

# COMPSCI 514: Problem Set 3

**Due: 11/14 by 11:59pm in Gradescope.**

## Instructions:

- You are allowed to, and highly encouraged to, work on this problem set in a group of up to three members.
- Each group should **submit a single solution set**: one member should upload a pdf to Gradescope, marking the other members as part of their group in Gradescope.
- You may talk to members of other groups at a high level about the problems but **not work through the solutions in detail together**.
- You must show your work/derive any answers as part of the solutions to receive full credit.

## 1. Formulations of Low-Rank Approximation (5 points)

Prove that for any matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  the quantities  $o_1, o_2, o_3, o_4$  defined below are all equal.

1.  $o_1 = \min_{B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d} \text{ s.t. } \text{rank}(B) \leq k} \|A - B\|_F^2.$
2.  $o_2 = \min_{M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}, N \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}} \|A - MN^T\|_F^2.$
3.  $o_3 = \min_{U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k} \text{ s.t. } U^T U = I} \|A - UU^T A\|_F^2.$
4.  $o_4 = \min_{V \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} \text{ s.t. } V^T V = I} \|A - AVV^T\|_F^2.$

**Hint 1:** To formally prove that  $o_i$  is equal to  $o_j$  it may be helpful to argue that  $o_i \not\leq o_j$  and also  $o_j \not\leq o_i$ , which implies that  $o_i = o_j$ .

**Hint 2:** You do not need to use anything about the SVD or eigendecomposition to prove that these quantities are equivalent.

## 2. Inner Products for Matrices (6 points)

In this question we will show that for two matrices  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$  the quantity  $\text{tr}(AB)$  behaves much like the standard inner product over vectors.

1. (2 points) Prove that  $\text{tr}(AB) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^d A_{ij} \cdot B_{ji}$ . **Hint:** Use the definition of matrix multiplication.
2. (1 point) Use part (1) to prove that  $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$ .

- (1 point) Use part (1) to prove that for any  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ ,  $\text{tr}(AA^T) = \|A\|_F^2$ .
- (2 points) Prove that  $|\text{tr}(AB)| \leq \|A\|_F \cdot \|B\|_F$ . **Hint:** Apply the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality to vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^{nd}$  that correspond to  $A$  and  $B$ .

### 3. Random Projection for Faster Matrix Multiplication (10 points)

Let  $\pi \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a random vector with each entry set independently to 1 with probability 1/2 and -1 with probability 1/2. Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  be any matrix.

- (2 points) Show that  $\mathbb{E}[A^T \pi \pi^T A] = A^T A$ .  
**Hint:** Fix  $i, j \in [d]$  and show that  $\mathbb{E}[(A^T \pi \pi^T A)_{ij}] = (A^T A)_{ij}$ .
- (2 points) Show that  $\mathbb{E}[\|A^T \pi \pi^T A - A^T A\|_F^2] \leq 2\|A\|_F^4$ .  
**Hint:** Fix  $i, j \in [d]$  and show that  $\mathbb{E}[(A^T \pi \pi^T A - A^T A)_{ij}^2] = \text{Var}((A^T \pi \pi^T A)_{ij}) \leq 2\|a_i\|_2^2 \cdot \|a_j\|_2^2$  where  $a_i, a_j \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are the  $i^{\text{th}}$  and  $j^{\text{th}}$  columns of  $A$ . Then sum over all  $i, j \in [d]$ .
- (2 points) Let  $\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  be a random matrix with each entry set independently to  $1/\sqrt{m}$  with probability 1/2 and  $-1/\sqrt{m}$  with probability 1/2. Show that  $\mathbb{E}[\|A^T \Pi \Pi^T A - A^T A\|_F^2] \leq \frac{2\|A\|_F^4}{m}$ .  
**Hint:** Show that  $A^T \Pi \Pi^T A = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{t=1}^m A^T \pi_t \pi_t^T A$ , where  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_m \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are independent random vectors distributed as in parts (1) and (2). Then leverage your work from part (2).
- (2 points) Show that if  $m = \frac{20}{\epsilon^2}$ , then with probability at least 9/10,  $\|A^T \Pi \Pi^T A - A^T A\|_F \leq \epsilon \|A\|_F$ . **Note:** Here we are looking at the Frobenius norm of  $A^T \Pi \Pi^T A - A^T A$ , not the squared Frobenius norm.
- (2 points) In terms of  $n, d, m$ , what is the runtime required to compute the approximate matrix product  $A^T \Pi \Pi^T A$  as compared to the exact product  $A^T A$ .

### 4. Random Projection for Faster Low-Rank Approximation (10 points)

- (2 points) In class we showed that for any  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , a span for the optimal rank- $k$  subspace to approximate  $B$  in the Frobenius norm is given by:

$$Z = \underset{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, s.t. Z^T Z = I}{\text{arg min}} \|B - BZZ^T\|_F^2 = \underset{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, s.t. Z^T Z = I}{\text{arg max}} \|BZ\|_F^2.$$

Show that equivalently,  $Z = \underset{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, s.t. Z^T Z = I}{\text{arg max}} \text{tr}(B^T BZZ^T)$ .

