

# RIDGE LEVERAGE SCORES FOR LOW-RANK MATRIX APPROXIMATION

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Michael B. Cohen, Cameron Musco, Christopher Musco

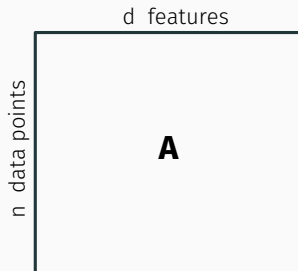
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

“Ridge Leverage Scores for Low-Approximation” =  
“Dimensionality Reduction for k-Means Clustering and  
Low-Rank Approximation”  
+  
“Uniform Sampling for Matrix Approximation”

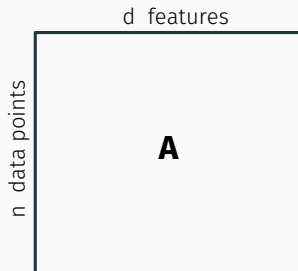
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Papers and slides available at [chrismusco.com](http://chrismusco.com).

# HOW TO DEAL WITH HUGE DATA SETS?

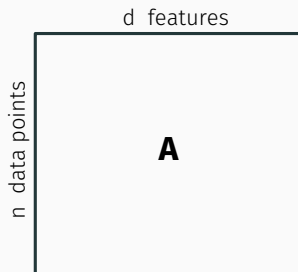


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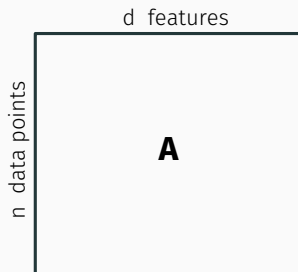
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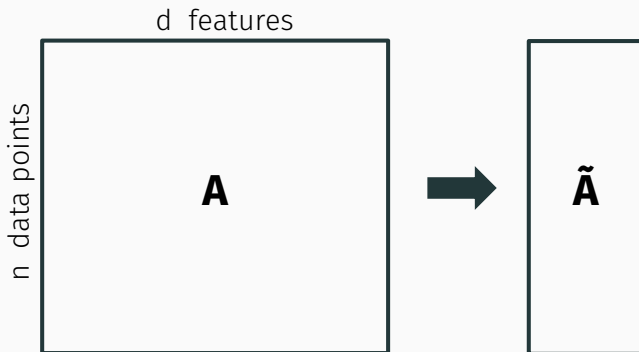
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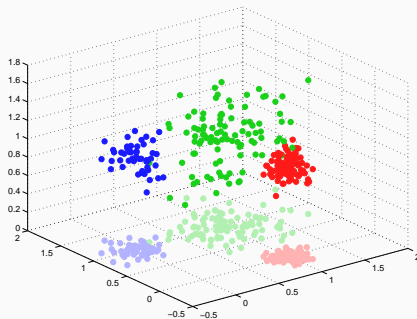
- computing power (MapReduce/Hadoop, Apache Spark, etc.)
- limited data access (iterative methods, stochastic methods)
- dimensionality reduction (“sketch-and-solve”)

Replace high dimensional data with low dimensional **sketch**.



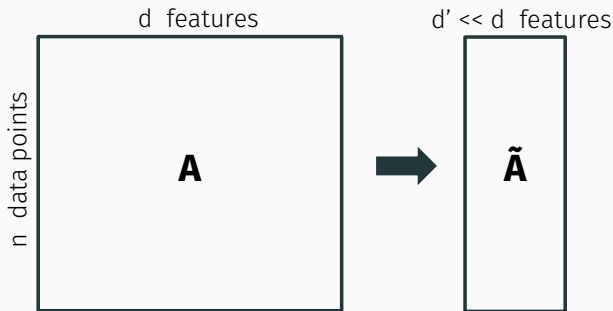


Solution on sketch  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  should approximate original solution.



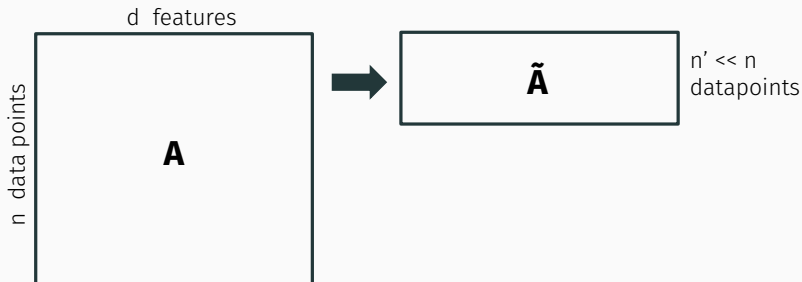
# DIMENSIONALITY REDUCTION

Reduce dimensionality of data points, not their number.



## DIMENSIONALITY REDUCTION (THE OTHER DIRECTION)

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$\tilde{A}$  is often called a **coreset**.

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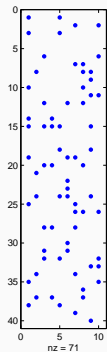
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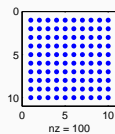
- **Johnson-Lindenstrauss projections** = super fast to apply, naturally adapts to streaming/distributed environments.
- **Deterministic methods (SVD, Frequent Directions)** = best data compression.
- **Data Selection/Sampling** = preserves structure and sparsity.

