

CPP-Net: Embracing Multi-Scale Feature Fusion into Deep Unfolding CP-PPA Network for Compressive Sensing

Zhen Guo

Northwestern Polytechnical University
Xi'an 710072, China

guozhen2022@mail.nwpu.edu.cn

Hongping Gan*

Northwestern Polytechnical University
Xi'an 710072, China

ganhongping@nwpu.edu.cn

Abstract

In the domain of compressive sensing (CS), deep unfolding networks (DUNs) have garnered attention for their good performance and certain degree of interpretability rooted in CS domain, achieved by marrying traditional optimization solvers with deep networks. However, current DUNs are ill-suited for the intricate task of capturing fine-grained image details, leading to perceptible distortions and blurriness in reconstructed images, particularly at low CS ratios, e.g., 0.10 and below. In this paper, we propose CPP-Net, a novel deep unfolding CS framework, inspired by the primal-dual hybrid strategy of the Chambolle and Pock Proximal Point Algorithm (CP-PPA). First, we derive three iteration submodules, $\mathbf{X}^{(k)}$, $\mathbf{V}^{(k)}$ and $\mathbf{Y}^{(k)}$, by incorporating customized deep learning modules to solve the sparse basis related proximal operator within CP-PPA. Second, we design the Dual Path Fusion Block (DPFB) to adeptly extract and fuse multi-scale feature information, enhancing sensitivity to feature information at different scales and improving detail reconstruction. Third, we introduce the Iteration Fusion Strategy (IFS) to effectively weight the fusion of outputs from diverse reconstruction stages, maximizing the utilization of feature information and mitigating the information loss during reconstruction stages. Extensive experiments demonstrate that CPP-Net effectively reduces distortion and blurriness while preserving richer image details, outperforming current state-of-the-art methods. Codes are available at <https://github.com/ICSRResearch/ CPP-Net>.

1. Introduction

Compressive Sensing (CS) stands as a pivotal signal processing technique, facilitating the recovery of sparse or compressible signals from significantly fewer measurements than required by the Shannon-Nyquist sampling the-

*Corresponding author.





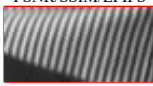
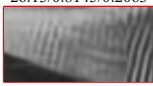

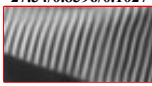
Original Image	DGUNet ⁺ (CVPR 2022)	OCTUF (CVPR 2023)	CPP-Net (Our Method)
			
PSNR/SSIM/LPIPS	26.13/0.8145/0.2063	25.13/0.7779/0.2384	27.34/0.8396/0.1027
			
PSNR/SSIM/LPIPS	18.26/0.4156/0.1830	17.28/0.2631/0.2482	27.01/0.9570/0.0334

Figure 1. The PSNR (dB), SSIM and LPIPS [45] performance comparison of DGUNet⁺ [24], OCTUF [31] and our CPP-Net at a CS ratio of 0.10. Our proposed CPP-Net outperforms other methods with higher image quality and improved human perception quality.

orem [5]. This capability accelerates signal acquisition, leading to a substantial reduction in sampling costs and data storage requirements. Furthermore, its advent has spurred advancements in various research domains, encompassing signal processing [4] in diverse areas such as applied mathematics [39], computational imaging [9, 10, 23, 34], computer science [49], etc. These explorations have profoundly propelled the development of CS theory, giving rising to various practical applications, including but not limited to natural image CS [20, 40, 41] and CS magnetic resonance imaging (CS-MRI) [22, 33, 36].

The CS sampling process can be expressed as $\mathbf{b} = \Phi\mathbf{x}$, where $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ denotes the original signal, $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ ($M \ll N$) signifies the sampling matrix, $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ represents the measurements derived from \mathbf{x} , and the CS ratio τ is defined as $\frac{M}{N}$. As $M \ll N$, the primary objective of CS is to recover \mathbf{x} from this underdetermined system. Conventional CS methods are designed to address the Basis Pursuit De-Noising (BPDN) problem for signal recovery, mathematically represented as follows:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \lambda \|\Psi\mathbf{x}\|_{\ell_1} + \frac{1}{2} \|\Phi\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_{\ell_2}^2, \quad (1)$$

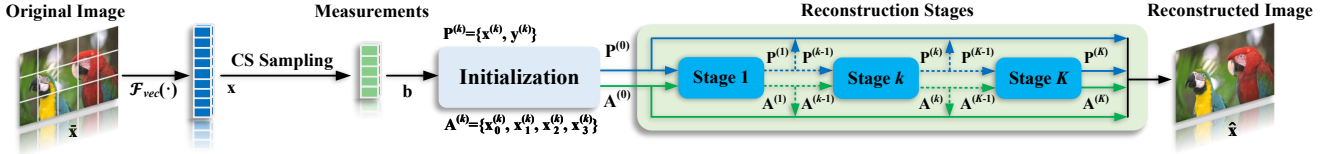


Figure 2. Overall architecture of our proposed CPP-Net, which consists of K reconstruction stages. \bar{x} is the original image, the function $\mathcal{F}_{vec}(\cdot)$ divides the images into non-overlapping blocks and then flattens them into vectors, \mathbf{x} represents the obtained vectorized image blocks, \mathbf{b} is the measurements, $\mathbf{P}^{(k)}$ and $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$ represent the set of iteration auxiliary variables, and $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ is the output reconstructed image.

where λ is the regularization parameter, $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ denotes the orthogonal sparse basis, $\|\cdot\|_{\ell_1}$ denotes the ℓ_1 -norm, and $\|\cdot\|_{\ell_2}$ denotes the Euclidean norm.

