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# Matrix Sketching in Data Streams

CS246: Mining Massive Datasets

Jure Leskovec, Stanford University

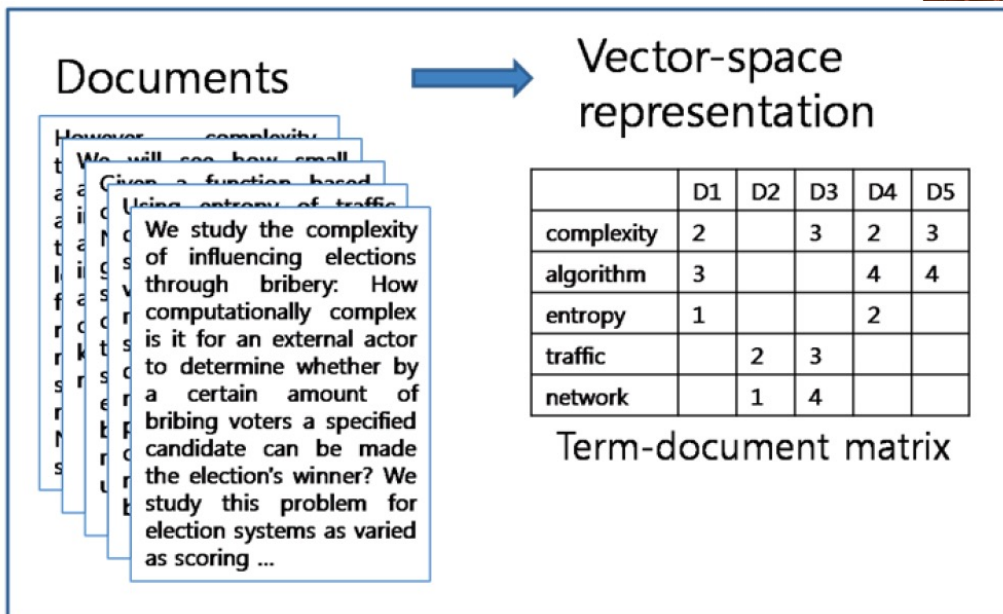
Mina Ghashami, Amazon

<http://cs246.stanford.edu>



# Data as a Matrix

- In many applications, we can represent data as a matrix: e.g. text analysis, recommendation



# Data as a Matrix

- Think of data as  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  containing  $n$  row vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , and typically  $n \gg d$
- Some examples of typical web-scale data:

Data	Rows	Columns	$n$	$d$	sparse
Textual	Documents	Words	$> 10^{10}$	$10^5 - 10^7$	yes
Visual	Images	Pixels, SIFT	$> 10^8$	$10^5 - 10^6$	no
Audio	Songs	Frequencies	$> 10^8$	$10^5 - 10^6$	no
Machine Learning	Examples	Features	$> 10^6$	$10^2 - 10^4$	yes/no
Financial	Prices	Items, Stocks	$> 10^6$	$10^3 - 10^5$	no

# Review: rank-k approximation

- Rank-k approximation to  $A$  computes a smaller matrix  $B$  of rank  $k$  such that  $B$  approximates  $A$

## Rank- $k$ Approximation

Given  $A \in R^{n \times d}$  with  $rank(A) = r$ , compute a concise matrix  $B$  with rank  $k \ll r$  such that it approximates  $A$  "accurately".

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- $B$  is much smaller than  $A$  that it fits in memory
- $\text{Rank}(B) \ll \text{rank}(A)$ 
  - If  $A$  is a document-term matrix with 10 billion documents and 1 million words  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{10^{10} \times 10^6}$  then  $B$  would probably be  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{1000 \times 10^6}$

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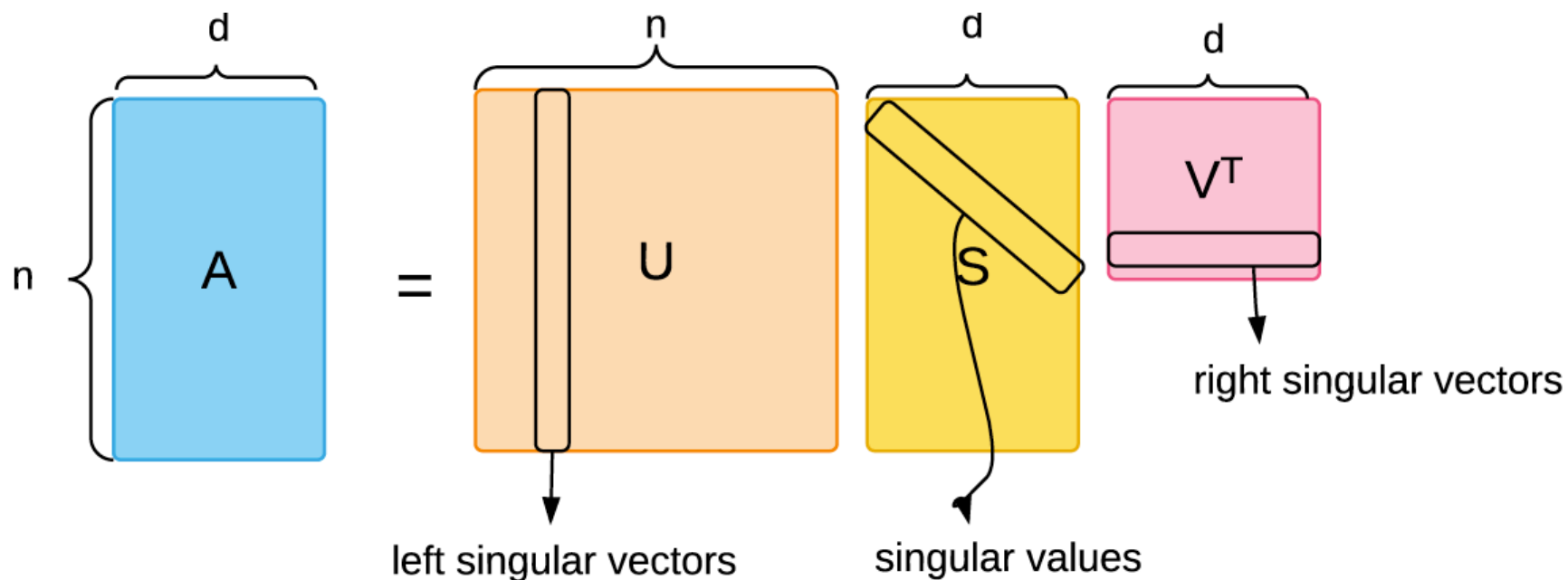
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- Error difference between  $A$  and  $B$  is small:
  - The covariance error  $\|A^T A - B^T B\|_{2, F}$  is small
  - The projection error  $\|A - \Pi_B(A)\|_{2, F}$  is small
    - $\Pi_B A :=$  projecting rows of  $A$  onto the subspace of  $B$
    - If  $B = USV^T$  then, the subspace of  $B$  is  $VV^T$
    - Therefore  $\Pi_B A = AVV^T$

