

# Uniform Sampling for Matrix Approximation

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Richard Peng, Aaron Sidford

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## Goal

- Reduce large matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  to some smaller matrix  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ . Use  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  to approximate solution to some problem - e.g. regression.

## Main Result

- Simple and efficient *iterative sampling* algorithms for matrix approximation.
- Alternatives to Johnson-Lindenstrauss (random projection) type approaches

## Main technique

- Understanding what information is preserved when we sample rows of matrix *uniformly at random*

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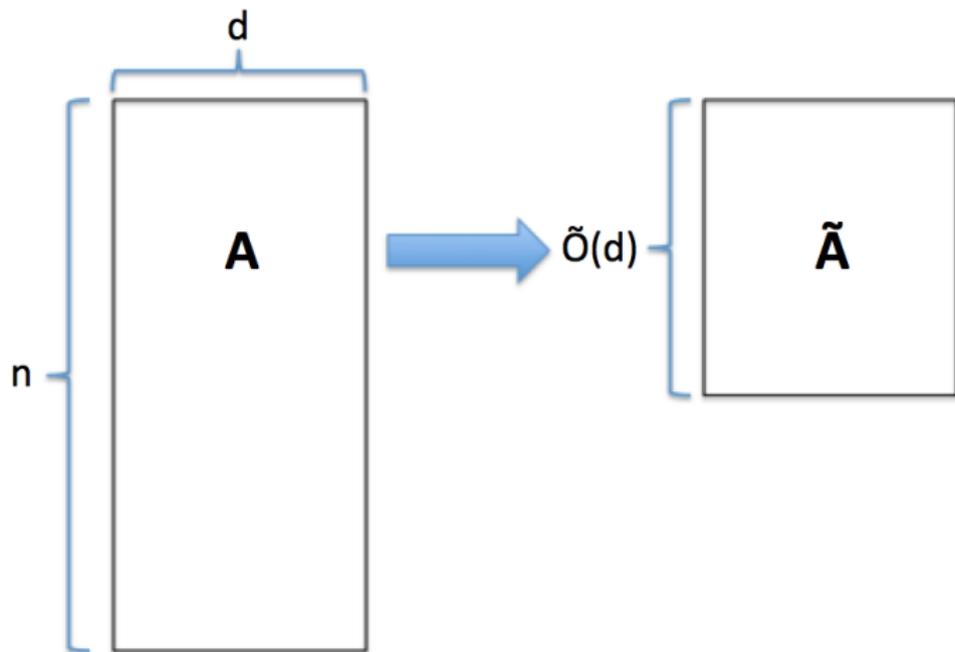
# Outline

- 1 Spectral Matrix Approximation
- 2 Leverage Score Sampling
- 3 Iterative Leverage Score Computation
- 4 Coherence Reducing Reweighting

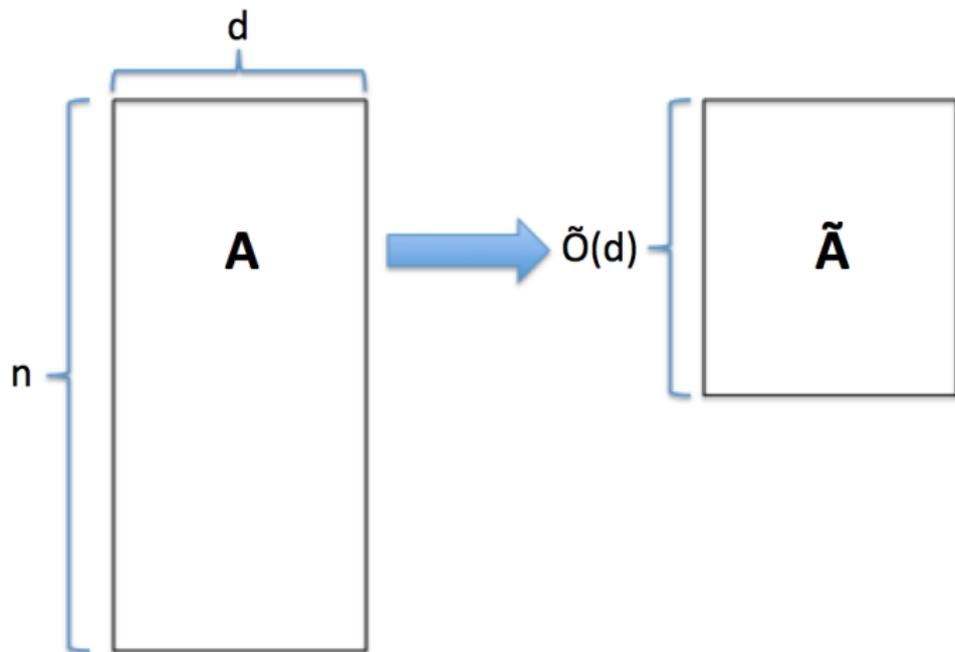
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# Spectral Matrix Approximation



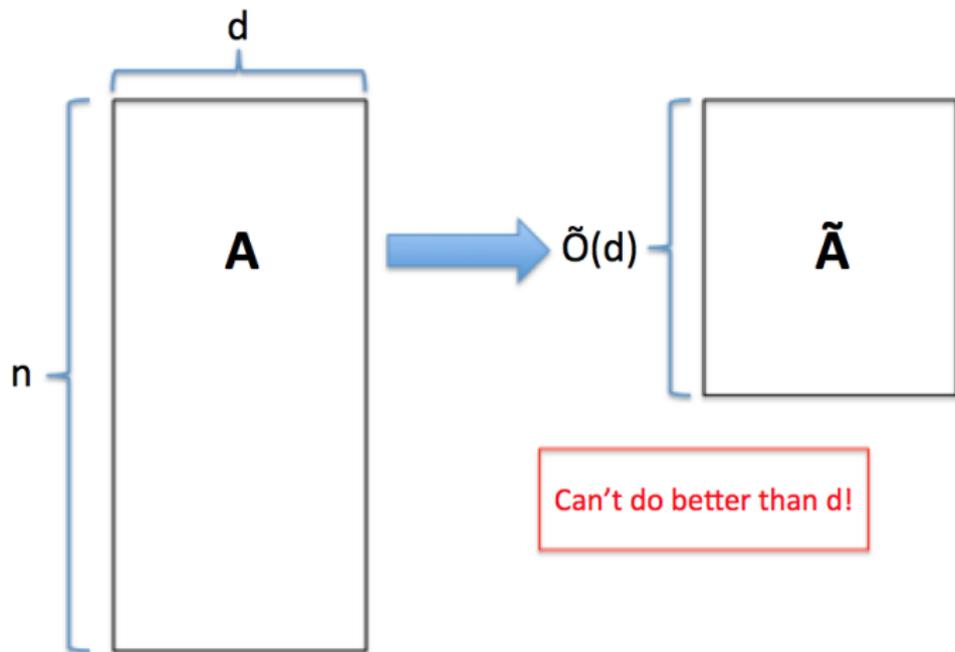
# Spectral Matrix Approximation



Goal

$$(1 - \epsilon) \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 \leq \|\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2$$

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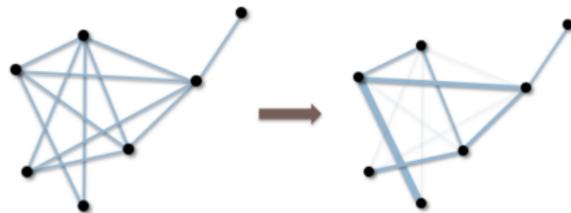
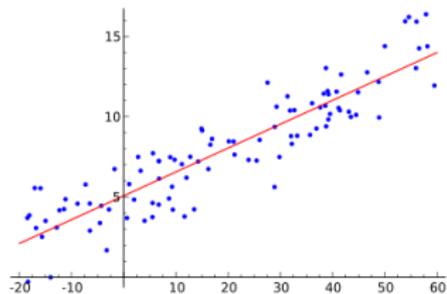


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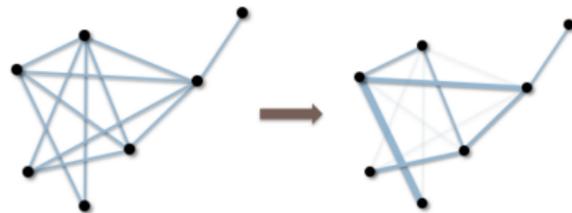
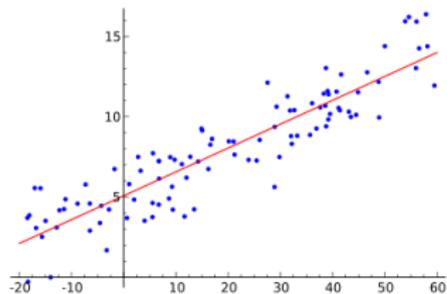
# Applications

- Approximate linear algebra - e.g. regression
- Preconditioning
- Spectral Graph Sparsification
- Etc...



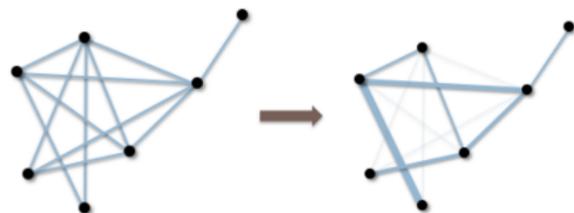
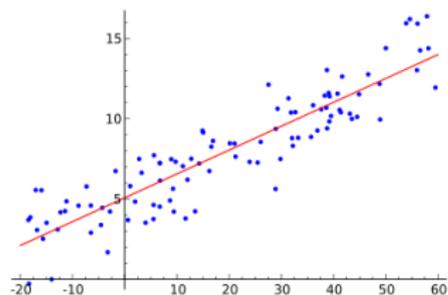
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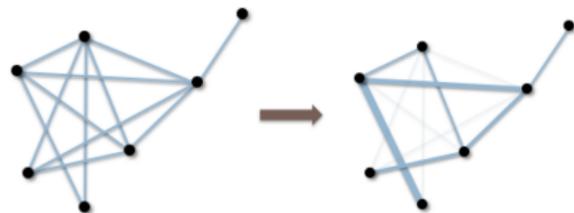
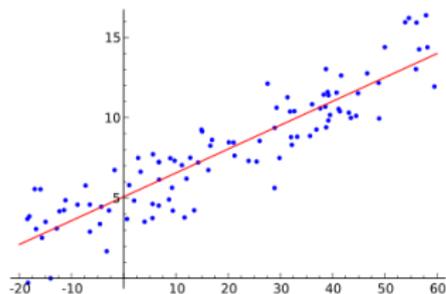
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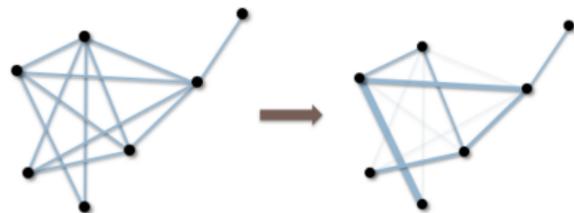
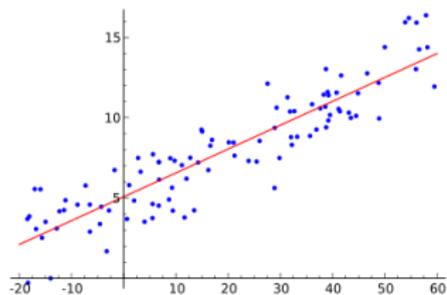
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# Regression

**Goal:**

$$\min_x \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2$$

**Solve:**

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \implies \mathbf{A}^\top(\mathbf{Ax}) = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{b}$$

**Set  $\mathbf{x}$  to:**

$$(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{b}$$

**Problem:**

$\mathbf{A}$  is very tall. Too slow to compute  $\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}$ .

