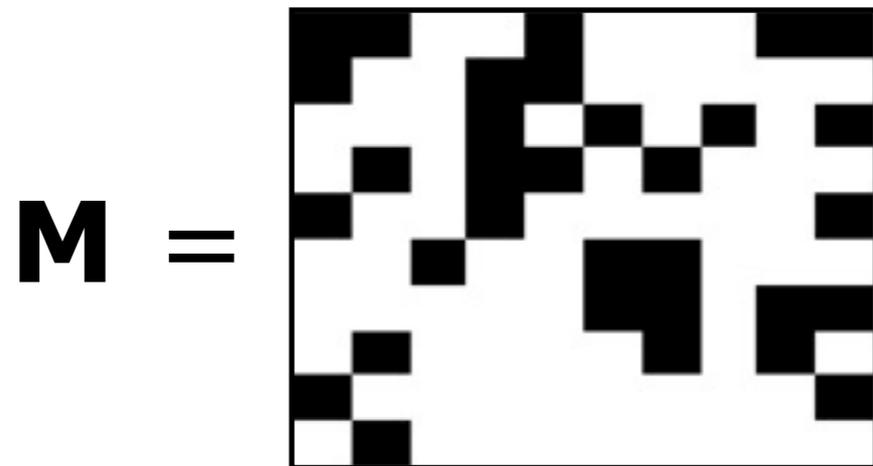


From Compressed Sensing to Matrix Completion and Beyond

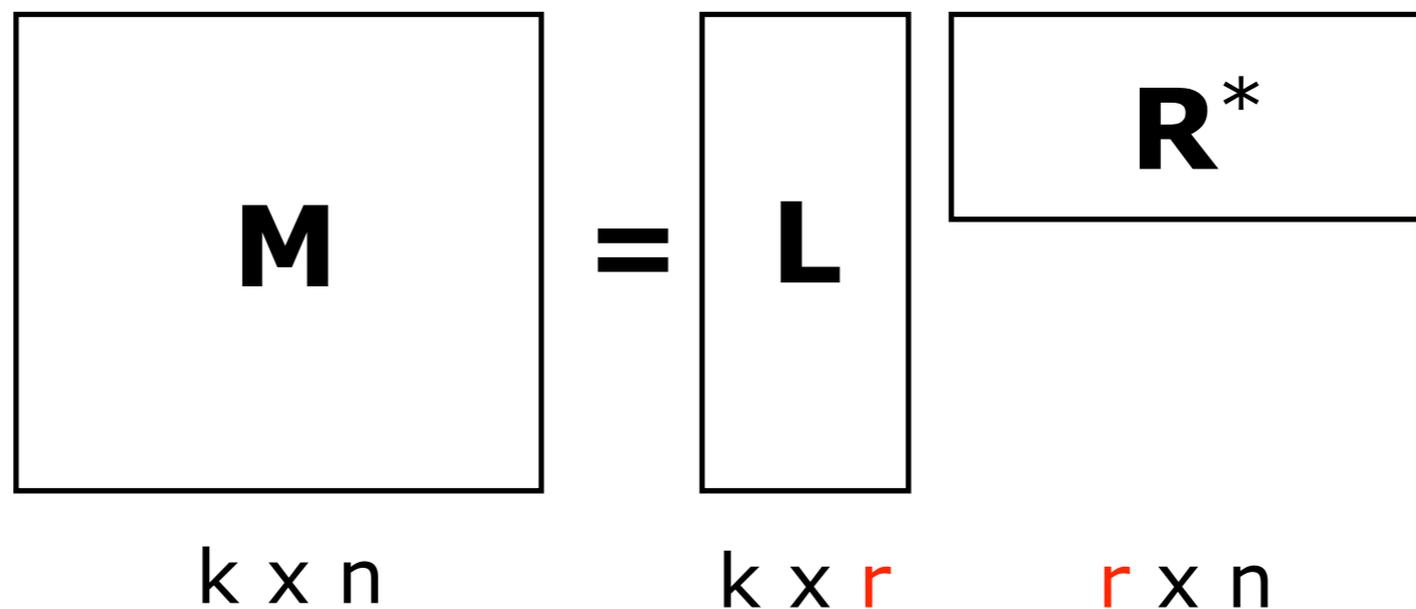
Benjamin Recht
Department of Computer Sciences
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Abstract Setup: Matrix Completion



M_{ij} known for black cells
 M_{ij} unknown for white cells
Rows index movies
Columns index users

- How do you fill in the missing data?



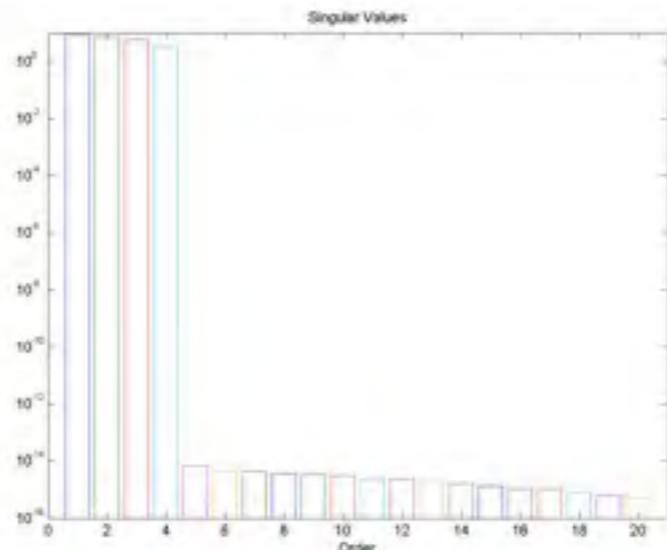
kn entries

$r(k+n)$ entries

Recommender Systems

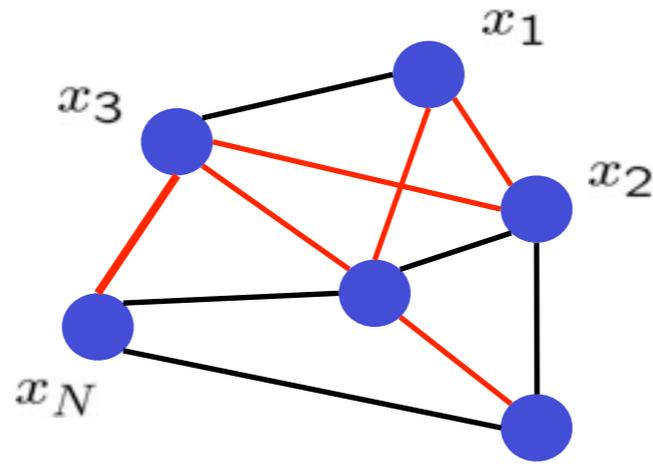


Rank of: Data Matrix

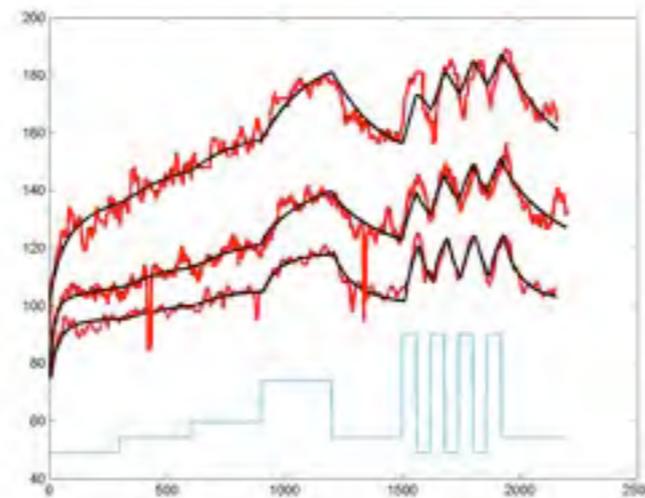


Model Reduction

Euclidean Embedding



Gram Matrix

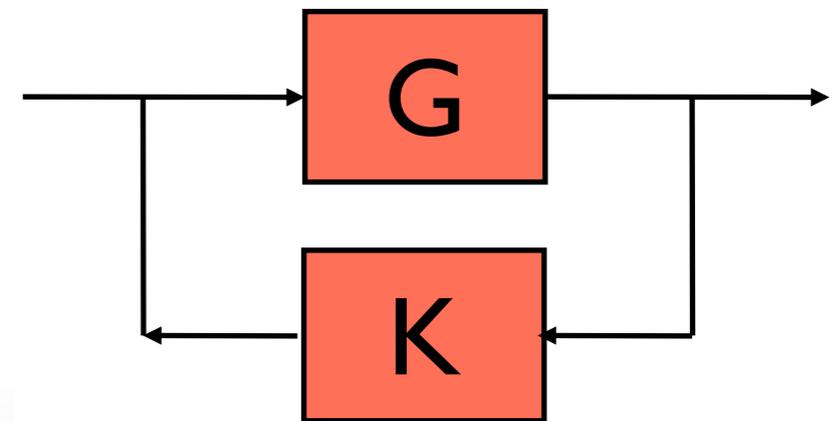


System Identification

Multitask Learning



Matrix of Classifiers



Controller Design

Constraints involving the rank of the Hankel Operator, Matrix, or Singular Values

Affine Rank Minimization

- **PROBLEM:** Find the matrix of lowest rank that satisfies/approximates the underdetermined linear system

$$\Phi(X) = y \quad \Phi : \mathbb{R}^{k \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \text{rank}(X) \\ \text{subject to} & \Phi(X) = y \end{array}$$

- **NP-HARD:**
 - Reduce to MAXCUT
 - Hard to approximate
 - Exact algorithms are awful