# SKETCHING BY SAMPLING

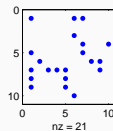
Original Data



General Sketch



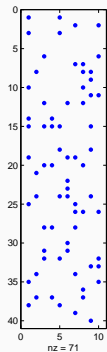
Data Sample



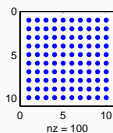


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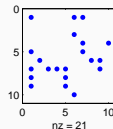
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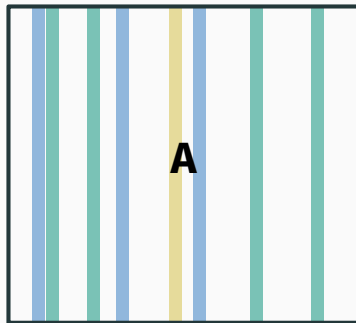
Sampling is also closely tied to understanding heuristic methods and has produced valuable theory.

Uniformly sampling data rarely works (imagine adding a bunch of all-zeros columns to **A**).



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2. These scores have been extended to sketches for low-rank approximation problems, but **not in a satisfying way**.
3. We give a more natural extension, via **Ridge Leverage Scores**. These scores lead to simple proofs and have a bunch of desirable properties and new applications.

## Definition (Subspace Embedding)

A sketch  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  such that, for all vectors  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\|\mathbf{x}^T \tilde{\mathbf{A}}\| = (1 \pm \epsilon) \|\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}\|$ .



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- Spectral sparsifiers for fast approximate graph algorithms.

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Let's think about subspace embeddings as approximating the quadratic form  $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T$ .



The diagram illustrates the multiplication of a matrix  $A$  and its transpose  $A^T$ . Matrix  $A$  is represented by a horizontal rectangle, and matrix  $A^T$  is represented by a vertical rectangle. An equals sign is placed between them, followed by a square representing the resulting product matrix  $AA^T$ . To the right of this equation, there is an empty square box, likely intended for a diagram of the resulting matrix's structure.

$$A \quad A^T = AA^T$$

# QUADRATIC FORM SAMPLING

The diagram illustrates the process of sampling a quadratic form. It shows a matrix  $A$  with its first column highlighted in blue and labeled  $a_1$ . This column is multiplied by the first row of the transpose matrix  $A^T$ , which is also highlighted in blue and labeled  $a_1^T$ . The result is a blue square representing the outer product  $a_1 a_1^T$ , which is equal to the first element of the matrix product  $AA^T$ .

$$A \begin{matrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \end{matrix} = a_1 a_1^T = AA^T$$

# QUADRATIC FORM SAMPLING

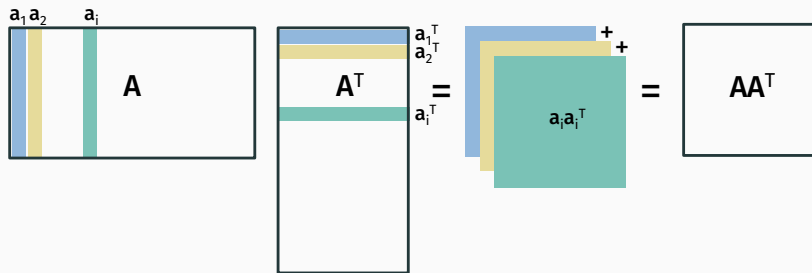
The diagram illustrates the quadratic form sampling process. It shows a sequence of operations:

- A matrix  $A$  is multiplied by a vector  $a_1 a_2$  (represented by a blue and yellow vertical bar) to produce a vector  $A^T$  (represented by a blue and yellow horizontal bar).
- The vector  $A^T$  is then multiplied by a matrix  $a_2 a_2^T$  (represented by a blue and yellow L-shaped block) to produce the final result  $AA^T$  (represented by a square block).

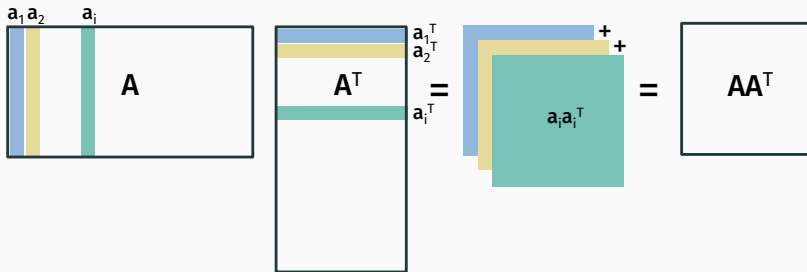
The equation is represented as:

$$A \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1^T \\ a_2^T \end{bmatrix} = AA^T$$

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$$AA^T = \sum_{i=1}^d a_i a_i^T$$

**Sampling Scheme:** For any set of sampling probabilities  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_d$  include column  $\mathbf{a}_i$  in  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  with probability  $p_i$  and reweight the column by  $\frac{1}{p_i}$ .

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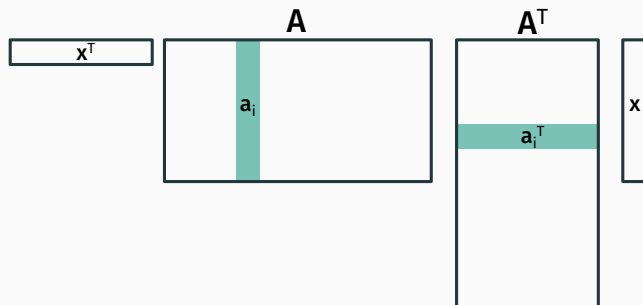
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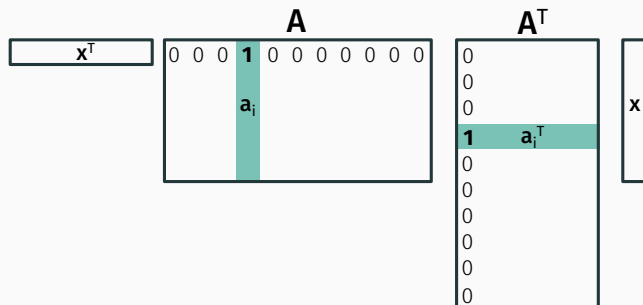
How to get good concentration?

