

# Sketching Theorem

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## Theorem:

- There is a probability space over  $(d \log d) \times n$  matrices  $R$  such that for any  $n \times d$  matrix  $A$ , with probability at least  $99/100$  we have for all  $x$ :

$$\|Ax\|_1 \leq \|RAx\|_1 \leq d \log d \cdot \|Ax\|_1$$

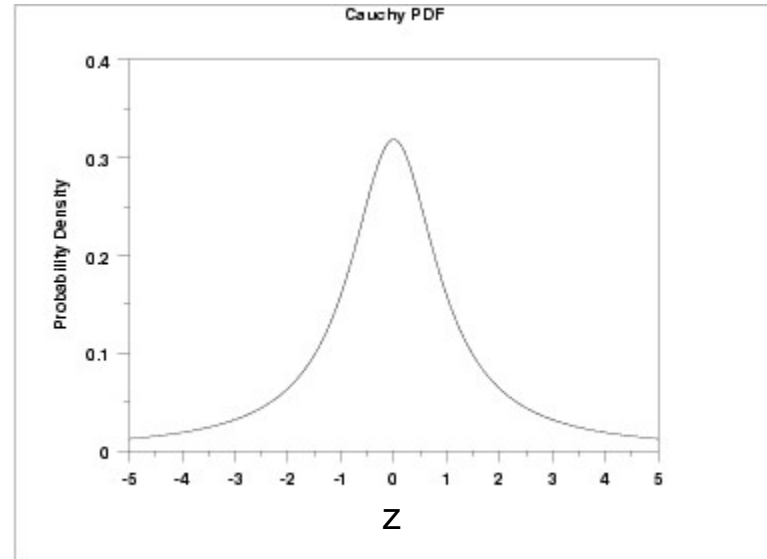
## A dense $R$ that works:

The entries of  $R$  are i.i.d. Cauchy random variables, scaled by  $1/(d \log d)$

# Cauchy Random Variables

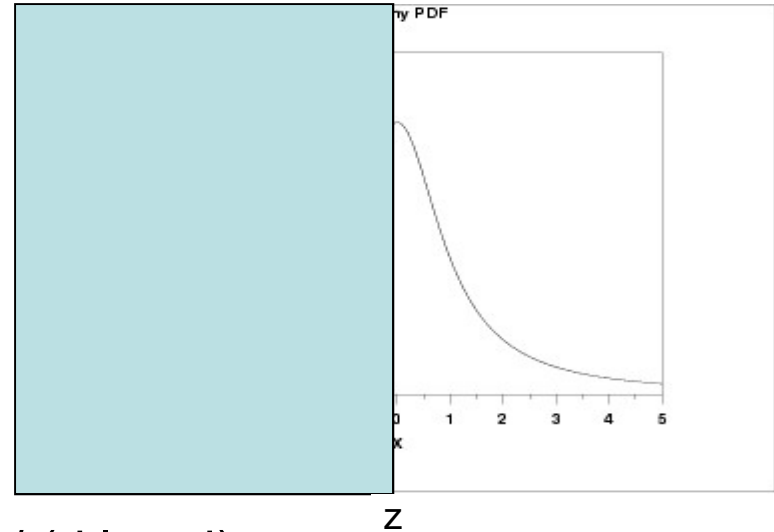
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- $\text{pdf}(z) = 1/(\pi(1+z^2))$  for  $z$  in  $(-\infty, \infty)$
- Undefined expectation and infinite variance
- 1-stable:
  - If  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n$  are i.i.d. Cauchy, then for  $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  
$$a_1 \cdot z_1 + a_2 \cdot z_2 + \dots + a_n \cdot z_n \sim |a|_1 \cdot z, \text{ where } z \text{ is Cauchy}$$
- Can generate as the ratio of two standard normal random variables



