


Image Reconstruction with CIL

ICTMS 2026

Manchester

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STFC Tomography and Imaging

 **CCPi** Bring together expertise in computational research for tomography and imaging
TOMOGRAPHIC IMAGING

- Open-source software development, maintenance and distribution
- Methods development
- Community building
- Training and user support network



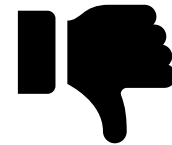
gVXR

Plan for this workshop

- Introduce tomography and the Core Imaging Library (CIL)
 - Standard reconstruction methods for CT
 - The importance of data (pre) processing
- Introduction to imaging inverse problems
 - Variational regularisation
 - CIL optimisation toolkit

Confidence level check

- Computed tomography
- Python and jupyter notebooks
- Inverse imaging problems



Beer-Lambert Law

$$\frac{I}{I_0} = \exp \int_{L_i} -\mu(s) ds$$

$$b_i = -\log \frac{I_i}{I_0} = \int_{L_i} \mu(s) ds$$

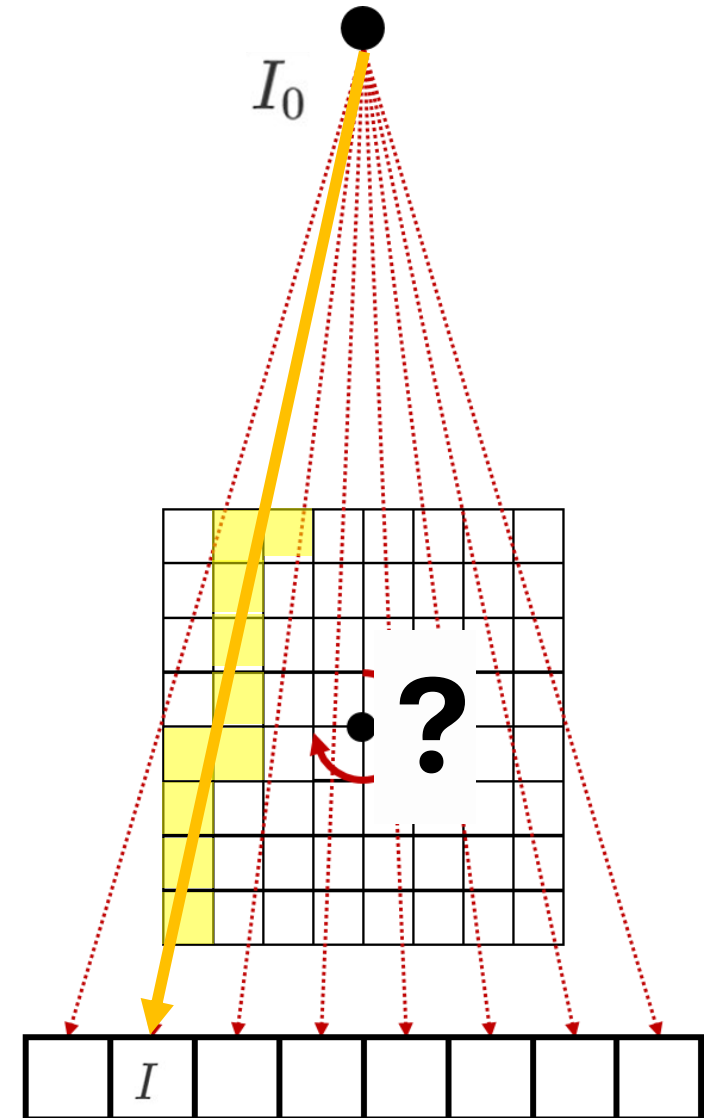
X-ray source

Measurement volume

Reconstructed volume:

