

# Matrix-valued Chernoff Bounds and Applications

China Theory Week

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# Introduction

- Probability theory: backbone in analysis of randomized algorithms
- Random sampling is the most fundamental technique
- Several inequalities for analyzing approximation: Markov, Chebyshev, Chernoff, Azuma, etc.

**In this talk:** Discuss recent **matrix**-valued probabilistic inequalities and their applications

- Agenda:**
- 1 Review real-valued probabilistic inequalities
  - 2 Present recent matrix-valued variants
  - 3 A low rank matrix-valued inequality
  - 4 Two applications: matrix sparsification, approximate matrix multiplication

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# Law of Large Numbers

- Fundamental principle of random sampling:

**Law of Large Numbers** (LLN)

It states that the empirical average converges to true average

- Classical form: for **reals** rather than matrices

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_t$  be independent copies of a random variable  $X$

**Goal:** estimate the **mean**  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  using samples  $X_1, \dots, X_t$

- Approximate by the **empirical mean**

$$\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t X_i \approx \mathbb{E}[X]$$

- How good is the approximation (non-asymptotics)?

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**Question:**

Is there a matrix-valued LLN?



## Matrix-valued Random Variables

- Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a probability space. A *matrix-valued random variable* is a measurable function

$$M : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$$

- Its expectation is a  $d \times d$  matrix, denote by  $\mathbb{E}[M] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$
- Self-adjoint matrix-valued random variable:  $M : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^{d \times d}$
- **Caveat:** Entries may or may not be correlated with each other

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**Matrix-valued random variable**  
is a random matrix with (possibly) correlated entries

## Real-valued Probabilistic Inequalities

### Lemma (Markov)

Let  $X \geq 0$  be a real-valued random variable (r.v.) and  $a > 0$ . Then

$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq a) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{a}.$$

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Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_t$  be i.i.d. copies of a real-valued r.v.  $X$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . If  $|X| \leq \gamma$ , then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left|\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t X_i - \mathbb{E}[X]\right| > \varepsilon\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(-C \frac{\varepsilon^2 t}{\gamma^2}\right).$$

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...and many more...

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**Question:** How would the matrix-valued generalizations look like?

## Real-valued to Matrix-valued

- Is there a meaningful way to generalize the real-valued inequalities to *matrix-valued*?
- Would these inequalities be useful to us?



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$a, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$	$A, B \in S^{d \times d}$	Comments
$a > \beta$	$A \geq B$	$A - B$ is p.s.d.
$ a $	$\ A\ $	Spectral norm
$e^a$	$e^A$	Matrix Exponential

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### Lemma (Matrix-valued Markov [AW02])

Let  $M \geq 0$  be a self adjoint **matrix**-valued r.v. and  $a > 0$ . Then

$$\mathbb{P}(M \not\leq a \cdot I) \leq \frac{\mathbf{tr}(\mathbb{E}[M])}{a}.$$

**Remark:**  $\mathbb{P}(M \not\leq a \cdot I) = \mathbb{P}(\lambda_{\max}(M) > a)$

## Matrix-valued Probabilistic Inequalities

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### Theorem (Matrix-valued Chernoff [AW02, WX08])

Let  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_t$  be i.i.d. copies of a self adjoint **matrix**-valued r.v.  $M$  of size  $d$ . If  $\|M\| \leq \gamma$  a.s., then

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**Remark:** Proof similar with real-valued case (use of matrix exponential!)

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**Question:** Can we remove the dependency on the dimensionality ( $d$ )?

In general, no!

$$\text{Set } M = \begin{bmatrix} g_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & g_{d-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & g_d \end{bmatrix}, g_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1).$$

- Then  $\mathbb{E}[M] = 0_{d \times d}$
- $\left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\| \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \|(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_d)\|_\infty$ , i.e., maximum deviation of  $d$  independent Gaussian r.v.'s



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Question:

- Are there any natural assumptions that avoid the dependency on  $d$ ?

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- What if  $M$  has *rank-one* [RV07, Rud99]?

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Question:

- Are there any natural assumptions that avoid the dependency on  $d$ ?
- What if  $M$  has *rank-one* [RV07, Rud99]? Low-rank [MZ10]?