Heuristic: Gradient Descent

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{a=1}^r L_{ia}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{a=1}^r R_{ja}^2 + \lambda \sum_{i,j} \left(\sum_k L_{ik} R_{jk} - M_{ij} \right)^2$$

- Just run gradient descent
- λ determines tradeoff between satisfying constraints and the size of the factors

Netflix Prize

Leaderboard

Mixture of hundreds of models, including gradient descent



| Rank | Team Name | Best Score | % Improvement | Last Submit Time |
|---|--|------------|---------------|---------------------|
| -- | No Grand Prize candidates yet | -- | -- | -- |
| Grand Prize - RMSE <= 0.8563 | | | | |
| -- | No Progress Prize candidates yet | -- | -- | -- |
| Progress Prize - RMSE <= 0.8625 | | | | |
| 1 | When Gravity and Dinosaurs Unite | 0.8675 | 8.82 | 2008-03-01 07:03:35 |
| 2 | BellKor | 0.8682 | 8.75 | 2008-02-28 23:40:45 |
| 3 | KorBell | 0.8708 | 8.47 | 2008-02-06 14:12:44 |
| Best Score 2007 - RMSE = 0.8712 - Winning Team: KorBell | | | | |
| 4 | KorBell | 0.8712 | 8.43 | 2007-10-01 23:25:23 |
| 5 | acmehill | 0.8720 | 8.35 | 2008-03-02 05:08:12 |
| 6 | Dan Tillberg | 0.8727 | 8.27 | 2008-03-02 08:42:29 |
| 7 | basho | 0.8729 | 8.25 | 2007-11-24 14:27:00 |
| 8 | Just a guy in a garage | 0.8740 | 8.14 | 2008-02-06 12:16:40 |
| 9 | BigChaos | 0.8748 | 8.05 | 2008-03-01 17:26:06 |
| 10 | Dinosaur Planet | 0.8753 | 8.00 | 2007-10-04 04:56:45 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 50 | amgl | 0.8897 | 6.49 | 2007-12-23 18:44:03 |
| 51 | Remco | 0.8899 | 6.46 | 2007-04-04 06:16:56 |
| 52 | mxlg | 0.8900 | 6.45 | 2007-12-23 18:54:46 |
| 53 | JustWithSVD | 0.8900 | 6.45 | 2008-02-14 16:17:54 |
| 54 | Bozo_The_Clown | 0.8900 | 6.45 | 2008-02-28 09:56:20 |
| 55 | Bozo_The_Clown | 0.8901 | 6.44 | 2008-02-29 05:53:11 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ... | Bozo_The_Clown | 0.8902 | 6.43 | 2007-09-06 17:24:48 |

Gradient descent on low-rank parameterization



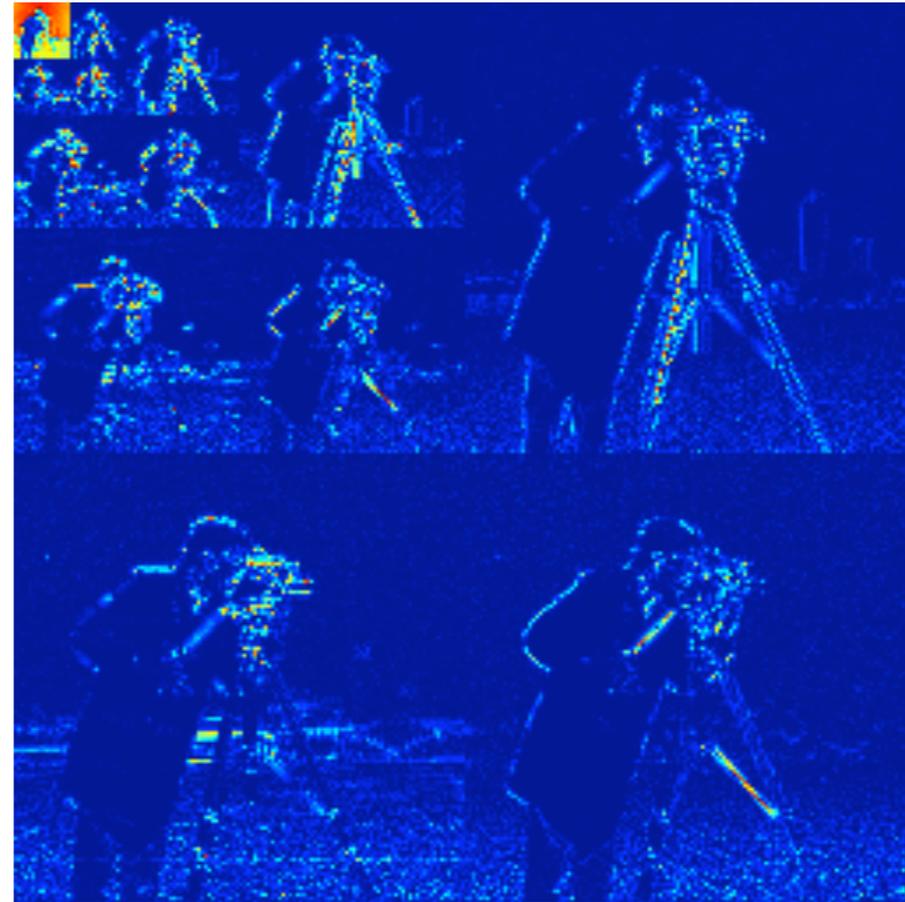
Low-rank Matrix Completion

- **PROBLEM:** Find the matrix of lowest rank has the specified entries

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \\ \text{subject to} & X_{ij} = M_{ij} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \Omega \end{array}$$

- **When is this problem easy?**
 - Which algorithms?
 - Which sampling sets?
 - Which low-rank matrices?

Compressed Sensing



- Model: most of the energy is in few wavelet coefficients
- Use the fact that the image is sparse in wavelet basis to reduce number of measurements required for signal acquisition.
- ***decode using l_1 minimization***

Cardinality Minimization

- **PROBLEM:** Find the vector of lowest cardinality that satisfies/approximates the underdetermined linear system

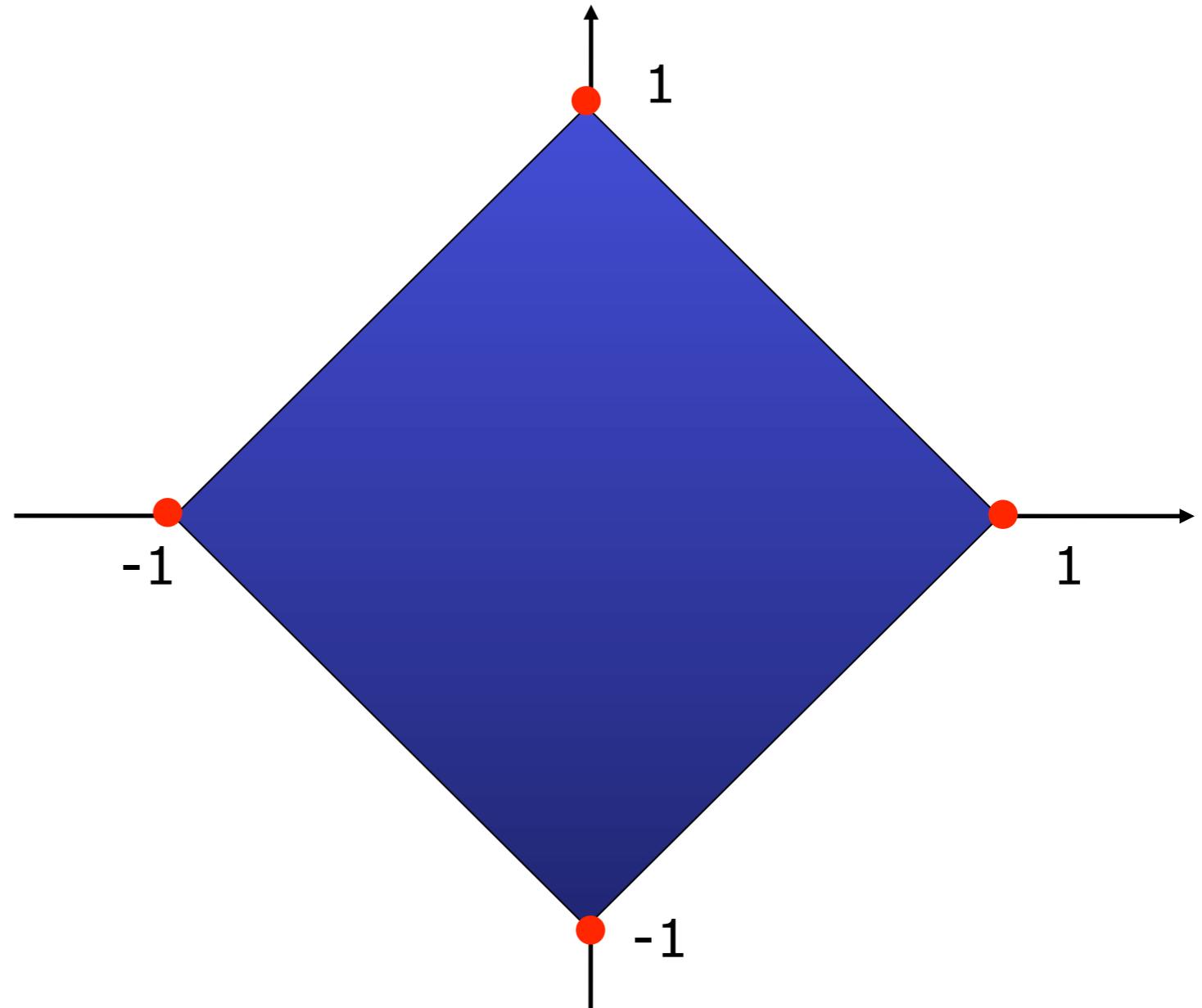
$$\Phi x = y \quad \Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

