

Sublinear Time Low Rank Approximation of PSD Matrices

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Low Rank Approximation

- A is an $n \times d$ matrix
 - Think of n points in \mathbb{R}^d
- E.g., A is a customer-product matrix
 - $A_{i,j}$ = how many times customer i purchased item j
- A is typically well-approximated by low rank matrix
 - E.g., high rank because of noise
- **Goal:** find a low rank matrix approximating A
 - Easy to store, quick to multiply, data more interpretable

What is a Good Low Rank Approximation?

Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

Any matrix $A = U\Sigma V$

- U has orthonormal columns
 - Σ is diagonal with non-increasing positive entries down the diagonal
 - V has orthonormal rows
-
- Truncated SVD rank- k approximation: $A_k = U_k \Sigma_k V_k$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U}_k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{V}_k \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{E} \end{pmatrix}$$

What is a Good Low Rank Approximation?

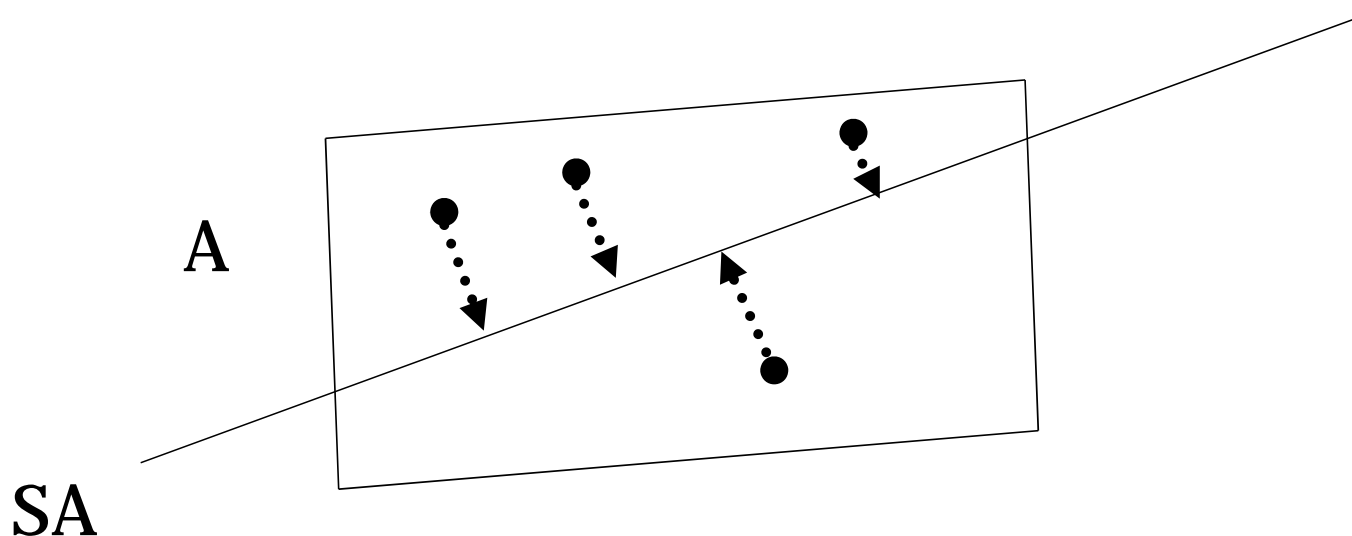
- $A_k = \operatorname{argmin}_{\text{rank } k \text{ matrices } B} \|A-B\|_F$
- $\|C\|_F = (\sum_{i,j} C_{i,j}^2)^{1/2}$
- Computing A_k exactly is expensive

Approximate Low Rank Approximation

- **Goal:** output a rank k matrix A' , so that
 - $|A-A'|_F \leq (1+\varepsilon) |A-A_k|_F$
- Can do this in $\text{nnz}(A) + (n+d) \cdot \text{poly}(k/\varepsilon)$ time w.h.p. [CW13]

Solution to Low-Rank Approximation

- Given $n \times d$ input matrix A
- Compute SA using a sketching matrix S with $k/\epsilon \ll n$ rows. SA takes random linear combinations of rows of A

