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Thick Cloud Removal for Sentinel-2 Time-series Images via Combining Deep Prior and Low-Rank Tensor Completion

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<https://qzhang95.github.io>

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1 Background

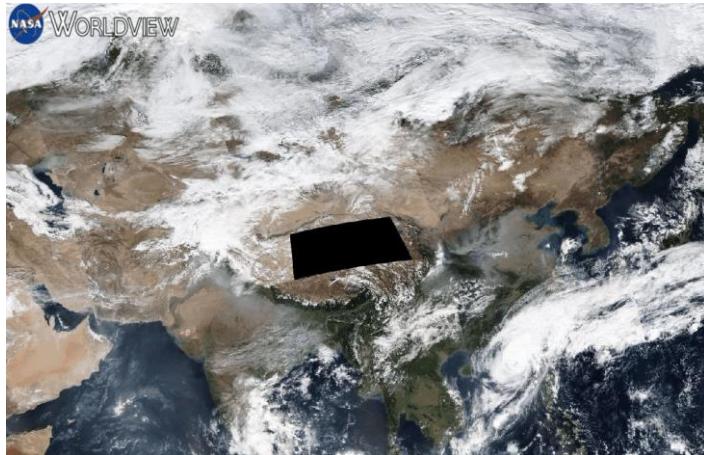
2 Methodology

3 Experiments

4 Conclusion

Background

Thick Cloud Removal



Thick Cloud Covering



Sentinel-2 MSI



GF-1 WVF

Thick cloud greatly
reduce data usability!

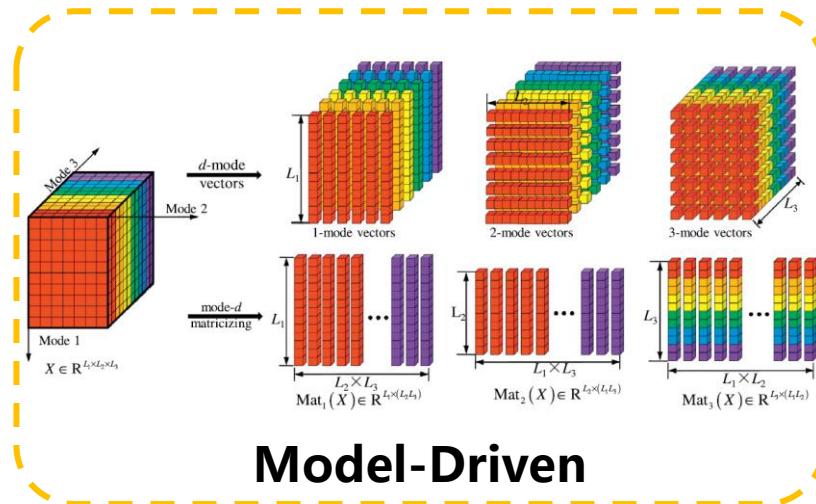


Multitemporal images
Thick Cloud Removal

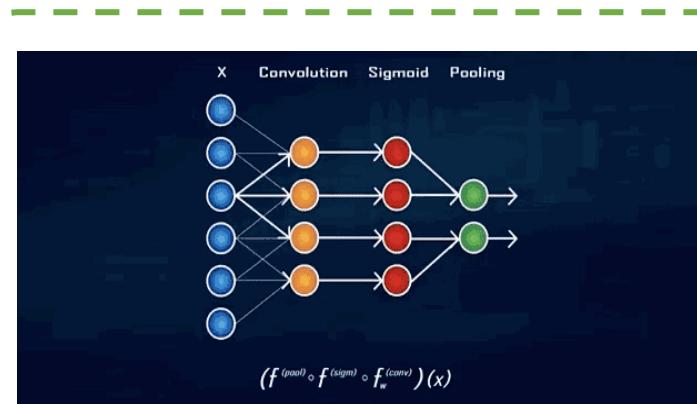
- **Model Driven Strategy:** Sparse, Low-rank, Non-local...
- **Data Driven Strategy:** Deep Learning based-methods...

Background

Motivations



Model-Driven



Data-Driven

- Inherent Characteristics
- Sensitive Parameter
- Complex Optimization

- Powerful Feature Expression
- Large Training Labels
- Overfitting Effects

Complementing Each Other for Thick Cloud Removal?

Model-Driven



Data-Driven



1 **Background**

2 **Methodology**

3 **Experiments**

4 **Conclusion**

Methodology

Notation & Preprocessing

Tensor: $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{r_1 \times r_2 \times r_3 \dots}$

Matrix: $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{r_1 \times r_2}$

Vector: $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{r_1}$

Time-series Cloudy Images



Getting Accurate
Cloud Location

Cloud Detection [1]

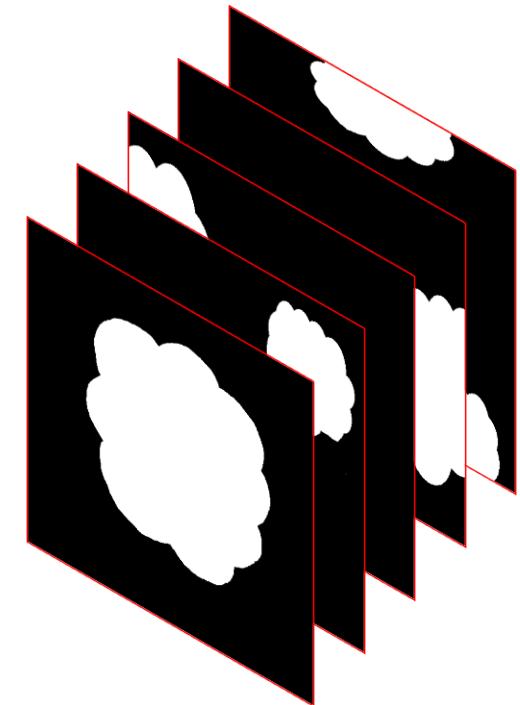


[1] Li et al., *ISPRS P&RS*, 2019.