Traditional optimization algorithms [2, 3, 12, 15] aim to discover solutions that not only align with the measurements but also encourage sparsity in the sparse domain. These approaches excel at handling problems with sparse constraints and offers robust theoretical foundations. However, they often demand high computational complexity and require manual parameter selection and tuning for various datasets. In recent years, deep learning (DL) has been introduced into the field of image CS, giving rise to pure DL-based CS methods [13, 14, 21, 25, 28, 32, 37, 48], which employ Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) or Transformers to learn the mapping relationship between measurements and original images. However, these pure DL-based methods remain a black box with limited transparency and interpretability, particularly within the CS domain, constraining their broader utility and further development. To bridge the gap between DL and traditional optimization algorithms, deep unfolding networks (DUNs) [29, 31, 36, 41, 43, 46] incorporate DL architectures into the iterative steps of optimization algorithms. This combination not only brings the benefits of rapid reconstruction and adaptive learning of parameters, but also introduces a degree of interpretability rooted in the CS domain.

However, existing DUNs struggle to capture fine-grained image details, resulting in noticeable degradation, including distortions and blurriness, especially at low CS ratios, *e.g.*, 0.10 or lower. This is primarily due to two key challenges:

- **Inadequate extraction and fusion of multi-scale feature information:** Current DUNs often focus on optimizing images at high CS ratios, and are inadequate in extracting and fusing feature information at various scales from images, resulting in a lack of sensitivity to fine-grained image features. This deficiency compromises their ability to process fine-grained details accurately, such as subtle textures, edges, and intricate details when measurements are limited.
- **Information fusion deficiency of different reconstruction stages:** DUNs typically consist of multiple iterative reconstruction stages responsible for extracting and processing specific image information. However, existing

methods often struggle to balance and fuse this information effectively, resulting in information loss and confusion. This flawed information fusion strategy can impact DUNs' performance, as different stages of information may have varying importance and contributions to the final reconstruction.

Furthermore, image details are pivotal for image content recognition and analysis. Particularly at low CS ratios, enhancing image details becomes especially vital to fully exploit the advantages of CS, such as resource-efficient transmission and storage. Consequently, the reconstruction of image details at low CS ratios is a vital and challenging task to ensure high-quality image perception.

To address these challenges, we propose CPP-Net, a novel deep unfolding framework inspired by the Chambolle and Pock Proximal Point Algorithm (CP-PPA), as illustrated in Fig. 2. By integrating a customized DL module into the iterative optimization solvers of CP-PPA to address the problem of sparse basis related to proximal operator, we derive and establish the deep unfolding CP-PPA framework, comprising three iteration submodules: $\mathbf{X}^{(k)}$, $\mathbf{V}^{(k)}$, and $\mathbf{Y}^{(k)}$. Subsequently, building upon the proposed framework, we design the Dual Path Fusion Block (DPFB), which employs up and down sampling as well as Multi-Scale Transformer Block (MSTB) to proficiently extract and fuse multi-scale feature information. Additionally, we introduce the Iteration Fusion Strategy (IFS) by concatenating outputs from different reconstruction stages in the channel dimension and applying attentional weighting for adaptive fusion. The main contributions are summarized as follows:

- We propose CPP-Net, a novel deep unfolding framework for CS, drawing inspiration from the primal-dual hybrid strategy of CP-PPA, achieving superior reconstructed image and human perception quality.
- We design the Dual Path Fusion Block (DPFB) as an extension of the sparse basis structure associated with the proximal operator within CPP-Net to adeptly extract and fuse multi-scale feature information, enhancing sensitivity at different scales and improving detail reconstruction.
- We introduce the Iteration Fusion Strategy (IFS) to effectively weight the fusion of information from different reconstruction stages in CPP-Net, maximizing feature uti-