# Proof of Sketching Theorem

- By 1-stability,
  - For all rows  $r$  of  $R$ ,
    - $\langle r, Ax \rangle = |Ax|_1 \cdot Z / (d \log d)$ ,  
where  $Z$  is a Cauchy
- $RAx = (|Ax|_1 \cdot Z_1, \dots, |Ax|_1 \cdot Z_{d \log d}) / (d \log d)$ ,  
where  $Z_1, \dots, Z_{d \log d}$  are i.i.d. Cauchy
- $|RAx|_1 = |Ax|_1 \sum_j |Z_j| / (d \log d)$ 
  - The  $|Z_j|$  are half-Cauchy
- $\sum_j |Z_j| = \Omega(d \log d)$  with probability  $1 - \exp(-d \log d)$  by Chernoff
- But the  $|Z_j|$  are heavy-tailed...



# Proof of Sketching Theorem

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- $\sum_j |Z_j|$  is heavy-tailed, so  $|RAx|_1 = |Ax|_1 \sum_j |Z_j| / (d \log d)$  may be large
- Each  $|Z_j|$  has c.d.f. asymptotic to  $1 - \Theta(1/z)$  for  $z$  in  $[0, \infty)$
- There *exists* a well-conditioned basis of  $A$ 
  - Suppose w.l.o.g. the basis vectors are  $A_{*1}, \dots, A_{*d}$
- $|RA_{*i}|_1 = |A_{*i}|_1 \cdot \sum_j |Z_{i,j}| / (d \log d)$
- Let  $E_{i,j}$  be the event that  $|Z_{i,j}| \leq d^3$ 
  - Define  $Z'_{i,j} = |Z_{i,j}|$  if  $|Z_{i,j}| \leq d^3$ , and  $Z'_{i,j} = d^3$  otherwise
  - $E[Z_{i,j} | E_{i,j}] = E[Z'_{i,j} | E_{i,j}] = O(\log d)$
- Let  $E$  be the event that for all  $i,j$ ,  $E_{i,j}$  occurs
  - $\Pr[E] \geq 1 - \frac{\log d}{d}$
- What is  $E[Z'_{i,j} | E]$ ?

# Proof of Sketching Theorem

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- What is  $E[Z'_{i,j} | E]$ ?
- $$\begin{aligned} E[Z'_{i,j} | E_{i,j}] &= E[Z'_{i,j} | E_{i,j}, E] \Pr[E | E_{i,j}] + E[Z'_{i,j} | E_{i,j}, \neg E] \Pr[\neg E | E_{i,j}] \\ &\geq E[Z'_{i,j} | E_{i,j}, E] \Pr[E | E_{i,j}] \\ &= E[Z'_{i,j} | E] \cdot \left( \frac{\Pr[E_{i,j} | E] \Pr[E]}{\Pr[E_{i,j}]} \right) \\ &\geq E[Z'_{i,j} | E] \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{\log d}{d} \right) \end{aligned}$$
- So,  $E[Z'_{i,j} | E] = O(\log d)$
- $|RA_{*i}|_1 = |A_{*i}|_1 \cdot \sum_j |Z_{i,j}| / (d \log d)$
- With constant probability,  $\sum_i |RA_{*i}|_1 = O(\log d) \sum_i |A_{*i}|_1$

# Proof of Sketching Theorem

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- With constant probability,  $\sum_i |RA_{*i}|_1 = O(\log d) \sum_i |A_{*i}|_1$
- Recall  $A_{*1}, \dots, A_{*d}$  is a well-conditioned basis, and we showed the existence of such a basis earlier
- We will use the **Auerbach basis** which always exists:
  - For all  $x$ ,  $|x|_\infty \leq |Ax|_1$
  - $\sum_i |A_{*i}|_1 = d$
- $\sum_i |RA_{*i}|_1 = O(d \log d)$
- For all  $x$ ,  $|RAX|_1 \leq \sum_i |RA_{*i} x_i| \leq |x|_\infty \sum_i |RA_{*i}|_1$   
 $= |x|_\infty O(d \log d)$   
 $= O(d \log d) |Ax|_1$