$$\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{w \times h \times t}$$

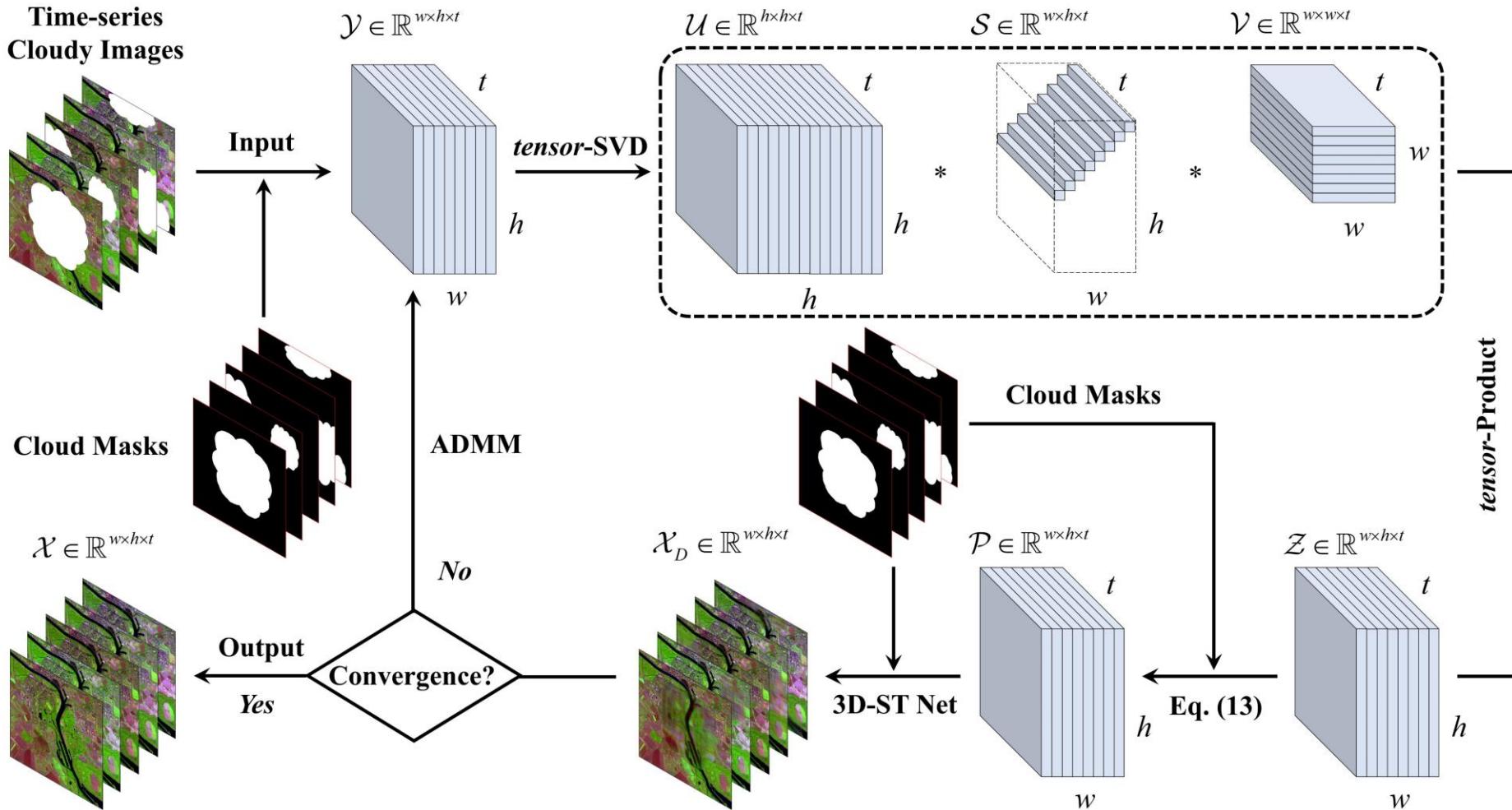
$$\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{w \times h \times t}$$

