

# Alternating Phase Projected Gradient Descent with Generative Prior for Solving Compressive Phase Retrieval

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## Introduction

- **Phase retrieval** is broadly defined as a problem that deals with the recovery of a real- or complex-valued signal from its amplitude observations. It naturally arises in optical imaging where sensors measure intensity.
- **General problem formulation:** Suppose we are given noisy, amplitude measurements as

$$y = |Ax^*| + e,$$

- $x^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the unknown signal or image
- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is the measurement operator matrix
- $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the measurement vector
- $e \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the measurement noise.

- **Aim:** To recover unknown signal  $x^*$  given  $y$  and  $A$ .

## Phase Retrieval as an Inverse Problem

- In general, phase retrieval is an under-determined problem with infinitely many possible solutions.
- A standard approach for solving such a problem is to restrict the solution space to a set  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  that captures some known structure  $x^*$  is expected to obey.
- The phase retrieval problem can then be formulated as the following constrained optimization problem

$$\min_x \text{loss}(y; |Ax|) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x \in \mathcal{M},$$

where  $\text{loss}(\cdot)$  denotes some appropriate loss function between the given and estimated observations and  $\mathcal{M}$  denotes the constraint set.

## Generative Prior for Phase Retrieval

- **Traditional constraints** for signals and images include known support for nonzero entries, positivity, and sparsity in some basis.
- **Generative prior** can learn the structure of “natural” images from large training data using an autoencoder or a generative adversarial network (GAN).
- **Learn a generative model**  $G(z)$  that maps a latent vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^k$  to a natural image  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . See an example of a generator in Figure 1. The learned generative model,  $G(z)$ , is expected to approximate the high-dimensional probability distribution of the image set  $\mathcal{M}$ . That is,

$$\mathcal{M} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | x = G(z) \text{ for some } z \in \mathbb{R}^k\}.$$

- **Solve an inverse problem with generative priors** as
  - Gradient descent (GD) [3,5]:  $\min_z \|y - |AG(z)|\|_2^2$
  - Alternating phase gradient descent (APGD):  $\min_z \|p \odot y - AG(z)\|_2^2$
  - Alternating phase projected gradient descent (APPGD):  $\min_{x,z} \|p \odot y - Ax\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad x = G(z)$ .
- Our proposed APPGD improves upon [3,5] by combining the gradient descent and projected gradient descent methods for generative priors [2] with AltMin-based non-convex optimization techniques used in sparse phase retrieval [4,6].

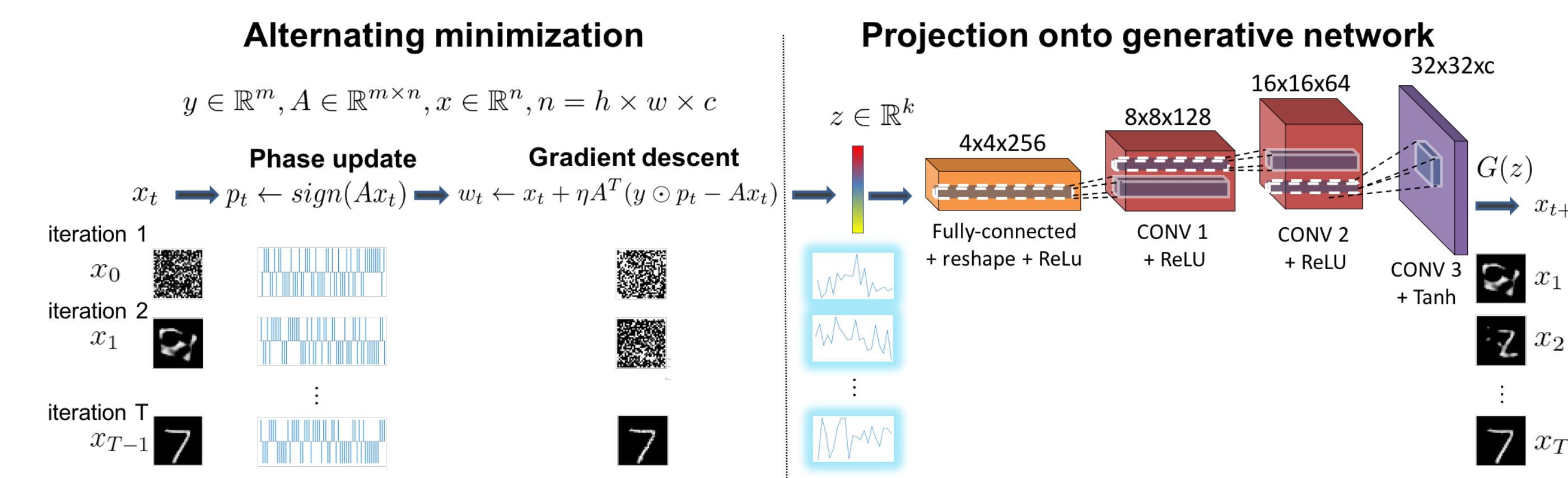


Figure 1. Illustration of Alternating Phase Projected Gradient Descent (APPGD) algorithm.