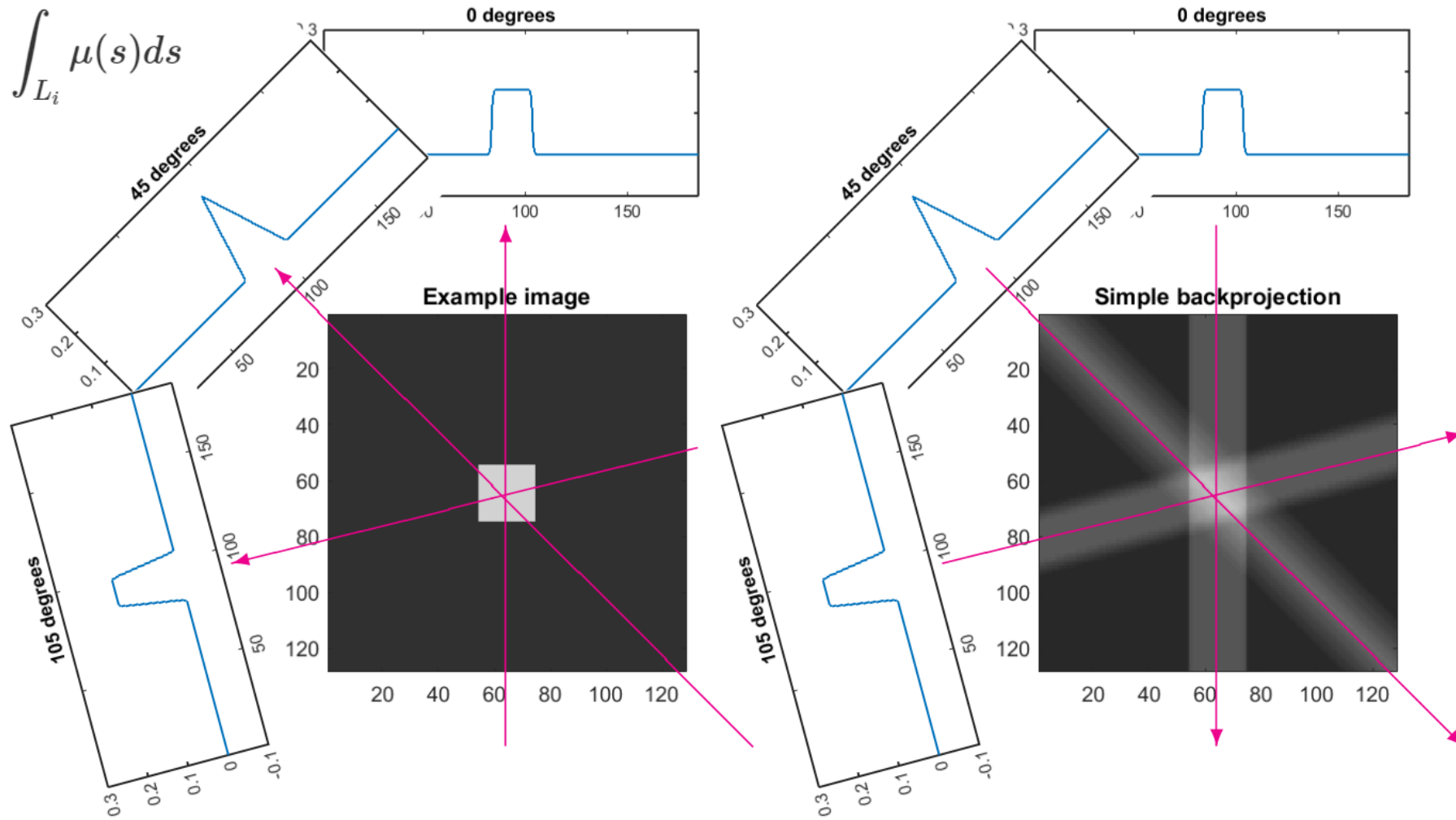
- map of linear attenuation coefficients (μ)
- often expressed in cm^{-1}

X-ray detector

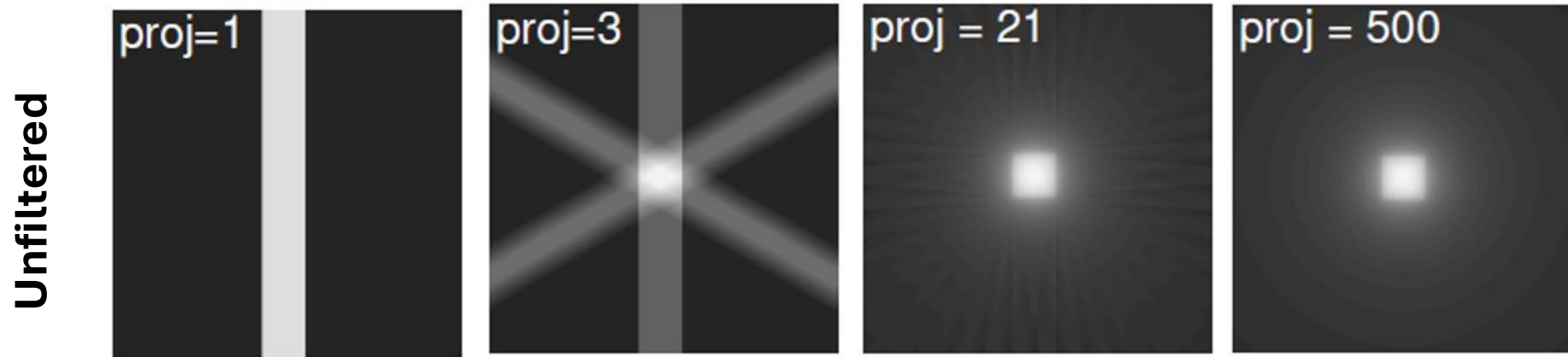


Filtered Back Projection (FBP)