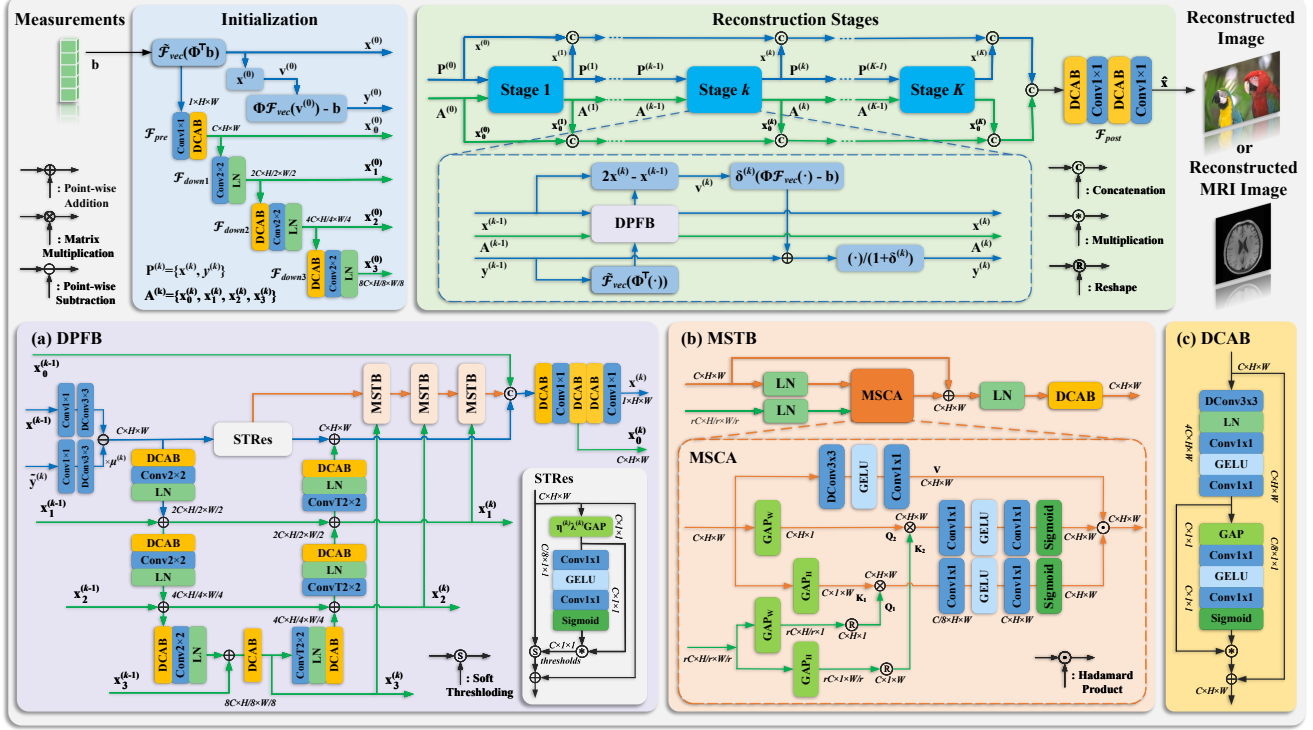


Figure 3. Details of our proposed CPP-Net. We present the details of initialization and reconstruction stages in the first row. The second row demonstrates the details of components in CPP-Net, *i.e.*, illustrations of (a) Dual Path Fusion Block (DPFB) and Soft Thresholding Residual connection (STRes); (b) Multi-Scale Transformer Block (MSTB) and Multi-Scale Cross Attention (MSCA); (c) Depth-wise Channel Attention Block (DCAB).

lization and enhancing image detail reconstruction while reducing information loss during reconstruction stages. Extensive experiments demonstrate that our proposed CPP-Net outperforms current state-of-the-art (SOTA) methods by preserving richer image details, reducing distortion and blurring, leading to higher image quality and improved human perception quality.

2. Related Works

2.1. Traditional Chambolle and Pock Proximal Point Algorithm

The Chambolle and Pock Proximal Point Algorithm (CP-PPA) [6, 16, 17] is a straightforward yet powerful optimization algorithm that utilizes an enhanced primal-dual hybrid approach [50], offering convergence and efficiency. Consider the following saddle-point problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \max_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M} \Theta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \theta_1(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{y}^\top \Phi \mathbf{x} - \theta_2(\mathbf{y}), \quad (2)$$

where $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$. The CP-PPA solves this problem through following iterative steps:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \Theta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^{(k)}) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{(k)}\|_{\ell_2}^2, \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(k+1)} = 2\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} - \mathbf{x}^{(k)}, \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{y}^{(k+1)} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{y}} \Theta(\mathbf{v}^{(k+1)}, \mathbf{y}) - \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{(k)}\|_{\ell_2}^2, \quad (5)$$

where α and β are regularization parameters.

CP-PPA addresses both the primal and dual problems alternately and iteratively, and achieves faster convergence compared to the widely-used Iterative Shrinkage/Thresholding Algorithm (ISTA) [2, 6], which solely optimizes the primal problem. Furthermore, CP-PPA provides stronger convergence guarantees, increasing its potential to theoretically attain globally optimal solutions [17]. However, as a traditional iterative optimization algorithm, CP-PPA has its limitations. Its performance heavily relies on parameter settings, particularly the choice of α and β . Inaccurate parameter choices can lead to slow convergence or system instability [17]. Additionally, for the problem outlined in Eq. (1), a persistent challenge remains in the selection of an appropriate sparse basis Ψ due to the diverse content and characteristics of images [1].

2.2. Deep Unfolding Networks

The core idea of DUNs is to unfold the traditional iterative optimization algorithms into the form of deep networks,

making it an end-to-end trainable model. DUNs offer the combined advantages of rapid reconstruction and adaptive learning of parameters, while introducing interpretability rooted in the CS domain.