## Alternating Phase Projected Gradient Descent

- Our algorithm performs three main tasks at every iteration:
  - Phase update
  - Gradient descent update
  - Projection onto the generator
- We initialize  $z$  as a random vector and repeat the three steps until convergence.

Algorithm 1 APPGD	
1: <b>Inputs:</b> $y, A, G, T$ , <b>Output:</b> $\hat{x}$	
2: Choose an initial point $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$	
3: <b>for</b> $t = 1, \dots, T$ <b>do</b>	
4: $p_{t-1} \leftarrow \text{sign}(Ax_{t-1})$	
5: $w_{t-1} \leftarrow x_{t-1} + \eta A^T(y \odot p_{t-1} - Ax_{t-1})$	
6: $x_t \leftarrow P_G(w_{t-1}) = G(\arg \min_z \ w_{t-1} - G(z)\ )$	
7: <b>end for</b>	
8: $\hat{x} \leftarrow x_T$	

## Convergence Result

**Theorem:** Suppose we have an initialization  $x_0$  satisfying  $\text{dist}(x_0, x^*) \leq \delta_0$ , for  $0 < \delta_0 < 1$ , and suppose the number of (Gaussian) measurements,  $m > C(kd \log n)$ , for some large enough constant  $C$ . Then with high probability the iterates  $x_{t+1}$  of Algorithm 1 satisfy

$$\text{dist}(x_{t+1}, x^*) \leq \rho \text{dist}(x_t, x^*),$$

where  $x_t, x_{t+1}, x^* \in \mathcal{M}$ , and  $0 < \rho < 1$  is a constant.

## Experiments

- **Datasets:** MNIST digits and celebA images.
- **Generator:** DCGAN architecture as shown in Figure 1.
- **Latent code dimension:**  $k = 32$  for MNIST and  $k = 256$  for celebA.
- **Optimizer:** Stochastic gradient descent (SGD) as in [1].
- **Measurement matrix**  $A$  is created by selecting entries independently from Gaussian distribution with zero mean and variance  $1/m$ .

## References

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- [2] A. Bora, A. Jalal, E. Price, and A. Dimakis, “Compressed sensing using generative models,” ICML 2017.
- [3] P. Hand, O. Leong, and V. Voroninski, “Phase retrieval under a generative prior,” NeurIPS 2018.
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- [5] F. Shamshad and A. Ahmed, “Robust compressive phase retrieval via deep generative priors,” arXiv:1808.05854, 2018.
- [6] H. Zhang and Y. Liang, “Reshaped wirtinger flow for solving quadratic system of equations,” NeurIPS 2016.