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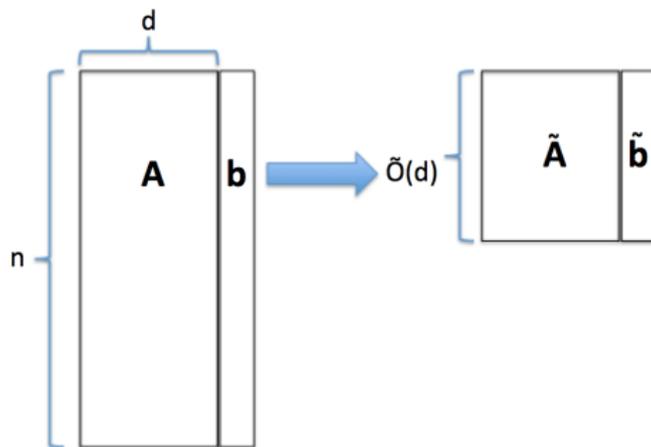
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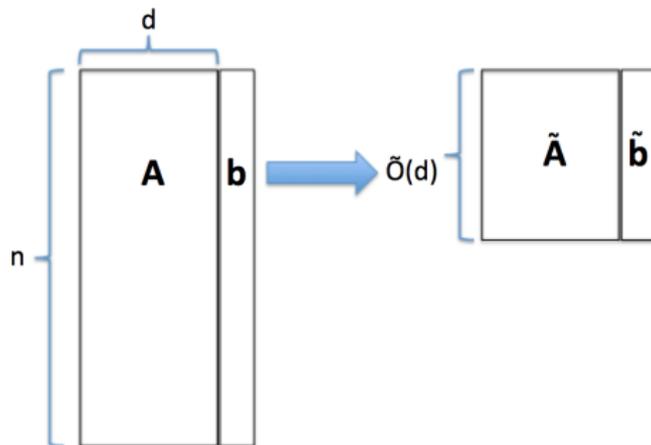


$$\|Ax - b\|_2^2 = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} A & b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2 \approx_{\epsilon} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{A} & \tilde{b} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2$$

$$\tilde{x} = \operatorname{argmin}_x \|\tilde{A}x - \tilde{b}\|_2^2$$

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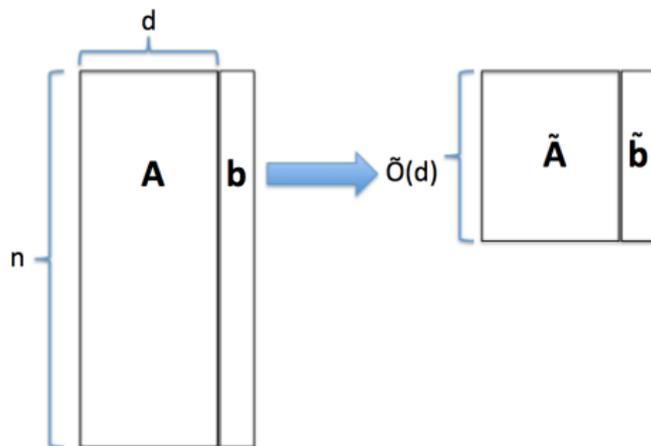


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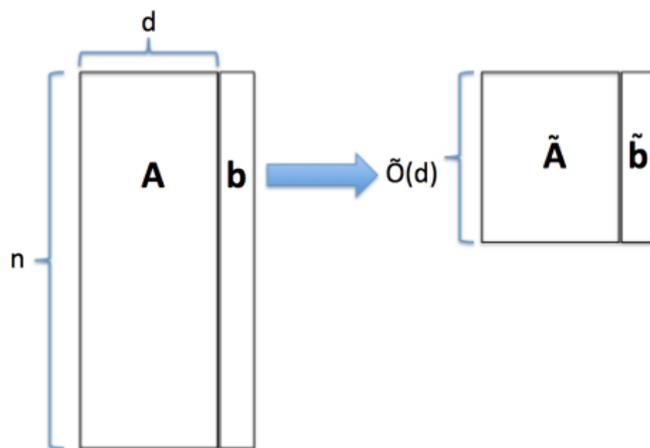


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# Regression

**Solution:**



Or, use preconditioned iterative method:

$$\kappa \left( (\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{A}})^{-1} (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}) \right) = O(1)$$

# Spectral Matrix Approximation

## All equivalent:

- Norm:

$$\|\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon)\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$

- Quadratic Form:

$$\mathbf{x}^\top (\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{A}}) \mathbf{x} = (1 \pm \epsilon) \mathbf{x}^\top (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}) \mathbf{x}$$

- Loewner Ordering:

$$(1 - \epsilon) \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \preceq \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \preceq (1 + \epsilon) \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}$$

- Inverse:

$$\frac{1}{(1 + \epsilon)} (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})^{-1} \preceq (\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{A}})^{-1} \preceq \frac{1}{(1 - \epsilon)} (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})^{-1}$$

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# How to Find a Spectral Approximation?

Just take a matrix square root of  $\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}$ !

The diagram illustrates the equation  $\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}$ . On the left, a blue bracket above the  $\mathbf{U}^\top$  box is labeled 'd', and a blue bracket to the left of the  $\mathbf{U}^\top$  box is also labeled 'd'. On the right, a blue bracket to the right of the  $\mathbf{A}$  box is labeled 'n'. The equation is shown as  $\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}$ .

$$\mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \implies \|\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$

- Cholesky decomposition, SVD, etc. give  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$
- Runs in something like  $O(nd^2)$  time.

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**Use Subspace Embeddings** [Sarlos '06], [Nelson, Nguyen '13], [Clarkson, Woodruff '13], [Mahoney, Meng '13]

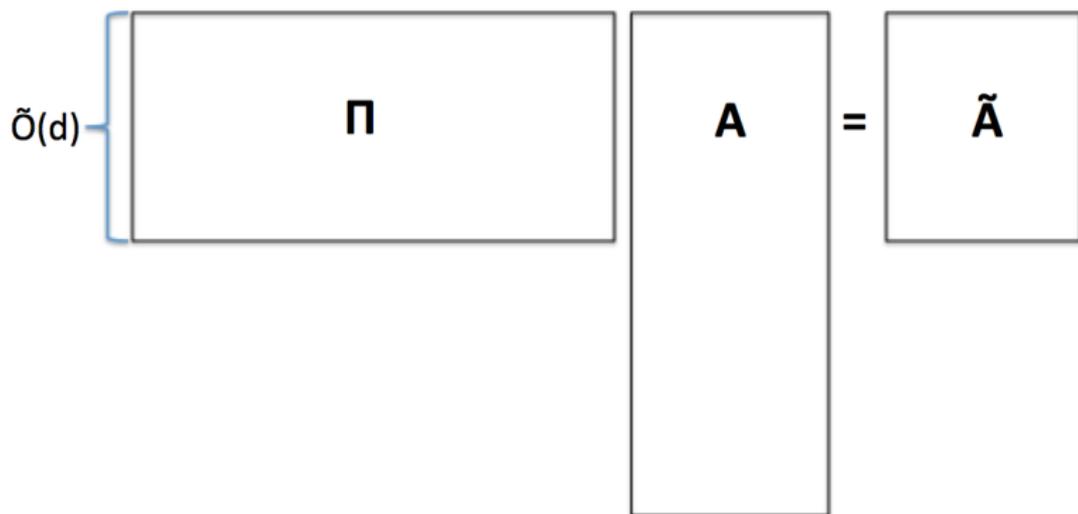
- Left multiply by sparse 'Johnson-Lindenstrauss matrix'.
- Can apply in  $O(nnz(\mathbf{A}))$  time.
- Reduce to  $O(d/\epsilon^2)$  dimensions.



