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# BAYESIAN COMPRESSED SENSING WITH UNKNOWN MEASUREMENT NOISE LEVEL

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#### Introduction

• In Bayesian compressed sensing (BCS) we apply approximate Bayesian inference to estimate a sparse vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^M$  from noisy measurements  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{C}^N$  taken as

$$y = \Phi w + n,$$

with dictionary  $\Phi \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times M}$  and white Gaussian noise  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{C}^{N}$ .

- In most BCS literature it is not tractable to estimate the noise precision  $\lambda$  (inverse variance) as an integral part of the Bayesian inference. Heuristic methods are instead employed resulting in increased computational complexity.
- In this work we propose to modify the three-layer hierarchical prior model in [1] such that the estimation of the noise precision can be included in the inference scheme with no penalty in terms of complexity.

## Graphical Models

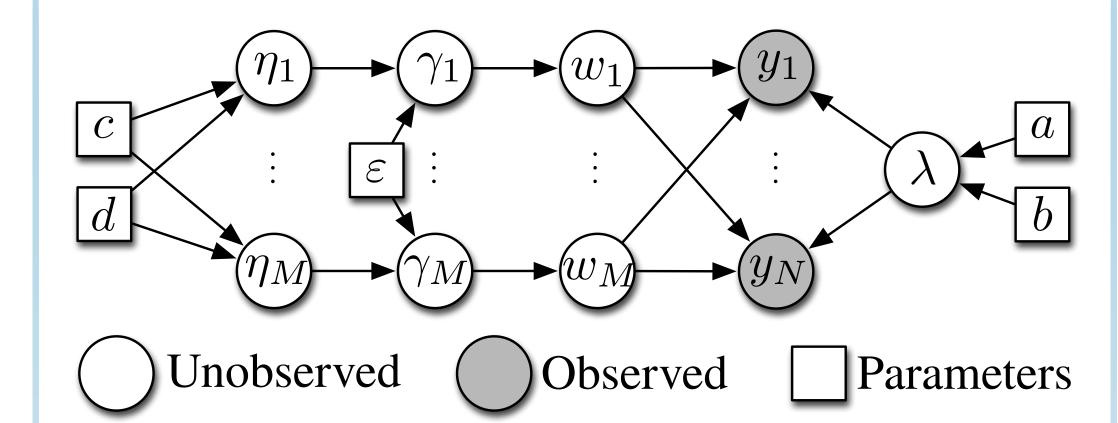


Fig 1: Hierarchical prior model as proposed by Lovmand et. al. [1].