- **NP-HARD:**
 - Reduce to EXACT-COVER [Natarajan 1995]
 - Hard to approximate
 - Known exact algorithms require enumeration
- **HEURISTIC:** Replace cardinality with l_1 norm
- *Compressed Sensing*

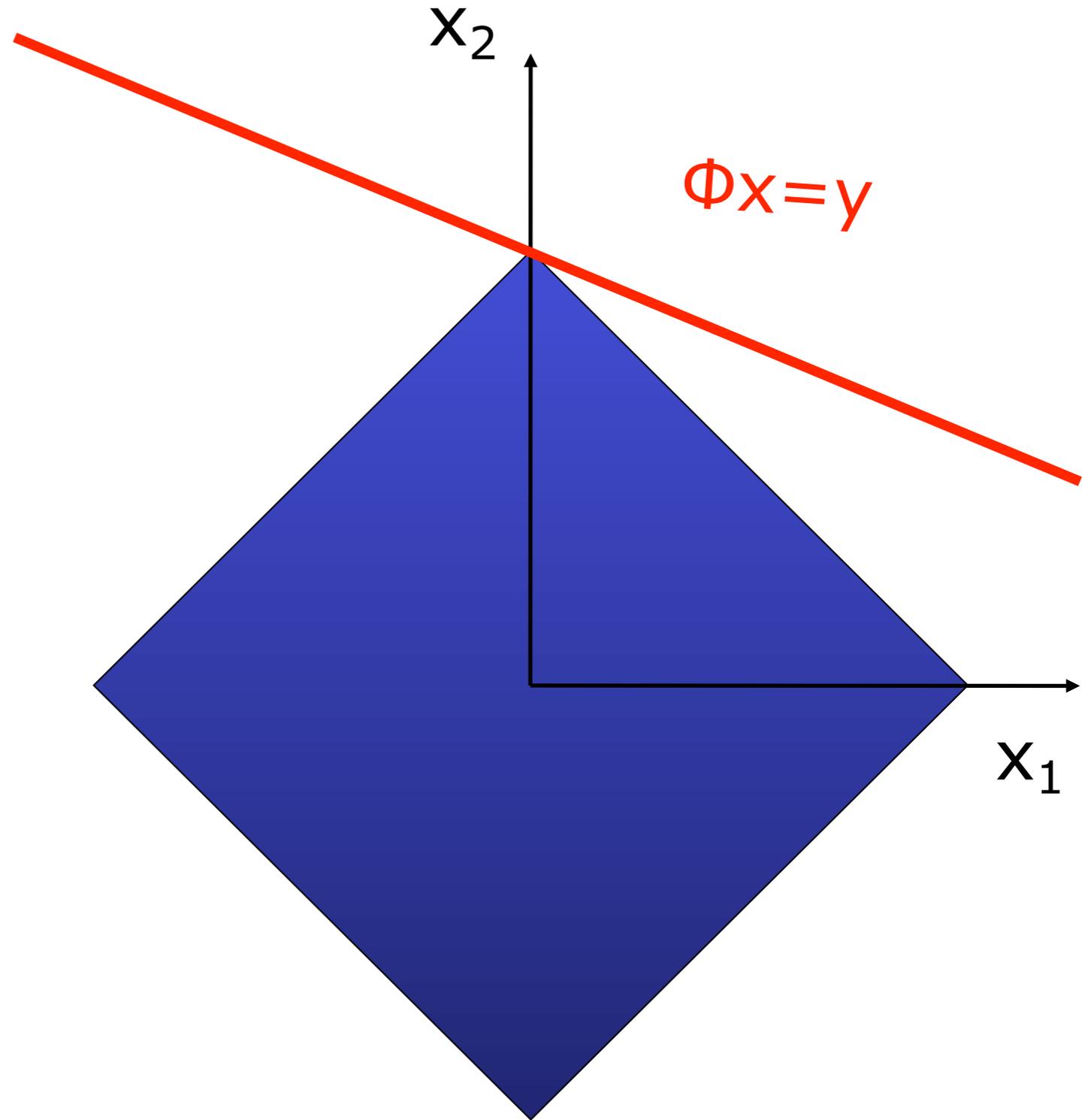
Sparsity

- 1-sparse vectors of Euclidean norm 1
- Convex hull is the unit ball of the l_1 norm
 $\{x : \|x\|_1 \leq 1\}$

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$$



minimize $\|x\|_1$
subject to $\Phi x = y$



*Compressed Sensing: Candes, Romberg, Tao,
Donoho, Tanner, Etc...*

Rank

- 2x2 matrices $\begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ y & z \end{bmatrix}$
- plotted in 3d

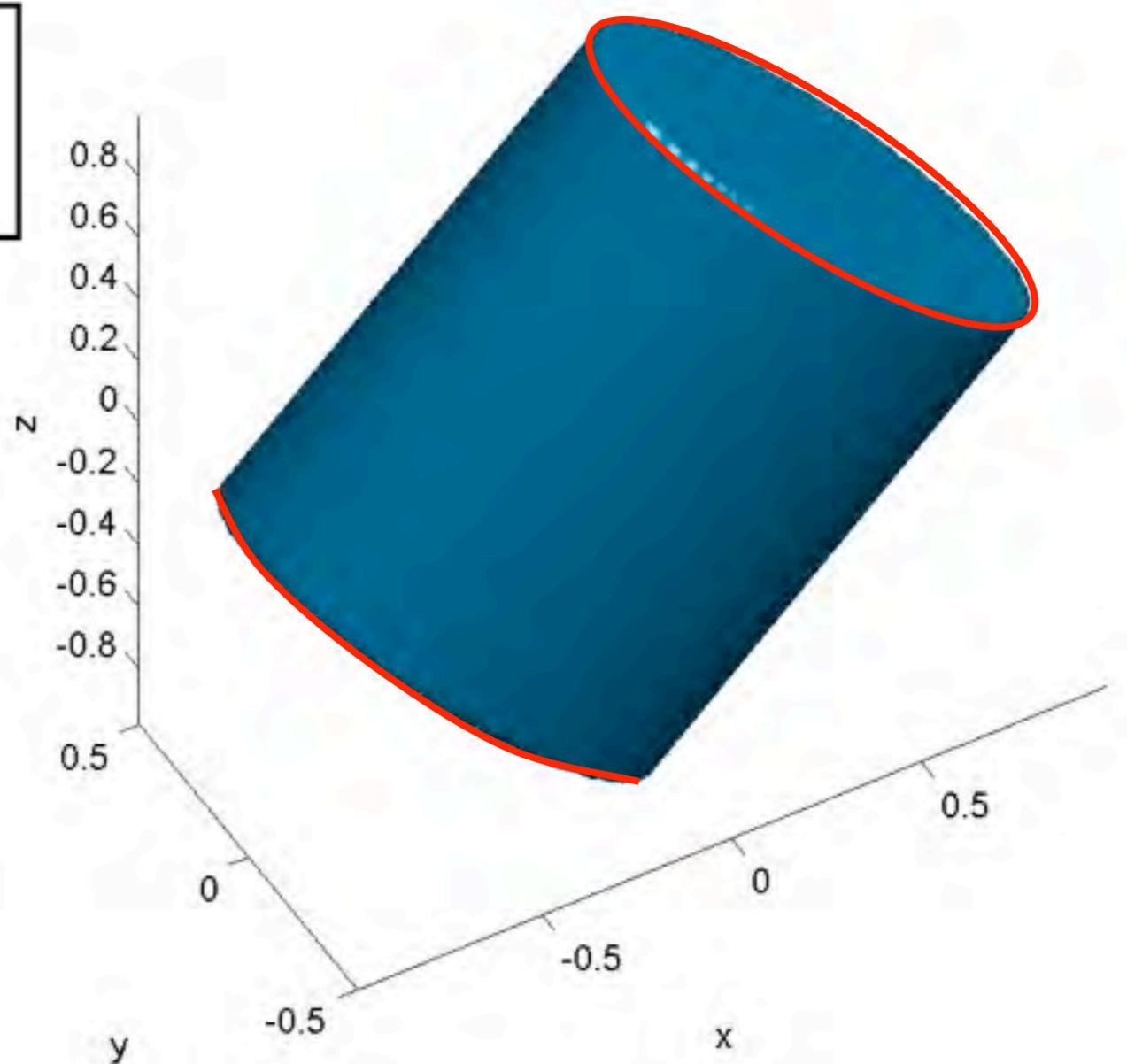
— rank 1

$$x^2 + z^2 + 2y^2 = 1$$

Convex hull:

$$\{X : \|X\|_* \leq 1\}$$

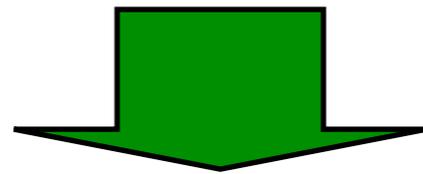
$$\|X\|_* = \sum_i \sigma_i(X)$$



Which Algorithm?