$$b_i = -\log \frac{I_i}{I_0} = \int_{L_i} \mu(s) ds$$

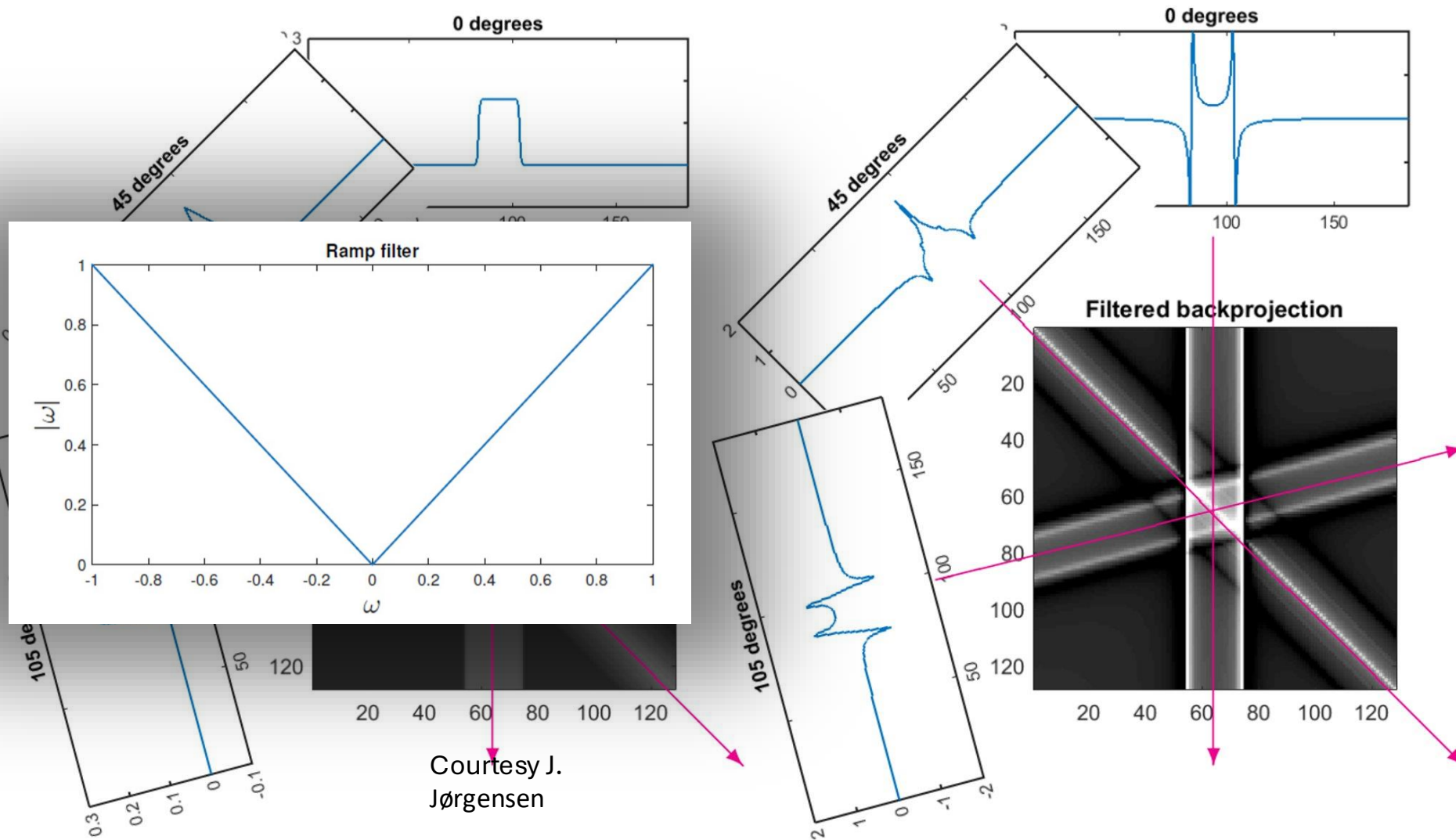


Filtered Back Projection (FBP)

