



# Sketching-based Algorithms for Ridge Regression

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*@ XXI Householder Symposium on Numerical Linear Algebra*

Will also talk about:

# Randomized Numerical Linear Algebra for Interior Point Methods

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# 20+ years of RandNLA

## (Randomized Numerical Linear Algebra)

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- Sketching works! In theory and in practice.
- In problems that involve matrices, using a sketch of the matrix instead of the original matrix returns provably accurate results theoretically and works well empirically.
  - (1) The sketch can be just a few rows/columns/elements of the matrix, selected carefully (or not).
  - (2) The sketch can be simply the product of a matrix with a few random Gaussian vectors.
  - (3) Better sketches (in terms of the accuracy vs. running time tradeoff to construct the sketch) have been heavily researched.



# Highlights of 20+ years of RandNLA

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- Sketches can be used as a proxy of the matrix in the original problem (e.g., in the streaming or pass-efficient model), BUT:



# Highlights of 20+ years of RandNLA

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- Sketches can be used as a proxy of the matrix in the original problem (e.g., in the streaming or pass-efficient model), BUT:
- **A much better use of a sketch** is as a preconditioner or to compute a starting point for an iterative process.
  - (1) As a preconditioner in iterative methods for regression problems, (pioneered by Blendenpik).
  - (2) To compute a “seed” vector in subspace iteration for SVD/PCA, or to compute a Block Krylov subspace.

**Neither (1) nor (2) are novel in Numerical Linear Algebra; the introduction of randomization to analyze the sketch was/is/will be ground-breaking.**

(Re (2): Drineas, Ipsen, Kontopoulou, & Magdon-Ismail SIMAX 2018; Drineas & Ipsen SIMAX 2019; building on ideas from Musco & Musco NeurIPS 2015.)



# Using Haim Avron's slide:

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## Sketch-and-Solve

- ① High success rate
- ② Polynomial accuracy dependence (e.g.  $\epsilon^{-2}$ )
- ③ No iterations

### Pros:

- ① **Very** fast
- ② Deterministic running time

### Cons:

- ① Only crude accuracy
- ② “Monte-Carlo” algorithm

## Sketch-to-Precondition

- ① High success rate
- ② Exponential accuracy dependence (e.g.  $\log(1/\epsilon)$ )
- ③ Iterations

### Pros:

- ① Very high accuracy possible
- ② Success = good solution

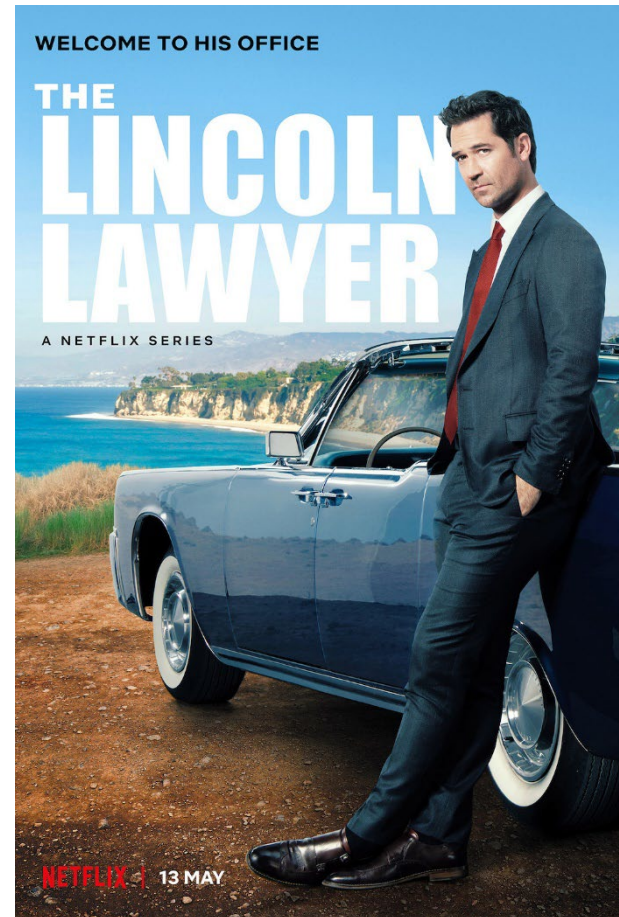
### Cons:

- ① Slower than sketch-and-solve
- ② Iterations (no streaming)

# The real highlight of RandNLA

**NETFLIX**

**SEASON 1  
EPISODE 3**



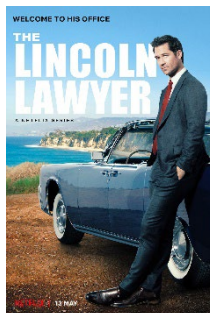
**RATED TV-MA**  
language

They're gonna ask for cash bail.  
Unless you got a couple grand--

00:00:06 2.28 MB/597.29 GB



**S1 E3**





# This talk

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- Randomized Numerical Linear Algebra (sketching) for ridge regression
  - This is what I had originally planned to talk about back in 2020
- Randomized Numerical Linear Algebra for Interior Point Methods
  - Blame (?) the two-year COVID delay



# Under-constrained regression problems

Consider the under-constrained regression problem:

$$\mathcal{Z}^* = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$$

$\leftarrow$   $A$  is  $n \times d$ , **short and fat**  
i.e.,  $n \ll d$

- If  $\lambda = 0$ , then the resulting problem typically has many solutions achieving an optimal value of zero (w.l.o.g. let  $A$  have full rank).
- The regularization term places a constraint on the Euclidean norm of the solution vector; the resulting regularized problem is called ridge regression.
- Other ways of regularization are possible, e.g., sparse approximations, LASSO, and elastic nets.



# Under-constrained regression problems

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*A is  $n \times d$ , **short and fat**  
i.e.,  $n \ll d$*

- The minimizer

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^* &= \left( \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} + \lambda \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{A}^\top \left( \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^\top + \lambda \mathbf{I}_n \right)^{-1} \mathbf{b}. \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathbf{x}^*$  can be computed in time  $\mathcal{O}(n^2 d)$ .

# Richardson's iteration with sketching

**Input:**  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ ; number of iterations  $t > 0$ ; sketching matrix  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times s}$  ( $s \ll d$ );

**Initialize:**  $\mathbf{b}^{(0)} \leftarrow \mathbf{b}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(0)} \leftarrow \mathbf{0}_d$ ,  $\mathbf{y}^{(0)} \leftarrow \mathbf{0}_n$ ;

**for**  $j = 1$  **to**  $t$  **do**

$$\mathbf{b}^{(j)} \leftarrow \mathbf{b}^{(j-1)} - \lambda \mathbf{y}^{(j-1)} - \mathbf{A} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(j-1)};$$

$$\mathbf{y}^{(j)} \leftarrow (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top + \lambda \mathbf{I}_n)^{-1} \mathbf{b}^{(j)};$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(j)} \leftarrow \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{y}^{(j)};$$

**end for**

**Output:**  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^* = \sum_{j=1}^t \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(j)};$

Subtract the current  
"solution" from the  
response vector

sketching



# Leverage Scores

Let  $A$  be a (full rank)  $n$ -by- $d$  matrix with  $d \gg n$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ n \times n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ n \times n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V^T \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix}$$

- **(Column) leverage score:** For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, d$ ,

$$\ell_i \triangleq \left( \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} \right)_{ii} = \|\mathbf{V}_{i*}\|_2^2,$$

- **(Column) ridge leverage score**

[Alaoui and Mahoney, 2015, Cohen et al., 2017]:

For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, d$ ,

$$\tau_i^\lambda \triangleq \left( \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I}_n)^{-1} \mathbf{A} \right)_{ii} = \|(\mathbf{V} \Sigma_\lambda)_{i*}\|_2^2,$$

$i$ -th column of  $V^T$  or  
 $i$ -th row of  $V$



# Ridge Leverage Scores

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a (full rank)  $n$ -by- $d$  matrix with  $d \gg n$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ n \times n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ n \times n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{V}^T \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\Sigma_\lambda = \text{diag} \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_1^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \lambda}}, \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_2^2}{\sigma_2^2 + \lambda}}, \dots, \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_n^2}{\sigma_n^2 + \lambda}} \right\}$$

