

# BAYESIAN JOINT ESTIMATION OF THE MULTIFRACTALITY PARAMETER OF IMAGE PATCHES USING GAMMA MARKOV RANDOM FIELD PRIORS



S. Combrexelle<sup>1</sup>, H. Wendt<sup>1</sup>, Y. Altmann<sup>2</sup>, J.-Y. Tourneret<sup>1</sup>, S. McLaughlin<sup>2</sup> and P. Abry<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IRIT, CNRS, Toulouse Univ., France [first.lastname@irit.fr](mailto:first.lastname@irit.fr)

<sup>2</sup> School Engineering Physical Sci., Heriot-Watt Univ., Edinburgh, UK, [initial.lastname@hw.ac.uk](mailto:initial.lastname@hw.ac.uk)

<sup>3</sup> Physics Dept., CNRS, ENS Lyon, France [patrice.abry@ens-lyon.fr](mailto:patrice.abry@ens-lyon.fr)



## SUMMARY

**Multifractal (MF) analysis** enables homogeneous image texture to be modeled and studied via the regularity fluctuations of image amplitudes. In this work, we propose a **Bayesian approach for the local (patch-wise) MF analysis** of images with **heterogeneous MF properties**. To this end, a joint Bayesian model for image patches is formulated using spatially **smoothing gamma Markov Random Field priors**, yielding a fast algorithm and significantly improving the state-of-the-art performance. Numerical simulations based on synthetic MF images illustrate the benefits of the proposed MF analysis procedure for images.

## MULTIFRACTAL ANALYSIS

### - HÖLDER EXPONENT:

Roughness of image  $X$  around  $\mathbf{t}_0$

→ comparison to a local power law behavior

$$\|X(\mathbf{t}) - X(\mathbf{t}_0)\| \leq C \|\mathbf{t} - \mathbf{t}_0\|^\alpha \quad C > 0, \quad \alpha > 0$$

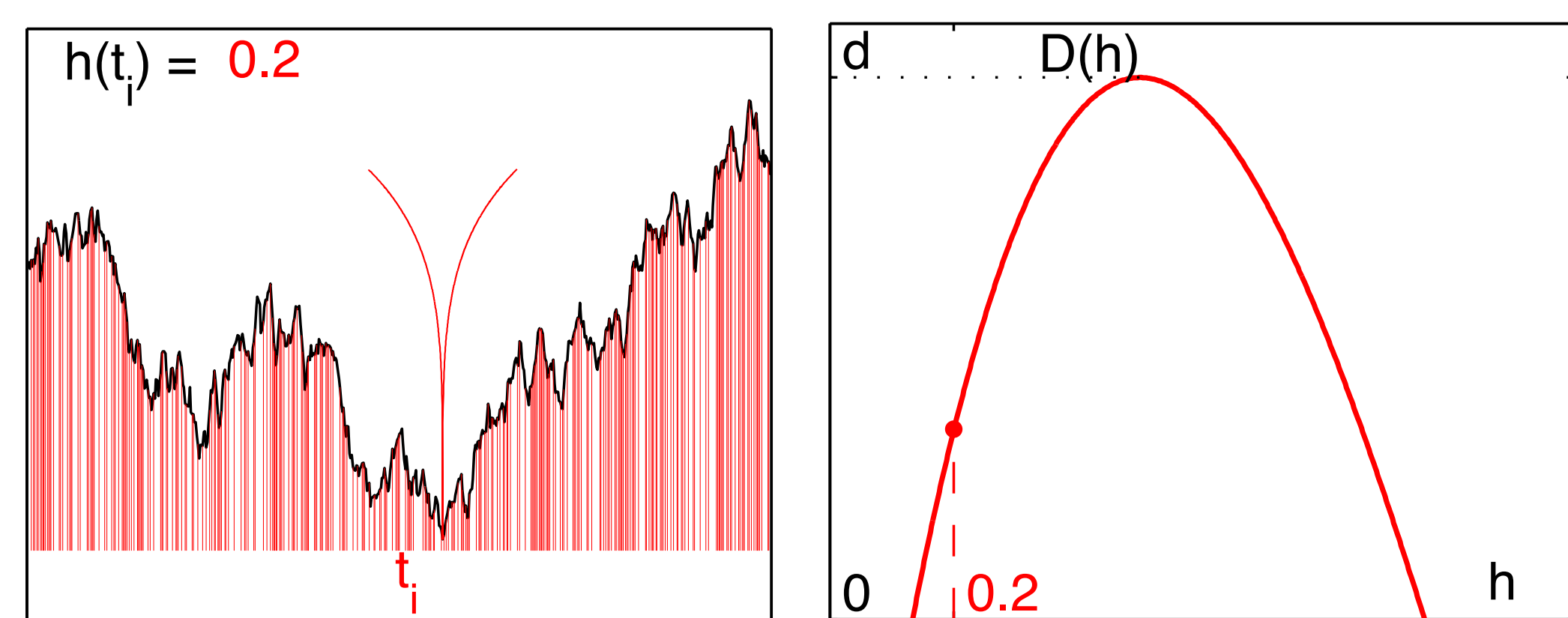
largest such  $\alpha$ : Hölder exponent  $h(\mathbf{t}_0)$