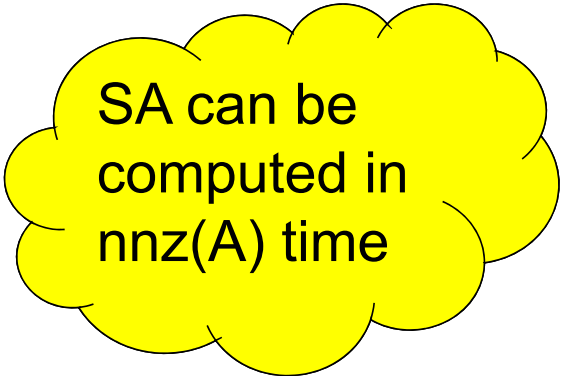


- Project rows of A onto SA , then find best rank- k approximation to points inside of SA

What is the Matrix S?

- S can be a $k/\epsilon \times n$ matrix of i.i.d. normal random variables
- [S06] S can be an $O_{\sim}(k/\epsilon) \times n$ Fast Johnson Lindenstrauss Matrix
- [CW13] S can be a $\text{poly}(k/\epsilon) \times n$ CountSketch matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



SA can be
computed in
 $\text{nnz}(A)$ time

Caveat: Projecting the Points onto SA is Slow

- Current algorithm
 - Compute S^*A
 - Project each of the rows onto S^*A
 - Find best rank- k approximation of projected points inside of rowspace of S^*A

- Bottleneck is step 2

- Approximate the projection
 - Fast algorithm for approximate regression

$$\min_x \|X(SA) - A\|_F^2 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \min_x \|X(SA)R - AR\|_F^2$$

- $\text{nnz}(A) + (n + d) \cdot \text{poly}(k/\epsilon)$ time

Structure-Preserving Low Rank Approximation

- Let A be an arbitrary $n \times n$ matrix
- Suppose we also require our rank- k approximation A' to be positive semidefinite (PSD)
 - A' is symmetric and all eigenvalues are non-negative
- Covariance matrices, kernel matrices, Laplacians are PSD
- Roundoff errors may make a PSD matrix non-PSD
 - We do not assume A is PSD but want A' to be PSD

Structure-Preserving Low Rank Approximation

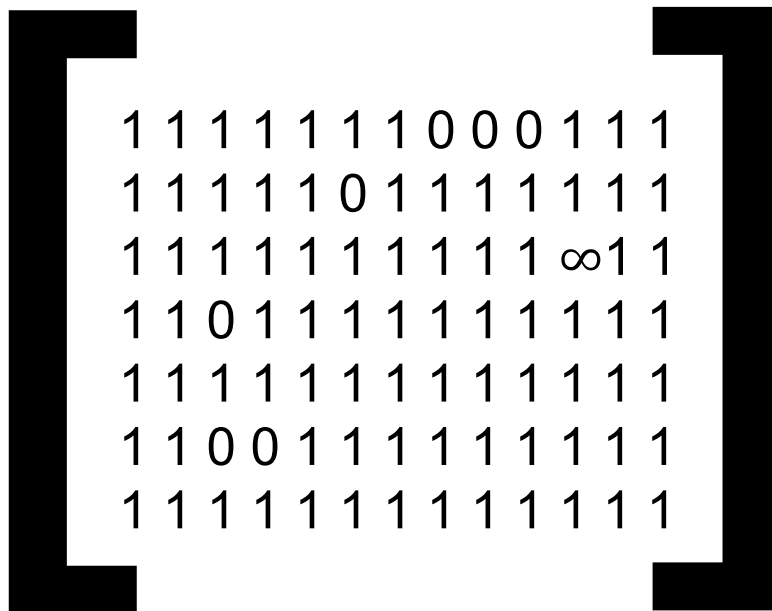
- **Goal:** output a rank-k PSD matrix A' for which $\|A-A'\|_F$ is small
- Can assume A is symmetric
 - $A = A^{\text{sym}} + A^{\text{asym}}$, where $A_{i,j}^{\text{sym}} = \frac{A_{i,j}+A_{j,i}}{2}$ and $A_{i,j}^{\text{asym}} = \frac{A_{i,j}-A_{j,i}}{2}$
 - $\|A - A'\|_F^2 = \|A^{\text{sym}} - A'\|_F^2 + \|A^{\text{asym}}\|_F^2$
 - Compute A^{sym} in $\text{nnz}(A)$ time
- What is the best PSD rank-k approximation $A_{k,+}$ to A ?
- $A_{k,+}$ is obtained by zeroing out all but its top k positive eigenvalues