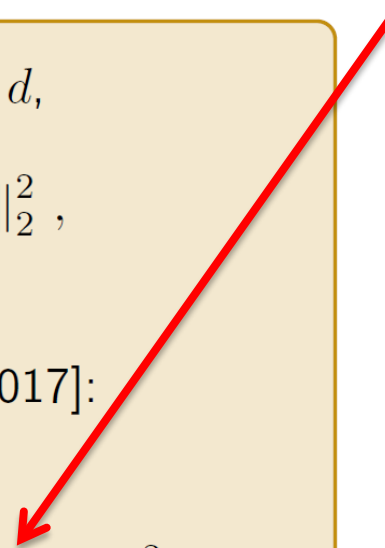
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# Ridge Leverage Scores

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$$\Sigma_\lambda = \text{diag} \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_1^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \lambda}}, \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_2^2}{\sigma_2^2 + \lambda}}, \dots, \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_n^2}{\sigma_n^2 + \lambda}} \right\}$$

- **(Column) leverage score:** For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, d$ ,

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$$\tau_i^\lambda \triangleq \left( \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I}_n)^{-1} \mathbf{A} \right)_{ii} = \|(\mathbf{V} \Sigma_\lambda)_{i*}\|_2^2,$$

$d_\lambda = \|\Sigma_\lambda\|_F^2$   
Effective Degrees  
of Freedom :

$$d_\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\sigma_i^2}{\sigma_i^2 + \lambda} \leq n$$

# Our results

(notation:  $S$  denotes the sketching matrix)

## Theorem 1

For some constant  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ ,

(a)  $\|\hat{\mathbf{x}}^* - \mathbf{x}^*\|_2 \leq \varepsilon^t \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_2$ ,

if  $S$  satisfies  $\|\mathbf{V}^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{V} - \mathbf{I}_n\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ .

Leverage Score  
Sampling

(b)  $\|\hat{\mathbf{x}}^* - \mathbf{x}^*\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon^t}{2} \left( \|\mathbf{x}^*\|_2 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\lambda}} \|\mathbf{U}_{k,\perp}^\top \mathbf{b}\|_2 \right)$ ,

if  $S$  satisfies  $\|\Sigma_\lambda \mathbf{V}^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{V} \Sigma_\lambda - \Sigma_\lambda^2\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4\sqrt{2}}$ .

Ridge Leverage  
Score Sampling

Here  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is the true solution of the ridge regression problem;  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  is an integer such that  $\sigma_{k+1}^2 \leq \lambda \leq \sigma_k^2$  and  $\mathbf{U}_{k,\perp} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n-k)}$  denotes the matrix of the bottom  $n - k$  left singular vectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ .



# Our results and follow-up work

(Chowdhuri, Yang, Drineas ICML 2018)

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- **Leverage score sampling (feature selection)**
  - Number of selected features *depends on  $n$*  (number of observations).
  - Returns relative error guarantees.
- **Ridge leverage score sampling (feature selection)**
  - Number of selected features *depends on the effective degrees of freedom  $d_\lambda < n$* .
  - Returns relative-additive error guarantees.
- **Improvements & Extensions**
  - Improvements (sketching) by *Meier & Nakatsukasa ArXiv 2022*.  
Congratulatory for the Best Poster Award!
  - See also *Kacham & Woodruff ICML 2022*.
  - Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA): *Chowdhuri, Yang, Drineas UAI 2019*.
  - Projection cost-preserving sketching: *Chowdhuri, Yang, Drineas LAA 2019*.
- **Linear systems**
  - Sketched GMRES by *Nakatsukasa & Tropp, 2022*.



# RandNLA and Linear Programming

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- Primal-dual interior point methods necessitate solving least-squares problems (projecting the gradient on the null space of the constraint matrix in order to remain feasible).  
(Dating back to the mid/late 1980's and work by Karmarkar, Ye, Freund)
- **Modern approaches:** path-following interior point methods iterate using the Newton direction. A system of linear equations must be solved at each iteration.  
(*inexact* interior point methods: work by Bellavia, Steihaug, Monteiro, etc.)