$$X(\mathbf{t}_0) \begin{cases} \text{rough } h(\mathbf{t}_0) \sim 0 \\ \text{smooth } h(\mathbf{t}_0) \sim 1 \end{cases}$$

### - MULTIFRACTAL SPECTRUM:

$$\mathcal{D}(h) = \dim_{\text{Hausdorff}}\{\mathbf{t} : h(\mathbf{t}) = h\}$$

→ geometric structure of iso-Hölder sets of points  $\mathbf{t}_i$



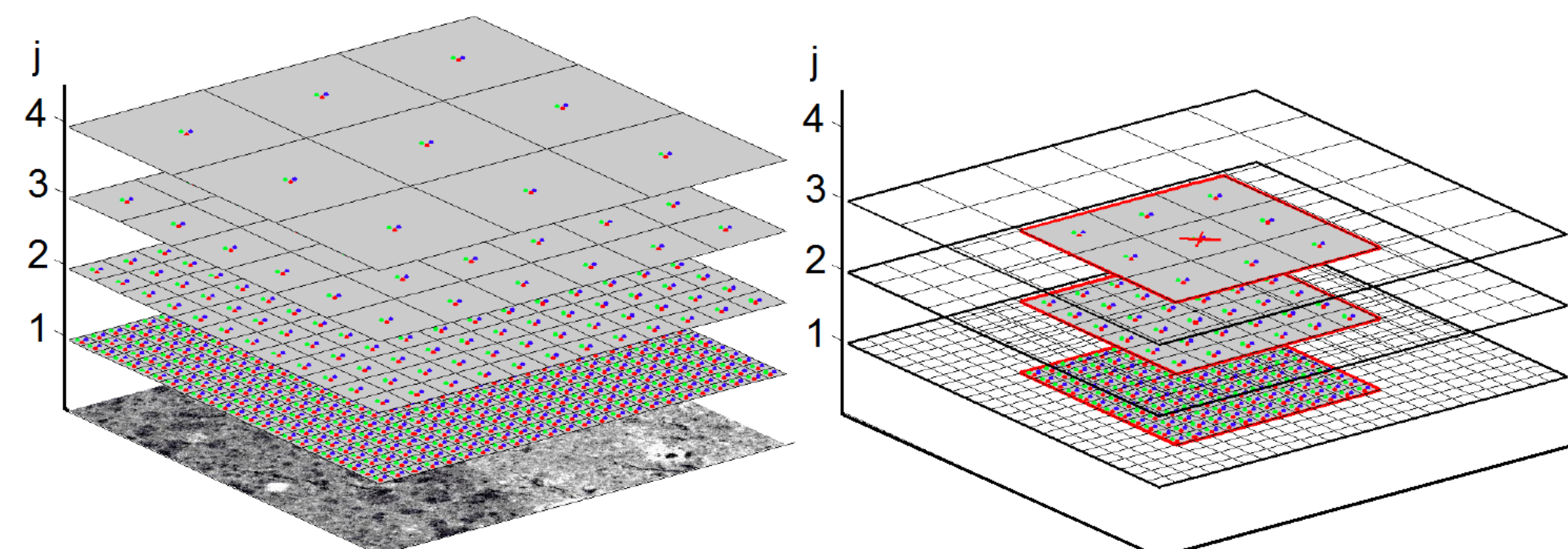
### - WAVELET-LEADERS:

Local supremum of wavelet coefficients

$d_X^{(m)}(j, \mathbf{k})$  - 2D DWT coefficients ( $m = 1, 2, 3$ )

$9\lambda_{j,\mathbf{k}}$  - dyadic cube centred at  $\mathbf{k}2^j$  and its 8 neighbors

$$l(j, \mathbf{k}) = \sup_{m \in \{1,2,3\}, \mathcal{X} \subset 9\lambda_{j,\mathbf{k}}} |d_X^{(m)}(\mathcal{X})|$$



### - MULTIFRACTAL FORMALISM:

$\mathcal{D}(h) \leq 1 - (h - c_1)^2 / (2|c_2|) + \dots$

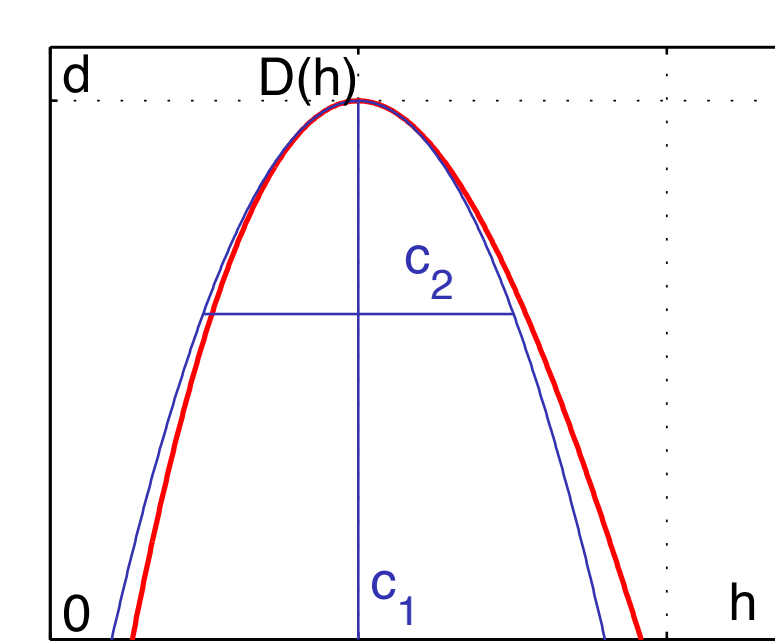
$$C_p(j) = c_p^0 + c_p \ln 2^j$$

$p$ -th cumulant of  $\ln l(j, \mathbf{k})$

$-c_2$  - multifractality parameter

$$C_2(j) = \text{Var}[\ln l(j, \mathbf{k})] = c_2^0 + c_2 \ln 2^j$$

→ classical estimation by linear regression (LF)



## STATISTICAL MODEL FOR LOG-LEADERS

### - TIME-DOMAIN STATISTICAL MODEL: [Combrexelle15]

Centered log-leaders  $\ell_j = [\log l(j, \cdot)] \sim$  Gaussian random field

- radial symmetric covariance model  $\varrho_j(\Delta \mathbf{k}; \theta)$

- parametrized by  $\theta = [\theta_1, \theta_2]^T = [c_2, c_2^0]^T$

- assuming independence between scales:

$$p(\ell|\theta) = \prod_{j=j_1}^{j_2} p(\ell_j|\theta) \propto \prod_{j=j_1}^{j_2} |\Sigma(\theta)|^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\ell_j^T \Sigma(\theta)^{-1} \ell_j}, \quad \ell = [\ell_{j_1}^T, \dots, \ell_{j_2}^T]^T$$