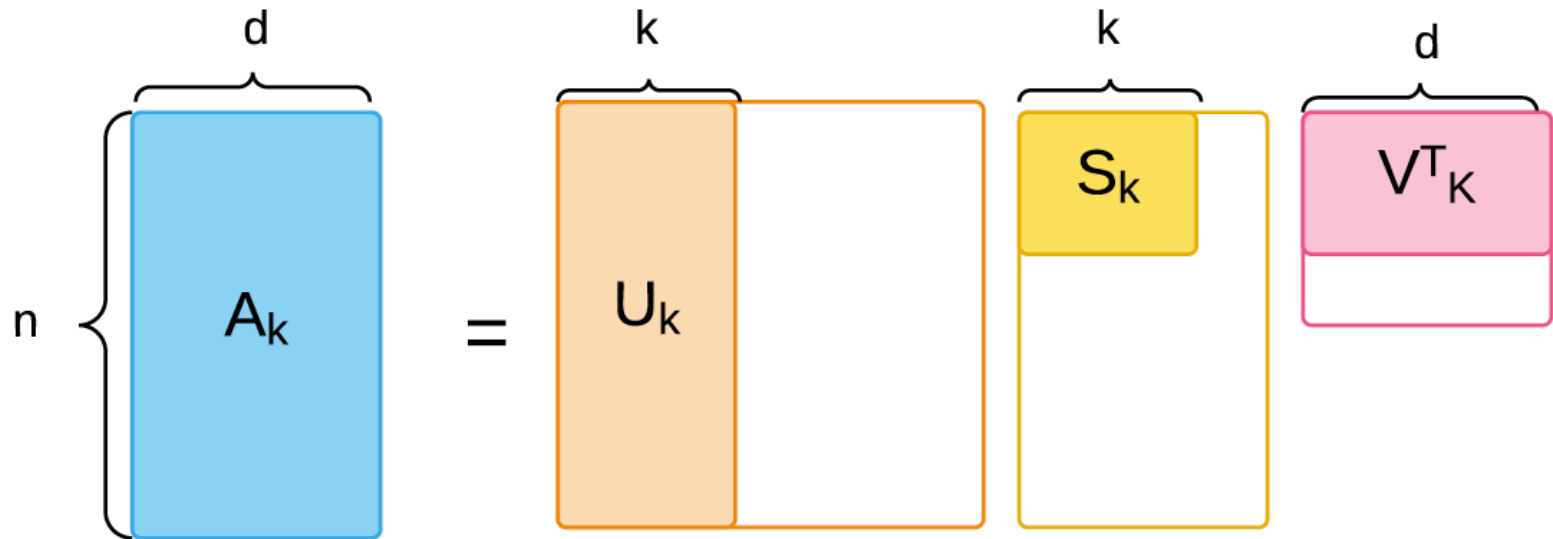
# Best Rank-k Approximation

- We saw that SVD computes the **best** rank-k approximation to  $A$



# Best Rank-k Approximation

- SVD computes the **best** rank-k approximation



$$A_k = \arg \min_{\text{rank}(B) \leq k} \|A - B\|_{F,2}$$

- So the desirable approximation error is

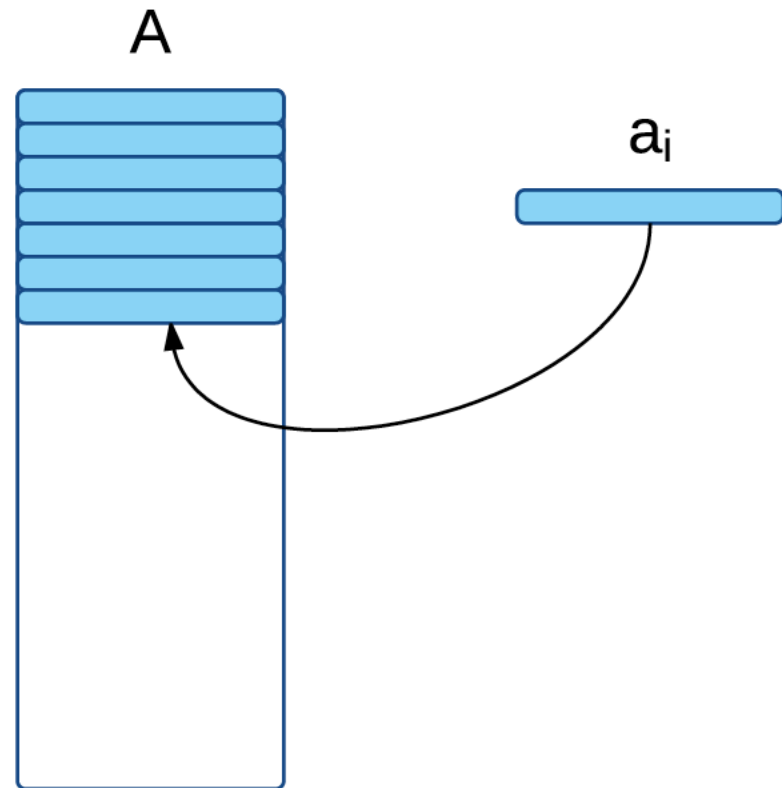
$$\|A - \Pi_B(A)\|_{2,F} \leq c \|A - A_k\|_{2,F} \quad \text{or} \quad \|A^T A - B^T B\|_{2,F} \leq c \|A - A_k\|_{2,F}$$

# Best Rank-k Approximation

- SVD computes the **best** rank-k approximation to  $A$
- SVD requires  $O(nd^2)$  time and  $O(nd)$  space
- Not applicable in streaming, or distributed settings
- Not efficient for sparse matrices

# Rank-k approximation in stream

- Can we compute rank-k approximation in streaming setting?

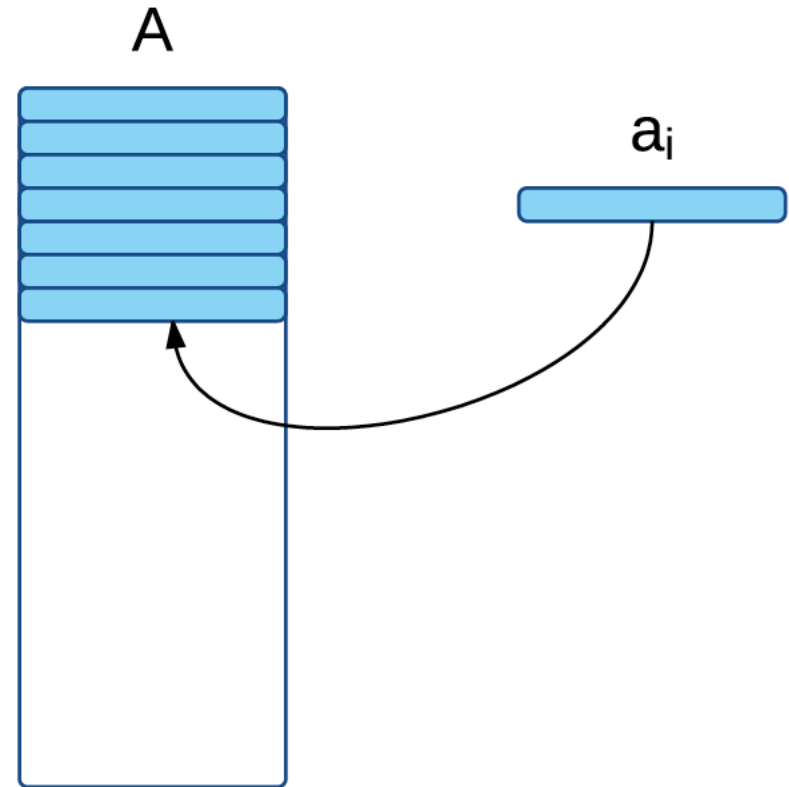


# Streaming matrix sketching

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# Streaming data matrix

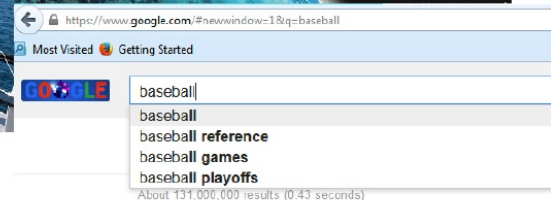
- Every element of the stream is a **row vector** of fixed  $d$ -dimension.
- We'd like to process  $A$  in **one pass** and using a **small amount of memory** (sublinear in  $n$ )



# Streaming data matrix

- Streaming data such as any time series data:
  - ecommerce purchases
  - Traffic sensors
  - Activity logs

No. .	Time	Source	SourceMAC	Destination	Dest
44901	21610.082407	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44902	21611.192380	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44903	21612.081491	10.0.0.101	Elitegro_40:b4:9d	10.0.0.255	
44904	21612.302323	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44921	21620.351890	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44930	21623.711944	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44931	21624.821549	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44940	21625.056974	::	Elitegro_40:b4:9d	ff02::16	
44941	21628.142497	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44942	21629.041634	WestellT_af:6	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44943	21629.143968	::	Elitegro_40:b4:9d	ff02::16	
44944	21630.981979	::	Elitegro_40:b4:9d	ff02::16	
44945	21630.982062	::	Elitegro_40:b4:9d	ff02::1:ff40:b49c	
44946	21630.982089	fe80::207:95f	Elitegro_40:b4:9d	ff02::2	
44947	21630.982113	fe80::207:95f	Elitegro_40:b4:9d		
44948	21631.468290	Elitegro_40:b	Elitegro_40:b4:9d		
44949	21631.473065	192.168.1.1	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44950	21632.710412	Elitegro_40:b	Elitegro_40:b4:9d		
44951	21632.715587	192.168.1.1	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44952	21632.710786	Elitegro_40:b	Elitegro_40:b4:9d		
44953	21632.721885	192.168.1.1	WestellT_af:69:0a		
44954	21632.806064	192.168.1.18	Elitegro_40:b4:9d		
44967	21632.907584	192.168.1.18	Elitegro_40:b4:9d		



- We can not store the entire data

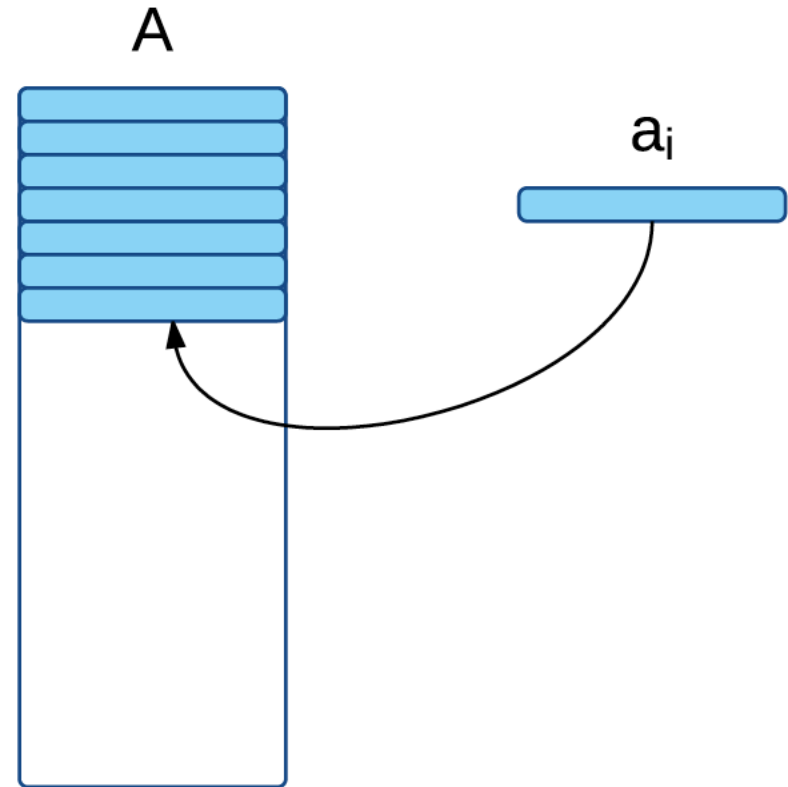


# Application of rank-k approximations

- A large set of data analysis tasks rely on obtaining a **low rank approximation**:
  - Dimension reduction
  - Anomaly detection
  - Data denoising
  - Clustering
  - Recommendation systems

# Sketch of a Streaming Matrix

- B is a **sketch** of a streaming matrix A iff
  - B is of a fixed **small size** that fits in memory
  - At any point in stream, B **approximates** A



# Matrix Sketching Methods

- Almost any matrix sketching methods in streaming setting falls into one of these categories:
  1. Row sampling based
  2. Random projection based and Hashing
  3. Iterative sketching