Affine Rank Minimization:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \text{rank}(X) \\ &\text{subject to} && \Phi(X) = y \end{aligned}$$



Convex Relaxation:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \|X\|_* = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i(X) \\ &\text{subject to} && \Phi(X) = y \end{aligned}$$

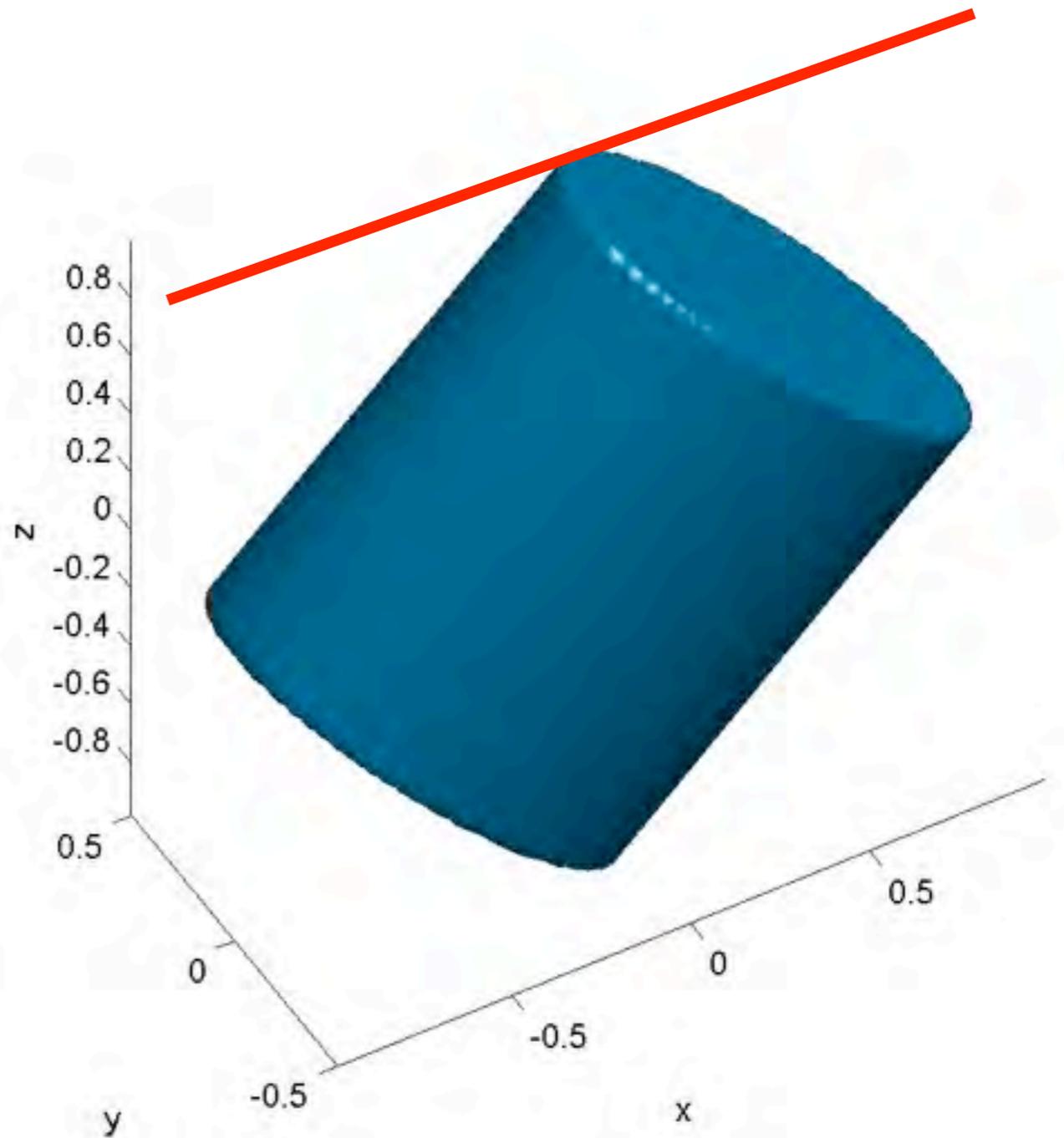
- *Nuclear Norm Heuristic*. Proposed by Fazel (2002).
- Nuclear norm is the “numerical rank” in numerical analysis
- The “trace heuristic” from controls if \mathbf{X} is p.s.d.

- 2x2 matrices
- plotted in 3d

$$\left\| \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ y & z \end{bmatrix} \right\|_* \leq 1$$

$$\|X\|_* = \sum_i \sigma_i(X)$$

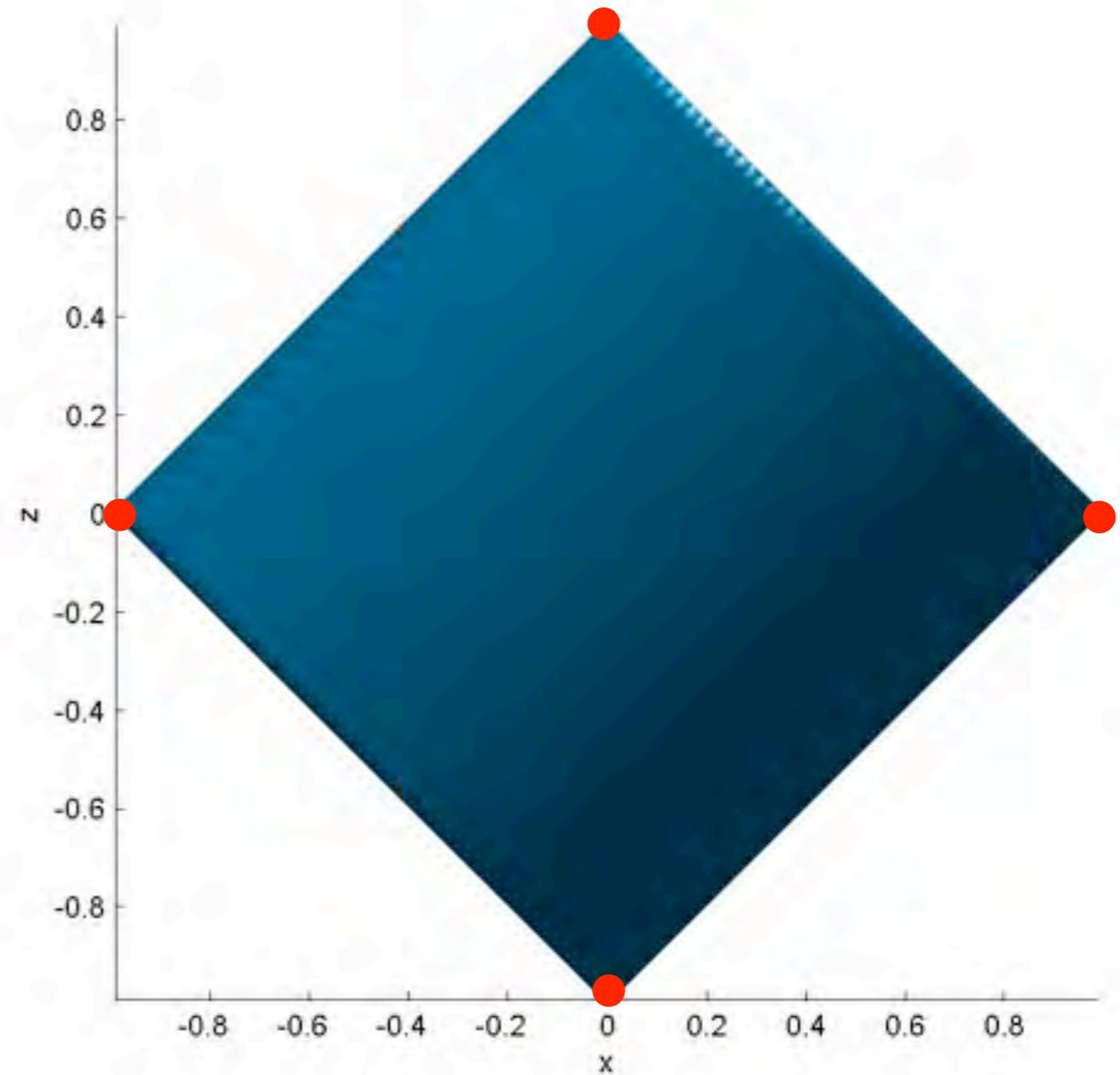
Nuclear Norm Heuristic



- 2x2 matrices
- plotted in 3d

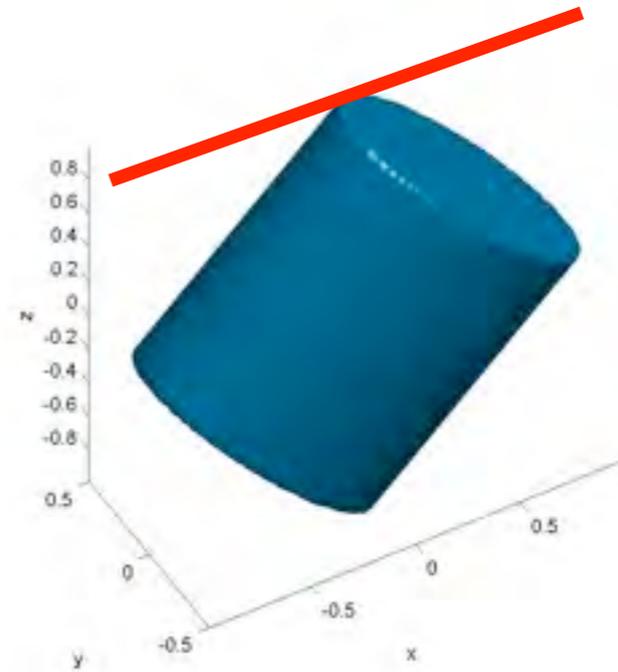
$$\left\| \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & z \end{bmatrix} \right\|_* \leq 1$$

- Projection onto x-z plane is l_1 ball



Nuclear Norm minimization

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \|X\|_* = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i(X) \\ &\text{subject to} && \Phi(X) = y \end{aligned}$$



Low-rank parameterization

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \frac{1}{2} (\|L\|_F^2 + \|R\|_F^2) \\ &\text{subject to} && \Phi(LR^*) = y \end{aligned}$$

$$X = U\Sigma V^*$$

$$L = U\Sigma^{1/2}$$

$$R = V\Sigma^{1/2}$$

Method of Multipliers

$$\text{minimize} \quad \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{a=1}^r L_{ia}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{a=1}^r R_{ja}^2 + \lambda \|\Phi(LR^*) - y\|_2^2$$

"The Blog Heuristic"

First theory result

$$\Phi(X) = y \quad \Phi : \mathbb{R}^{k \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

- If $m > c_0 r(k+n-r) \log(kn)$, the heuristic succeeds for most maps Φ .