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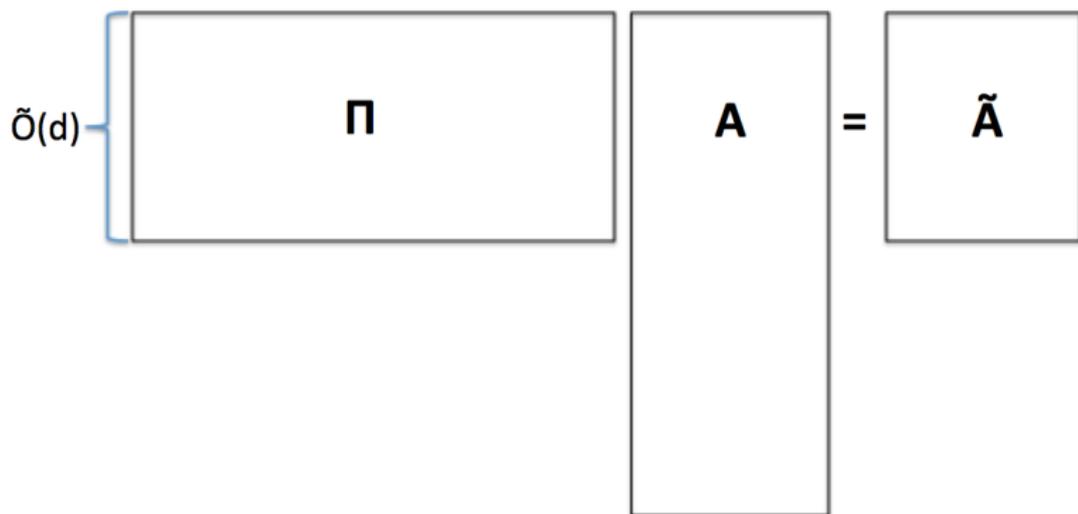
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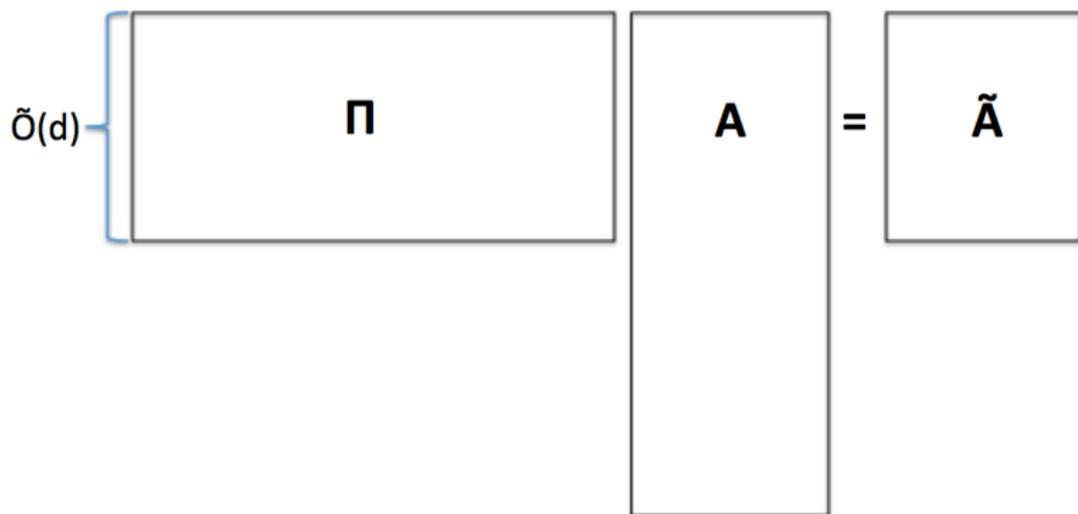
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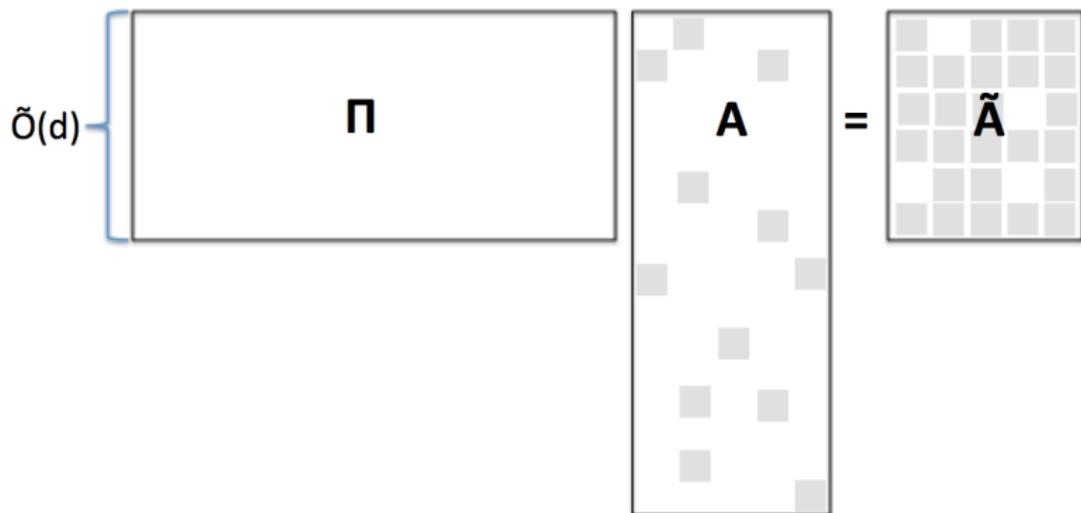
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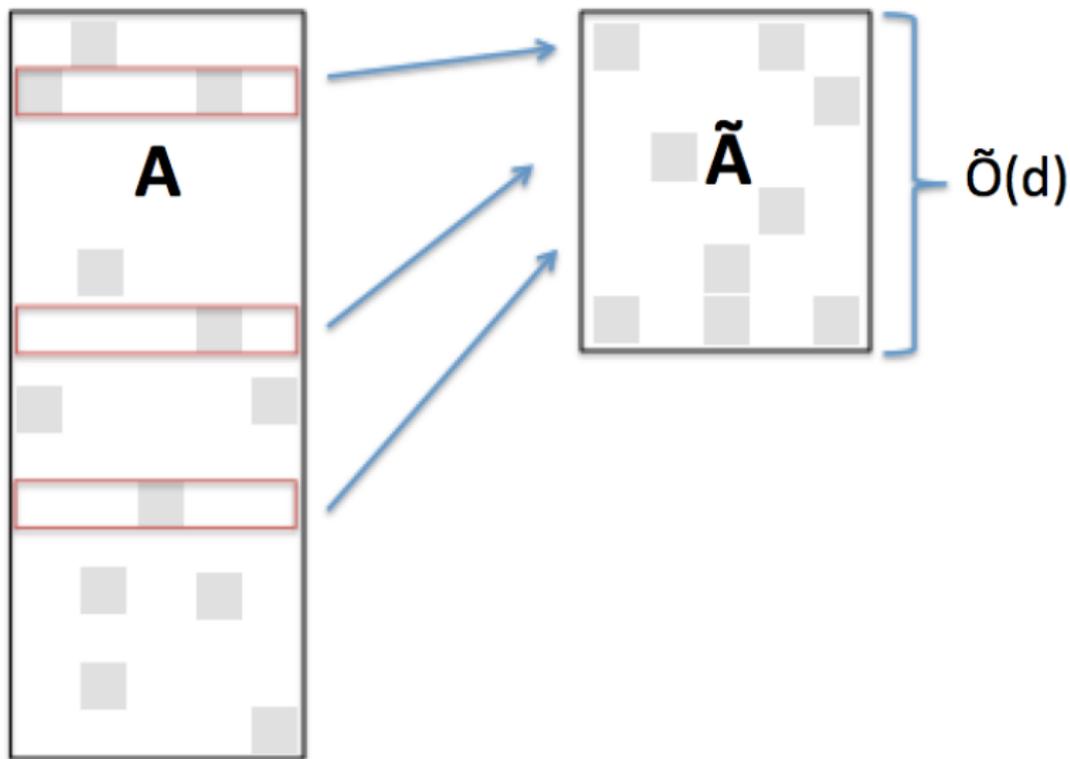
# How to Find one Faster?

- 'Squishes' together rows



# What if we want to preserve structure/sparsity?

Use Row Sampling

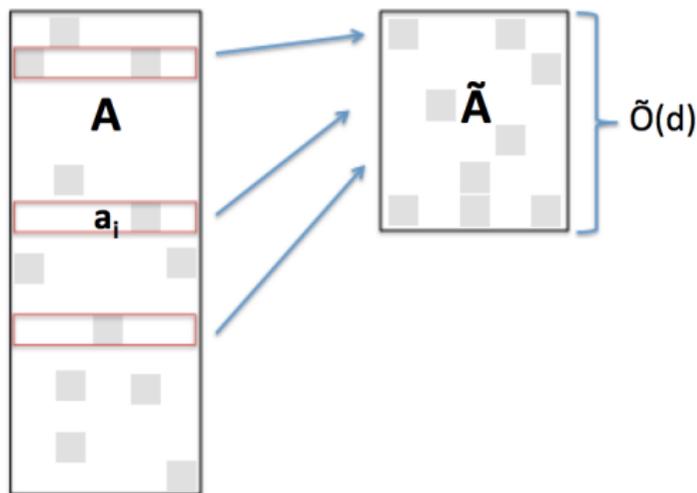


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# Leverage Score Sampling

- Sample rows with probability proportional to *leverage scores*.

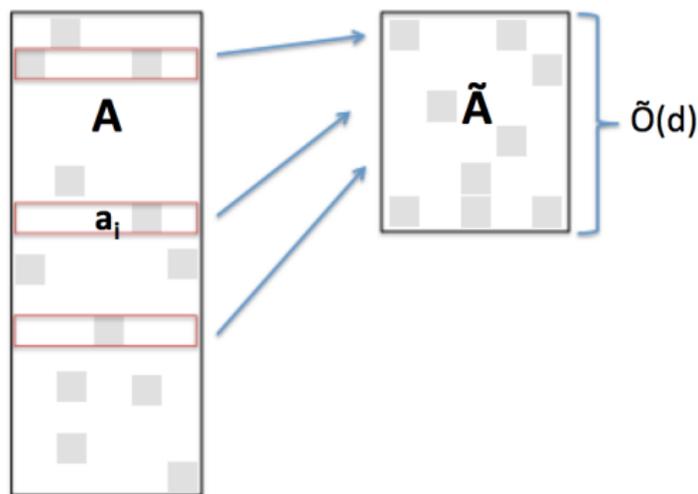


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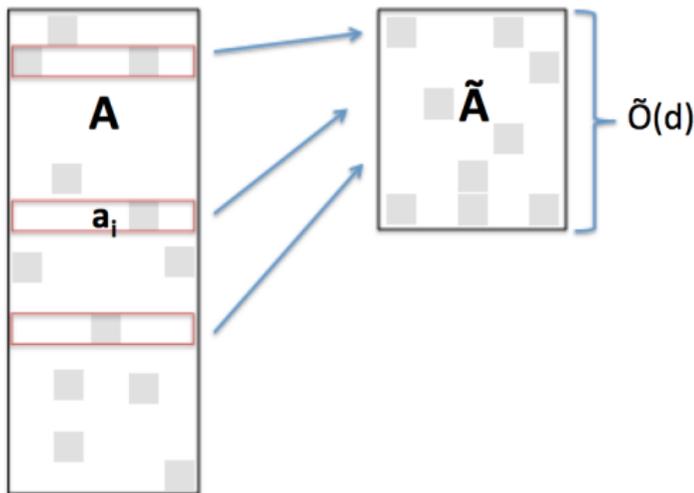
## Leverage Score

$$\tau_i(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{a}_i$$



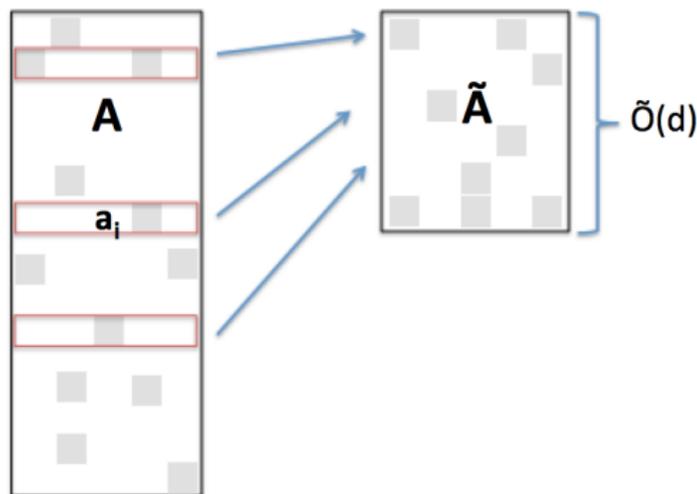
# Leverage Score Sampling

- Sample each row independently with  $p_i = O(\tau_i(\mathbf{A}) \log d / \epsilon^2)$ .
- $\sum_i \tau_i(\mathbf{A}) = d$  giving reduction to  $O(d \log d / \epsilon^2)$  rows.
- Straight-forward analysis with matrix Chernoff bounds.



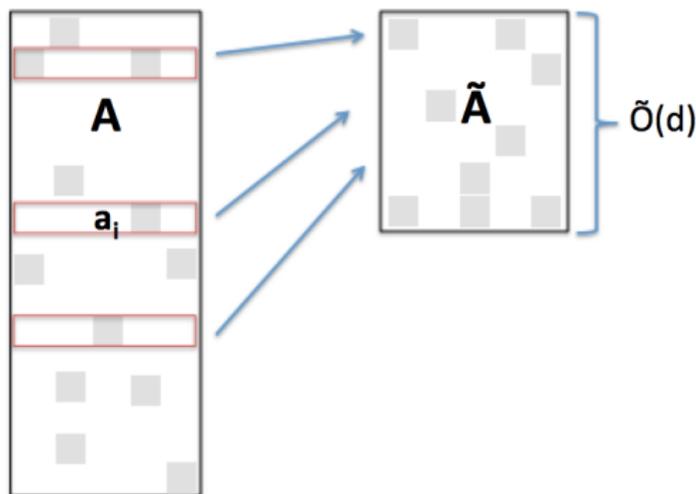
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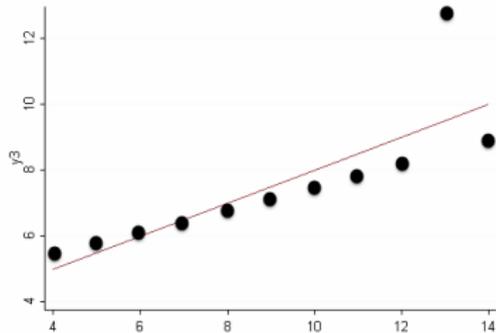
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What is the leverage score?