# Row Sampling Methods

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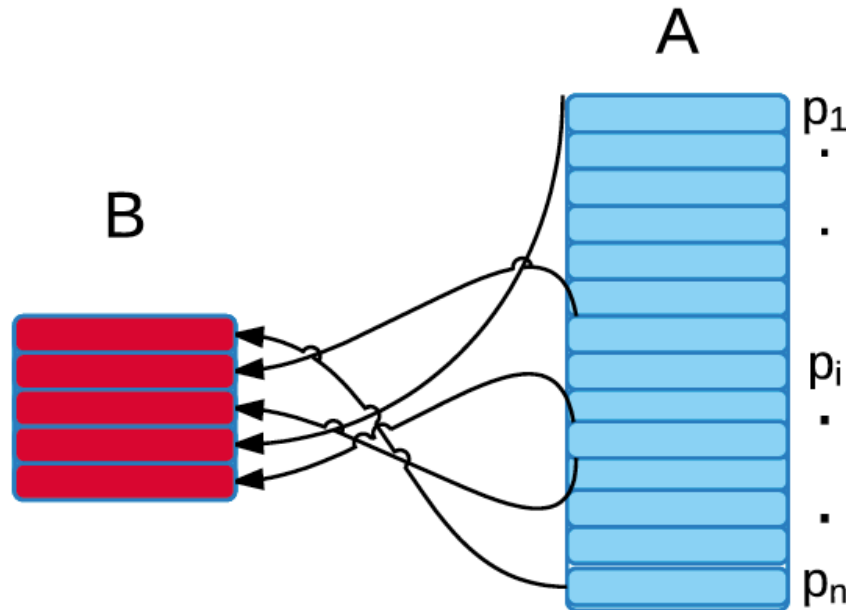
# Row Sampling Methods

- They select a subset of “important” rows
  - Sample w.r.t a well-defined probability distribution
  - Often sampling is done with replacement
  
- Methods differ in how they define “importance”

# Row Sampling Methods

They construct sketch B by:

- assign a probability  $p_i$  to each row  $a_i$
- sample  $l$  rows from A to construct B
- rescale B appropriately to make it unbiased



# Intuition: Row Sampling Methods

- An Intuitive way to define “importance” of an item:
  - the weight associated to the item, e.g.
    - file records → weights as size of the file,
    - IP addresses → weights as number of times the IP address makes a request
- **why it is necessary to sample important items?**
  - Consider a set of weighted items  $S = \{(a_1, w_1), (a_2, w_2), \dots, (a_n, w_n)\}$  that we want to summarize with a *small & representative* sample.
  - We define a *representative* sample as the one estimates total weight of S (i.e.  $W_s = \sum_{i=1} w_i$ ) in expectation.

# Intuition: Row Sampling Methods

- This is achievable with a sample set of size **one!**
  - Sample any item  $(\mathbf{a}_j, \mathbf{w}_j)$  with an arbitrary fixed probability  $p$ , and rescale its weight to  $W_s/p$ .
  - Then  $E[\text{weight of the sample}] = p \cdot W_s/p = W_s$
- High variance issue:
  - To **lower down the variance**, (1) sample **heavy items (i.e. important items)** with higher prob., and (2) sample **more items**
  - So sample item  $\mathbf{a}_j$  with prob.  $p = \mathbf{w}_j/W_s$  and rescale it to  $W_s/p$
  - If we sample  $l$  items, then rescale items to rescale it to  $W_s/(lp)$



# Row Sampling algorithms

- In matrices,
  - Each item  $a_j$  is a row vector
  - Each weight  $w_j = \|a_j\|^2$
  - And  $\sum_{j=1}^n \|a_j\|^2 = \|A\|_F^2$
  
- Row sampling algorithm based on L2 norm:
  - Let sample size =  $l$ , i.e. the sketch B is  $l \times d$
  - For every row  $a_i$  arriving in the stream,
    - Update  $\|A\|_F^2$  by adding  $\|a_j\|_F^2$
    - Compute its sampling probability  $p_i = \|a_i\|^2 / \|A\|_F^2$
    - Sample it  $l$  times (one for each row of B. If it is sampled, replace the corresponding row in B with  $a_i$  )
    - Rescale  $a_i$  where it is sampled by  $1/\sqrt{l p_i}$

This is the Frobenius norm  
of all rows seen so far

$\|A\|_F^2$

# Row Sampling algorithms

- We can show that

$$E[\|B\|_F] = \|A\|_F$$

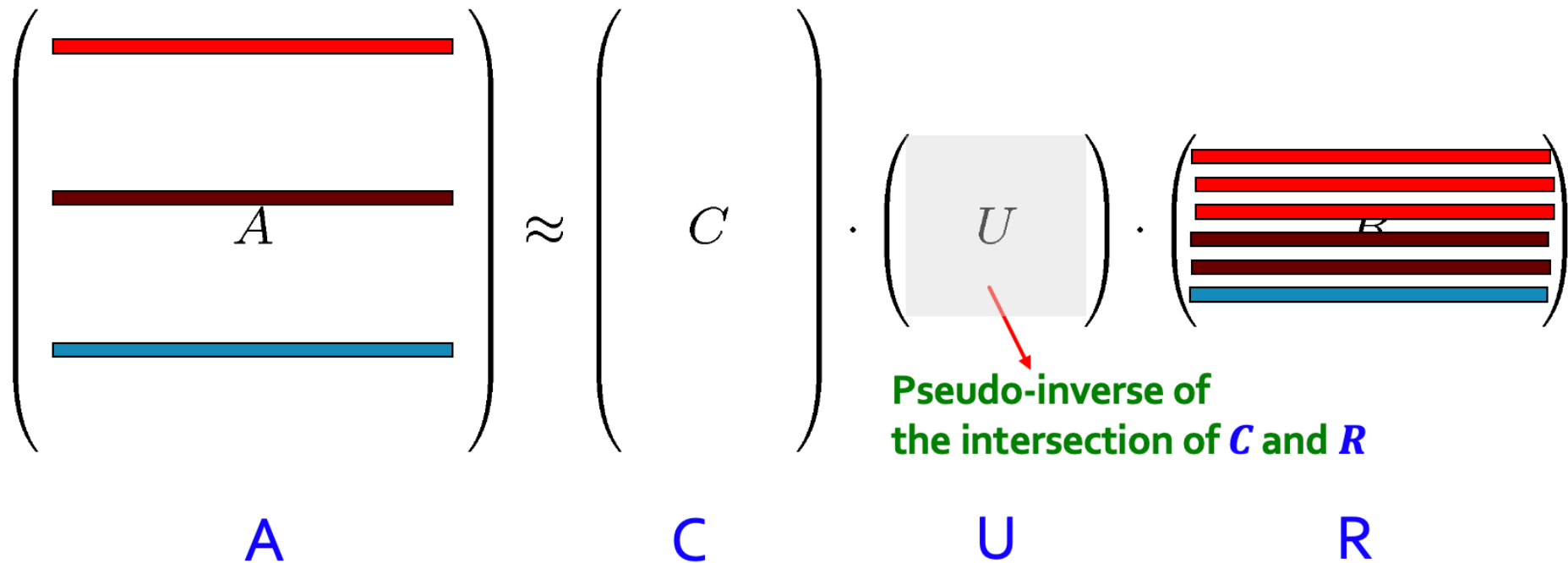
- If we sample  $\ell = O(k/\varepsilon^2)$  rows, then:

$$\|A - \pi_B(A)\|_F^2 \leq \|A - A_k\|_F^2 + \varepsilon \|A\|_F^2$$



# CUR: Row/column sampling

- Row sampling based on **L2 norm**:
  - CUR method: samples rows/columns with probability = squared norm of rows/columns



# CUR: Row/column sampling

- Row sampling based on **L2 norm**:
  - CUR method: samples rows/columns with probability = squared norm of rows/columns

- Error guarantee: If we sample  $c = \mathbf{O}\left(\frac{k \log k}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  columns and  $r = \mathbf{O}\left(\frac{k \log k}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  rows, then

$$\left\| \overset{\text{CUR error}}{A - CUR} \right\|_F \leq (2 + \varepsilon) \left\| \overset{\text{SVD error}}{A - A_K} \right\|_F$$

With probability  $\geq 98\%$

# Row Sampling Methods

- + **Easy interpretation of basis**
  - Since the basis vectors are actual rows/columns
- + **Suitable for Sparse data**
  - Since the basis vectors are actual rows/columns
- **Duplicate columns and rows**
  - Columns of large norms will be sampled multiple times

# Random Projection Methods

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# Random Projection Methods

- **Key idea:** if points in a vector space are projected onto a **randomly** selected subspace of suitably high dimension, then the **distances** between points are **approximately preserved**
- **Johnson-Lindenstrauss Transform (JLT):**  $d$  datapoints in any dimension ( $\mathbb{R}^n$  for  $n \gg d$ ) can get embedded into roughly  **$\log d$**  dimensional space, such that their **pair-wise distances** are preserved to some extent



# Johnson-Lindenstrauss Transform

We define JLT more precisely:

- A random matrix  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  has **JLT** property if for all vectors  $v, v' \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\|Sv - Sv'\|^2 = (1 \pm \epsilon) \|v - v'\|^2$$

with probability at least  $1 - \delta$

- There are many ways to construct a matrix  $S$  that **preserve pair-wise distances**.
  - All such matrices are called to have the **Johnson-Lindenstrauss Transform (JLT) property**

# How to construct a JLT matrix

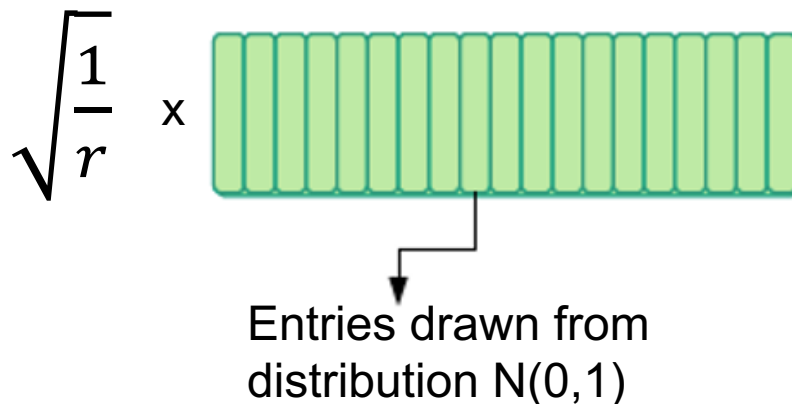
One simple construction of  $S$ :

- Pick matrix  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  as an **orthogonal projection** on a random  $r$ -dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $r = O(\epsilon^{-2} \log d)$ 
  - Rows of  $S$  are orthogonal vectors
- Then for any matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ ,  $SA$  preserves **pair-wise distances** between  $d$  datapoints in  $A$