Cloud Masks



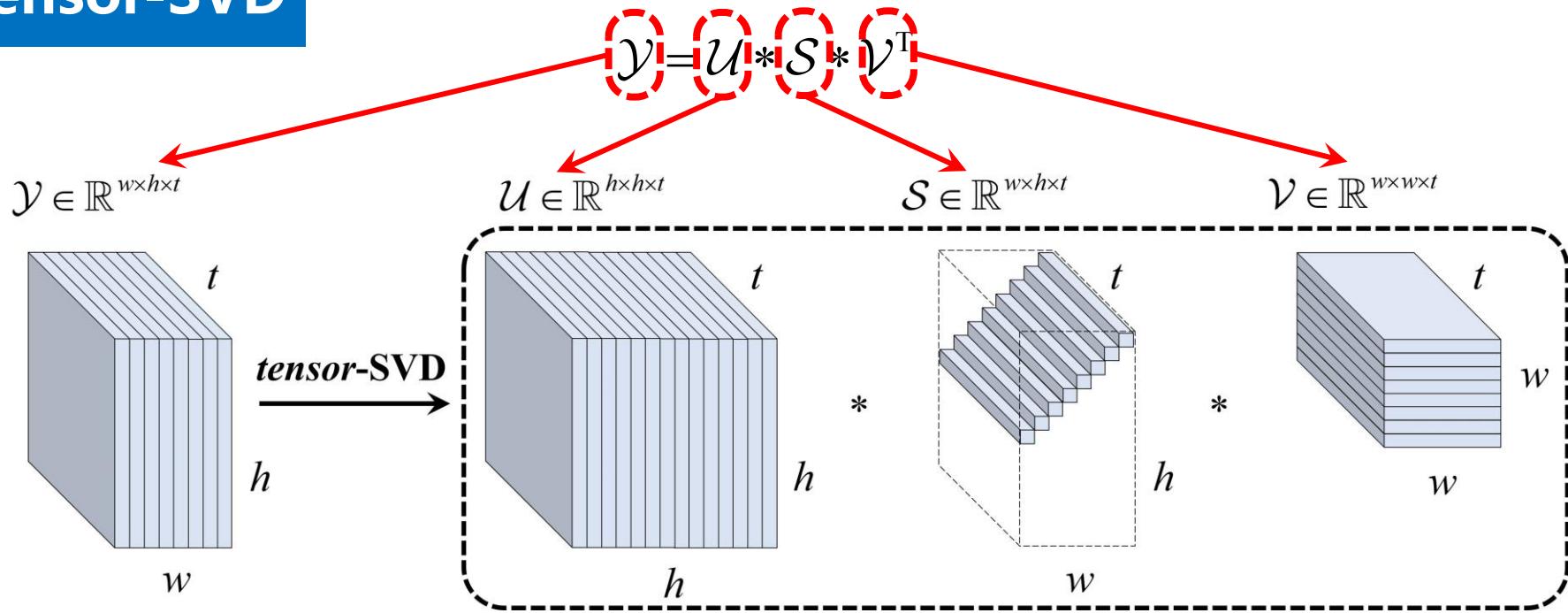
Methodology

Flowchart



Methodology

Tensor-SVD



$$(\mathbf{U}_i, \mathbf{S}_i, \mathbf{V}_i^T) = SVD(\mathbf{Y}_i) \rightarrow i = 1, 2, 3$$

$$r = rank_{tubal}(\mathcal{Y}) = \max(D(\bar{\mathbf{S}}_1), D(\bar{\mathbf{S}}_2), D(\bar{\mathbf{S}}_3))$$

Tensor Tubal Rank:

Maximum number of non-zero tubes

Simplified

FFT/IFFT

$$\bar{\mathcal{U}} = \mathcal{U}(:, 1:r, :)$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{S}} = \mathcal{S}(1:r, 1:r, :)$$

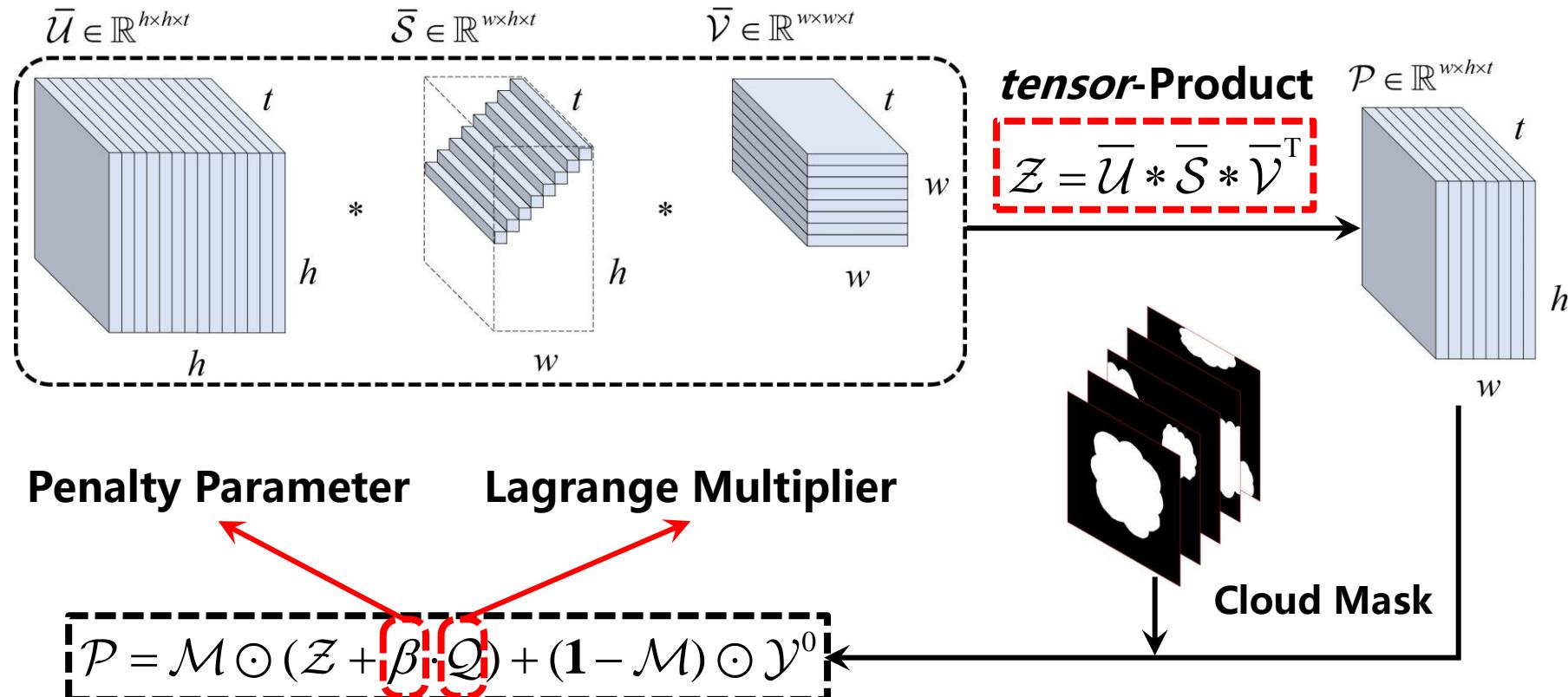
$$\bar{\mathcal{V}} = \mathcal{V}(:, 1:r, :)$$