$\Sigma(\theta)$  - covariance matrix induced by  $\varrho_j(\Delta \mathbf{k}; \theta)$

- Whittle approximation of  $p(\ell_j|\theta)$

$$p(\ell_j|\theta) \propto \exp\left(-\sum_{\mathbf{m}} \log \phi_j(\mathbf{m}; \theta) + \frac{\mathbf{y}_j^*(\mathbf{m}) \mathbf{y}_j(\mathbf{m})}{\phi_j(\mathbf{m}; \theta)}\right)$$

$\mathbf{y}_j = DFT(\ell_j)$  - Fourier transform of centered log-leaders

$\phi_j(\mathbf{m}; \theta)$  - spectral density associated with  $\varrho_j(\Delta \mathbf{k}; \theta)$

### - DATA AUGMENTED MODEL IN THE FOURIER DOMAIN: [Combrexelle16]

- statistical interpretation of Whittle approximation

→  $\mathbf{y} = [\mathbf{y}_{j_1}^T, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{j_2}^T]^T$  complex Gaussian random variable

- reparametrization  $\mathbf{v} = \psi(\theta) \in \mathbb{R}_*^{+2}$

$$\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{CN}(v_1 \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + v_2 \tilde{\mathbf{G}})$$

independent positivity constraints on  $v_i$

$\tilde{\mathbf{F}}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{G}}$  - diagonal, positive-definite, known and fixed

- data augmentation of the model

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{y} | \boldsymbol{\mu}, v_2 \sim \mathcal{CN}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, v_2 \tilde{\mathbf{G}}) & \text{observed data} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu} | v_1 \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, v_1 \tilde{\mathbf{F}}) & \text{hidden mean} \end{cases}$$

→ associated with augmented likelihood

$$p(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\mu} | \theta) \propto v_2^{-N_y} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{v_2} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^H \tilde{\mathbf{G}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right) \times v_1^{-N_y} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{v_1} \boldsymbol{\mu}^H \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}\right)$$

✓ inverse-gamma  $\mathcal{IG}$  priors on  $v_i$  are conjugate

[Robert05] Monte Carlo Statistical Methods, Springer, New York, USA, 2005

[Dikmen10] Gamma Markov Random Fields for Audio Source Modeling, IEEE T. Audio, Speech, and Language Proc., vol. 18, no. 3, pp. 589-601, March 2010

[Combrexelle15] Bayesian estimation of the multifractality parameter for image texture using a Whittle approximation, IEEE T. Image Proc., vol. 24, no. 8, pp. 2540-2551, Aug. 2015

[Combrexelle16] A Bayesian framework for the multifractal analysis of images using data augmentation and a Whittle approximation, Proc. ICASSP, Shanghai, China, March 2016

## BAYESIAN MODEL FOR IMAGE PATCHES

### - LIKELIHOOD:

-  $\{\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{k}=(k_x, k_y)}\}$  - partition of image  $\mathbf{X}$  into non-overlapping patches