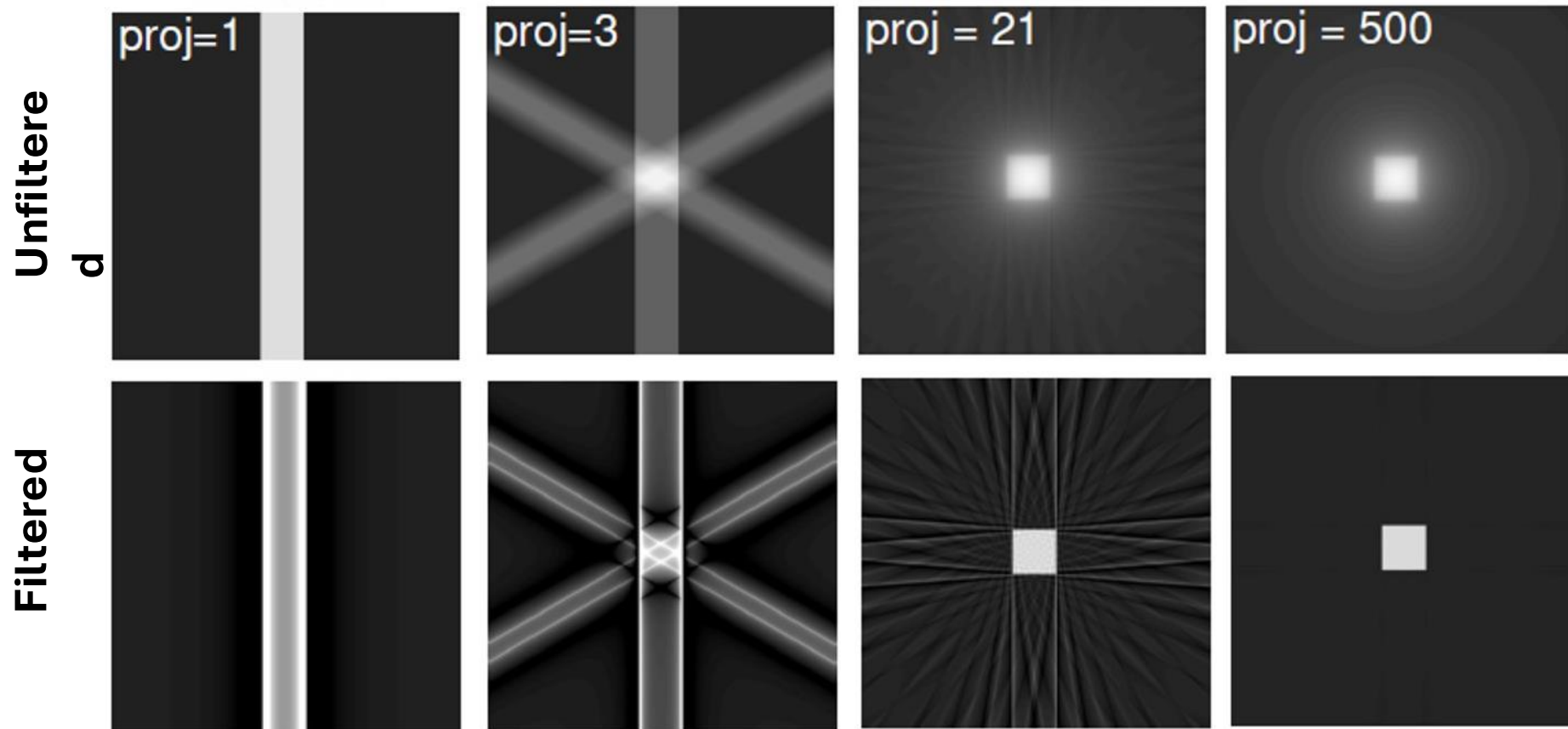


Courtesy J. Jørgensen

Filtered Back Projection (FBP)

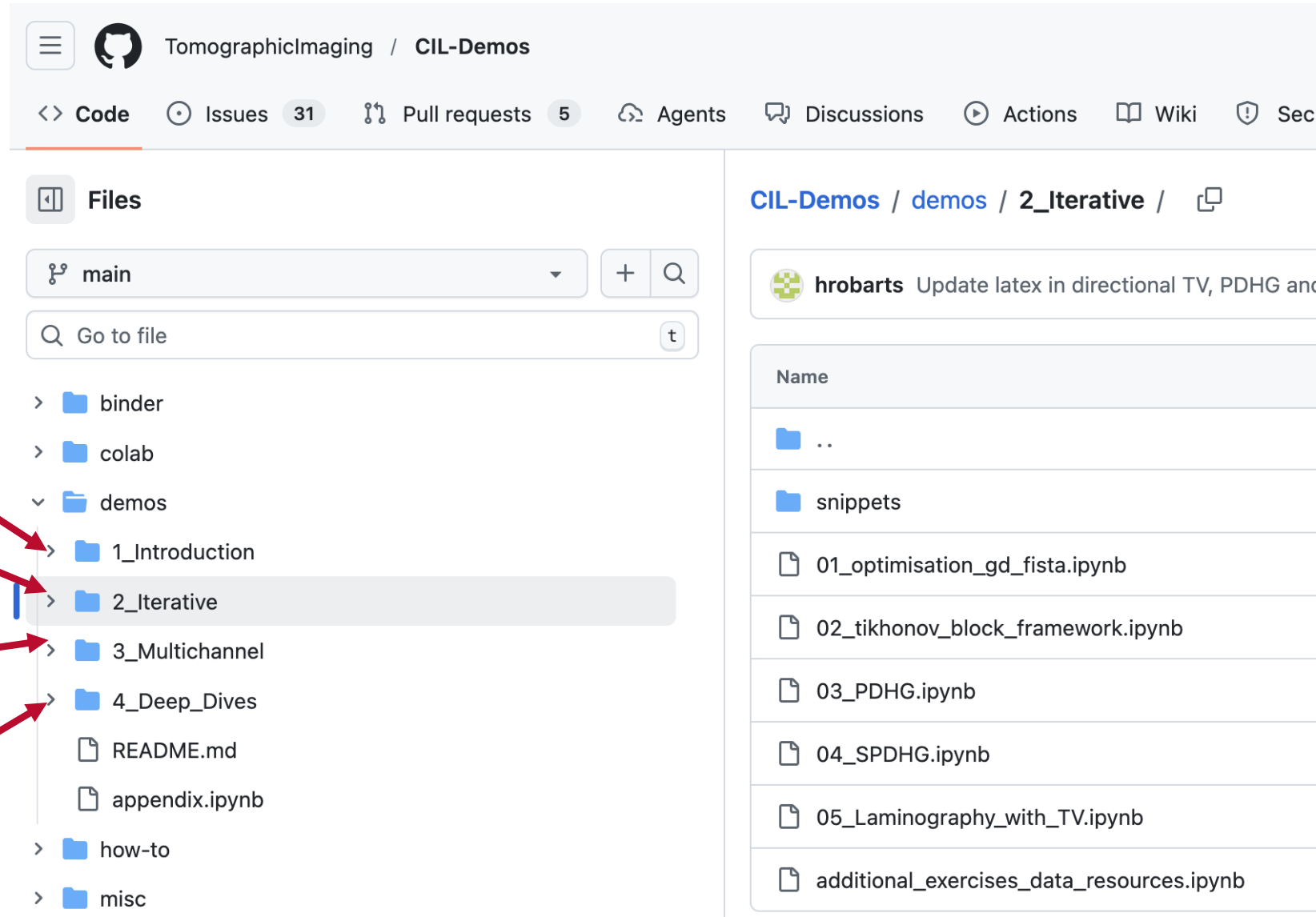


Filtered Back Projection (FBP)



