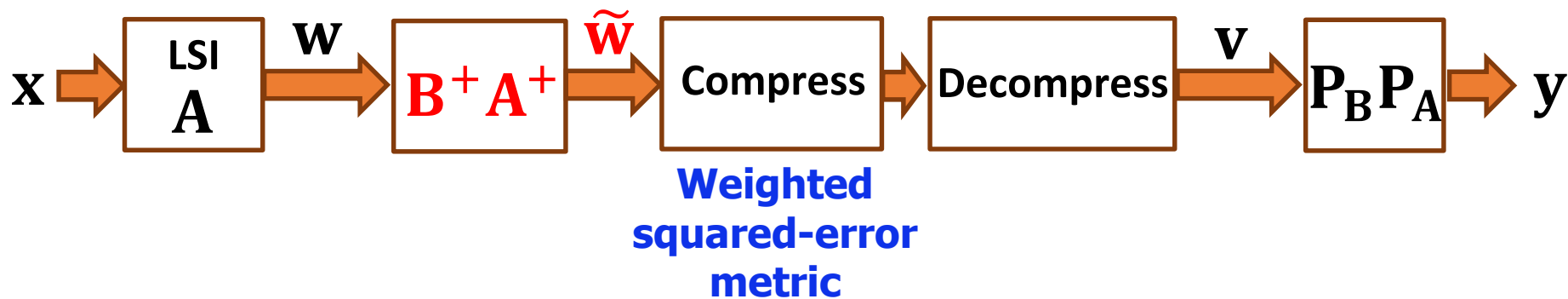
$$\min_{p_{\mathbf{v}|\mathbf{w}}} I(\mathbf{w}; \mathbf{B}\mathbf{v})$$

$$\text{s. t. } NE\{D_0\} \leq E\{\|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{v}\|_2^2\} \leq N(E\{D_0\} + D)$$

Minimal expected distortion:  $E\{D_0\} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k: a_k^F \neq 0, b_k^F = 0} |a_k^F|^2 \lambda_k^{(\mathbf{x})}$

defined by the intersection of **B's nullspace** and **A's range**.

# Rate-Distortion Theoretic Analysis



Rate-Distortion Problem #2:

**Pseudoinverse filtering** of compression input

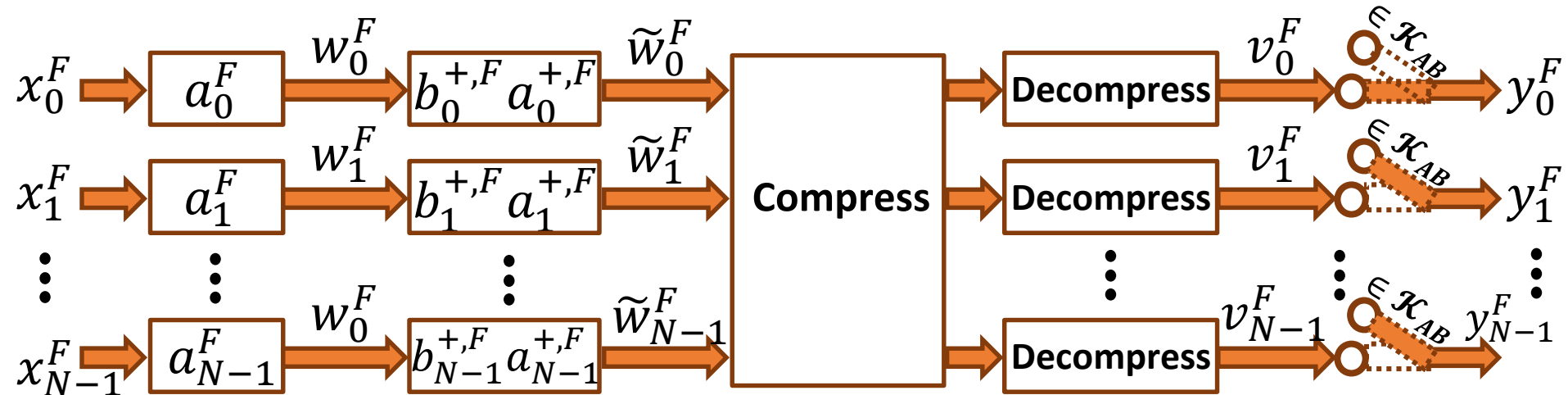
$$\min_{p_{v|\tilde{w}}} I(\tilde{w}; P_B P_A v)$$

$$\text{s. t. } E\{\|AB(\tilde{w} - v)\|_2^2\} \leq ND$$

where  $\tilde{w} = B^+ A^+ w$

$P_A$  and  $P_B$  project onto  $A$  and  $B$  ranges, respectively.