Need to select more “unique” columns with higher probability.



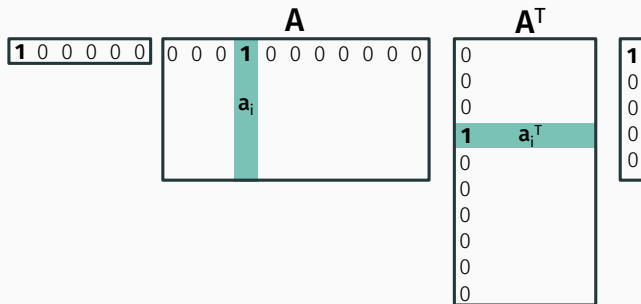
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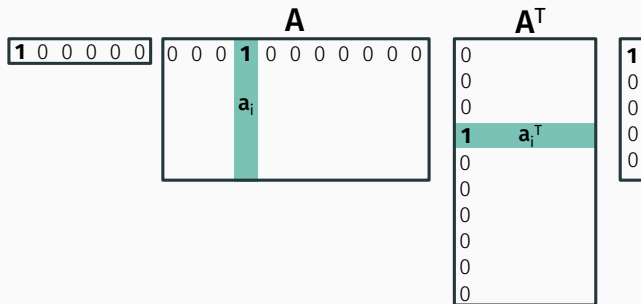
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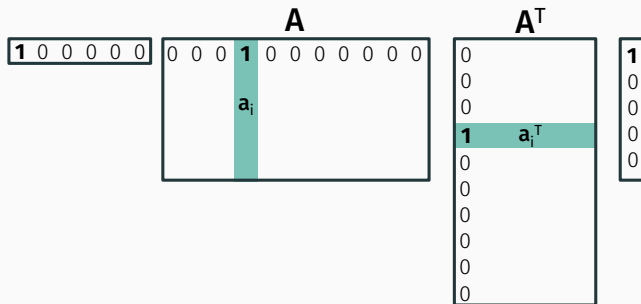
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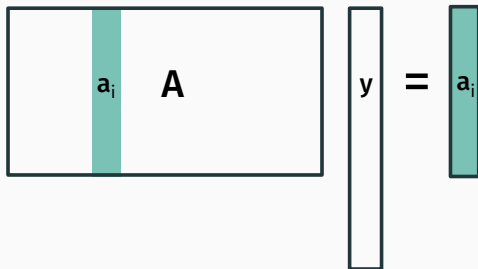
$\mathbf{x}^T \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^T \mathbf{x}$  cannot equal  $(1 \pm \epsilon) \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x}$ .

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**Definition (Leverage Score,  $\tau$ )**

$$\tau(\mathbf{a}_i) = \min \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 \text{ such that } \mathbf{a}_i = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$$

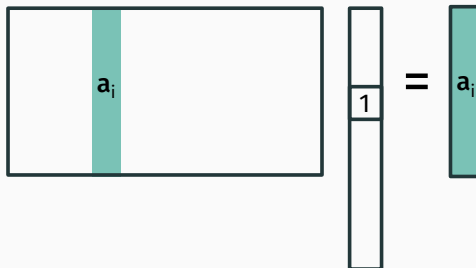




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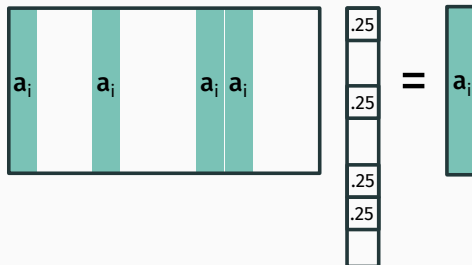


$\tau(\mathbf{a}_i) \leq 1$  since we can choose  $\mathbf{y}$  to be the  $i^{\text{th}}$  basis vector.

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If more columns align with  $\mathbf{a}_i$ ,  $\tau(\mathbf{a}_i)$  decreases.

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More specifically, to get a subspace embedding, we sample each column  $\mathbf{a}_i$  with probability  $\tau(\mathbf{a}_i) \cdot \frac{\log n}{\epsilon^2}$ .



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We're approximating  $\mathbf{A}$  with a sum of (binary) random matrices:

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p_i} \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{a}_i^T & \text{with probability } p_i \\ \mathbf{0} & \text{with probability } (1 - p_i) \end{cases}$$

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“User-friendly tail bounds for sums of random matrices”,  
Joel Tropp

## FINAL SUBSPACE EMBEDDING THEOREM

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \mathbf{x}^T \text{---} \\ \text{---} \mathbf{\tilde{A}} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 2 \end{array} = (1 \pm \epsilon) \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \mathbf{x}^T \text{---} \\ \text{---} \mathbf{A} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 2 \end{array}$$

$\tilde{O}(n)$

### Theorem (Subspace Embedding via Sampling)

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## FINAL SUBSPACE EMBEDDING THEOREM

$$\begin{matrix} \text{---} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}^T} & \text{---} & \boxed{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}} & \text{---} \\ & n & & \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{\tilde{O}(n)} & \\ & & & 2 & \end{matrix} = (1 \pm \epsilon) \begin{matrix} \text{---} & \boxed{\mathbf{x}^T} & \text{---} & \boxed{\mathbf{A}} & \text{---} \\ & n & & & \\ & & & 2 & \end{matrix}$$

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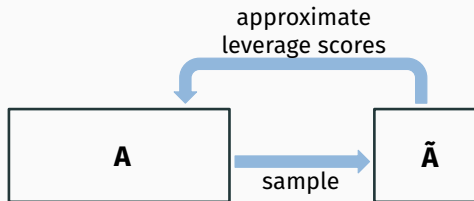
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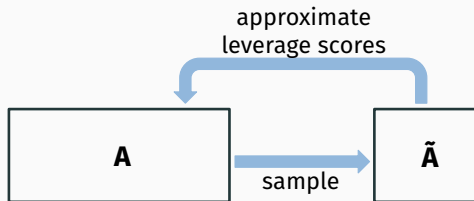
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Fortunately, leverage scores are very **robust** – they can be estimated using very weak approximations to  $\mathbf{A}$ .