# RandNLA and Linear Programming

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- **Modern approaches:** path-following interior point methods iterate using the Newton direction. A system of linear equations must be solved at each iteration.  
(*inexact* interior point methods: work by Bellavia, Steihaug, Monteiro, etc.)
- **Well-known by practitioners:** the number of iterations in interior point methods is **not** the bottleneck, but the computational cost of solving a linear system is.



# Path-Following IPMs

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A broad classification of **Interior Point Methods (IPM)** for **Linear Programming (LP)**:

## **IPM:** Path Following Methods

- Long step methods (worse theoretically, fast in practice)
- Short step methods (better in theory, slow in practice)
- Predictor-Corrector (good in theory and practice)
- Can be further divided to **feasible and infeasible** methods (depending on starting point).

Especially relevant in practice for long step and predictor corrector methods.

## **IPM:** Potential-Reduction algorithms

Not explored in our work.



# Standard Form Linear Programs

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Consider the standard form of the primal LP problem:

$$\min \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}, \text{ subject to } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

The associated dual problem is

$$\max \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}, \text{ subject to } \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{s} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , and  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are inputs  
 $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , and  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are variables



# Interior Point Methods (IPMs)

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► **Duality measure:**

$$\mu = \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{s}}{n} = \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{y})}{n} = \frac{\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{y}}{n} \downarrow 0$$

► **Path-following methods:**

- Let  $\mathcal{F}^0 = \{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}) : (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s}) > \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{c}\}$ .
- Central path:  $\mathcal{C} = \{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}) \in \mathcal{F}^0 : \mathbf{x} \circ \mathbf{s} = \sigma \mu \mathbf{1}_n\}$ ,  $\sigma \in (0, 1)$  is the centering parameter.
- Neighborhood:  $\mathcal{N}(\gamma) = \{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}) \in \mathcal{F}^0 : \mathbf{x} \circ \mathbf{s} \geq (1 - \gamma) \mu \mathbf{1}_n\}$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$
- Given the step size  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  and  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}) \in \mathcal{N}(\gamma)$ , it computes the Newton search direction  $(\Delta \mathbf{x}, \Delta \mathbf{y}, \Delta \mathbf{s})$  and update the current iterate

$$(\mathbf{x}(\alpha), \mathbf{y}(\alpha), \mathbf{s}(\alpha)) = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}) + \alpha(\Delta \mathbf{x}, \Delta \mathbf{y}, \Delta \mathbf{s}) \in \mathcal{N}(\gamma)$$



# Interior Point Methods (IPMs)

(long-step, feasible)

► Duality measure:

$$\mu = \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{s}}{n} = \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{y})}{n} = \frac{\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{y}}{n} \downarrow 0$$

► After  $k = \mathcal{O}\left(n \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$  iterations,  $\mu_k \leq \epsilon \mu_0$ .

► Path-following methods:

- Let  $\mathcal{F}^0 = \{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}) : (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s}) > \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{c}\}$ .
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# Interior Point Methods (IPMs)

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Path-following IPMs, at every iteration, solve a system of linear equations :

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A}^\top & \mathbf{I}_n \\ \mathbf{S} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{x} \\ \Delta \mathbf{y} \\ \Delta \mathbf{s} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{r}_p \\ -\mathbf{r}_d \\ -\mathbf{X}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{1}_n + \sigma\mu\mathbf{1}_n \end{pmatrix}$$



$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{X}^{1/2}\mathbf{S}^{-1/2}$  is a diagonal matrix.

normal  
equations

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{A}^\top\Delta\mathbf{y} = \underbrace{-\mathbf{r}_p - \sigma\mu\mathbf{A}\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{1}_n + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{r}_d}_{\mathbf{p}},$$

$$\Delta\mathbf{s} = -\mathbf{r}_d - \mathbf{A}^\top\Delta\mathbf{y},$$

$$\Delta\mathbf{x} = -\mathbf{x} + \sigma\mu\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{1}_n - \mathbf{D}^2\Delta\mathbf{s}.$$



# RandNLA & IPMs for LPs

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**Research Agenda:** Explore how approximate, iterative solvers for the normal equations affect the convergence of

- (1) long-step (feasible and infeasible) IPMs,
- (2) feasible predictor-corrector IPMs.**



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(1) long-step (feasible and infeasible) IPMs,

**(2) feasible predictor-corrector IPMs.**

- We seek to investigate **standard, practical solvers**, such as Preconditioned Conjugate Gradients, Preconditioned Steepest Descent, Preconditioned Richardson's iteration, etc.
- The preconditioner is constructed using RandNLA sketching-based approaches.