Methodology

Tensor-Product

Definition of Tensor-Product:

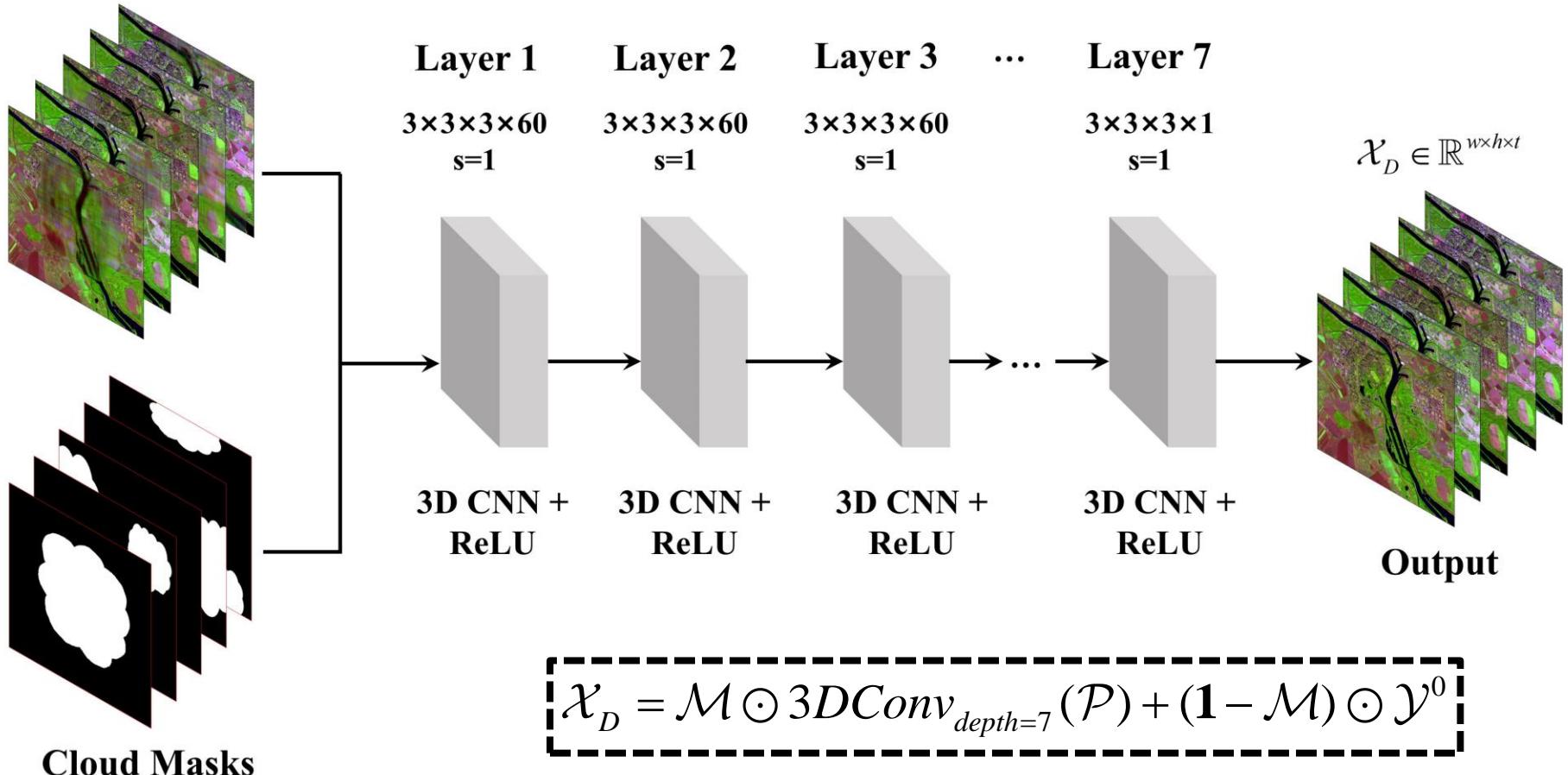
$$\mathcal{B}_3(i, j, :) = \mathcal{B}_1 \circledast \mathcal{B}_2 = \sum_{k=1}^{n_2} \mathcal{B}_1(i, k, :) \odot \mathcal{B}_2(k, j, :)$$