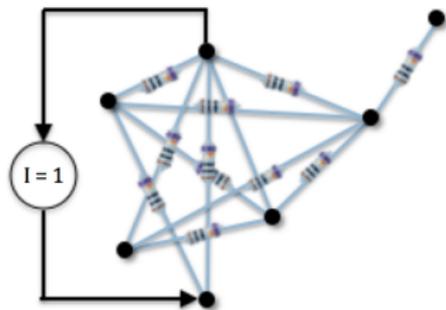
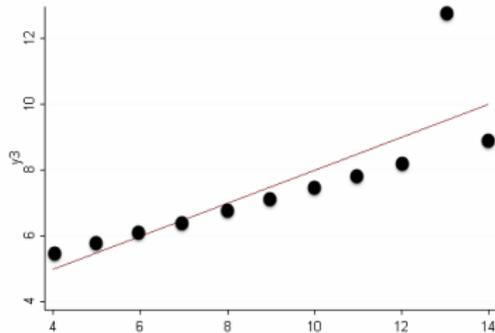
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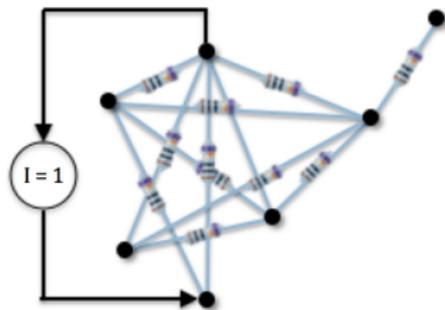
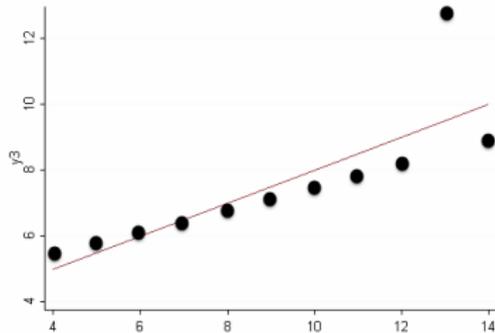
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- Spectral Graph Theory: Effective resistance, commute time
- Matrix Approximation: Row's importance in composing the quadratic form of  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$ .



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$$\tau_i(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{a}_i$$

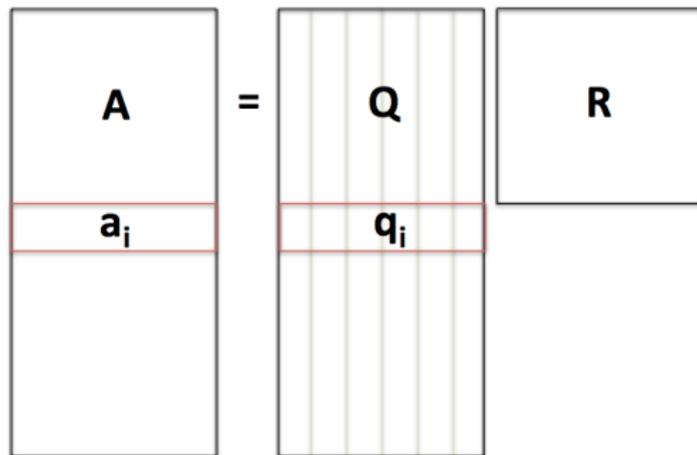
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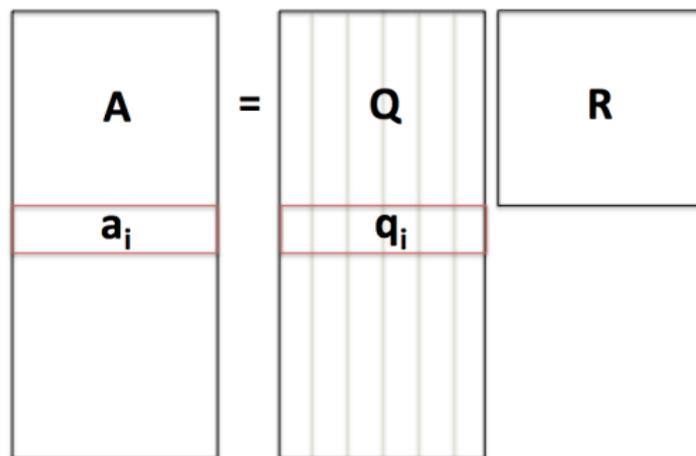


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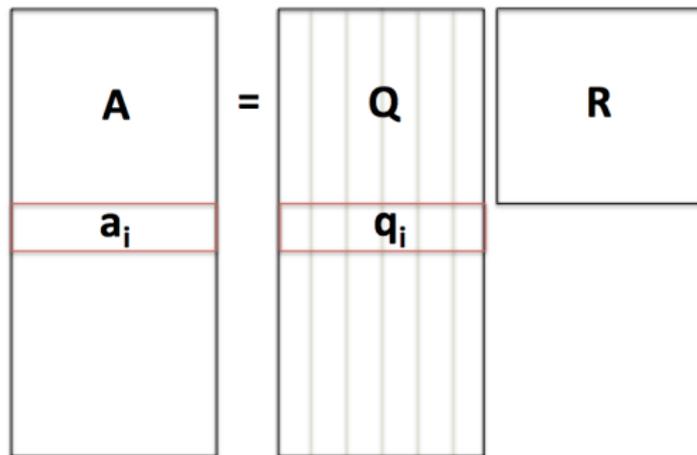
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- **How easily a row can be reconstructed from other rows.**

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How easily a row can be reconstructed from other rows

$$\mathbf{x} \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{a}_i$$

- $\min \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 = \tau_i(\mathbf{A})$ .
- $\mathbf{a}_i$  has component orthogonal to all other rows:  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{e}_i$ ,  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1$ .
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The diagram shows a horizontal box labeled  $x$  on the left, followed by an equals sign, and a horizontal box labeled  $a_i$  on the right. In the center is a vertical box labeled  $A$ . The bottom four rows of the  $A$  box are highlighted with red horizontal lines and each contains the label  $a_i$ .

- $\bar{x} = [0, 0, \dots, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, 0, \dots]$  works.
- $\tau_i(\mathbf{A}) \leq \|\bar{x}\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{4}$ .

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The diagram shows a horizontal box labeled  $\mathbf{x}$  on the left, followed by an equals sign, and then a vertical box labeled  $\mathbf{a}_i$  on the right. The vertical box is part of a larger matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , which is represented by a tall vertical rectangle. The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is divided into several horizontal rows. The top row is labeled  $\mathbf{A}$ . Below it, there are four rows, each labeled  $\mathbf{a}_i$ . These four rows are highlighted with red horizontal lines. Below these four rows, there are two more rows, but they are not labeled. The overall structure is  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a}_i$ .

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**Mathematically:**

$$\min_{\{\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{a}_i^\top\}} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$

To minimize, set

$$\mathbf{x}^\top = \mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^\top$$

So:

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## Interpretation tells us:

- $\tau_i(\mathbf{A}) \leq 1$
- Adding rows to  $\mathbf{A}$  can only decrease leverage scores of existing rows
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- In fact always have:  $\sum_{i=1}^n \tau_i(\mathbf{A}) = d$  (Foster's Theorem)

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The diagram shows the equation  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{a}_i$ . On the left, a horizontal box contains the variable  $\mathbf{x}$ . This is followed by a vertical box representing a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ . The bottom row of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is highlighted with a red border and labeled  $\mathbf{a}_i$ . To the right of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is an equals sign, followed by a horizontal box containing the variable  $\mathbf{a}_i$ .

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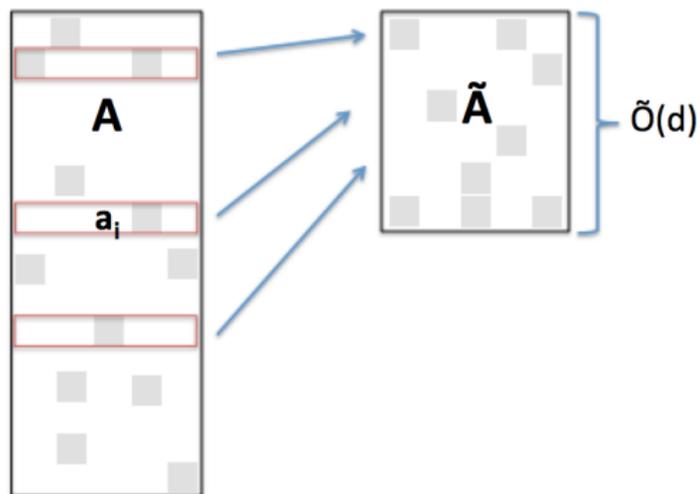
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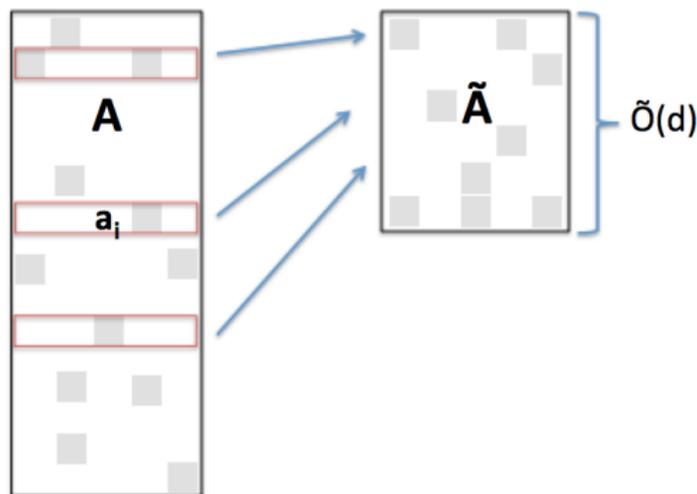
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## Traditional Solution

- *Overestimates* are good enough. Just increases number of rows taken.
- Given a constant factor spectral approximation  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  we have:

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- So can still sample  $O(d \log d / \epsilon^2)$  rows using  $\tilde{\tau}_i(\mathbf{A})$ .