# How to construct a JLT matrix

- A **simpler** construction for  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  is:
  - to have entries as independent random variables with the standard normal distribution

$$S = \sqrt{\frac{1}{r}} [\text{matrix with entries draw from } N(0,1)]$$

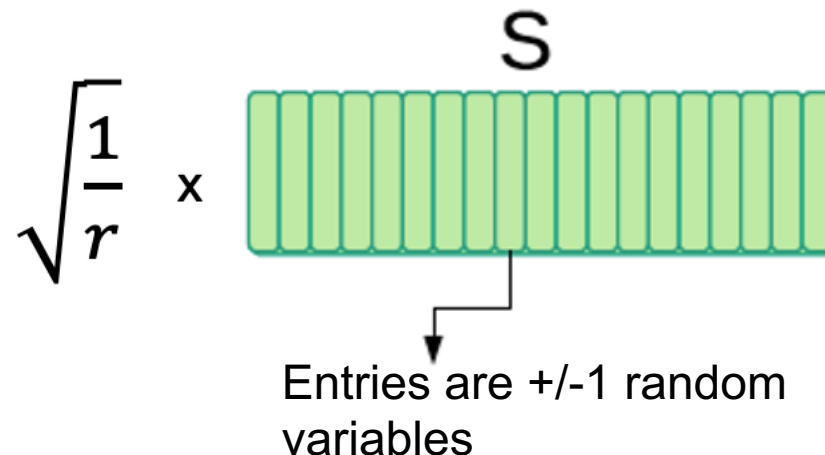


# How to construct a JLT matrix

- Another construction for  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  is:

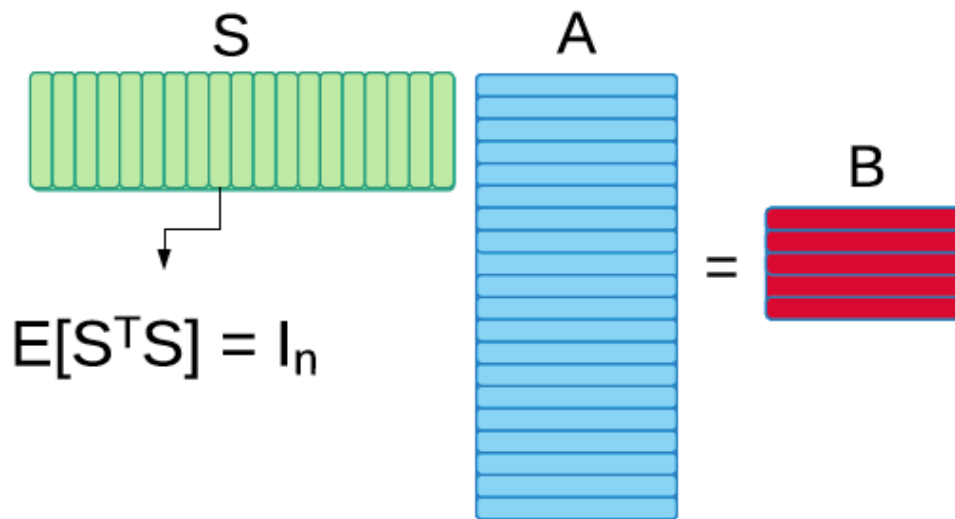
$$S = \sqrt{\frac{1}{r}} [\text{entries as independent } +/-1 \text{ random var}]$$

This is computationally simpler to construct



# Random Projection Methods

- They use a JLT matrix  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$
- Construct the sketch as  $B = SA \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times d}$ 
  - this projects datapoints from a high-dim space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto a lower-dim subspace  $\mathbb{R}^r$
- They show  $\mathbb{E}[B^T B] = A^T \mathbb{E}[S^T S] A = A^T A$



# Random Projection Methods

- Depending on JLT construction, we achieve different error bounds:
  - If  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  has iid zero-mean  $\pm 1$  entries and  $r = O\left(\frac{k}{\varepsilon} + k \log k\right)$  and, then

$$\|A - \pi_{SA}(A)\|_F \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \|A - A_k\|_F$$

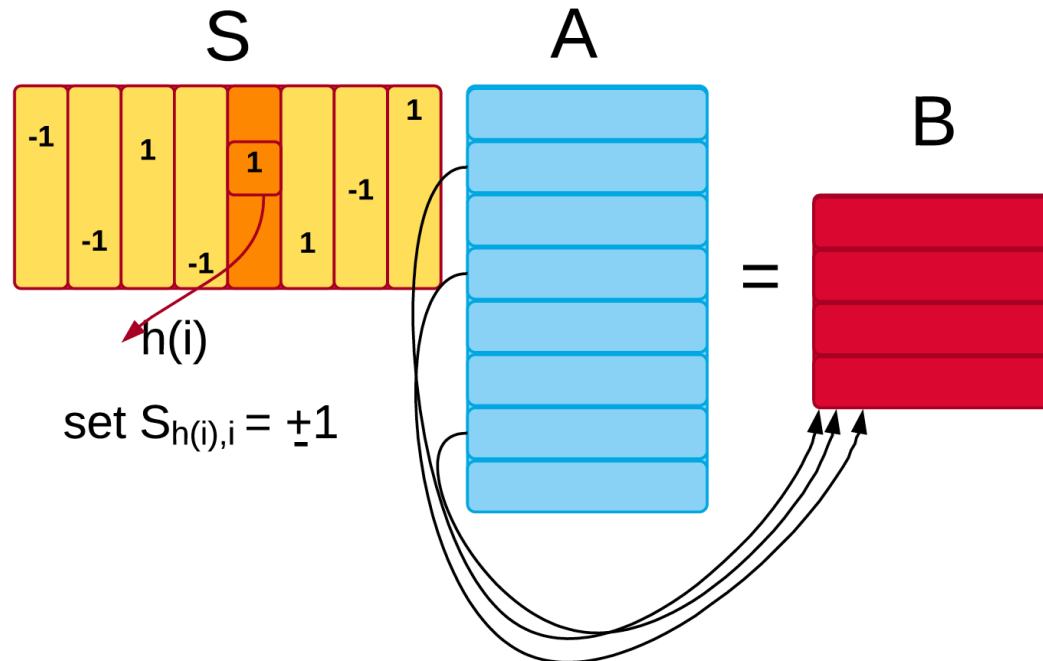
# Random Projection Methods

- Computationally efficient
- Sufficiently accurate in practice
- A great pre-processing step in applications
- **Data-oblivious** as their computation involves only a random matrix  $S$ 
  - Compare to row sampling methods that need to access data to form a sketch

# Matrix Hashing Techniques

- Use matrix  $S$  that contains one  $\pm 1$  per column

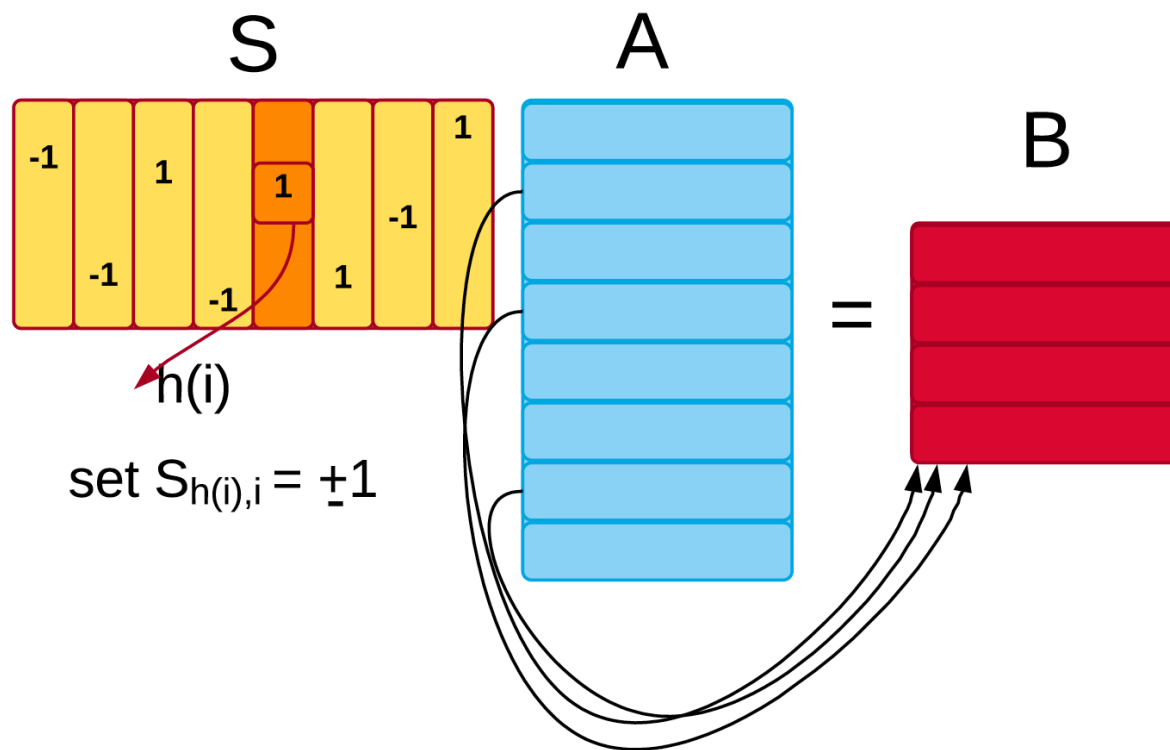
Only one non-zero entry in each column of  $S$ . The rest of entries are zero



- To build  $S$ , use two hash functions:
  - $h: [n] \rightarrow [r]$ , and  $g: [n] \rightarrow \{-1, +1\}$