Let  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_t$  be i.i.d. copies of a self adjoint **matrix**-valued r.v.  $M$  of size  $d$

Theorem (“Restated” Matrix-valued Chernoff)

If  $\|M\| \leq \gamma$  a.s., and  $t = \Omega(\gamma^2 / \varepsilon^2 \log d)$  then

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\| > \varepsilon \right) \leq \frac{1}{\text{poly}(d)}.$$

## Low Rank Matrix-valued Chernoff

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Theorem (Low Rank Matrix-valued Chernoff [MZ10])

If  $\|M\| \leq \gamma$ ,  $\text{rank}(M) = O(1)$  a.s.,  $\|\mathbb{E}[M]\| \leq 1$  and  $t = \Omega(\gamma / \varepsilon^2 \log(\gamma / \varepsilon^2))$  then

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## Warm-up (Real-valued case)

- Let's start by proving the real-valued case

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_t$  be i.i.d. copies of a real-valued r.v.  $X$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . If  $|X| \leq \gamma$ , then

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- $p$ -th moments,  $E_p := \left(\mathbb{E}\left|\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t X_i - \mathbb{E}[X]\right|^p\right)^{1/p}$
- Approach: Give tight bounds for  $E_p$
- Mimic the real-valued case for matrix-valued

### Fact

If  $g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ , then  $(\mathbb{E}|g|^p)^{1/p} = O(\sigma \sqrt{p})$

## Proof (Warm-up)

Reduce general r.v.  $X_i$  to Bernoulli  $\epsilon_i \sim \pm 1$  (Symmetrisation Argument)

$$\begin{aligned} E_p &:= \left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \left| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t X_i - \mathbb{E}[X] \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i X_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \end{aligned}$$

Bound  $\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i X_i \right|^p$ . By **Khinchine's ineq.** we get

$$\mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i X_i \right|^p \leq \left( C \cdot p \sum_{i=1}^t X_i^2 \right)^{p/2}$$

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## Proof (Warm-up) - Continued

$$\begin{aligned} E_p &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i X_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p}, && \text{Symmetrisation} \\ &\leq \frac{2C\sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \left( \sum_{i=1}^t X_i^2 \right)^{p/2} \right)^{1/p}, && \text{Khintchine} \\ &\leq \frac{2C\sqrt{p}}{t} (t\gamma^2)^{1/2}, && \sum_{i=1}^t X_i^2 \leq t\gamma^2 \\ &\leq \frac{2C\gamma\sqrt{p}}{\sqrt{t}} \end{aligned}$$

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## Theorem (Low Rank Matrix-valued Chernoff [MZ10])

Let  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_t$  be i.i.d. copies of a self adjoint **matrix**-valued r.v.  $M$  of size  $d$ . If  $\|M\| \leq \gamma$ ,  $\text{rank}(M) = O(1)$  a.s.,  $\|\mathbb{E}[M]\| \leq 1$  and  $t = \Omega(\gamma/\varepsilon^2 \log(\gamma/\varepsilon^2))$  then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M]\right\| > \varepsilon\right) \leq \frac{1}{\text{poly}(t)}.$$

Let  $Z = \left\|\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M]\right\|$

**Goal:** Prove a similar bound for  $(\mathbb{E} Z^p)^{1/p}$  like before (real case)

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**Goal:** Prove a similar bound for  $(\mathbb{E} Z^p)^{1/p}$  like before (real case)

### Main Problem

There is **no** Khintchine ineq. for  $\|\cdot\|$  space as for reals

## Theorem (Low Rank Matrix-valued Chernoff [MZ10])

Let  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_t$  be i.i.d. copies of a self adjoint **matrix**-valued r.v.  $M$  of size  $d$ . If  $\|M\| \leq \gamma$ ,  $\text{rank}(M) = O(1)$  a.s.,  $\|\mathbb{E}[M]\| \leq 1$  and  $t = \Omega(\gamma/\varepsilon^2 \log(\gamma/\varepsilon^2))$  then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M]\right\| > \varepsilon\right) \leq \frac{1}{\text{poly}(t)}.$$

Let  $Z = \left\|\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M]\right\|$

**Goal:** Prove a similar bound for  $(\mathbb{E} Z^p)^{1/p}$  like before (real case)

### Main Problem

There is **no** Khintchine ineq. for  $\|\cdot\|$  space as for reals  
...however there is Khintchine ineq. for the **Schatten** space...