PSD Low Rank Approximation

- [CW17]: In $\text{nnz}(A) + n \text{ poly}(k/\epsilon)$ time, can find a PSD rank- k A' so that
 - $\|A - A'\|_F \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|A - A_{k,+}\|_F$
- Previous work
 - [KMT09] Nystrom method based on uniform sampling requires incoherence assumptions on A
 - [GM13] Weaker $\|A - A'\|_F \leq \|A - A_{k,+}\|_F + \epsilon \|A - A_{k,+}\|_*$ bound, where $\|\cdot\|_*$ is the nuclear norm
 - [WLZ16] Running time at least $n^2 k/\epsilon$ and A' has a larger rank k/ϵ

How Good Are These Algorithms?

- For general matrices A , there is an $\text{nnz}(A)$ time lower bound for relative error approximation



1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	∞	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Lower bounds hold even to estimate $|A|_F^2$ up to relative error

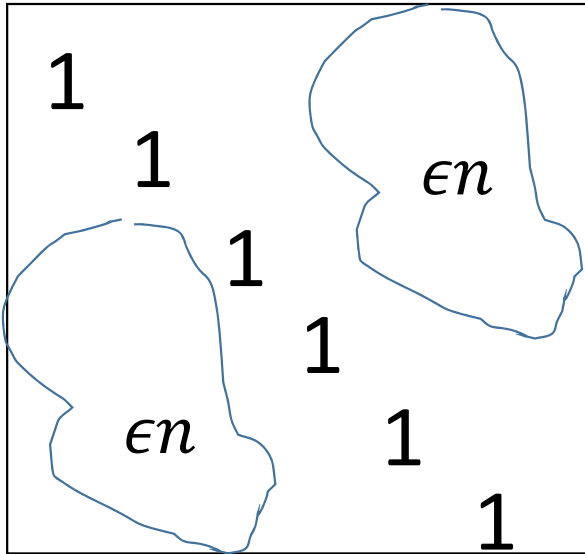
- Similar $\text{nnz}(A)$ time lower bound holds for outputting a relative error PSD low rank approximation to an arbitrary matrix A

What if Your Input Matrix is Itself PSD?

- Let A be an arbitrary $n \times n$ PSD matrix
- Covariance matrices, kernel matrices, Laplacians are PSD
 - Want to approximate them for efficiency
- Is there an $\text{nnz}(A)$ time lower bound for low rank approximation of PSD matrices?
- Is there an $\text{nnz}(A)$ time lower bound for estimating the norm $\|A\|_F^2$ of a PSD matrix?

Estimating the Norm of a PSD Matrix

- $|A|_F^2 = |BB^T|_F^2 = \sum_{i,j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2$, where $A = BB^T$
- $\langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 \leq |B_i|_2^2 \cdot |B_j|_2^2 \leq \max_{i,j} \langle B_i, B_i \rangle^2$
- If $|B_i|_2^2 = 1$ for all i , then
 - (1) $\langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 \leq 1$ for all i and j
 - (2) if $\sum_{i \neq j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 \geq \epsilon \sum_i \langle B_i, B_i \rangle^2$ then $\sum_{i \neq j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 \geq \epsilon n$
- Uniformly sampling $n \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$ terms $\langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2$ for $i \neq j$ suffices for estimating $\sum_{i \neq j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2$



$$(1) \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 \leq 1 \text{ for all } i, j$$

$$(2) \sum_{i \neq j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 \geq \epsilon n$$

Conditions imply uniformly sampling $n \cdot \text{poly}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$ entries works

- When $|B_i|_2 \neq 1$ for all i , sample an entry with probability $p_{i,j} = |B_i|^2 \cdot |B_j|^2 / |B|_F^4$
- Let $X = \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 / p_{i,j}$ if entry i, j is sampled
- $E[X] = \sum_{i,j} p_{i,j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 / p_{i,j} = \sum_{i,j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^2 = |B^T B|_F^2 = |A|_F^2$
- $\text{Var}[X] = \sum_{i,j} p_{i,j} \langle B_i, B_j \rangle^4 / p_{i,j}^2 \leq n \cdot |A|_F^4$