Methodology

Deep Spatio-Temporal Prior

$$\mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{w \times h \times t}$$



Cloud Masks

Methodology

Network Training

Jointly Global-Regional Loss:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mu_1 \cdot \mathcal{L}_g + \mu_2 \cdot \mathcal{L}_r + (1 - \mu_1 - \mu_2) \cdot \mathcal{L}_{TV}$$

Global Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_g = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left\| \mathcal{X}_D^{(n)} - \mathcal{X}^{(n)} \right\|_2^2$$

Local Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_r = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{sum(\mathcal{M}^{(n)})} \left\| \mathcal{M}^{(n)} \odot \mathcal{X}_D^{(n)} - \mathcal{M}^{(n)} \odot \mathcal{X}^{(n)} \right\|_2^2$$

TV Loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{TV} = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{i,j} \frac{1}{sum(\mathcal{M}^{(n)})} \sqrt{(\mathcal{X}_{D(i,j+1,:)}^{(n)} - \mathcal{X}_{D(i,j,:)}^{(n)})^2 + (\mathcal{X}_{D(i+1,j,:)}^{(n)} - \mathcal{X}_{D(i,j,:)}^{(n)})^2}$$

Methodology

ADMM Optimization

Algorithm 1 Combined Deep 3D Spatio-temporal Prior with Low-rank Tensor SVD for Thick Cloud Removal via ADMM

Input: Time-series cloudy images \mathcal{Y} , corresponding cloud masks \mathcal{M}

Initialization: $\mathcal{Y}^0 = (1 - \mathcal{M}) \odot \mathcal{Y}$, $\mathcal{X}_D^0 = \mathcal{Y}^0$, $\mathcal{Q}^0 = 0$, $\beta^0 = 0.02$, $\beta_{\max} = 1$, $\eta = 1.3$, $\varepsilon = 1e-5$,
 $k = 1$, $k_{\max} = 20$

- 1: **while** not converged and $k \leq k_{\max}$ **do**
- 2: Updating $\bar{\mathcal{U}}^k$, $\bar{\mathcal{S}}^k$, and $\bar{\mathcal{V}}^k$ via (7) to (11)
- 3: Updating \mathcal{Z}^k via (12)
- 4: Updating \mathcal{P}^k via (13)
- 5: Updating \mathcal{X}_D^k via (14)
- 6: Updating \mathcal{Y}^k , \mathcal{Q}^k , and β^k via (15), (16), and (17), respectively
- 7: If $\|\mathcal{X}_D^k - \mathcal{X}_D^{k-1}\|_F / \|\mathcal{X}_D^{k-1}\|_F < \varepsilon$, stop iteration
- 8: $k = k + 1$
- 9: **end while**

Output: The construction cloud-free result $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{X}_D^k$

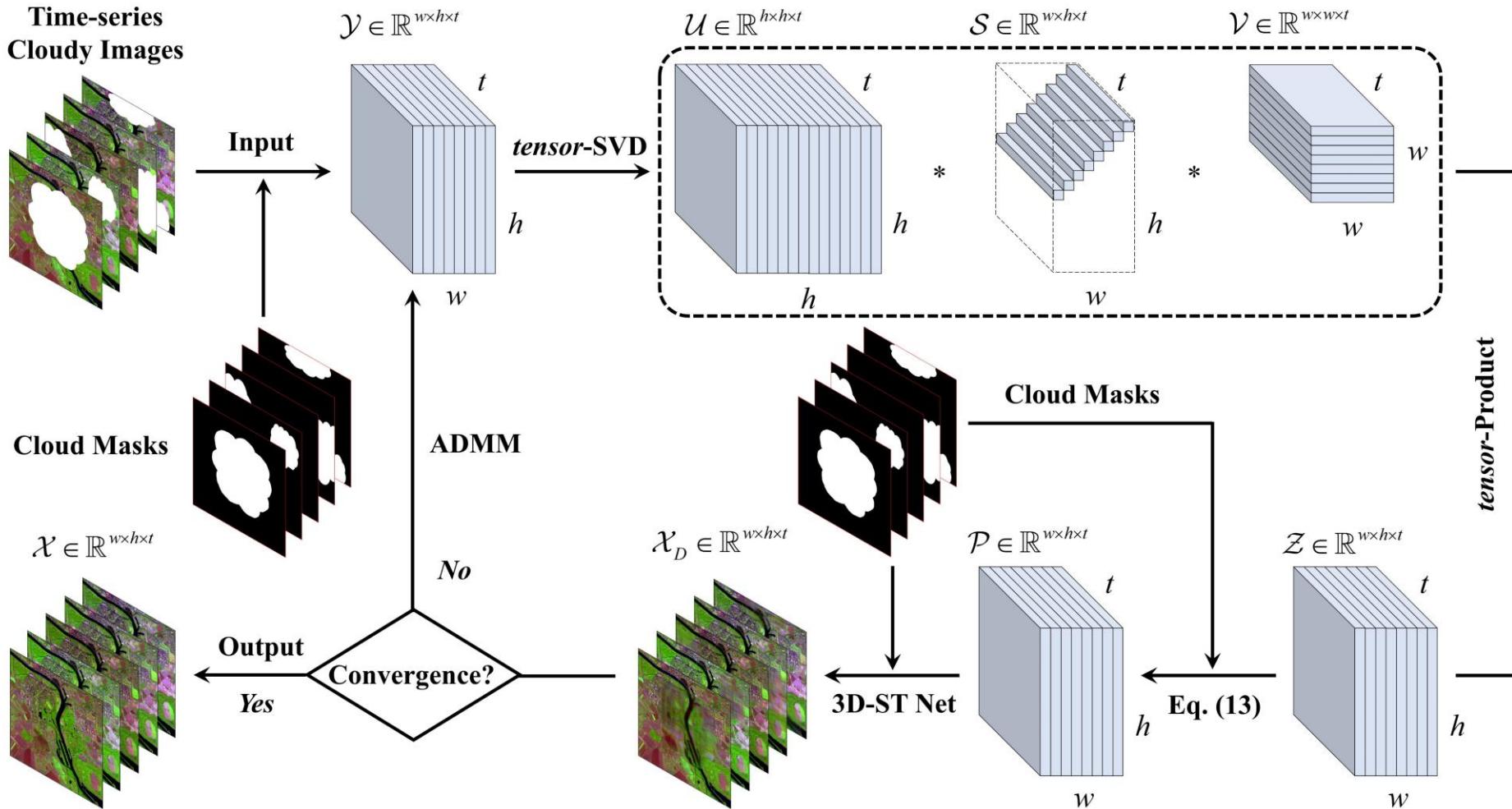
$$\boxed{\mathcal{Y}^k = \mathcal{X}_D^{k-1} - 1/\beta^{k-1} \cdot \mathcal{Q}^{k-1}}$$