# Where are we?

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- Suffices to show for all  $x$  with  $|x|_1 = 1$ , that  $|Ax|_1 \leq |RAx|_1 \leq d \log d \cdot |Ax|_1$
- We know
  - (1) there is a  $\gamma$ -net  $M$ , with  $|M| \leq \left(\frac{d}{\gamma}\right)^{O(d)}$ , of the set  $\{Ax \text{ such that } |x|_1 = 1\}$
  - (2) for any fixed  $x$ ,  $|RAx|_1 \geq |Ax|_1$  with probability  $1 - \exp(-d \log d)$
  - (3) for all  $x$ ,  $|RAx|_1 = O(d \log d)|Ax|_1$
- Set  $\gamma = 1/(d^3 \log d)$  so  $|M| \leq d^{O(d)}$ 
  - By a union bound, for all  $y$  in  $M$ ,  $|Ry|_1 \geq |y|_1$
- Let  $x$  with  $|x|_1 = 1$  be arbitrary. Let  $y$  in  $M$  satisfy  $|Ax - y|_1 \leq \gamma = 1/(d^3 \log d)$
- $|RAx|_1 \geq |Ry|_1 - |R(Ax - y)|_1$ 
  - $\geq |y|_1 - O(d \log d)|Ax - y|_1$
  - $\geq |y|_1 - O(d \log d)\gamma$
  - $\geq |y|_1 - O\left(\frac{1}{d^2}\right)$
  - $\geq |y|_1/2$  (why?)

# Outline

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- Quick recap of  $\ell_1$ -regression, and how to speed it up
- Introduction to the Streaming Model and Estimating Norms



# $L_1$ Regression Algorithm Recap

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Compute poly(d)-  
approximation

Compute well-conditioned  
basis

Sample rows from the  
well-conditioned basis and  
the residual of the poly(d)-  
approximation

Solve  $l_1$ -regression on the sample, obtaining vector  $x$ , and output  $x$

We saw how to solve the above problems by sketching by a matrix of i.i.d. Cauchy random variables

# Sketching to solve $\ell_1$ -regression [CW, MM]

- Most expensive operation is computing  $R^*A$  where  $R$  is the matrix of i.i.d. Cauchy random variables
- All other operations are in the “smaller space”
- Can speed this up by choosing  $R$  as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \\ C_3 \\ \dots \\ C_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- For all  $x$ ,  $\left(\frac{1}{d^2 \log^2 d}\right) |Ax|_1 \leq |RAx|_1 \leq O(d \log d) |Ax|_1$
- Overall time for  $\ell_1$ -regression is  $\text{nnz}(A) + \text{poly}(d/\epsilon)$

# Further sketching improvements [WZ]

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- Can show you need a fewer number of sampled rows in later steps if instead choose  $R$  as follows
- Instead of diagonal of Cauchy random variables, choose diagonal of reciprocals of exponential random variables

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1/E_1 & & & & & & & \\ & 1/E_2 & & & & & & \\ & & 1/E_3 & & & & & \\ & & & \dots & & & & \\ & & & & & & & 1/E_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- For all  $x$ ,  $\left(\frac{1}{d^{.5} \text{poly}(\log(nd))}\right) |Ax|_1 \leq |RAx|_1 \leq O(d \log d) |Ax|_1$

# Fun Fact about Cauchy Random Variables

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- Suppose you have i.i.d. copies  $R_1, \dots, R_n$  of a random variable with mean 0 and variance  $\sigma^2$
- What is the distribution of  $\frac{\sum_i R_i}{n}$  ?
- By Central Limit Theorem, this approaches a normal random variable  $N(0, \sigma^2/n)$
- Intuitively, the variance is decreasing and the average is approaching its expectation
- Now suppose you have i.i.d. copies  $R_1, \dots, R_n$  of a standard Cauchy random variable
- What is the distribution of  $\frac{\sum_i R_i}{n}$  ?
- It's still a standard Cauchy random variable!

