

# COMPSCI 514: Algorithms for Data Science

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University of Massachusetts Amherst. Fall 2022.

Lecture 12

- Problem Set 2 is due Friday, 11:59pm.
- No quiz this week.
- The exam will be held next Thursday in class.
- We will do some midterm review in class on Tuesday. I will also hold additional office hours for midterm prep, TBD.

# Summary

## Last Class: The Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_1 & \dots & x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ \downarrow & & \\ \hat{x}_1 & \dots & \hat{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m \end{array}$$

- Intro to dimensionality reduction and low-distortion embeddings.

- Statement of the JL Lemma: we can obtain low-distortion embeddings for **any set of points** via random projection.

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## This Class:

- Reduction of the JL Lemma to the ‘distributional JL Lemma’.
- Proof of the distributional JL lemma.
- Example application to clustering.

# The Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma

**Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma:** For any set of points  $\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a linear map  $\mathbf{\Pi} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  such that  $m = O\left(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  and letting  $\tilde{x}_i = \mathbf{\Pi}\vec{x}_i$ :

$$\text{For all } i, j : (1 - \epsilon)\|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|_2 \leq \|\tilde{x}_i - \tilde{x}_j\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|_2.$$

Further, if  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  has each entry chosen i.i.d. from  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$ , it satisfies the guarantee with high probability.

For  $d = 1$  trillion,  $\epsilon = .05$ , and  $n = 100,000$ ,  $m \approx 6600$ .

Very surprising! Powerful result with a simple construction: applying a random linear transformation to a set of points preserves distances between all those points with high probability.

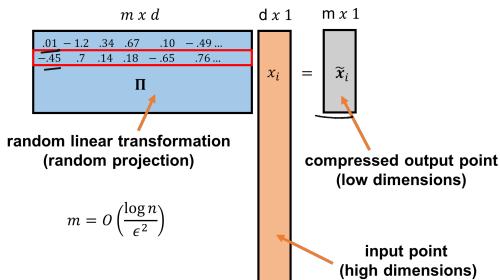
$$\mathbf{\Pi} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{x}_i \end{bmatrix}$$

$\begin{bmatrix} b \\ G \\ l \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

# Random Projection

For any  $\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n$  and  $\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  with each entry chosen i.i.d. from  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$ , with high probability, letting  $\tilde{x}_i = \Pi \vec{x}_i$ :

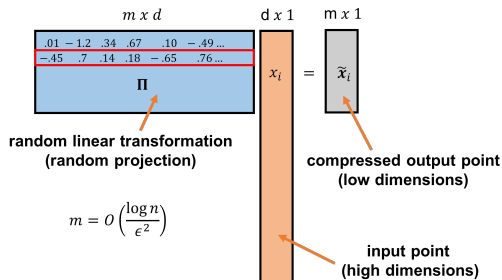
For all  $i, j$ :  $(1 - \epsilon) \|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|_2 \leq \|\tilde{x}_i - \tilde{x}_j\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|_2$ .



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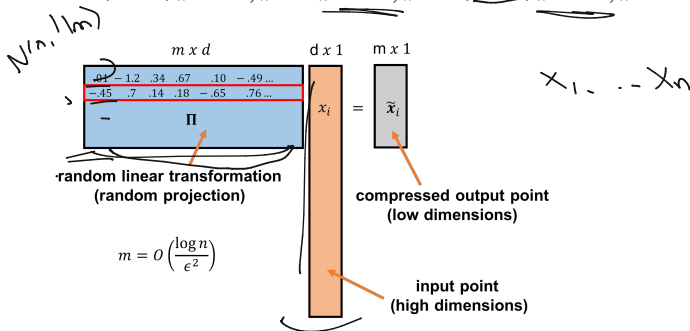


- $\Pi$  is known as a **random projection**. It is a random linear function, mapping length  $d$  vectors to length  $m$  vectors.

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For all  $i, j$ :  $(1 - \epsilon) \|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|_2 \leq \|\tilde{x}_i - \tilde{x}_j\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|_2$ .