## Results: MNIST

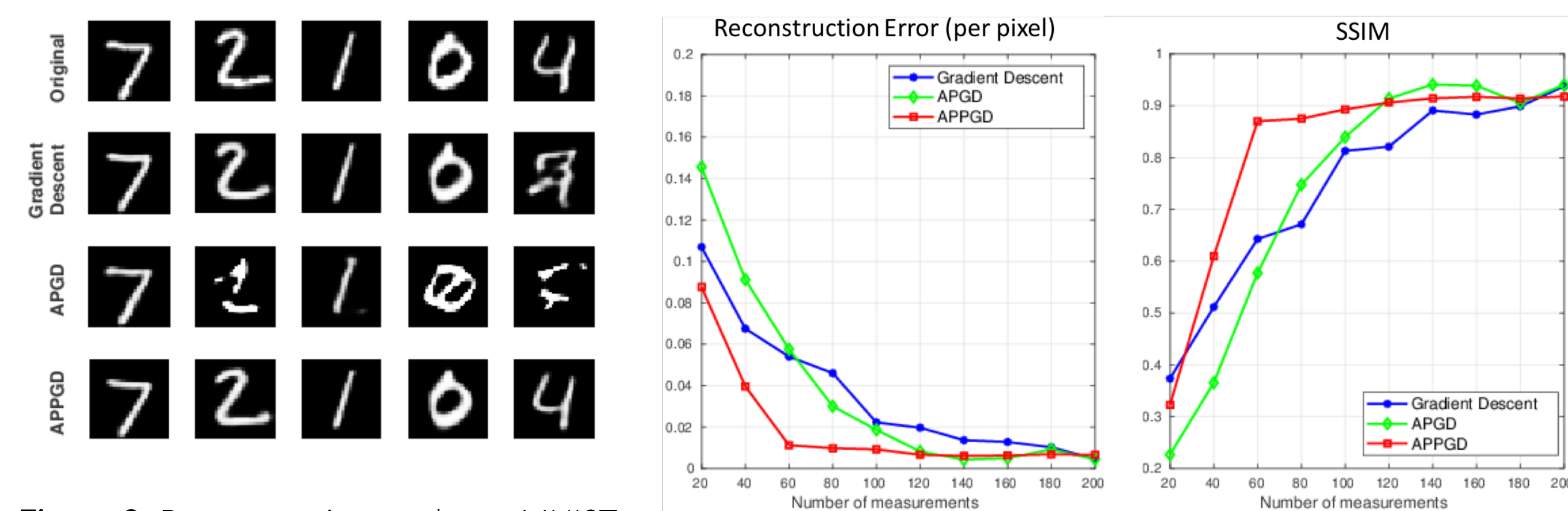


Figure 2. Reconstruction results on MNIST for three approaches of compressive phase retrieval with  $m = 60$  measurements.

Figure 3. Performance comparison for three approaches on MNIST test set (10 images).

## Further Information

Full paper available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.02707>  
For additional question please email [sasif@ece.ucr.edu](mailto:sasif@ece.ucr.edu)

## Results: celebA

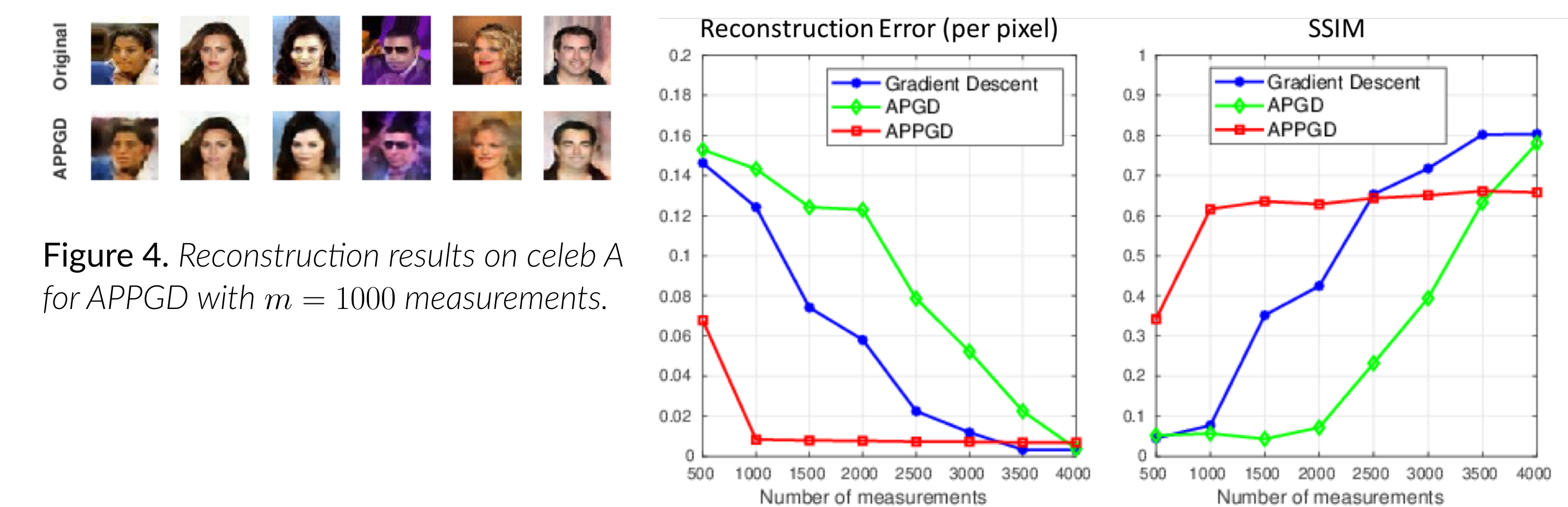


Figure 4. Reconstruction results on celebA for APPGD with  $m = 1000$  measurements.

Figure 5. Performance comparison for three approaches on celebA test set (10 images).

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