# Schatten Space

- Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ . Denote by  $C_p^d$  the  $p$ -th Schatten norm space in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  equipped with the norm

$$\|A\|_{C_p^d} := \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \sigma_i(A)^p \right)^{1/p},$$

where  $\sigma_i(A)$  are the singular values of  $A$ .

- $p = \infty$ : Operator norm
- $p = 2$ : Frobenius (Hilbert-Schmidt) norm
- $p = 1$ : Nuclear norm
- $\|A\| \leq \|A\|_{C_p^d} \leq (\text{rank}(A))^{1/p} \|A\|$  for any  $p \geq 1$
- $C_p^d$  space has a Khintchine inequality [LPP91, LP86]!

$$\left( \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} \leq O(\sqrt{p}) \left\| \left( \sum_{i=1}^t M_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{C_p^d}$$

where  $\epsilon_i \sim \pm 1$ .

# Schatten Space

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$$\left( \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} \leq O(\sqrt{p}) \left\| \left( \sum_{i=1}^t M_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{C_p^d}$$

where  $\epsilon_i \sim \pm 1$ .

## What we proved before...

Real-valued:

$$\left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \left| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t X_i - \mathbb{E}[X] \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq \frac{C \sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \left( \sum_{i=1}^t X_i^2 \right)^{p/2} \right)^{1/p}$$

...what we get now

Real-valued:

$$\left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t X_i - \mathbb{E}[X] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq \frac{C \sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{X_i} \left( \sum_{i=1}^t X_i^2 \right)^{p/2} \right)^{1/p}$$

Lemma (Main Lemma [MZ10])

Let  $M_1, \dots, M_t$  be i.i.d. copies of a self adjoint matrix-valued r.v.  $M$  with rank at most  $r$  almost surely. Then for every  $p \geq 2$

$$\left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq \frac{C(rt)^{1/p} \sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_j} \left\| \sum_{j=1}^t M_j^2 \right\|^{p/2} \right)^{1/p}$$

## Proof Sketch

Let  $\tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$

## Proof Sketch

Let  $\tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$

$$\tilde{E}_p \leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \text{Symmetrisation}$$



## Proof Sketch

Let  $\tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{E}_p &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} && \text{Symmetrisation} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} && \|A\| \leq \|A\|_{C_p^d} \end{aligned}$$

## Proof Sketch

Let  $\tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$

$$\tilde{E}_p \leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \text{Symmetrisation}$$

$$\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \|A\| \leq \|A\|_{C_p^d}$$

## Proof Sketch

Let  $\tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{E}_p &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} && \text{Symmetrisation} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} && \|A\| \leq \|A\|_{C_p^d} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} C^p p^{p/2} \left\| \left( \sum_{i=1}^t M_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} && \text{Khintchine} \end{aligned}$$

## Proof Sketch

Let  $\tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$

$$\tilde{E}_p \leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \text{Symmetrisation}$$

$$\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \|A\| \leq \|A\|_{C_p^d}$$

$$\leq \frac{2C\sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \left\| \left( \sum_{i=1}^t M_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \text{Khintchine}$$

## Proof Sketch

Let  $\tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{E}_p &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} && \text{Symmetrisation} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} && \|A\| \leq \|A\|_{C_p^d} \\ &\leq \frac{2C\sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \left\| \left( \sum_{i=1}^t M_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{C_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} && \text{Khintchine} \end{aligned}$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{Let } \tilde{E}_p := \left( \mathbb{E} \left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i - \mathbb{E}[M] \right\|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

$$\tilde{E}_p \leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \text{Symmetrisation}$$

$$\leq \frac{2}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_i M_i \right\|_{\mathbb{C}_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \|A\| \leq \|A\|_{\mathbb{C}_p^d}$$

$$\leq \frac{2C\sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \left\| \left( \sum_{i=1}^t M_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{\mathbb{C}_p^d}^p \right)^{1/p} \quad \text{Khintchine}$$

$$\leq \frac{2C(rt)^{1/p} \sqrt{p}}{t} \left( \mathbb{E}_{M_i} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^t M_i^2 \right\|^{p/2} \right)^{1/p} \quad \|A\|_{\mathbb{C}_p^d} \leq \text{rank}(A)^{1/p} \|A\|$$