- $\Pi$  is known as a **random projection**. It is a random linear function, mapping length  $d$  vectors to length  $m$  vectors.
- $\Pi$  is **data oblivious**. Stark contrast to methods like PCA.



# Algorithmic Considerations

- Many alternative constructions:  $\pm 1$  entries, sparse (most entries 0), Fourier structured, etc.  $\implies$  more efficient computation of  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j = \mathbf{\Pi} \vec{\mathbf{x}}_j$ .

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- Data oblivious property means that once  $\mathbf{\Pi}$  is chosen,  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n$  can be computed in a stream with little memory.
- Memory needed is just  $O(\underbrace{d} + \underbrace{nm})$  vs.  $O(\underbrace{nd})$  to store the full data set.

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- Memory needed is just  $O(d + nm)$  vs.  $O(nd)$  to store the full data set.
- Compression can also be easily performed in parallel on different servers.
- When new data points are added, can be easily compressed, without updating existing points.

# Distributional JL

The Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma is a direct consequence of a closely related lemma:

**Distributional JL Lemma:** Let  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  have each entry chosen i.i.d. as  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$ . If we set  $m = O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , then for any  $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta$

$$(1 - \epsilon)\|\vec{y}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{\Pi}\vec{y}\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\vec{y}\|_2$$

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Applying a random matrix  $\mathbf{\Pi}$  to any vector  $\vec{y}$  preserves  $\vec{y}$ 's norm with high probability.

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Applying a random matrix  $\mathbf{\Pi}$  to any vector  $\vec{y}$  preserves  $\vec{y}$ 's norm with high probability.

- Like a low-distortion embedding, but for the length of a compressed vector rather than distances between vectors.

• Can be proven from first principles.

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## Distributional JL $\implies$ JL

Distributional JL Lemma  $\implies$  JL Lemma: Distributional JL show that a random projection  $\Pi$  preserves the **norm** of any  $y$ . The main JL Lemma says that  $\Pi$  preserves **distances** between vectors.

$\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n$ : original points,  $\tilde{\vec{x}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\vec{x}}_n$ : compressed points,  $\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection matrix.  $d$ : original dimension.  $m$ : compressed dimension,  $\epsilon$ : embedding error,  $\delta$ : embedding failure prob.



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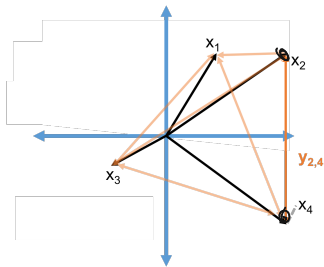
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- If we choose  $\mathbf{\Pi}$  with  $m = O\left(\frac{\log 1/\delta}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , for each  $\vec{y}_{ij}$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta$  we have:

$$(1 - \epsilon) \|\vec{y}_{ij}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{\Pi} \vec{y}_{ij}\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|\vec{y}_{ij}\|_2$$

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$$\|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j\|_2 = \|\mathbf{\Pi}y_{ij}\|_2$$

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**Claim:** If we choose  $\mathbf{\Pi}$  with i.i.d.  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$  entries and  $m = O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta')}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , letting  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = \mathbf{\Pi}\mathbf{\bar{x}}_i$ , for each pair  $\mathbf{\bar{x}}_i, \mathbf{\bar{x}}_j$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta'$  we have:

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With what probability are all pairwise distances preserved?

$$\underbrace{(1 - \delta')^{\binom{n}{2}}}_{\text{crossed out}} \quad \underline{1 - \delta' \cdot \binom{n}{2}}$$

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Apply the claim with  $\delta' = \delta / \binom{n}{2}$ .  $1 - \delta$

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$$m = O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta')}{\epsilon^2}\right) = O\left(\frac{\log(\binom{n}{2}/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}\right)$$

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**Claim:** If we choose  $\mathbf{\Pi}$  with i.i.d.  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$  entries and  $m = O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta')}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , letting  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = \mathbf{\Pi}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i$ , for each pair  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j$  with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta'$  we have:

$$(1 - \epsilon)\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j\|_2 \leq \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_j\|_2.$$

With what probability are all pairwise distances preserved?