Since Zhang and Ghanem proposed ISTA-Net [41], based on the famous ISTA algorithm (a special case of Proximal Gradient Descent (PGD) algorithm for ℓ_1 -regularization term), these are many ISTA-based network variants have been gradually proposed for CS, including OPINE-Net⁺ [42], TransCS [27], OCTUF [31], DGUNet⁺ [24], and others [7, 8, 24, 29, 30]. Similarly, Yang *et al.* proposed ADMM-CSNet [36] based on the Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers (ADMM) [3]; Zhang *et al.* proposed AMP-Net [46] inspired by the Approximate Message Passing (AMP) [12] for CS, and so on. Nevertheless, current DUNs usually neglect the enhancement of details at different scales in images at low CS ratios, and at the same time are insufficient for the transfer and utilization of information from different stages, resulting in significant degradation, *e.g.*, distortions and blurriness, in reconstructed images. For example, OCTUF [31] utilizes cross-attention mechanisms to optimize the image but disregards the finer image details of various scales, leading to substantial areas of blurring. Similarly, while DGUNet⁺ [24] utilizes down-sampling for encoding and up-sampling for decoding to unfold PGD, it lacks effective fusion of feature information across different scales. This deficiency results in noticeable distortions in the reconstructed images. In this paper, we propose CPP-Net, a novel deep unfolding framework inspired by the CP-PPA with efficient multi-scale feature fusion to achieve precise image detail reconstruction.

3. Proposed Method

The details of our CPP-Net are illustrated in Fig. 3. CPP-Net includes one initialization module and K reconstruction stages, with the default setting of eight stages. Each stage represents one iteration in the CP-PPA, and consists of three iteration submodules ($\mathbf{X}^{(k)}$, $\mathbf{V}^{(k)}$ and $\mathbf{Y}^{(k)}$) and one DPFb.

3.1. Initialization Module

As shown in Fig. 3, initialization module responds to an initial estimate $\mathbf{P}^{(0)}$ from the measurements and initialize the iteration parameters $\mathbf{A}^{(0)}$. $\mathbf{P}^{(k)}$ contains the iterative auxiliary variables ($\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$ and $\mathbf{y}^{(k)}$), while $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$ contains the downsampling results at different scales ($\mathbf{x}_0^{(k)}$, $\mathbf{x}_1^{(k)}$, $\mathbf{x}_2^{(k)}$ and $\mathbf{x}_3^{(k)}$) in the k -th reconstruction stages. In order to facilitate convolutional operations and iterative computations, we use $\mathcal{F}_{vec}(\cdot)$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{vec}(\cdot)$ to denote the chunking and flattening functions as well as their inverse processes, respectively.

3.2. Reconstruction Stages

Iteration Submodules. We introduce a DL-based operator, denoted as $\mathcal{D}(\cdot)$, to replace Ψ , which offers enhanced adaptability to various images and a high degree of self-adjustment without the need for manual parameter tuning. We define two functions: $f(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda \|\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{x})\|_{\ell_1}$ and $h(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{b}\|_{\ell_2}^2$. Therefore, we reformulate the Eq. (1) as a saddle-point problem, expressed as:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \max_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M} \Theta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := f(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{y}^\top \Phi \mathbf{x} - h^*(\mathbf{y}). \quad (6)$$

Here, h^* is the convex conjugate of the convex lower-semicontinuous function h :

$$h^*(\mathbf{y}) = \sup_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^M} \mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{y} - \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{b}\|_{\ell_2}^2. \quad (7)$$

By alternately iterating and optimizing the primal and dual problems, and independently learning regularization terms α , β and λ for each iteration, iterative steps can be derived as follows:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \Theta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)}) + \frac{\alpha^{(k)}}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)}\|_{\ell_2}^2, \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(k)} = 2\mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)}, \quad (9)$$

$$\mathbf{y}^{(k)} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{y}} \Theta(\mathbf{v}^{(k)}, \mathbf{y}) - \frac{\beta^{(k)}}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)}\|_{\ell_2}^2. \quad (10)$$

Since the constant term is independent of the solution, the solution for Eq. (8) can be expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^{(k)} &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) + (\mathbf{y}^{(k-1)})^\top \Phi \mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2\eta^{(k)}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)}\|_{\ell_2}^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2\eta^{(k)}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)} + \eta^{(k)} \Phi^\top \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)}\|_{\ell_2}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where $\eta^{(k)} = 1/\alpha^{(k)}$. $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$ can be obtained using the soft thresholding function denoted as $\mathcal{S}(\cdot)$, a special proximal operator for ℓ_1 -norm:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \tilde{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{S}_{\lambda^{(k)}/\eta^{(k)}}(\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{x}^{(k-1)} - \eta^{(k)} \Phi^\top \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)}))), \quad (12)$$

where

$$\mathcal{S}_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{x}) * \max(|\mathbf{x}| - \epsilon, 0), \quad (13)$$

and $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}(\cdot)$ represents the left inverse of $\mathcal{D}(\cdot)$. Similarly, solving for $\mathbf{y}^{(k)}$ in Eq. (10) is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}^{(k)} &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{y}} h^*(\mathbf{y}) - \mathbf{y}^\top \Phi \mathbf{v}^{(k)} + \frac{1}{2\delta^{(k)}} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)}\|_{\ell_2}^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{y}} h^*(\mathbf{y}) + \frac{1}{2\delta^{(k)}} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)} - \delta^{(k)} \Phi \mathbf{v}^{(k)}\|_{\ell_2}^2 \\ &= \text{prox}_{\delta^{(k)} h^*}(\mathbf{y}^{(k-1)} + \delta^{(k)} \Phi \mathbf{v}^{(k)}) \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \delta^{(k)}} (\mathbf{y}^{(k-1)} + \delta^{(k)} (\Phi \mathbf{v}^{(k)} - \mathbf{b})), \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where $\text{prox}(\cdot)$ denotes the proximal operator and $\delta^{(k)} = 1/\beta^{(k)}$.