# SECOND PART

## APPLICATIONS

# Matrix Sparsification

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} 19 & 3 & 4 & 16 & 7 & 6 & 6 & 7 & 19 & 8 & 13 & 10 & 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 9 & 15 & 4 & 12 & 17 & 16 & 4 & 4 & 6 & 8 & 7 & 5 & 14 \\ 19 & 19 & 1 & 10 & 5 & 5 & 16 & 16 & 17 & 17 & 11 & 19 & 8 & 4 \\ 13 & 16 & 6 & 9 & 16 & 19 & 8 & 7 & 11 & 9 & 9 & 8 & 17 & 8 \\ 2 & 20 & 1 & 13 & 6 & 7 & 12 & 11 & 20 & 19 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 13 \\ 6 & 14 & 2 & 15 & 11 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 16 & 1 & 16 \\ 11 & 1 & 17 & 16 & 14 & 6 & 2 & 13 & 9 & 6 & 3 & 8 & 4 & 2 \\ 20 & 17 & 14 & 6 & 18 & 13 & 11 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 13 & 19 \\ 20 & 19 & 7 & 14 & 20 & 10 & 16 & 14 & 20 & 3 & 5 & 9 & 15 & 16 \\ 4 & 14 & 20 & 14 & 11 & 8 & 19 & 14 & 1 & 18 & 9 & 2 & 13 & 10 \\ 20 & 16 & 1 & 4 & 3 & 17 & 3 & 15 & 16 & 12 & 1 & 3 & 10 & 9 \\ 20 & 15 & 9 & 3 & 3 & 12 & 12 & 10 & 17 & 11 & 19 & 19 & 11 & 9 \\ 10 & 8 & 8 & 10 & 6 & 11 & 10 & 2 & 18 & 3 & 19 & 20 & 6 & 7 \\ 17 & 14 & 16 & 20 & 17 & 19 & 1 & 5 & 2 & 18 & 10 & 12 & 15 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Matrix Sparsification

$$\tilde{A} := \begin{bmatrix} 19 & 3 & 0 & 16 & 7 & 6 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 8 & 13 & 10 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 9 & 15 & 4 & 0 & 17 & 16 & 4 & 4 & 6 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 14 \\ 19 & 19 & 1 & 10 & 5 & 5 & 16 & 16 & 17 & 0 & 11 & 0 & 8 & 4 \\ 13 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 19 & 8 & 0 & 11 & 0 & 9 & 8 & 17 & 8 \\ 2 & 20 & 1 & 13 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 11 & 20 & 19 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 13 \\ 6 & 14 & 2 & 15 & 11 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 16 & 1 & 16 \\ 11 & 1 & 0 & 16 & 0 & 6 & 2 & 13 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 8 & 0 & 2 \\ 20 & 17 & 14 & 6 & 18 & 13 & 11 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 13 & 19 \\ 20 & 19 & 7 & 14 & 20 & 10 & 16 & 14 & 20 & 3 & 5 & 0 & 15 & 16 \\ 4 & 14 & 20 & 14 & 11 & 8 & 19 & 14 & 1 & 18 & 9 & 2 & 13 & 10 \\ 20 & 16 & 1 & 4 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 15 & 0 & 12 & 1 & 3 & 10 & 9 \\ 20 & 15 & 9 & 3 & 0 & 12 & 0 & 10 & 0 & 11 & 19 & 19 & 11 & 9 \\ 10 & 8 & 8 & 0 & 6 & 11 & 10 & 2 & 18 & 3 & 0 & 20 & 6 & 7 \\ 17 & 14 & 16 & 20 & 17 & 19 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 18 & 10 & 12 & 15 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Goal:** Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Find sparse  $\tilde{A}$  s.t.  $\|\tilde{A} - A\| \leq \varepsilon \|A\|$