Can even be computed in a single pass over  $\mathbf{A}$ 's columns!

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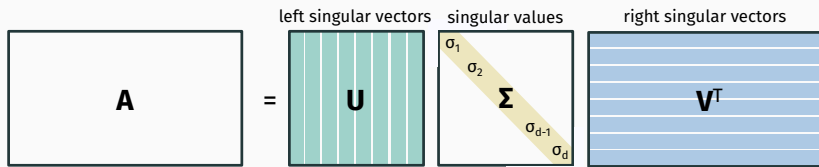
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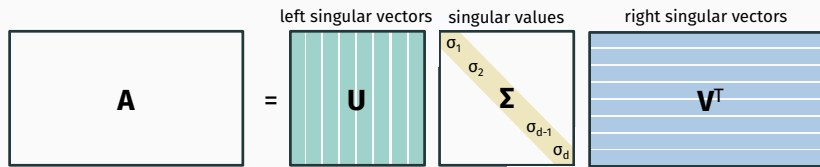
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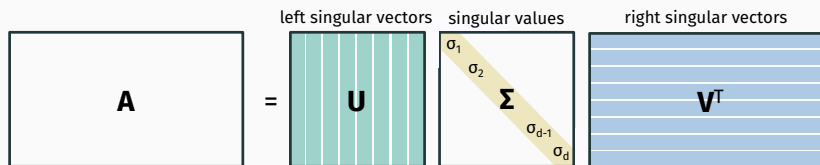
There are many generalizations and modifications of leverage scores.

Extensions to **low-rank** problems have been especially popular.





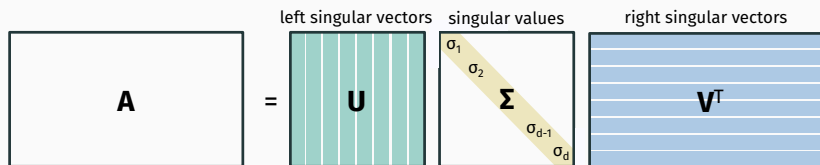
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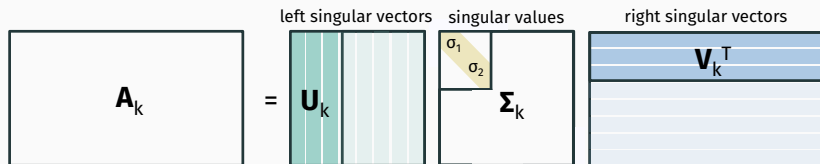
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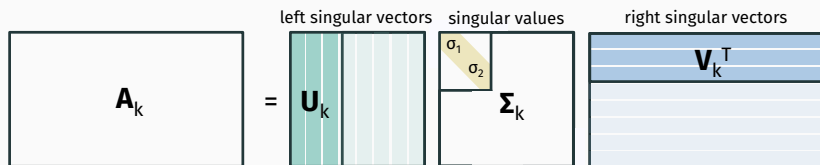


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In these cases, we should be able to obtain smaller sketches – i.e.  $O(k)$  instead of  $O(n)$ .

Find low-rank matrix close to **A**.

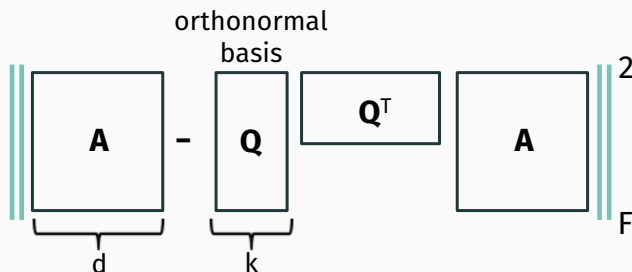
Find low-rank matrix close in Frobenius norm to  $\mathbf{A}$ .

The diagram illustrates the Frobenius norm distance between a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and its rank- $k$  approximation  $\mathbf{A}_k$ . It features two square boxes, one labeled  $\mathbf{A}$  on the left and one labeled  $\mathbf{A}_k$  on the right, with a minus sign between them. To the left of the  $\mathbf{A}$  box are three vertical teal lines. To the right of the  $\mathbf{A}_k$  box are three vertical teal lines. A superscript 2 is positioned above the rightmost teal line, and a subscript  $F$  is positioned below it, indicating the Frobenius norm squared.

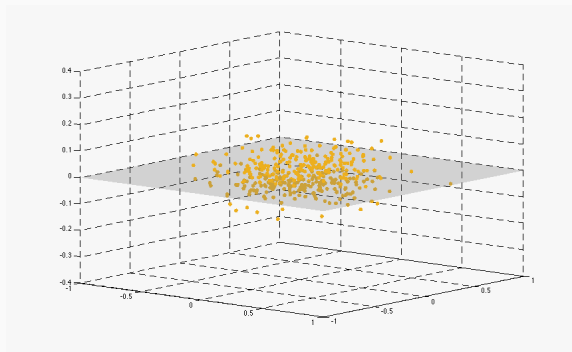
$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2$$

rank  $k$

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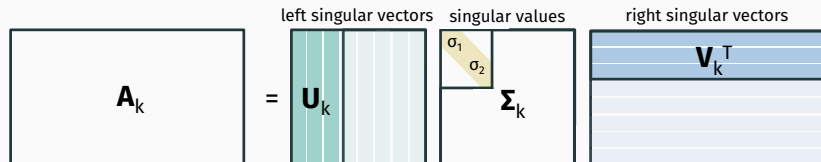