**Union bound:** With probability  $\geq 1 - \binom{n}{2} \cdot \delta'$  all pairwise distances are preserved.

Apply the claim with  $\delta' = \delta/\binom{n}{2}$ .  $\implies$  for  $m = O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta')}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , all pairwise distances are preserved with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta$ .

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Yields the JL lemma.



## Distributional JL Proof

**Distributional JL Lemma:** Let  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$  have each entry chosen i.i.d. as  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$ . If we set  $m = O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , then for any

$\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , with probability  $\geq 1 - \delta$

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$\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : arbitrary vector,  $\tilde{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : compressed vector,  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection.  $d$ : original dim.  $m$ : compressed dim,  $\epsilon$ : error,  $\delta$ : failure prob.

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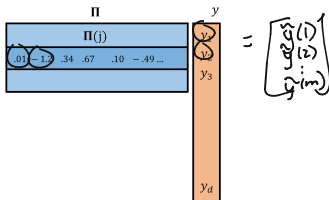
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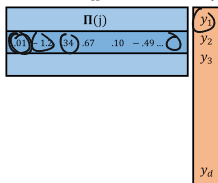
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$$\mathbb{E} \tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j) = 0$$



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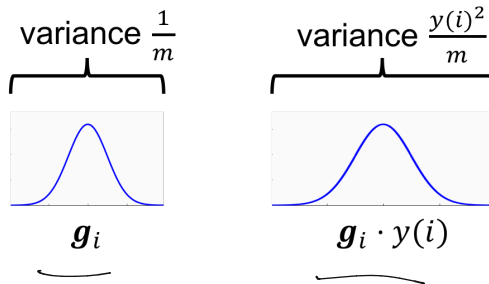
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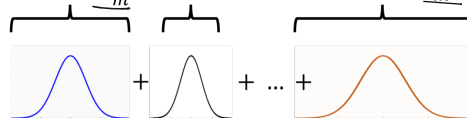
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variance  $\frac{y(1)^2}{m}$ 
variance  $\frac{y(2)^2}{m}$ 
variance  $\frac{y(d)^2}{m}$



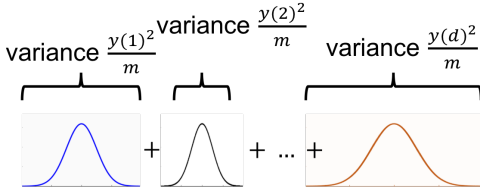
$\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j) = \underbrace{[\mathbf{g}_1 \cdot y(1)]}_{\text{normal i.i.v.}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{g}_2 \cdot y(2)} + \dots + \underbrace{\mathbf{g}_d \cdot y(d)}$

$\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{y(i)^2}{m}\right)$

$\vec{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : arbitrary vector,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : compressed vector,  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection mapping  $\vec{\mathbf{y}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .  $\mathbf{\Pi}(j)$ :  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\mathbf{\Pi}$ ,  $d$ : original dimension.  $m$ : compressed dimension,  $\mathbf{g}_i$ : normally distributed random variable.

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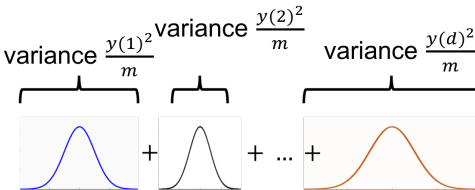

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j) = [\mathbf{g}_1 \cdot \mathbf{y}(1) + \mathbf{g}_2 \cdot \mathbf{y}(2) + \dots + \mathbf{g}_n \cdot \mathbf{y}(d)]$$

What is the distribution of  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j)$ ?

$\vec{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : arbitrary vector,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : compressed vector,  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection mapping  $\vec{\mathbf{y}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .  $\mathbf{\Pi}(j)$ :  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\mathbf{\Pi}$ ,  $d$ : original dimension.  $m$ : compressed dimension,  $\mathbf{g}_i$ : normally distributed random variable.

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What is the distribution of  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j)$ ? Also Gaussian!