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- We seek to investigate **standard, practical solvers**, such as Preconditioned Conjugate Gradients, Preconditioned Steepest Descent, Preconditioned Richardson's iteration, etc.
- The preconditioner is constructed using RandNLA sketching-based approaches.
- **Remark:** For feasible path-following IPMs, an additional design choice is whether we want the final solution to be feasible or approximately feasible.

# Preconditioning in Interior Point Methods

(joint with H. Avron, A. Chowdhuri, G. Dexter, and P. London, NeurIPS 2020)

Standard form of primal LP:

$$\min \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}, \text{ subject to } \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
↙

$$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m, \text{ and } \mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

**Path-following, long-step IPMs:** compute the Newton search direction; update the current iterate by following a (long) step towards the search direction.

A standard approach involves solving the normal equations:

$$\mathbf{AD}^2\mathbf{A}^T\Delta\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{p} \quad \text{where } \mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

↙

Vector of  $m$  unknowns

**Use a preconditioned method to solve the above system:** we analyzed preconditioned Conjugate Gradient solvers; preconditioned Richardson's; and preconditioned Steepest Descent, all with randomized preconditioners.



# Challenges

---

**Immediate problem:** even assuming a feasible starting point, approximate solutions do not lead to feasible updates.

- As a result, **standard analyses** of the convergence of IPMs **are not applicable**.
- We use RandNLA approaches to **efficiently and provably correct the error** induced by the approximate solution and guarantee convergence.



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**Immediate problem:** even assuming a feasible starting point, approximate solutions do not lead to feasible updates.

- As a result, **standard analyses** of the convergence of IPMs **are not applicable**.
- We use RandNLA approaches to **efficiently and provably correct the error** induced by the approximate solution and guarantee convergence.

**Details:** the approximate solution violates critical equalities:

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{A}^\top\hat{\Delta}\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{p} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{A}\hat{\Delta}\mathbf{x} \neq -\cancel{r_p}/\mathbf{0} \mathbf{m}$$

- The vector  $r_p$  is the primal residual; for feasible long-step IPMs, it is the all-zero vector.
- Standard analyses of long-step (infeasible/feasible) IPMs critically need the second inequality to be an equality.
- Without the above equalities, in the case of feasible IPMs, we can not terminate with a feasible solution; we will end up with an approximately feasible solution.



## Results: feasible, long-step IPMs

---

If the constraint matrix  $A \in R^{m \times n}$  is short-and-fat ( $m \ll n$ ), then

- Run  $O\left(n \cdot \log\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)\right)$  outer iterations of the IPM solver.
- In each outer iteration, the normal equations are solved by  $O(\log n)$  inner iterations of a randomized PCG solver.
- Then, the feasible, long-step IPM converges.
- Can be generalized to (exact) low-rank matrices  $A$  with rank  $k \ll \min\{m, n\}$ .

Thus, approximate solutions suffice; ignoring failure probabilities, each inner iteration needs time

$$\mathcal{O}((\text{nnz}(\mathbf{A}) + m^3) \log n)$$



# Results: infeasible, long-step IPMs

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If the constraint matrix  $A \in R^{m \times n}$  is short-and-fat ( $m \ll n$ ), then

- Run  $O\left(n^2 \cdot \log\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)\right)$  outer iterations of the IPM solver.
- In each outer iteration, the normal equations are solved by  $O(\log n)$  inner iterations of a randomized PCG solver.
- Then, the infeasible, long-step IPM converges.
- Can be generalized to (exact) low-rank matrices  $A$  with rank  $k \ll \min\{m, n\}$ .