# Outline

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- Introduction to the Streaming Model
- Estimating Norms in the Streaming Model

## Turnstile Streaming Model

- Underlying  $n$ -dimensional vector  $x$  initialized to  $0^n$
- Long stream of updates  $x_i \leftarrow x_i + \Delta_j$  for  $\Delta_j$  in  $\{-M, -M+1, \dots, M-1, M\}$ 
  - $M \leq \text{poly}(n)$
- Throughout the stream,  $x$  is promised to be in  $\{-M, -M+1, \dots, M-1, M\}^n$
- Output an approximation to  $f(x)$  with high probability over our coin tosses
- **Goal:** use as little space (in bits) as possible
  - Massive data: stock transactions, weather data, genomes

## Testing if $x = 0^n$

- How can we test, with probability at least  $9/10$ , over our random coin tosses, if the underlying vector  $x = 0^n$ ?
- Can we use  $O(\log n)$  bits of space?
- We saw that for any fixed vector  $x$ , if  $S$  is a CountSketch matrix with  $O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$  rows, then  $|Sx|_2^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon)|x|_2^2$  with probability at least  $9/10$
- If we set  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}$ , we use  $O(\log n)$  bits of space to store the  $O(1)$  entries of  $Sx$
- We can store the hash function and sign function defining  $S$  using  $O(\log n)$  bits

## Testing if $x = 0^n$

- Is there a deterministic, i.e., zero-error, streaming algorithm to test if the underlying vector  $x = 0^n$  with  $o(n \log n)$  bits of space?
- **Theorem:** any deterministic algorithm requires  $\Omega(n \log n)$  bits of space
- Suppose the first half of the stream corresponds to updates to a vector  $a$  in  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, \text{poly}(n)\}^n$
- Let  $S(a)$  be the state of the algorithm after reading the first half of the stream
  - If  $|S(a)| = o(n \log n)$ , there exist  $a \neq a'$  for which  $S(a) = S(a')$
- Suppose the second half of the stream corresponds to updates to a vector  $b$  in  $\{0, -1, -2, \dots, -\text{poly}(n)\}^n$
- The algorithm must output the same answer on  $a+b$  and  $a'+b$ , so it errs in one case



## Example: Recovering a k-Sparse Vector

- Suppose we are promised that  $x$  has at most  $k$  non-zero entries at the end of the stream
- $k$  is often small – maybe we see all coordinates of a vector  $a$  followed by all coordinates of a *similar* vector  $b$ , and  $a-b$  only has  $k$  non-zero entries
- Can we recover the indices and values of the  $k$  non-zero entries with high probability?
- Can we use  $k \text{ poly}(\log n)$  bits of space?
- Can we do it deterministically?

## Example: Recovering a k-Sparse Vector

- Suppose  $A$  is an  $s \times n$  matrix such that any  $2k$  columns are linearly independent
- Maintain  $A \cdot x$  in the stream
- Claim: from  $A \cdot x$  you can recover the subset  $S$  of  $k$  non-zero entries and their values
- Proof: suppose there were vectors  $x$  and  $y$  each with at most  $k$  non-zero entries and  $A \cdot x = A \cdot y$
- Then  $A(x-y) = 0$ . But  $x-y$  has at most  $2k$  non-zero entries, and any  $2k$  columns of  $A$  are linearly independent. So  $x-y = 0$ , i.e.,  $x = y$ .
- Algorithm is deterministic given  $A$ . But do such matrices  $A$  exist with a small number  $s$  of rows?