In summary, for the sake of convenience in iterative and convolutional operations, we can express the explicit solutions for the iteration submodules $\mathbf{X}^{(k)}$, $\mathbf{V}^{(k)}$, and $\mathbf{Y}^{(k)}$ in the k -th reconstruction stages as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{X}^{(k)} : \mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \tilde{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{S}_{\lambda^{(k)}\eta^{(k)}}(\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{x}^{(k-1)} - \eta^{(k)}\tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{vec}(\Phi^\top \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)}))), \\ \mathbf{V}^{(k)} : \mathbf{v}^{(k)} = 2\mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)}, \\ \mathbf{Y}^{(k)} : \mathbf{y}^{(k)} = \frac{1}{1 + \delta^{(k)}}(\mathbf{y}^{(k-1)} + \delta^{(k)}(\Phi\mathcal{F}_{vec}(\mathbf{v}^{(k)}) - \mathbf{b})). \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

The convergence analysis of the proposed framework is presented in the *Supplementary Material* (Sec. 2). The essence of our CPP-Net resides in the structure $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}(\cdot)))$. Therefore, we design the DPFb as an extension of $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}(\cdot)))$ to enhance CPP-Net's capability for characterizing information and to achieve effective extraction and fusion of multi-scale features. DPFb consists mainly of DCABs, MSTBs and STRes. The specific details are presented below.

Depth-wise Channel Attention Block (DCAB). We introduce the DCAB as the fundamental building block to enhance the feature extraction and attentional weighting capabilities of our CPP-Net. As illustrated in Fig. 3(c), DCAB begins with a 3×3 depth-wise convolution (DConv₃) to extract spatial information, followed by a layer normalization (LN) to enhance stability. It then employs two 1×1 convolutions (Conv₁) to expand and reduce the channel count, with a Gaussian error linear units (GELU) activation in between. Additionally, DCAB incorporates channel attention block inspired by [18] to highlight informative features while suppressing less relevant ones across channels to achieve adaptive weighting.

Multi-Scale Transformer Block (MSTB). We design the MSTB, a composition of LN, Multi-Scale Cross Attention (MSCA) and DCAB, to improve the aggregation and fusion of feature information across various scales. As shown in Fig. 3(b), MSTB takes two inputs of varying scales, applies LN to each, and then processes them through the MSCA. Following the residual connection, the feature undergoes further refinement via the DCAB. Assuming that $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H \times W}$ and $\mathbf{x}_i^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times C \times H/r \times W/r}$ represent the inputs to the MSCA, the process unfolds as follows: Initially, $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$ undergoes Global Average Pooling (GAP) along both the width (GAP_W : $\mathbb{R}^{C \times H \times W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{C \times H \times 1}$) and height (GAP_H : $\mathbb{R}^{C \times H \times W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{C \times 1 \times W}$) dimensions, producing Query \mathbf{Q}_2 and Key \mathbf{K}_1 , respectively. Similarly, $\mathbf{x}_i^{(k)}$ generates the corresponding \mathbf{Q}_1 and \mathbf{K}_2 after reshaping. Moreover, \mathbf{V} is derived from $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$ by applying a depth-wise 3×3 convolution, followed by a GELU activation, and finally a 1×1 convolution. The process can be represented

Algorithm 1 CPP-Net

Input: Original image $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$, sampling matrix Φ , block size B , the number of reconstruction stages K .

Output: Final reconstructed image $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$.

- 1: **Sampling:** $\mathbf{x} = \mathcal{F}_{vec}(\bar{\mathbf{x}})$, $\mathbf{b} = \Phi\mathbf{x}$.
 - 2: **Initialization:** $k = 0$, $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{vec}(\Phi^\top \mathbf{b})$, $\mathbf{v}^{(0)} = \mathbf{x}^{(0)}$, $\mathbf{y}^{(0)} = \Phi\mathcal{F}_{vec}(\mathbf{v}^{(0)}) - \mathbf{b}$, $\mathbf{x}_0^{(0)} = \mathcal{F}_{pre}(\mathbf{x}^{(0)})$, $\mathbf{x}_1^{(0)} = \mathcal{F}_{down1}(\mathbf{x}_0^{(0)})$, $\mathbf{x}_2^{(0)} = \mathcal{F}_{down2}(\mathbf{x}_1^{(0)})$, $\mathbf{x}_3^{(0)} = \mathcal{F}_{down3}(\mathbf{x}_2^{(0)})$, $\mathbf{A}^{(0)} = \{\mathbf{x}_0^{(0)}, \mathbf{x}_1^{(0)}, \mathbf{x}_2^{(0)}, \mathbf{x}_3^{(0)}\}$.
 - 3: **Reconstruction:**
 - 4: **while** $k < K$ **do**
 - 5: $k \leftarrow k + 1$;
 - 6: $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}^{(k-1)} = \tilde{\mathcal{F}}_{vec}(\Phi^\top \mathbf{y}^{(k-1)})$;
 - 7: $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}, \mathbf{A}^{(k)} \leftarrow \text{DPFB}^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}^{(k-1)}, \tilde{\mathbf{y}}^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{A}^{(k-1)})$;
 - 8: $\mathbf{v}^{(k)} = 2\mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)}$;
 - 9: $\mathbf{y}^{(k)} = \frac{1}{1 + \delta^{(k)}}(\mathbf{y}^{(k-1)} + \delta^{(k)}(\Phi\mathcal{F}_{vec}(\mathbf{v}^{(k)}) - \mathbf{b}))$;
 - 10: **end while**
 - 11: $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathcal{F}_{post}(\text{Concat}(\{\mathbf{x}^{(k)}\}_{k=0}^K, \{\mathbf{x}_0^{(k)}\}_{k=0}^K))$.
-