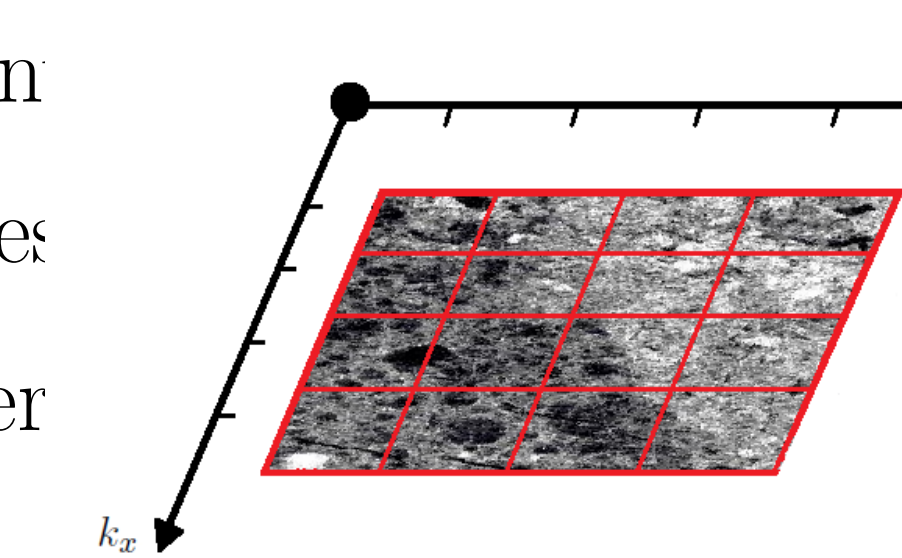
-  $\mathbf{Y} = \{\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{k}}\}$  - collection of Fourier coefficient

-  $\mathbf{M} = \{\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{k}}\}$  - collection of latent variables

-  $\mathbf{V}_i = \{v_{i,\mathbf{k}}\}$  - collection of MF parameter

+ assuming independence between patches

$$\rightarrow p(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{M} | \mathbf{V}) \propto \prod_{\mathbf{k}} p(\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{k}}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{k}} | \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}}), \quad \mathbf{V} = \{\mathbf{V}_1, \mathbf{V}_2\}$$



### - GAMMA MARKOV RANDOM FIELD (GMRF) PRIOR:

- assuming smooth spatial evolution of MF parameters

- positive auxiliary variables  $\mathbf{Z} = \{\mathbf{Z}_1, \mathbf{Z}_2\}$ ,  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \{z_{i,\mathbf{k}}\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$

→ induce positive correlation between neighbouring  $v_{i,\mathbf{k}}$

- each  $v_{i,\mathbf{k}}$  is connected to 4 variables  $z_{i,\mathbf{k}'}$

$\mathbf{k}' \in \mathcal{V}_v(\mathbf{k}) = \{(k_x, k_y) + (i_x, i_y)\}_{i_x, i_y=0,1}$

via edges with weights  $a_i$

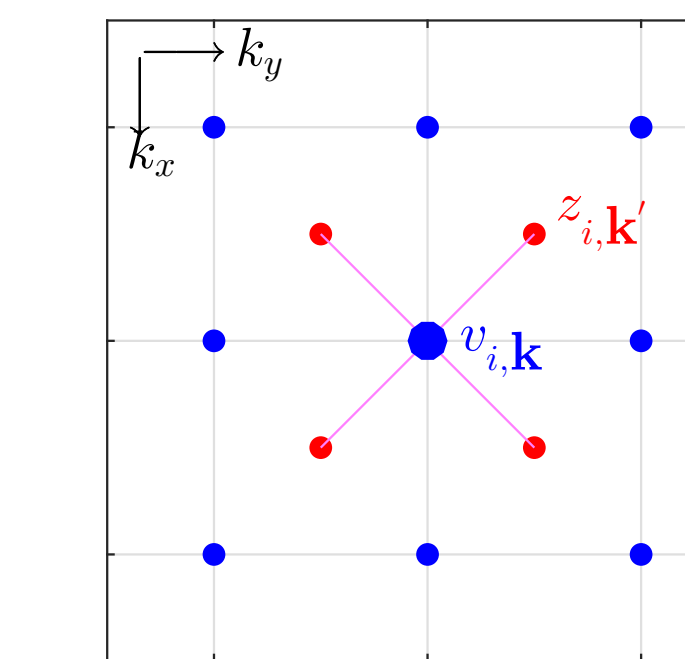
- each  $z_{i,\mathbf{k}}$  is connected to 4 variables  $v_{i,\mathbf{k}'}$