## Example: Recovering a k-Sparse Vector

- Vandermonde matrix  $A$  with  $s = 2k$  rows and  $n$  columns.  $A_{i,j} = j^{i-1}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots \\ 1 & 4 & 9 & \dots \\ 1 & 8 & 27 & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

- Determinant of  $2k \times 2k$  submatrix of  $A$  with set of columns equal to  $\{i_1, \dots, i_{2k}\}$  is:  
 $\prod_j i_j \prod_{j < j'} (i_j - i_{j'}) \neq 0$ , so any  $2k$  columns of  $A$  are linearly independent
- But entries of  $A$  are exponentially increasing – how to store  $A$  and  $A \cdot x$ ?
- Just store  $A \cdot x \bmod p$  for a large enough prime  $p = \text{poly}(n)$

## Outline

- Quick recap of  $\ell_1$ -regression, and how to speed it up
- Introduction to the Streaming Model
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## Example Problem: Norms

- Suppose you want  $\|x\|_p^p = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p$
- Want  $Z$  for which  $(1-\epsilon) \|x\|_p^p \leq Z \leq (1+\epsilon) \|x\|_p^p$  with probability  $> 9/10$
- $p = 1$  corresponds to total variation distance between distributions
- $p = 2$  useful for geometric and linear algebraic problems
- $p = \infty$  is the value of the maximum entry, useful for anomaly detection, etc.

## Example Problem: Euclidean Norm

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- Want  $Z$  for which  $(1-\epsilon) \|x\|_2^2 \leq Z \leq (1+\epsilon) \|x\|_2^2$
- Sample a random CountSketch matrix  $S$  with  $1/\epsilon^2$  rows
- Can store  $S$  efficiently using limited independence
- If  $x_i \leftarrow x_i + \Delta_j$  in the stream, then  $Sx \leftarrow Sx + \Delta_j S_{*,i}$
- At end of stream, output  $\|Sx\|_2^2$
- With probability at least  $9/10$ ,  $\|Sx\|_2^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon) \|x\|_2^2$
- Space complexity is  $1/\epsilon^2$  words, each word is  $O(\log n)$  bits

## Example Problem: 1-Norm

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- Want  $Z$  for which  $(1-\epsilon) \|x\|_1 \leq Z \leq (1+\epsilon) \|x\|_1$
- Sample a random Cauchy matrix  $S$ ?
- Can store  $S$  with  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$  words of space [Kane, Nelson, W]
- If  $x_i \leftarrow x_i + \Delta_j$  in the stream, then  $Sx \leftarrow Sx + \Delta_j S_{*,i}$
- Space complexity is  $1/\epsilon^2$  words, each word is  $O(\log n)$  bits
- At end of stream, output  $\|Sx\|_1$  ?
- *Cauchy random variables have no concentration...*

# 1-Norm Estimator

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- Probability density function  $f(x)$  of  $|C|$  for a Cauchy random variable  $C$  is  $f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi(1+x^2)}$

- Cumulative distribution function  $F(z)$ :

$$F(z) = \int_0^z f(x)dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan(z)$$

- Since  $\tan(\pi/4) = 1$ ,  $F(1) = 1/2$ , so  $\text{median}(|C|) = 1$
- If you take  $r = \frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2}$  independent samples  $X_1, \dots, X_r$  from  $F$ , and  $X = \text{median}_i X_i$ , then  $F(X) \in [1/2 - \epsilon, 1/2 + \epsilon]$  with probability  $1 - \delta$
- $F^{-1}(X) = \tan\left(\frac{X\pi}{2}\right) \in [1 - 4\epsilon, 1 + 4\epsilon]$



## p-Norm Estimator

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- Can achieve  $1/\epsilon^2$  words of space for p-norm estimation for any  $0 < p < 2$
- Proof is similar to 1-norm estimation, and uses p-stable distributions, which exist only for  $0 < p < 2$
- No closed form expression for their probability density function but they are efficiently sampleable:

- If  $\theta \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  and  $r \in [0,1]$  are uniformly random, then

$$\frac{\sin(p \theta)}{\cos^{\frac{1}{p}} \theta} \left( \frac{\cos(\theta(1-p))}{\ln\left(\frac{1}{r}\right)} \right)^{\frac{1-p}{p}} \text{ is a sample from a p-stable distribution!}$$

- Can discretize them and store a sketching matrix of samples from the p-stable distribution using limited independence