Sublinear Time Low Rank Approximation of PSD Matrices

- **Our Result:** Given an $n \times n$ PSD matrix A , in $n \cdot k^2 \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$ time we can output a (factorization of a) rank- k matrix A' for which w.h.p.

$$\|A - A'\|_F \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|A - A_k\|_F$$

- The number of entries read is $n \cdot k \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$
- Lower Bound: Any algorithm requires reading $\Omega(n \cdot k \cdot \frac{1}{\epsilon})$ entries

Starting Point: Connection to Adaptive Sampling

Adaptively sample a column proportional to its distance to the span of columns chosen so far [DV06]:

- $C \leftarrow \emptyset$
- For $i = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{\text{poly}(k)}{\epsilon}$
- Sample a column A_i with probability $\frac{|A_i - P_C A_i|_2^2}{|A - P_C A|_F^2}$
- $C \leftarrow C \cup \{A_i\}$
- End

- There is a k -dimensional subspace V inside the span of C so that

$$|A - P_V A|_F^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) |A - A_k|_F^2$$

Connection to Adaptive Sampling

- Computing the sampling probabilities and finding $P_V A$ only requires knowing inner products between columns of A and C
- Algorithm needs $n \cdot \frac{\text{poly}(k)}{\epsilon} \ll n^2$ inner products
- Since A is PSD, $A = B^T B$, and given A , all inner products between columns (or rows) of B have been precomputed!
- Run adaptive sampling algorithm using A to output $P_V B$:
$$|B - P_V B|_F^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) |B - B_k|_F^2$$
- But $P_V A$ can be an arbitrarily bad low rank approximation to A ...

Projection Cost-Preserving Sketches

- Instead, sample a set C of columns of A which not only contains a good rank- k approximation, but is a *Projection Cost-Preserving Sketch (PCP)*:

[CEMMP15] There is a diagonal rescaling matrix S so that for all k -dimensional projection matrices P : $|SC(I - P)|_F^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon)|A(I - P)|_F^2$

- If P approximately minimizes the LHS, then P approximately minimizes the RHS
- Find a PCP C of $\text{poly}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right)$ columns of A and output its top k left singular vectors
- If C can be found by reading $n \cdot k \cdot \text{poly}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$ entries of A , we are done

Building a PCP

- How should we sample the columns C ?
- [LMP13,KLM+14,AM15] Ridge leverage scores:

$$\tau_i(A) = a_i^T \left(AA^T + \frac{\|A - A_k\|_F^2}{k} I \right)^{-1} a_i$$

- Give a “smooth” rank- k version of standard leverage scores
- They are the standard leverage scores of $[A; (\|A - A_k\|_F/\sqrt{k}) \cdot I]$

Ridge Leverage Scores

[CMM16] Let $\beta \in (0,1)$. Suppose $\tilde{\tau}_i \geq \beta\tau_i$ for all i , and $p_i = \frac{\tilde{\tau}_i}{\sum_j \tilde{\tau}_j}$. Sample a set C of $t = O((k \log k)/(\beta\epsilon^2))$ columns of A with replacement, where the i -th column of C is $\frac{A_j}{(t p_j)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ with probability p_j . With high probability,

$$(1 - \epsilon)CC^T - \frac{\epsilon}{k} |A - A_k|_F^2 \cdot I \preceq AA^T \preceq (1 + \epsilon)CC^T + \frac{\epsilon}{k} |A - A_k|_F^2 \cdot I$$

- **Multiplicative/additive generalization of a subspace embedding**
- Proof uses stable rank version of matrix Bernstein bound

Ridge Leverage Scores

[CMM16] Let $\beta \in (0,1)$. Suppose $\tilde{\tau}_i \geq \beta\tau_i$ for all i , and $p_i = \frac{\tilde{\tau}_i}{\sum_j \tilde{\tau}_j}$. Sample a set C of $t = O((k \log k)/(\beta\epsilon^2))$ columns of A , where the i -th column of C equals $\frac{A_j}{(tp_j)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ with probability p_j . With high probability, C is a PCP:

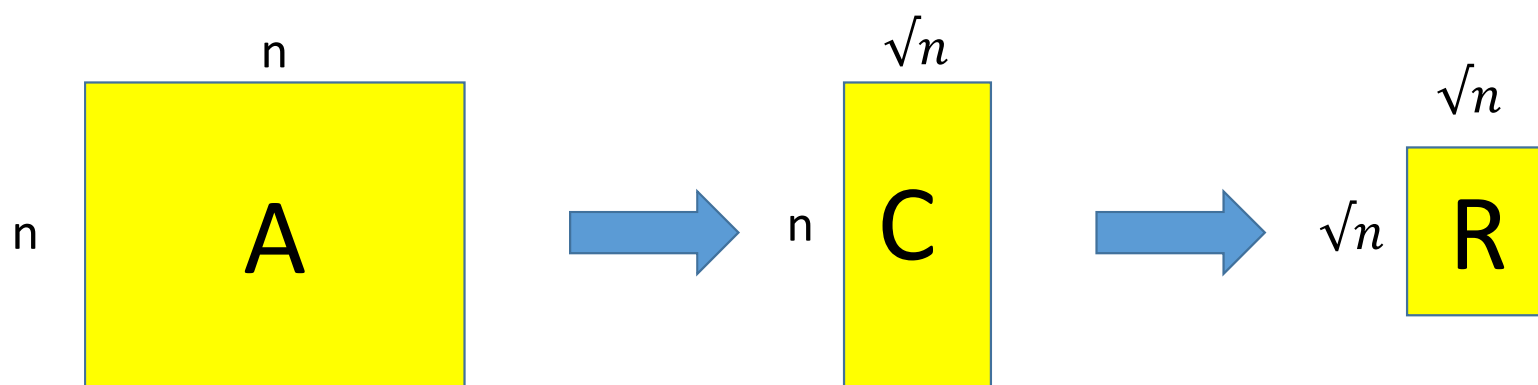
For all k -dimensional projection matrices P , $|C(I - P)|_F^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon)|A(I - P)|_F^2$

- Proof uses the multiplicative/additive generalization of a subspace embedding
- But how do we quickly get approximations $\tilde{\tau}_i$ to the ridge leverage scores?
- Recall $\tau_i(A) = a_i^T \left(AA^T + \frac{|A - A_k|_F^2}{k} I \right)^{-1} a_i$

Ridge Leverage Scores

- Unclear how to obtain good approximations to the $\tau_i(A)$
- Instead, since $A = BB^T$, A is the “kernel matrix” of a linear kernel, use [MM16] which shows how to approximate the $\tau_i(B)$ up to a $\Theta(1)$ factor with $n \cdot k$ kernel evaluations. Each evaluation corresponds to a single entry of A
- We show for all i , $\tau_i(A) \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{k}} \tau_i(B)$
- Sampling $(nk)^5 \text{poly}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$ columns of A according to the $\tau_i(B)$ gives a PCP C for A !
- But we still need to sample at least n^5 columns of A ...

Reduction to a Small Square Submatrix



- C is an $n \times (nk)^{.5} \text{poly}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$ reweighted column submatrix of A
- We show, using that C is a PCP of A, that its rank- k *standard row leverage scores* are within a factor of $\left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^{.5}$ of the *ridge leverage scores* of B
- Implies sampling a reweighted subset R of $(nk)^{.5} \text{poly}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$ rows of C is a PCP for C!

Processing the Small Matrix R

- Since R is small, can use sketching techniques to find its approximate top k right singular vectors
- Since R is a PCP for C, can use sampling techniques based on its top k right singular vectors give approximate top k left singular vectors of C
- Since C is a PCP for A, its top k left singular vectors span a good low rank approximation to A
- Overall time is $\tilde{O}(nk)\text{poly}\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$

Conclusions

- First sublinear time algorithm for relative error low rank approximation of PSD matrices, bypassing an $\text{nnz}(A)$ lower bound for general matrices
- Tight $\tilde{\Theta}(nk)$ bounds for constant ϵ
- Spectral norm error impossible in sublinear time, but can find a rank- k A' with $\|A - A'\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|A - A_k\|_2^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{k}\|A - A_k\|_F^2$ in $n \cdot \text{poly}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right)$ time
- Can output a PSD rank- k matrix A' in $n \cdot \text{poly}\left(\frac{k}{\epsilon}\right)$ time
- Open questions: (1) tighter dependence on ϵ , (2) other families of matrices?