$\mathbf{k}' \in \mathcal{V}_z(\mathbf{k}) = \{(k_x, k_y) + (i_x, i_y)\}_{i_x, i_y=-1,0}$

- associated distribution

$$p(\mathbf{V}_i, \mathbf{Z}_i | a_i) = \frac{1}{C(a_i)} \prod_{\mathbf{k}} e^{-(4a_i+1) \log v_{i,\mathbf{k}}} e^{(4a_i-1) \log z_{i,\mathbf{k}}} e^{-\frac{a_i}{v_{i,\mathbf{k}}} \sum_{\mathbf{k}' \in \mathcal{V}_v(\mathbf{k})} z_{i,\mathbf{k}'}}$$

✓ conditionals for  $v_{i,\mathbf{k}}$  ( $z_{i,\mathbf{k}}$ ) are inverse-gamma  $\mathcal{IG}$  (gamma  $\mathcal{G}$ )



[Dikmen10]

### - POSTERIOR DISTRIBUTION & BAYESIAN ESTIMATOR:

- Posterior distribution via Bayes' theorem

$$p(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{M} | \mathbf{Y}, a_i) \propto \underbrace{p(\mathbf{Y} | \mathbf{V}_2, \mathbf{M})}_{\text{augmented likelihood}} p(\mathbf{M} | \mathbf{V}_1) \times \underbrace{\prod_i p(\mathbf{V}_i, \mathbf{Z}_i | a_i)}_{\text{independent GMRF priors}}$$

- Marginal posterior mean (MMSE) estimator

$$\mathbf{V}_i^{\text{MMSE}} = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{V}_i | \mathbf{Y}, a_i]}_{\text{tractable}} \approx \frac{1}{N_{mc} - N_{bi}} \sum_{q=N_{bi}}^{N_{mc}} \mathbf{V}_i^{(q)}$$

with  $\{\mathbf{V}_i^{(q)}\}_{q=1}^{N_{mc}}$  distributed according to  $p(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{M} | \mathbf{Y}, a_i)$

→ computation via Markov chain Monte Carlo algorithm

### - GIBBS SAMPLER: [Robert05]

→ iterative sampling according to conditional distributions

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{k}} | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{CN}(v_{1,\mathbf{k}} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{v_{1,\mathbf{k}}}^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{k}}, ((v_{1,\mathbf{k}} \tilde{\mathbf{F}})^{-1} + (v_{2,\mathbf{k}} \tilde{\mathbf{G}})^{-1})^{-1})$$

$$v_{1,\mathbf{k}} | \mathbf{M}, \mathbf{Z}_1 \sim \mathcal{IG}(N_y + 4a_i, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{k}}^H \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{k}} + \beta_{1,\mathbf{k}})$$

$$v_{2,\mathbf{k}} | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{M}, \mathbf{Z}_2 \sim \mathcal{IG}(N_y + 4a_i, (\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{k}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{k}})^H \tilde{\mathbf{G}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{k}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{k}}) + \beta_{2,\mathbf{k}})$$