Recht, Fazel, and Parrilo. 2007.

- Number of measurements $c_0 r(k+n-r) \log(kn)$

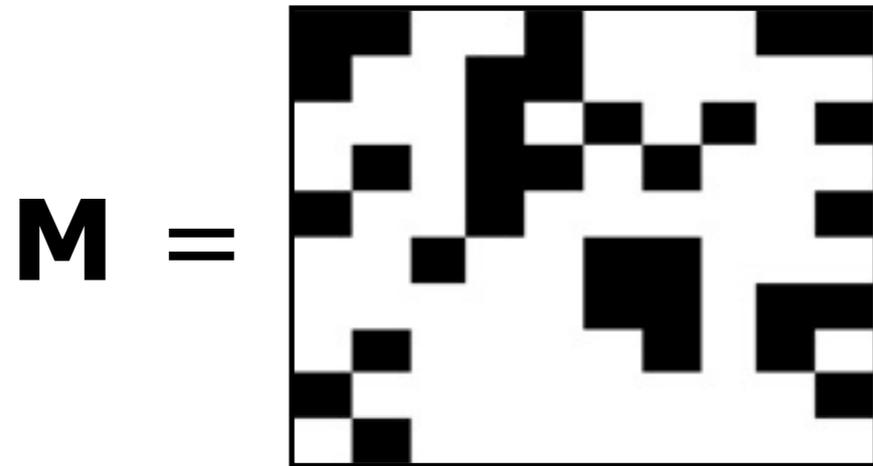
constant

**intrinsic
dimension**

**ambient
dimension**

- **Approach:** Show that a random Φ is nearly an isometry on the manifold of low-rank matrices.
- Stable to noise in measurement vector y and returns as good an answer as a truncated SVD of the true X .

Low-rank Matrix Completion



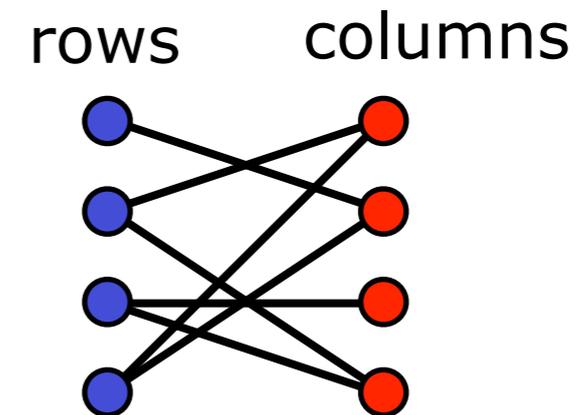
M_{ij} known for black cells
 M_{ij} unknown for white cells

- How do you fill in the missing data?

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \\ \text{subject to} & X_{ij} = M_{ij} \quad \forall (i, j) \in \Omega \end{array}$$

Which Sampling Sets?

$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

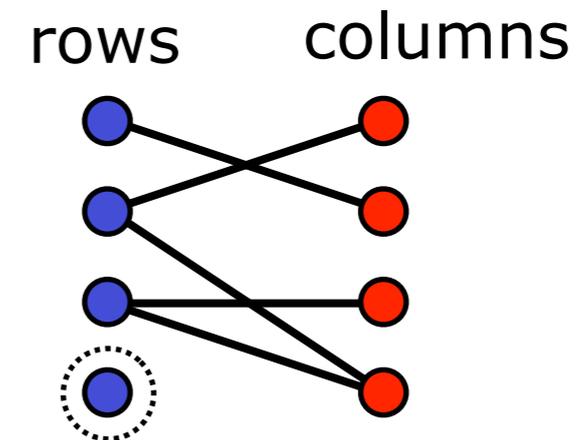


- **Row-column graph**

- Vertices: indexed by rows and columns
- Edge if that entry is in Ω

Which Sampling Sets?

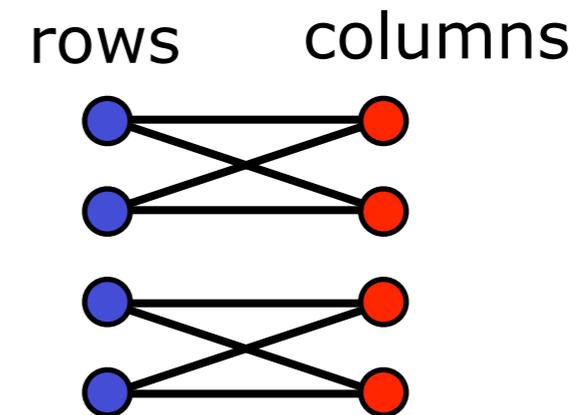
$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



- **Row-column graph: all vertices must be observed**
- $M = xy^*$. If you miss row 4, cannot determine x_4 .

Which Sampling Sets?

$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$



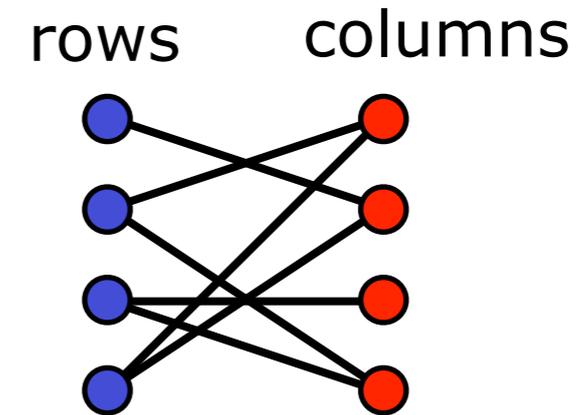
- **Row-column graph: must be connected**
- If $M = xy^*$, cannot distinguish between

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ -x_3 \\ -x_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ -y_3 \\ -y_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Which Sampling Sets?

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



- **Row-column graph: must have at least $r(n+k-r)$ edges**
- The dimension of the manifold of rank r , $k \times n$ matrices is $r(n+k-r)$

If we can choose the samples...

- Generically, first r rows and r columns are sufficient:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & CA^{-1}B \end{bmatrix}$$

- [Frieze, Kannan, Vempala 1998, Drineas, Kannan, Mahoney 2003, etc.]: sample proportional to norms of columns. *Low-rank matrix approximations.*

If we can't choose the samples...

- Most sets with more than $2rn\beta \log(n)$ entries have at least one entry for every row and column, the row-column graph is connected.
- [Achloptas, McSherry 2004]: random sampling sufficient to obtain an additive error approximation to

Which matrices?

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array} \quad (= e_1 e_1^*)$$

- Any subset of entries that misses the $(1,1)$ component tells you nothing!

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \blacksquare \\ \hline \end{array} \quad (= e_1 v^*)$$

- Still need to see the entire first row
- Want each entry to provide nearly the same amount of information

Incoherence

- Let U be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n of dimension r and \mathbf{P}_U be the orthogonal projection onto U . Then the *coherence* of U (with respect to the standard basis \mathbf{e}_i) is defined to be

$$\mu(U) \equiv \frac{n}{r} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|\mathbf{P}_U \mathbf{e}_i\|^2.$$

- $\mu(U) \geq 1$
 - e.g., span of r columns of the Fourier transform
- $\mu(U) \leq n/r$
 - e.g., any subspace that contains a standard basis element
- $\mu(U) = O(1)$
 - sampled from the uniform distribution with $r > \log n$

Incoherence

- Let U be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n of dimension r and \mathbf{P}_U be the orthogonal projection onto U . Then the *coherence* of U (with respect to the standard basis \mathbf{e}_i) is defined to be

$$\mu(U) \equiv \frac{n}{r} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|\mathbf{P}_U \mathbf{e}_i\|^2.$$

- $\mu(U) \geq 1$

$\mu(U)$ small means *leverage scores* are uniform.

- $\mu(U) \leq n/r$

$$p_i = \|\mathbf{P}_U \mathbf{e}_i\|^2$$

- e.g., any subspace that contains a standard basis element

- [Drineas, Mahoney, Muthukrishnan 2006]:

uniform row/column sampling gives exact reconstruction.