Thus, approximate solutions suffice; ignoring failure probabilities, each inner iteration needs time

$$\mathcal{O}((\text{nnz}(\mathbf{A}) + m^3) \log n)$$



# Feasible Predictor-Corrector IPMs

(joint with H. Avron, A. Chowdhuri, G. Dexter ICML 2022; *long paper*)

---

- By oscillating between the following two types of steps at each iteration, *Predictor-Corrector (PC)* IPMs achieve twofold objective of **(i) reducing duality measure  $\mu$**  and **(ii) improving centrality** :
  - Predictor step ( $\sigma = 0$ ) to reduce the duality measure  $\mu$ .
  - Corrector steps ( $\sigma = 1$ ) to improve centrality.
- PC obtains the best of both worlds: **(i) the practical flexibility of long-step IPMs** and **(ii) the convergence rate of short-step IPMs**.



# Feasible Predictor-Corrector IPMs

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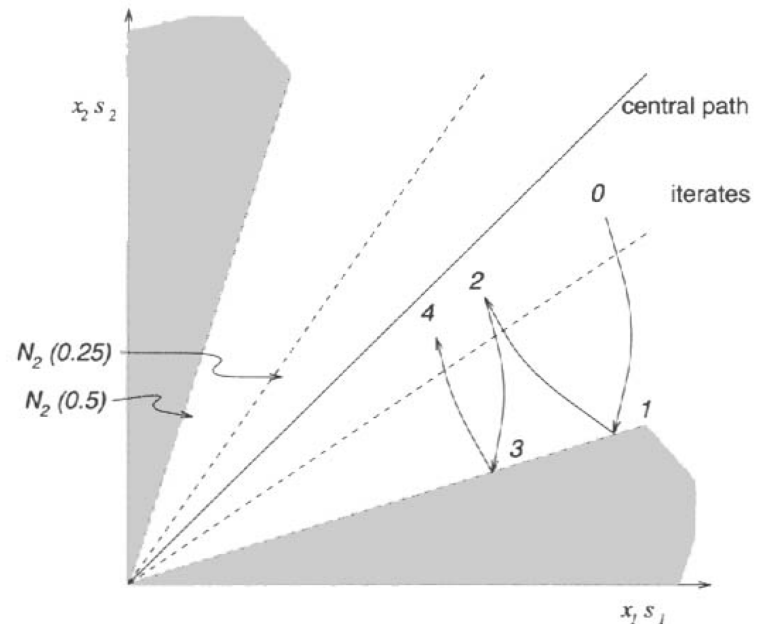
- By oscillating between the following two types of steps at each iteration, *Predictor-Corrector (PC) IPMs* achieve twofold objective of **(i) reducing duality measure  $\mu$**  and **(ii) improving centrality** :
  - Predictor step ( $\sigma = 0$ ) to reduce the duality measure  $\mu$ .
  - Corrector steps ( $\sigma = 1$ ) to improve centrality.
- PC obtains the best of both worlds: **(i) the practical flexibility of long-step IPMs** and **(ii) the convergence rate of short-step IPMs**.
- Our work combines the prototypical PC algorithm (e.g., see Wright (1997)) with (preconditioned) inexact solvers.
- **Major challenge**: analyze inexact PC is to guarantee that the duality measure after each corrector step of the PC iteration decreases.

(Standard analysis breaks; the (feasible) long-step proof was easier; we had to come up with new inequalities for an approximate version of the duality measure.)

# Predictor-corrector Algorithm Overview

## Alternates between predictor and corrector steps

- Predictor step greatly decreases the duality measure, while deviating from the central path (centering parameter  $\sigma = 1$ ).
- Corrector step keeps the duality measure constant but returns iterate to near central path (centering parameter  $\sigma = 0$ ).
- Alternates between two neighborhoods of the central path  $N_2(0.25)$  and  $N_2(0.5)$ .



$$\mathcal{N}_2(\theta) = \left\{ (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{s}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n+m} : \|\mathbf{x} \circ \mathbf{s} - \mu \mathbf{1}_n\|_2 \leq \theta \mu, (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s}) > 0 \right\}.$$

## Solving the linear system

At each iteration of the Predictor-Corrector IPM, we need to solve the following linear system:

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{A}^\top \Delta\mathbf{y} = \underbrace{-\sigma\mu\mathbf{A}\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{1}_n + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}}_{\mathbf{p}}$$

$$\Delta\mathbf{s} = -\mathbf{A}^\top \Delta\mathbf{y}$$

$$\Delta\mathbf{x} = -\mathbf{x} + \sigma\mu\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{1}_n - \mathbf{D}^2\Delta\mathbf{s}.$$

Note that the last two equations only involve matrix-vector products. Therefore, we only focus on solving the first equation efficiently.