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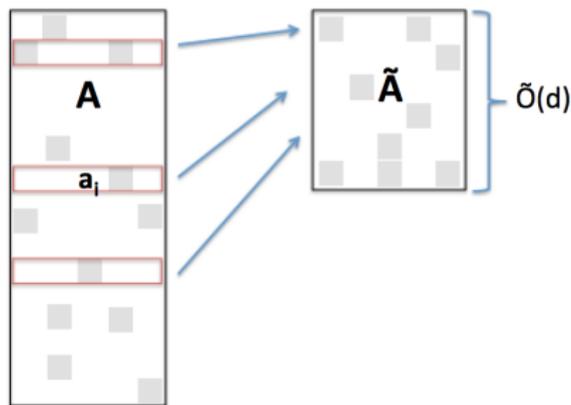
# Overview

- 1 Spectral Matrix Approximation
- 2 Leverage Score Sampling
- 3 Iterative Leverage Score Computation**
- 4 Coherence Reducing Reweighting

# Iterative Leverage Score Computation

## Review of what our goal is:

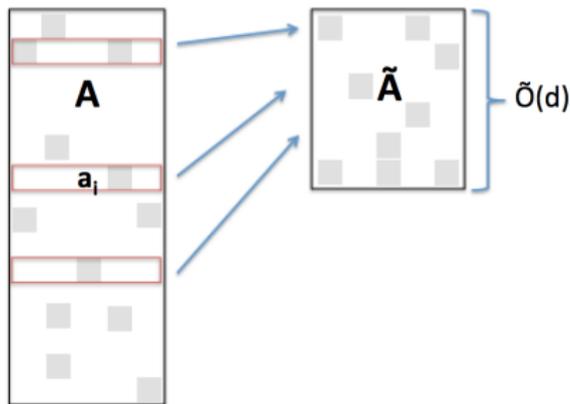
- Want to find  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  such that  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \approx_\epsilon \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$ .
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- Need a way to efficiently compute approximations  $\tilde{\tau}_i(\mathbf{A})$  such that  $\sum \tilde{\tau}_i(\mathbf{A}) = O(d)$
- Efficient:  $\tilde{O}(nnz(\mathbf{A}) + R(d, d))$  where  $R(d, d)$  is the cost of solving a  $d \times d$  regression problem.



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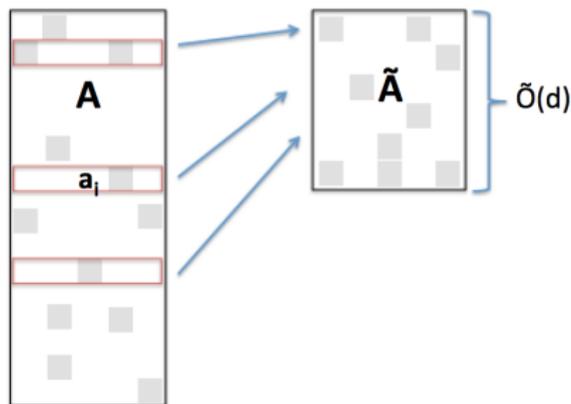
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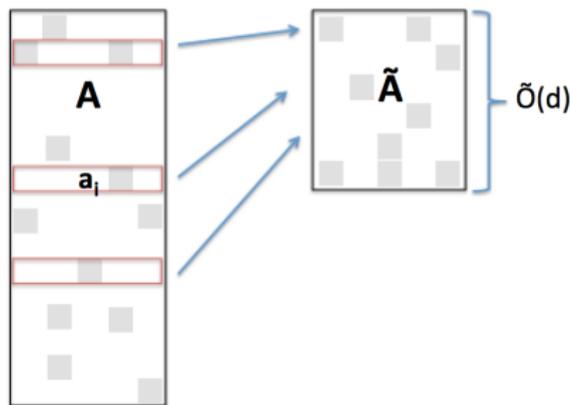
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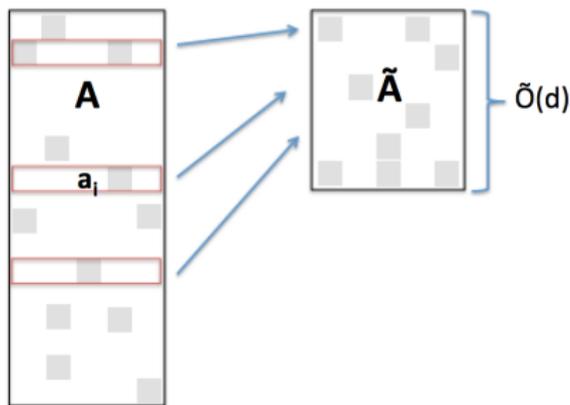
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# Uniform Row Sampling

- In practice, data is typically *incoherent* - no row has a high leverage score. [Kumar, Mohri, Talwalkar '12], [Avron, Maymounkov, Toledo '10].

$$\forall i \quad \tau_i(\mathbf{A}) \leq O(d/n)$$

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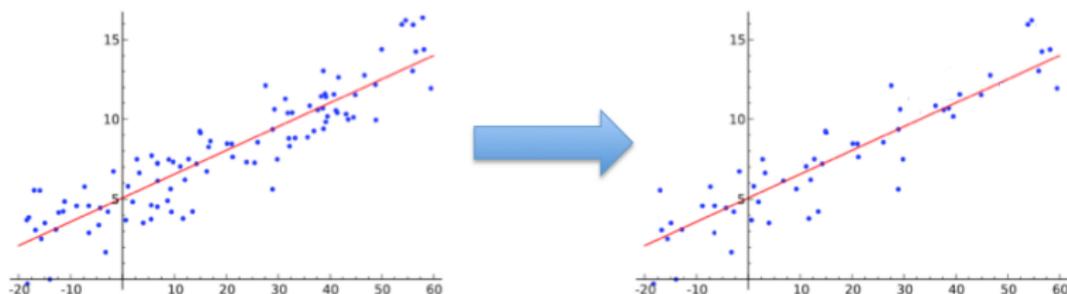
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**No guarantees on what uniform sampling does on general matrices.**

1	
0	
0	
⋮	
⋮	
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The diagram shows a matrix with a highlighted first row. To its right, an equals sign is followed by two vertical vectors. The first vector is the first row of the matrix, and the second vector is a sampling vector with a 1 in the first position and 0s elsewhere.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ 0 & & & & \\ 0 & & & & \\ \vdots & & & & \\ & & & & \\ \vdots & & & & \\ & & & & \\ 0 & & & & \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- For  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\|\mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 = 1$ , but with good probability,  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{A}}x\|_2^2 = 0$ .



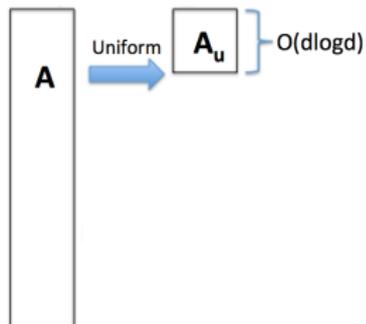
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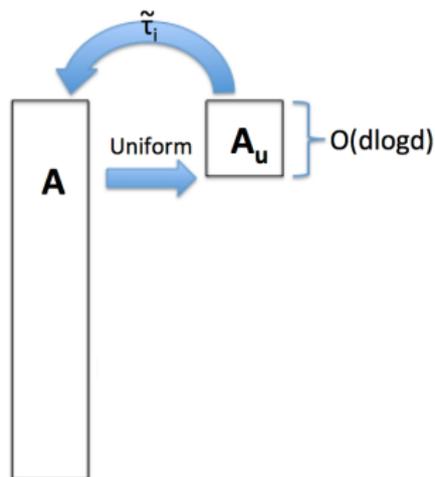
- 1 Uniformly sample  $O(d \log d)$  rows of  $\mathbf{A}$  to obtain  $\mathbf{A}_u$



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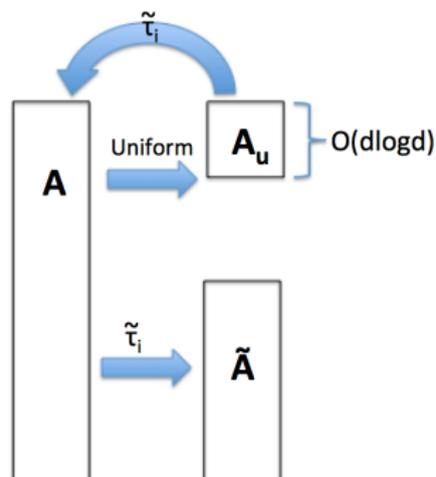
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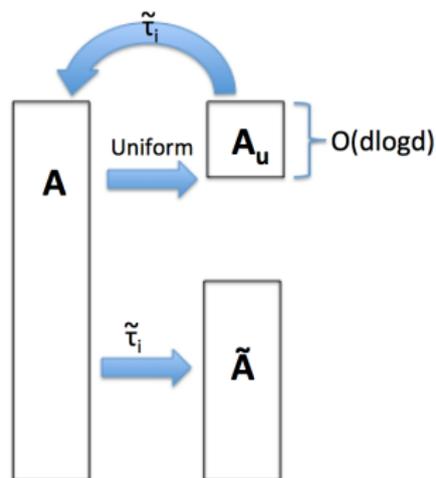
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We want to bound how large  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  must be.

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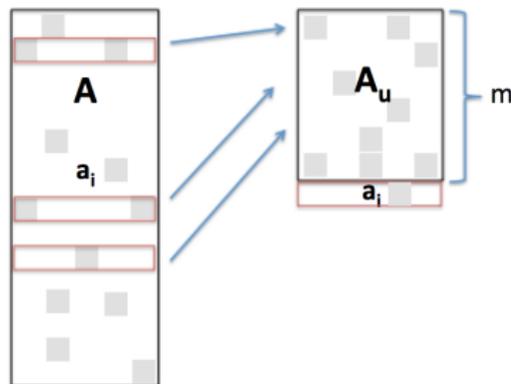
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## Note:

Sherman-Morrison gives equation to compute  $\tilde{\tau}_i(\mathbf{A})$  from  $\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{A}_u^\top \mathbf{A}_u)^{-1} \mathbf{a}_i$

$$\tilde{\tau}_i(\mathbf{A}) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{A}_u^\top \mathbf{A}_u)^{-1} \mathbf{a}_i & \text{if } \mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbf{A}_u \\ \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{A}_u^\top \mathbf{A}_u)^{-1} \mathbf{a}_i}} & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

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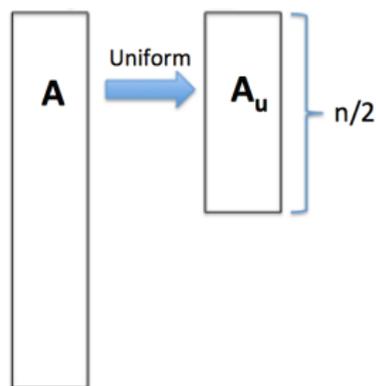
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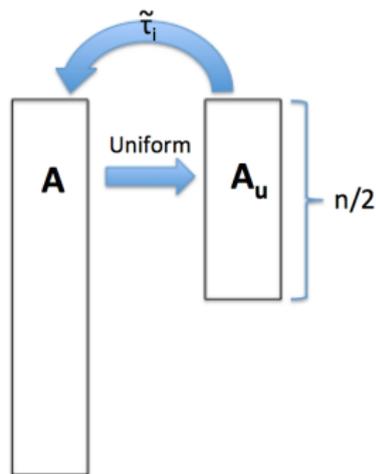


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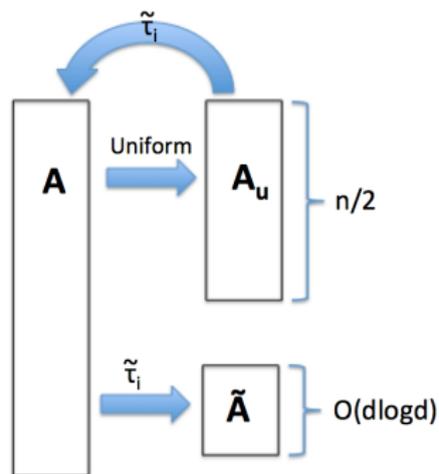


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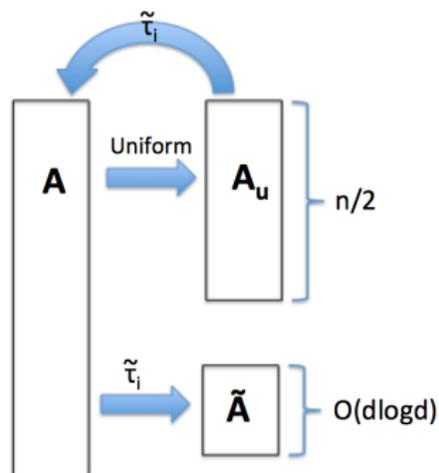


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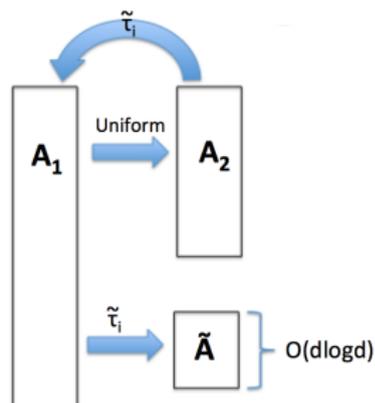
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- Reminiscent of the MST algorithm from [Karger, Klein, Tarjan '95].