# Matrix Sparsification

## Problem

Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Find sparse  $\tilde{A}$  s.t.  $\|\tilde{A} - A\| \leq \varepsilon \|A\|$

- Achlioptas, McSherry [AM07]

Sparsify each entry  $(i,j)$  independently w.p.  $\approx |A_{ij}|$

Analysis:  $\tilde{A} - A$  is a random matrix with independent entries

Arora et al. [AHK06] simplified their analysis using real-valued Chernoff bounds.

- Drineas, Z. [DZ10]

Sample each entry  $(i,j)$  independently w.p.  $\approx A_{ij}^2 / \|A\|_F^2$

Improve the above results using matrix-valued Chernoff bounds (matrix-valued Bernstein)

## Analysis via matrix-valued Chernoff

- Define a matrix-valued r.v.  $M$  with  $\mathbb{E}[M] = A$
- Each sample of  $M$  is a zero  $d \times d$  matrix with **only one** non-zero entry  
Let  $p_{ij} = A_{ij}^2 / \|A\|_F^2$  (probability selecting  $(i,j)$  entry)

$$\mathbb{P}\left(M = \frac{1}{p_{ij}} A_{ij} e_i e_j^\top\right) = p_{ij}$$

## Analysis via matrix-valued Chernoff

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} 19 & 3 & 4 & 16 & 7 & 6 & 6 & 7 & 19 & 8 & 13 & 10 & 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 9 & 15 & 4 & 12 & 17 & 16 & 4 & 4 & 6 & 8 & 7 & 5 & 14 \\ 19 & 19 & 1 & 10 & 5 & 5 & 16 & 16 & 17 & 17 & 11 & 19 & 8 & 4 \\ 13 & 16 & 6 & 9 & 16 & 19 & 8 & 7 & 11 & 9 & 9 & 8 & 17 & 8 \\ 2 & 20 & 1 & 13 & 6 & 7 & 12 & 11 & 20 & 19 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 13 \\ 6 & 14 & 2 & 15 & 11 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 16 & 1 & 16 \\ 11 & 1 & 17 & 16 & 14 & 6 & 2 & 13 & 9 & 6 & 3 & 8 & 4 & 2 \\ 20 & 17 & 14 & 6 & 18 & 13 & 11 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 13 & 19 \\ 20 & 19 & 7 & 14 & 20 & 10 & 16 & 14 & 20 & 3 & 5 & 9 & 15 & 16 \\ 4 & 14 & 20 & 14 & 11 & 8 & 19 & 14 & 1 & 18 & 9 & 2 & 13 & 10 \\ 20 & 16 & 1 & 4 & 3 & 17 & 3 & 15 & 16 & 12 & 1 & 3 & 10 & 9 \\ 20 & 15 & 9 & 3 & 3 & 12 & 12 & 10 & 17 & 11 & 19 & 19 & 11 & 9 \\ 10 & 8 & 8 & 10 & 6 & 11 & 10 & 2 & 18 & 3 & 19 & 20 & 6 & 7 \\ 17 & 14 & 16 & 20 & 17 & 19 & 1 & 5 & 2 & 18 & 10 & 12 & 15 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$









# Analysis via matrix-valued Chernoff

$$M_3 := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 15 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

.....