$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 = \text{sum of squared distances to hyperplane spanned by } \mathbf{Q}.$

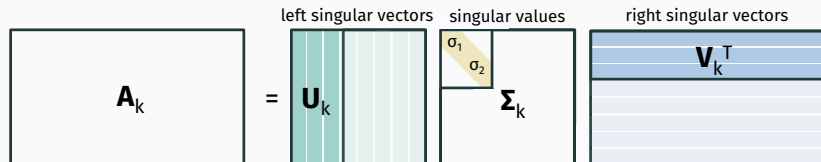
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Set  $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{U}_k$ , i.e. to the top  $k$  singular vectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

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- **k-means clustering** (see slides on my website)



In either case, we need to capture information about  $\mathbf{A}$ 's top singular vectors only.

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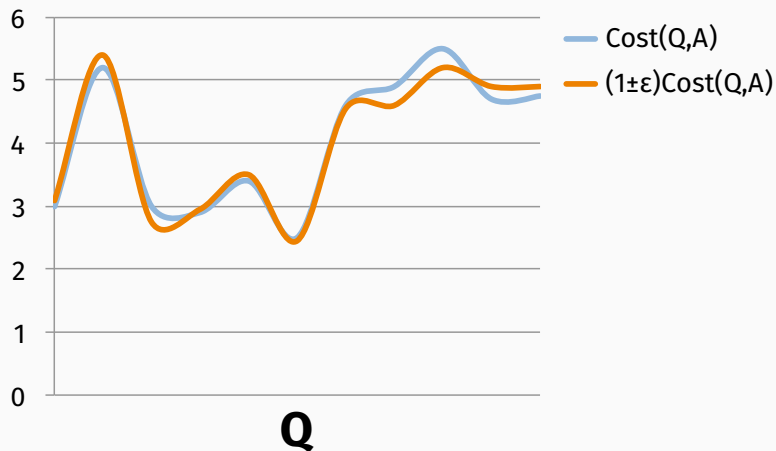
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## PROJECTION COST PRESERVATION



$$\|\tilde{A} - QQ^T \tilde{A}\|_F^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon) \|A - QQ^T A\|_F^2$$

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But we would get a sketch with too many samples:  
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[Drineas, Mahoney, Muthukrishnan '08, and Sarlós '06]

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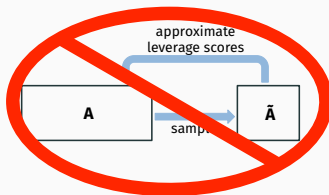
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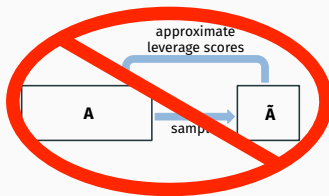
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2. The scores cannot be computed in a data stream.

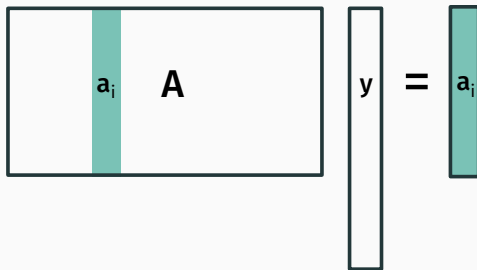


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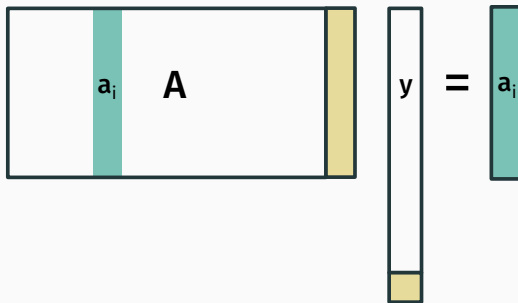
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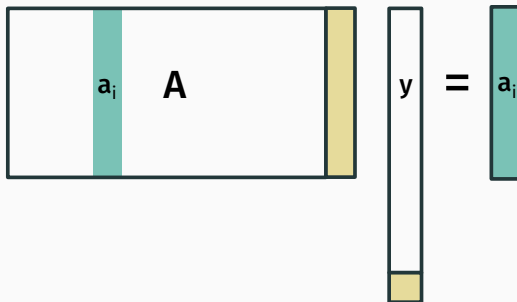
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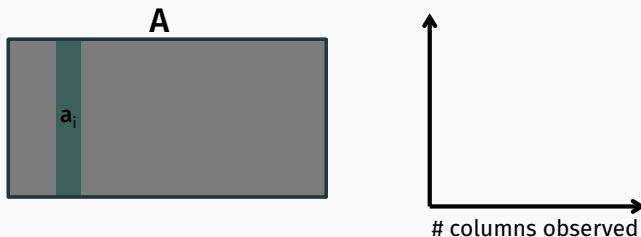
For standard leverage scores, adding a column to  $A$  can only **decrease** the importance of existing columns.

### Streaming setup:

Receive columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  one-by-one. Reject each with probability depending on its (low-rank) leverage score with respect to the columns seen so far [Kelner, Levin '11].