$\vec{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : arbitrary vector,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : compressed vector,  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection mapping  $\vec{\mathbf{y}} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .  $\mathbf{\Pi}(j)$ :  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\mathbf{\Pi}$ ,  $d$ : original dimension.  $m$ : compressed dimension,  $\mathbf{g}_i$ : normally distributed random variable.

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**Stability of Gaussian Random Variables.** For **independent**  $a \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $b \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$  we have:

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$\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : arbitrary vector,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : compressed vector,  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection mapping  $\vec{y} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .  $\mathbf{\Pi}(j)$ :  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\mathbf{\Pi}$ ,  $d$ : original dimension.  $m$ : compressed dimension,  $\mathbf{g}_i$ : normally distributed random variable

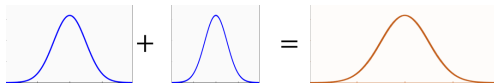
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Thus,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{\vec{y}(1)^2}{m} + \frac{\vec{y}(2)^2}{m} + \dots + \frac{\vec{y}(d)^2}{m}\right) = \frac{1}{m} \sum y(i)^2 = \frac{1}{m} \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2$

$\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : arbitrary vector,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : compressed vector,  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection mapping  $\vec{y} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .  $\mathbf{\Pi}(j)$ :  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\mathbf{\Pi}$ ,  $d$ : original dimension.  $m$ : compressed dimension,  $\mathbf{g}_i$ : normally distributed random variable

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$\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ : arbitrary vector,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : compressed vector,  $\mathbf{\Pi} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ : random projection mapping  $\vec{y} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .  $\mathbf{\Pi}(j)$ :  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\mathbf{\Pi}$ ,  $d$ : original dimension.  $m$ : compressed dimension,  $\mathbf{g}_i$ : normally distributed random variable



# Distributional JL Proof

Letting  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{\Pi}\vec{y}$ , we have  $\tilde{y}(j) = \langle \mathbf{\Pi}(j), \vec{y} \rangle$  and:

$$\tilde{y}(j) = \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbf{g}_i \cdot \vec{y}(i) \text{ where } \mathbf{g}_i \cdot \vec{y}(i) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{\vec{y}(i)^2}{m}\right).$$

**Stability of Gaussian Random Variables.** For independent  $a \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $b \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$  we have:

$$a + b \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$$

Thus,  $\tilde{y}(j) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{\|\vec{y}\|_2^2}{m}\right)$  i.e.,  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  itself is a random Gaussian vector.

Rotational invariance of the Gaussian distribution.

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What is  $\mathbb{E}[\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2]$ ?  $= \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2$

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What is  $\mathbb{E}[\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2]$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{j=1}^m \tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j)^2\right] = \sum_{j=1}^m \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j)^2] \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{\|\vec{y}\|_2^2}{m} = \|\vec{y}\|_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

*(Handwritten notes:  $\sqrt{\text{Var}(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}(j))}$  above the second equation, and  $\|\vec{y}\|_2^2$  to the right of the second equation.)*

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*symmetric*

So  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  has the right norm in expectation.

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So  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  has the right norm in expectation.

How is  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2$  distributed? Does it concentrate?

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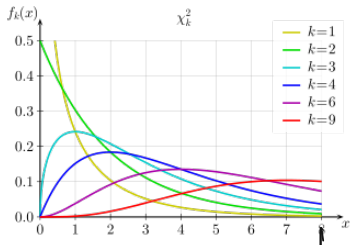
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**Lemma:** (Chi-Squared Concentration) Letting  $Z$  be a Chi-Squared random variable with  $m$  degrees of freedom,

$$\Pr[|Z - \mathbb{E}Z| \geq \epsilon \mathbb{E}Z] \leq 2e^{-m\epsilon^2/8}.$$

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$$d \leq m$$

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$$O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}\right)$$

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$$\|\vec{y}\|_2^2 \cdot \|\vec{y}\|_2^2 \geq \epsilon \|\vec{y}\|_2^2, \quad e^{-\frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2} \cdot \epsilon^2/8}$$