Courtesy J. Jørgensen

CIL-Demos



TomographicImaging / CIL-Demos

Code Issues 31 Pull requests 5 Agents Discussions Actions Wiki Sec

Files

main

Go to file

- binder
- colab
- demos
 - 1_Introduction
 - 2_Iterative
 - 3_Multichannel
 - 4_Deep_Dives
- README.md
- appendix.ipynb
- how-to
- misc

CIL-Demos / demos / 2_Iterative /

hrobarts Update latex in directional TV, PDHG and

Name
..
snippets
01_optimisation_gd_fista.ipynb
02_tikhonov_block_framework.ipynb
03_PDHG.ipynb
04_SPDHG.ipynb
05_Laminography_with_TV.ipynb
additional_exercises_data_resources.ipynb

Mainly X-Ray CT specific processing

Mainly iterative methods

Hyperspectral/colour processing

Focused training on topic or processing

Example reconstruction - walkthrough

`CIL-Demos/demos/1_introduction/01_intro_walnut_conebeam.ipynb`

- Load and investigate a dataset
- Convert from Transmission to Absorption
- Compute a FDK reconstruction

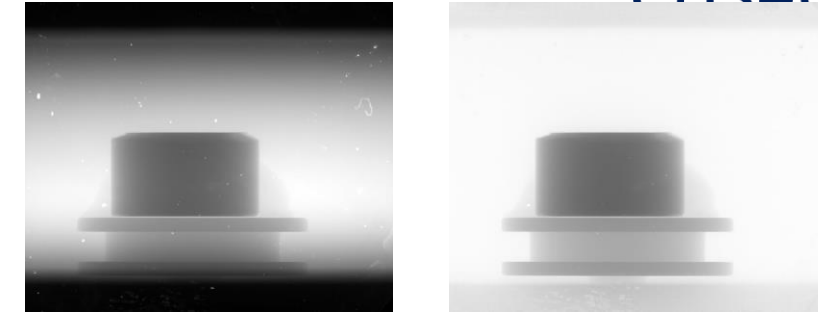
Example reconstruction

[CIL-Demos/demos/1_introduction/01_intro_sandstone_parallel_roi.ipynb](#)

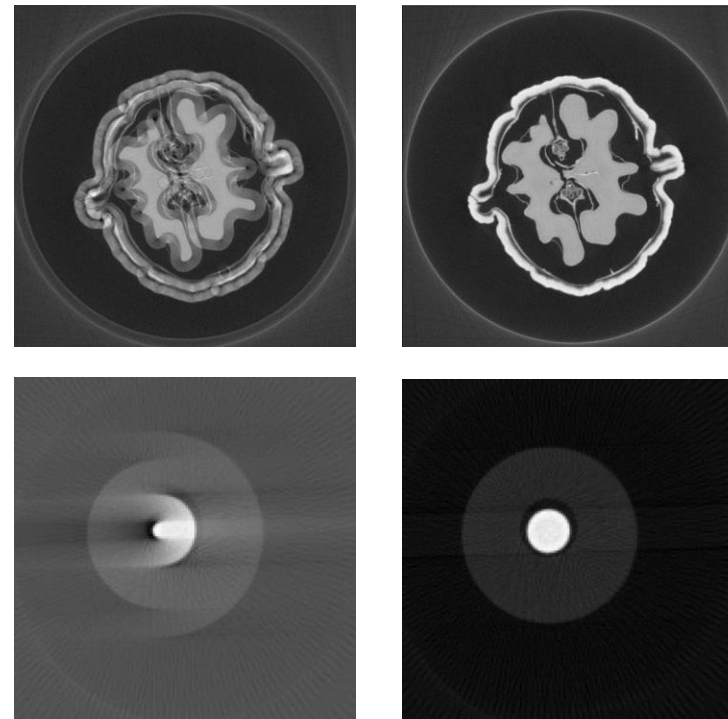
- Load and investigate a synchrotron ROI dataset
- Determine geometric information and set up data structures
- Apply basic pre-processors
- Compute a FBP reconstruction