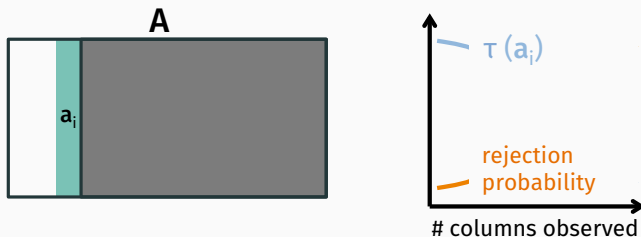
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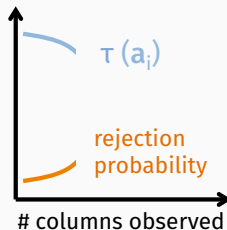
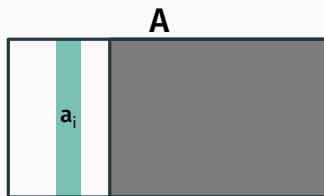
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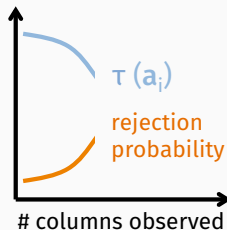
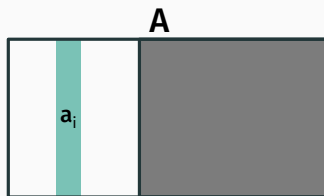
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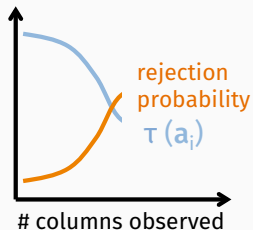
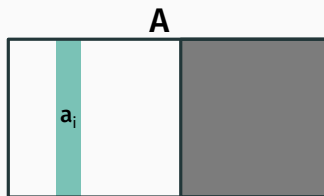
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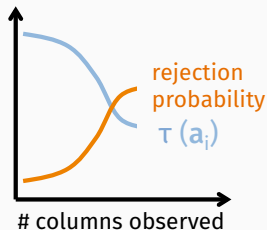
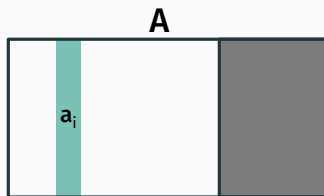
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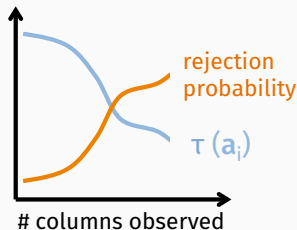
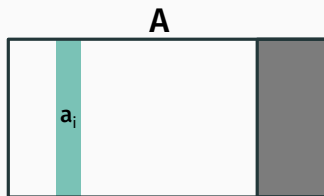
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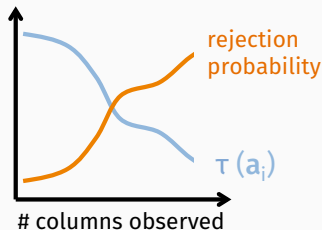
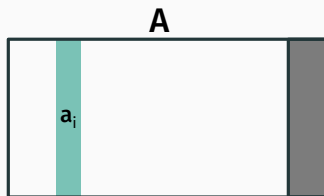
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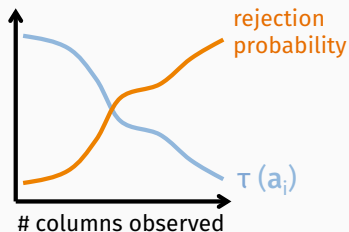
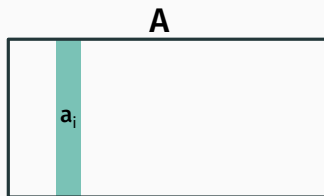
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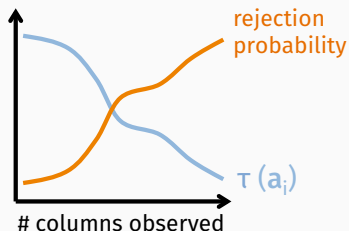
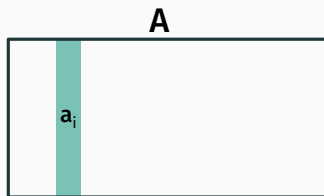
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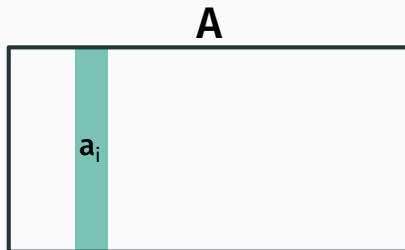
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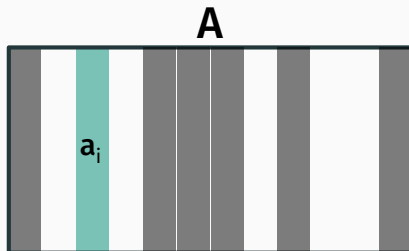
Rejection probability only decreases, so we never delete a column with too high of probability.

**Iterative Leverage Score Sampling:** Monotonicity is essential because it ensures that a **uniform subsample** of columns can at least be used to find upper bounds for leverage scores.  
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0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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<b>A</b>														<b><math>\mathbf{u}_1</math></b>	
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Why aren't prior low-rank leverage scores monotonic?

They depend on  $(\mathbf{A}_k \mathbf{A}_k)^{-1}$ , which is inherently **unstable**.

<b>A</b>														<b><math>\mathbf{u}_1</math></b>
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Adding a column could cause  $\mathbf{a}_i^T (\mathbf{A}_k \mathbf{A}_k)^{-1} \mathbf{a}_i$  to drop significantly.

Here  $\mathbf{a}_1^T (\mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{A}_1)^{-1} \mathbf{a}_1 \implies 0$ .