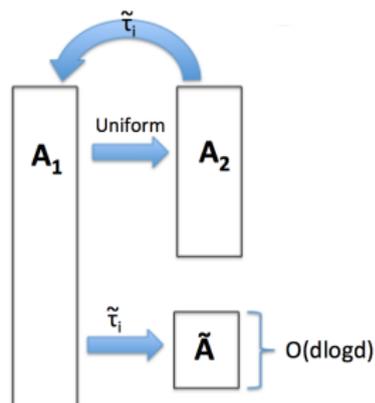
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Immediately yields a recursive algorithm for obtaining  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ .

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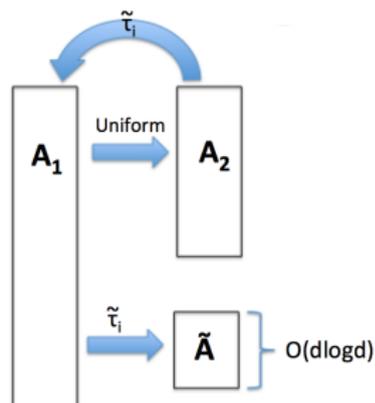
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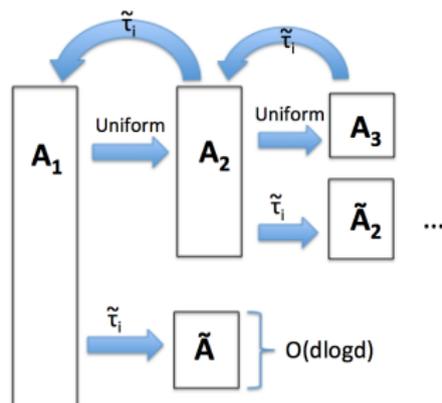
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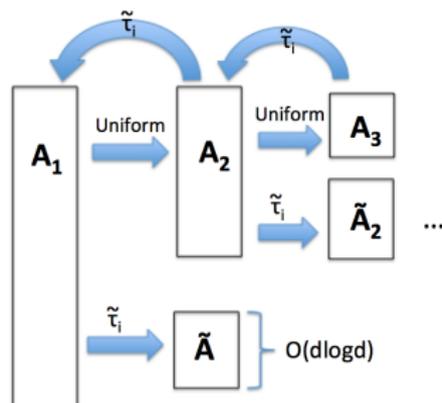
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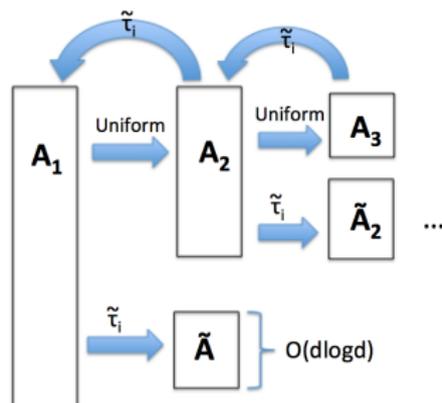
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This algorithm, along with a few other variations on it are the main algorithmic results of our paper.

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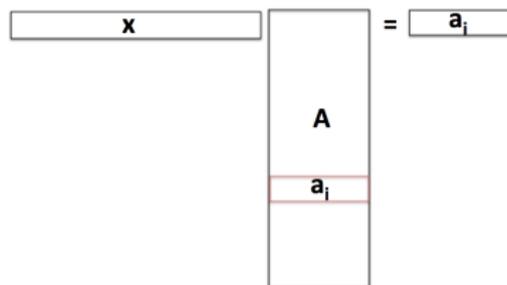
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- (1) follows from the fact that removing rows of  $\mathbf{A}$  can only increase leverage scores.



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- Consider choosing a uniform random row  $\mathbf{a}_j$ .

$$\mathbb{E}_u \sum_i \tilde{\tau}_i(\mathbf{A}) = n \cdot \mathbb{E}_{u,j} \tilde{\tau}_j(\mathbf{A})$$

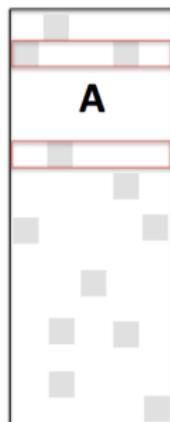
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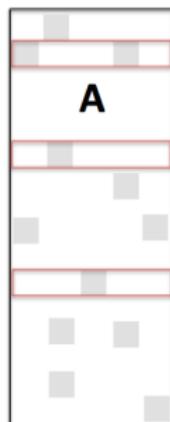
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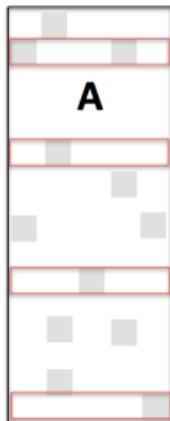
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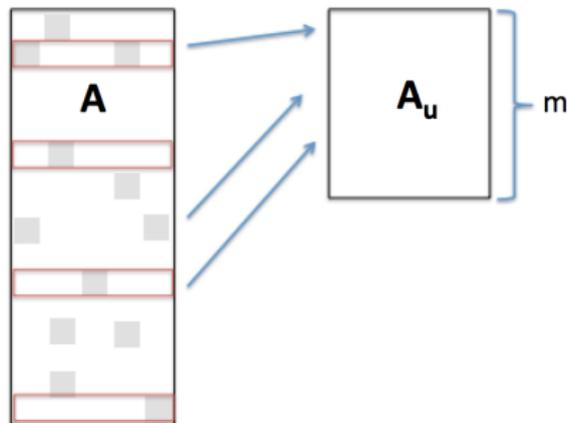
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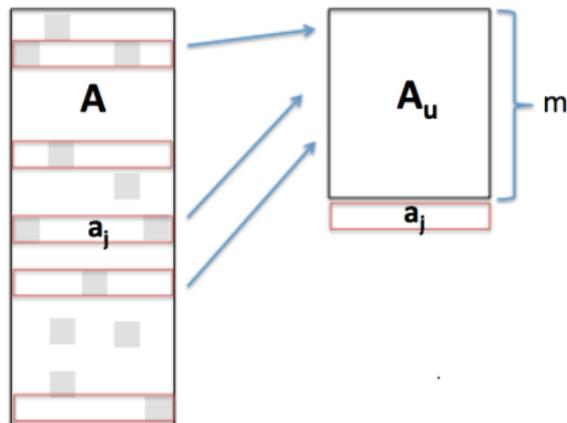
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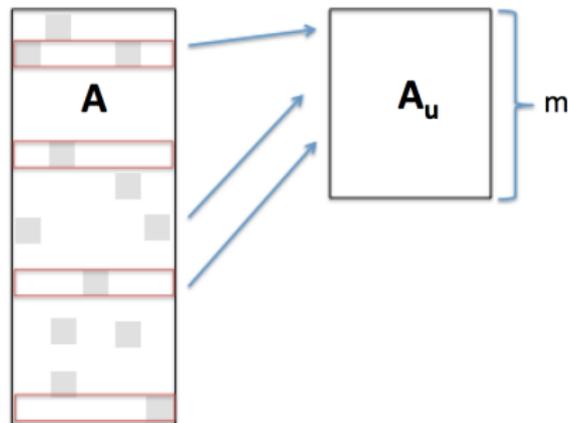


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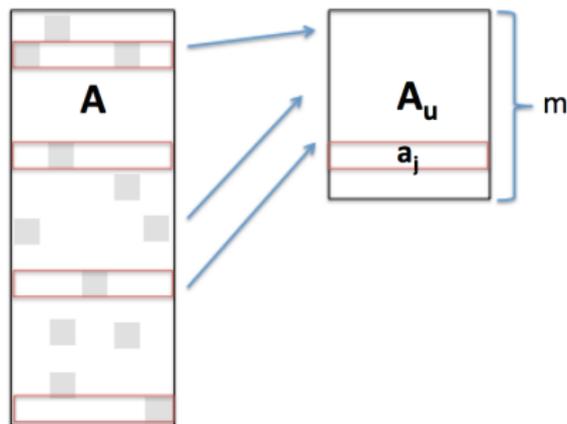
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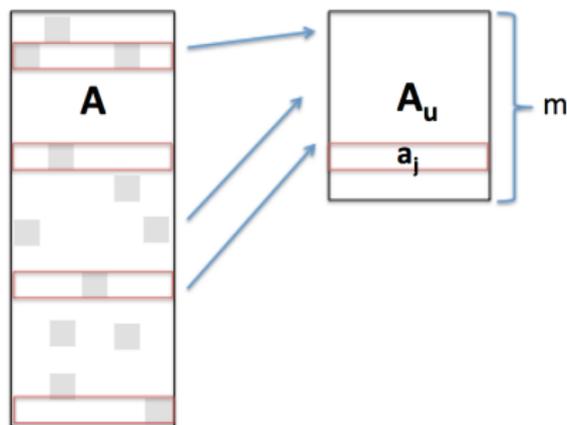
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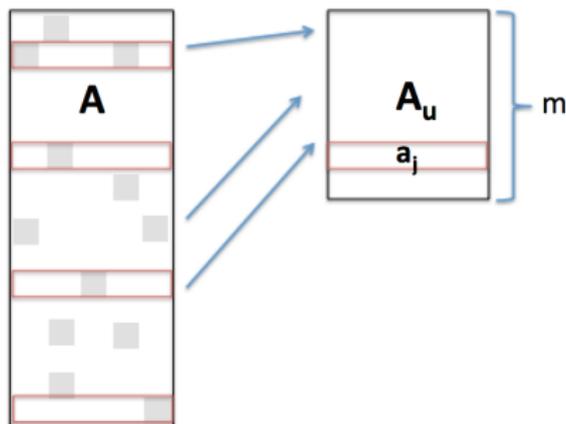
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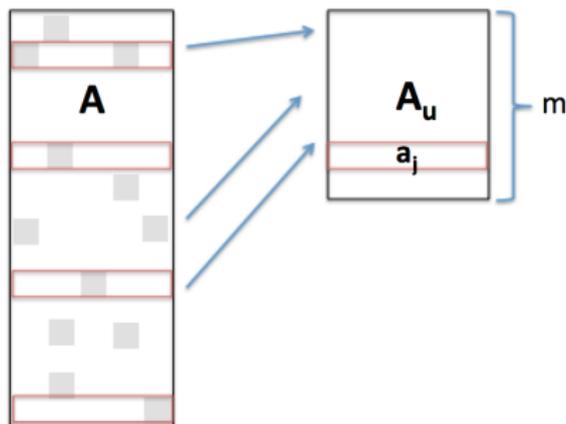
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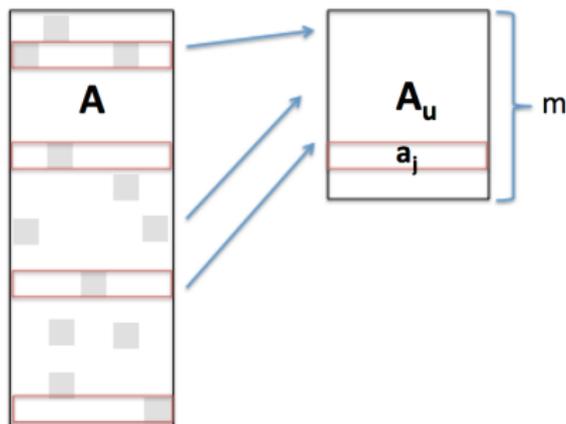
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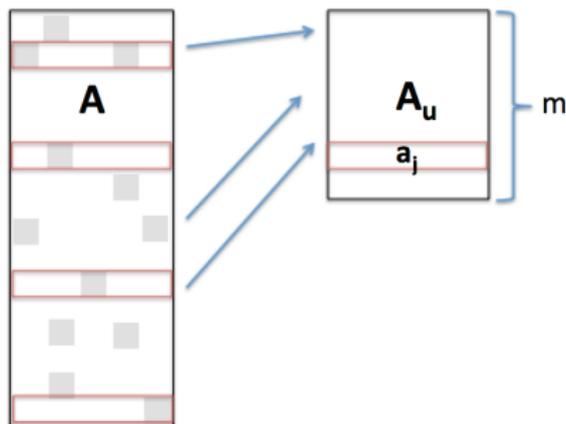
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## What did this theorem just tell us?