# Matrix Hashing Techniques



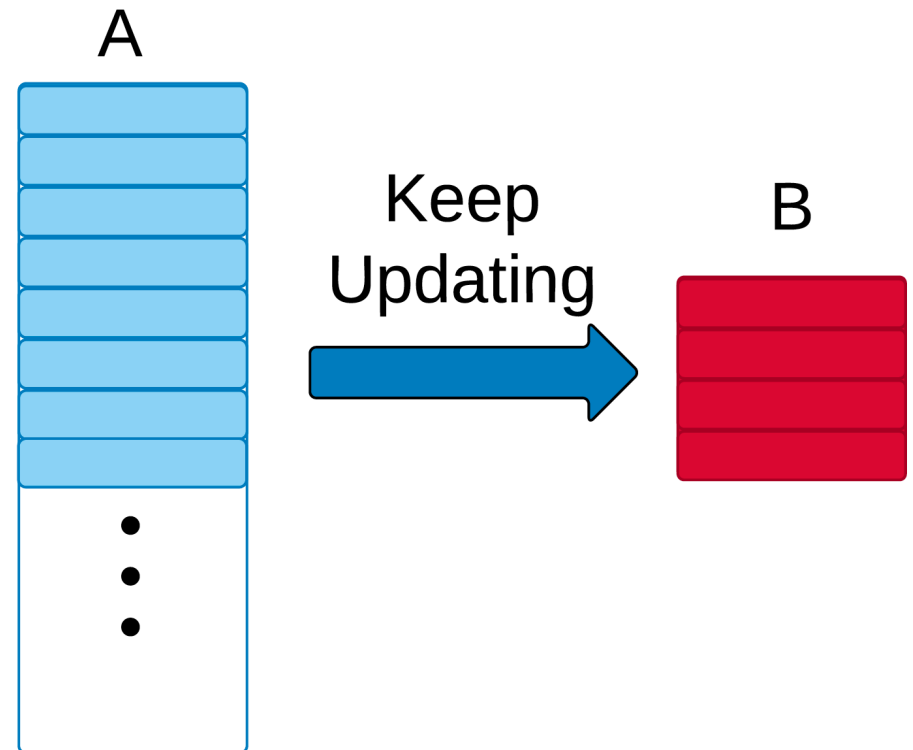
- Very efficient for sparse matrices  $A$ 
  - can be applied in  $O(\text{nnz}(A))$  operations
  - $\text{nnz}(A)$  = number of non-zeros of  $A$

# Iterative Sketching

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# Iterative Sketching

- They work over a stream  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$
- each  $a_i$  is read once, get processed quickly and not read again
- with only a small amount of memory available

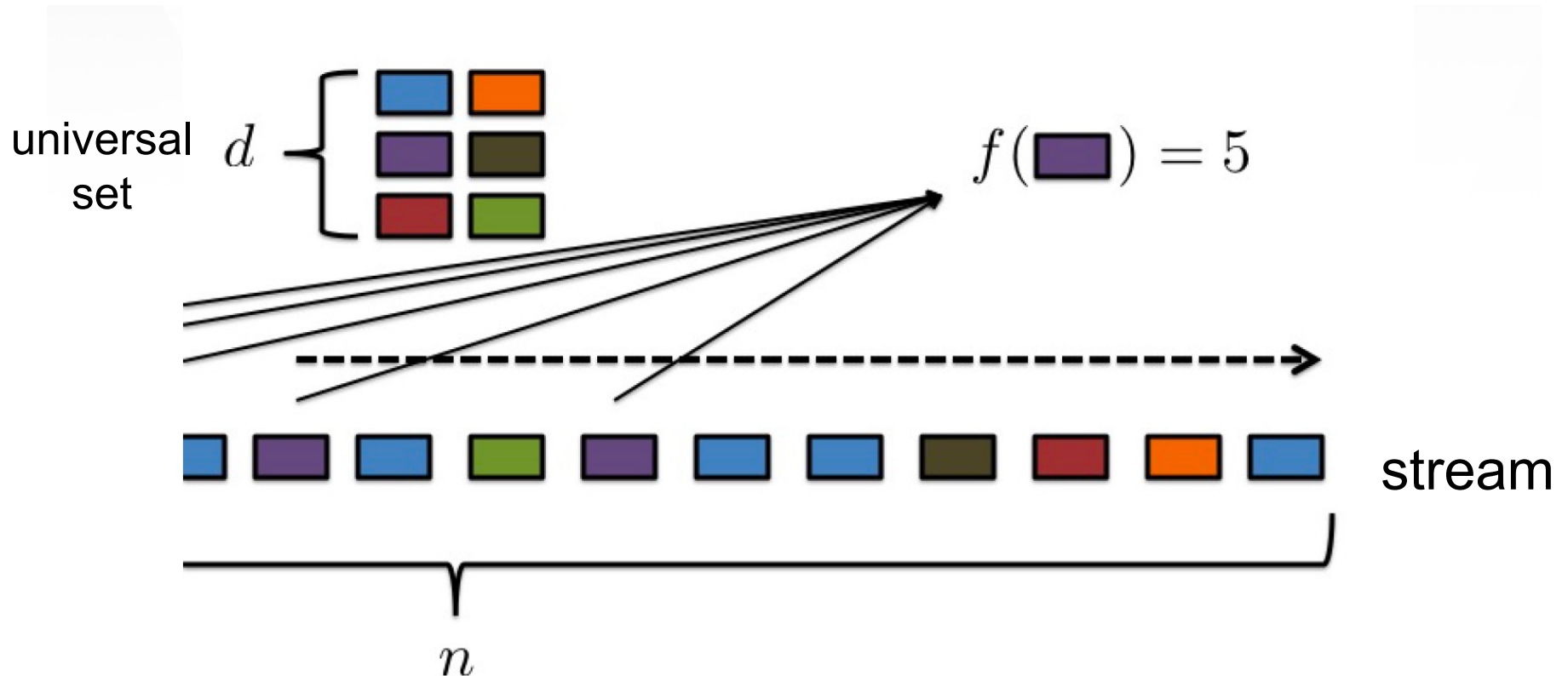


# Iterative Sketching

- State of the art method in this group is called “Frequent Directions”
- It is based on Misra-Gries algorithm for finding frequent items in a data stream
- We first see how Misra-Gries algorithm for finding frequent items work
  - Then we extend it to matrices

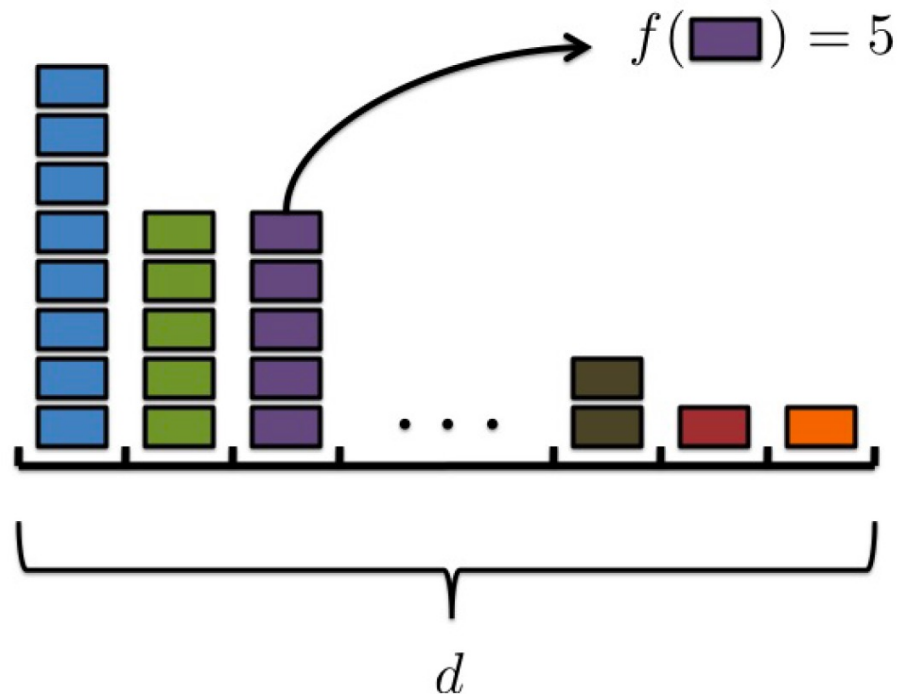
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- Suppose there is a stream of items, and we want to find frequency  $f(i)$  of each item



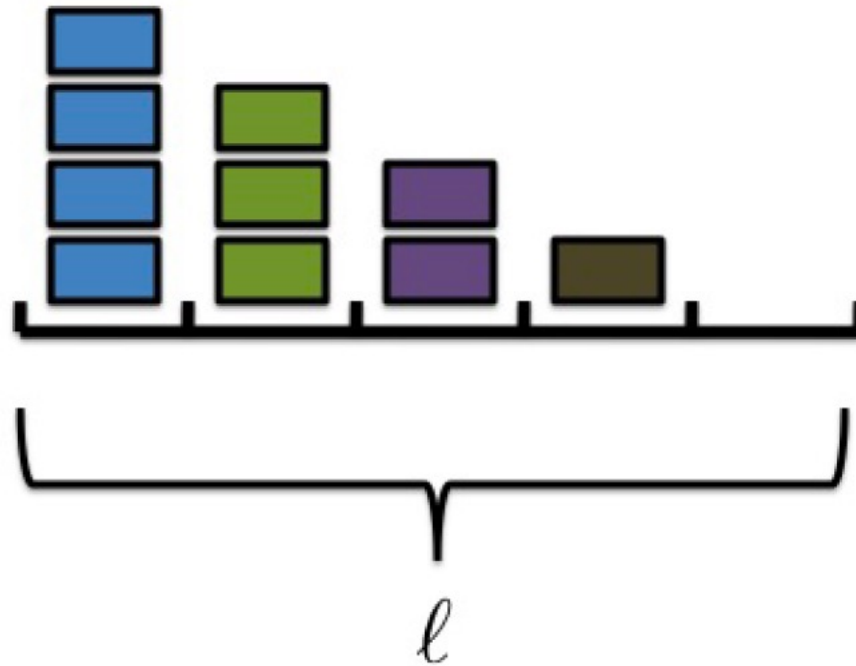
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- If we keep  $d$  counters, we can count frequency of every item...
  - But it's not good enough (IP addresses, queries,...)