Bounds for Matrix Completion

- Suppose \mathbf{X} is $k \times n$ ($k \leq n$) has rank r and has row and column spaces with incoherence bounded above by μ . Then the nuclear norm heuristic recovers \mathbf{X} from most subsets of entries Ω with cardinality at least

$$|\Omega| \geq C\mu n^{6/5} r \log(n)$$

Candès and Recht. 2008

special case extensions:

$$|\Omega| \geq C\mu^2 n r \log^6(n)$$

[Candès and Tao 2009]
stronger assumptions

$$|\Omega| > C' n \log(n)$$

[Keshavan et al, 2009]
rank = $o(1)$, σ_1/σ_r bounded

$$|\Omega| \geq 32\mu r(n+k) \log^2(2n)$$

*[Gross et al 2009,
Recht 2009,
Gross2009]*

Recent Extensions

- Noise robustness
 - Candes-Plan, Keshavan *et al* 2009, Lounici *et al*, Neghaban and Wainwright 2010
- Deconvolving Sparse and Low-rank matrices
 - Chandrasekaran *et al* 2009, Wright *et al* 2009
- Fast algorithms
 - First order methods - Cai *et al*, Ma *et al*, Toh *et al*, Ji *et al*, etc...
 - “Generalized Block Heuristic” - Lee *et al*, Recht and Re

Linear Inverse Problems

- Find me a solution of

$$y = \Phi x$$

- Φ $m \times n$, $m < n$
- Of the infinite collection of solutions, which one should we pick?
- Leverage structure:

Sparsity

Rank

Smoothness

Symmetry

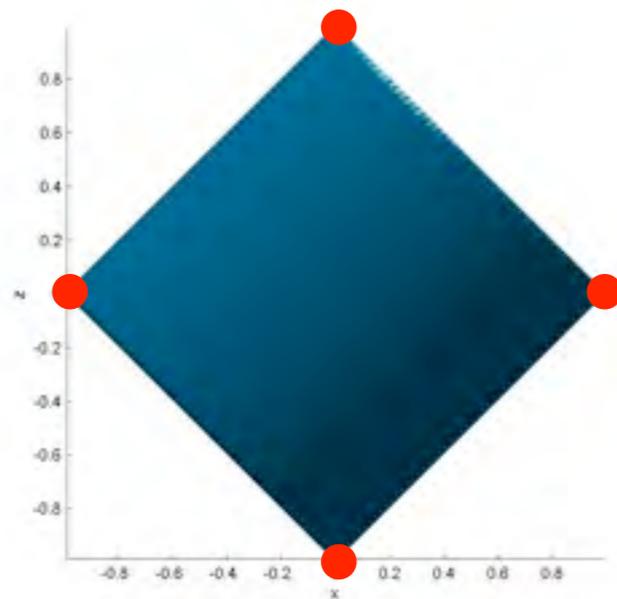
- How do we design algorithms to solve underdetermined systems problems with priors?

Parsimonious Models

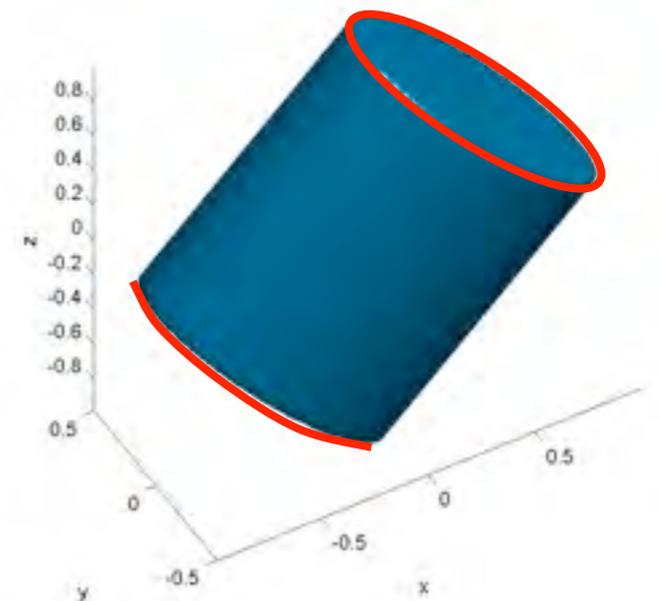
$$x = \sum_{k=1}^r w_k \alpha_k$$

model \swarrow \nwarrow rank
weights \swarrow atoms

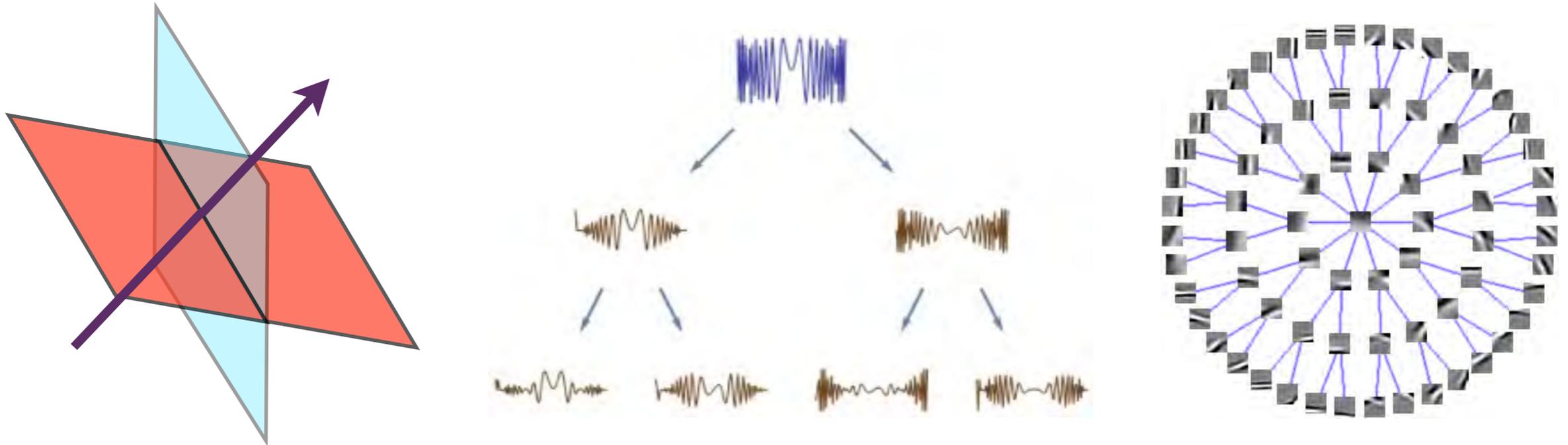
- Search for best linear combination of fewest atoms
- "rank" = fewest atoms needed to describe the model



$$\|x\|_{\mathcal{A}} \equiv \inf_{(w, \alpha)} \sum_{k=1}^r |w_k|$$



Model Based Compressive Sensing



- X has structured sparsity: linear combination of elements from a set of subspaces $\{U_g\}$.
- Atomic set: unit norm vectors living in one of the U_g

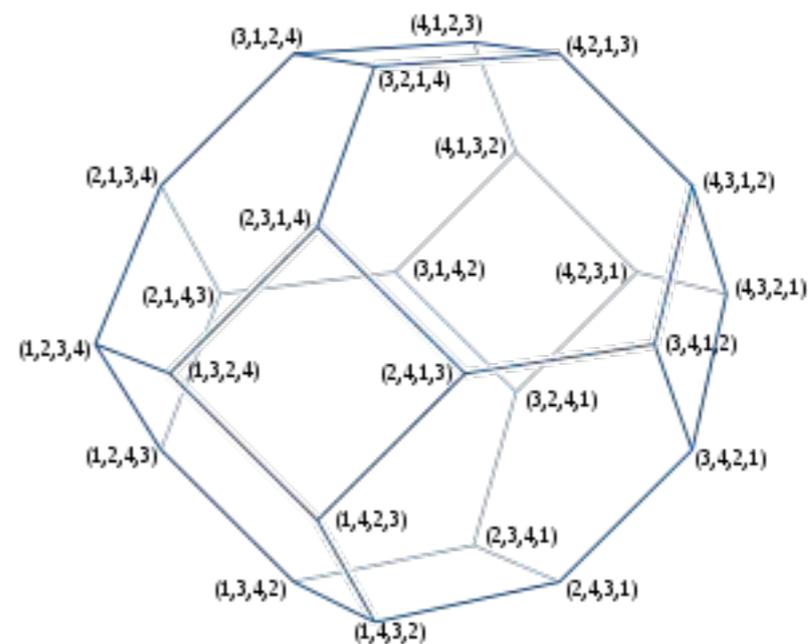
$$\|x\|_{\mathcal{G}} = \inf \left\{ \sum_{g \in G} \|w_g\| \quad : \quad x = \sum_{g \in G} w_g, \quad w_g \in U_g \right\}$$

- Proposed by Jacob, Obozinski and Vert (2009).

Permutation Matrices

- X a sum of a few permutation matrices
- Examples: Multiobject Tracking (Huang et al), Ranked elections (Jagabathula, Shah)
- Convex hull of the permutation matrices: Birkhoff Polytope of doubly stochastic matrices
- *Permutahedra*: convex hull of permutations of a fixed vector.

$[1, 2, 3, 4]$



Atomic Norms

- Given a basic set of *atoms*, \mathcal{A} , define the function

$$\|x\|_{\mathcal{A}} = \inf\{t > 0 : x \in t\text{conv}(\mathcal{A})\}$$

- When \mathcal{A} is centrosymmetric, we get a norm

$$\|x\|_{\mathcal{A}} = \inf\left\{\sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} |c_a| : x = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} c_a a\right\}$$

IDEA: minimize $\|z\|_{\mathcal{A}}$
subject to $\Phi z = y$

- When does this work?
- How do we solve the optimization problem?
- **A:** *Chandrasekaran, Recht, Willsky, and Parrilo 2010*

Atomic Norm Decompositions

- Propose a natural convex heuristic for enforcing prior information in inverse problems
- Bounds for the linear case: heuristic succeeds for most sufficiently large sets of measurements
- Stability without restricted isometries
- Standard program for computing these bounds: distance to normal cones
- Approximation schemes for computationally difficult priors

Extensions...