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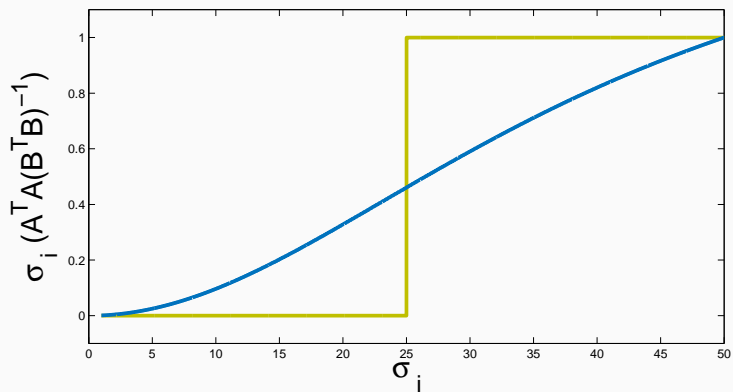
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$$\sigma_i (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1}) = \frac{\sigma_i^2}{\sigma_i^2 + \lambda}$$

Relatively “gentle” soft step:



We can “wash out” the importance of columns by computing leverage scores over  $\mathbf{A}$  with an identity appended:

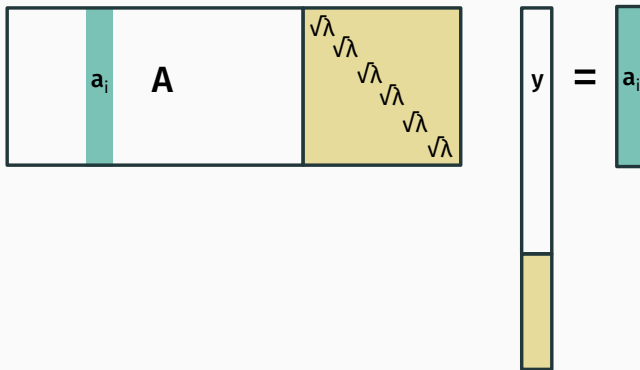
We can “wash out” the importance of columns by computing leverage scores over  $\mathbf{A}$  with an identity appended:

The diagram illustrates the process of computing leverage scores by appending an identity matrix to matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ . On the left, a large rectangle represents the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ . A vertical teal bar is positioned on the left side of  $\mathbf{A}$ , labeled  $\mathbf{a}_i$ , representing the  $i$ -th column of  $\mathbf{A}$ . To the right of this bar is the label  $\mathbf{A}$ . Further to the right, a vertical white bar is labeled  $\mathbf{y}$ . An equals sign follows, and then another vertical teal bar is labeled  $\mathbf{a}_i$ , representing the  $i$ -th column of the identity matrix. This visualizes the equation  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{a}_i$ , where  $\mathbf{y}$  is the vector of leverage scores and  $\mathbf{a}_i$  is the  $i$ -th column of the augmented matrix  $[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}]$ .



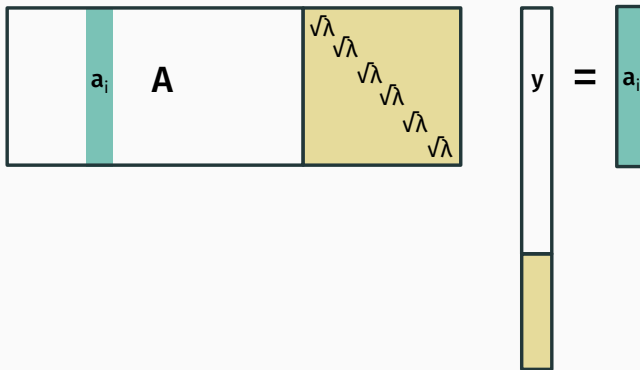
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Effect is weaker when  $\mathbf{a}_i$  aligns with large singular vectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

### Theorem (Ridge Leverage Score Sampling)

*With  $\lambda$  set to  $\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2/k$ , sampling  $O(k \log k/\epsilon^2)$  columns by ridge leverage score produces an  $\epsilon$  error projection cost preserving sketch with high probability.*

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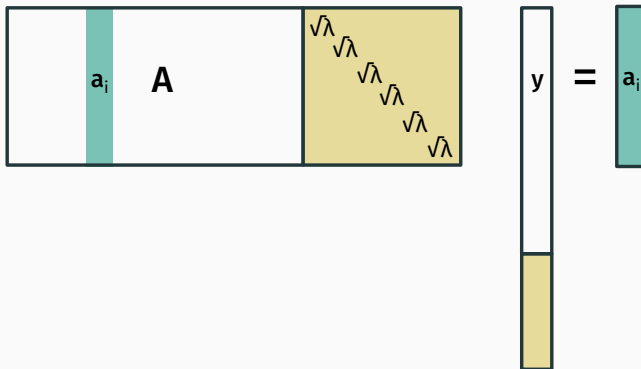
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Furthermore,  $(\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2/k)$ -ridge leverage scores are monotonic with respect to column additions.

## MONOTONICITY OF RIDGE LEVERAGE SCORES



Since  $\lambda = \|A - A_k\|_F^2$  can only increase as columns are added to  $A$ , this perspective immediately implies that ridge leverage scores are monotonic.

With  $\lambda$  set to  $\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2/k$ , sampling by ridge leverage score produces a sketch  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  such that:

$$(1 - \epsilon)\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^T - \epsilon\frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k}\mathbf{I} \preceq \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T \preceq (1 + \epsilon)\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^T + \epsilon\frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k}\mathbf{I}$$

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Multiplicative error of a **subspace embedding**.



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Multiplicative error of a **subspace embedding**.

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Both are known to give projection cost preserving sketches.  
Handling both errors simultaneously is tedious, but not hard.

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$$\|\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^T\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\|_F^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon)\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{A}\|_F^2$$

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Sum of vector products with  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ . Each preserved to within a  $(1 \pm \epsilon)$  factor, so the entire sum is as well.