$$\boxed{\mathcal{Q}^k = \mathcal{Q}^{k-1} + \beta^{k-1} \cdot (\mathcal{Y}^k - \mathcal{X}_D^k)}$$

$$\boxed{\beta^k = \min(\eta \cdot \beta^{k-1}, \beta_{\max})}$$

Methodology

Flowchart





1 **Background**

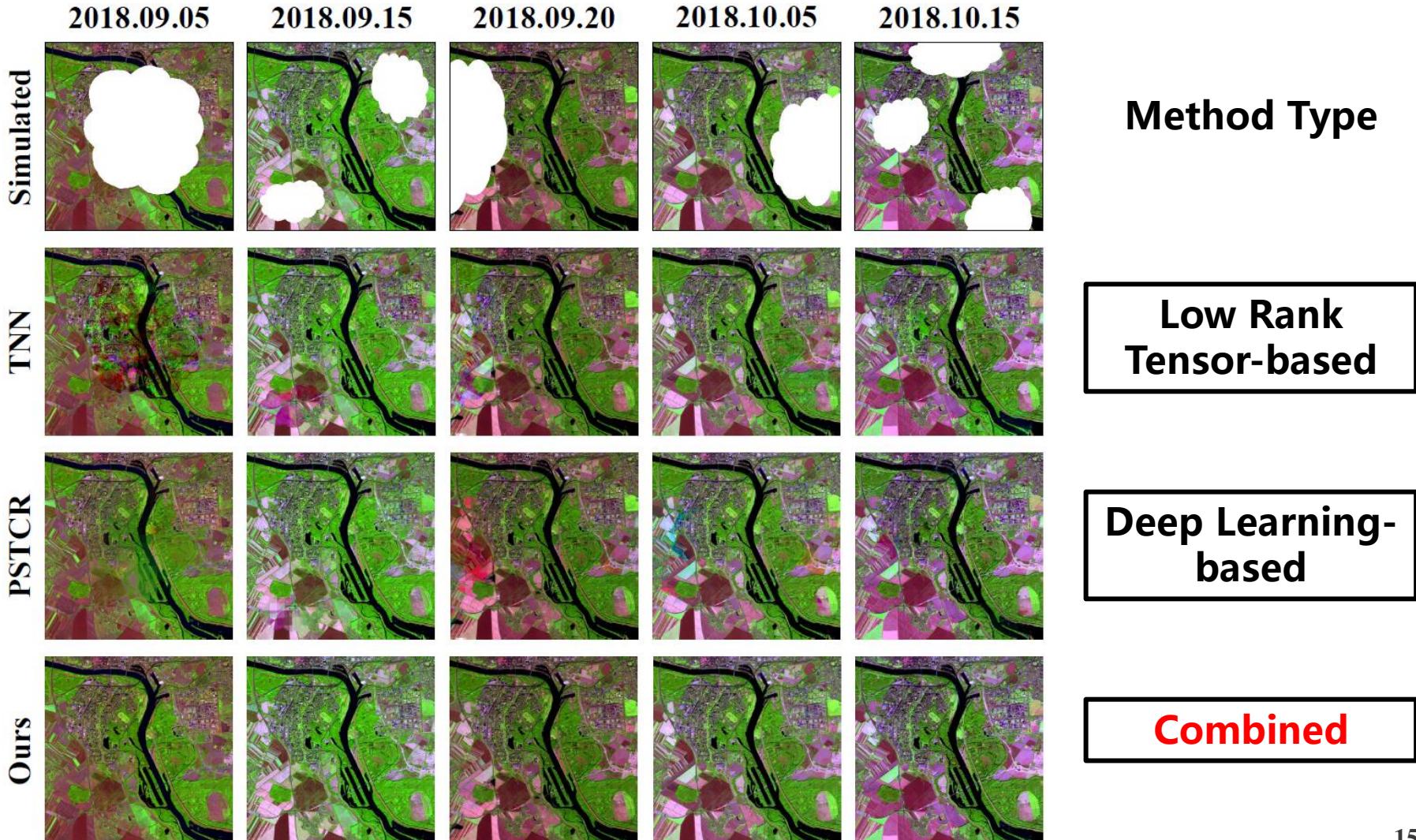
2 **Methodology**

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4 **Conclusion**

Experiments

Simulated Results (Sentinel-2 MSI)