- Width Calculations for more general structures
- Recovery bounds for structured measurement matrices (application specific)
- Incorporating stochastic noise models
- Understanding of the loss due to convex relaxation and norm approximation
- Scaling generalized shrinkage algorithms to massive data sets

Acknowledgements

- See:

<http://pages.cs.wisc.edu/~brecht/publications.html>

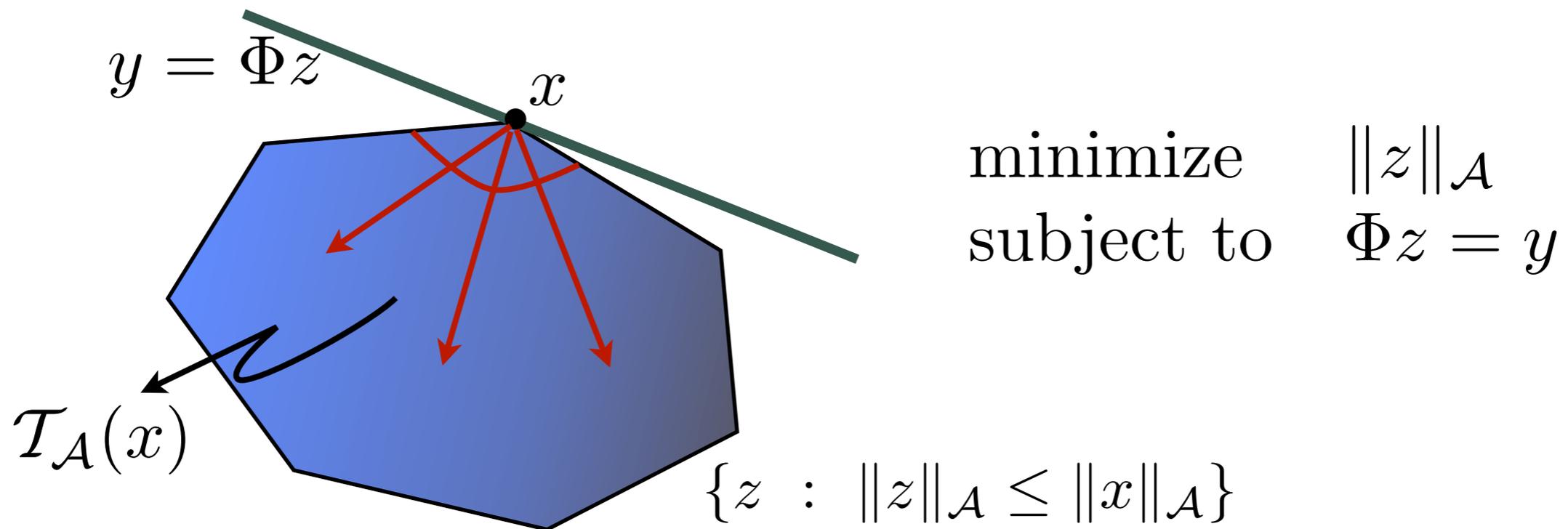
for all references

- Results developed in collaboration with Venkat Chandrasekaran, Pablo Parrilo, and Alan Willsky (MIT), Jason Lee (Stanford), Ruslan Salakhutdinov (MIT), Nati Srebro (TTI), Joel A. Tropp (Caltech), and Christopher Re (UW-Madison).

Tangent Cones

- Set of directions that decrease the norm from x form a cone:

$$\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{A}}(x) = \{d : \|x + \alpha d\|_{\mathcal{A}} \leq \|x\|_{\mathcal{A}} \text{ for some } \alpha > 0\}$$



- x is the unique minimizer if the intersection of this cone with the null space of Φ equals $\{0\}$

Gaussian Widths

- When does a random subspace, U , intersect a convex cone C at the origin?
- **Gordon 88:** with high probability if
$$\text{codim}(U) \geq w(C)^2$$
- Where $w(C) = \mathbb{E} \left[\max_{x \in C \cap \mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \langle x, g \rangle \right]$ is the *Gaussian width* (g is a normal Gaussian random vector.)
- **Corollary:** For inverse problems: if Φ is a random Gaussian matrix with m rows, need $m \geq w(\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{A}}(x))^2$ for recovery of x .

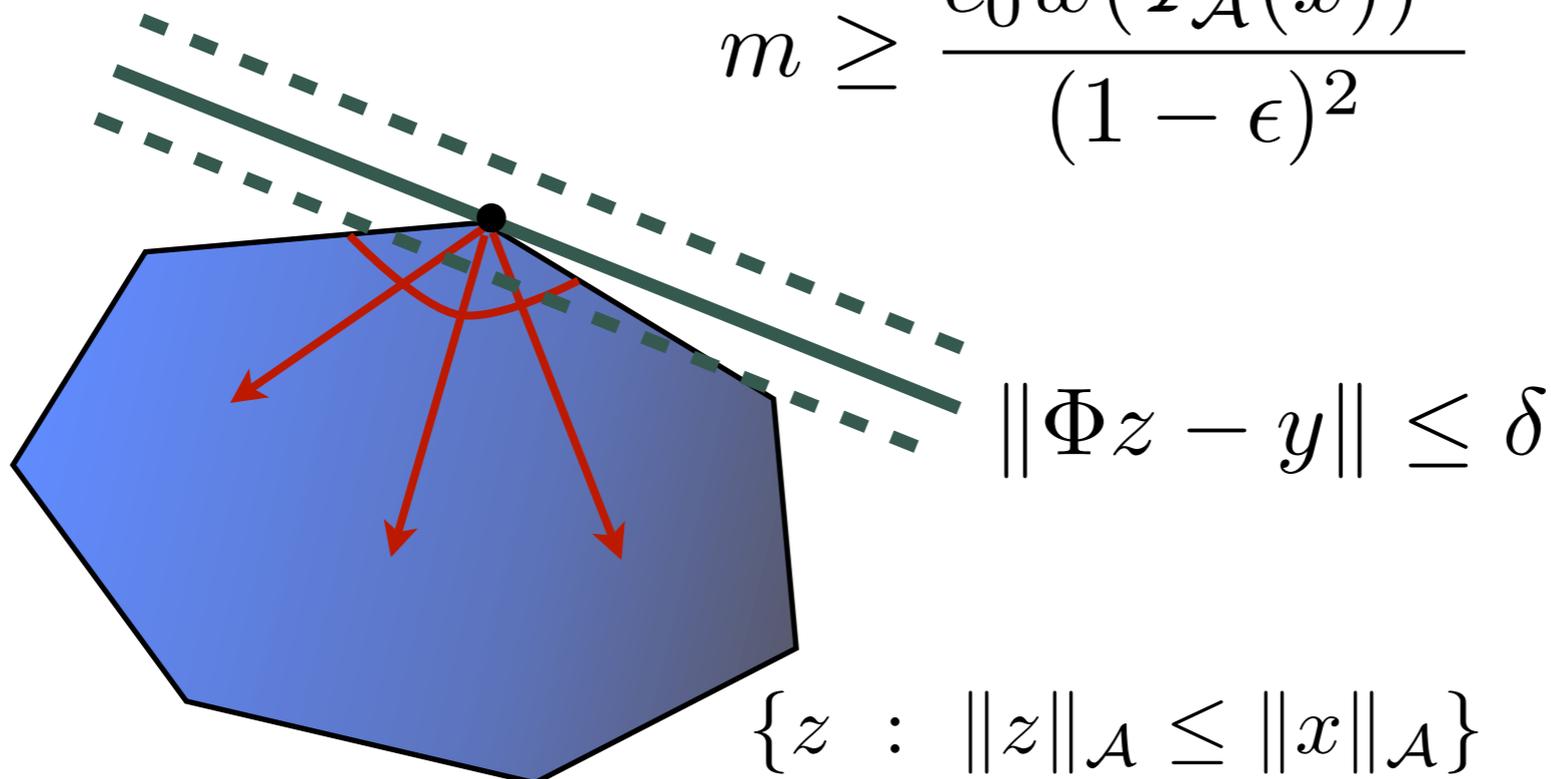
Robust Recovery

- Suppose we observe $y = \Phi x + w$ $\|w\|_2 \leq \delta$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \|z\|_{\mathcal{A}} \\ & \text{subject to} && \|\Phi z - y\| \leq \delta \end{aligned}$$

- If \hat{x} is an optimal solution, then $\|x - \hat{x}\| \leq \frac{2\delta}{\epsilon}$
provided that

$$m \geq \frac{c_0 w(\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{A}}(x))^2}{(1 - \epsilon)^2}$$



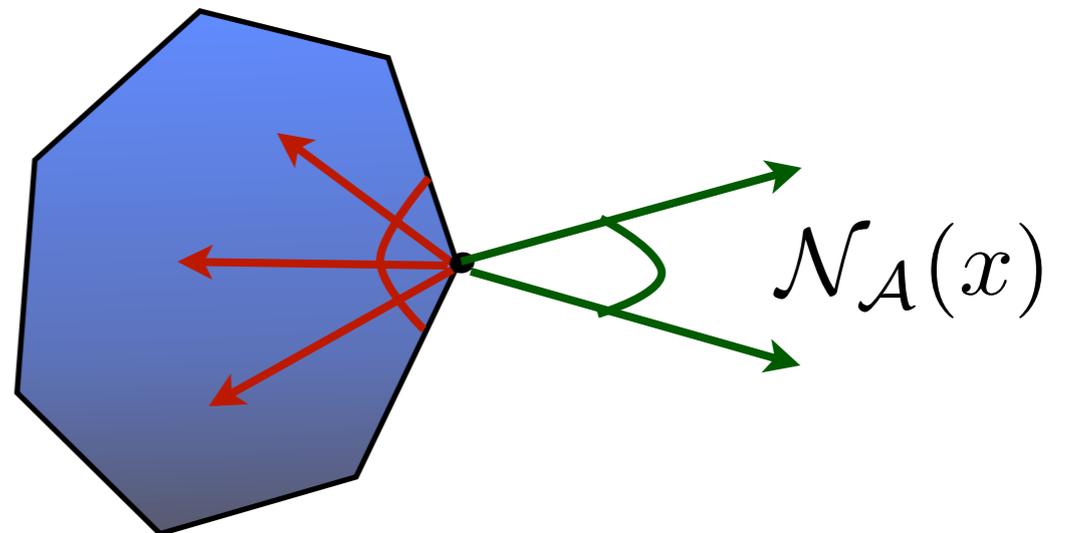
Duality

$$\begin{aligned}
 w(C) &= \mathbb{E} \left[\max_{\substack{v \in C \\ \|v\|=1}} \langle v, g \rangle \right] \\
 &\leq \mathbb{E} \left[\max_{\substack{v \in C \\ \|v\| \leq 1}} \langle v, g \rangle \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{E} \left[\min_{u \in C^*} \|g - u\| \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