**Hint:** Use Problems 2.3 and 2.2.

- (2 points) Show that for any  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  and  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  and any  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  with orthonormal columns,  $|\text{tr}(A^T AZZ^T) - \text{tr}(C^T CZZ^T)| \leq \sqrt{k} \cdot \|A^T A - C^T C\|_F$ .

**Hint:** Use Problem 2.4 applied to the matrices  $(A^T A - C^T C)$  and  $ZZ^T$ .

- (2 points) Use parts (1) and (2) to argue that if  $\tilde{Z} = \underset{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, s.t. Z^T Z = I}{\text{arg min}} \|C - CZZ^T\|_F^2$  then

$$\|A - A\tilde{Z}\tilde{Z}^T\|_F^2 \leq \left( \min_{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, s.t. Z^T Z = I} \|A - AZZ^T\|_F^2 \right) + 2\sqrt{k} \cdot \|A^T A - C^T C\|_F.$$

4. (2 points) Let  $\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  be a random matrix with each entry set independently to  $1/\sqrt{m}$  with probability  $1/2$  and  $-1/\sqrt{m}$  with probability  $1/2$ . Show that if  $\tilde{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  contains the top  $k$  eigenvectors of  $A^T \Pi \Pi^T A$  as its columns, then for  $m = \frac{80k}{\epsilon^2}$ , with probability  $\geq 9/10$ ,

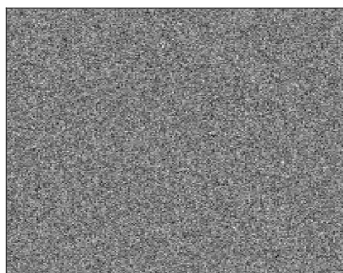
$$\|A - A\tilde{Z}\tilde{Z}^T\|_F^2 \leq \left( \min_{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, s.t. Z^T Z = I} \|A - AZZ^T\|_F^2 \right) + \epsilon \|A\|_F^2.$$

**Hint:** Apply part (3) in conjunction with Problem 3.4.

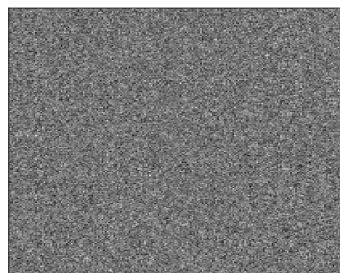
5. (2 points) In terms of  $n, d, k$ , and  $\epsilon$  how does the runtime of computing  $\tilde{Z}$  in part (4) compare to that of computing the actual top  $k$  eigenvectors of  $A^T A$  (which would give an optimal low-rank approximation of  $A$ ).

## 5. Distinguishing Random Matrices (10 points)

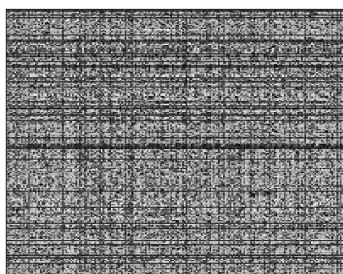
Consider the four  $200 \times 200$  random matrices shown below. They are represented as  $200 \times 200$  images, where a pixel is lighter when an entry in the matrix is relatively large, and darker when it is relatively small. The raw matrices can be downloaded in the `four_matrices.mat` file from the assignment page.



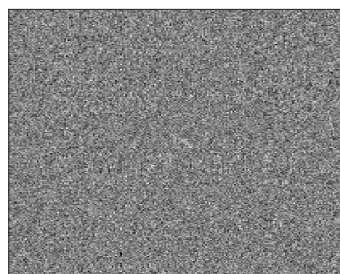
**M1**



**M2**



**M3**



**M4**

These matrices were generated from the following four distributions:

- **A1:** Each entry of the matrix is i.i.d.  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .
- **A2:** The matrix is equal to  $GV^T$  where  $G \in \mathbb{R}^{200 \times 50}$  has i.i.d. random Gaussian entries and  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{200 \times 50}$  is an orthonormal matrix.
- **A3:** The matrix is a mixture of the first two distributions. Specifically, it is equal to  $0.1 \cdot B_1 + 0.9 \cdot B_2$  where  $B_1, B_2$  are drawn from  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  respectively.
- **A4:** The matrix is generated by randomly permuting the rows and columns of the following  $200 \times 200$  pixel image of the UMass Amherst campus:



1. (3 points) Let  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  be an arbitrary matrix and let  $P_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $P_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  be permutation matrices. Prove that the singular values of  $P_1 M P_2$  are equal to those of  $M$ . I.e., if we change the order of the rows and columns of  $M$  this does not affect the spectrum of the matrix.
2. (3 points) Write code to compute the singular value spectrums of each of the four matrices. Show a plot of these spectrums and include a print out of your code.
3. (4 points) Use the spectrums computed above to match each matrix  $M_1, \dots, M_4$  to the distribution in  $A_1, \dots, A_4$  that it was generated from. Explain why the spectrum is indicative of the distribution described.