## Analysis via matrix-valued Chernoff

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 19 & 3 & 0 & 16 & 7 & 6 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 8 & 13 & 10 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 9 & 15 & 4 & 0 & 17 & 16 & 4 & 4 & 6 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 14 \\ 19 & 19 & 1 & 10 & 5 & 5 & 16 & 16 & 17 & 0 & 11 & 0 & 8 & 4 \\ 13 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 19 & 8 & 0 & 11 & 0 & 9 & 8 & 17 & 8 \\ 2 & 20 & 1 & 13 & 0 & 7 & 0 & 11 & 20 & 19 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 13 \\ 6 & 14 & 2 & 15 & 11 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 16 & 1 & 16 \\ 11 & 1 & 0 & 16 & 0 & 6 & 2 & 13 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 8 & 0 & 2 \\ 20 & 17 & 14 & 6 & 18 & 13 & 11 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 13 & 19 \\ 20 & 19 & 7 & 14 & 20 & 10 & 16 & 14 & 20 & 3 & 5 & 0 & 15 & 16 \\ 4 & 14 & 20 & 14 & 11 & 8 & 19 & 14 & 1 & 18 & 9 & 2 & 13 & 10 \\ 20 & 16 & 1 & 4 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 15 & 0 & 12 & 1 & 3 & 10 & 9 \\ 20 & 15 & 9 & 3 & 0 & 12 & 0 & 10 & 0 & 11 & 19 & 19 & 11 & 9 \\ 10 & 8 & 8 & 0 & 6 & 11 & 10 & 2 & 18 & 3 & 0 & 20 & 6 & 7 \\ 17 & 14 & 16 & 20 & 17 & 19 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 18 & 10 & 12 & 15 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Set } \tilde{A} := \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t M_i$$

## Analysis via matrix-valued Chernoff

- Define a matrix-valued r.v.  $M$  with  $\mathbb{E}[M] = A$
- Each sample of  $M$  is a zero  $d \times d$  matrix with **only one** non-zero entry.  
Let  $p_{ij} = A_{ij}^2 / \|A\|_F^2$  (probability selecting  $(i,j)$  entry)

$$\mathbb{P}\left(M = \frac{1}{p_{ij}} A_{ij} e_i e_j^\top\right) = p_{ij}$$

- Bounding the number of samples = # of non-zero entries of  $\tilde{A}$
- Matrix-valued Chernoff bounds guarantees  $\|\tilde{A} - A\| \leq \varepsilon \|A\|$

# Approximate Matrix Multiplication

## Problem

Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Approximate matrix product  $A^\top B$ ; compute  $\tilde{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{t \times m}$  and  $\tilde{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{t \times p}$  ( $t \ll m, p, n$ ) such that

$$\left\| \tilde{A}^\top \tilde{B} - A^\top B \right\| \leq \varepsilon \|A\| \|B\|.$$

Approaches:

- Randomly project their columns
- Non-uniform row sampling

Related Work:

- Many results w.r.t. Frobenius norm [DKM06, Sar06, CW09]
- “Weak” bounds w.r.t. *spectral* norm [DK01, DKM06, Sar06]
- Similar strong bounds for the special case  $A = B$  in [RV07]

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$$\left\| \tilde{A}^\top \tilde{B} - A^\top B \right\| \leq \varepsilon \|A\| \|B\|.$$

Approaches:

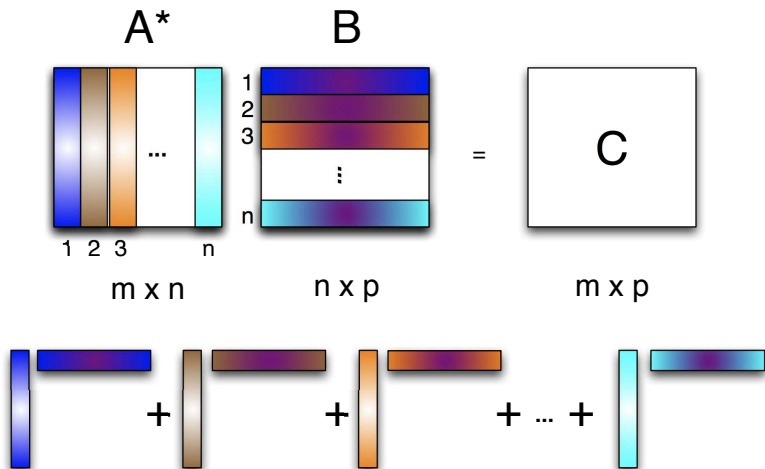
- Randomly project their columns
- Non-uniform row sampling

Related Work:

- Many results w.r.t. Frobenius norm [DKM06, Sar06, CW09]
- “Weak” bounds w.r.t. *spectral* norm [DK01, DKM06, Sar06]
- Similar strong bounds for the special case  $A = B$  in [RV07]

## Non-uniform Row Sampling

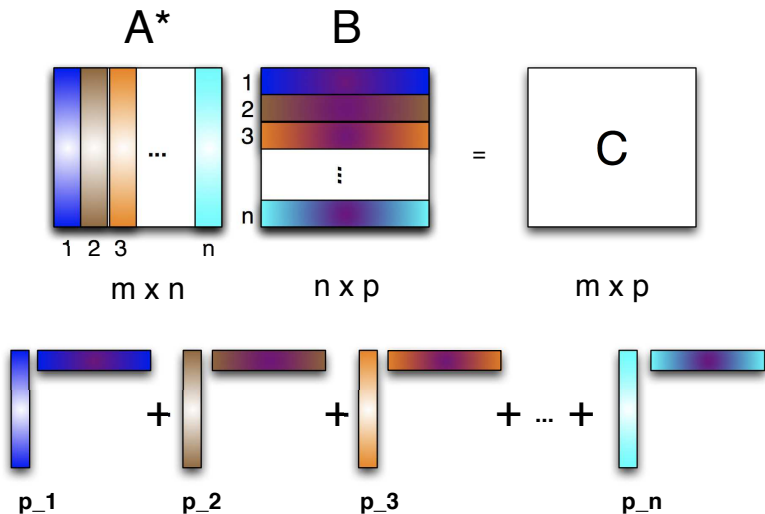
- Recall that  $A^T B = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i^T B_i (= \sum_{i=1}^n A_i \otimes B_i)$





# Non-uniform Row Sampling

- Recall that  $A^T B = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i^T B_i (= \sum_{i=1}^n A_i \otimes B_i)$



# Non-uniform Row Sampling

## Theorem

There exists prob. distribution  $p_i$  s.t. if we form an  $t \times m$  matrix  $\tilde{A}$  and an  $t \times p$  matrix  $\tilde{B}$  by taking  $t$  i.i.d. (row indices) samples from  $p_i$  with  $t = \Omega(\tilde{r}/\varepsilon^2 \log(\tilde{r}/\varepsilon^2))$ , then

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|\tilde{A}^\top \tilde{B} - A^\top B\right\| \leq \varepsilon \|A\| \|B\|\right) \geq 1 - o_{\tilde{r}}(1),$$

where  $\tilde{r}$  is  $\mathbf{st.rank}(A) + \mathbf{st.rank}(B)$ .

- $\mathbf{st.rank}(A) := \|A\|_F^2 / \|A\| \leq \mathbf{rank}(A)$

## Proof Sketch

Define a distribution over  $\mathbb{R}^{(m+p) \times (m+p)}$  by

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X = \frac{1}{p_i} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B_i^\top A_i \\ A_i^\top B_i & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = p_i.$$

- $\mathbb{E}[X] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B^\top A \\ A^\top B & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- Every (matrix) sample has rank at most *two*.
- $\|X\| \leq \tilde{r}_A + \tilde{r}_B (\leq \tilde{r})$  a.s..

Applying Theorem with  $t = \Omega(\tilde{r}/\varepsilon^2 \log(\tilde{r}/\varepsilon^2))$ , we get  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_t$  indices from  $[n]$  such that with high probability

$$\left\| \frac{1}{t} \sum_{j=1}^t \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{p_{i_j}} B_{i_j}^\top A_{i_j} \\ \frac{1}{p_{i_j}} A_{i_j}^\top B_{i_j} & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B^\top A \\ A^\top B & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\| \leq \varepsilon \|A\| \|B\|$$

## Conclusion and Open Problems

- Matrix-valued probabilistic inequalities are powerful tools
- Present two application: matrix sparsification and approximate matrix multiplication
- More applications: graph sparsifiers [SS08], matrix completion [Rec09], bounding integrality gaps [Nem07], Cayley graph expansion, etc...
- Many unexplored connections.
- Matrix martingales - Adaptive sampling? See [Tro10]

Thank You

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