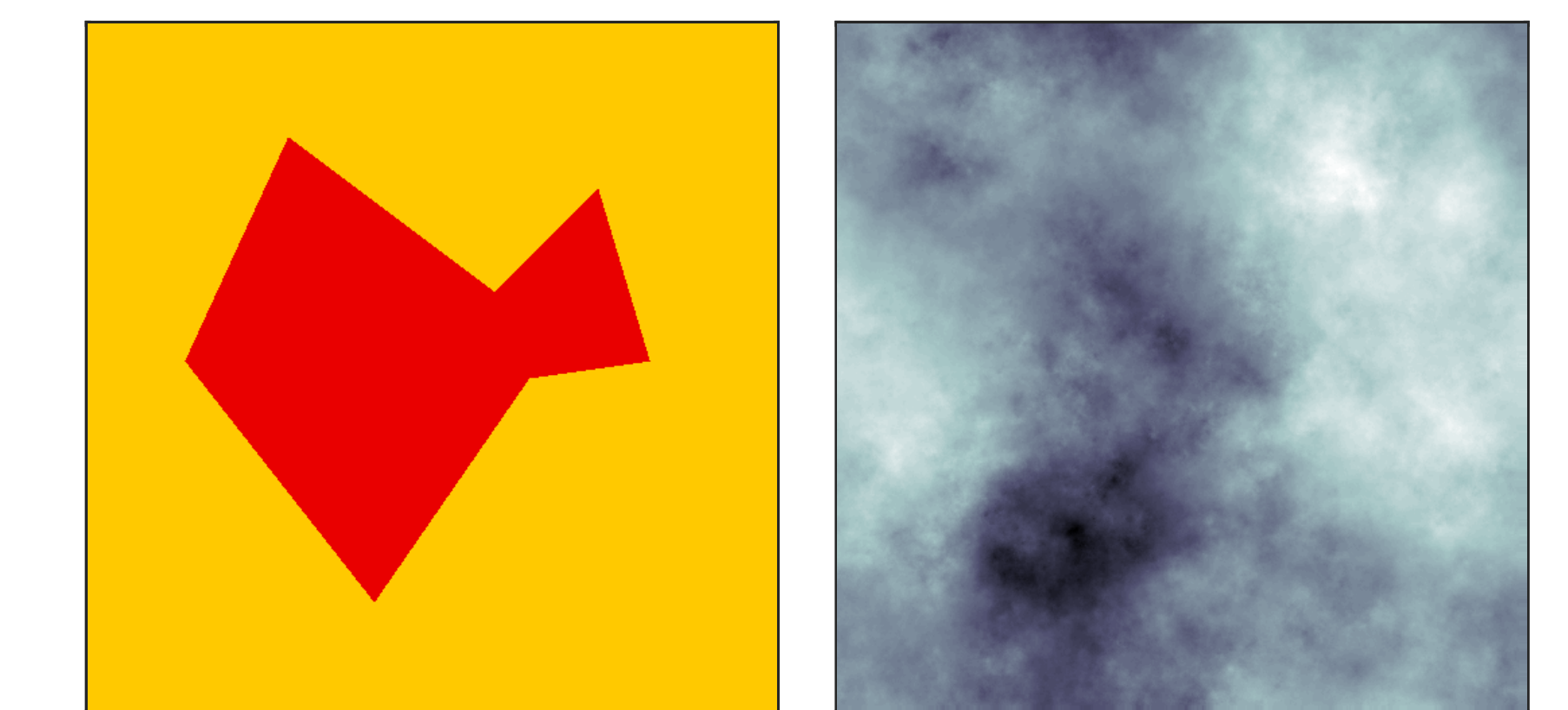
$$z_{i,\mathbf{k}} | \mathbf{V}_i \sim \mathcal{G}(4a_i, \tilde{\beta}_{i,\mathbf{k}})$$

with  $\beta_{i,\mathbf{k}} = a_i \sum_{\mathbf{k}' \in \mathcal{V}_v(\mathbf{k})} z_{i,\mathbf{k}'}$  and  $\tilde{\beta}_{i,\mathbf{k}} = (a_i \sum_{\mathbf{k}' \in \mathcal{V}_z(\mathbf{k})} v_{i,\mathbf{k}'})^{-1}$