Experiments

Evaluation Indexes

Evaluation indexes of Sentinel-2 MSI simulated experiments 1

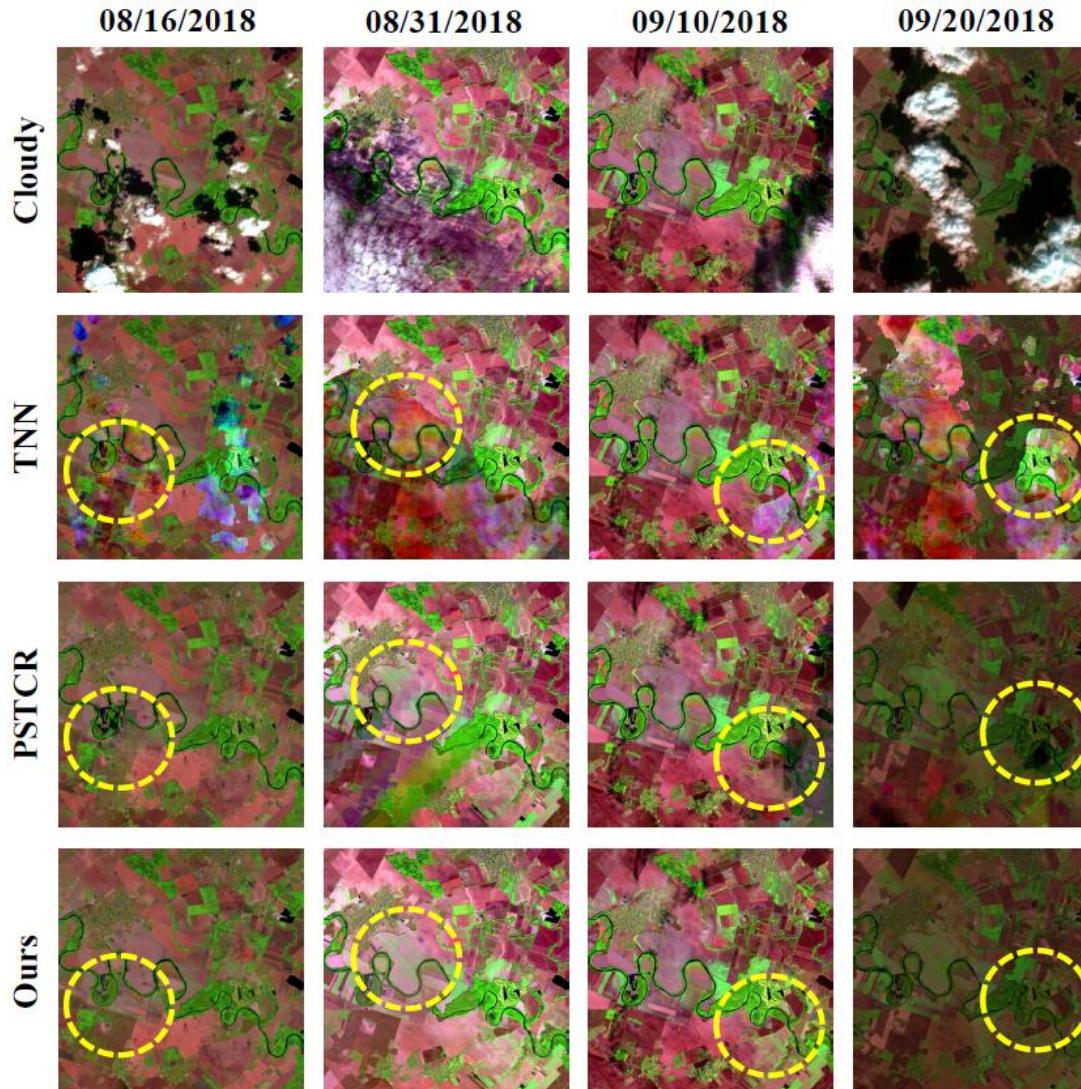
| Method | CC | SSIM | RMSE | SAM |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Cloudy | 0.6628 | 0.7845 | 0.1983 | 9.6431 |
| HaLRTC | 0.7857 | 0.8563 | 0.1246 | 6.2878 |
| TNN | 0.9553 | 0.9386 | 0.0571 | 1.4984 |
| PSTCR | 0.9648 | 0.9412 | 0.0509 | 1.2375 |
| Proposed | 0.9817 | 0.9658 | 0.0383 | 0.9424 |