If we set  $m = O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , with probability  $1 - O(e^{-\log(1/\delta)}) \geq 1 - \delta$ :

$$(1 - \epsilon)\|\vec{y}\|_2^2 \leq \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\vec{y}\|_2^2$$

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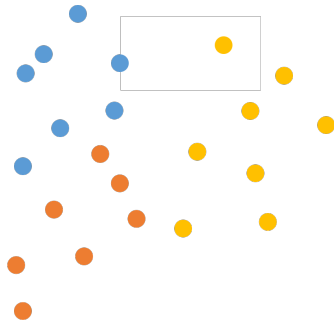
$$(1 - \epsilon)\|\vec{y}\|_2^2 \leq \|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\vec{y}\|_2^2.$$

Gives the distributional JL Lemma and thus the classic JL Lemma!



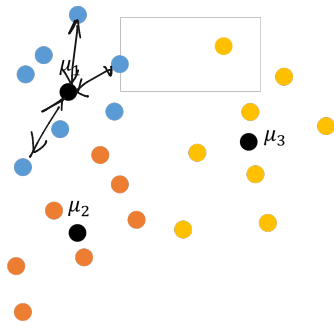
## Example Application: $k$ -means clustering

Goal: Separate  $n$  points in  $d$  dimensional space into  $k$  groups.



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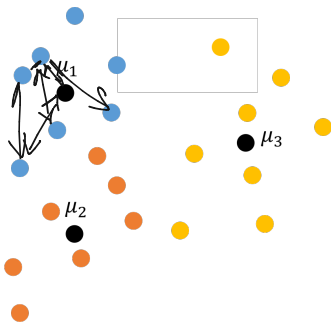
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k-means Objective:  $Cost(C_1, \dots, C_k) = \min_{C_1, \dots, C_k} \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\vec{x} \in C_k} \|\vec{x} - \mu_j\|_2^2.$

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$X_1, \dots, X_n$

k-means Objective:  $Cost(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) = \min_{\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k} \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\vec{x} \in \mathcal{C}_k} \underbrace{\|\vec{x} - \mu_j\|_2^2}_{}$

Write in terms of distances:  $\|\tilde{x}_1 - \tilde{x}_2\|_2$

$Cost(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) = \min_{\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k} \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2 \in \mathcal{C}_k} \underbrace{\|\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2\|_2^2}_{}$

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If we randomly project to  $m = O\left(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  dimensions, for all pairs  $\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2$ ,

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Letting  $\overline{Cost}(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) = \min_{\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k} \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_2 \in \mathcal{C}_k} \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1 - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_2\|_2^2$

$$(1 - \epsilon)Cost(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) \leq \overline{Cost}(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) \leq (1 + \epsilon)Cost(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k).$$

## Example Application: $k$ -means clustering

**k-means Objective:**  $Cost(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) = \min_{\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k} \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\tilde{x}_1, \tilde{x}_2 \in \mathcal{C}_k} \|\tilde{x}_1 - \tilde{x}_2\|_2^2$

If we randomly project to  $m = O\left(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  dimensions, for all pairs  $\tilde{x}_1, \tilde{x}_2$ ,

$$(1 - \epsilon)\|\tilde{x}_1 - \tilde{x}_2\|_2^2 \leq \|\tilde{\tilde{x}}_1 - \tilde{\tilde{x}}_2\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\tilde{x}_1 - \tilde{x}_2\|_2^2 \implies$$

Letting  $\overline{Cost}(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) = \min_{\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k} \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\tilde{x}_1, \tilde{x}_2 \in \mathcal{C}_k} \|\tilde{\tilde{x}}_1 - \tilde{\tilde{x}}_2\|_2^2$

$$(1 - \epsilon)Cost(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) \leq \overline{Cost}(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k) \leq (1 + \epsilon)Cost(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k).$$

**Upshot:** Can cluster in  $m$  dimensional space (much more efficiently) and minimize  $\overline{Cost}(\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_k)$ . The optimal set of clusters will have true cost within  $1 + \epsilon$  times the true optimal. **Good exercise to prove this.**