as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{Q}_2 = \text{GAP}_W(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}), \mathbf{K}_1 = \text{GAP}_H(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}), \\ \mathbf{Q}_1 = \text{R}(\text{GAP}_W(\mathbf{x}_i^{(k)})), \mathbf{K}_2 = \text{R}(\text{GAP}_H(\mathbf{x}_i^{(k)})), \\ \mathbf{V} = \text{Conv}_1(\text{GELU}(\text{DConv}_3(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}))). \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

Here, $\text{R}(\cdot)$ denotes the reshape function. Subsequently, the Queries and Keys generated by these two inputs undergo the matrix multiplication, resulting in two matrices in $\mathbb{R}^{C \times H \times W}$. These matrices are then subjected to channel downscaling and upscaling through two 1×1 convolutions, followed by the Sigmoid function to obtain the corresponding attention weights. The MSCA output, denoted as $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(k)}$, is computed by the Hadamard product of \mathbf{V} with the obtained attention weights:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(k)} = \text{SG}(\mathbf{Q}_1 \otimes \mathbf{K}_1) \odot \text{SG}(\mathbf{Q}_2 \otimes \mathbf{K}_2) \odot \mathbf{V}, \quad (17)$$

where $\text{SG}(\cdot) = \text{Sigmoid}(\text{Conv}_1(\text{GELU}(\text{Conv}_1(\cdot))))$.

Dual Path Fusion Block (DPFB). Our approach prioritizes the efficient extraction and fusion of multi-scale features to enhance performance of details reconstruction. To achieve this, we design the DPFb as the cornerstone of our CPP-Net framework, as illustrated in Fig. 3(a). The DPFb begins with an initial step that includes a 1×1 convolution and a 3×3 depth-wise convolution to increase channel count. It then downsamples the feature maps using 2×2 convolutions with a stride of 2 (Conv₂), which reduces the feature maps' size by half while doubling the channel count, facilitating efficient capture of multi-scale features. Furthermore, the DPFb effectively fuses multi-scale information

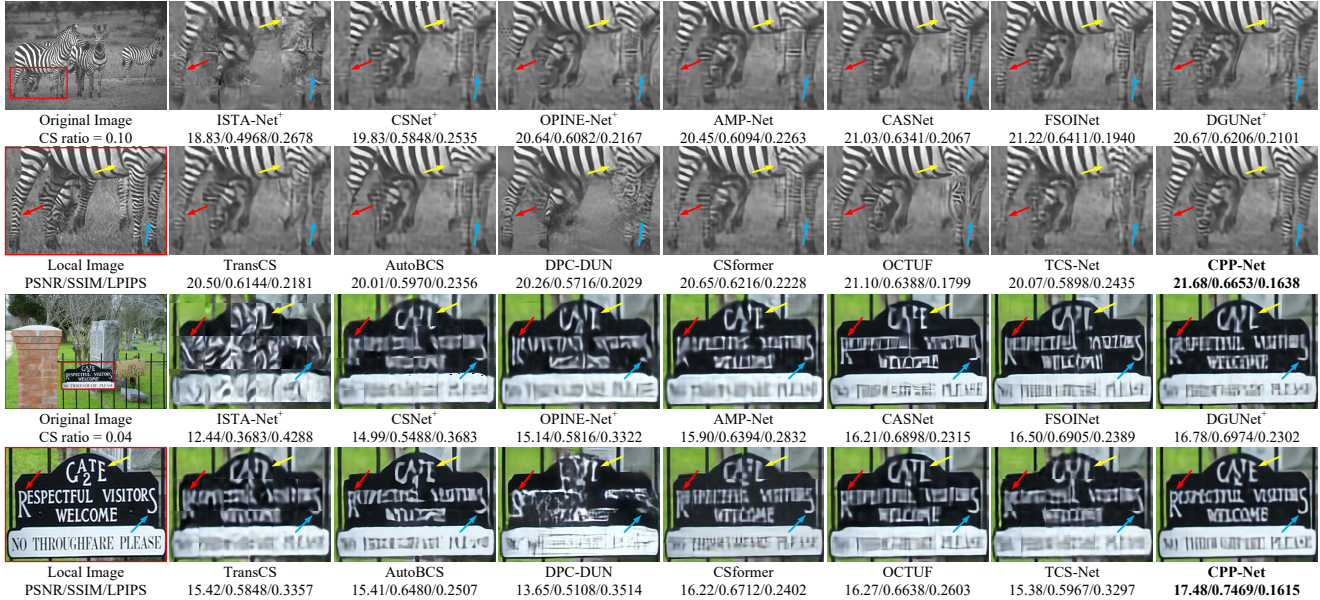


Figure 4. Comparisons of visual and corresponding PSNR (dB)/SSIM/LPIPS performance at CS ratios of 0.10 and 0.04. The arrows point to details in the reconstructed image for better comparison.