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# Overview

- 1 Spectral Matrix Approximation
- 2 Leverage Score Sampling
- 3 Iterative Leverage Score Computation
- 4 Coherence Reducing Reweighting

## Coherence Reducing Reweighting

**Reminder:** If our data is *incoherent*, then all leverage scores are small  $O(d/n)$  and we can uniformly sample rows and obtain a small spectral approximation.

# Coherence Reducing Reweighting

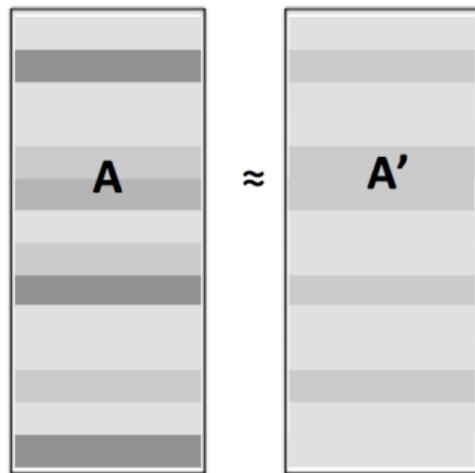
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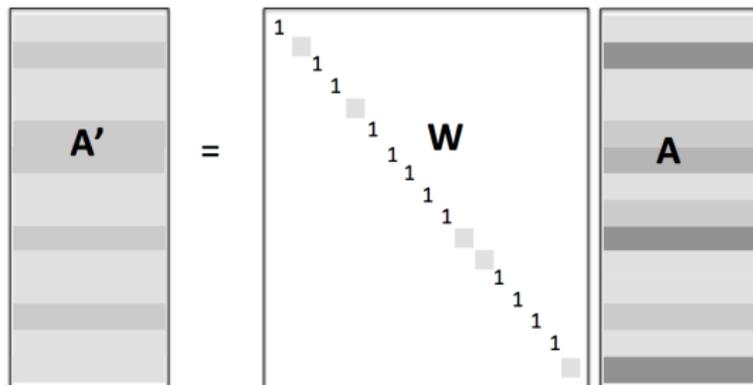
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- Don't need to actually compute  $\mathbf{W}$ . Just existence is enough.

**How to prove existence of reweighting?**

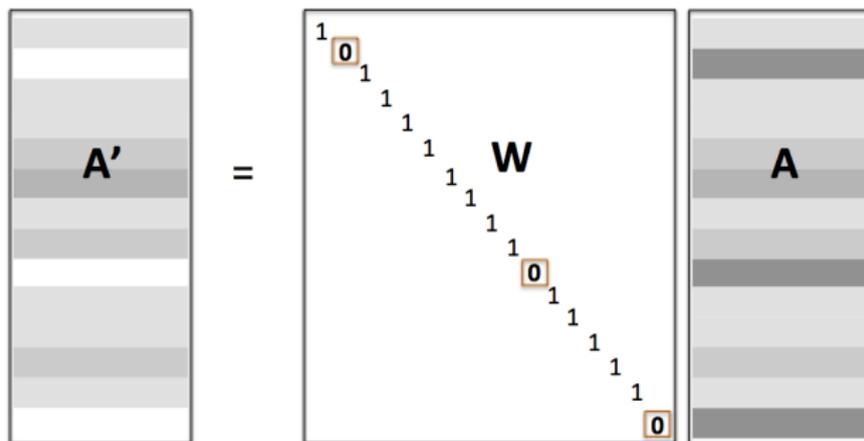
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- $\sum_i \tau_i(\mathbf{A}) = d$  so at most  $d/\alpha$  rows with  $\tau_i(\mathbf{A}) \geq \alpha$ .

# Coherence Reducing Reweighting

## How to prove existence of reweighting?

- $\sum_i \tau_i(\mathbf{A}) = d$  so at most  $d/\alpha$  rows with  $\tau_i(\mathbf{A}) \geq \alpha$ .
- Can we just delete them?



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$2^{100}$	0	0	...	0
$2^{99}$	0	0	...	0
$2^{98}$	0	0	...	0
⋮				
1	0	0	...	0

**Alternative idea**

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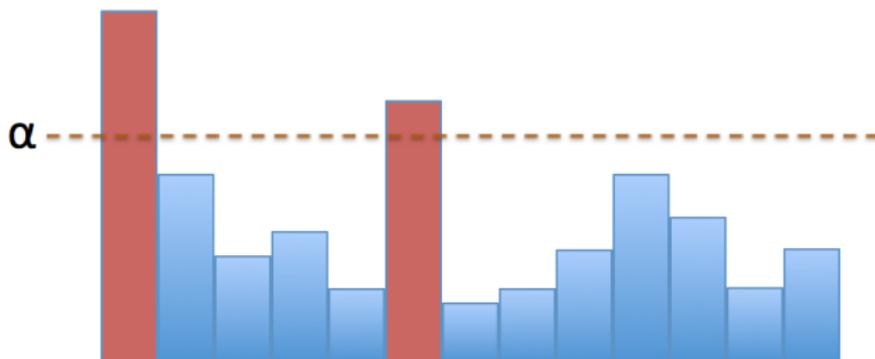
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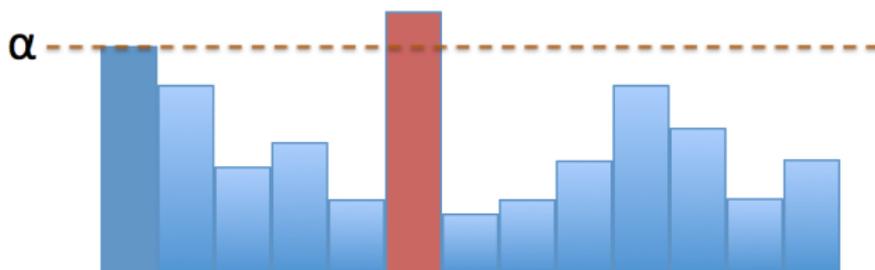
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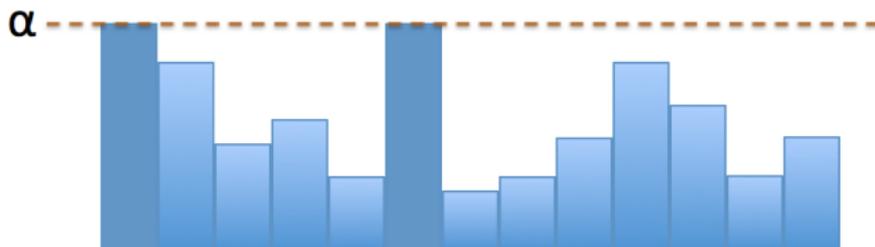
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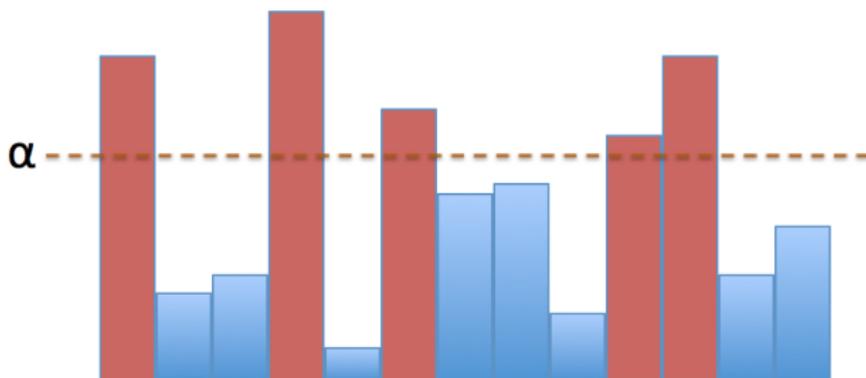
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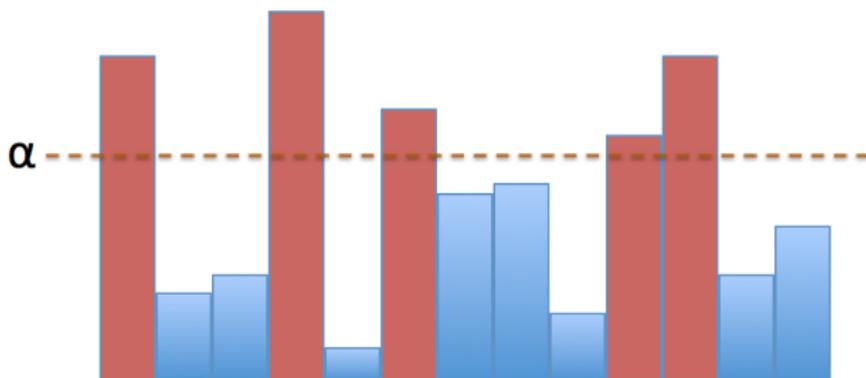