Data processing methods

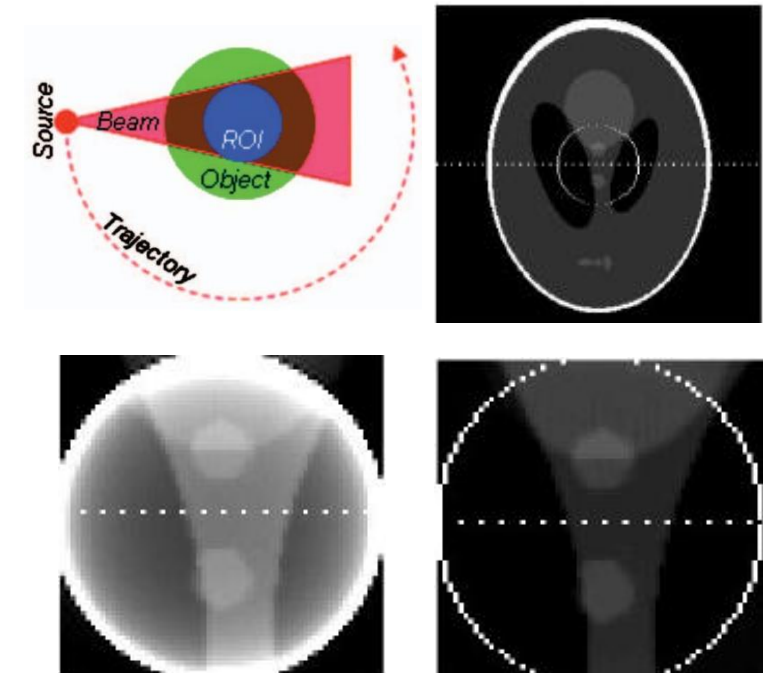
Flat-field correction



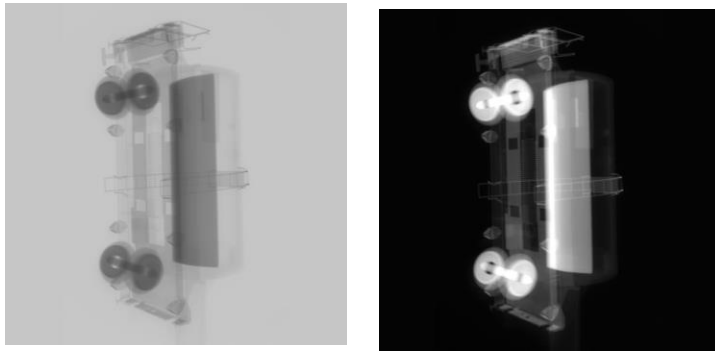
Centre of Rotation correction



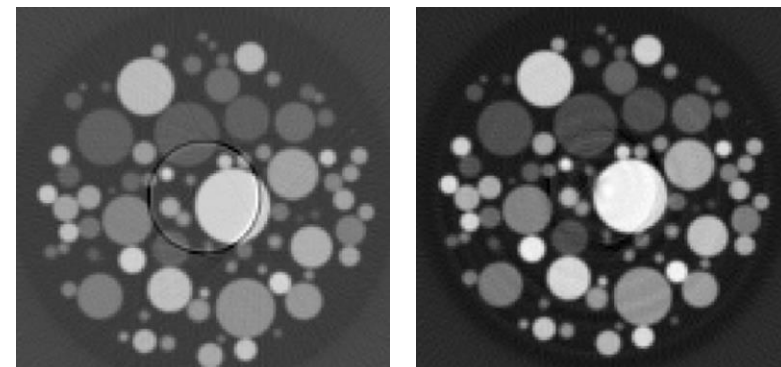
Region of interest scans



Convert to absorption



Ring removal

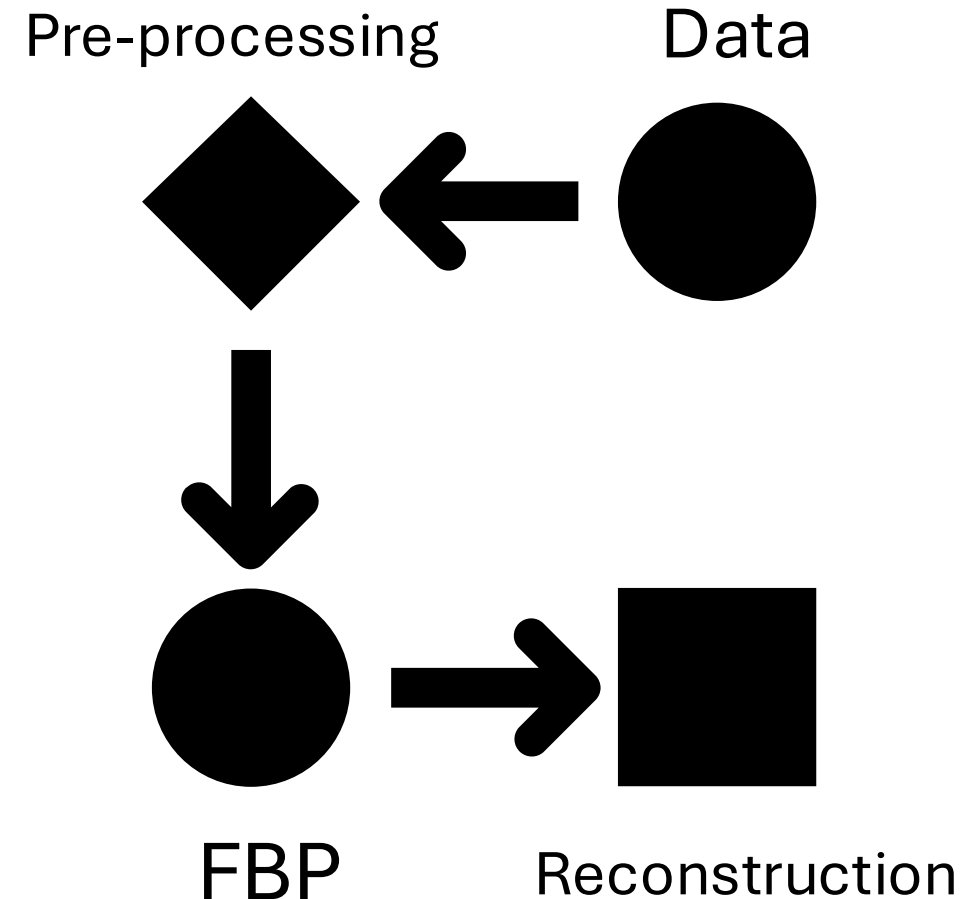


Wrap up

Filtered back-projection is **very good!**

- If your data is good it should work well
- Do any necessary pre-processing

If your data is not good... consider other methods



Filtered Back Projection (FBP)