leads by around 0.0320 (4.02%), 0.0298 (3.73%), 0.0753 (10.00%), 0.0162 (1.99%), and 0.0572 (7.42%). Furthermore, visual comparisons of the reconstructed image details are presented in Fig. 4. These comparisons reveal that images reconstructed by CPP-Net exhibit a notable reduction in block artifacts, a common issue observed in ISTA-Net⁺ [41], CSNet⁺ [28], DGUNet⁺ [24], TransCS [27], CSformer, and TCS-Net. Moreover, these competing methods, *e.g.*, AMP-Net [46], CASNet [7], FSOINet [8], DGUNet⁺, DPC-DUN, CSformer and OCTUF, exhibit susceptibility to blurring and the omission of fine image details, leading to compromised visual perception and overall image quality. Conversely, CPP-Net’s reconstructed images showcase a superior preservation of fine image details, thereby delivering an enhanced visual experience, higher human perception quality and overall image quality. Furthermore, detailed experimental settings and more comparisons can be found in *Supplementary Material* (Sec. 3.1 and Sec. 3.2).

4.2. Ablation Studies

In this part, we conducted the ablation studies to investigate the impact of the number of stages and the effectiveness of the different components of our proposed CPP-Net.

Table 2. The impact of different number of iterative reconstruction stages in our CPP-Net on Set14 at a CS ratio of 0.25.

Stages	3	5	7	8 (default)	9
PSNR/SSIM	33.65/0.9301	34.21/0.9326	34.27/0.9332	34.41/0.9336	34.46/0.9338

Number of stages. We investigated the impact of the

number of reconstruction stages in CPP-Net, specifically 3, 5, 7, 8 (the default setting) and 9 stages, to explore the benefits associated with different stage counts. As shown in Tab. 2, we observe a direct correlation between the number of stages and the performance, highlighting the efficacy of our iterative network design. As a result, we choose eight stages as the default configuration, as it strikes a balanced compromise between model complexity and performance.

Table 3. Ablation studies of different components in CPP-Net. ✓ and ✗ represent the inclusion and exclusion of the component, respectively. DS represents the downsampling operations, US is the upsampling operations, RB denotes the residual block with two 3×3 convolutions and GELU in between, and Shared denotes the parameters sharing in the reconstruction stages.

Cases	STRes	DS	US	DCAB	RB	MSTB	IFS	Shared
Net-1	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Net-2	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Net-3	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
Net-4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Net-5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
Net-6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
CPP-Net	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗

Different components. We conducted ablation experiments to assess the individual components within our CPP-Net. The experimental cases are detailed in Tab. 3, and the corresponding results are summarized in Tab. 4. Our results show that the inclusion of DPFb (*i.e.*, STRes, DS, US, DCAB, MSTB) and IFS leads to progressive improvements of our method’s performance. The default CPP-Net out-

performs other cases and alternatives, achieving the highest PSNR and SSIM, while Net-5 ranks second except on Urban100.

Table 4. Comparisons of average PSNR (dB)/SSIM, parameter counts and FLOPs for different methods at a CS ratio of 0.10.

Methods	Set11	Set14	LIVE29	General100	Urban100	Param.	FLOPs
Net-1	30.15/0.8955	28.95/0.8382	27.66/0.8228	32.10/0.9041	26.39/0.8373	1.31	76.17
Net-2	30.21/0.8969	28.98/0.8388	27.70/0.8236	32.16/0.9052	26.45/0.8390	1.34	76.19
Net-3	30.74/0.9063	29.44/0.8480	28.12/0.8349	32.55/0.9113	27.39/0.8621	21.61	243.52
Net-4	31.21/0.9132	29.83/0.8529	28.43/0.8404	33.12/0.9155	28.42/0.8784	11.69	114.82
Net-5	31.24/0.9134	29.88/0.8533	28.44/0.8409	33.13/0.9158	28.36/0.8779	9.13	114.88
Net-6	30.75/0.9064	29.50/0.8486	28.14/0.8353	32.57/0.9119	27.36/0.8623	2.60	153.47
CPP-Net	31.27/0.9135	29.93/0.8537	28.46/0.8414	33.16/0.9159	28.49/0.8801	12.31	153.47
CASNet	30.29/0.9005	29.37/0.8467	28.16/0.8338	32.78/0.9099	27.40/0.8606	16.90	205.24
DGUNet ⁺	30.93/0.9088	29.34/0.8455	28.27/0.8379	32.41/0.9073	28.01/0.8709	6.81	97.79
FSOINet	30.44/0.9018	29.35/0.8451	28.23/0.8359	32.70/0.9085	27.53/0.8627	0.64	17.19
Trans-CS	29.54/0.8877	28.81/0.8343	27.65/0.8195	31.39/0.8918	26.77/0.8418	1.49	25.86
AutoBCS	28.44/0.8827	28.00/0.8286	27.07/0.8184	30.76/0.8927	25.36/0.8242	2.01	20.11
CSformer	30.09/0.8925	28.79/0.8214	27.80/0.8148	31.60/0.8880	27.30/0.8483	6.65	21.04
DPC-DUN	29.42/0.8801	28.03/0.7950	26.83/0.7812	31.17/0.8716	26.96/0.8361	1.64	65.54
OCTUF	30.70/0.9030	29.47/0.8454	28.23/0.8345	32.77/0.9084	27.79/0.8621	0.40	21.51
TCS-Net	29.04/0.8834	28.19/0.8283	27.21/0.8165	29.90/0.8748	25.87/0.8291	0.52	7.03