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Dealing with rank  $k$  operators ( $\mathbf{Q}$  is rank  $k$ ), so we only pay the additive error  $k$  times.

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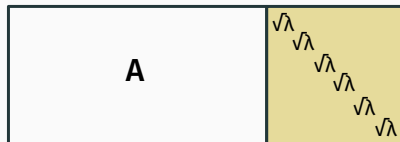
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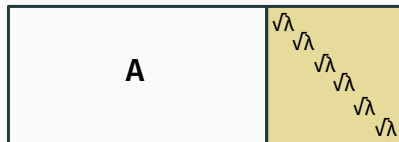
Since  $\mathbf{A}_k$  is a better low-rank approximation than any  $\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{A}$ .

$$(1 - \epsilon)\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^T - \epsilon \frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k} \mathbf{I} \preceq \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T \preceq (1 + \epsilon)\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^T + \epsilon \frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k} \mathbf{I}$$

Proof follows directly from our “appending an identity” view!



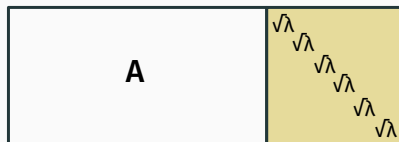
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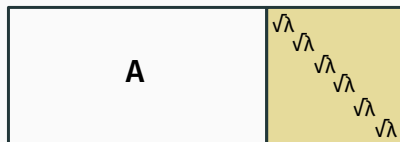
1. Leverage score sampling clearly works if we set  $p_i > \frac{\log n}{\epsilon} \tau_i$ .





**Proof:**

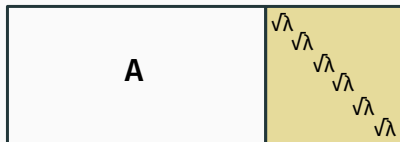
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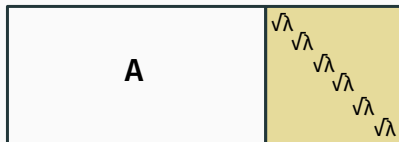
$$(1 - \epsilon)\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^T \preceq \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T + \lambda\mathbf{I} \preceq (1 + \epsilon)\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^T$$



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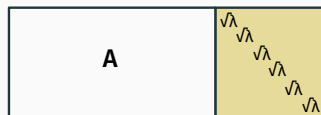
$$(1 - \epsilon)\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^T \preceq \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T + \lambda\mathbf{I} \preceq (1 + \epsilon)\mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^T$$
4.  $(1 - \epsilon)(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^T + \lambda\mathbf{I}) \preceq \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T + \lambda\mathbf{I} \preceq (1 + \epsilon)(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^T + \lambda\mathbf{I})$



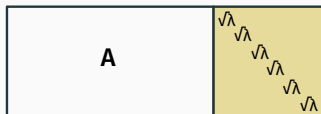
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$$(1 - \epsilon)BB^T \preceq AA^T + \lambda I \preceq (1 + \epsilon)BB^T$$
4.  $(1 - \epsilon)\tilde{A}\tilde{A}^T - \epsilon\lambda I \preceq AA^T \preceq (1 + \epsilon)\tilde{A}\tilde{A}^T + \epsilon\lambda I$

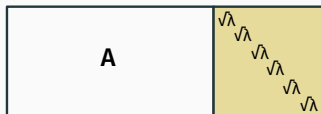


Number of columns sampled to form  $\tilde{A}$  depends on sum of leverage scores, **outside of the identity columns**.



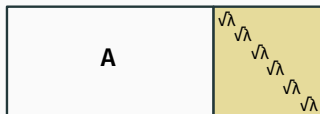
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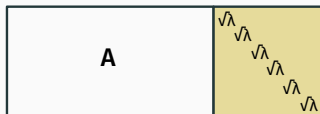
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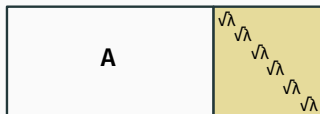
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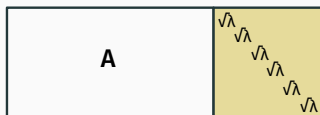
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 &= \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\sigma_i(\mathbf{A})}{\sigma_i(\mathbf{A}) + \frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k}} \\
 &\leq k + \sum_{i=k+1}^d \frac{\sigma_i(\mathbf{A})}{\sigma_i(\mathbf{A}) + \frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k}}
 \end{aligned}$$



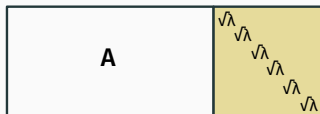
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Number of columns sampled to form  $\tilde{A}$  depends on sum of leverage scores, **outside of the identity columns**.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^d \tilde{\tau}(\mathbf{a}_i) &= \text{tr} \left( \mathbf{A}^T \left( \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k} \mathbf{I} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{A} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\sigma_i(\mathbf{A})}{\sigma_i(\mathbf{A}) + \frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k}} \\
 &\leq k + \sum_{i=k+1}^d \frac{\sigma_i(\mathbf{A})}{\frac{\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F^2}{k}} \\
 &= k + k
 \end{aligned}$$



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 \sum_{i=1}^d \tilde{\tau}(a_i) &= \text{tr} \left( A^T \left( A^T A + \frac{\|A - A_k\|_F^2}{k} I \right)^{-1} A \right) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\sigma_i(A)}{\sigma_i(A) + \frac{\|A - A_k\|_F^2}{k}} \\
 &\leq k + \sum_{i=k+1}^d \frac{\sigma_i(A)}{\frac{\|A - A_k\|_F^2}{k}} \\
 &= k + k = O(k).
 \end{aligned}$$

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