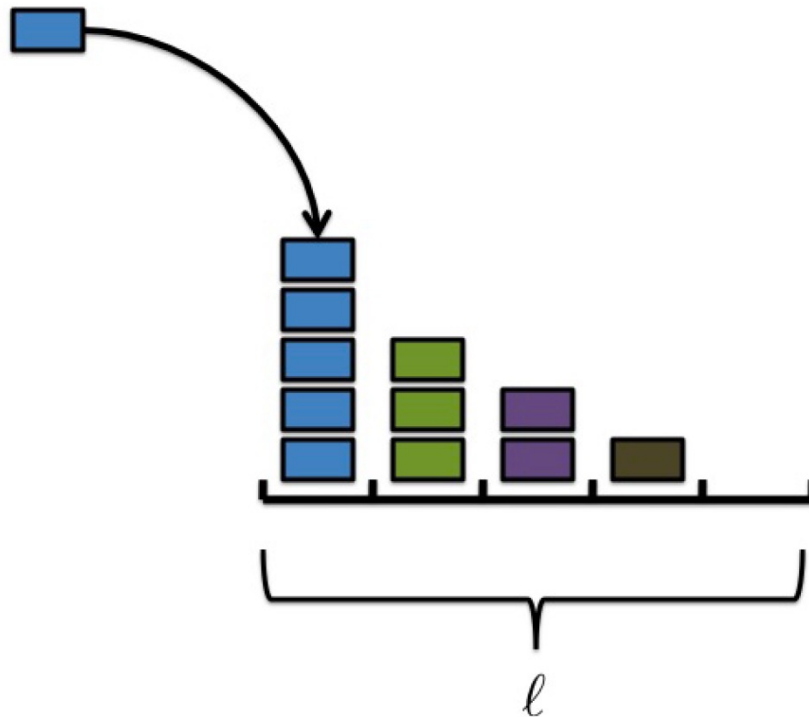
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- Let's keep  $l$  counters where  $l \ll d$



# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

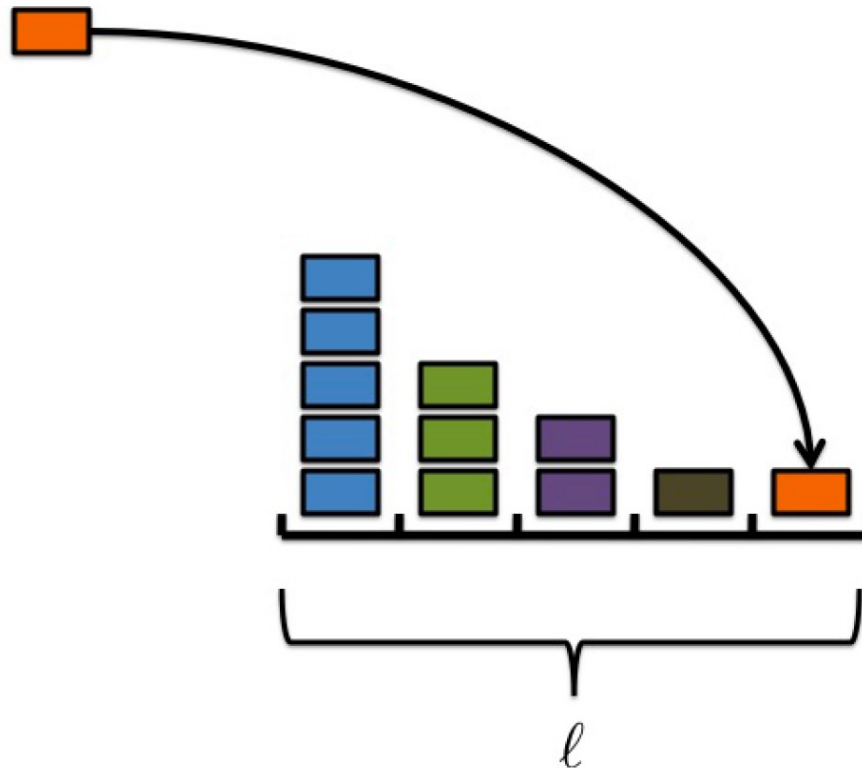
- If a new item arrives in the stream that is already in the counters, we add 1 to its count





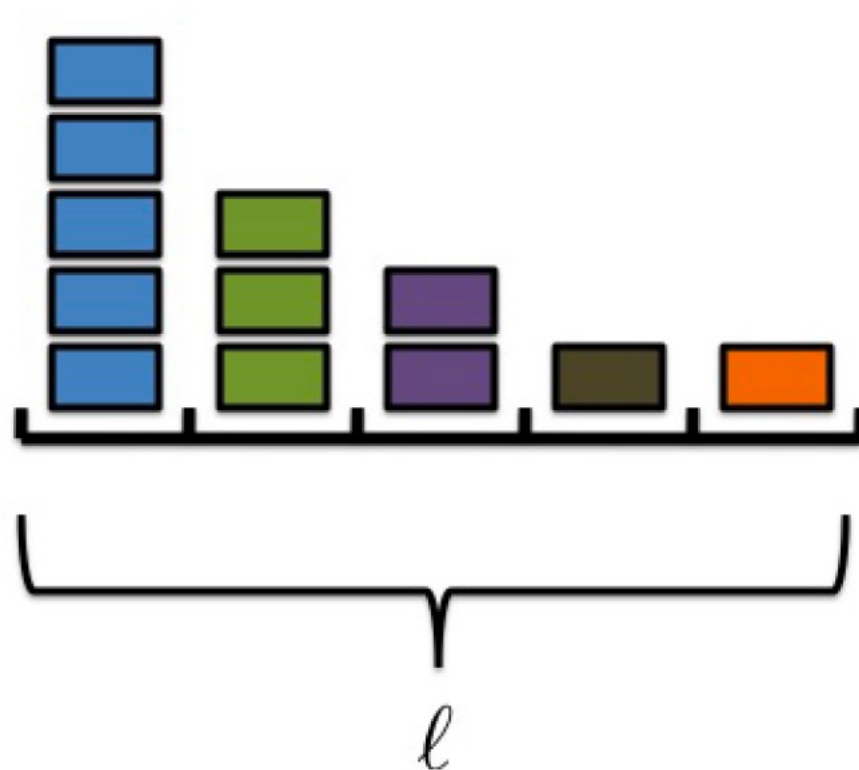
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- If the new item is not in the counters and we have space, we create a counter for it and set it to 1



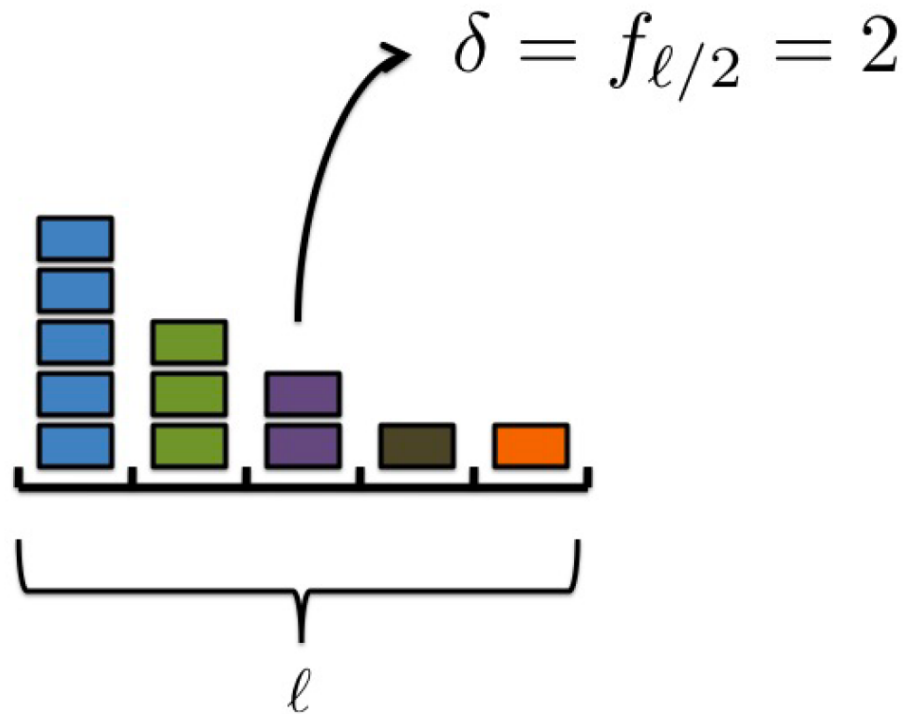
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- But what if we don't have space for it?



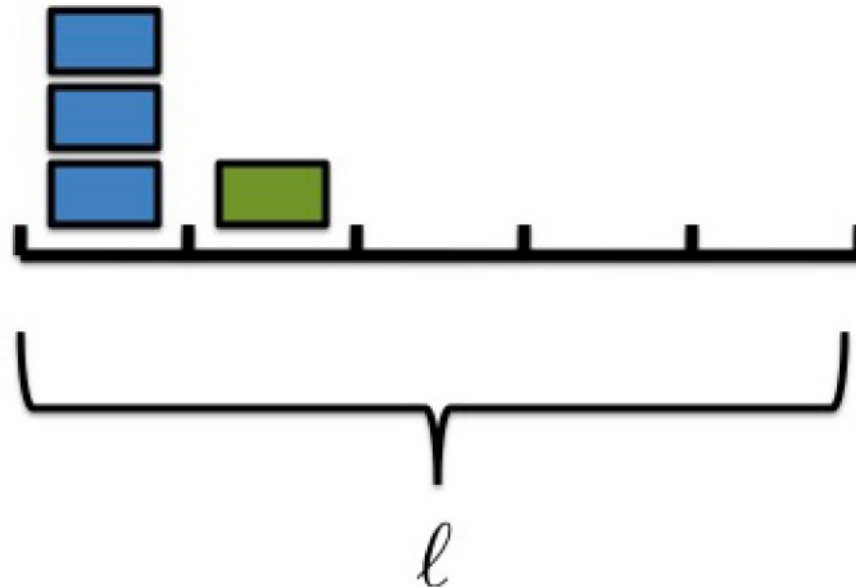
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- Let  $\delta$  be the median counter at time  $t$