- C^* is the polar cone.
- $$C^* = \{w : \langle w, z \rangle \leq 0 \ \forall z \in C\}$$

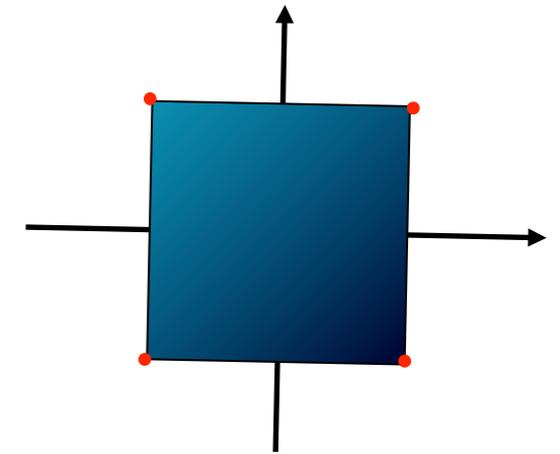
$$\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{A}}(x)^* = \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{A}}(x)$$

- $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{A}}(x)$ is the *normal cone*. Equal to the cone induced by the subdifferential of the atomic norm at x .



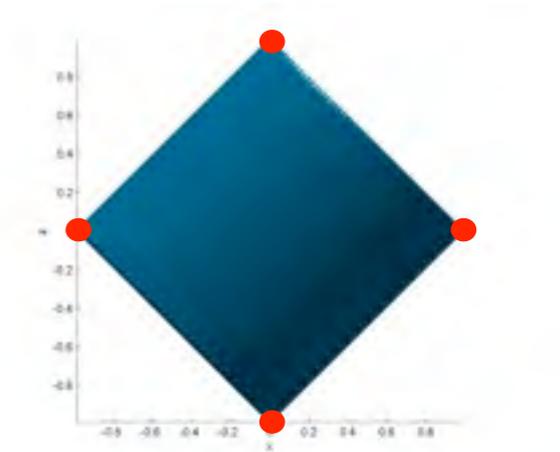
Re-derivations

- Hypercube: $m \geq n/2$



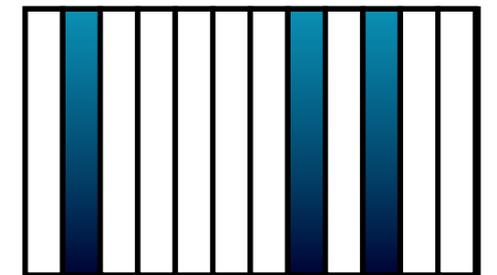
- Sparse Vectors, n vector, sparsity $s < 0.25n$

$$m \geq 2s \left(\log \left(\frac{n-s}{s} \right) + 1 \right)$$



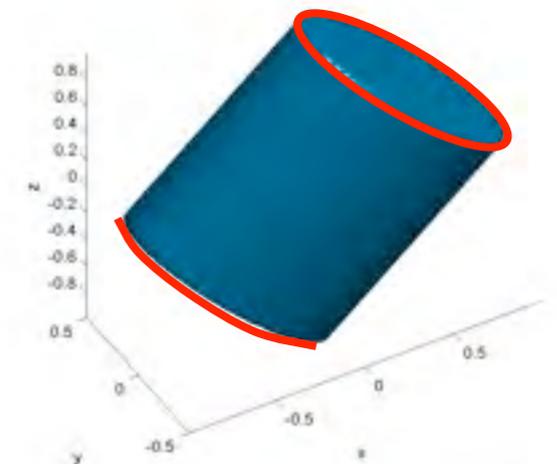
- Block sparse, M groups (possibly overlapping), maximum group size B , k active groups

$$m \geq 2k (\log (M - k) + B) + k$$



- Low-rank matrices: $n_1 \times n_2$, ($n_1 < n_2$), rank r

$$m \geq 3r(n_1 + n_2 - r)$$



General Cones

- **Theorem:** Let C be a nonempty cone with polar cone C^* . Suppose C^* subtends normalized solid angle μ . Then

$$w(C) \leq 3 \sqrt{\log \left(\frac{4}{\mu} \right)}$$

- **Proof Idea:** The expected distance to C^* can be bounded by the expected distance to a spherical cap
- *Isoperimetry:* Out of all subsets of the sphere with the same measure, the one with the smallest neighborhood is the spherical cap
- The rest is just integrals...

Symmetric Polytopes

- **Corollary:** For a vertex-transitive (i.e., “symmetric”) polytope with p vertices, $O(\log p)$ Gaussian measurements are sufficient to recover a vertex via convex optimization.
- For $n \times n$ permutation matrix: $m = O(n \log n)$
- For $n \times n$ cut matrix: $m = O(n)$
- (Semidefinite relaxation also gives $m = O(n)$)

Algorithms

$$\text{minimize}_z \quad \|\Phi z - y\|_2^2 + \mu \|z\|_{\mathcal{A}}$$

- Naturally amenable to projected gradient algorithm:

$$z_{k+1} = \Pi_{\eta\mu}(z_k - \eta\Phi^* r_k)$$

residual

$$r_k = \Phi z_k - y$$

“shrinkage”

$$\Pi_{\tau}(z) = \arg \min_u \frac{1}{2} \|z - u\|^2 + \tau \|u\|_{\mathcal{A}}$$

- Similar algorithm for atomic norm constraint
- Same basic ingredients for ALM, ADM, Bregman, Mirror Prox, etc... how to compute the shrinkage?

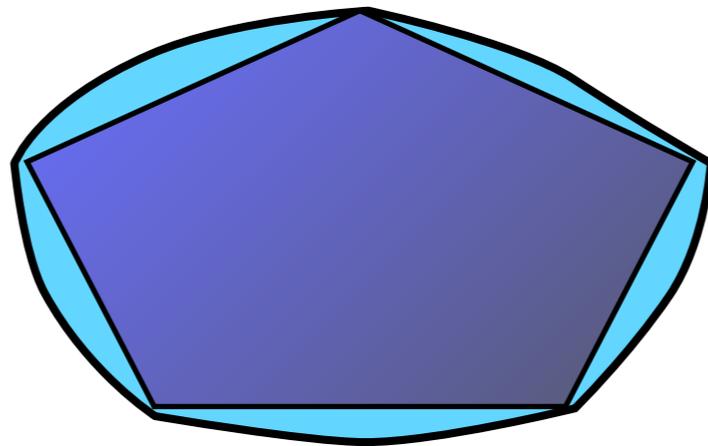
Relaxations

$$\|v\|_{\mathcal{A}}^* = \max_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \langle v, a \rangle$$

- Dual norm is efficiently computable if the set of atoms is polyhedral or semidefinite representable

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \subset \mathcal{A}_2 \implies \|x\|_{\mathcal{A}_1}^* \leq \|x\|_{\mathcal{A}_2}^* \quad \text{and} \quad \|x\|_{\mathcal{A}_2} \leq \|x\|_{\mathcal{A}_1}$$

- Convex relaxations of atoms yield approximations to the norm



*NB! tangent cone
gets wider*

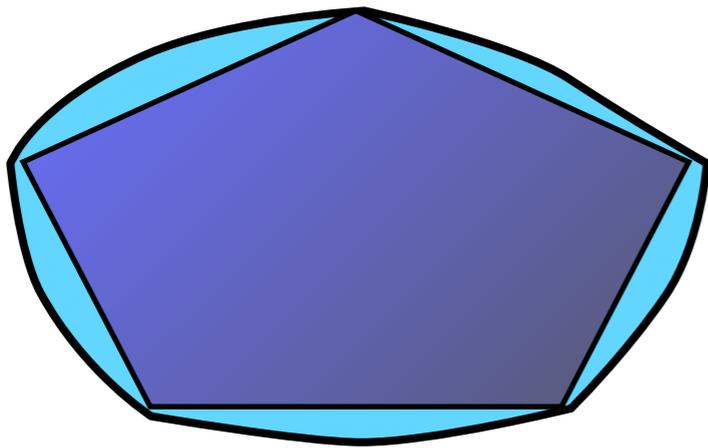
- Hierarchy of relaxations based on θ -Bodies yield progressively tighter bounds on the atomic norm

Theta Bodies

- Suppose \mathcal{A} is an *algebraic variety*

$$\mathcal{A} = \{x : f(x) = 0 \forall f \in I\}$$

$$\|v\|_{\mathcal{A}}^* = \max_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \langle v, a \rangle \leq \tau$$



$$q = h + g$$

↘
↘

$$\underline{h(x) \geq 0 \forall x} \quad \underline{g \in I}$$

positive everywhere
vanishes on atoms

- *Relaxation*: restrict h to be sum of squares.
- Gives a lower bound on atomic norm
- Solvable by semidefinite programming (*Gouveia, Parrilo, and Thomas, 2010*)