Evaluation indexes of Sentinel-2 MSI simulated experiments 2

| Method | CC | SSIM | RSE | SAM |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Cloudy | 0.6448 | 0.7535 | 0.2129 | 8.2129 |
| HaLRTC | 0.7689 | 0.8346 | 0.1453 | 5.2369 |
| TNN | 0.9163 | 0.8826 | 0.0837 | 1.6856 |
| PSTCR | 0.9675 | 0.8943 | 0.0558 | 1.5294 |
| Proposed | 0.9842 | 0.9359 | 0.0426 | 1.1828 |

Experiments

Real Results (Sentinel-2 MSI)



Method Type

**Low Rank
Tensor-based**

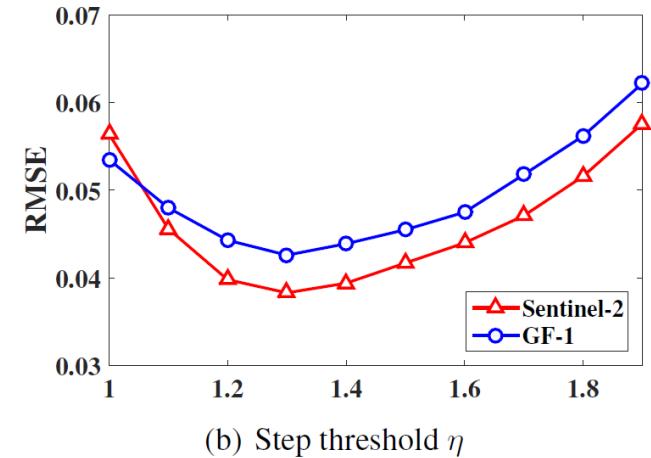
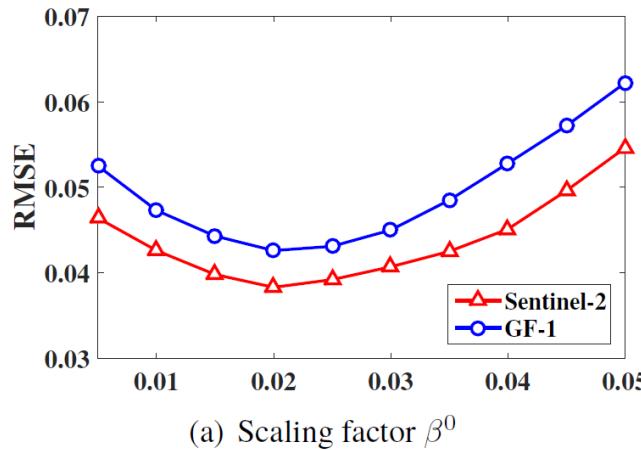
**Deep Learning-
based**

Combined

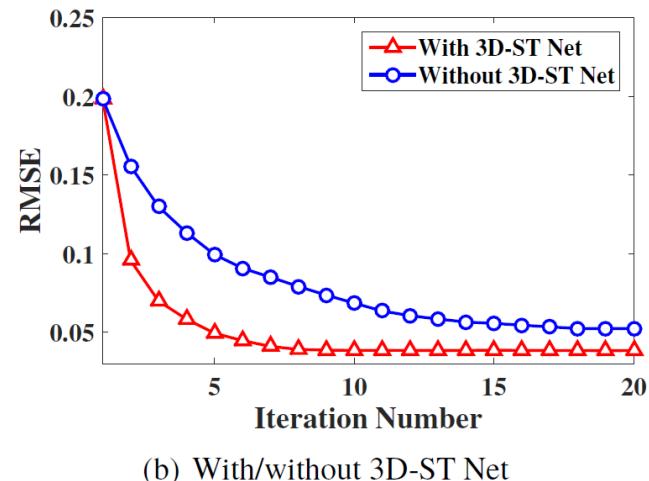
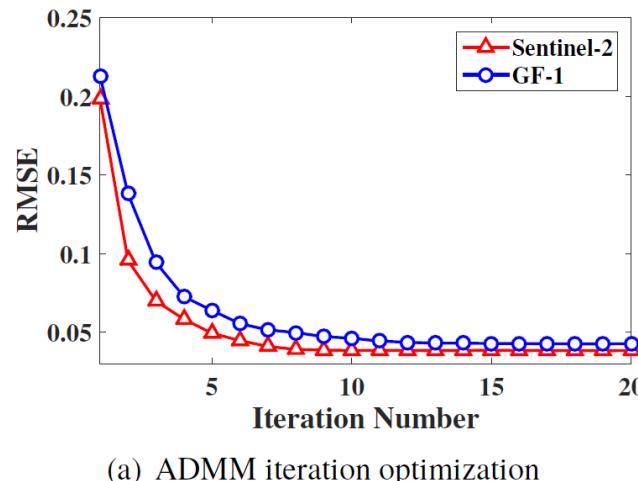
Experiments

Parameter Sensitivity

Scaling Factor & Step Threshold



ADMM & 3D-ST Net





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Conclusion

- Combining Deep Spatio-temporal Prior with Low-Rank Tensor SVD (DP-LRTSVD) for thick cloud removal in multitemporal images
- DP-LRTSVD jointly utilizes the low-rank characteristic and deep spatio-temporal prior under the ADMM optimization framework
- DP-LRTSVD can simultaneously deal with time-series cloudy Sentinel-2 images, without ensuring cloud-free image

We have released our time-series cloudy Sentinel-2 dataset (including cloud/shadow mask) at <https://qzhang95.github.io!>



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Code & Dataset

Thanks!

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<https://qzhang95.github.io>

LIESMARS, Wuhan University