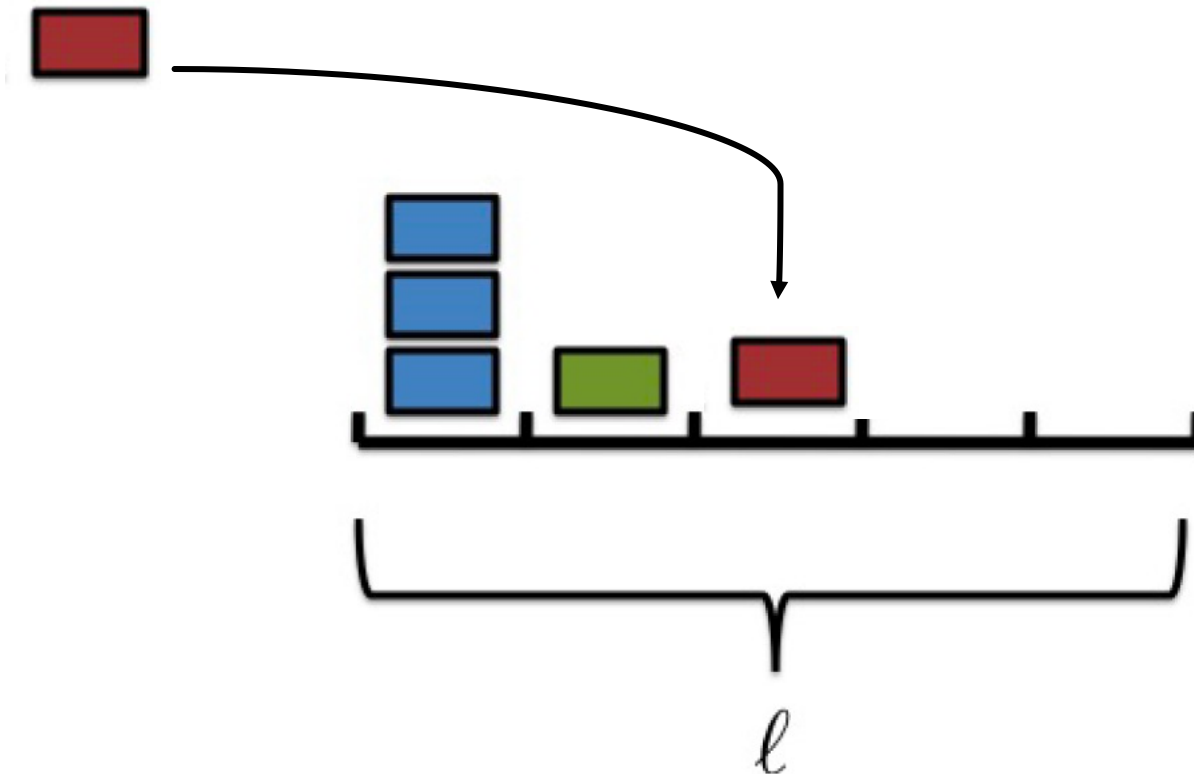
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- Decrease all counts by  $\delta$  (set it to 0 if less than  $\delta$ )



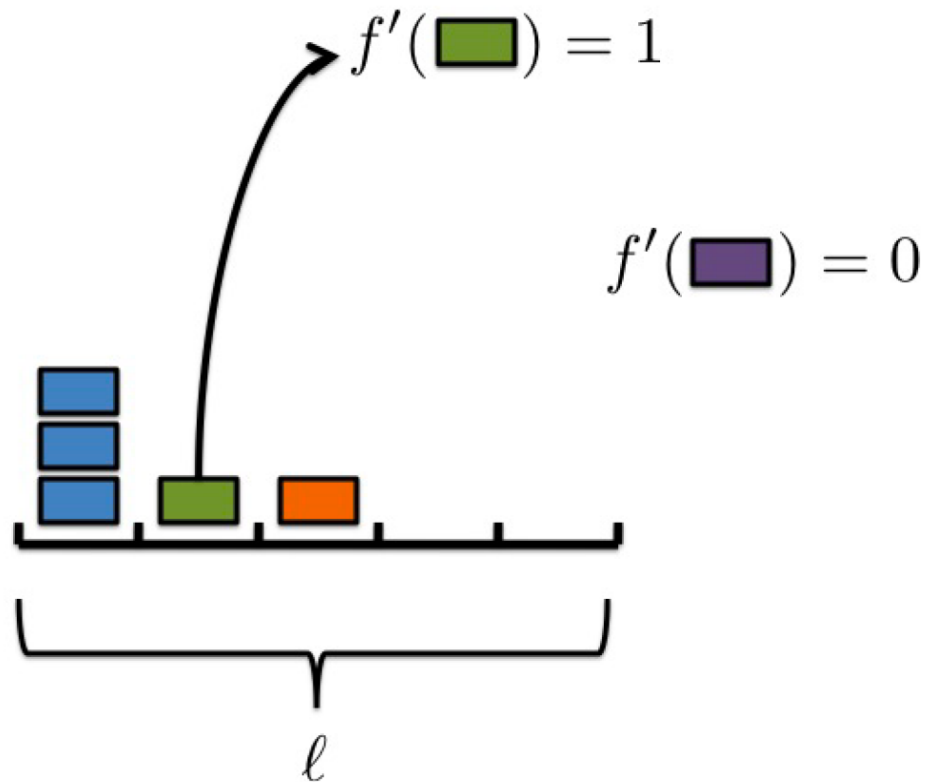
# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- Now we have space for new item, so we continue...



# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- At any time in the stream, the approximated counts for items are what we have kept so far



# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- This method undercounts so for any item  $i$

$$0 \leq f'(i) \leq f(i)$$

- We decrease each count by at most  $\delta_t$

$$f'(i) \geq f(i) - \sum \delta_t$$

- At any point that we have seen  $n$  elements in stream:

$$\frac{l}{2} \sum \delta_t \leq n$$

- The error guarantee:  $0 \leq f(i) - f'(i) \leq 2n/l$

# Frequent Items: Misra-Gries

- Misra-Gries produces a **non-zero approximated frequency**  $f'(i)$  for all items that their true frequency  $f(i) > 2n/l$

$$f(i) - 2n/l \leq f'(i)$$

- To find items that appear more than 20% of the time i.e.  $f(i) > n/5$ , take  $l = 10$  counters and run Misra-Gries algorithm



# Frequent Directions

- Let's extend it to vectors and matrices
- Stream items are **row vectors** in  $d$  dimension
- At any time  $n$  in the stream, they form a tall matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$
- The goal is to find the **most frequent directions** of  $A$

# Frequent Directions

Frequent Directions

(Lib'13)

**Input:**  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , and an integer  $\ell$

$B \leftarrow$  empty matrix  $\in \mathbb{R}^{\ell \times d}$

**for** ( $a_i \in A$ )

    Insert  $a_i$  into  $B$

**if** ( $B$  is full)

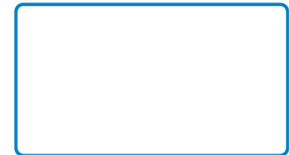
$[U, S, V] \leftarrow \text{svd}(B)$

$\tilde{S} \leftarrow [\sqrt{S_1^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2}, \sqrt{S_2^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2}, \dots, 0, \dots, 0]$

$B \leftarrow \tilde{S}V^T$

**return**  $B$

B

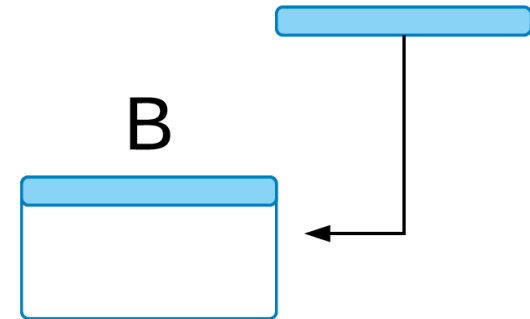


# Frequent Directions

Frequent Directions

(Lib'13)

```
Input:  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , and an integer  $\ell$   
 $B \leftarrow$  empty matrix  $\in \mathbb{R}^{\ell \times d}$   
for ( $a_i \in A$ )  
    Insert  $a_i$  into  $B$   
    if ( $B$  is full)  
         $[U, S, V] \leftarrow \text{svd}(B)$   
         $\tilde{S} \leftarrow [\sqrt{S_1^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2}, \sqrt{S_2^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2} \dots 0, \dots, 0]$   
         $B \leftarrow \tilde{S}V^T$   
return  $B$ 
```



# Frequent Directions

Frequent Directions

(Lib'13)

**Input:**  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , and an integer  $\ell$

$B \leftarrow$  empty matrix  $\in \mathbb{R}^{\ell \times d}$

**for** ( $a_i \in A$ )

    Insert  $a_i$  into  $B$

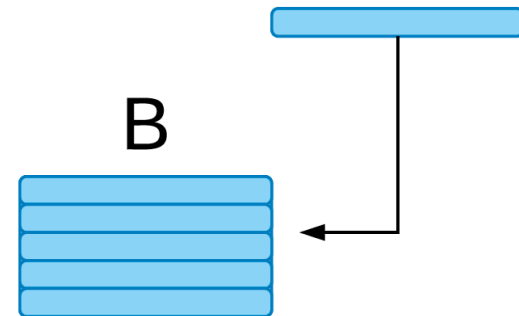
**if** ( $B$  is full)

$[U, S, V] \leftarrow \text{svd}(B)$

$\tilde{S} \leftarrow [\sqrt{S_1^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2}, \sqrt{S_2^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2}, \dots, 0, \dots, 0]$

$B \leftarrow \tilde{S}V^T$

**return**  $B$

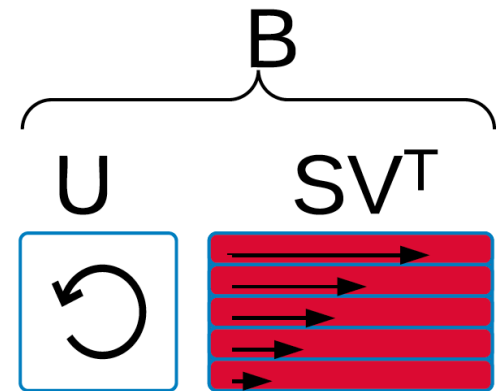


# Frequent Directions

Frequent Directions

(Lib'13)