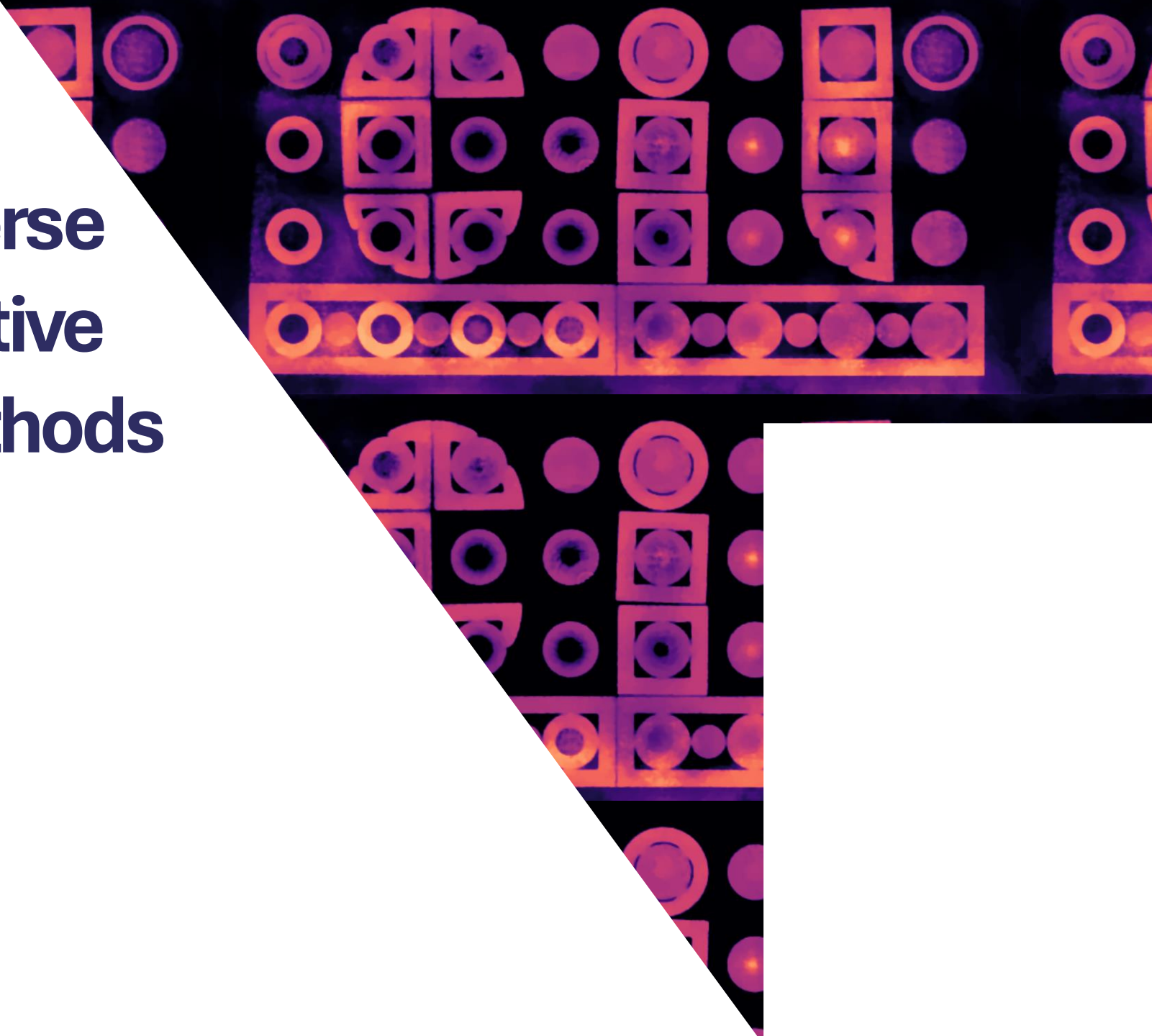
Pros

- Fast as based on FFT and backprojection
- Few parameters
- Typically works very well
- Reconstruction behaviour well understood

Cons

- Number of projections needed proportional to acquisition panel size
- Full angular range required (**limited angle** problem)
- Modest amount of noise tolerated
- Fixed scan geometries
- Cannot make use of prior knowledge such as non-negativity