4.3. Performance under Noise

We evaluated the performance of our CPP-Net under different levels of noise to show the robustness of our method. We first added Gaussian noise to the images of Set11 and then evaluated the performance of our CPP-Net under noisy images. As shown in Fig. 5, the performance of each method decreases as the variance increases, but CPP-Net still outperforms the other methods at all tested Gaussian noise levels. Besides, performance under salt-and-pepper noise is presented in the *Supplementary Material* (Sec. 3.3).

5. Extension to CS-MRI

Table 5. Average PSNR (dB)/SSIM performance comparisons of recent CS-MRI methods on Brain dataset using Pseudo Radial masks at different CS ratios.

Methods	0.05	0.10	0.20	Avg.
Zero-filled	24.20/0.5417	26.81/0.6030	30.41/0.7229	27.14/0.6225
DC-CNN [25]	30.81/0.8370	34.33/0.8957	38.43/0.9467	34.52/0.8931
RDN [32]	30.95/0.8421	34.38/0.8998	38.47/0.9474	34.60/0.8964
ISTA-Net ⁺ [41]	31.28/0.8547	34.62/0.9035	38.57/0.9478	34.82/0.9020
CDDN [48]	31.58/0.8513	34.67/0.9014	38.65/0.9476	34.97/0.9001
ADMM-CSNet [36]	31.37/0.8608	34.45/0.8985	38.52/0.9471	34.78/0.9021
HiTDUN [43]	32.72/0.8770	35.71/0.9179	39.27/0.9529	35.90/0.9159
CPP-Net	34.87/0.9176	36.61/0.9318	39.67/0.9559	37.05/0.9351

We expanded CPP-Net into the domain of CS-MRI, aiming to reconstruct magnetic resonance images from partial Fourier data. In this context, the sampling matrix Φ is defined by a partial Fourier transform matrix, specifically $\Phi = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{F}$. Here, \mathbf{S} represents a sub-sampling mask, and \mathbf{F} corresponds to the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT). To assess the performance, we utilized the same set of training and testing brain images as used in previous works [36, 41], using Pseudo Radial masks as \mathbf{S} . The results are summarized in Tab. 5. Notably, our CPP-Net consistently outper-

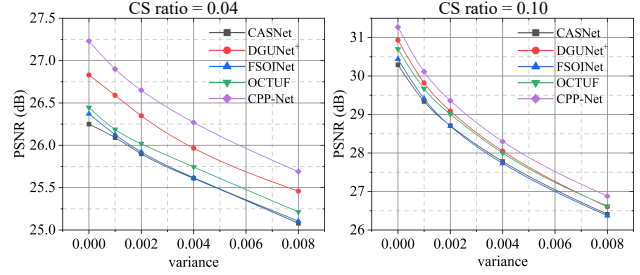


Figure 5. Comparisons of PSNR (dB) performance on Set11 at CS ratios of 0.04 and 0.10 under different Gaussian noise levels.

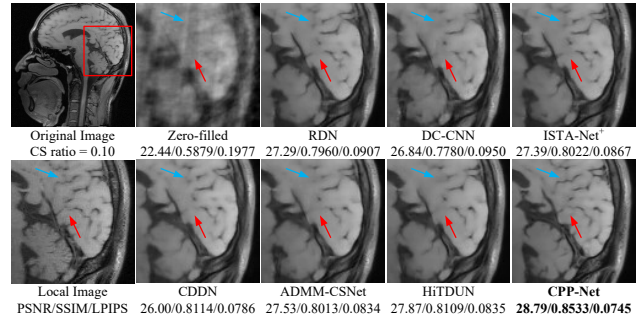


Figure 6. Comparisons of visual and corresponding PSNR (dB)/SSIM/LPIPS performance on Brain dataset using Pseudo Radial masks at a CS ratio of 0.10. The arrows point to details in the reconstructed image for better comparison.

forms other methods across all tested CS ratios. This superior performance is further illustrated in Fig. 6, emphasizing the CPP-Net’s capacity to capture richer details and provide superior image quality compared to alternative methods. Besides, additional CS-MRI experiments are presented in the *Supplementary Material* (Sec. 3.4).

6. Conclusion

In this paper, we propose CPP-Net, a novel deep unfolding framework inspired by CP-PPA. We then enhance the framework in two key aspects: with DPFb for multi-scale feature extraction and fusion, and IFS for information-weighted fusion across iterative reconstruction stages. Extensive experiments validate CPP-Net’s superior performance in preserving image details beyond current SOTA methods. Future work aims to extend CPP-Net to diverse tasks, e.g., image denoising, deraining and super-resolution.

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