**Input:**  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , and an integer  $\ell$   
 $B \leftarrow$  empty matrix  $\in \mathbb{R}^{\ell \times d}$   
**for** ( $a_i \in A$ )  
    Insert  $a_i$  into  $B$   
    **if** ( $B$  is full)  
         $[U, S, V] \leftarrow \text{svd}(B)$   
         $\tilde{S} \leftarrow [\sqrt{S_1^2 - S_{l/2}^2}, \sqrt{S_2^2 - S_{l/2}^2} \dots 0, \dots, 0]$   
         $B \leftarrow \tilde{S}V^T$   
**return**  $B$



# Frequent Directions

Frequent Directions

(Lib'13)

**Input:**  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ , and an integer  $\ell$

$B \leftarrow$  empty matrix  $\in \mathbb{R}^{\ell \times d}$

**for** ( $a_i \in A$ )

    Insert  $a_i$  into  $B$

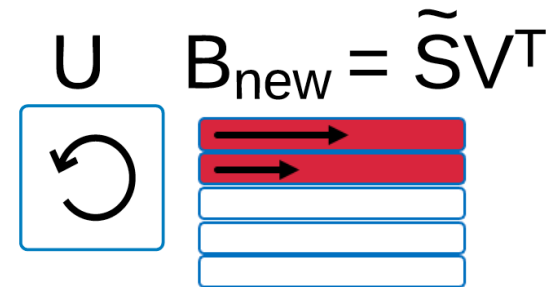
**if** ( $B$  is full)

$[U, S, V] \leftarrow \text{svd}(B)$

$\tilde{S} \leftarrow [\sqrt{S_1^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2}, \sqrt{S_2^2 - S_{\ell/2}^2} \dots 0, \dots, 0]$

$B \leftarrow \tilde{S}V^T$

**return**  $B$



# Frequent Directions

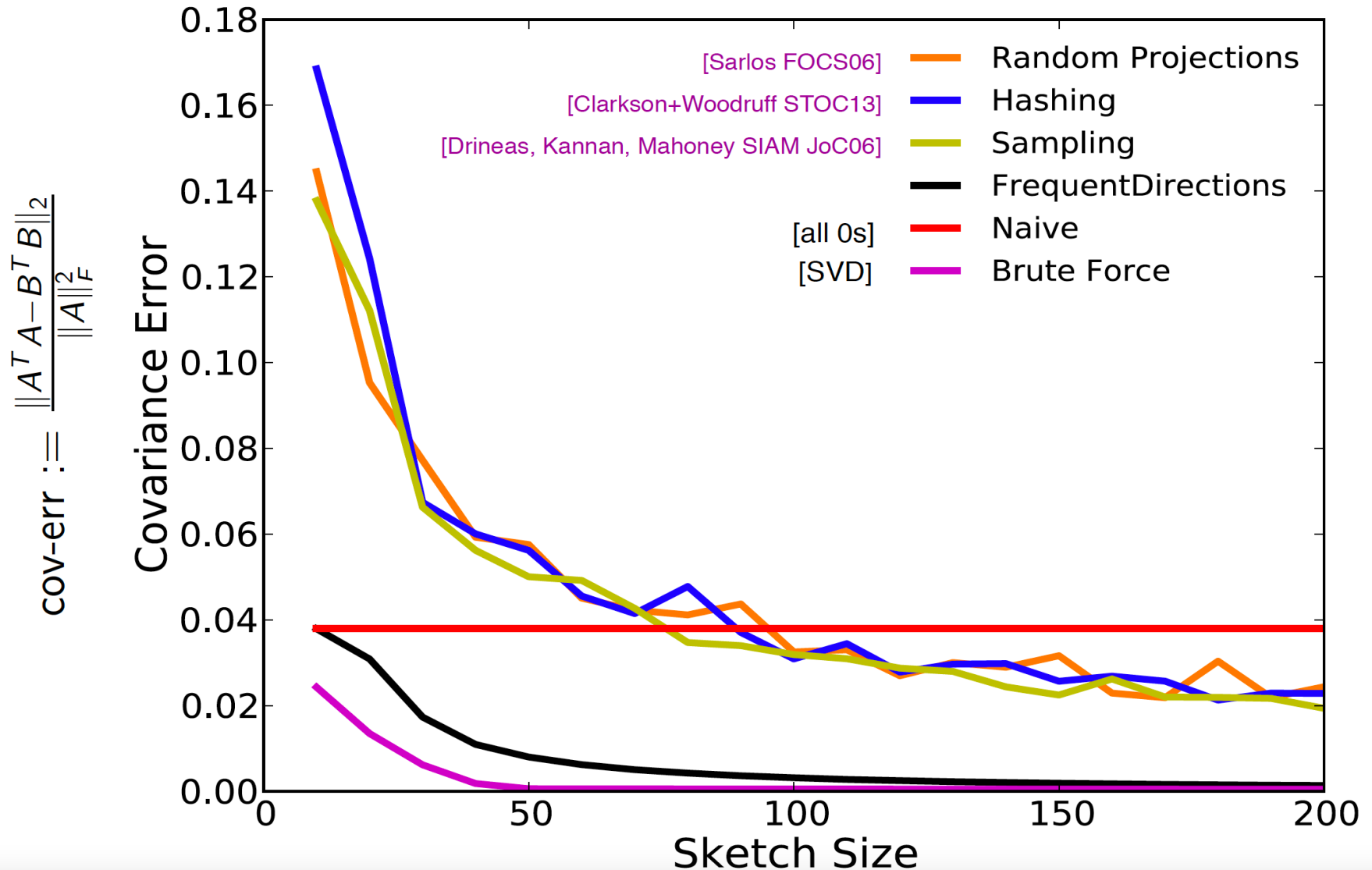
- Similar to the frequent items case, this method has the following error guarantee:

$$\|A^T A - B^T B\| \ll \frac{2}{l} \|A\|_F^2$$

- And if using  $l = k + k/\epsilon$

$$\|A - \Pi_B(A)\|_F^2 \ll (1 + \epsilon) \|A - A_k\|_F^2$$

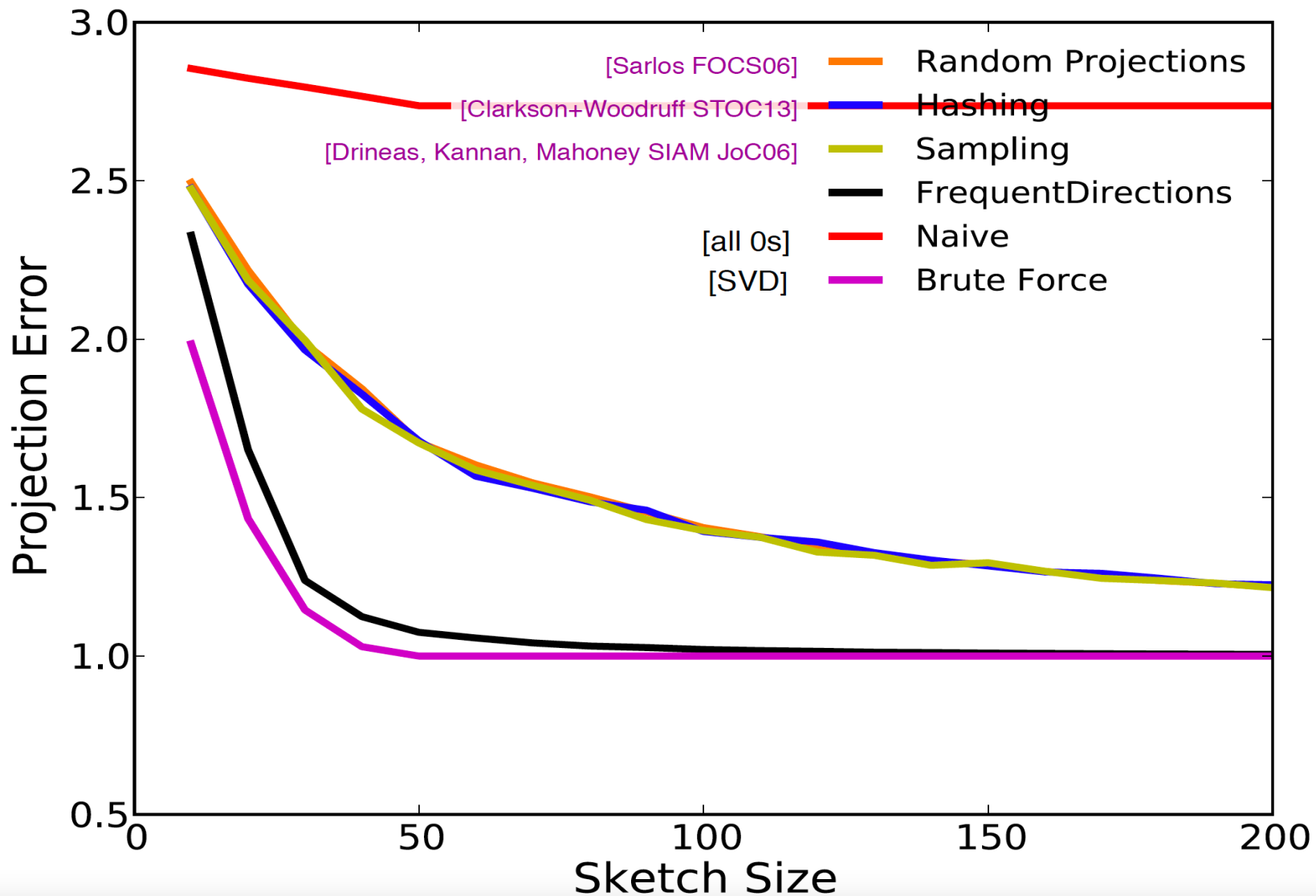
# Sketching in Experiment





# Sketching in Experiment

$$\text{proj-err} := \frac{\|A - \pi_B(A)\|_2}{\|A - A_k\|_F^2}, \quad k = 10$$



# Summary

- Matrix Sketching in Streams:
  - Row sampling methods
    - CUR
    - L2 norm based sampling
  - Random projection methods
    - Johnson Lindenstrauss Transform (JLT)
    - Different ways to construct a JLT matrix
  - Iterative sketching methods
    - Misra-Gries algorithm for frequent items
    - Frequent Directions method (state of the art)