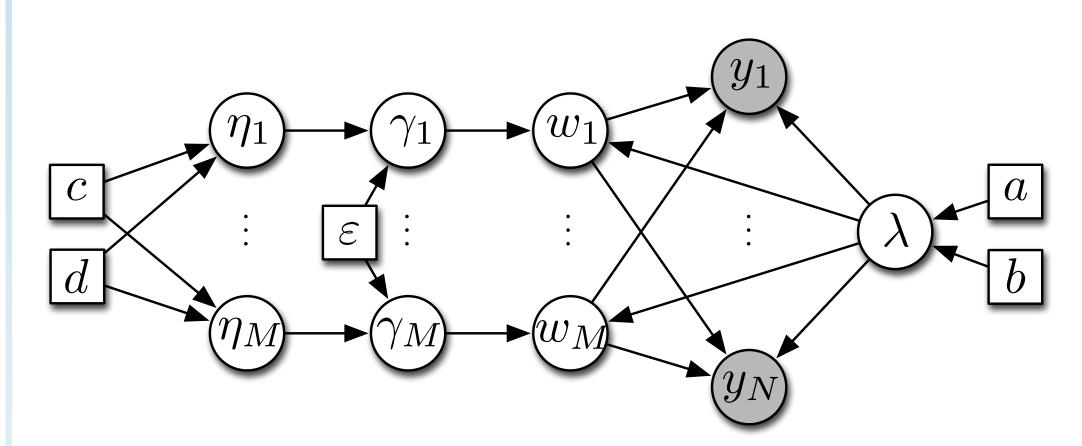
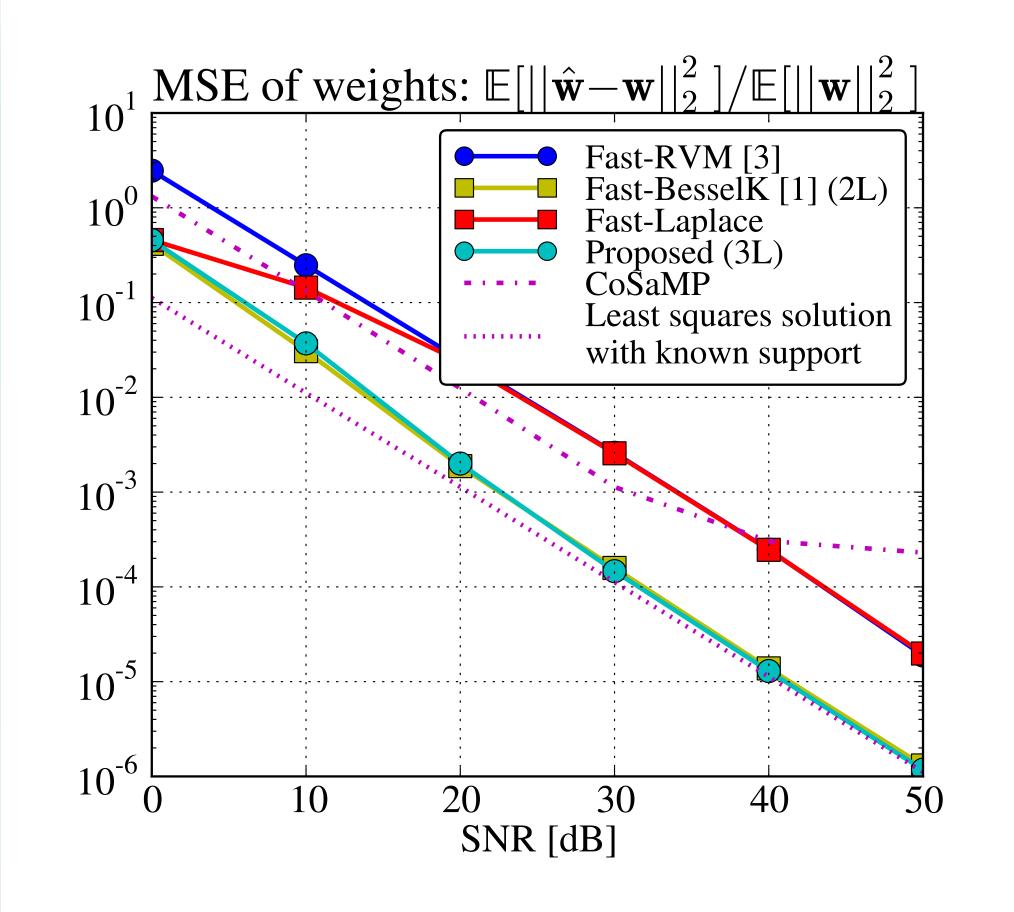
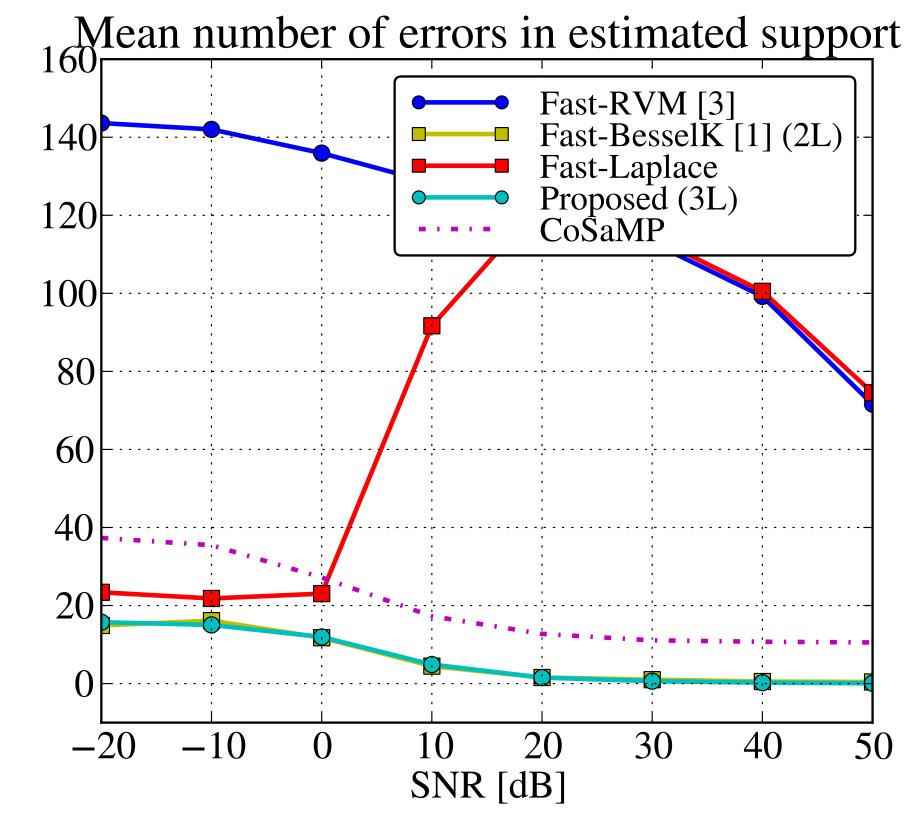