Introduction to inverse problems and iterative reconstruction methods



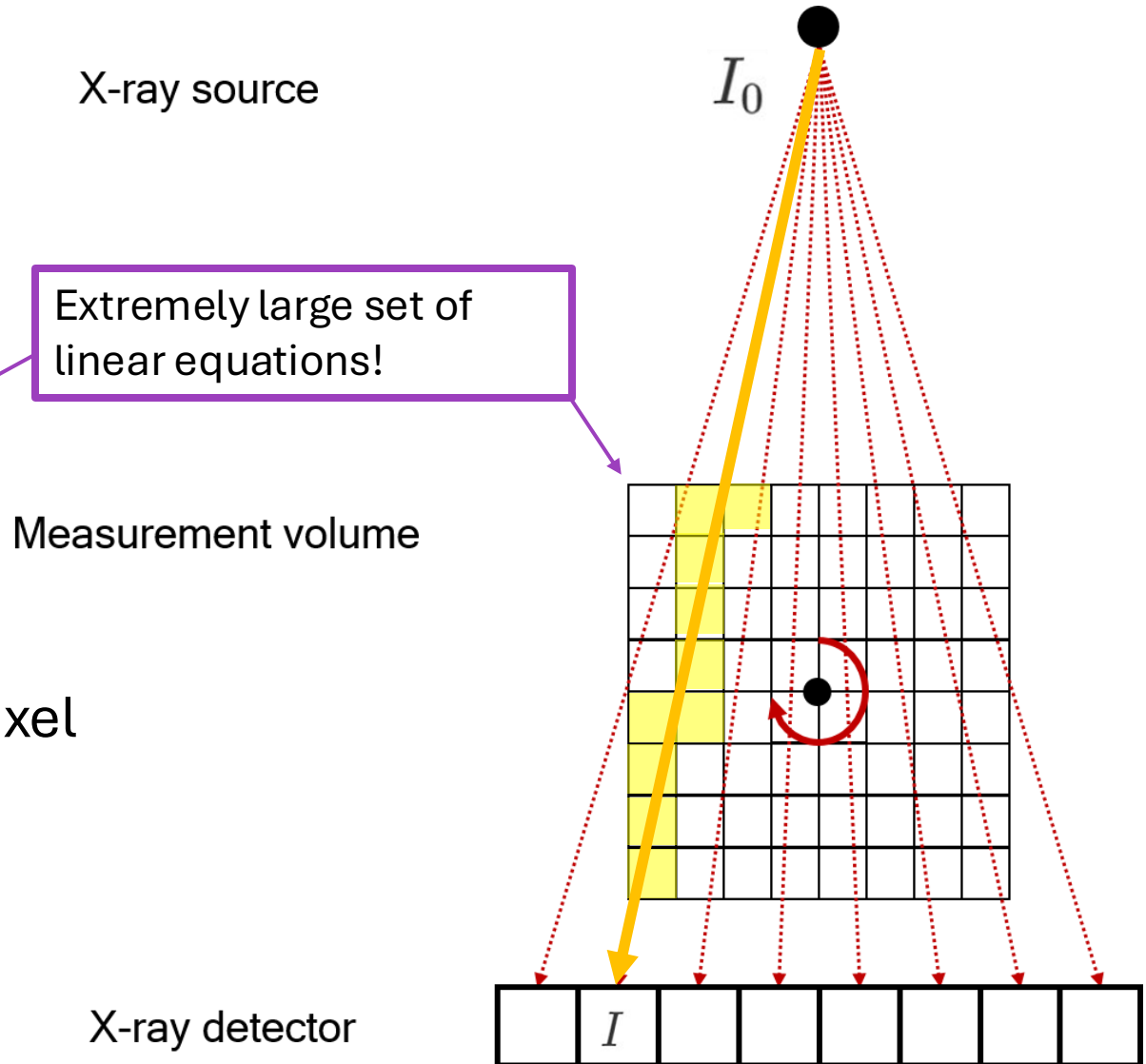
Inverse problem example - CT

$$\frac{I}{I_0} = \exp \int_{L_i} -\mu(s) ds$$

$$b_i = -\log \frac{I_i}{I_0} = \int_{L_i} \mu(s) ds$$

$$b_i = \sum_j a_{ij} u_j \rightarrow Au = b$$

- Assume object is constant in each pixel
- u_j value of pixel j
- a_{ij} path length of ray i in pixel j



Why iterative methods?

- Direct inversion (e.g., FBP) subject to noise and incomplete data
- Iterative methods allow to incorporate noise models, priors etc.
- Most CT iterative reconstructions use regularization

$$u^* = \underset{u}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \mathcal{D}(Au, b) + \alpha \cdot \mathcal{R}(u) \}$$

Regularisation parameter

Data discrepancy term

Regularisation term

Iterative reconstruction – over to you!

CIL-

[Demos/blob/main/demos/2_Iterative/01_optimisation_gd_fista.ipynb](https://github.com/TomographicImaging/CIL-Demos/blob/main/demos/2_Iterative/01_optimisation_gd_fista.ipynb)

- Load a dataset and reconstruct with FBP
- Set-up a least-squares problem to solve using CIL's algorithms, a projection operator and objective function
- Add regularisation to the least-squares problem and compare the results: Tikhonov, Non-negativity, L1-Norm, Total-Variation
- Solve the optimisation problem with the appropriate algorithm: Gradient Descent, FISTA, PDHG

Extension options:

- https://github.com/TomographicImaging/CIL-Demos/blob/main/demos/3_Multichannel/02_Dynamic_CT.ipynb
- or https://github.com/TomographicImaging/CIL-Demos/blob/main/demos/4_Deep_Dives/03_htc_2022.ipynb