**Key observation:**



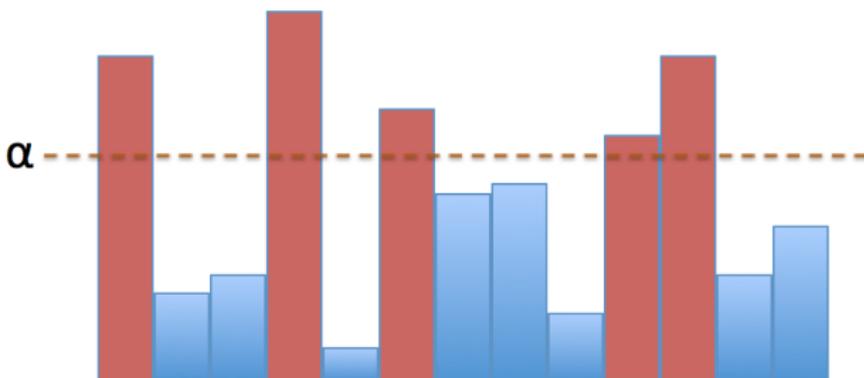
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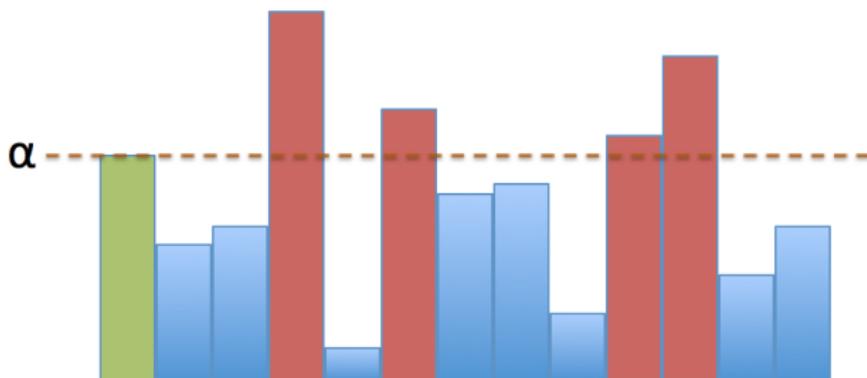
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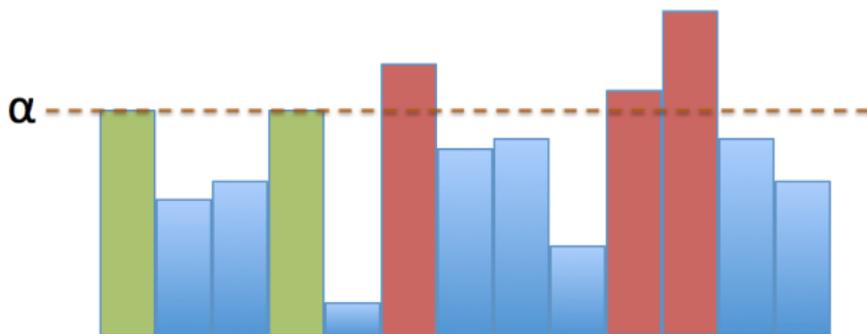
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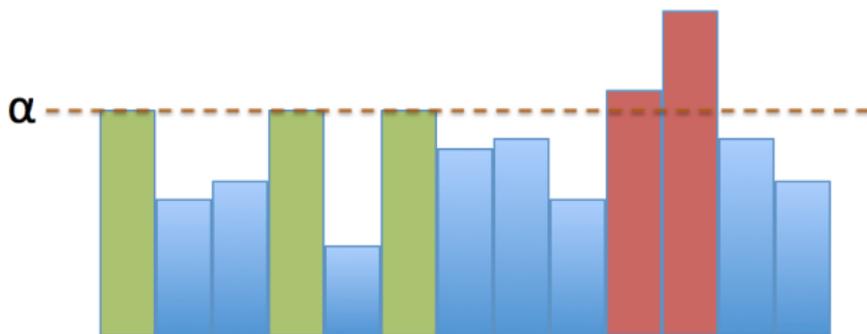
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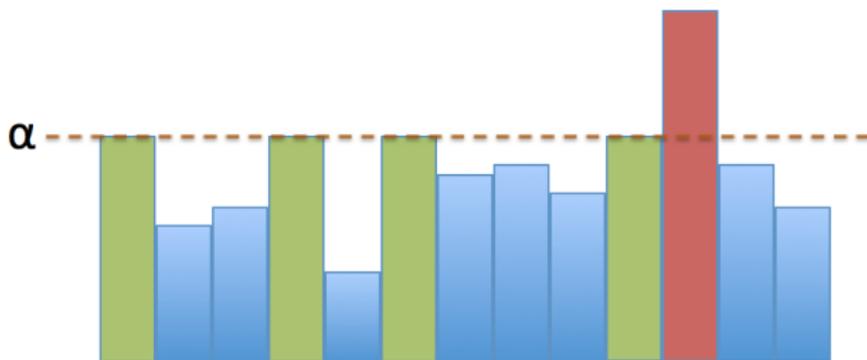
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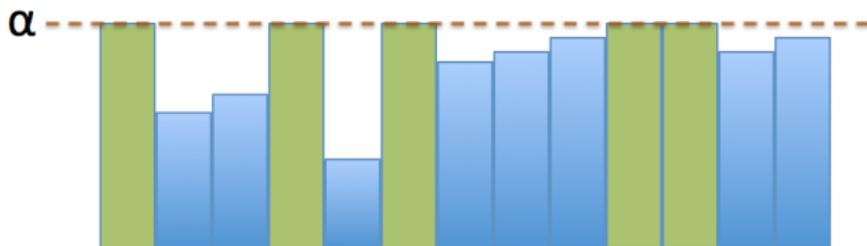
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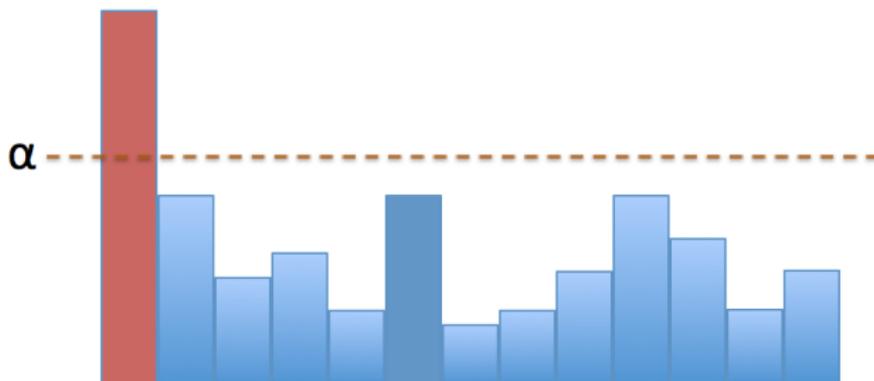


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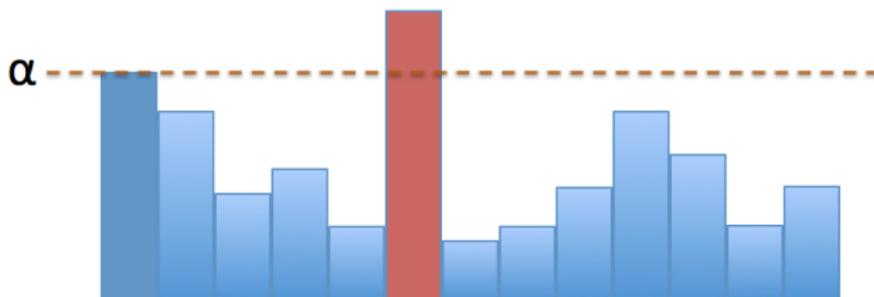
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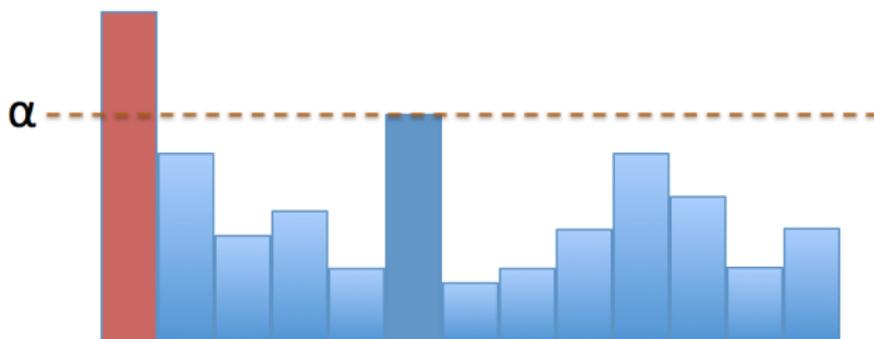
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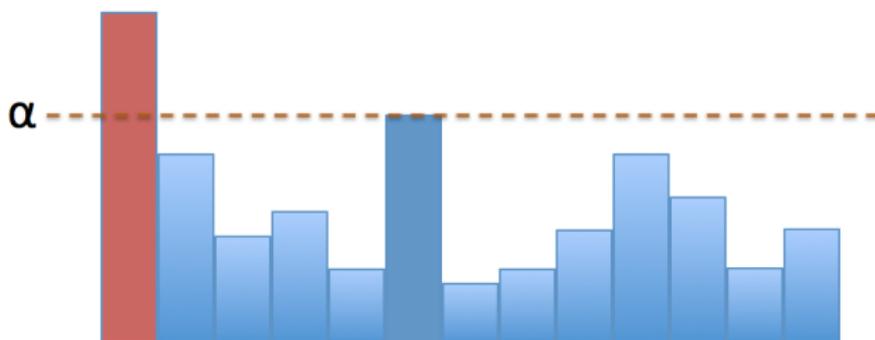
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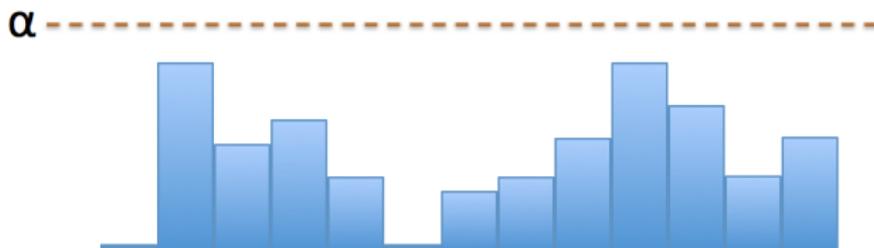
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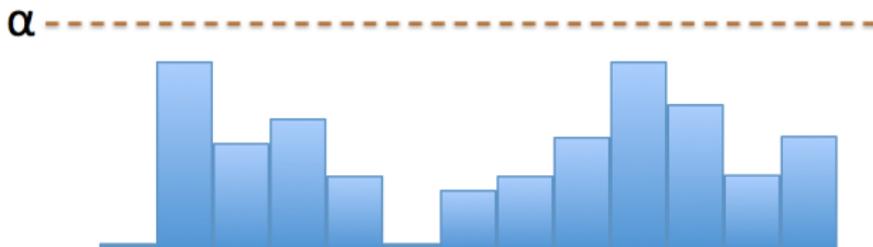
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- Rows that keep violating constraint will have weight cut to  $\approx 0$ .
- Can remove them without significantly effecting leverage scores of other rows.
- So overall, reweighting  $d/\alpha$  rows is enough to cut all leverage scores below  $\alpha$ .



# Conclusion

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- Very simple analysis shows how leverage scores can be approximated with uniform sampling.
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Thanks! Questions?