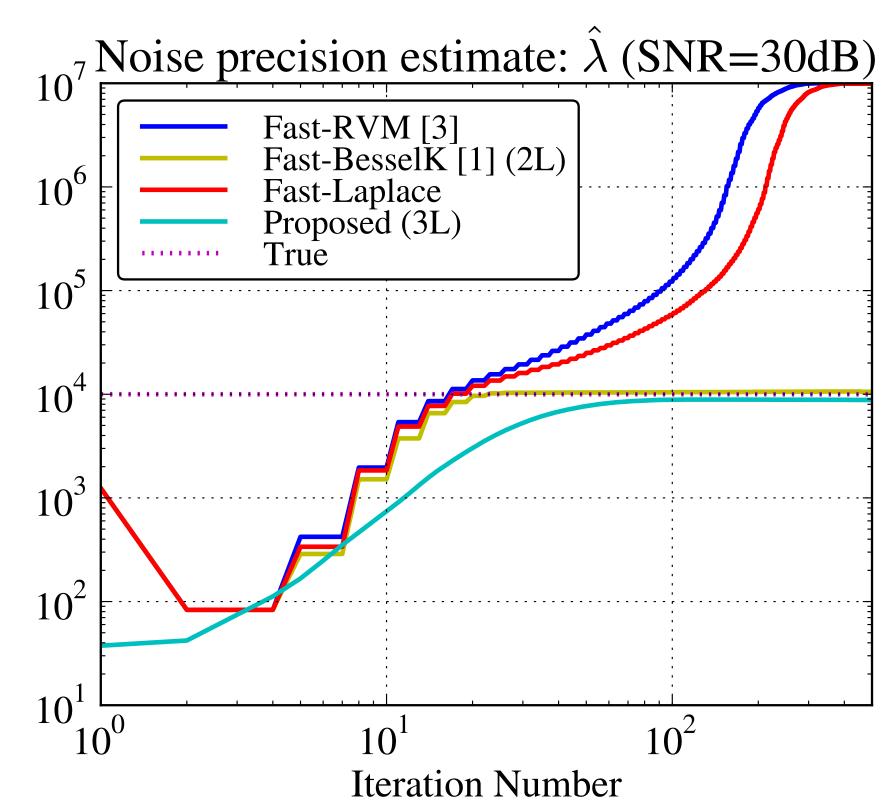
Fig 2: Proposed model with the modification inspired by [2].

The relevance vector machine (RVM), its fast variant [3] and other algorithms proposed in the literature can be derived from special cases of the model in Fig. 1.

### Numerical Results







## Computational Complexity

- The fast implementation of the RVM [3] can only use its computationally efficient matrix-vector updates when the noise precision estimate is held fixed.
- Using our proposed model, these updates become independent of the noise precision estimate.
- We assume  $S \leq N \leq M$ , with N compressed measurements, M basis vectors in the dictionary and S nonzero entries in  $\mathbf{w}$ .
- Computational complexity per iteration:

|                          | Model in           |                   |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|                          | [1] & [3]          | Proposed          |
| Fixed $\hat{\lambda}$    | $\mathcal{O}(MN)$  | $\mathcal{O}(MN)$ |
| Updating $\hat{\lambda}$ | $\mathcal{O}(MNS)$ | $\mathcal{O}(MN)$ |

## References

- [1] N. L. Pedersen, D. Shutin, C. N. Manchón, and B. H. Fleury, "Sparse estimation using bayesian hierarchical prior modeling for real and complex models," submitted to *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*, 2013, arXiv:1108.4324.
- [2] S. Ji, D. Dunson, and L. Carin, "Multitask compressive sensing," *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*, vol. 57, no. 1, pp. 92–106, Jan. 2009.
- [3] M. E. Tipping and A. Faul, "Fast marginal likelihood maximisation for sparse Bayesian models," in *Proceedings of the International Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*, 2003, pp. 3–6.

# Hierarchical Prior Modelling

With  $\Gamma = \text{diag}(\gamma)$ , the probability distributions in the prior models are:

| Density  | Model in [1]  | Proposed changes                                       |
|--|---|--|
| Observation model $p(\mathbf{y} \mathbf{w}, \lambda)$          | $  \mathrm{N}(\mathbf{y} \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{w},\lambda^{-1}\mathbf{I})$ | _  |
| Prior on $\lambda$ , $p(\lambda)$                              | $Ga(\lambda a,b)$   | _  |
| Layer 1 on weights, $p(\mathbf{w} \boldsymbol{\gamma})$        | $\mathrm{N}(\mathbf{w} 0,oldsymbol{\Gamma})$                              | $\mathrm{N}(\mathbf{w} 0,\mathbf{\Gamma}\lambda^{-1})$ |
| Layer 2 on weights, $p(\boldsymbol{\gamma} \boldsymbol{\eta})$ | $\prod_{i=1}^{M} \operatorname{Ga}(\gamma_i   \varepsilon, \eta_i)$       | _  |
| Layer 3 on weights, $p(\eta)$                                  | $\prod_{i=1}^{M} \operatorname{Ga}(\eta_i c,d)$                           | _  |