# Structural Conditions for Inexact PC

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➤ Let  $\Delta\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  be an approximate solution to the normal equations  $(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{A}^T) \cdot \Delta\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{p}$ .

➤ If  $\Delta\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  satisfies (sufficient conditions):

$$\|\Delta\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \Delta\mathbf{y}\|_{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{A}^T} \leq \Theta\left(\frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{n} \log 1/\epsilon}\right)$$

$$\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{D}^2\mathbf{A}^T \Delta\tilde{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{p}\|_2 \leq \Theta\left(\frac{\epsilon}{\sqrt{n} \log 1/\epsilon}\right)$$

➤ Then, we prove that the Inexact PC method converges in  $O\left(\sqrt{n} \cdot \log\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)\right)$  iterations, as expected.

➤ The final solution (and all intermediate iterates) are only *approximately* feasible.

# Structural Conditions for Inexact PC using a correction vector $v$

(correction vector idea also in O'Neal and Monteiro 2003)

- We modified the PC method using a correction vector  $v$  to make iterates *exactly* feasible.
- Let  $\Delta\tilde{y}$  be an approximate solution to the normal equations  $(AD^2A^T) \cdot \Delta y = p$ .
- If  $\Delta\tilde{y}$  and  $v$  satisfy (sufficient conditions):

$$AS^{-1}v = AD^2A^T\Delta\tilde{y} - p$$

$$\|v\|_2 < \Theta(\epsilon)$$

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**$v$  is user  
controlled!!**

- Then, we prove that this modified Inexact PC method converges in  $O\left(\sqrt{n} \cdot \log\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)\right)$  iterations, as expected.
- The final solution (and all intermediate iterates) are *exactly* feasible.



# Satisfying the structural conditions

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- We analyzed Preconditioned Conjugate Gradients (PCG) solvers with randomized preconditioners for constraint matrices  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  that are: short-and-fat ( $m \ll n$ ), tall-and-thin ( $m \gg n$ ) or have exact low-rank  $k \ll \min\{m, n\}$ .
- Satisfying the structural conditions for “standard” Inexact PC: the PCG solver needs  $O\left(\log\left(\frac{n \cdot \sigma_1(AD)}{\epsilon}\right)\right)$  iterations (inner iterations).



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- **Satisfying the structural conditions for the “modified” Inexact PC:** the PCG solver needs  $O\left(\log\left(\frac{n}{\epsilon}\right)\right)$  iterations (inner iterations).
- Notice that using the error-adjustment vector  $v$  in the modified Inexact PC *eliminates the dependency on the largest singular value of the matrix  $AD$ .*



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- Notice that using the error-adjustment vector  $v$  in the modified Inexact PC *eliminates the dependency on the largest singular value of the matrix  $AD$ .*
- Computing the error-adjustment vector  $v$  is fast and can be done (combined with randomized preconditioners and PCG) in  $O(\text{nnz}(A) \log n)$  time (just mat-vecs).
- Similar results can be derived for preconditioned steepest descent, preconditioned Chebyshev, and preconditioned Richardson solvers.



# Open problems

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- Can we prove similar results for infeasible predictor-corrector IPMs? Recall that such methods need  $O(n)$  outer iterations (Yang & Namashita 2018).
- Are our structural conditions necessary? Can we derive simpler conditions?
- Could our structural conditions change from one iteration to the next? Could we use dynamic preconditioning or reuse preconditioners from one iteration to the next (e.g., low-rank updates of the preconditioners)?
- Connections with similar results in the TCS community (starting with Daich & Spielman (STOC 2008)).
  - Analyzed a short-step (dual) path-following IPM (LP *not* in standard form).
  - No “correction” vector; an approximately feasible solution was returned.
  - Dependency on  $\log(\kappa(S))$  for the outer iteration -- can it be removed?



# Relevant literature

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G. Dexter, A. Chowdhuri, H. Avron, and P. Drineas, *On the convergence of Inexact Predictor-Corrector Methods for Linear Programming*, ICML 2022.

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