✓ standard distributions → no acceptance/reject moves

## NUMERICAL EXPERIMENTS

### - SCENARIO



- synthetic multifractal  $2048 \times 2048$  image

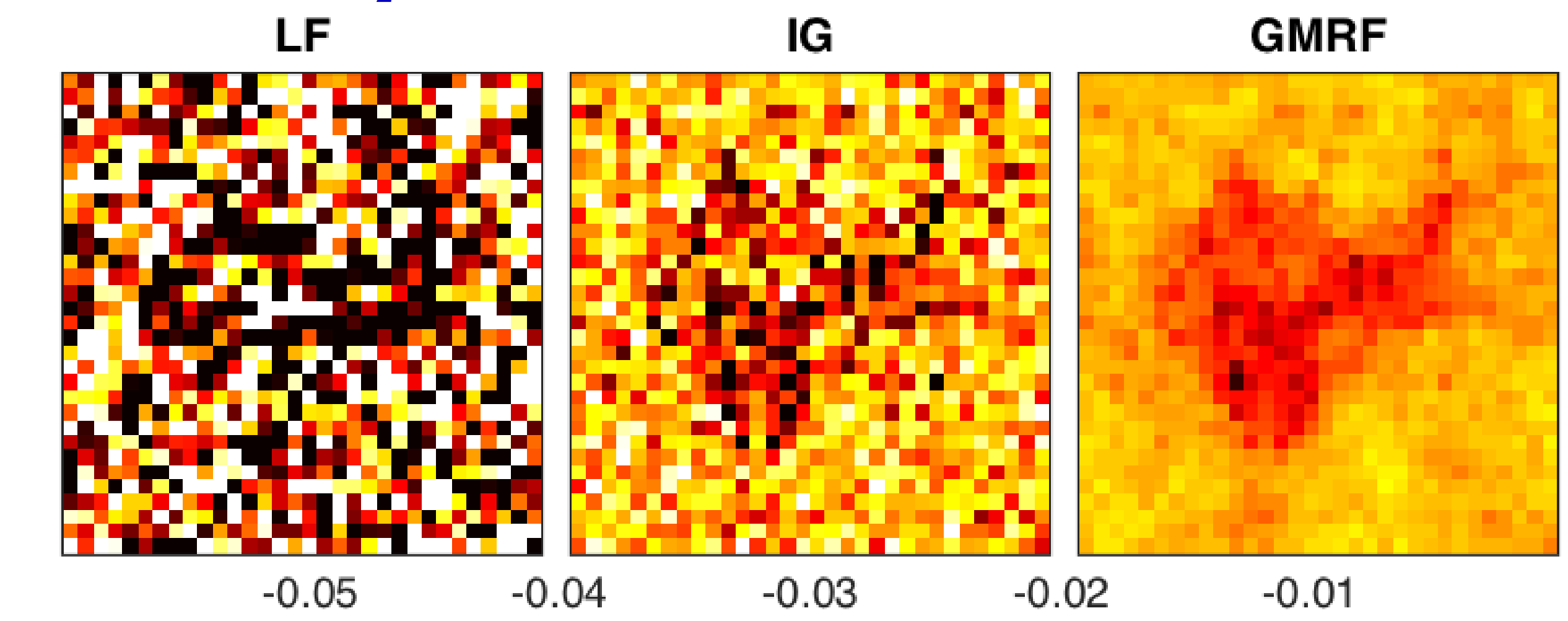
→ 2D multifractal random walk (MRW)

- piece-wise constant values of  $c_2 \in \{-0.04, -0.02\}$

- decomposition into non-overlapping  $64 \times 64$  patches

### - ILLUSTRATION ON A SINGLE REALIZATION

- estimates of  $c_2$



- k-means classification



### - ESTIMATION PERFORMANCE

evaluated on 100 realizations of heterogeneous 2D MRW

	bias	STD	RMSE	classification %	time (s)
LF	0.0055	0.0406	0.0413	54.2	~ 10
IG	<b>0.0018</b>	0.0123	0.0125	76.5	~ 50
GMRF	0.0027	<b>0.0032</b>	<b>0.0044</b>	<b>94.6</b>	~ 50

## CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK

Take-away message

- smooth joint estimation of  $c_2$  for image patches

- GMRF prior inducing positive correlation

- STD/RMSE reduced by  $\sim 4 - 10$  vs. state-of-the-art estimators

- efficient MCMC algorithm (only  $\sim 5$  times LF)

Future work

- automatic estimation of  $a_i$

- additional MF parameters ( $c_1, c_3, \dots$ )