# Rate-Distortion Theoretic Analysis



Rate-Distortion Problem #3:  
**DFT-domain distortion allocation** for independent Gaussian variables

$$\min_{\{D_k\}_{k \in \mathcal{K}_{AB}}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_{AB}} \frac{1}{2} \log \left( \frac{\lambda_k^{(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})}}{D_k} \right)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_{AB}} |a_k^F b_k^F| D_k \leq ND$$

$$0 \leq D_k \leq \lambda_k^{(\tilde{\mathbf{w}})}, \quad k \in \mathcal{K}_{AB}$$

DFT-domain

range of AB:  $\mathcal{K}_{AB} = \{k \mid a_k^F \neq 0 \text{ and } b_k^F \neq 0\}$



# Rate-Distortion Theoretic Analysis

System & component specific **water levels**:  $\theta_k^{(AB)} \triangleq \frac{\theta}{|a_k^F b_k^F|^2}$

**Optimal distortion allocation** ( $k \in \mathcal{K}_{AB}$ )

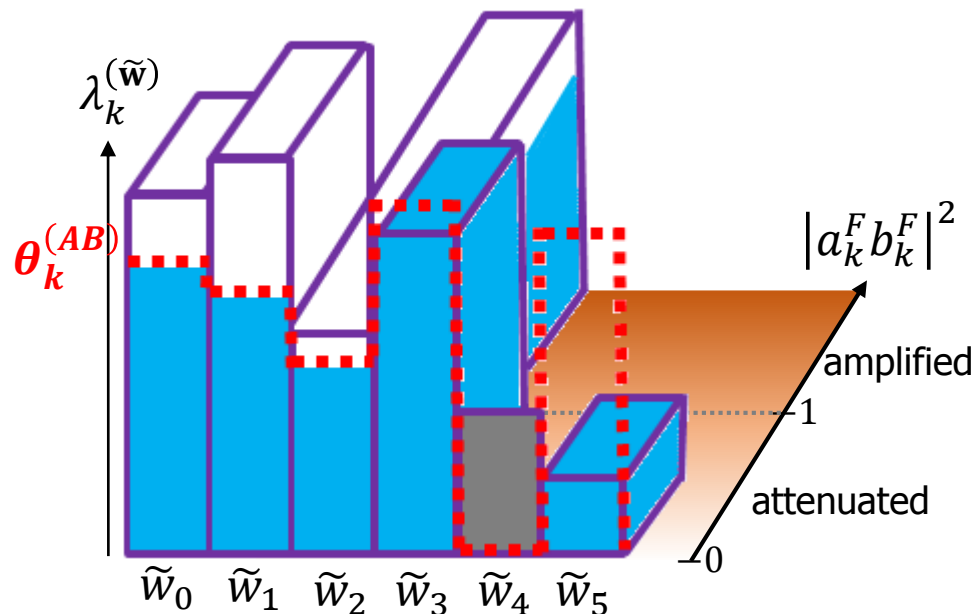
$$D_k = \begin{cases} \theta_k^{(AB)} & , 0 \leq \theta_k^{(AB)} < \lambda_k^{(\tilde{w})} \\ \lambda_k^{(\tilde{w})} & , \theta_k^{(AB)} \geq \lambda_k^{(\tilde{w})} \end{cases}$$

where  $\theta$  is set such that  $\sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_{AB}} |a_k^F b_k^F| D_k = ND$

**Optimal rate allocation**

$$R_k = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \log \left( \frac{\lambda_k^{(\tilde{w})}}{\theta_k^{(AB)}} \right) & , k \in \mathcal{K}_{AB} \text{ and } 0 \leq \theta_k^{(AB)} < \lambda_k^{(\tilde{w})} \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Reverse water-filling of volumes** imposed by  $\tilde{w}$  components' variances and the **system operators**.



**System nullspace components are ignored and not coded.**

# Conceptual Resemblances Between Theory and Practice

## Analysis

Gaussian signals and LSI operators

Extension of the **standard** distortion allocation

**Pseudoinverse filtering** of compression input

$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}$  components **importance** determined by **AB spectrum**

## Proposed Method

Non-Gaussian signals and linear operators

Repeated application of a **standard** compression technique

The  $\ell_2$ -constrained deconvolution is a **softened pseudoinverse filter**:  
$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{(t)} = (\mathbf{B}^* \mathbf{A}^* \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B} + \tilde{\beta} \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\mathbf{B}^* \mathbf{A}^* \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B} \tilde{\mathbf{w}} + \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\mathbf{v}}^{(t)})$$

Also applied, e.g., for LSI operators:

$$\hat{z}_k^{F,(t)} = \frac{|a_k^F b_k^F|^2 \tilde{w}_k^F + \tilde{\beta} \tilde{v}_k^{F,(t)}}{|a_k^F b_k^F|^2 + \tilde{\beta}}$$

# Conclusions

- **Practical** framework for addressing **complicated rate-distortion optimizations**.
  - Demonstrated for optimizing **acquisition-rendering** systems
  - Analyzed for Gaussian signals and LSI operators.

**Our contributions** with respect to existing works:

- **Operational** rate-distortion optimization for a **given signal**.
- Distortion metric imposed by the **lack of a statistical source model**.
- **Practical** compression methodology relying on **ADMM** and **standard compression** techniques.
- Applications to **image and video** compression.

# Conclusions

---

For additional details and related studies see:

Y. Dar, M. Elad, A. M. Bruckstein, **"Optimized Pre-Compensating Compression"**, **IEEE Trans. on Image Processing**, 2018.

Y. Dar, M. Elad, A. M. Bruckstein, **"Restoration by Compression"**, **Submitted to IEEE Trans. on Signal Processing**, arXiv preprint:1711.05147.

Y. Dar, A. M. Bruckstein, M. Elad, R. Giryes, **"Postprocessing of Compressed Images via Sequential Denoising"**, **IEEE Trans. on Image Processing**, 2016.

Y. Dar, M. Elad, A. M. Bruckstein, **"System-Aware Compression"**, **IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT) 2018**.

Y. Dar, M. Elad, A. M. Bruckstein, **"Compression for Multiple Reconstructions"**, **IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP) 2018**.

Y. Dar, A. M. Bruckstein, M. Elad, **"Image Restoration via Successive Compression"**, in **Picture Coding Symposium 2016**.